

# Statesman

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## Senate Environmental Committee Pushes Ahead

By MAURY HIRSCHKORN  
Statesman Contributor

Stony Brook University Senate committee meetings have not traditionally been a popular hangout for students. Most students are busy attending classes and engaging in other campus activities to give the faculty legislature much consideration; some students may not even know the Senate exists.

But the 13 different committees of the Senate meet monthly in the Student Activities Union once a month, each with its own agenda. *Statesman* attended a session of the campus Environmental Committee to investigate the current news and views.

The express purpose of the Environmental Committee is to advise university administrators about development of the campus environment, including safety problems, building planning and property cultivation.

"We share with the administration [the belief] that a beautiful campus is very important," said John Robinson, Environmental Committee Chairman and psychology professor. "Aspects of that should include the inside environment, to renovate dilapidated buildings as well as

continuing to develop and integrate better the outside campus... We advocate what we call 'smart growth,'" he added, explaining that the term refers to the use of environmental sensitive policies to expand the college.



The Campus Environmental Committee is trying to keep the greenery on campus from being turned into parking lots.

Robinson expressed his concerns about how the campus should grow.

"The campus will continue to grow," he said "[But] growth can occur in a disorganized and sprawling manner. Our worse fear is a scenario in which the Stony Brook campus develops the feel of a mall with boxes of parking lots and no trees."

Benjamin Walcott, University Senate president and professor of neurobiology and behavior, also expressed concern about the expansion of parking lots.

"The University is under pressure to expand," he said. "People want a parking lot next to buildings they work in. If we do that, we'll have nothing but parking lots. We have to think about the campus environment." Another concern of the committee is the maintenance of the Ashley Schiff Nature Preserve, a 26-acre wooded area south of the academic cluster.

"The preserve is the only forested area near the college, and students regularly study the flora there. The Environmental Committee has been making sure it is off-limits to parking lot development. So far, the President has given assurances that the preserve will not be touched, but there's always pressure to develop it," Walcott said.

Currently, there's no legal written

protection for the Ashley Schiff Nature Preserve. "The President gave her word for its protection, but many people are concerned about what a future president might do with it. Therefore, there's more interest in a legally binding assurance," Robinson said.

Like other Senate committees, the Environmental Committee has no power to make policy. Its role is that of a consulting group, members explained. The committee reports its findings to Richard Mann, Ph.D., Vice President for Administration.

But Robinson said that despite its lack of legal power, he feels that his committee has been very important in influencing college policy.

He added that having students join his committee would be helpful, but acknowledged that most student are not interested. "I've gotten names, but in general, it's difficult to get students to respond and come to meetings."

Students interested in joining the Environmental Committee should contact Professor Robinson at jrobinsn@ms.cc.sunysb.edu.

## History Will Take a New Twist Through Dance

By EMY KURIAKOSE  
Statesman Editor

The Stony Brook History Department will launch its first dance course, HIS 414, entitled "Dancing American History-From Slavery to Hip Hop" during the Spring 2003 semester. The course, which seeks to teach history through dance, will incorporate readings about an era with the dances that people enjoyed during that time.

"It's a class for students to feel what dancing was like and why people did it," said April Masten, who will teach the class.

A trial run of the class was held in the Spring 2002 semester as a one credit mini-course for Honors College students. Masten taught the small group of students a new form of dance in the Staller Center theater hall each week. The semester's dances included early African American forms, such as the Ring Shout, and moved into the Irish Jig, with newer American Dances such as the Waltz, Charleston and Foxtrot coming later in the semester.

Students who took the mini-course said the course provided the opportunity

to learn dances they would not have otherwise known about. "Even though the dances were different, I had a lot of fun learning the new styles," said student Eric Greenberg.

Limited to 25 students, next semester's extended course is set to cover more dances and styles. "This course will be more intense, with more dancing, and will cover a larger time span," Masten said. "The most valuable thing about this course is that students will get group interaction and one-on-one professor-student experience."

Masten also said the dances taught in the class explore the changes and cultural influences America has seen during the past 200 years. Masten shows the influence of African American dance on white communities, and students learn the mixed dance forms through lessons and activities.

