

# RAM•PAGE

FARMINGDALE STATE COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER • MARCH/APRIL 2012



## PIZZA IDOL

Pg. 6



## NEW WEBSITE

Pg. 5



## SLAPSHOT

Pg. 8

## Silverware Goes Green

By Timothy Robinson

Farmingdale State College's cafeteria has decided to take an environmentally friendly approach to dining. From plastic utensils to metal utensils, FSC hopes to save money while going green.

Joe Sacco, the director of Dining Services, supports the change. It took approximately two years for the change in utensils to take place.

Sacco considered outside perspectives openly expressed at Town Hall meetings when making his final



decision.

"The change was to provide a more homey feeling for students," said Sacco. He explained how the new silverwear is

*Continue on page 4*

## A Farmingdale First: A Look Inside Tau Kappa Epsilon

By Lianna Tedesco

After 10 long weeks of being approved, Farmingdale welcomes their first nationally-recognized fraternity to campus--Tau Kappa Epsilon.

The Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity, TKE, was founded on January 10th, 1899 at the Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. Now, the men of the TKE colony are trying to officiate their own chapter at Farmingdale.

"To get it approved on campus was the hardest part. The school was totally against it. We had to have the regional advisors come," said Michael Marino, Vice President of TKE. James Tucillo, Hypophetes of the fraternity, also commented on the difficulties of getting the fraternity approved. "Originally the school was against it. But once they saw the professionalism that we had, that TKE had, the school was a lot more comfortable with it," said Tucillo

The school at first only saw the liabilities that came with a fraternity including drinking, parties, hazing--the member of Tau Kappa Epsilon are adamant in stating that it's about having dedication, the will to work to be apart of something. The Fraternity is not based on race, religion or political status. and it's a brotherhood.

Marino also went on to say that a fraternity is business-based. "You learn how to run a business. It isn't like you just go out and party all the time. It's really just a business, we conduct our own money structure, everything," Marino said.

The fraternity plans to extend its activities outside of the campus and reach out to the local community, as well as trying to start events that involve the whole town, and present a positive attitude by providing charity events off-

campus.

Right now TKE is the biggest fraternity in the U.S., and they're still looking for more members. Currently, they are in a partnership with Hooters and St. Jude's, whose founders were also members of TKE, and are promoting rush events via social media sites, public groups online, and fliers. So what does it feel like to be the first nationally-recognized fraternity on campus? "We're the only greek life here," said Marino. "It feels good."



# Ground-Breaking Becomes Problematic for Student Center

By Christina Barnett



It is no surprise that there is a need for a student center on campus to meet the college's growing expansion. The center will be the first new, non-residential building on the Farmingdale campus since 1983. It will serve as a focal point for students, faculty, and staff.

The center will include a student lounge, dining areas, a bookstore, and a place for lectures and events. Most students see the center as a place that will benefit the college for years to come. But the ongoing construction has served as a grueling obstacle course that takes away from the long-term goal projects.

Mike Troici, a junior, is among many of those who are displeased with the detrimental consequences of the construction. "I'm not happy that they weren't doing this in the summer," said Troici. "Unfortunately I had to put four new tires on my car because they had nails in them from the construction."

Outside the classroom is not the only place that the construction has produced adverse effects. Marissa Passatempo, a senior, finds it hard to focus with the construction noise right outside of her classes.

"It's a distraction while I'm

learning," said Passatempo. "I wish they would continue the construction during intersessions when a majority of students aren't here."

While some students would rather have the construction take place during vacation breaks, others believe the campus should do whatever it takes to speed up the process.

Scott Harris, a junior, doesn't mind the construction, but is disappointed that it is taking so long for the center to be built. "Construction is fine," said Harris. "This school needs a place where students can unite. The longer this construction takes, the longer we don't have that. But overall, it's definitely a good thing."

Although the construction has been a frustrating experience for some students, the idea of having a student center is very exciting one for others.

The center is scheduled to open in Fall 2012 and will be located in front of the campus bookstore.

