

Lehman Wins: Top Sports Moments of 2016

(Page 11)



Lehman Men's Soccer defeats Hunter College for CUNYAC Championship trophy.

Also in this issue...

2016's Top Ten
Moments in Video
Games

(Page 3)

Trump's Plans
Cause Fear and
Opposition

(Page 6)

Lehman Students
Go Abroad: A Year
in Review

(Page 9)



the meridian

**250 Bedford Park Boulevard West
Student Life Building Room 108
Bronx, NY 10468**

Questions? Comments? Write us at...

lehmanmeridian@gmail.com

BUILD YOUR PORTFOLIO WITH US

Be part of our team of reporters, writers, photographers, videographers and artists. Send your sample writing, photography, and/or art to our email, or come find us in our office at the Student Life Building Room 108

the staff

Ayesha Depay
Editor in Chief

Zoe Fanzo
Print Production Editor

Max Kulchinsky
Online Production Editor

Margarete Rodriguez
Managing Editor

Jean Soto
Spotlight Editor

Leah Liceaga
Lifestyles Editor

Sydney Boryga
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Elissa Fanzo
Copy Editor

Ashley Sanchez
Office Manager

Jennifer MacKenzie
Faculty Advisor

Writers: Abrian De Luna, Ashley Francis, Juan B. García, Leah Liceaga, Yara Palin, Rupa Tharay

Correction for last month's Dec. 2016 issue of the Meridian. In the article, "Lehman Student Associations Host Cultural Awareness Meeting," the name of the president of the African & Caribbean Student Association, published as Ashley Monet, is incorrect. Her name is Ashley Blackman.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

The Meridian reserves the right to edit articles and letters as the editor(s) see fit. The views expressed in editorials are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of the Meridian staff. Ads published both in print and online do not reflect the views or opinions of the Meridian staff. The message or product being sold in the ad may not be in accordance with our staff's personal beliefs. The Meridian articles, in whole or in part, may only be reprinted with permission from the editor(s) of The Meridian. All letters, opinions and articles sent to us must have the name, phone number, and email address of the author for verification. Letters without the author's name(s) will be ignored. Upon request, authors' names may be withheld from publication.

2016's Top Ten Moments in Video Games

By Abrian De Luna



2016 saw anniversaries, long-awaited games and revivals.

When it comes to video games, 2016 was about long projects finally coming to fruition, a milestone anniversary, new technology debuts and old series making comebacks. Here are the main events of 2016 in the world of video games.

10. PlayStation VR

Originally known as Project Morpheus, Sony's PlayStation VR was released last October. It was a headset for the PlayStation 4 that enabled virtual reality gaming. The PlayStation VR was heavily promoted during last year's Electronic Entertainment Expo and at PlayStation Experience this past December, showcasing a lot of the games that would be made for it or, updated to be used with the headset. Examples include "Final Fantasy XV VR Experience," "Ace Combat 7," and "Resident Evil 7: Biohazard."

9. Crash Bandicoot N. Sane Trilogy

In December during Sony's annual PlayStation Experience, gamers got a first, formal look at gameplay footage

from "Crash Bandicoot N. Sane Trilogy," a remake of the original "Crash Bandicoot" trilogy of games for the PlayStation 4 which was announced in June during the Electronic Entertainment Expo. "Crash Bandicoot N. Sane Trilogy" is being developed by Vicarious Visions and is a joint effort between Sony Interactive Entertainment and Activision. Originally made by Naughty Dog, "Crash Bandicoot" was one of the original PlayStation exclusive brands in its day. The rights to the series passed from Universal Interactive Studios to Vivendi and finally to Activision. Crash as well as his nemesis Dr. Neo Cortex also appeared in "Skylanders: Imaginators."

8. Mighty No. 9

After numerous delays, "Mighty No. 9" was released on June 21, 2016. The game follows a robot named Beck who fights his fellow robots when they suddenly go berserk. Crowd-funded on Kickstarter, it was viewed as the spiritual successor to Capcom's "Mega Man" franchise because the project was led by Keiji

Inafune, who was personally involved in a majority of the latter series' games. The game drew negative reactions throughout its messy development cycle due to a second crowd-funding event, the scrapping of Beck's ability to use parts from defeated enemies, and over-ambitious pre-release planning. On release, the game was poorly received by critics and fans due to poor graphics and mediocre gameplay.

