

Volume 1, Issue 6  
Summer! Free on Campus!

## Summer School and You

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Jen Marx  
*Campus News*

For many New York college students, summer means hours spent lying on the beach, vacations at Lake George, countless trips to Starbucks and ... summer class? Taking courses over the summer is no longer only reserved for slackers, but tons of "A" students are joining the fad as well. Still others want to check up on classes, and some do not want to be out of school for three months at a time. Another major driving force behind taking summer classes is that students want to finish school earlier. Furthermore, students are racing to get out of their two-year college and to begin their studies elsewhere.

One side of the argument is that these individuals are correct. Attending summer class is extremely beneficial, because not only does it ensure that students graduate either early or on time, but going to school year-round prevents students from forgetting about their lessons. Their mind is fully stimulated for a majority of the summer by educational materials, and returning to school in the fall is not nearly as difficult.

The idea that students do not retain information well over the summer is not just some old wives' tale or catchy commercial cliché. According to Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, "Research shows that academic achievement stalls, and, for far too many disadvantaged children, actually worsens if they are not engaged in high-quality educational activities over the summer." That's a frightening statement!

However, some students are still not going to be convinced of the benefits of summer class.



Summer signups at Stony Brook Southampton.

Three months without any grueling homework or brain-wracking examinations is certainly difficult to give up. Perhaps some of the other benefits of summer classes will help to persuade this resistant group. Remember that math course you've been putting off taking for the last few semesters? Or that English class that you cannot fathom sitting through for three months? Well, wouldn't taking the class in only a third of the amount of time help to ease some of that burden?

Summer courses are, in general, shorter than courses taken during the regular semester.

For example, Nassau Community College's summer sessions generally only last about a month each, and Queensborough Community College's programs run for about a month and a half. Students should not expect to find much difference at any other institutions. These time frames are quite average for summer courses. Therefore, instead of sitting through a despised class for three months, the work can be completed in under half to half the amount of time.

Lisa Kassay, a Nassau Community College graduate who went on to obtain her degree in **continued on page 6**



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## Fun Things to Beat the Heat

Svetlana Sforza  
*Campus News*

As summer bears down on us, we're gearing towards outdoor activities. And, for college students, there are many places to go and relax.

New York and Long Island host some of the finest parks and recreational areas around, not to mention the beautiful beaches with miles of water stretching far out. Besides Central Park (which everyone already knows about), you can visit the local grass in many various spots. First of all, there's Cunningham Park, which stretches and spans all across Fresh Meadows. Each part showcases: baseball diamonds, walking or biking trails, open green pastures and playground areas. The same can be said for Alley Pond, although it

also has open barbecue pits and benches for an awesome day that everyone can enjoy. And there's always the stretch of land along the Cross Island Parkway in Bay Terrace that leads to Fort Totten, if you feel like exercising. This road to the side allows: bikes, roller blades, skates, walks and runs. Take things slow or fast down to the Throgs Neck bridge, where you can climb the enormous rocks or just go strolling along the water.

Well, what about the beaches? I mean, we're supposed to have fun in the sun, right? And there's no better location to do that than a place full of sand and surf. The prime example of life on the island starts and ends with Long Beach. Between awesome kosher food (try any of the delis), the pristine boardwalk and a generously, elongated beach, everyone can find

solace there. Then, there's the very popular Jones Beach, with plenty of restaurants and sunbathing to fill your sun-drenched desires.

If you can get out to the ferry, take a trip to Fire Island. Quiet, peaceful and safe are the best words to describe this low-key community of beachcombers.

Let's not kid ourselves; baseball season is here, alive and well. So, I always try and check-out at least one game a year at each stadium in New York. Yes, I have my fan loyalty, but no, I'm not sharing which one I choose. Any MLB game is a good game to me. And you can NOT beat the New York atmosphere of screaming fans cheering and booing their athletes. You can score a good deal for any tickets if you go during the week, during the day and when they play losing teams.

After all this excitement and tanning, everyone needs to relax and cool down. Treat yourself and loved ones to ice cream and ices! One of the most famous locations for Ralph's Italian Ices hails from Whitestone. Generations frequent there and have no intention of stopping, but if that's too far, this popular chain has other stands all over the Island. If you're leaning towards the healthy side, Jamba Juice and Planet Smoothie can help with your goals.

And if not, homemade ice cream from the International Delight Café off Sunrise Highway always hits the spot. Well, whatever your plans for the season, be sure to enjoy every moment of this great weather outdoors with family and friends every spare moment you get.



# Immigration tumult

Alejandra Matos  
*Scripps Foundation*

Immigration reform in the U.S. has been a game of numbers with no winners or end in sight.

That is the conclusion of a report and discussion in June at the Center for American Progress. “It’s been nine years since President Bush unveiled a framework for immigration, half a decade since the House passed an enforcement only bill and three years to the day since the House put out the last best chance at an immigration bill,” Stewart Verdery Jr., the report’s author, said.