**Follow  
the  
Rampage on  
tumblr.  
FSCRampage.  
Tumblr.com**



## Rampage Staff

*The Rampage is a newspaper by and for the students of Farmingdale State College © 2012 Admissions to Farmingdale State College - State University of New York is based on the qualifications of the applicant without regard to age, sex, marital or military status, race, color, creed, religion, national origin, disability, or sexual orientation.*

### Editorial Staff

**Christina Barnett**  
**Steve Blake**  
**Loryn Boscia**  
**Nyasia Draper**  
**Danielle Durkin**  
**Elizabeth Fogarty**  
**Colin Norwood**  
**James Russ**  
**Rajiv Tawney**  
**Ryan Weaver**

### Special Thanks to:

**Dr. W. Hubert Keen**  
*President, Farmingdale State College*  
**Dr. Vicki Janik**  
*Chairperson of Professional Communications*  
**Professor Wendy Ladd's**  
*Journalism students*

## Gallery Opening

By Elizabeth Fogarty

Celebrating Farmingdale State's 100th year of innovation, an exhibit in Hale Hall was opened to honor the school. Taking nearly a year to put together, the exhibit was set up with ten decades of wonderful memories and photos including old yearbooks.

Walking into the exhibit some saw great pictures of former classmates and events from the past.

The exhibit also had great pieces such as an original PC from 1977 and the original nurse uniforms from 1980.

Previewing the exhibit was like walking into a time capsule. It was a wonderful experience, giving the visitor a glimpse of Farmingdale before our time.

One piece in the exhibit was the bill of sale of the campus. "This was my favorite piece," said Bill Steedle, Chairman of the Visual Communications department.

Other staff members enjoyed the nostalgic appeal. "I loved the framed letterman sweater," said Regina Caputo, secretary to Professor Steedle.

This exhibit saw a lot of traffic. Professor Vainder, said, "The department has done an absolutely incredible job." She admired how all of the pieces in the exhibit were well kept over the years."

The last day of the exhibit was March 9 after which some historical pieces will return to the different departments and the rest will return to storage until the next milestone of Farmingdale State College.



## Renovations For Ralph

By Adam Christian

In the spring of 2012, the Ralph Bunche Plaza on campus will begin its re-construction as part of the larger campus renovation plans.

The plans to re-do the plaza began in the Spring of 2011. The project is expected to be completed by spring of next year. The project costs \$1.6 million.

"The project is a complete renovation of the plaza, raising the lower level to a height that will make it handicap accessible. The installation will have a code of compliant fountain, and seating constructed of the dedication bricks from the wall of honor," said Douglas Dargis, Campus Architect.

The plaza is being completely reconstructed instead of just maintained because "the plaza does not meet ADA (handicap accessibility) standards and requires major work to meet the standards. Maintenance will not rectify this problem," said Douglas.

The original plaza was built in the 1960s, when Hale and Laffin Halls, were built, and contained a large fountain and collection pool. The plaza is nowhere near its original glory and began its deterioration in the 1970s.

"I don't know who Mr. Bunche is, or where that is," said Brittney Foti, 20, a sophomore.

Ralph Johnson Bunche was born in Detroit, Michigan, on August 7, 1903 and died in 1971. He was the valedictorian of his graduating class at Jefferson High School in Los Angeles, and was given a scholarship by Harvard University. He was also given a fund of a \$1,000 raised by the black community of Los Angeles to continue his education.

He completed his master's degree in 1928 and in 1934 he completed his

dissertation, earning him the Toppan Prize for outstanding research in social studies.

Bunche was very active in the civil rights movement but gained fame from his service to the U.S. government and in the UN. He worked both as an advisor to the Department of State and to the military in Africa and other areas of military importance during World War II.

Ralph Bunche is most well-known from his work on the confrontation between Arabs and Jews in Palestine.

After 11 months of never-ending negotiating and debates, Bunche obtained the signatures needed for agreements between Israel and the Arab States. After he returned home he had a hero's welcome, including a parade, his own day in Los Angeles, numerous requests to give lectures, the Spingarn Prize by the NAACP, and the most prestigious award, the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950.

"I have heard of him, but I did not know of any memorials on campus," said Eric Detelich, 24, a FSC senior. Most students are unaware of the neglected-looking area on campus.

With the upcoming renovations, the plaza will attract more students and more knowledge of Ralph Bunche and what he has done for our nation and others.

"We could use more places on campus for students to hang out," said Foti. "There are a few benches near Gleeson. Everything else looks dirty and abandoned."

The budget of \$1.6 million comes from Farmingdale State College's capital improvement budget. This revenue is not from tuition; instead it comes from a separate fund generated



# The Engine of Long Island's Future

Continued from page 1

By Alexandra Dacey

a more environmentally friendly product as opposed to plastic. "Purchasing the silverware wasn't an initial cost saving measure as that would be a long-time benefit from the change," said Sacco.