7. Sonic the Hedgehog

For the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Sonic the Hedgehog" series, Sega announced two games as they celebrated the occasion live in June 2016 on their official Twitch and YouTube accounts. "Sonic the Hedgehog" put Sega's Genesis system on the map by showing off its speedy processing, or "blast processing." Set to be released this year, the two new games are "Sonic Mania," a nostalgic return to the series' 2D roots, and "Project Sonic 2017," about which no details are known other than that it is being worked on by the same

team responsible for positively received Sonic titles “Sonic Colors” and “Sonic Generations.”

6. The Last Guardian

“The Last Guardian” was finally released last December on the PlayStation 4, after being thought as vaporware until it was reintroduced in 2015 at the Electronic Entertainment Expo. Initially announced in 2009 for the PlayStation 3, “The Last Guardian” is the third game by Team ICO which developed the eponymous “ICO,” and “Shadow of the Colossus.” “The Last Guardian” is about a boy exploring ruins with a griffin-like creature named Trico as the two develop a bond of trust. The game suffered constant delays due to technical difficulties to the point that it was rumored to have been cancelled prior to being reintroduced.

5. Death Stranding

“Death Stranding” is a new game by Hideo Kojima of “Metal Gear Solid” fame in partnership with Sony which was announced at the Electronic Entertainment Expo last June. While little is known at this time, Norman Reedus and Mads Mikkelsen will be voice actors and have their likenesses featured in the game. Reedus is known for his role as Daryl Dixon in “The Walking Dead,” and Mikkelsen portrayed Dr. Hannibal Lecter in the “Hannibal” television series.

4. Nintendo Switch

Nintendo revealed their upcoming system code-named “NX” as the Nintendo Switch last October. Powered by the custom Nvidia Tegra processor and supporting Unreal Engine 4, the system can function as a home or portable console at any time by respectively hooking it up to a television or taking it out of its dock. Launch titles for the system include “The Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild” and “Super Bomberman R.” Other titles such as “Arms,” “Splatoon 2,” and “Xenoblade 2” are on the way. The Nintendo Switch is to be released this March 2017.

3. Final Fantasy XV

“Final Fantasy XV” was released in late Nov. 2016, ten years after Square Enix announced the game as “Final Fantasy Versus XIII.” Since 2006, there were little details on gameplay and story---so few that the game was rumored to have been cancelled until it was rebranded as the next main title in the “Final Fantasy” series in 2013. “Final Fantasy XV” follows Prince Noctis of Lucis and his friends as he tries to find out what is happening when a ceasefire agreement between his kingdom and the Niflheim Empire is breached.

2. Pokémon GO

“Pokémon GO,” an augmented reality game for smartphones developed by Niantic, which made a public stir was released in July 2016. Players can walk around outside in the real world in order to capture Pokémon, and claim special places as gyms of their own and defend them from other players. “Pokémon GO” was critically acclaimed, becoming one of the most downloaded mobile apps of all time.

1. Pokémon Sun and Pokémon Moon

The “Pokémon” series celebrated its twentieth anniversary with “Pokémon Sun” and “Pokémon Moon” for the Nintendo 3DS, released in mid-Nov. 2016. Players had to travel the Hawaii-inspired Alola region in order to become the island champion. “Pokémon Sun” and “Pokémon Moon” not only broke the record of having the most pre-ordered games in Nintendo’s history, but also sold 3.7 million units in less than two weeks, setting a new record for fastest selling game in the company’s catalog.

2016 was an interesting year, in which anniversaries were acknowledged and projects that had a long journey on the road to release finally made it. May 2017 become just as interesting.

Gothic Classic “Dracula” Is Danced at Lehman Center for Performing Arts

By Leah Liceaga

On Nov. 13, 2016, the ballet “Dracula,” based on Bram Stoker’s “Dracula,” was performed at the Lehman College Center for the Performing Arts. The ballet was brought to Lehman by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the premier ballet company of Canada and among the oldest ballet companies in North America. This is the first time “Dracula” has been brought to

Lehman Center. It was the company’s first stop in their U.S. tour of the New York State; among their next stops were Buffalo, New York and Stony Brook. The ballet is accompanied by a dazzling score from Gustav Mahler, said to be one of the leading conductors of his generation.

The ballet starts with smoke covering the stage floor with the dancer, Katie Bonnell, in the role of Lucy Westenra, standing on stage. Behind her, a screen narrates the words for the beginning of the story, describing how Lucy mysteriously fell ill from unexplainable blood loss. Despite repeated blood transfusions from her friends, she soon passes away.