"The dances that students might talk about in other classes, like the Charleston, they'll actually learn to dance," Masten said.

Teaching history through dance has been a topic of slight controversy in the past. The effectiveness of such a venue has

been debated. "In some ways, I think it wouldn't be effective at all because there are many societies that are known by their lack of music and entertainment," history



Courtesy of www.google.com

Professor Masten's new class will actually feature interactive dance lessons.

major Catherine Brenner said.

Masten said she thinks dancing can be used as a tool to understand many societal pressures and ideas that people lived with in the past.

"This course is for people who like

ideas," Masten said. "And dancing becomes an idea that they work on and understand. I'm glad that I work in a history department that is willing to try new things."

Some students were excited by the concept. "It would be an interesting and fun class to take because you are learning about American history but from a different angle," junior Tina Francis said. "You are learning why these dances came about and what was going on during the time."

To take the 400 level class, students must seek approval from the professor. For additional information contact April Masten at amasten@notes.cc.sunysb.edu, and 632-1341 or Susan Grumet at 632-7480.

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## STUDENT POLITY ASSOCIATION

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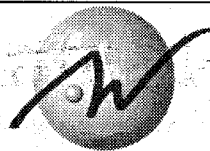
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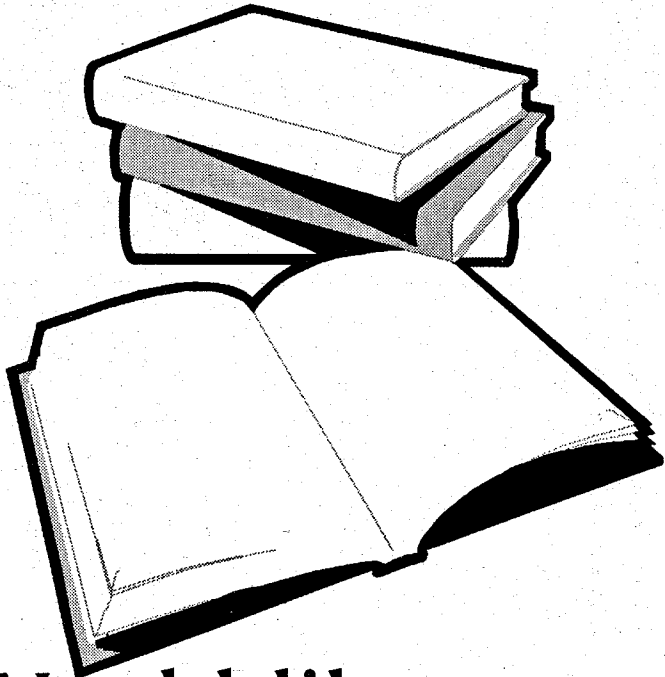
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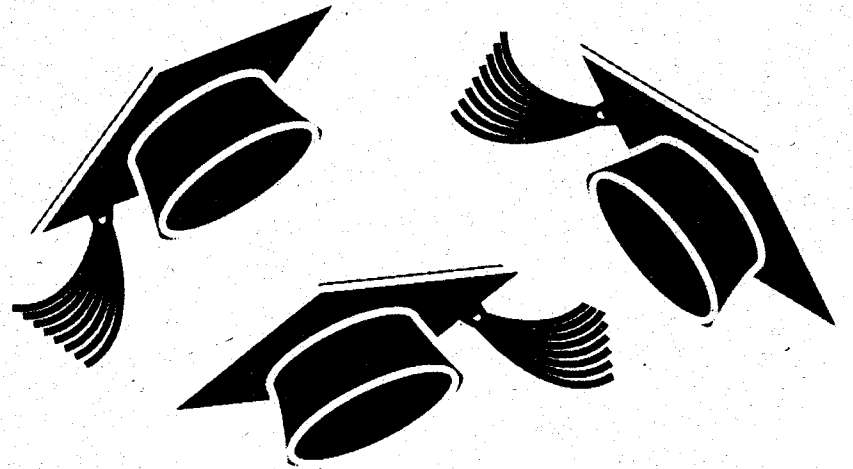