Aware of the necessary sanitary precautions, Sacco looked to Premier Cleaning Service to properly clean the new utensils. "The silverware goes through a series of cleaning cycles," said Sacco.

Despite Sacco's precautionary measures, students are still uneasy about the utensil change.

"I'd prefer plastic, I think it's more of a sanitary approach," said Stephen Rapport, a junior at FSC.

Some students commend FSC's green approach to dining. "I'm glad the change was made I'm all for the green," said Jiovan Acosta, a sophomore at FSC.

A suggestion box has been placed in the cafeteria to give students an opportunity to voice their dining suggestions.

Farmingdale State College has received a \$100,000 grant for a summer education program for high school students. The purpose of the grant is to fund an initiative that will enhance science and math education for underrepresented students. Eleven high schools and middle schools on Long Island will have the opportunity to participate in the new initiative.

The funding, provided from the Economic Development Purposes Fund, will further the Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) initiative that was begun in 2010. STEM which stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Dr. Veronica Henry, Executive Assistant to the President at SUNY Farmingdale, was instrumental in gaining this initiative. "We found that even in today's economy, there were still many jobs to be found in the STEM fields," said Henry.

STEM's goal is to give underrepresented high school students a competitive edge in the work force. Summer programs or extended day offerings will benefit at least 300 middle and high school students, beginning in

the summer of 2012. "Selection of the participating students will be left up to the individual school district," said Dr. Henry.

"I think it is great that Farmingdale will be offering such a wonderful program for local kids," said Professional Communications student, Katie Bisceglia.

When a STEM Diversity Summit was held at Farmingdale in March 2011, over 450 attended, including 250 students. Students joined teachers and administrators to share ideas. This year's STEM Diversity Summit, to be held at FSC in March, will continue to focus on barriers to STEM inclusion of underrepresented students on Long Island and the region.

STEM will offer students hands on experience in the areas of science and math. High school seniors who have not applied to college will learn a skill that may change their minds about attending college. "I think this program is going to help many students decide about their future career choices," said SUNY Farmingdale sophomore, Joseph Persico.



## Club Spotlight



# New Farmingdale Website Is Here!

By Andrea Fekete

Farmingdale has been in the process of re-designing and re-engineering the college website for the past year, an enhancement that is supposed to improve our communications greatly.

The official launch happened Thursday, February 2, 2012. The Farmingdale Facebook page asked for feedback and got many positive comments about the new website.

Kathy Coley, Director of Communications, and Patrick Calabria, VP for Institutional Advancement, were very eager to speak about the new website. The old website was an intern website being used until the new one came out which helped save the college a lot of money.

"President Keen deserves a lot of credit for this website. He bought into it from the start, gave a ton of support, and was very patient and understanding," said Christina Barnett exploring the new and improved website.

Staff put massive effort into making the new website which was included in their workload which made the new website cost nothing. Nassau Community College paid \$200,000 for their website, Stony Brook paid \$125,000, and Farmingdale didn't pay anything.

The only expense was \$10,000 for a Content Management System which allows designated faculty to go in and

make changes to the website right away instead of waiting.

"The beauty of the website is that if I see an error, I can go in and change it right away," said Kathy Coley.

Students have had a couple issues with the new website. Links on the website don't seem to work and students said if they don't type "www" into the browser before Farmingdale.edu they get sent to the old website.

Matt Hoch, 20, FSC sophomore, is



one of those students who dislikes this about the new website. "I feel like a freshman again since I need to take time to look for links that I already know," said Hoch.

Turns out staff purposely made the browser link for the website work like that in order to help faculty go back to the old one if they need to get certain information they might need. They will be eliminating this soon though, within

a couple weeks, so no matter what link you type, it will be the new website.

"A website is not a billboard, it's going to change; information will change," said Calabria. A student asked Calabria why they didn't wait until the website was perfect to launch it. Calabria said that it will never be perfect. The website was designed to be flexible, to fix a need that comes up.

Although students have had few issues, there are many who love the new website. One thing many students love is the stylish look.

Chloe Gray, 19, from Huntington is a sophomore at Farmingdale this year. Gray was ecstatic when she heard the new website was being launched.

"I remember my first time going on the website to apply and as soon as I saw the homepage I thought to myself they could at least add some color to make it fun," said Gray. "I don't think anybody can say this isn't a major step up," said Calabria.