Lucy's illness and eventual death was performed wondrously, and the dancing was fluid. Following the graceful dancing of Lucy's maids, her fiancé and former suitors, makes it is relatively easy for audience members to keep track of what is happening, and sense the mood of the story. When Lucy finally passes away and comes back to life as a vampire Lucy's former suitors John Seward and Quincey Morris, as well as her former fiancée Arthur Holmwood, confront Lucy in her crypt. Guiding them is Van Helsing, Seward's former teacher. The battle is my favorite part of the ballet, with the dramatic, suspenseful music of Mahler, making it all the more breathtaking to watch. The confrontation ends when Holmwood drives the stake into Lucy's heart, thereby setting her soul free from the vampire curse.

After an intermission, the second act commenced. There was a brief recap of events, with the dancers sprinting on and off stage as an unseen narrator tells Lucy's story. He reveals that her friend, Mina, whose

husband had been hired by Count Dracula (Liang Xing), the king of vampires for legal business was now being targeted by the Count. There was a short dance after the recap, titled "The Red Dance," set to another of Mahler's musical scores where all the dancers wore an outfit in the color of crimson or scarlet. When "The Red Dance" was over, the audience was brought back to the main storyline.

In the end, Mina's husband, Jonathan Harker, Lucy's former suitors, Holmwood, as well as Van Helsing, track down Dracula who has brought Mina to his crypt. A battle ensues, once again in the form of ballet as one by one, the men are defeated by Dracula who takes Harker's wife hostage. Dracula forces one of the men to cover a gap in the wall that is letting sunlight inside the crypt. Mina, perhaps still under the influence of the Count's blood, is unable to kill him herself after he releases her, even though she has a knife. However, the men rise again and using long stakes, are able to easily combat Dracula. Mina helps

by removing a blanket that was covering the gaping hole in the wall, allowing sunlight to flood inside. Dracula is weakened, and the men stake him on their poles, with the suspenseful score softening after Dracula is slain, and becoming solemn.

What made "Dracula" such a wonderful ballet to watch was particular scenes like the battle in Lucy's crypt. Another one of these scenes is when the men go to Dracula's crypt and must fight through three female vampires before they can find Mina. With the stage lights off and fog covering the stage the setting for the fight is appropriately one of tension and suspense. The only light comes from the men's lanterns while the vampires hide in the smoke and darkness, waiting for the right moment to make their move. It's a scene filled with fear and courage, as five mortal men face three supernatural beings to rescue a friend, knowing they could die or be turned into vampires. It's a powerful scene that does the ballet, and Bram Stoker's "Dracula," justice.



Photo credit: Rejean Brandt

The dancers Katie Bonnell and Liang Xing in their respective roles of Lucy Westenra and Dracula.

Trump's Plans Cause Fear and Opposition

By Juan B. García

Since Donald Trump was elected the new president of the United States, there has been a groundswell of protests, petitions to make educational institutions sanctuary campuses, and dissemination of resources supporting undocumented immigrants. At Lehman and across the country, many undocumented immigrant students, LGBT people, and other Trump detractors have reacted against Trump's plans, such as deporting undocumented immigrants, building a wall on the border with Mexico, and temporarily banning Muslims from entering the U.S. On Nov. 29, 2016, Lehman hosted a panel discussion called *The Divided State of America*, in the Music Building, where students representing diverse groups impacted by the election voiced their concerns. Many fear that the new administration will worsen the climate of racism and prejudice they've experience for years. "I almost got beat up," said Jamil Gafur, 20, a computer science student, recalling a time in middle school when he suffered discrimination for being

Muslim. "Even a couple of teachers started to make fun of me and doing all these things. [The teachers and I] made up, but still, just as a middle school experiencing these things, I started to hate myself and doubt everything that I was doing". Though he said he feels safe at Lehman, Gafur expressed his disapproval for the people who under Trump's presidency will feel that it is fine to discriminate and spread misinformation about Islam.

Event moderator Ariel Mahler, a community educator for the LGBT Network, a non-profit organization that works to serve the LGBT community, fears the actions Trump will take in the future. Ariel doesn't identify as a man or a woman but feels somewhere in between.

"The fear I have is that we have started to see, since the election, violence towards the LGBT community," said Mahler. "Transgender people getting beaten, getting harassed. So that's

something I definitely have feared."