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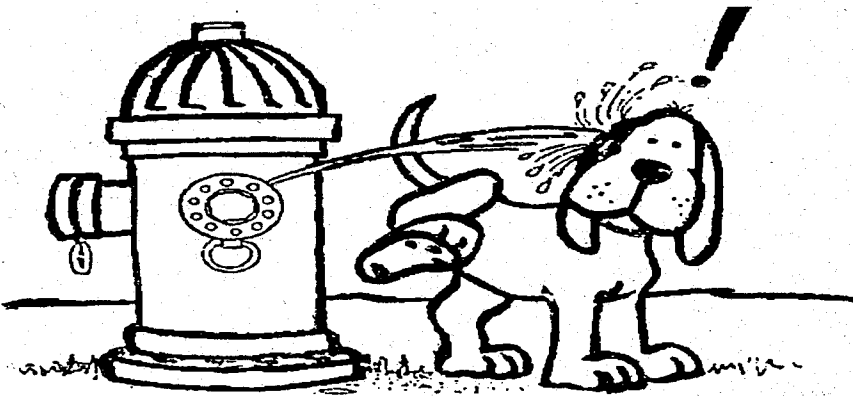


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# JUNIORS

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*Do you have any ideas  
or suggestions?*

*Do you want to get involved?*

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Join the Junior Class Activities Planning Committee.  
Contact your  
Junior Class Representative, Michelle Morris  
at 632-9197

or visit the Student Polity Office, SAC 202

# SB Chemist Receives \$750,000 Grant

By DEBOLINA KOWSHIK  
Statesman Editor

The New York State Office of Science, Technology and Academic Research (NYSTAR) has awarded Iwao Ojima, Ph.D., a \$750,000 grant to conduct his work in drug discovery focusing on the development of new anti-cancer drugs. Ojima is a professor and Chair of the Department of Chemistry at Stony Brook University. The funds will also be used in the creation of the Institute of Chemical Biology and Drug Discovery (ICBDD) on the campus.

Ojima is currently working toward breakthrough discoveries in the development of newer and stronger anti-cancer agents that can be taken orally. His research involves the design, synthesis, and structure-activity relationship of biologically active compounds of medicinal interest. The research is carried out in conjunction with a team of scientists and clinicians from Stony Brook University along with members of the pharmaceutical industry.

A world-renowned organic chemist, Ojima's honors include the Emmanuel B. Herschberg Award and the Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award from the American Chemical Society, a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship, and the Chemical Society of Japan Award for Distinguished Achievements. He remains a SUNY Distinguished Professor and received an Outstanding Inventor Award from the Research Foundation of SUNY.

The main goal behind the ICBDD is to launch a top-notch Center of Excellence at Stony Brook University. The center will focus on the understanding behind molecular basis of diseases, curative drugs, drug actions and drug resistance.

Many of the inventions that come forth from ICBDD are expected to be patented and developed for widespread marketing.

This award was a small part of the \$6.36 million provided in state-wide funding. NYSTAR awards are given to first-rate scientists who concentrate on research in high technology and biotechnology.

The Stony Brook Statesman wishes you the best of luck on all of your finals.

A+

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A THOUGHT FROM RABBI ADAM



Now that the semester has come to a close, a saying comes to mind, "Chassidim never part." Even if people might be physically distant, in essence they remain spiritually close. For our souls exist in the ultimate Divine unity, and it is but our bodies that separate us from one another. So distance and even the infrequency of getting together doesn't really matter. However this connection that we have is a hidden one, and unfortunately, that which is revealed before us is the distance and the infrequent visits. Yet there will be a time when that which is hidden will be revealed. When the nature of the world will be defined by its unifying basis, and that which separates and causes to grow apart will be of naught. This is the meaning of the well-known Jewish saying, "Next year in Jerusalem". For we no longer want to remain apart and we wish not for another year of mundane existence. Rather we want to experience the coming year in an atmosphere of "Jerusalem", which in Hebrew means "seeing-the whole"— seeing the Divine unity and experiencing a world that is without distance and separation. And now the time is ripe for all this to happen. For ours is a unique generation poised on the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy. Prophecies that speak of the coming of the Moshiah (Messiah) and the resulting era of goodness and kindness, the Messianic Era. Amongst Jews, all of the great Rabbinic leaders of the last century have proclaimed that, indeed, Moshiah is coming. The most recent of which, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, stated that the Messianic Era is so much at hand, that all one has to do is figuratively "open their eyes" and see a new world reality on the verge of being revealed. A reality in which there will be neither famine nor war. An age of eternal peace and love. The age of "Jerusalem". An age in which people do not really part, for we are all really one.