He was assistant secretary for border and transportation security policy at the Department of Homeland Security during the Bush administration. The report outlines the success and failures of the government in regulating immigration in the past five years. CAP is a progressive policy group led by John Podesta, former Pres. Clinton’s chief of staff.

The lack of an immigration reform bill has forced state and local governments to enact their own enforcement laws, said Marshall Fitz, CAP’s director of immigration policy. Arizona’s controversial immigration act is

one example.

Arizona State Rep. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Phoenix, said reform will keep cities safe. Arizona has a large number of kidnappings, mostly drug related. “We are the kidnapping capital of the nation because of the cartels that are operating in our interior,” she said.

Enforcement on the border has increased in recent years. There were more than 20,000 full-time border patrol agents in 2009, up from 12,300 in 2006. In addition, more than 370 miles of fencing help keep immigrants from entering the U.S.

Stopping the flow of illegal immigration is not enough, according to the CAP report. It says the 12 million illegal immigrants who are already living in the U.S. need a way to become legal residents. Sinema said people in Arizona support an immigration reform bill that ensures employers are held accountable.

“We need to provide a process where people who want to become legal citizens will come forward, pay taxes and learn English, and do a background check,” Sinema said. “If we provide a process like that, those who don’t want to follow the law won’t come forward, and it will be easier to identify them.”

# Rockland mentors

In an effort to increase student achievement and retention, Rockland Community College launched “Learning Communities,” a program where students work collaboratively and move together as a group through two linked courses.

Studies show that students who bond to a college, a faculty member, or a group of students have a better chance not only of staying in college, but also in succeeding at that college as well. Learning Communities can help in establishing that all-important bond. RCC is expanding its successful “Learning Communities” pilot program launched in Spring 2010 from three communities to eight in Fall ’10.

The three learning communities available last spring consisted of three English Skills courses, each linked with a course in another discipline. Taking both courses as one group gave students the opportunity to work more effectively with each other on assigned projects. In addition, peer mentors were trained and then assigned to the learning communities.

The student mentors were required to meet personally with their mentees twice a month and to maintain weekly contact through e-mail, text or phone. Mentors created and presented workshops in areas such as time-management, study skills and essay writing.

Dr. Cliff L. Wood, College President, said, “Mentoring, including peer mentoring, can dramatically

help students be more successful and achieve more.”

Examples of learning communities available in Fall 2010 include the pairings of English Composition with American History; English as a Second Language with Sociology; and English Skills with Psychology.

To register for a Learning Community, or to learn more about the program, contact Martha Rottman, Division Chair, Humanities, Social and Behavioral Science, at (845) 574-4166 or mrottman@sunyrockland.edu

Enrollment is now underway for the Fall 2010 Semester, which begins September 1. For more information, visit [www.sunyrockland.edu](http://www.sunyrockland.edu) or call Admissions at 845-574-4224. Financial aid and child care available.

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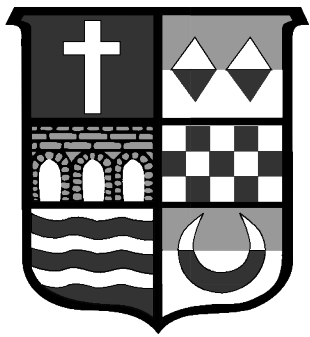


Barbara Benitez and Jamila Grampus, Rockland Community College students, prepare to provide peer mentoring for students enrolled in RCC’s “Learning Communities.”

Photo by C. Fournier/SUNY Rockland.

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# My life as the 40-year-old paperboy

**Darren Johnson**  
*Publisher*

The reason why I usually deliver most of the issues of Campus News myself – people I mention this to scoff at me, as if a 40-year-old with advanced degrees should be above such mundane work, they huff – is because of a kid I knew growing up in Utica, N.Y., about a year older than me, who went to the local public school and, because I went to the local Catholic school, I only associated with through Little League baseball.

Many of us kids, including me, had paper routes back then – an idea foreign to today’s kids and even college students – and this kid gained instant notoriety by doing what a lot of us kids could relate to. He was a Norma Rae to the pubescent set in town. He grabbed his weekly bundles of Pennysavers, which he was supposed to deliver – hump around like the rest of us for hours for a mere \$10 or \$12 per week – and just dumped them in the Sauquoit Creek.

This story spread like wildfire in my part of town. Yeah, he stuck it to The Man. And the Pennysaver wasn’t a real newspaper anyway. Fact is, the publisher was too cheap to pay US Postal rates so they took advantage of the youth workforce of the day. I had one of those routes – 300 houses; pay, \$9. (I also had the more traditional type of paper route as a kid. One where one would go collecting after; that averaged about \$12-15/week, if tips were included.)

But, from a First Amendment standpoint – even though the Pennysaver offers nothing of journalistic value, it still is a publication – let alone from an environmental standpoint (the paper, as we delivered it, was wrapped in plastic), this was a hostile act to the Bill of Rights and Mother Nature by a kid not known as one of the area’s brightest, anyway.

