

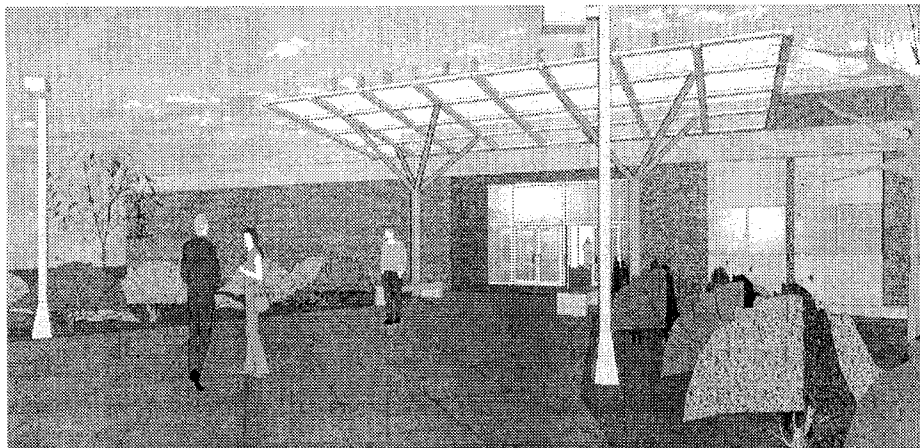
Spring 2003, A Semester in Review Center for Arts, Culture and the Humanities to Open in Tabler Quad University Conducts Study of Athletics

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Editor

March 6, 2003 – The building atop Tabler hill between Toscanini College and Hand College has been closed for more than 20 years, but if administrators have their way it will reopen as a state-of-the-art, multifunctional facility within a year.

Tentatively dubbed the "Center for Arts, Culture, and the Humanities," the \$3 million renovation project is designed to transform the two-story relic into the crown jewel of the new undergraduate college program.

"This [undergraduate college initiative] is the most important change in undergraduate education at Stony Brook in its history,"



Courtesy of Goshow Architects LLP

The loading dock will be removed to make room for the building's new main entrance.

said Assistant Vice President for Campus Residences Dallas Bauman, Ph.D. "The Provost [Robert McGrath, Ph.D.] made the decision to go ahead with two more [undergraduate] colleges next fall."

Bauman's department is scheduled to contribute \$2.75 million to the project from the

Dormitory Income Fund Reimbursable, a statewide account that supports the residence halls. He said that the renovation costs would translate to essentially less than \$10 per resident.

The Faculty Student Association is being asked to contribute the remaining \$250,000 because there

will be a small food service component.

Executive Director of the FSA Kevin Kelly said that he expects the FSA's Board of Directors to make a decision on this figure within a month.

Currently, final plans for the overall renovation are
Continued on Page 2

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Editor

April 17, 2003 – Four falls ago, Stony Brook took the step up to Division I athletics, and for the next year the university community will defend its right to stay there. Starting this past February, SBU began performing a National Collegiate Athletics Association mandated "Division I Athletics Certification Self-Study" to ensure that its athletics program is complying with NCAA standards, and to offer solutions on improving shortcomings.

The report is due in March of 2004. At that point, a team of four inspectors from the NCAA will travel to SBU to verify the self-study.

"I think it's a terrific idea that the NCAA instituted a few years ago," said Dean of Physical Education and Athletics, Richard Laskowski, Ph.D.

In 1997, the membership of the NCAA voted to have athletics certification done once every 10 years, supplemented by a five-year interim status report.

This will be SBU's first self-study, and as such it is a matter that both the administration and athletics department say they are taking very seriously.

A 22-member steering committee headed by Assistant Vice President for Presidential Initiative George Meyer is supervising the self-study. It is comprised of faculty, staff and students from both the athletics and non-athletics programs, along with Alumni Association President Jane Knapp.

The committee, which meets every other Monday, is responsible for conducting the study and will oversee subcommittees in four key areas: Academic Integrity, Fiscal Integrity, Governance and Commitment to Rules Compliance, and Equity, Welfare and Sportsmanship.

On March 25, participants in the self-study met with Susan Peale, an NCAA liaison sent to SBU to orient committee members with the process and to collect from them a 17-page preliminary report.