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- Larry Roher Entrepreneurial Achievement Award** ..... \$750  
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- Student Employee Alumni Association Award** ..... \$750  
Awarded to a student employed on campus in recognition of academic excellence as well as contributions to the university.



In addition to a cash award, winners will receive a plaque at this year's Undergraduate Recognition Awards for Excellence and Outstanding Achievement, which takes place Monday, April 20, 2003. For applications, stop by the Alumni Office in Melville Library, room E1315, or visit our web site at [www.alumni.sunysb.edu](http://www.alumni.sunysb.edu). Deadline for applications is February 7, 2003. For more information please call 632-6330.

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## Email Accusations of Media On Shaky Footing

By ADAM ZIMMERMAN  
Statesman Editor

*A response to a recent mass email by "Polity Truth," an identity assumed by a member of last year's Polity Senate.*

I was still in the Senate when Dean Laskowski brought his proposal to us for the athletic fee increase. In fact, I was one of the very few Senators who agreed, from the outset, with his proposal. I felt strongly then, and continue to feel strongly now, that a strengthened athletic program here at Stony Brook would do wonders for campus recreational activities, student morale, and increased funds flowing into campus coffers.

There are several in-depth reasons as to why I have taken this stance, and would be happy to discuss them with you and anyone else who is interested at a later time. But the fact of the matter is that Dean Laskowski had, in myself and a handful of others, very staunch supporters.

The debate over the issue in Senate was candid and vigorous. I made the original motion for the Senate to approve Laskowski's request; it was defeated by a pretty healthy margin. I then made a similar motion for approval, only with a lower fee increase than originally proposed. That was defeated as well, but by a much closer tally. When I made a third motion, lowering the fee yet again (but still at a substantial level to bring in several new funds for the athletic department and SBU), it looked (at least to me) as if I had the votes to get it passed.

However, certain Senators managed to pass a motion to table the matter until the following week. It was a clever procedural move, perfectly legal, one which delayed further action on my part. That meeting being at the very end of the semester, I was not able to bring it up again. So the fee remained the same.

Obviously, there are certain individuals who do not agree with my stance. I have no problem with that; you are certainly not alone, and I always respect your viewpoint on such matters of consequence.

Nevertheless, I do take issue with the tone and content of Senate statements concerning media coverage. You charge the student media on campus with malfeasance in their failure to cover this issue in the print press.

Often times, however, the Senate meetings, even when

we discuss issues of tremendous importance and relevance, do not get press coverage. This, while certainly unfortunate, is certainly a well-known fact. Moreover, to be blunt, nothing stopped Senators from submitting their own editorial or commentary about this issue. Yet, for whatever reason, they chose not to do so, even though it is clearly within the realm of Senatorial duty/obligation; namely, to enlighten constituents as to the affairs of their elected representatives and the institutions in which they serve.

Further, as an editorial writer on the Statesman Board, I take offense when an individual charges that "democracy around here is in trouble because someone (yeah, someone) sawed two legs off of the four legged-stool." I have written probably a few dozen opinion pieces about the affairs of Polity in general, and the Senate in particular, over these past two and a half years.

I would like to think I, and several others on our staff, have contributed to the ongoing campus debate on such matters. Whatever our opinions, we are not "lapdogs" of administration, as it has been disrespectfully put. Do I always agree with my editors? Certainly not; indeed, my

own editor-in-chief feels quite differently about the Senate than I do. But I respect his different opinion, and his courage for making it known. Quite frankly, he is good at what he does, and

our paper is that much better for his dedicated efforts.