Even though we were 12 or so (12 year olds are allowed to work in news delivery – it’s one of the few exceptions to state child labor laws, along with child acting/modeling), my fellow paper carriers and I knew what he did was wrong. No one duplicated it. But it was a hot topic.

And it has always made me paranoid about the placement of the newspapers for the companies I’ve worked for. I watch them carefully.

Recently, I was at one of the upstate community colleges, carting a box of Campus News to some courtesy racks the college puts out for non-student publications, encouraging the students to read more.

All of the newspaper companies who used to give free papers to the campuses, such as The Voice, USA Today, The New York Times and some smaller regional publications, have abandoned that idea, so I find the racks totally clear. Campus

News gets swiped up each month, so I know Campus News is filling a vacuum.

But when I teach journalism at a community college on Long Island, or when I advise other student newspapers, I barely ever mention distribution. Mainly because the concept goes over students’ heads. Writing and editing, they can grasp. Layout, sort of. Advertising, to a degree. But, they shrug, why concern oneself with how the paper makes it to the stands? Into people’s homes? There are no college classes on newspaper circulation, because it’s easy, they figure.

But it’s the difference between success and failure for a publication. It’s why a Long Island version of The Voice failed. It’s why papers like Newsday have a monopoly. Even free papers need to be easily found to be read. Distribution is the hardest part of the equation for a paper like Campus News – 15 community colleges? Are we serious?

Yeah, we are. And I can do it because, when I was writing for my high school paper and in journalism Explorers, I had those traditional door-to-door paper routes.

I’d read the paper, too, between stops. One time, on the cover was a photo of a crunched up car that had slammed into a garbage truck. Dead – one of my favorite customer’s sons. Should I deliver that paper? I did. It was my duty. But I didn’t collect for weeks. I didn’t know what to say. I felt for him. When I finally did come asking for money, he seemed his usual jovial self. Though his unusually boy-crazy daughters weren’t bounding to the door in their make up and tube tops as they had in the past. Life had changed in that house.

Another time, the 10-speed Huffly I’d bought for \$100 (many weeks’ pay) to help move faster with collections was totally crushed when I was struck by a driver with no insurance, mental disorders and Coke bottle glasses. I literally flew 20 feet in the air and landed on the hard pavement in a roll (I’d been taking Judo at the time, and my landing was classroom perfect, sans mat). Somehow, I was totally uninjured. My collection book was in pieces.

A priest showed up at the accident scene – to counsel the poor driver!

A chiropractor, whose office was about where I’d landed, looked me over and seemed a bit disappointed that I was all in one piece.

The cops came. After I refused medical treatment, I put the crumpled up bike on my shoulder and carried it home. I got no money, no apology, nothing.

Then in college, while I studied Writing before embarking on a whole career revolving around the printed (usually newsprinted) word, I had a 7-day-a-week route – I’d get up at 4 a.m. every day, even Christ-



Cutting open the first bundle of Campus News February 1 before delivery.

mas – to deliver New York Times to the mansions in the Hamptons. My route would double in size in the summer, but Christmastime tips were incredible. Enough to buy 30 Huffys.

I landed a reporting job at The Sag Harbor Express newspaper after college and the delivery

guy just upped and quit one day. The Editor in Chief seemed surprised when I volunteered to add the route to my duties. Why not? The black ink had been on my hands throughout the 80s, and now it was the ’90s. I didn’t deliver anything significant in the first decade of this century, but here I

am in the 2010s, clearing racks, counting a few returns, eyeing best placement, making sure people who seem less in love with the First Amendment don’t sabotage my racks. Like that kid in Utica and the creek.

And I rather enjoy it. It’s a part of me.

## Kagan: Umps are good judges

**Cameron Glover**  
*Scripps Foundation*

Solicitor General Elena Kagan compared her concept of an ideal Supreme Court Justice to the role of a baseball umpire.

“You expect that the judge, as you expect the umpire, not to have a team in the game,” Kagan said on the third day of the Senate Judiciary Committee’s hearing on her confirmation to the Supreme Court last month.

Sen. Amy Klobacher, D-Minn., asked Kagan about justices as umpires, a metaphor Chief Justice John G. Roberts described in his 2005 confirmation hearings.

Kagan said the positions are alike because they both must be performed with “neutrality” and “fairness.” However, Kagan said the comparison has limits regarding the thoughtful judicial process involved with being a Supreme Court justice.

“The metaphor might suggest to some people that law is a kind of robotic enterprise, that there’s a kind of automatic quality to it,” Kagan said. “I do think that that’s not right, and it’s especially not right at the Supreme Court level.”

Kagan assured the committee she would act with that kind of neutral and fair reasoning as a justice.

“As a judge, you are on nobody’s team,” she said. “If I’m fortunate enough to be confirmed, I would put on that robe and be independent and not favor any political party.”

The June session marked the end of Kagan’s public testimony. She is meeting in private with the



Intern Jacqui Logan, with the Feminist Majority Foundation, focuses on the Kagan hearings.

committee, which listened to other witnesses later in the day.