Any positive or negative feedback about the website can be e-mailed to webmastr@farmingdale.edu.

Faculty realized that the percentage of students with smartphones was growing exponentially. They then knew the next major step was going to be a eight month process which will result in a free mobile Farmingdale app for smartphones.

## G.I. JOBS MAGAZINE FINDS FSC VET FRIENDLY

By Enrique Sanabria

Less than a year after opening an Office for Veteran's Affairs and hiring Director of Veterans' Affairs Eric Farina, Farmingdale State College has already been awarded the designation of being a "Military Friendly School."

Every year the foremost magazine for military personnel transitioning to civilian life, *G.I. Jobs*, compiles a list of the top 20 percent of colleges, trade schools, and universities in the nation that are doing the most to recruit and work for veteran students.

FSC has made it on the 2012 list, which can be found at [www.MilitaryFriendlySchools.com](http://www.MilitaryFriendlySchools.com).

Veteran feedback and extensive research on more than 8,000 schools throughout the country is compiled and scrutinized before the list of 1,518 schools was released to the public on September 12, 2011.

The "Military Friendly Schools" list is the go-to resource for prospective student veterans searching for schools that provide the right overall experience," said Executive Director for the Student Veterans of America, Michael Dakduk.

The Office for Veterans' Affairs works diligently to act as a liaison between veteran students at FSC and different student services.

There can be a lot of administrative and Bureaucratic difficulties when veterans, using the benefits they have earned through service, deal with offices such as Admissions, Registrar, Student Accounts, and Financial Aid.

"I also try to help out in terms of the different academic departments," said Farina. "I'll be the face of the veteran and the voice of the veteran."

# PIZZA IDOL

By Loryn Boscia

Carmela Raccuglia, a local pizzaiolo in Farmingdale, found the perfect stage to display his vocal talents that landed him as a YouTube sensation. After learning that one of his patrons was celebrating a birthday in late January, he sang a rendition of "O Sole Mio" to her from behind the salad bar of Stage Door East Deli and Pizza.

The impromptu performance was filmed and downloaded to the internet from a smart phone. The video started trending thanks to interested locals, one being Brian Dron, a Farmingdale State College senior, said "It's hard to believe such a powerful voice can come out of

slice of pizza with some friends. "I thought hearing the guy who worked at the pizza place sing opera was actually pretty cool. I have never seen anything like it. I give him so much credit for actually singing to customers and doing something he loves to do."

The YouTube video, titled "Pizza Dude Sings His Heart Out," captured Raccuglia in his sauce-stained apron, embodying everything the new found local celebrity is about: quality, home cooked food, and singing. He has always related the three, since his passion for singing came from the kitchen of one the most influential women in his life.



a local pizza man."

It wasn't long before the upload became so popular that Raccuglia landed an appearance on the ABC show Good Morning America. After his television debut, locals came swarming into Stage Door East to check out the man behind the pizza.

"I've heard about him on the news, so I decided to come down and see it first hand," said FSC senior Kim Koskol, who was in the deli having a

"All the songs I sing, Grandma used to sing to me," Raccuglia said. That sentiment resonates in the pizza Raccuglia prepares for his customers.

The restaurant leaves you with warmth in your heart, as well as a full stomach too. Raccuglia sings to his customers and goes beyond just the enjoyment of singing, it really is a great show to watch," said Phil Boscia, a satisfied customer.

Dr. Veronica Henry Executive Assistant to the President at SUNY Farmingdale.

## Christina Renna Foundation

By Renee Ventaloro

Richard Renna, a business major at Farmingdale College has an incredible story and impact on the world. He and his family have started the Christina Renna Foundation Inc. in the loving memory of his sister Christina. "Having been developed for 5 years and registered non for profit (501)(c)(3), we continue to pursue Christina's dream of a cancer free world through fundraising efforts and awareness," said 20-year-old RJ Renna.

"As a foundation, we organize various events. Some of these events are Awareness Month for cancer awareness, St. Baldrick's Fundraiser, Annual Gala, a Golf Outing held in June, and a fishing trip held in Captree Park which is not a fundraiser but just a fun day out," said Renna.

"This amazing family has affected the lives of so many people including their friends and family. "RJ and his family have affected my life and the life of my friends in such a positive way", said Jamie Richardelli age 20. He and his family make it their jobs to help others." His positive attitude and drive to make this foundation successful is remarkable. "Richard is an extremely outgoing person, isn't afraid to speak his mind, but at the same is extremely caring," said Cheryl Baatz age 20.