But as I stated earlier, even though nothing has EVER stopped anyone from making a submission to our newspaper, I cannot think of a single instance where the Senators making these charges have submitted an article with their name on it for publication.

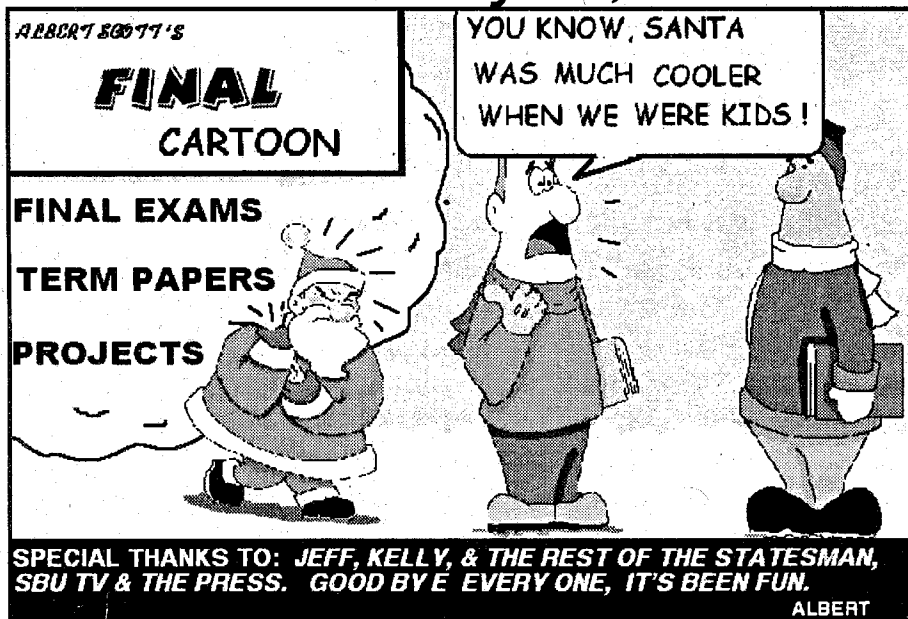
One of them states in a mass e-mail, "You might be surprised what was and is not published by the papers, and even more surprised by the REAL reasons why." That is a damning charge, one hell of a conspiracy theory; but as of right now, I consider it completely, utterly unfounded and fallacious, unless and until you summon the courage to publicly state your reasons for such a charge.

Where is your evidence? Care to show me your proof? Because if a debate on Statesman's sincerity and integrity is what you seek, look no further than myself for an opponent. I'd be more than happy to take this one all over the campus and its airwaves, if you so desire.

But be careful what you wish for here. Because let me tell you, you have met your match.

...if a debate on Statesman's sincerity and integrity is what you seek, look no further than myself for an opponent.

## We will miss you, Albert!



The CHOICE Center, which specializes in health education, would like to publish an interactive column biweekly to present individuals with accurate information about health issues, clarify misconceptions and offer advice on healthy living from qualified health care professionals. However, the success of this outreach effort is entirely dependent on your response as readers. Please email your questions to [joici\\_job@yahoo.com](mailto:joici_job@yahoo.com) or to the CHOICE Center directly at [pmastroianni@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:pmastroianni@notes.cc.sunysb.edu). Your confidentiality is assured.

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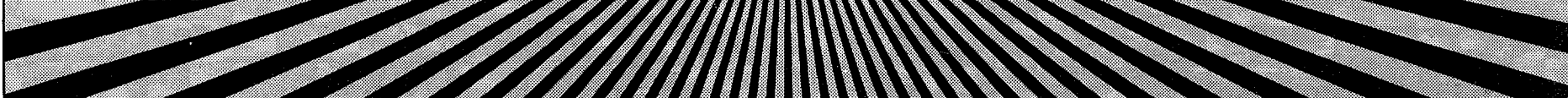
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Just as Setauket's early citizens gathered together to form bucket brigades to help their neighbors, so, too, must our current citizens respond to the call to vote in order to help their neighbors now! Vote for the candidate with a proven track record and demonstrated leadership skills! Vote for CHIEF RICHARD LEUTE on **Tuesday, December 10th** from **2 PM to 9 PM** at **Setauket Fire Station 3** on **Nicolls Road**.