Several Senators questioned Kagan about her professional and government work experience and how it reflects how she would act as a justice.

Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, was the first of many senators to ask Kagan about military recruiting on Harvard Law School’s campus, an issue she also addressed.

Hatch said Kagan, as dean of the school from 2003 to 2009, discriminated against the military because she was involved in the decision to forbid the school’s Office of Career Services to assist the military with recruiting on campus. Kagan said the ban did not discourage or limit the military’s abil-

ity to recruit students.

“I do think that military of all kinds,” Kagan said, “had excellent access to our students.”

The committee’s majority staff placed on record a letter from David M. Tressler, a 2006 Harvard graduate and a first lieutenant in civil affairs in the U.S. Army Reserve. Tressler wrote in the letter, sent from Afghanistan, that Kagan “adequately proved her support for those who served, were currently serving, and all those who felt called to serve” when she was dean. Tressler encouraged the committee to avoid criticizing Kagan about her support of the military.



# July ushers in good, old gumshoe shows

**Laura Tucker**  
*Campus News*

If there’s one thing I know we don’t need more of on TV, it’s medical dramas. If I was forced to name a second thing we don’t need, I’d have to say it would be cop/detective dramas. For some reason, someone has decided that July 2010 is cop/detective show month as we’re being flooded with series and season premieres from this genre throughout the month.

USA is bringing back two of its cop/detective shows this month and debuting a third. Detective show “Psych” returns for its fifth season July 14. They have shared with us that at some point we will find out the answer to the cliffhanger from last season, of just why Yin was staring at an older picture of Yang and Shawn, and what they were doing together in the first place. The con artist/FBI agent duo of “White Collar” will return one night earlier, followed immediately by the series premiere of “Covert Affairs.” Piper Perabo stars as a CIA agent called to duty before her training is complete.

TNT isn’t going to let USA have all the policing fun. They’re bringing back the cop show “The Closer” on July 12, and Brenda definitely has some things to straighten out with Fritz, who indicated the promotion back to Washington, D.C. was never a viable option. She implied she would have chosen him over her job, but it’s an easy choice to make when it’s not a viable option. It was settled, but didn’t seem clearly over yet. TNT will follow this up with the premiere of “Rizzoli and Isles.” In this one, a Boston detective teams up with a medical examiner to solve crimes. It sounds like the Jerry O’Connell era of “Crossing Jordan.”

And finally, even CBS is clocking in with a cop show. “The Bridge” premieres on July 10 and focuses on a dedicated police officer who is tapped to be the leader of the police union. This means he not only battles the bad guys on the street, but also tackles the corruption through the ranks and among his bosses. I have to say I don’t know if we’ve ever had a show about cop in charge of his union, but corrupt cops is definitely not new.

After cop/detective shows, what says July like reality TV? “Jersey Shore” makes it back to MTV finally on July 29, and this time they’re not even in New Jersey, but Miami. They’re all back, Snooki, The Situation, and the rest. “Project Runway” is back on Lifetime the same night. For all you voyeurs out there, “Big Brother” is back on CBS starting July 8 with all new houseguests. The second season of “The T.O. Show,” following none other than Ter-



rell Owens, premieres on VH1 July 11.

We’re not done with football yet, though, as former “Dancing With the Stars” contestant, Chad Ochocino, brings us his series, “Ochocinco: The Ultimate Catch” slated for the hour directly before “The T.O. Show.” Women will compete on this show in a football-themed dating environment, I guess because “Rock of Love” worked so well for Bret Michaels. July 28 is the premiere of a new series on The CW, “Plain Jane.” In this one, a new “Jane” will be transformed each week. They’ll get not only a makeover, but confidence-building exercises, rebuilding them from the inside out. Chef Gordon Ramsay is checking in with another cooking reality show, “Masterchef” that will make its debut July 27 on Fox.

Finally, what’s July without the “MLB All-Star Game?” Catch that on Fox on July 13. But before watching the best of the best in the All-American sport of baseball, celebrate the birth of our nation with 4th of July Fireworks Spectaculars, with Macy’s on NBC and Boston Pops on CBS, both on the night of July 4.

## Green Day gets game

**Thomas Johnson**  
*Campus News*

A year ago, developer Harmonix set the bar for band-specific music games with the release of The Beatles: Rock Band. Unlike other band-specific games in the Guitar Hero franchise, The Beatles: Rock Band featured a track list comprised entirely of songs from the titular band, and created unique venues, character models and gameplay experiences with an obvious reverence for the source material. It was only a matter of time before the treatment was given to another band, and it was with the release of Green Day: Rock Band.

The gameplay is standard for the genre. A track is on screen, notes flow down it, and you need to hit the right notes on your controller in order to progress without failing out. Anyone playing Green Day: Rock Band should be familiar with the controls, seeing as it only sold in a disc-only version, thus requiring you to the appropriate controllers already.

