

Statesman

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SBU Offers Privacy, Space in New Apartments

By Emy Kuriakose
Statesman Editor

Put \$41 million, empty land, and Dallas Bauman together, and you'll get a new set of Graduate/Undergraduate apartments at Stony Brook. Four new residence halls are set to be built on the patch of land behind the Undergraduate Apartments (UGA) in an effort to accommodate the increase in demand for housing on an already overcrowded campus.

"The percentage of new freshman, transfer, and continuing students has increased, and there is more and more demand for housing," explained Bauman, the Asst. Vice President for Campus Residences.

Set to open for the Fall 2004 semester, the buildings will house 672 students, bringing the total living space in UGA and the new apartments to 1200 beds. The layout will be similar to UGA, but modified with key alternatives. Each suite will have five to six singles, two bathrooms, a living room,



Statesman/Kelly Brown

The new site located, between UGA and the railroad, was previously unused.

dining area, and kitchen. The larger handicap accessible rooms on the first floor will function as doubles if they are left unoccupied. Housing costs are the same for all apartments.

Working with suggestions from the new residents at UGA, architects designed smaller bathrooms and larger kitchens in each suite. Other improvements include a commons with a computing center and multi-purpose 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 building and more construction. The goal is to keep students active and involved in campus life, Bauman said.

"There seem to be two separate phenomena in the country. One of the fastest growing universities, the University of Phoenix, provides only online classes and doesn't house students," Bauman said. "On the other hand, you have Universities that want to keep students on campus. There is no single means of providing the undergraduate experience. We're responding to the diversity."

The apartments will be open to juniors and seniors who have already lived on campus. Some students, however, remain skeptical of the projected



Courtesy of Urbahn Associates, Inc.

Above: the projected design for the new apartments that are scheduled to be built for Fall 2004. The 672 news beds are designed to alleviate the housing shortage.

completion dates. "The plan sounds good. But with the track record that SB has with construction, it will take forever," junior Agata Rumprecht said.

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 ready by the fall (2004)," he 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 commuters and pedestrians alike. Architects are redesigning the roadways to better accommodate the greater traffic load.

New construction will not interfere with other renovations on campus, Bauman said. Each project is separately funded. "We will continue with the 10-year renovation cycle," he added.

The renovations for each existing building occur in the order that they were built and renovated in previous years. The work takes place primarily in the summer, as not to impinge on residents during the school year.

The new apartments offer hope for the cluttered campus, for future waiting lists and crowded triples.

"With two large bathrooms, a full kitchen and a large common area, you can't get a better deal on campus," concluded Nelson.

Executive Director Explains the FSA

By Jeffrey Javidfar
Statesman Editor

The Faculty Student Association (FSA) occupies a second floor office suite in the Student Union. Its door is set back a ways from a modestly trafficked hallway. But although people aren't filing in every minute, this organization's reach spans the entire campus.

Whether you're buying books for Organic Chemistry or a cup of coffee from the Seawolves Marketplace, the FSA--and presumably students, in some indirect way--have had a say in the process. The organization is involved in every major, non-tuition related monetary exchange on campus.

The students taking your order at H-Cafeteria's Taco Bell or those assisting you with products at the Computer Corner all work for FSA. The Association also employs the individuals who prepare meals at the University Hospital or those managing the Long Island State Veteran's Home.

The FSA is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation that the SUNY system classifies as an auxiliary service corporation (ASC). It allows the Stony Brook campus to operate programs that it feels are consistent with the University's mission outside of the strict regulations governing a state body's finances and operations.

Stony Brook is not alone in its

confusion concerning the services that can and cannot be provided by an ASC. So the Task Force on Campus-Related Entities published a report was entitled "Enhancing Performance and Accountability" in attempts to alleviate confusion throughout the SUNY system.

According to the findings, released on December 19, 2002, "the ASC would be authorized to operate a defined set of services where students and faculty/staff have a significant interest in the quality and price of the services provided." The Task Force went on to authorize many of the services and activities that Stony Brook University's FSA currently performs.

As stipulated in the

recommendations, a board of trustees oversees the FSA. It is comprised of two faculty members, one professional staffer and four administrators including Treasurer Karol Gray, who is the

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Stony Brook Ecologist Dishes Out Lobster Facts

By REGINA GLICK
Statesman Staff

Alistair Dove, Ph.D. discussed his research regarding the outbreak of marine diseases in the Long Island Sound as part of the "Living World" lecture series sponsored by Stony Brook University's Department of Ecology and Evolution.