"I think overall that the institution has a well-established timeline, broad campus involvement, and is organized in a fashion to meet the deadline," Peale said. "The object of [this study] is to help the institution fully understand what it should focus on improving."

SUNY Board of Trustees Proposes 41 Percent Tuition Hike

Hike comes after Pataki promises not to raise tuition in fall 2002

By ANJALI DOGRA
Statesman Staff

January 27, 2003 – The SUNY Board of Trustees proposed a 41 percent tuition hike that would raise the annual tuition for in-state residents from \$3,400 to \$4,800 on Jan. 17. Along with additional required campus fees, the total cost for each student to attend a SUNY school would reach nearly \$5,700 a year.

Governor George Pataki and the NY State Legislature must review the proposal before it passes. They will also weigh in on a resolution to institute a relatively meager operating

budget of \$1.9 billion.

SUNY trustee Candace de Russey and sole student trustee George Pape opposed the increase in a 10 to two vote, criticizing that many students would not be able to pay.

"An increase of this magnitude would prevent some, perhaps may need students from attending SUNY," de Russey said.

Pape, a senior at the University of Buffalo, questioned whether SUNY was drifting from its mission. "How are we going to fulfill our obligation of access if we are willing to increase our tuition so

dramatically?" he asked.

SUNY Chancellor Robert King defended the tuition increase, explaining that it is needed to combat the state's economic woes in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks and the mounting national recession.

"We have been able to hold tuition down for seven years," King said. "But given what the universities' needs are and what is the reality facing the state, we are not going to be able to do that any longer."

Democrats in the Assembly said they plan to fight the increase while

Republican State Senate leaders said they would wait for the governor's budget before taking a side. The Legislature had previously attacked the governor's other proposal to cut TAP and use the difference as an award for students who graduate on time.

The New York Public Interest Research Group said it plans to fight the tuition increase.

"I'm always an optimist," NYPIRG's Miriam Kramer said. "I think the state will be very surprised about the power we will show in the coming months."

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SBU Offers Privacy

By EMY KURIAKOSE
Statesman Editor

January 30, 2003 – Put \$41 million, empty land and Dallas Bauman together and you'll get a new set of Graduate/Undergraduate Apartments at Stony Brook. The new residence halls are to be built on the patch of land behind the Undergraduate Apartments in an effort to accommodate the increased demand for housing.

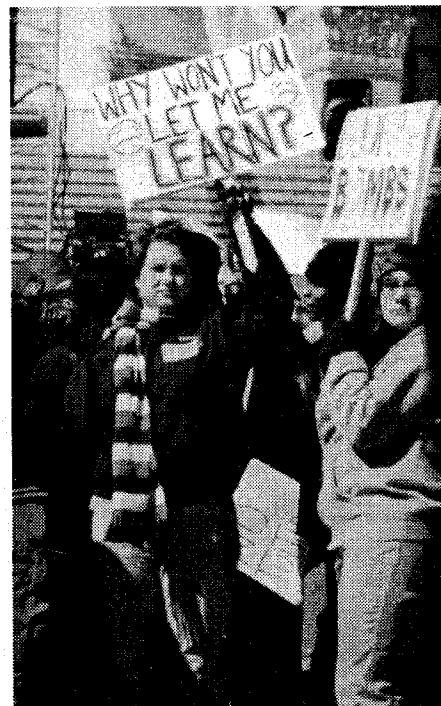
"The percentage of new freshmen,

transfer and continuing students has increased and there is more and more demand for housing," said Bauman, the Assistant Vice President for Campus Residences.

Set to open for the Fall 2004 semester, the building will house 672 students, bringing the total living space in UGA and the new apartments to approximately 1,200 beds.

Each suite will have five or six singles, two bathrooms, a living room, dining area, and a kitchen. This layout is similar to UGA,

Taking the Tuition Fight to the Capitol



Statesman/Michelle White

Students protest the \$1,200 tuition hike.

By MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS
Statesman Editor

March 27, 2003 – On the Morning of March 11, about 150 Stony Brook students Boarded three buses to travel 560 miles to Albany for a rally against Governor George Pataki's Budget proposals.