Their determination to make their family's beloved daughter and sister's dream come true of a "cancer free world" is what this family is set out to do.

"Currently we are continuing our dedication to funding Children's Cancer Research as well as furthering our efforts of awareness," said Renna. "In June we will return Washington D.C. to fight for funding for HR 1553 and S 911 two bills one in the house and one in the senate. The bill was signed into law by [former] President Bush and now we must go year after year and fight for the appropriations, which allocate would 150 million dollars over a 5 year period".

Anybody can donate to the cause and partake in any activities in which they choose to. For more information about the Christina Renna Foundation Inc. go to: <http://www.crf4acure.org>.

## Enjoy Indie

By Jason Carroll

For many college students, juggling schoolwork, homework, and a job is a difficult task. However, this is not the case for all students. Salvatore Spatafora, a 21-year-old student from Levittown, attends Farmingdale State College, has a part-time job, has created his own music website, is working on a potential rap career, and maintains a social life.

Spatafora's website Enjoy Indie, was created in fall 2010 for his love for music. The website is used to promote local bands, provide music news, shoots photography at concerts, and support the music industry.

"Enjoy Indie was created in hopes of helping expose the Long Island Music Scene," said Spatafora. He is currently trying to find someone who will endorse the website, which will allow Enjoy Indie to grow.

"We get 50,000 visitors a week. Give it a visit," said Spatafora. Michelle Fugel, a friend and contributor to Enjoy Indie, said, "He made a great website for people to check out for whatever kind of music you're into."

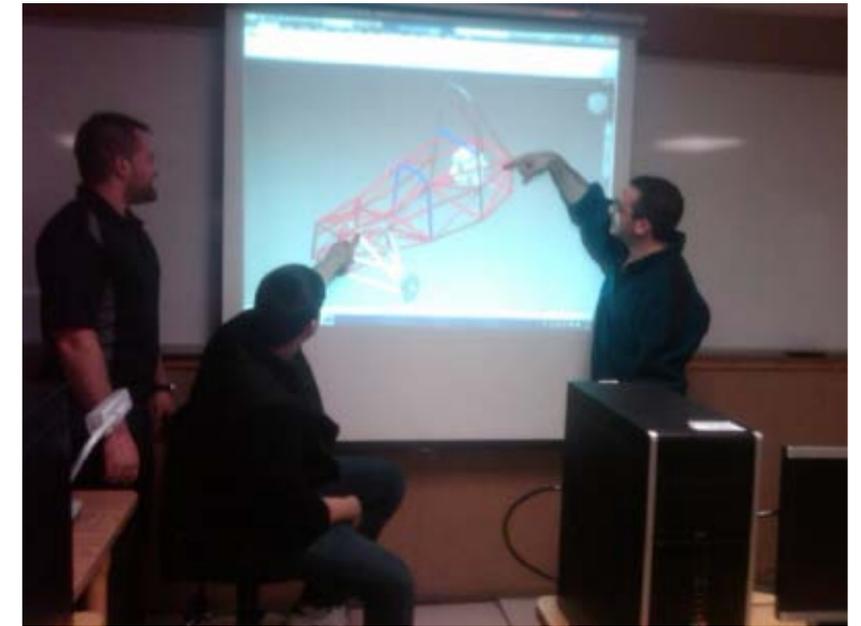
Aside from Enjoy Indie, Spatafora has pursued his passion for being a rapper. The idea came to him in 2011 while promoting other rap musicians on his website. "I had to sit back and be like 'why can't I do this?'" he said. Spatafora has recently finished a mix tape he was creating with a friend called "SpataCobe" and can be found on the internet.

When asking Spatafora's girlfriend, Emily McNally, how she feels about his rap career and if she supports it, she said, "Although the music industry is extremely competitive and hard to become a part of, I support his goal of becoming a rapper. He is so passionate about rapping, and I truly believe that drive is a vital part of success."

As a Computer Information Systems major, Spatafora will be graduating from FSC with a Bachelors of Science degree in Computer Information Systems at the end of the Spring 2012 semester. He has attended Farmingdale State College for all four years, and is happy to be graduating.