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, December 9, 2002

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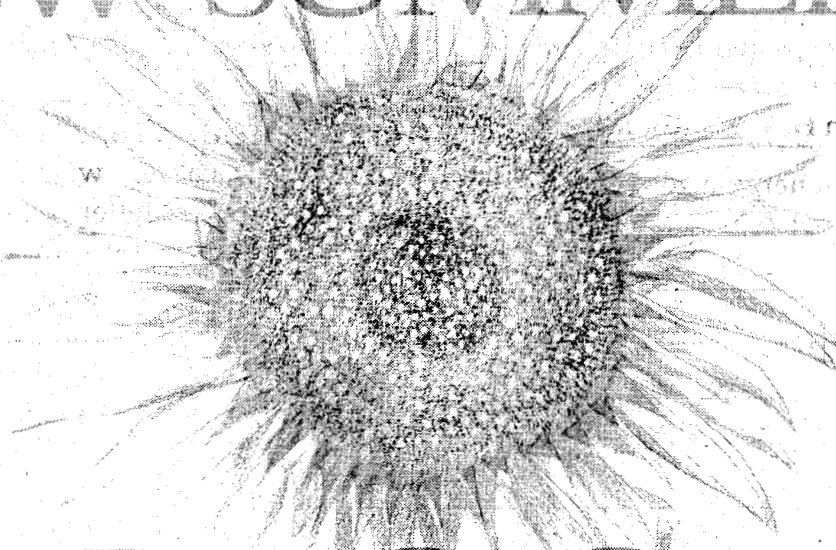
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## Golden Panthers Maul Seawolves in HIE Tourney

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR  
Statesman Editor

Florida International arrived at Stony Brook at 5:30 p.m. Friday night, three hours before tip-off, because of weather-related flight delays. A little over 24 hours later, the Golden Panthers of FIU left Stony Brook with the Holiday Inn Express Tournament trophy in hand after notching their second victory in as many games en route to dethroning the Seawolves, who were last year's champs.

"We had a lot of adversity just getting here," said Cindy Russo, FIU head coach. "This game and last night's game were big wins for us. I think the victories can be



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Wolfy, the Seawolves mascot sits dejected after SBU's 52-point defeat to FIU.

attributed to us stepping up defensively."

After coming back from an 11-point deficit in their first game of the 2002 HIE Tournament against Fairleigh Dickerson, Stony Brook had nothing left in the tank for the championship game. FIU used a stymieing defense to shock the Seawolves with a 33-8 run to open the game, and ended up embarrassing SBU with a 96-44 drubbing. With the loss the Seawolves fell to 1-5, their worst start since playing at the Division I level.

"I was excited that we won [the first game]. We played hard both games," said Stephanie Barlett. "The shots didn't go in today. I was a little off." Barlett, a sophomore shooting guard, is running the point for the first time in her career because Theresa LoParrino, the Seawolves starting point guard, is injured.

"Theresa is coming back from an ACL tear and a [recent injury] in her other leg," SBU head coach Trish Roberts said. "Stephanie is improving [her play at point guard] every game."

Barlett had a breakout performance in the first game of the HIE tournament when she helped SBU come from behind to edge Fairleigh Dickerson 76-71 by scoring 19 of her 22 points in the second half. However, she was ineffective against FIU. Barlett attributed her anemic three points by way of



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Stephanie Barlett went 1-6 from behind the arc against FIU after tying her career high by scoring 22 points the night before.

shooting 1-9 from the field to tired legs.

This is excuse that could have been used by both teams because they were playing two games less than 24 hours apart. Although Roberts admitted that her players were tired, she also cited lack of experience. Currently, she is playing one starter from last year's squad and said having a roster made up of freshmen and sophomores was the culprit for the team's poor showing.

"One of the toughest things is teaching freshmen to play defense," she said. "We're just inexperienced right now. Unfortunately, we played against a very, very good team."

