

THE PRESS EDITORIAL

What the Press would like to tell prospective students

This week The Press asked various members of the student body what they would like to tell prospective students who will be looking at SUNY Cortland this weekend. Many of the students who are here now can state a million different tales of adventures, new friends, joys, sorrows, and study habits which defy all rational concepts of education. By this time in the year the high school senior has heard every conceivable type of advice imaginable. Various college officials have stuffed them full of facts, figures, and all the best things their school has to offer. Cortland college like many other colleges has unique offerings of special interest to new students. In the best sense of the phrase the new student must be a savvy shopper to meet his and her own personal wants.

It is this concept which causes the greatest harm to the college selection process. For many of us who now attend Cortland it has become our community. A community that many have given tremendous amounts of time out of their lives to maintain and improve the quality of this college experience. It should be recognized that the commitment of thousands has resulted in the school and atmosphere that is evident today. Cortland college is truly a community of individuals bound together in the experience of living. To sell this collective effort as if it were a marketable product is to ignore the experiences of all individuals participating in this endeavor, called life.

Cortland college offers sports, clubs, organizations with the list continuing on and on. The most important concept that can be passed on to the prospective student is, decide if you want to be part of our community. Please do not pick a college simply because "its' cheap", "the others don't offer clubs I like", and the all time worst "my parents don't want me to go there." To the prospective student, look at Cortland as a community you would like to be a part of. If Cortland is missing something you like, help add to the collective experience. Cortland college is both receiving life time memories, and giving back to the community. If you think Cortland is the place for you, we the college community welcome you. For those prospective students who are still looking for their place to be, good luck and safe journey.

Tom Walsh
Press photographer

THE PRESS

Non Illegitimus Carborundum

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A letter from the editor

Does the amount of alcohol you consume ever scare you?

Newsday Magazine's cover story two weeks ago was entitled "Drinking 101". The article concerned itself with the growing problems of alcohol abuse on college campuses. The piece focused its attention on two New York State schools, Syracuse University and the State University of New York at Albany. The article focused on the drinking scene at both schools in and out of the bars.

Many of the students interviewed at the parties and in the bars (such as the familiar Sutter's and Hungry Charley's, in Syracuse) felt that drinking is no big deal. Drinking is a part of college life and college is a part of life, many considered it to be a "rite of passage". One student even said that the drinking at college will not have a great effect on the students because, "if people are going to be alcoholics, they were already alcoholics when they got to school."

This comment is valid but the amount of drinking that goes on at school does aid some into becoming dependent upon alcohol.

This is **not** a homily on the evils of drinking in college, believe me, I have had (and am sure will again) those times of drinking "one" too many when I've gone downtown. The main point of the editorial is for you to respond to the question; Does it sometimes scare you at the amount of alcohol you can consume?

Many students do consume too much one week and then will cut down that following week (detox). Do you sometimes feel yourself falling on and off the "wagon" one too many times because of the amount of alcohol you sometimes can consume?

Dependence, according to the Webster's II Dictionary is "the state of being determined, influenced or controlled by something else." Are we controlled by alcohol or the social situation surrounding it? We all know that alcohol is an influence in our lives now and will be a bigger and more accepted part in the social and business parts of our lives after we leave school. Can we control ourselves; is a question many graduates must ask.

Do you feel that you or a person in your group is dependent on alcohol? Have many of your friends failed or dropped out of school because of drinking? More importantly, does alcohol play too high a role in your life at school?

Please, the Press is interested in your views on this topic so try and respond. "What's your opinion...we would like to know."

Sincerely,
Kelly Jones
Opinions Editor

Reader defends free press

To the Editor:

In response to your letter about 'Spunky' Rick I feel it necessary to remind you that freedom of the press still exists today. If you had bothered to read the article, you would have noticed that the writer refuted the issue of Rick being obnoxious. This is what the article was all about.

The essence of journalism not only stems from freedom of the press but gives a columnist the right to express her own rights and opinions.

"As a matter of fact, he's admired and emulated...because he knows how to keep the audience happy and that is all that matters". In your statement above, making an audience happy is all that seems to count. This, Ms. Finlay, is what the entertainment business is all about. The writer if you care to notice is the entertainment editor, she too is doing her job and keeping her audience happy.

I would suggest you re-read the article and realize that it was just a re-write of an interview. There were questions asked and answers given in Maryam's article. The article was written to see if the general opinion of Rick being obnoxious was really true. I think the writer made this very clear that this observation is not true. So which is more obnoxious - your letter or her article?

Sincerely,
Gayle Zoyhofski

The Pressing Question

What would you like to tell prospective students?



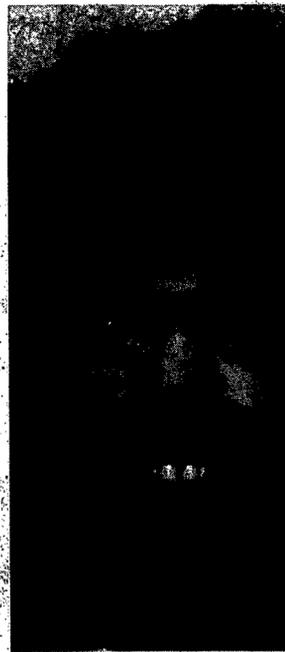
Amy Howes
Senior
Education

About one out of two students fail out of Cortland, so be prepared to study hard.



Tom Donohue
Junior
Communications

Save your money, you're going to need it.



Kitty Pacqu
Junior
Speech Pathology

Beware of the freshmen fifteen.