

"Scire tuum  
nihil est, nisi  
te scire hoc  
sciat alter"

# COMMON SENSE

HIGH SCHOOL OF AMERICAN STUDIES AT LEHMAN COLLEGE



FREE

Vol. V... No. 1

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## COMMON SENSE WELCOMES EVERYONE BACK

by M. Elinson (Faculty Advisor)

With the beginning of our sixth year at the High School of American Studies' our own fabled newspaper, *Common Sense*, will begin its fifth volume.

The purposes of a high school newspaper are many. A school newspaper can inform us of upcoming events as well as recount our recent past. If done correctly, a school newspaper can even spark dialogue among its readers and contribute to the academic atmosphere of a competitive high school. We will see all of this and more in this year's editions.

Edward R. Murrow once stated that "To be persuasive we must be believable; to be believable we must be credible; credible we must be truthful." We will need to meet this criterion more than ever as a school periodical so that we may be taken seriously and be seen as valuable to the students we serve.

While I stand on the shoulders of others as the newest faculty advisor of *Common Sense* the current staff will be bringing its own style and flavor to the paper.

This issue pays homage to the



Lehman College in the Autumn

best of *Common Sense* 2006-'07. By reprinting these articles and pictures we hope to inspire continued readership and appropriately pass the baton to a new group of student journalists.

The newspaper will be largely completed by the students enrolled in the Journalism Course this Fall, **however** contributions from outside sources in the forms of leads, story ideas or full blown articles will be welcome.

Enjoy this year's *Common Sense*.

## Read All About It! Best of 2006-'07

Next Issue will include:

- New Format
- New Features & Editorials
- Many Pictures
- Your Voices

All contributions and ideas should be placed in Mr. Elinson's mail box located in the main office. ☞

## NOT YET AT YOUR FINGERTIPS?

by Joshua Hernandez

Just imagine you miss a day of school and you just know that your teacher gave out some pretty important notes. With a test coming up soon there may be a need to worry.

Well, imagine not having to worry one bit since you know your notes are just going to "pop up" on line within a matter of hours. This does happen in some instances. Why does it not happen in all instances? Are our teachers just too lazy to actually make it work or do their objections actually make some sense?

Within the High School of American Studies, only a (few) teachers place work on the internet. Dr. Benmoussa places both his notes and homework online while Mr. Thoman puts his homework and project sheets online. In light of that, students have to ask, "What in the world is the problem with the other teachers who are not doing the same thing?" Within a collegiate setting, many professors post their notes and assignments online to benefit their students.

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## MORNING HURDLES

by J. Feliz, A. Rodriguez, & F. Ahmed

Ring! Ring! Ring! You get up to turn off your annoying alarm clock, but it will not shut off and it does not leave you alone. So you open your eye lids slowly to hit it one more time, and the clock finally dies.

You think, "D@%\$ it! Seven hours of school!" Even though your bed feels like its embracing you and you do not want to get up, you force your body to roll on the floor. Then slowly but steadily, you get on your knees and crawl to the bathroom. After brushing your teeth and showering, you realize you are late, so you raid your closet, put something "doable" on, and grab a piece of bread on your way out the door.

Everyone goes over some sort of hurdle in the morning. The very first challenge is waking up on time.

"I manage to wake up between 5:00AM & 8:00AM depending if I want to get there on time," stated Nick Wright-Bodine.

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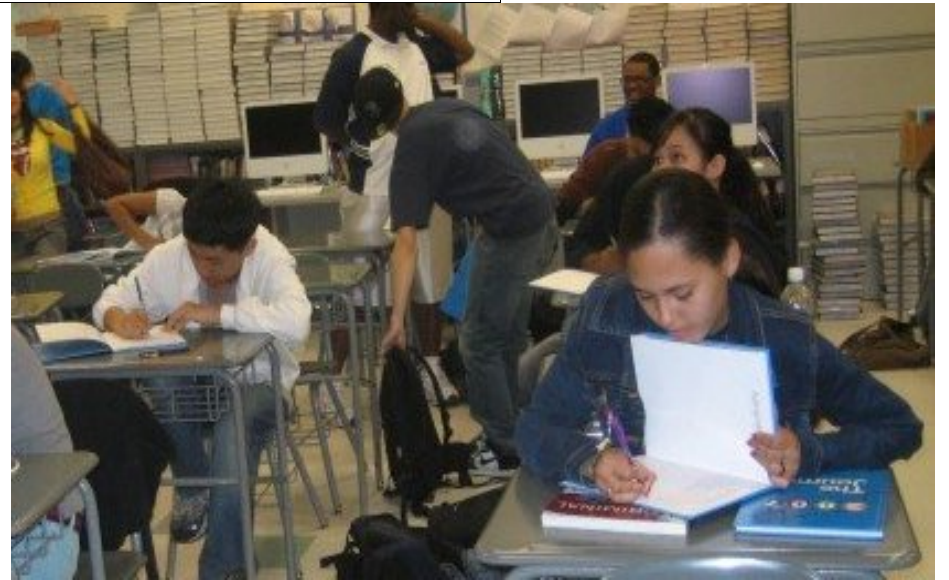
## SCHOOL & A JOB?

by Roselyn Roman

As we make our transition through high school, many of us try to take on more responsibilities. Why not obtain an after school job? It gives early experience and it places extra cash in our pockets. For many it is their choice to work after school, others do it because it is a necessity so that they can help out at home. Is it ever a smart decision.

If you are lucky you may find a job that will take you somewhere. The fact is that not everyone is ready to balance out all the responsibilities that come with handling school and a job. At times it can be overwhelming, no matter how small the job is, because the truth is you're adding one more thing to your "To Do List".

I worked junior year and I balanced it with my school work pretty well. I continued with my job throughout my senior year and decided to take on another job at the same time. I must admit it was a tough decision and it did start to interfere with my academics in the sense that I could not attend certain after school activities. In the end I had to start choosing between my



Q. Huang('07), N. Garay('07), and others are hard at work(?)

job and sports which may not seem like a big deal to most people. But where else can you participate on sports teams as easily as you do in school? You can expect some more tiresome mornings and it can take a toll on your energy. At the same time you can also say good bye to first period; especially if you're a senior because let's face it, Senioritis is lurking in the shadows.

I have come to observe in the past couple of months that there has been a rise of employed students in our school. This made me curious about why some kids

to work. So I asked a variety of kids, "Why did you decide to work and has it affected your school work?"

Diona Phoenix, senior, stated that her inspiration for working was that senior year can get pretty expensive. With prom, graduation, yearbooks and college applications it's like having a pile of bills. She also states it hasn't affected her school work simply because she chose to work weekends.

On the other hand senior Rafael Vidal feels less motivated to do his school work now that he is working and earning money. ☞