Whatever the reason, by the 53-19 margin at halftime it was clear that only the

visitors belonged on the court and that the Seawolves did not come to play.

FIU, a regular participant of the NCAA tournament, was simply too much for the talent depleted and very young SBU women's basketball team. The Seawolves were thoroughly beaten in every aspect of the game, including defensive intensity and hustle, which is a bit uncharacteristic of a Roberts' coached team.

SBU allowed FIU to shoot an unheard-of 67.9 percent from the field, including a mind-boggling 63.6 percent from behind the arc. The performances of the two teams were night and day in every major statistical category. The Seawolves could not find the basket as they turned in their worst offensive performances of the year, shooting a meager 28.1 percent from the field and 18.2 percent from downtown. FIU also held a rebounding edge of 44-16, and as a team had a 23-6 advantage in assists.

Roberts who was clearly was not in the best mood after the game, tried to be optimistic, viewing the game as a great learning opportunity. Athletic Director Sandra Weeden also tried to remain upbeat. "I think we're very young, but we're getting better every game," she said. "This will be our fourth year in Division I and we haven't had a losing season yet."

## Seawolves May Find Savior With Jordan's Resurrection

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR  
Statesman Editor

It is only six games into the 2002-2003 collegiate basketball season, and already the Stony Brook University women's team finds itself on the ropes, reeling after taking several shots to the chin.

The Seawolves are losing games by a margin of 20.5 points, which could easily have been more were it not for the mercy of opposing coaches. The women's basketball team is getting beat in every aspect of the game—they can't pass, they can't defend and they can't score.

Their anemic offense reflects the dearth of talent that coach Trish Roberts can call upon. The Seawolves are shooting a woeful 34.5 percent from the field, while allowing their opponents to shoot 47.2 percent.

Last season, SBU was 75 seconds away from a berth in the NCAA tournament and now they find themselves at the bottom of the America East Conference (AEC) facing more questions any coach would care to answer.

Where is the defense? Can anybody score consistently? Is there a go-to player that can deliver in close games? Can anybody provide a steady inside presence?

But still there is a silver lining. Their 52-point loss to Florida International answered those questions and more, in ways that few fans in poorly attended game may have realized.

First, if the Seawolves are to play the remainder of the season with their current cast, then performances like the one in the championship game of the HIE tournament will become commonplace. And second, all the talent in the Stony Brook program sat on the bench dressed in street cloths.

About six or seven seats down the Seawolves bench was the duo of forward Sherry Jordan and point guard Theresa LoParrino, talking to each other about the game and cheering on their teammates. This one-two punch last year combined for 28.7 points, 10.4 rebounds, 4.2 assists and 3.6 steals per game, totaling nearly 50 percent of the team's offense.

The Seawolves are without LoParrino, the junior partner of the tandem, because she was relegated to the bench again after injuring her good leg while trying to come back from last year's season-ending ACL injury.

But the sight Jordan anywhere near a Seawolves bench this season is shocking. Since the beginning of season Jordan, an AEC first team player, has not been courtside and has been left off of several of their media guides.

"[Jordan] was suspended for violating team policy," said coach Trish Roberts. "She is day-to-day." Roberts dispelled rumors that Jordan was permanently off of the team. Saying that she didn't understand why Jordan wasn't on the roster. "[Jordan] never left the team."

Roberts was tight-lipped about exactly why Jordan suspended and refused to make either player available saying that "only the players that played" would be allowed to comment.

Although Roberts insists that one player doesn't make a program, it is painfully obvious that Sherry Jordan has



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Theresa LoParrino and Sherry Jordan, last year's two leading scorers, sat and watched FIU win the HIE Tournament.

and will be the cornerstone of the women's basketball team. Unless Roberts, a Hall of Fame collegiate player, intends to suit up, the two need to resolve the situation because SBU cannot match up on the talent end. However, Roberts refused to give any timetable for Jordan's return.

Regardless, the first step has been taken. The prodigal son has returned to the fold, and now she needs to start playing for Stony Brook to start winning.