The proposed education budget includes a \$1,200 tuition hike for SUNY students, cuts to financial aid programs

such as TAP and EOP, and a 15 percent cut to the operating budgets of state universities.

The rally came after a statewide 'No Tuition Hike,' during which students from all across the state marched towards Albany.

"Students from all the SUNY schools were represented and they said no to the Governor's proposals," said Helen Ho, one of the coordinators of NYPIRG's Stony Brook chapter.

Event organizers estimated that over 3,000 students attended the rally, which featured a host of speakers including State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Chair of the Assembly's Higher Education Committee Ron Canestrari.

"It's senseless to try and build something from the roof down," Silver said. "The governor has to make tough choices, but there are tough choices and there are wrong choices."

Canestrari said that he thought the tuition hike was "unfair" and added that the Democrats in the Assembly would "not let it stand."

"It is clear that we have friends in the Assembly that will fight for students," said Melissa Morahan, the other NYPIRG coordinator for the SBU chapter. "It is our job to continue the work we have started and let the Governor know that we are not going away."

Tabler Cafe to Become Center for the Arts

Continued from Page 1

being reviewed. Based on the most recent plans, the building's current loading dock will be removed, the ground surrounding it will be brought up to grade and the entire structure will be reoriented so that its main doorway faces down onto Roth Quad and North Loop Road.

The redesigned top level features a grand main entrance that opens onto a lobby, which doubles as a student art gallery. On either side of the lobby will be space for a television and radio production studio, a digital arts facility, a print media studio, a conference room, and a viewing room. At the end of the lobby opposite the entrance will be a 3,761

square-foot performance space with seating for up to 250 people. Bathrooms on the main level will contain full changing rooms to accommodate theatrical performances.

The lower level is smaller, and will contain an art studio, a dining room and the building's mechanical room.

In spite of the uncertainty about a few specific details, the idea of opening such a center seems to be well received.

"In terms of what we're physically doing for the Undergraduate Colleges, this [renovation] will be the biggest project," said Deputy Provost Mark Aronoff, Ph.D. "That building has been sitting there, and it's really exciting that we're going to do something that will directly benefit the students."

in New Apartments

but after listening to current UGA residents, key modifications were made.

Architects designed smaller bathrooms and larger kitchens in each suite. There will also be a commons area that will include a computing center and a multipurpose facility.

"I really like the new housing, said senior Candice Nelson. "I live in a single here in UGA. I treasure the privacy I have, and also the roominess of the suite is priceless.

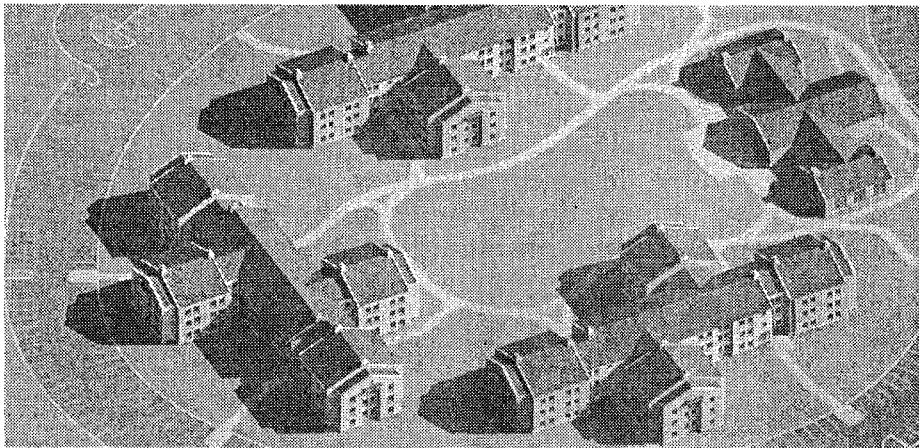
The all-single suites were planned to accommodate the many students who have opted for singles as juniors and seniors. Across the nation, colleges are responding to the demand for private rooms with new buildings and more construction. The goal is to keep students active and involved in campus life, Bauman said.

Increased traffic into the area has also

raised concerns, with the narrow strip on the road between Kelly Dining Hall and the Fannie Brice Building already causing problems for drivers and pedestrians alike. Architects are redesigning the roadways to better accommodate the greater traffic load.