His lecture was held in the Earth and Space Sciences Lecture Theater, Room 001, Friday, Jan. 24, at 7:30 p.m.

Dove's research in the Marine Disease and Pathology Consortium at Stony Brook University's Marine Sciences Research Center examined the massive die-off of lobsters in the Long Island Sound that took place in the fall of 1999.

Lobster, clam, oyster and fin-fish populations have been affected by several recent aquatic diseases that touched New York. The increasing frequency and severity of the outbreaks of these diseases have caused potentially devastating changes

aquatic research and outreach program and member of the initiative, in New York alone, lobster harvesting brought in \$29 million in 1998.

The Sea Grant is also sponsoring six other studies on the Sound.

Dove is an adjunct assistant professor of the Marine Disease and Pathology Research Consortium. The consortium was established in 2000 in reaction to the high lobster mortality rate, in an attempt to identify and research current and future marine diseases.

Dove is also a senior research associate for Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, which is one of several partners in Stony Brook's Marine Pathology Consortium.



Courtesy of crawdog.net

Dove's research may help scientists discover why lobsters are dying.

The increasing frequency and severity of the outbreaks of these diseases have caused potentially devastating changes to the marine environment of the Sound.

to the marine environment of the Sound.

In response to the declining lobster population, federal and state governments allocated \$7.6 million to form the Long Island Sound Lobster Initiative.

The decline in the lobster population is not only of environmental importance, but of economic concern as well. According to the New York Sea Grant, a federally funded

FSA Explained

Continued from Page 1

University Controller. Kevin Kelly, the Executive Director of the FSA, oversees all day-to-day operations and is an ex-officio, non-voting member of the board. He is the most recent winner of the Chancellor's and President's Award for Excellence in Professional Service.

Three undergraduates and one graduate student are also part of the board of trustees. Kelly admitted that the board has been having trouble sustaining undergraduate involvement in recent years. He insists that this is no longer a problem.

According to Kelly, in the past seats on the Board were open, but the student government failed to make the proper appointments in time. Members of the former student government could not be reached for comment.

Other services that fall under the FSA's umbrella include handling the accounts of both the Graduate Student Organization and the undergraduate student government, managing the Spot, running the Off-Campus Housing office, and providing laundry and vending services to the campus.

"As of February 1, [the FSA] will act as the fiscal agent [for the undergraduate student government]. We have done it for the Graduate Student Organization," Kelly said. "[Students] decide how to spend the money, but they don't get involved in managing funds, cutting checks and making sure an independent audit is conducted."

Other entities on campus also find it worthwhile to use an FSA agent to do their bookkeeping, human resources and check-cutting. The association charges a fee for these administrative and accounting services.

"There are a host of demands [placed on us]," said Kelly. "It's not easy, but that's what we're here for. The nature of our organization is not to penalize for complaints, but to reward for new solutions."

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, January 30, 2003





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Advocates for College Sports Trade Charges as Title IX Panel Gets Ready to Vote

By WELCH SUGGS
The Chronicle of Higher Education

For a while Tuesday morning, downtown Washington looked like the Super Bowl of sports activists.

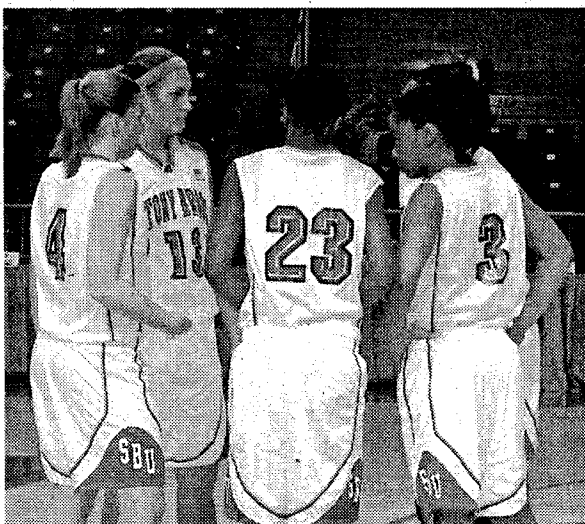
Representatives of numerous women's groups gathered at the National Press Club to criticize a federal commission examining Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the federal law that bans sex discrimination at educational institutions receiving federal funds.

Shortly thereafter, conservatives and advocates for men's sports held a conference call to criticize the women's groups — and to offer qualified support for the commission's work. More events are planned for today.