As far as difficulty goes, Green Day: Rock Band is in a strange place between that of Rock Band 2 and The Beatles: Rock Band. Green Day has a tendency to play fast and straight forward, making alt-strumming a must for guitar and bass, and the vocal range of frontman Billy Joe Armstrong tends to be more achievable than that of the vocal tracks of Rock Band 2, and the harmonies are also much easier to accomplish than those pres-

ent in The Beatles: Rock Band.

The structure of Green Day: Rock Band is near identical to 2009’s The Beatles: Rock Band. You play a selection of setlists and follow the band as the progress through the different stages of their career.

There are three different sections of Green Day: Rock Band’s career mode, each focusing on a different period of time and part of the band’s career. The first set takes place in a warehouse representative of Green Day’s early days, and features a setlist comprised of the entirety of the 1994 album, “Dookie.” The mid-section of the career mode takes place on the same stage where the band recorded their “Bullet in a Bible” DVD at the Milton Keynes venue, and represents the band’s resurgence during the American Idiot World Tour, and features a setlist comprised of the entirety of 2004’s “American Idiot,” as well as several tracks from their following albums. The final career mode section takes place in the Fox Theatre, and features tracks from their most recent work.

The game contains a total of 47 playable songs out of the box, with six more available as downloadable content. While 47 tracks may seem lacking when compared to the track lists of other releases in the Rock Band series, Green Day: Rock Band has pretty much every Green Day song that I’d want to play in a game. Having the entirety of “American Idiot” and “Dookie,” a handful of tracks from “21st Century Breakdown,” and all the



hits from “Nimrod,” “Warning” and “Insomniac” should be more than enough to please most Green Day fans, which is all that matters, seeing as no one that doesn’t like Green Day would be buying this game in the first place. It’s also worth noting that all tracks are transferrable (for a \$10 fee) to both Rock Band 2 and Rock Band 3.

The bonus unlockables in the game are the kinds of things that someone who would be way into a Green Day specific game would thoroughly enjoy. Due to MTV having a hand in the production process of the game, there is plenty of old Green Day concert footage, interviews and photographs from the MTV archive available for you to

view after unlocking.

Would it have been nice to have a few more venues? Sure. But overall, Green Day: Rock Band is a solid entry in the Rock Band franchise. However, the game is only as good as the sum of its parts, meaning that since it’s a game comprised entirely of Green Day songs, your enjoyment of the game relies solely on how much of an appreciation you have for the music of Green Day. If you don’t like the music of Green Day, or don’t think you’d enjoy playing their songs in Rock Band, then Green Day: Rock Band isn’t going to do anything for you.



# Fockers begat Schmucks?

**Laura Tucker**  
*Campus News*

Although it was just a few months ago that Steve Carell and Tina Fey starred in the very successful “Date Night,” Carell isn’t resting on his laurels, and is out with what looks to be another blockbuster. He reunites with Paul Rudd, who he costarred with in “40-Year-Old Virgin,” in “Dinner for Schmucks,” directed by Jay Roach, the same guy who brought us “Meet the Parents” and “Meet the Fockers.”

Rudd stars as Tim, a guy looking to get ahead within his company. Finding out that his boss hosts a monthly dinner party where the challenge is to bring the most eccentric person, he sets out to find such a person to impress his boss and get the promotion. He finds the perfect dinner guest in Barry (Carell) a man who dresses up dead mice to recreate famous works of art. Another “guest of honor” at the dinner is played by Zach Galifianakis, and between the two, I think it would be hard to choose a winner. “Dinner for Schmucks” drops on July 30 and is rated PG-13 for sequences of crude and sexual content, partial nudity, and language.

Not that Carell is happy with just one movie this month, as he’s also voicing the lead character in the animated “Despicable Me.” Gru enjoys everything that is positively wicked and surrounds himself with an army of minions, who he is counting on to help him carry out the biggest heist, stealing the moon. His plans are complicated by three little girls who enter his life, seeing him as a dad, making being wicked a little difficult. It also features the voice talent of Jason Segel, Russell Brand, Will Arnett, Kristen Wiig, Danny McBride, Miranda Cosgrove, and Julie Andrews. It comes to theaters in both 2D and 3D on July 9 and is rated PG for rude humor and mild action. Kids will also

enjoy the live action “Ramona and Beezus,” based on the best-selling books by Beverly Cleary. Starring Selena Gomez, it hits theaters July 23 and is rated G.

M. Night Shyamalan fans can look forward to the live-action “The Last Airbender,” based on the animated Nickelodeon series. This fantasy adventure details the four nations of Air, Water, Earth, and Fire. Tied by destiny, Fire wages war on the others. Aang realizes he is all alone in his power of manipulating the four elements and does so to restore peace. Dropping in theaters July 1, it’s rated PG for fantasy action violence. For even more sci-fi, Adrian Brody, Topher Grace, and Laurence Fishburne star in “Predators,” about a mercenary leading warriors who suddenly realize they were brought to this alien planet as prey. It lands in theaters on July 9 and isn’t rated yet.