The new apartments will be open to juniors and seniors who have already lived on campus. Some students, however, remain skeptical of the projected completion date. "The plan sounds good, but with the track record that SB has with construction, it will take forever," said junior Agata Rumprecht.

Despite past delays with the SAC and UGA, Bauman remained optimistic about the new construction. "We just changed the plans for one of the buildings, so that may be the last to finish, but it's feasible to have all four read by fall 2004," he said.



Courtesy of Urban Associates, Inc.

The projected design for the new apartments behind UGA will accommodate 672 beds.

Constitution Awaits Upcoming Student Vote

By SUSAN THOMAS
Statesman Staff

April 7, 2003 – Like many sovereign nations around the world, the student bodies at universities have generally governed themselves using a written constitution. This constitution is enforced and amended by a democratically elected student government.

But in the fall of 2002, Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny, Ph.D. decertified the former student government known as Student Polity Association. Shortly thereafter, the Task Forces on Undergraduate Governance Reform was then created to overhaul the existing constitution, and the resulting document will be voted on by the student body this week.

The task force consists of 16 members, comprised of students, faculty, administrators and an alumnus. The task force is comprised heavily of current Stony Brook students with the thought that the constitution would aptly reflect the beliefs of those it is to represent. The deans of their respective academic colleges chose the eleven students.

"Our biggest challenge was to make sure that all students' needs were met and

everything was done in a fair manner," said Kathleen Oldaker, the Health Sciences Center student representative.

The new constitution was developed using elements of the former SBU document, constitutions of student governments at other universities and input from students via surveys. At the beginning of the process, questionnaires were distributed throughout campus in an effort to solicit ideas and suggestions.

"As a result of the surveys, we were able to establish grounds for what the constitution should be based upon," said senior Jasleen Kaur, who co-chairs the task force. "It provided us with valuable insight."

The task force made changes to each of the three branches of government along with modifications to the referenda process.

If this draft of the constitution does not pass, it will be modified until it has satisfied and expressed the needs of the majority of the students, the task force said.

"It is important to the university and especially to the students that a more efficient, accountable, and accessible student government is created," Oldaker said.

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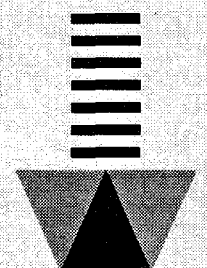
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Spring 2003 Editorials

Let the Tuition Battle Begin

By ADAM ZIMMERMAN
Statesman Staff

January 20, 2003—There are 16 members on the SUNY Board of Trustees. Fifteen of them are appointed by the governor of New York. Like Governor George Pataki, they seem to have a keen sense of politics.

Consider: the proposed SUNY budget for 2003-2004, including a major \$1,400 tuition increase, was approved and released this past Jan. 17—a Friday. Not just any Friday, mind you, but the Friday prior to a three-day, holiday weekend. Which means most New Yorkers heard about this news on Saturday always the slowest news day of the week. Coincidence? Don't bet on it.

Give the trustees credit, though. They know an unpopular news item when they vote on one. Obviously, they wanted this tidbit to garner as little media attention as possible, so they shrewdly went about making that possible. I am sure they made the governor proud.

But that sort of politicking happens all the time. So we'll give them a pass on that. What isn't quite so common, however, is the recommended 41 percent increase to the current tuition rates, which would be the largest in SUNY history.

There's all sorts of political spin going on here. To illustrate that, I pulled some quotes directly from the official SUNY news release announcing the budget. My own conclusions follow in parentheses.

1) "There has no been a tuition increase in seven years." (What they don't tell you is that when the tuition last went up in 1995, SUNY enrollment dropped by five percent over the next two years.)

2) "The increase would have no effect on SUNY's 30 community colleges." (Translation: the other 34 institutions within the SUNY system will face the tuition hike.)

3) "Under the current Tuition Assistance Program, more than half of SUNY undergraduates receive TAP; 60% percent of those TAP recipients would see NO INCREASE in their tuition." (Translation: almost 50 percent of all undergraduates SUNY students do not receive TAP assistance. For those that do, 40 percent of them will see an increase in their tuition.)