All this is in advance of the final meeting of the Secretary's Commission on Opportunity in Athletics, which took place yesterday and will continue today in Washington. The 15-member panel is expected to vote on a series of proposed changes to Title IX rules and regulations. The results will be compiled in a report for Roderick R. Paige, the secretary of education, who will decide which suggestions to carry out.

Feminist groups have denounced the commission claiming that the Bush administration was using it as a cover to "roll back" enforcement of Title IX. A coalition of coaches' associations for men's sports had sued the Department of Education earlier last year over Title IX rules, which they say amount to a quota on the number of men allowed to participate in scholastic and collegiate athletics.

The plaintiffs in the case claimed credit for the formation of the commission, saying that it was a chance to apply some



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

The women's basketball team, one of the university's winningest programs over the last four years, has benefited from the equal funding initiative mandated by Title IX.

"common sense" to the enforcement of Title IX.

"We're pleased that the commission was created to finally provide a forum for open dialogue," said Eric Pearson, chairman of the College Sports Council, which represents men's sports that have suffered losses over the past two decades, notably gymnastics, swimming, and wrestling. "The only people fighting change or any discussion of change are lawyers with a vested interest in keeping quotas in place."

To comply with the Education Department's rules on women in sports, colleges have three choices. They can have the same proportion of women on sports teams as they

have women in the undergraduate population; they can have a "history and continuing practice" of expanding sports opportunities for women on campus; or they can demonstrate that they are "fully and effectively accommodating the interests and abilities" of women in the undergraduate student body.

The first option, known as "substantial proportionality," is described in Education Department documents as a "safe harbor" for compliance. Many colleges have dropped men's sports or capped the number of players allowed on men's teams in order to get closer to the proportionality standard.

The commission is considering ways to scale back the importance of the substantial-proportionality option. Among the suggestions being considered is allowing colleges to have a 50-50 split of male and female athletes, with "wiggle room" even if women outnumber men in the undergraduate student body, as is the case at most institutions. Another suggestion is to permit colleges to finance equivalent men's and women's sports, such as soccer, based on a set number of participants, but to allow coaches to keep as many or as few athletes on their rosters as they wish.

"As long as there is a proportionality standard, a quota measure, that's going to be the reigning standard, the compliance standard judges go to," said Jessica Gavora, author of *Tilting the Playing Field: Schools, Sports, Sex, and Title IX*. "It's an easy safe harbor. I share the opinion that the notion of a quota is a logically-flawed test of interest. It's not a test of fairness we use in any other area of higher education, in dance classes, in engineering, even in other single-sex operations like housing."

Bush Calls for More Research to Protect Against Biotoxins

By STEPHEN BURD
The Chronicle of Higher Education

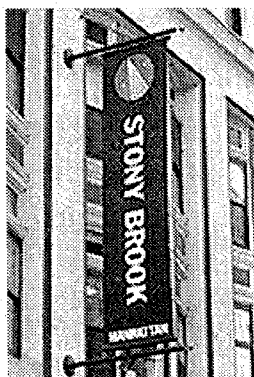
In his State of the Union address on Tuesday night, President Bush proposed the start of a "major research and production effort" to protect the country from bioterrorism.

The president's hour long speech did not mention higher education, as he focused on his major priorities: preparing for a possible war with Iraq, fighting terrorism, and pushing for a new round of tax cuts to revive the economy. But he touched on a couple of issues of importance to biomedical researchers.

For his new effort against bioterrorism, which he called "Project Bioshield," Bush said he would ask Congress to provide \$6-billion to develop and make available vaccines and treatments against biological agents such as anthrax, botulinum toxin, Ebola, and the plague.

"We must assume that our enemies would use these diseases as weapons and we must act before the dangers are upon us," Bush said.

The president also once again called on Congress to outlaw any form of human cloning. Although virtually all researchers support a ban on cloning aimed at reproducing human life, some scientists favor using so-called therapeutic cloning — which does not produce babies — as a source of stem cells for medical study. "Because no human life should be started or ended as the object of an experiment, I ask you to set a high standard for humanity and pass a law against all human cloning," Bush said.



Courtesy of www.sunysb.edu

A mission of SBU Manhattan is to address security concerns.

Cal State Finds Basic English Skills Lacking

By SARA HEBEL
The Chronicle of Higher Education

California State University officials on Tuesday released a report on remediation that shows that an increasing number of freshmen entering the university arrive prepared to do college-level work, but that first-year students' levels of English proficiency have dropped and are falling short of system targets.

In addition, a higher percentage of freshmen were not allowed to return to the university for a second year in 2002 than in the previous year

because they had not completed their remedial work, the report shows.