María Fernández Montero, a freshman, said that she is afraid that she and her sister will be deported. They were both born in Mexico and travelled to the USA.

"[My sister] came up to me and told me 'I'm afraid. I don't want to go back [to Mexico] because I don't know how to speak the language. I don't know how I'll be able to communicate,'" said Fernández, who crossed the border between Mexico and the U.S. at a very young age. "I felt bad because I know that she grew up in this country. She's mostly American and not really Mexican. And it hurts me [when she tells] me 'I don't think I can make it.'" Lehman Political Science professor Ira Bloom commented on the problems Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students are going through, given that it's difficult to know for sure what the future will hold for them. According to Bloom, Trump can modify DACA, which allows



Photo credit: Juan B. García

At the Music Building: LGBT Network Community educator Ariel Mahler talking about equality.

certain undocumented immigrants---those who arrived to the United States prior to turning 16---to receive a renewable two year-period of deferred action from deportation and eligibility for a work permit. However, Bloom also said that Trump made many contradictory statements during his campaign and that it's not very clear what exactly Trump will do regarding immigration issues.

At CUNY and Lehman, students, administrators, and faculty began efforts to fight Trump's threats of mass deportation. On Nov. 8, 2016, CUNY Chancellor James B. Milliken issued a statement on immigrants that read: "We cannot be certain about whether or how statements made in the midst of a hard-fought campaign will be translated into policies beginning in January. What we can be certain about are our own values and the critical mission of The City University of New York. For nearly 170 years," Milliken wrote, "CUNY has been committed to providing opportunity

to immigrants and low income and underrepresented students and that CUNY's commitment will not change. We will do everything legally possible to ensure [the security and place of immigrant students] at the university."

Two days later, Lehman President José Luis Cruz emailed a post-election call to action to the Lehman Community. It encouraged everyone to educate themselves, engage in thoughtful discussion, and empower themselves to eradicate the inequalities that

"We have started to see, since the election, violence towards the LGBT community."

- Ariel Mahler, a community educator for the LGBT Network

persist in the Bronx community and the City. Cruz said there would be "a series of formal and informal events, from "talk circles" to policy panels" at Lehman. These started on Nov. 14 and will continue. He also said those who need immigration services can consult the Jaime Lucero Mexican Studies Institute and call CUNY Citizenship Now! to talk to attorneys willing to help.

The Lehman Dream Team also started a petition to make Lehman College a sanctuary for undocumented immigrant students. The first line of the petition reads "we---Lehman students, faculty and staff---call for [President José Luis Cruz and Provost Harriet Fayne] to designate our campus a sanctuary for students, staff, and their family members who may face imminent deportation." As of now the club has gathered around one thousand signatures for the petition and the number is still growing. All the members of the club hope Lehman President Cruz will listen to their plea.



Photo credit: Juan B. García

Lehman students from diverse groups talk about the future of minorities under a Trump/Pence administration. From left to right: Jamal Gafur, Donald-James Garcia-Dwyer, Michael Akers, Marlon Agustin-Mendez, María Fernández Montero, Flor Reyes Silvestre, and Ariel Mahler.

Hacka-who? NSBE's Most Popular Event Returns

By Rupa Tharay



Photo credit: NSBE

The winning team hard at work! Around the circle: Alex Flores-Veliz, Luis Jimenez, Charlton Smith, Yanilda Peralta, and Jose Acevedo.

On Nov. 4 and 5, Lehman's National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) club hosted Lehman's third annual hackathon in the Faculty Dining Hall of the Music Building. The event lasted 18 hours, with over 100 CUNY and NSBE students participating. Attendees camped out and brought along sleeping bags, pillows, and toothbrushes.

NSBE member Daniel Adeyanju explained a hackathon as an "event where a team of people create a product in a short amount of time using their design, engineering, tech, and management skills." Basically, it involves coding from scratch in order to solve problems, learn new things, and most importantly, meet like-minded people and expand your network. "Hackathons also provide a way for people to express themselves and their creativity through technology" wrote Dave Fontenot on medium.com. Lehman's hackathon

was sponsored by Goldman Sachs and JPMorgan Chase & Co., two multinational finance companies, and NYC Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation, an alliance of 16 CUNY colleges whose goal is to increase representation of minorities who are pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM).