New Yorkers have just reelected a governor who has submitted several proposals in the past to significantly reduce overall SUNY and TAP funding. Governor Pataki presents his next budget in nine days. In his State of the State address a few weeks ago, he called on New York to become the "tax-cutting capital of America." Do the numbers add up in favor of reducing the financial burden on students? You do the math.

In my own humble opinion, we students are all that stand between \$4,800 in tuition per year. Our governor has not stood with us in the past, and our trustees are not standing with us now. If we do not protest, we will be complicit in a scheme which will quite possibly prevent thousands of students from ever going to college.

Towards Something Ugly

By ARIF RAFIQ
Statesman Staff

January 23, 2003 — "To win without fighting is the best," wrote Sun Tzu, the great Chinese warrior-philosopher of the 4th millennium BC, and author of the treatise "The Art of War."

"Blesses are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God," stated Jesus Christ, almost half a millennium later.

As the ugly smell of war emanating from the West Wing and the Department of Defense becomes increasing pungent, it unfortunately looks as if President Bush will ignore the wise words of the ancient Chinese thinker and Jesus, whom Bush stated in a December 1999 GOP debate was the political philosopher or thinker he most identified with.

Clearly, Christ is not the political philosopher with the greatest influence on our president—for if he truly was, we would not have protests against the Bush administration in countries around the world. Furthermore, dozens of prominent Catholic, Jewish, Protestant and Muslim religious leaders would have not signed a declaration to say no to the potential war against Iraq. And 49 percents of Argentineans, 44 percent of South Koreans, 34 percent of French, 35 percent of Germans, 55 percent of Turks, and 69 percent of Egyptians and Pakistanis would not have unfavorable opinions of the United States.

After September 11, the world outpoured its sympathy for the United States. The sight of the two towers tumbling and the innocent civilians jumping out to escape the horrendous heat and fire showed the world the extreme ugliness of violence.

President Bush recalled the words of the late Yitzhak Rabin, "Enough of the violence! Enough of the bloodshed! Enough!" Rabin, a military general, saw that violence has its limits, that it cannot solve the world's endemic problems. He died in the name of peace, while Bush will probably send young Americans to die in the name of neo-conservatism.

He will isolate much of his electorate—in addition to much of the world—and will face a tough ride in the 2004 campaign. We will see if the president—whose approval rating, once at 90 percent after 9/11, is now at 61 percent—is a good juggler. Can he handle a war with Iraq, a crisis with North Korea, a campaign against al Qaeda, defending the homeland, tackling a souring economy, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and a second presidential campaign all at the same time?

Can our military handle a war on two fronts? What about three? What if one of those is the U.S.-homeland? Can the State Department effectively conduct diplomacy with a handful of major conflicts involving the US going on? What will the "Arab Street" think and do when they see the bodies of thousands of Iraqis on Al Jazeera? And while all this is happening, how can the president do his real job—you know, making sure that Americans have jobs and are able to put bread on the table?

Call me an alarmist, if you will, but the realist in me tells me that something's not right. We are headed towards something ugly. And it's about time we rid ourselves of the disease of complacency and bring some sense back to our government and how it performs for us and how it deals with the rest of the world. The realist in me tells me that we need to get back to our ideals.

All facts and figures were accurate as of the original date of publication given in the dateline for each piece. Although some new developments may have taken place, it is our intent to provide our readers with the original context, claims and issues. We'll let you judge how things shaped up, who changed their stories, and what the current direction of matters is.

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Good Thing God Isn't One of Us

By KELLY BROWN
Statesman Editor

May 27, 2003 - "What if God was one of us?" croons Joan Osborne in the opening credits. The concept is potentially a winning one: Jim Carrey as a man-God among men. But once *Bruce Almighty* is converted from attractive movie trailer into full-length film, the bottom falls out. Having struck upon a pretty cool concept, the filmmakers give up, devoting little effort to advancing the picture beyond the initial hook.

I'll be honest: I fell asleep for a minute or two, so I may have missed some crucial moment of brilliance, but I doubt it. Even if that were the case, it wouldn't be enough to rescue this film from the doldrums. True, Jim Carrey is comical with or without a script, but his familiar funky bodily spasms can't support the entire movie. I waited patiently to be entertained, but I couldn't get beyond a couple of smiles and groans as the predictable plot played itself out.