And we’re still not done with the Sci-Fi action, as Leonardo DiCaprio hits screens for the second time this year, this time in “Inception.” Directed by Christopher Nolan, it stars DiCaprio as a skilled thief who steals secrets during the subconscious dream state. He’s tasked in the film with pulling off the opposite, planting an idea instead of stealing one. In theaters July 16, it also stars Ken Watanabe, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ellen Page, Tom Berenger and Michael Clain, and is rated PG-13 for sequences of violence and action. Leaning more towards fantasy, we can’t leave out Nicolas Cage’s latest, “The Sorcerer’s Apprentice.” The creators of his “National Treasure” movies, Jerry Bruckheimer and Jon Turteltaub, team up again in this comedy adventure that’s a little darker than Mickey Mouse in “Fantasia.” As the Sorcerer, Cage calls upon a college student (Jay Baruchel) to be his reluctant protege. On the big screen July 14, it’s rated PG for fantasy action violence, some mild rude humor, and brief language.



## DVDs: Being a Blackheart

**Laura Tucker**  
*Campus News*

Way before Joan Jett had her Blackhearts band, she was part of an all-female rock group, The Runaways, which was begun in 1975. In the group were such other names as Sandy West, Lita Ford, Jackie Fox, and Cherie Currie. Jett herself was an executive producer behind creating a biographical film of her time with the group, or more specifically, on the relationship between Jett and Currie. It’s based on Currie’s memoir “Neon Angel: A Memoir of a Runaway.” Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning play the lead roles here. “The Runaways” roles out on DVD on July 20.

“Brooklyn’s Finest” has collectively more acting talent than any other film out this month, starring Richard Gere, Ethan Hawke, Don Cheadle, Jesse Williams, Ellen Barkin, Wesley Snipes, and Vincent D’Onofrio. When the NYPD goes after a drug-ridden housing project, three officers in varying degree of employ (Gere, Hawke, and Cheadle) find their lives transformed by their involvement in the sting. From the same director as “Training Day,” it hits the stores on July 6.

Gerard Butler is after criminals as well in “The Bounty Hunter,” but very different ones ... initially at least. He’s tasked with bringing in his journalist ex-wife, Jennifer Aniston, who jumped bail following a big lead. She keeps chasing her lead, and he keeps chasing her, determined to get that bounty. Jason Sudeikis and Christine Baranski star as well. Pick this up on DVD July 13.

It’s another tale of revenge and double crossing in “The Losers.” An elite U.S. Special Forces unit is sent into the jungles of Bolivia on an important mission. They find themselves targeted and betrayed by an enemy known as Max, and they’re soon presumed dead. The unit is joined by a beautiful operative who has her own reasons for revenge, and they set out to even the score together. It makes it to DVD on July 20.

And finally, have you been going through withdrawal since the series finale of “Saving Grace” last month? Did the whole thing leave you a little empty after the ending? You can see how it all went down and watch it now every summer, and just pretend like TNT never canceled it as you watch “Saving Grace: The Final Season” which hits the stores on DVD on July 13.



## More shows that tackle fat America

**Laura Tucker**  
*Campus News*

Either NBC thinks we all seriously have a lot of problems, or they sincerely want to help. “The Biggest Loser” trainer Jillian Michaels series helping families get healthy, by diet, exercise, and emotional help ends its run this month, and one week later, a similar series with Tony Robbins premieres, although his methods are slightly different than Michaels’.

On “Losing It With Jillian Michaels,” the woman known as the toughest of trainers moves in to the homes of the families she’s helping, literally. She watches them without their knowledge as they live sedentary lives eating unhealthy foods. She sweeps in, tosses out all the unhealthy items in the kitchen, chastising the family along the way, and gets

them to first a doctor, then the gym.

While spending a week with the families, Michaels dissects what it is they need help with in their families, beyond the food and exercise. There’s usually a devastating personal loss somewhere in there, like a death in the family. She helps the families face what they need to and challenges them to make goals for themselves two months out. She leaves, but comes back after the two months are up to check on the families, and is usually greeted with great surprise results.

Even though there are clearly more families out there needing help, Michaels’ last episode will air on July 20, and one week later “Breakthrough With Tony Robbins” will debut on NBC in the same time slot. We know Robbins from his infomercials, books, and motivational speaking, hawking his methods of self-help. Interestingly enough, al-

though the show is produced by Robbins himself, and Tom Forman, a producer of “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” it’s also produced by Howard Owens and Mark Koops, two of Michaels’ producers, both on her show and “The Biggest Loser.”

Starting July 27 on NBC, instead of helping families like Michaels, Robbins will be helping individuals, who like Michaels’ families have seen a certain amount of setbacks in their lives. Robbins will use emotional challenges to get these people to find the tools they need to change their lives for the better and forever. And after they change their lives, they’ll reach out to help others that are in need they were before Robbins helped them.

By the end of the summer, we ought to all be in good shape physically and emotionally.





# Sizzling summer courses (cont. from cover)

Computer Science from East Stroudsburg University, said, “I took several summer classes at Nassau Community. I took the summer sessions so that I could graduate in one and a half years, and I went back to NCC to complete a summer class necessary to graduate from ESU.”

