STATEN ISLAND, NY - What a difference a year makes, in last year’s CUNYAC final, Bronx Community College beat Queensborough Community College 3-1 to win the school’s third consecutive title. This year with the same two starting pitchers, the outcome was reversed, with the Tigers winning 3-1, to take the team’s first CUNYAC title since 1997.

Queensborough’s Roger Mischel (Bayside, NY), the benefactor of the decision this time gave up only seven hits and two walks, while striking out nine batters in nine full innings. BCC’s Cesar Alvarez (New York, NY), the 2002 CUNYAC Tournament MVP, yielded eight hits, no walks and fanned eleven over eight innings of action.

“This makes me feel better about last year,” said second year QCC (21-11) head coach Craig Everett. “It was very important to our three sophomores to make a comeback and beat Alvarez. It’s been our goal all season.”

The two mound performances notwithstanding, QCC shortstop Melvin Batista (Flushing, NY) was superb both on the field and at the plate. He knocked in the first run of the game with a single to left field in the bottom of the third inning to score freshman catcher John Basquez (Queens, NY). Batista also stole two bases and started two double plays, on his way to Most Valuable Player honors.

The score stayed 1-0, until the bottom of the sixth inning when QCC freshman Brian Berg (Queens, NY) scored when fellow frosh Lucas Brito (Flushing, NY) was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. The Broncos (12-15) scored their run in the top of the seventh inning when freshman RF Nestor Fuentes (Bronx, NY) walked, took second on a wild pitch and scored on a single to center by freshman LF Juan Martinez (Bronx, NY). Bronx squandered a big chance to get even when they loaded the bases in the top of the eighth inning with one out, but the failed to score.

“I got in a little bit of trouble in the seventh and eighth innings,” said Mischel. “But I blocked it all out in the ninth and just threw strikes. I wasn’t going home without a win.”
DELHI, NY - Three CUNYAC Community Colleges made significant contributions at the National Junior College Athletic Association Outdoor Track & Field Championships at SUNY-Delhi, as the Kingsborough Community College women’s team, led by sophomore Maria Haye, finished 11th, followed by Bronx Community College (17th place) and Queensborough (18th place). Meanwhile, KCC’s men’s team took 13th place and QCC’s men also slotted 18th.

A sophomore at Kingsborough, Haye (Brooklyn, NY) became a four-time All-American in one weekend with four third place finishes: Triple Jump (11.00m), High Jump (1.48m), Heptathalon (3312 points) and on the 4x100m Relay (combined with Rukia Miller, Kimberly Johnson and Adedoyan Adebowake) in 52.87. The 4x100m Relay from Bronx (Yaniique Drummond, Edrica Edmund, Nickeysha Lewis and Maryanne Onwaunumpke) slotted second in the same race in 51.55 for second team All-American honors for each athlete. Individually, Miller earned honorable mention for a fifth place finish in the 100m Dash (13.77). QCC’s two relay teams in the 4x400m and 4x800m races finished sixth and fifth respectively for their points.

On the men’s side, KCC’s Lorris Adams (Brooklyn, NY) took home a silver medal in the 800m (1:52.96) and slotted sixth in the 200m Dash (23.56). Also the Wave’s 4x100m Relay team finished fifth (43.66) for a total of one All-American and five honorable mentions. For Queensborough, sophomore Leroy Cort (Guyana) had a silver medal performance in the Javelin Throw (52.86m) and an 8th place leap in the Triple Jump (11.02m).