Women’s Basketball & Men’s Swimming Teams Win 2007 CUNY Championships

Lightning has already struck twice this year. Lehman Lightning, that is. The women’s basketball and men’s swimming teams both won league titles against perennially tough rivals. The women’s team edged Baruch 52-51 to win the CUNY Athletic Conference Con Ed Basketball Championships, and the men’s team won—for the second year in a row—the CUNYAC Swimming and Diving Championships.

“We tell our student-athletes it’s how you play the game that counts,” said Vice President for Student Affairs Jose Magdaleno. “But winning really is wonderful—for our teams and their loyal fans.”

APEX/Athletics Director Dr. Martin Zwiren added: “I’m so proud of our coaches. They have instilled a winning attitude, demonstrated leadership, and are good role models for our students.”

En route to their big victories, Eric Harrison, Head Coach of the women’s basketball team, was named CUNY “Coach of the Year.” Sophomore Sally Nnamani was named CUNY MVP for women’s basketball. Junior Darnell James was co-CUNY MVP for men’s swimming. Peter Kiernan is Lehman’s long-time Aquatics Director and Head Swim Coach.
The event began with a luncheon for employers at the new Harmony Cafe. The Expo ran to 6:30 pm to make it easier for evening students and alumni to also attend. Among the special guests were President Ricardo R. Fernández and VP Jose Magdaleno. Alan Fuentes of the Office of Career Services organized the event and awarded raffle prizes. —Photos by Roberto Herrera

Nearly 80 employers talked about workplace opportunities with 420 students and alumni at the annual Career Expo held in Faculty and East Dining Rooms on February 28.

Networking with Employers at Annual Career Expo

Counseling Center Focuses on Eating Disorders

Ajusting to college life can be difficult, and many students, especially women, become susceptible to eating disorders such as anorexia, bulimia, and compulsive overeating. Unfortunately, most people with eating disorders don’t seek treatment—often because they feel ashamed.

“We want our students to understand that eating disorders can have very serious consequences,” said Dr. Annecy Baez, Director of the Counseling Center. “We want to reduce the stigma attached to eating disorders and let students know that help is available.”

In conjunction with national Eating Disorders Awareness Week (February 25–March 3), the Center held a series of events—for all students, not just those with a problem.

“We all have food issues,” said Dr. Baez. “With education and screening, we can help students stop unhealthy eating habits before they evolve into a full-blown disorder.”

The week-long program began with a video and presentation on eating disorders, which are often accompanied by body dissatisfaction and low self-esteem. Workshops focused on healthy weight and dieting issues. Barnard student Leslie Lipton spoke about her personal experience with anorexia and her novel on that subject entitled Unwell.

Students can complete an anonymous self-assessment at www.lehman.edu/vpstud/counseling/ and talk privately with a health professional about their screening results. More information is available at the Counseling Center, Old Gym, Room 114.
In response to an emergency shortage of blood reported early this year by the New York Blood Center, the Lehman community stepped up—in a big way. “We collected 90 units of blood, more than twice the usual donation,” said Cindy Kreisberg, Director of the Student Health Center.

The two-day blood drive (February 6–7) was one of four sponsored annually by the Student Health Center in conjunction with the Hudson Valley Blood Center, a division of the New York Blood Center.

Now in her 10th year at Lehman’s Health Center, Kreisberg has always been a strong supporter of blood drives as a way to help people and also encourage good citizenship on the part of Lehman students.

“I’ve had the pleasure of meeting many students who donate regularly in honor of a sick relative who benefited from receiving blood,” she said. “Our students are aware that, by giving, they will be helping someone else’s loved one.”

Kreisberg noted that the great diversity of Lehman’s student population becomes especially important during blood drives. “Our students’ equally diverse blood types and subtypes are in high demand in New York City,” she said.

The metropolitan area requires 2000 units of blood daily to meet the needs of 200 hospitals in New York and New Jersey. The next blood drive is scheduled for May 1–2, in the East Dining Room, during the annual Spring Health Fair.

A delegation of 12 Lehman students and three staff members from the Office of Campus Life attended the 2007 CUNY Emerging Student Leadership Conference held recently at Baruch College. The students were selected for their demonstrated leadership potential and active involvement in campus organizations. Michael E. Sullivan, Director of the Office of Campus Life, was co-Chair of the Conference Committee.

“The workshops were really interesting and informative,” said Shannel Richardson, President of the Sociology Club. “It was great to meet and talk with students from the other CUNY campuses—and hear about some of the events and issues that they’re involved in.”

The student conferees included, in addition to Richardson: Esther Blanco, Jeniffer Herrera, Dorothy Jean-Pierre, Osjua Newton, Cassandra Price, David Rivera, Jorge Rosario, N’Mah Sakho, Tamica Smith, Valerie Verdejo, and Linice Zambrano. In addition to Sullivan, staffers attending were Ode Hoppie and Rhena Montero.

The annual CUNY conference offers several workshops in leadership building. Among this year’s topics were: Leadership Skills, Ethics in Leadership, Teamwork, Communication, Networking, and Group Decision Making.
Lehman Honors Student-Athletes on ‘Senior Day’

“Senior Day” at the APEX honored Lehman’s basketball players as they approach yet another milestone: their college graduation. Eric Harrison, Head Coach of the 2007 CUNY conference championship women’s basketball team—and CUNY “Coach of the Year”—was photographed above with seniors Kathy Santiago and Shirley Arrieta along with their family members: Elvis Alix and Ramona Santiago (left) and Aura, Marilyn, and Pedro Arrieta (right). Kathy was CUNY’s “Rookie of the Year” when she was a freshman, and this year was selected for the CUNY “All Stars” second team. See the story on page 1.

Among the “Senior Day” honorees were members of the always-important Spirit Squad: cheerleaders Milagros Acosta and Jillian Pizzaro (l-r above) with their Coach Stacy Letford.

Kyle Lockett, a four-year member of the men’s basketball team, was photographed with his Number 1 fan—his mother, Shawn Lawrence, who cheered him on at many games.

APEX/Athletics Director Dr. Martin Zwiren and Vice President for Student Affairs Jose Magaleno (from left, above) have emphasized the role of team sports in building students’ confidence, leadership, fitness, and self-discipline. Basketball team member Rafael Bueno, with plaque in hand above, was photographed with members of his family and with his coach, Steve Schulman (far right). The “Senior Day” celebration was held prior to the Lehman’s last regular-season home basketball games, against City College, which both the men’s and women’s team won. Dr. Zwiren noted that student-athletes in all of the collegiate varsity sports are honored this way—with a “Senior Day” celebration prior to their final home game or event.

—Photos by Tony Correa

For more information, visit the APEX Athletics pages on the Lehman College website at www.lehman.cuny.edu