“I enjoyed the accelerated classes and the more lax summer atmosphere. I also like that I accomplished the credits in such a short time. I don’t think that the classes that I took were such high level courses that I missed anything from having them not spread out over a complete semester,” she continued.

While Kassay enjoyed the more rigorous atmosphere of a summer class, since a large amount of work has to be completed in a small time frame, she made sure to note that she doesn’t “think summer classes are for everyone.” Her statement is certainly correct. Students do not have only school to worry about in the summer. Many of them are expected to work at least part, if not full-

time, during the summer months to help contribute to both their personal and family needs. Additionally, instructors are not always sympathetic to the student who needs to earn money. While education is certainly at the heart of the institution, some students simply cannot afford to make homework their number one priority.

Professionals, who work 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, also may not be sympathetic to the plight of the college student who needs a break from schoolwork. However, unlike the work day, the school day does not end when the bell rings, so to speak. Essays, test preparation and the pressure of maintaining passing grades follow students home and haunt them. It seems unnecessary that students deal with these immense stressors year round.

Amanda Breen, a current student at Nassau Community taking Math 101: Logic and Set Theory, echoed these sentiments: “I withdrew from this course last semester and didn’t want to fall behind, so I figured taking

it over in the summer was the best option. I had heard rumors that summer classes were much easier, and I was advised by certain people that I should take summer courses. I have found that the classes are much harder. The teachers cram the entire course into four weeks so it’s very difficult to keep up and actually take the time to learn everything. Plus, the class is two hours, four nights a week; it’s exhausting!”

Breen reminds us going to school is a lot of work that subtracts from the time that individuals have to take care of chores at home, run errands, earn money and, although we live in a society that seems to revolt against leisure, relax. Additionally, can anyone learn anything in such a short amount of time? Is an education about the quantity, quality, depth or breadth of a subject? In fact, Kassay advised that “any class taken over the summer should be a more general credit class, or one covering topics that you are somewhat proficient in ... in order to retain the most information.”

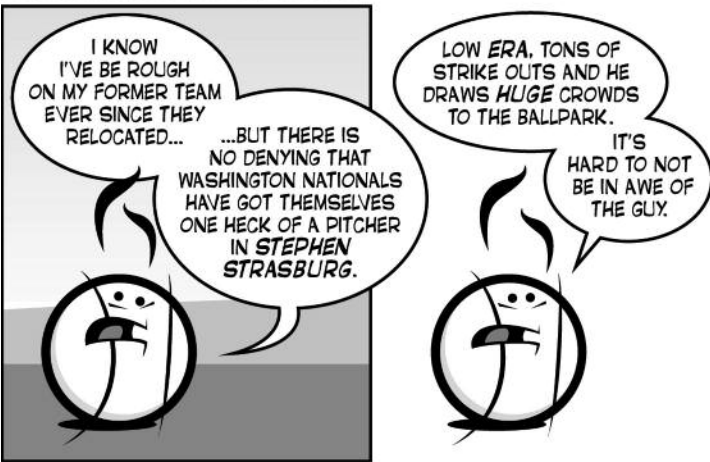
So what is the right choice here? It all really depends on the individual students. Students who have the time and patience to invest in summer courses may very well succeed. However, they need to be prepared for the heavy workload that accompanies a class compressed into a short amount of time. Furthermore, they need to be ready and willing to give up other summer activities.

Individuals who choose not to attend summer class will have to weigh their options carefully as well. They will have more time for work, errands, etc., but they may wind up being in school longer than their summer-class-attending peers.

Once again, the choice is up to the individual. At the end of the day, everyone just needs to do what is right for him or herself.

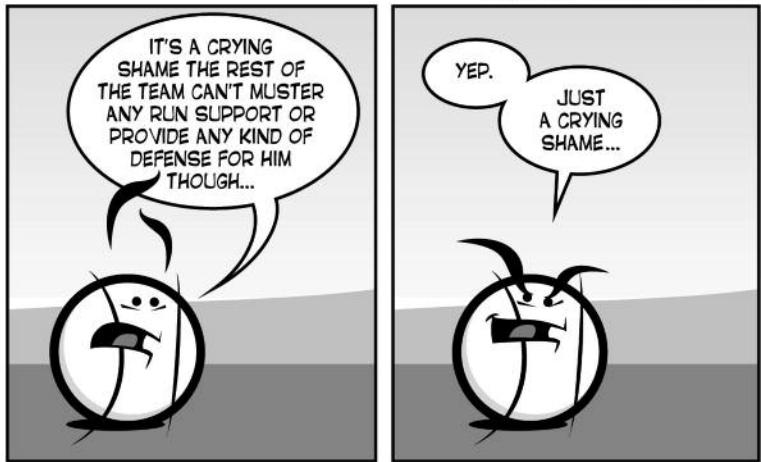
Hopefully, we can all be as happy as Nancy Rathje who looks back on her college days and said, “I graduated in 1967 from the Nursing Department. I think very kindly of Nassau, as it gave me the opportunity to work in a field that I enjoyed, and to provide for my family.”