## Engineering Students Forge Forward with A Formula

By Raquel Sousa



For the first time ever at Farmingdale State College there is a club that is building a Formula 1 race car to potentially race in the SAE competition (Society of Automotive Engineers). The students meet at least once a week to work on designing the race car. They also work on presentations for potential sponsors.

After a thorough cost analysis the students are estimating that the car is going to cost them approximately \$40,000. Helder Santiago, the president, and Mike Reis, the vice president, go to different companies and organizations presenting their goals for sponsorships. So far the club has \$1,800 in sponsorships. In addition, the club has \$8-10,000 in donated services and parts from different engineering corporations.

"The club is not just about engineering, it is more like running a business," said Santiago. This club is great for a variety of students at Farmingdale because the students have to engineer everything, such as the system in which the vehicle operates, marketing, and costs analysis. The club requires communication skills, business skills, electrical engineering, and computer engineering skills.

"We're taking what we learned in the

classroom and using it in reality," said Reis. The SAE international competition is not just a race. The competition consists of design presentation, costs presentation, and marking presentation.

The FSC Engineering Club was started by four seniors that are studying engineering: the President Santiago, the Vice President Reis, the secretary, Anthony Dibono, and the Treasurer, Marco Santiago. Reis have always had a passion for cars and then he heard about an SAE Competition. They looked up the website that stated that they would be designing a miniature-sized off-road vehicle that would be competing against 120 other schools. "Can we really do this?" said Santiago. "Yes, yes, yes, let's do it!" said Reis.

The students goals for the club is to have a running car by the summer of 2012 so that they can test during the fall semester and register for the competition in October to compete in May of 2013. "The club is enabling us to use marketing skills that will hopefully lead us to future job opportunities," said Dibono.

The club is looking for more students to get involved.

# FARMINGDALE ICE HOCKEY

## Lin it to Win it

By Bill Filosa

Two months ago New York Knicks breakout sensation Jeremy Lin was a virtual unknown to basketball fans across the country. On February 4, 2012, the Knicks played their metropolitan area rivals, the New Jersey Nets. After this game the world would know "Linsanity" After a slow start to the season many Knick fans were assuming a negative outcome against the Nets, and a negative season in general.

However, many Knick fans were unaware of the Point Guard phenomenon Jeremy Lin coming off the bench to start this game. Lin had an unbelievable performance playing 36 minutes and putting up 25 points. Lin's performance was enough to give the Knicks a 99-92 victory over the Nets. If the Knicks go on to the playoffs, or even the finals, this will be considered the turning point in the season.

This win against the Nets was the start of what is now known as Linsanity. Lin followed up his 25 point performance with a six game 20 points or more streak that ended in a win against the Sacramento Kings on February 15. Some don't agree Lin is a legitimate superstar, FSC student Daniel Carpio, said, "If you put Lin against a championship caliber defense he will crumble every time."

There was much speculation that Jeremy Lin's heroics would slow down with the return of superstar Carmelo Anthony on February 20, against the Nets. However, Lin proved his critics wrong when he scored 21 points the very game Anthony returned.

Even though Jeremy Lin's run at success is still in its early stages FSC student Michelle Kelly, said, "Lin has what it takes to be an NBA superstar." So regardless of what the future brings for Jeremy Lin the run he had during February of the 2011-2012 season will never be forgotten. It is the first time in NBA history that an Asian American has proven that he can play just as well as any other player in the NBA.



The Rams Ice Hockey Club conference playoffs are just around the corner, and they are determined to win all the way to the ACHC Division National Championship Tournament.

"We are playing against the University at Albany, and I'm very excited," said Mike Leprine who plays defense.

"If we win, when we will play against Albany, and will be playing on Sunday afternoon against either Southern Connecticut State University or Fairfield University for the Emperor's cup," said Matt Dorsey. Dorsey said that this coming weekend they will be in the Regional Tournament, which is being held in York, PA. "We will be playing against Alvernia University on Friday night," said Dorsey.

If the Rams take a win, then they

play in the regional final on Saturday.

"This is a big game because if we win it will make our 5th consecutive trip to the ACHC Division three National Championship Tournament," said Mike Leprine.

The ACHC Division is going to be a big game for the Rams, and Dorsey is determined to make it to the championship tournament.

"We practice at the Freeport Recreation Center on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 p.m. till midnight," said Franki Florio. The team puts on their game face and prepares for their big games. "Practice is very important for a team; it helps us get focused for our games," said Florio. The Rams are working hard for their victory win, and will stay focused so they can come home with a trophy in hand.