Carrey plays news reporter Bruce Nolan, a self-absorbed, but likeable guy trying to get ahead in the TV business. He's so bent on success, however, that he fails to realize and appreciate how much he already has. God, played by Morgan Freeman, endows Bruce with his powers after he gets fed up with Bruce's complaining, and tasks him with seeing if he could do a better job himself.

Even as things fall apart around our protagonist, director Tom Shadyac keeps the tone light and sickeningly-sweet the entire time. With great power comes great—comedy? I'm afraid Bruce didn't make it there. There is, yes, the lesson of moral responsibility, blah, blah, but it comes across weakly in the face of the fact that a man should so shallowly choose to use his omnipotence to dominate the local news industry. While the movie lightly satirizes local television



Courtesy of warnerbrothers.com

Jim Carrey's antics are not enough to keep *Bruce Almighty* from being predictable.

journalism with pokes at the mindlessness of reporting on giant chocolate chip cookies and psychotics, it fails again to take the plunge.

So many avenues left unexplored, and so much talent put to waste. With Carrey hogging the screen for most of the movie, other able actors sit on the back burner. Freeman seems bent on singeing his career after this latest exploit. Jennifer Aniston, as Grace, Bruce's girlfriend, tries hard, but the part is not worthy of her abilities and she winds up coming off as pretty-faced whiner. Steven Carell is amusing as Carrey's journalistic archrival, but he, too, falls mercy to the screenwriters' shallow efforts.

Bruce Almighty continues to reel in rave reviews and box office success, but I'm not on the bandwagon. A little more thought and maybe a second draft of the script is not too much to ask, is it? I give it 1 out of 4 stars.

Want a War With Those Fries?

By ADAM ZIMMERMAN
Statesman Staff

March 31, 2003 - The President of the United States is clamoring for a war in front of a recalcitrant Security Council whose members are deadlocked over the progress and ability of the United Nations weapons inspectors working to prevent one-third of the Axis of Evil from developing and weapons of mass destruction.

In other world news, the House Administration Committee Chairman Bob Ney announced at a Tuesday press conference that the cafeterias in the House of Representatives office buildings would be serving "freedom fries" and "freedom toast" in lieu of the French variety. This is in light of France's opposition to raining in military holy hell on Hussein.

France argues policy. Congress argues potatoes.

That "news" conference was certainly silly, but by no means was it funny. There is nothing amusing concerning the legislative branch's conscious decision to refrain from participating in war-related affairs at this, the hour of maximum need for representatives

to give the people a voice.

Congress ceded this responsibility decades ago. The last time Congress declared war was 1941. Such power is expressly granted by Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. Yet, Korea was "police action" and Vietnam had the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. Last fall, in a continuation of this modern trend, Congress declared that "the President is authorized to use all means that he determines appropriate...to defend the national security interests of the US."

Many months later, the hands of Senators and Representatives remained tied, and the voices of the antiwar movement have no meaningful government representation.

Senator Byrd severely admonished his colleagues for "sleepwalking through history" in a chamber that is "hauntingly silent."

Rather than reassert its checks over the executive branch, Congress has allowed it to run rampant. President Bush will make his call to arms any day now.

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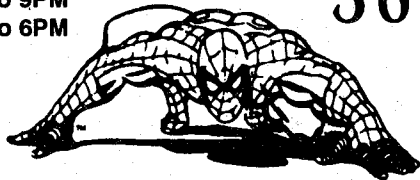
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Features

Editor Gives Commencement Address Statesman Managing Editor and Award-Winning Journalist, Kelly Brown, Spoke to Over 6,000 People at the General Graduation Ceremony on May 24, 2003

Class of 2003: Who are we?

Perhaps we'd better start with a more fundamental question, a very important question that you should ask yourself with some frequency.

Who am I?

Each of us is probably closer to answering that than we were four years ago, or whenever it was that we were freshmen hardly able to tell our elbows from our...well, hipbones.

But it will take a lifetime to really figure it out, because you're always changing. For better or for worse, you're never exactly the same somebody you were yesterday. You are sculpted and dented every second by your experiences, experiences that alter your perceptions and values and attitudes. You grow. We all do.