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# Poetry Corner: ‘Twenty Bucks’

Darren Sardelli  
Long Beach, NY ([www.laughalotpoetry.com](http://www.laughalotpoetry.com))

When I asked dad for twenty bucks,  
he said, “Let’s make a deal.  
I’ll give you money only if  
you eat a healthy meal.”  
I found him sitting on the couch  
before I went to bed.  
I looked into his tired eyes  
and this is what I said:  
*“I finished all my vegetables!  
The carrots tasted great.  
I ate the piece of celery  
that mom put on my plate.  
The eggplant was delicious  
and the string beans were divine.  
The peppers were fantastic  
and the broccoli was fine.  
The giant baked potato  
was the highlight of my night.  
The juicy red tomato  
filled my belly with delight.”*  
My dad said he was proud of me  
and handed me the cash.  
I hope he doesn’t find out  
all this food is in the trash.

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## Have an opinion? Send it to us!



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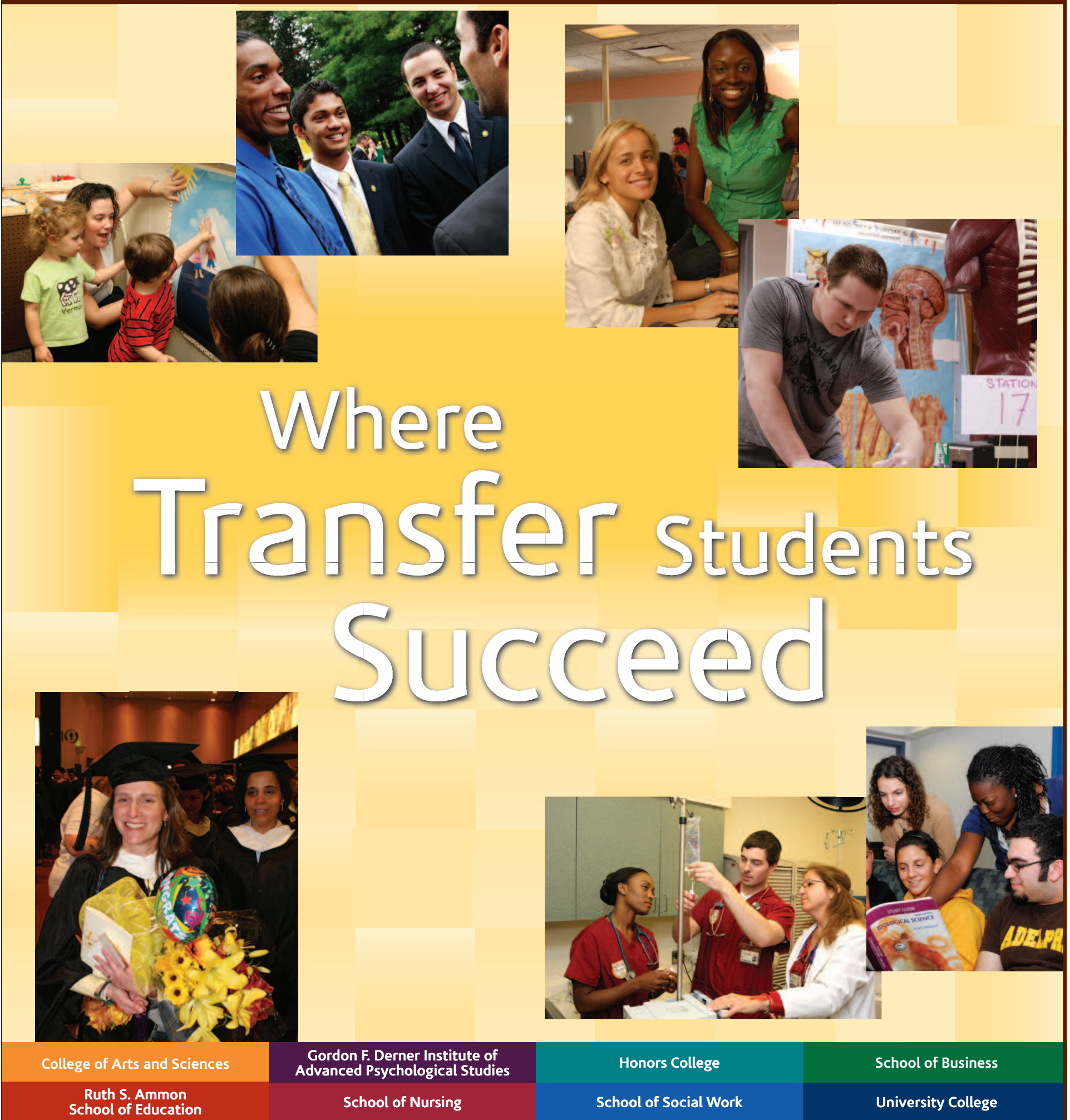
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