"It was a fantastic time to celebrate creativity and tech," said NSBE member and Lehman student Emmanuel Delgado about the hackathon. "We're trying to develop the community to be more tech-thriving." This year's winners were Lehman students Jose Acevedo, Yanilda Peralta, and Alex Flores-Veliz, and Bronx Community College students Luis Jimenez and Charlton Smith. The team built an app and website that assists with healthcare named "WhatsIn" that people use to scan their food and the app gives them a breakdown of what the food contains.

The annual hackathon is one of the most popular events sponsored by NSBE. Founded by the late Edward Barnette and Fred Cooper in 1971 at Purdue University, the society's mission is "to increase the number of culturally responsible Black Engineers who excel academically, succeed professionally and positively impact the community." NSBE quickly expanded and currently has 68 professional chapters.

It has had a great impact on its students, with a majority being offered internship positions at big companies such as Google and Goldman Sachs. Lehman students Elaine Burchman and Jennifer Martinez both interned at the Harris Corporation, Burchman in software development and Martinez as a UX Engineer. Lehman student Colin Morgan interned at Goldman Sachs in 2015 and was asked to return in the summer of 2016.

Lehman Students Go Abroad: A Year in Review

By Yara Palin



Esmeralda Frias in Paris, France.



Christopher Bethea in Florence, Italy.

In 2016, 60 Lehman students spent time abroad in various countries through the Lehman College Study Abroad Office and the experience, they say, was life-changing.

“Being able to witness what I have only seen and read in textbooks and on television has become a phenomenal and life-changing experience for me,” said Rafael Almanzar of his time studying in Athens, Greece during the 2016 Winter Session. In his last semester as an undergraduate student, he discovered that studying abroad was both possible and affordable. “I was always under the impression that only wealthy students could afford to study abroad,” he recalled, “but the Office of Study Abroad helped me apply for many scholarships that helped fund my travel.”

The office is responsible for providing students with the resources needed to venture out of the United States through programs that allow students to further explore their academic interests at an international level. It also offers an assortment of scholarships for each student’s different needs.

Almanzar was a recipient of the Scholarships for Travel Opportunities for CUNY Students (STOCS). He also had the distinction of

being the first Lehman student, at that time, to receive the maximum STOCS award. He called the scholarship “a tremendous support for me because it paid for half the cost of my study abroad.”

Giovanni Ortiz, a Lehman senior, also went abroad as part of the Summer on the Island of Crete, Greece program sponsored by CUNY. His favorite aspect of the trip was the scenery that greeted him every morning, describing the sun rising past the mountains and houses in that landscape as “unrealistic,” “dreamlike,” and “jaw-dropping.” Ortiz also said that when you study abroad you will inevitably form a new family, as long as you remain open to new experiences.

Another European city that remains popular among students is Florence, Italy. Christopher Bethea, a junior at Lehman, visited the Tuscan city during the 2016 Summer Session. He said, “At this time, I had never left America and was anxious to see what it would be like to live in another country, especially one where English is not the official language.” His experience was so captivating that instead of returning home as he had originally planned, he continued to backpack through Europe after his study abroad

session was over. During the study abroad program, Bethea traveled to Rome, Vatican City, Pisa, Livorno, Naples, Milan, and all over Florence. After the program ended, he traveled to a total of 11 countries, including France, Monaco, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Czech Republic, Austria, Ireland, and England.

Paris, France is another hot destination for college students. Esmeralda Frias, a sophomore, studied in the City of Love through CUNY’s New York/Paris Exchange Program for one academic year. Her interest in French culture began when she took language classes at Lehman to improve her French. She was initially going to stay in Paris for one semester, but decided to stay for the entire year because of how much she loved the Parisian lifestyle. “Life in Paris is great! The French have a very different lifestyle, but it’s not that hard to adjust,” she said. Like Bethea, she also visited neighboring countries like Spain and Ireland. She added, “This was a once in a lifetime opportunity, so it was important to really dive into the culture. Eat French food, listen to French music, and make friends!”

Saint Petersburg, Russia may seem further afield. However, Christopher Mammano, a senior studied there during the 2016 summer session and found that the city holds significant cultural and historical heritage. Since St. Petersburg is considered the cultural capital of Russia, Mammano was exposed to much of Russian traditions, such as Russian ballet and the Russian orchestra performances. “It is amazing to experience another culture and be able to become absorbed in its language, art, history, food, and very way of life,” he said.

Mammano also highly recommends studying abroad. “If you have the opportunity to study abroad, you most certainly should,” he said. “It is a great opportunity that you will remember for the rest of your life.