Which brings me back to: Who are we?

Bio majors, students of philosophy, wannabe William Shakespeares. Cashiers, tutors, pizza delivery people. Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists. Black, White, Asian, Hispanic, and I swear I've met at least one Martian on this campus.

But that's not who we are, really. Who we are is what we create when all of these diverse groups come together. We are the Roth Regatta and LASO. We are candlelight vigils and Quad cleanups and peer education groups. We are the newspaper, the radio, the thousands of different viewpoints that form, for the most part, respectful dialogues. We are the good we do for one another and others.

I'm proud, and lucky, to be part of this "We." The Stony Brook community—faculty, staff, peers—has helped me explore the second question, the question "Who Am I?"

I never thought I could write an entire play. But here at Stony Brook, I finished my own little masterpiece. I never imagined I would be in charge of a twice weekly newspaper. But here at Stony Brook, I had the chance to see my name under the words "Editor-in-Chief." I never believed I might find a place where I could be so much myself.

But here at Stony Brook, I found a home.

My play probably won't see publication, and I will likely never be a staff writer for the New York Times, but I will always be part of Stony Brook. All of us graduating here today take a piece of this university with them, and leave a piece of themselves behind.

We now have, officially, that mysterious, elusive thing known as an education. What exactly does this mean?

I like Webster's fifth definition of education: "An instructive or enlightening experience." This strikes upon the idea that education is not a formal process, but an everyday occurrence, which is how I like to think of it. Sometimes, I think I did most of my learning outside of the classroom. This is not to say that statistics and biology are unnecessary—although we may wish that they were. But it is often in our interactions with others in residence halls, at campus events, and in the larger community that we acquire some of life's greatest lessons.

Now I would like to turn to my freshman friend Aristotle. "Well begun is half done," he said. And here we are on Commencement Day.

Commencement: the beginning, the birth of our graduated selves.

Each of us leaves here today with a Stony Brook University diploma in hand, grasping the final embodiment of a priceless education, of a life well-begun, of a task half-completed.

The other half of that task lies before us, in the hopefully abundant years that will follow this day.

Class of 2003, we have seen one another through some of the most difficult days this nation has ever known. We held hands and wept on the evening of September 11, and for many days after. We read in horror about the injustices in other countries. We sat helplessly in front of our television screens as our troops went to war in Iraq.

But as we mourned for lives lost, peace lost, innocence lost, we went on living. We did our term papers, went to the Smithaven mall, complained about the long lines at the SAC. We laughed and enjoyed the freedom of sleeping in on a snow day. We relished late nights and lattes, secrets shared with college buddies, even the predictability of procrastination and endless catch-up.

It was the best of times; it was the worst of times. Most importantly, though, it was our time.

Now for a few words of advice. I've lived my life—which, for all its bumps and kinks, has been quite satisfactory thus far—by a few basic principles.

This first one is important, so if you've been dozing off until now, please tune in. Forget Robitussin; laughter is the best medicine. No matter how difficult, how unpleasant the circumstances, there is always humor to be unearthed. If you can't find it, you're not trying hard enough.

Another thought: when given the choice between spending an hour with a machine or with a friend, choose the human being! Time shared with friends and family is invaluable—your computer, the television, and Playstation 2 will be there whenever you want them, I promise. Relationships with others should always be top priority. Your career is important, but of greater significance are the people who will be there when you lose your job, the hands that will rub your back after a long day's work, the shoulders to lean on.

And lastly, remember that you create your own ceiling. When you hear "no," ask again. If the response is the same, ask someone else. Don't be afraid to fall, and don't be afraid to look a little silly, a little "random." You think famous movie actors didn't feel dopey wearing ape costumes in low-budget movies at the start of their careers? I'm sure they don't regret it.

Each of us here today has achieved something unique. Perhaps you are the first college graduate in your family. Maybe you had to work long hours to pay your way through school. Some of you may have overcome learning disabilities or illness to earn your degree. Your personal obstacles, great or small as they may have been, are what sweeten the taste of this day. Go, now, and celebrate. Celebrate what you were. And celebrate what you have become—a Stony Brook alum. Congratulations.