Top Moments in Professional Sports

By Ashley Francis



Photo credit: Mike Morbeck

Colin Kaepernick at Lambeau Field in 2012.

In the world of professional sports, there were many moments that had us surprised, shocked, and mixed. In different leagues, there were historic turning points along with accomplishments that haven't been seen in a long time or in some cases ever. Even with our nation at a

crossroads with police brutality taking over, athletes decided to be the voice.

1. City of Cleveland Wins Big

In the NBA, the Cleveland Cavaliers were able to defeat the defending

champion Golden State Warriors to go on and win their first title. Hometown hero LeBron James kept his promise to bring a championship to his hometown, Cleveland, before signing with Miami Heat three seasons ago. In MLB, the Cleveland Indians returned to the World

Series for the first time since 1997. Eventually, they lost to the Chicago Cubs but still reached a milestone.

2. It's Been That Long, Chi-Town

The Chicago Cubs were also able to reach milestone that they haven't experienced in a long time. The last time the Chicago Cubs won a championship was in 1908. Yes, it's been over 100 years. Chicago was able to comeback from a 3-1 game deficit to push it to a Game 7. It was the first time such a comeback occurred since the Kansas City Royals in 1985. Not many teams in pro sports are able to win on the road in deciding games. Well, the Cubs were able to win in Game 6 and 7 facing elimination. Now

an end has finally been put to the curse of Billy Goat. The curse was born when Tavern owner William "Billy Goat" Slanis proclaimed the Cubs would never win a championship again after being stopped at gate before Game 4 because of bad odor coming from goat. The Cubs went on to lose in World Series.

3. Athletes Take Stand Against Police Brutality

Over the year, police brutality was a hot topic because nothing was being done about it. In a majority of instances, officers involved were not charged. On the night of the ESPYs, NBA stars Carmelo Anthony, Dwyane Wade, LeBron James, and Chris Paul all made

a defining speech against police brutality and grabbed the sports world's attention. "The system is broken. The problems are not new. The violence is not new," said Anthony. Before a preseason game, during "The Star-Spangled Banner" NFLer Colin Kaepernick protested against the American flag by sitting during the anthem.

4. Black Mamba Hangs It

After 20 seasons, Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant retired from the NBA. In his career, he accomplished many feats as he was always compared to Michael Jordan. With five championships and third on the scoring list, Bryant was a rare talent.

Top Moments in Lehman Sports

By Ashley Francis

It was a great year for sports at Lehman, and to be a Lightning. Some defining moments and even some firsts in the school's history took place.

1. Women's Basketball Wins CUNYAC Championship

After dominating all season, the Lehman Women's Basketball won their first CUNYAC Championship since 2007, finishing with a 20-7 record. Four of last season's seniors were recognized by the team: Jennifer Navarro, Karrin Walker, Yarmese Jones, and Amani

Lightbourne. Current Senior Amely Del Rosario notched the CUNYAC Most Valuable Player to go alongside her 2015-16 Player of the Year Award.

2. Men's Soccer Wins CUNYAC Championship

Despite not going as far as they would have liked to go, the Lightning were able to accomplish something that hasn't happened in some time. This was their first time since 2011 that they were able to cap off with a championship in the conference-

--and only the second time in school history. They were able to make it as far as the NCAA tournament, but lost 4-0 to Rowan University. "I feel that next season will be even be a better year because they understand what it takes to win," Coach Gojcevic explained about how things can only get better moving forward.

3. Lehman Finally Has its First CUNYAC Women's Tennis Player of the Year

Senior Sacha Espiritu dominated the

tennis world. She had a stunning 10-1 season playing as number one in singles and played just as well in doubles with 11-1. In the CUNYAC conference, she was unbeaten in singles with a 4-0 record and 3-1 in doubles. "She was the most consistent player in CUNY," Coach Ana Belzunce spoke on her award. "So she is definitely the perfect candidate for Player of the Year." This season was her first full season after only playing one match last season.

"Next season will be even be a better year because they understand what it takes to win."

- Toma Gojvecic,
Head Coach

4. Assistant Coach Gets Inducted into Hall of Fame

Mark Hurst, the assistant coach of Lehman Men's Track and a former Jasper was inducted into the Manhattan College Hall of Fame. In the NCAA Championships, the '79 graduate competed in 400-Meter Hurdles. During his tenure, he won multiple Metropolitan titles in 400-Meters.



Espiritu dominated the Lehman College Campus courts.