The statistics, which are

presented annually to the California State University Board of Trustees, track how close the system is to reaching its goals for reducing remedial education on its 23 campuses. In 1996, the trustees adopted a controversial policy that called for the system to limit the proportion of regularly admitted freshmen who need remedial help to 10 percent or less by 2007. Most students who do not eliminate their remedial needs by the beginning of their sophomore year are not allowed to re-enroll at the university.

"This year's numbers show that the university is on track to meet its goals with regard to mathematics," said Allison G. Jones, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs in the California State system. However, he added that statistics on

the number of students needing more help in English are "far off the mark" from where they need to be.

Of the freshmen who entered the university system last fall, 41 percent were deemed academically proficient in all subjects, the report shows. That is an increase of three percentage points from the fall of 2001 and is nine percentage points higher than in 1998, when the remedial policy was put in place.

In math, 63 percent of freshmen who entered the university system last fall did not need any remedial help. That amounts to an increase of nine percentage points from 2001. Trustees have set a goal of having 74 percent of

freshmen academically proficient in math by 2004.

Proficiency levels in English dropped for the fall of 2002, with 51 percent of incoming freshmen not requiring remedial help, a three-percentage-point decrease from 2001. Trustees have set the target for English proficiency at 78 percent for incoming freshmen in 2004.

Jones and other university officials attribute some of the poor showing on English proficiency to the fact that more than 40 percent of the university's students come from homes in which a language other than English is spoken as the primary language. Another hindrance may be lack of critical reading programs in many high schools, they say.

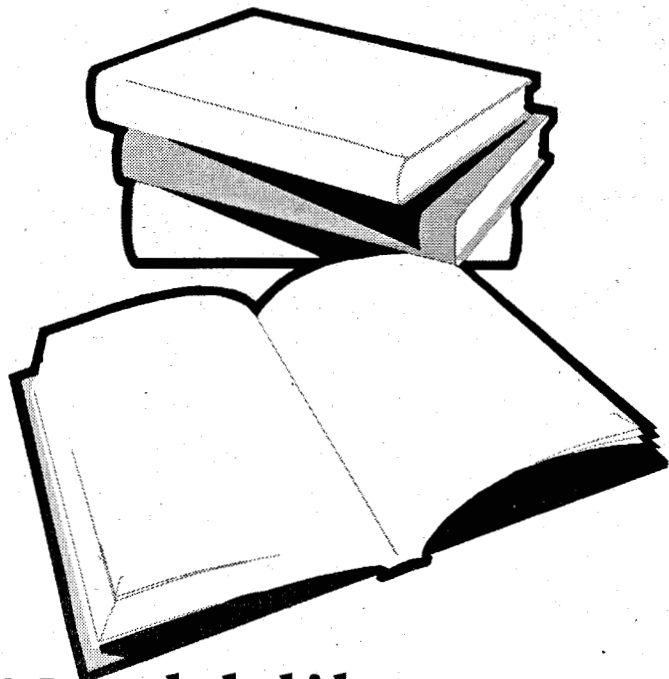
California State and the University of California have jointly developed a program, which began about a year ago, to train English teachers of high-school juniors in ways to improve instruction in critical reading and reading comprehension.

freshmen academically proficient in math by 2004.

Proficiency levels in English dropped for the fall of 2002, with 51

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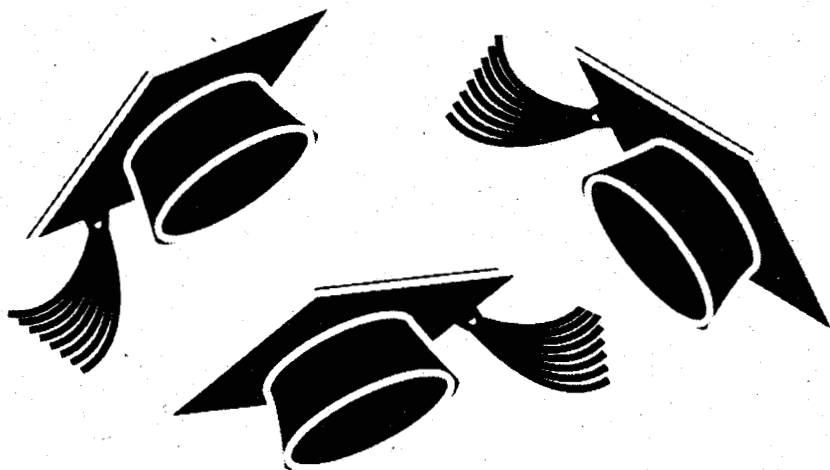


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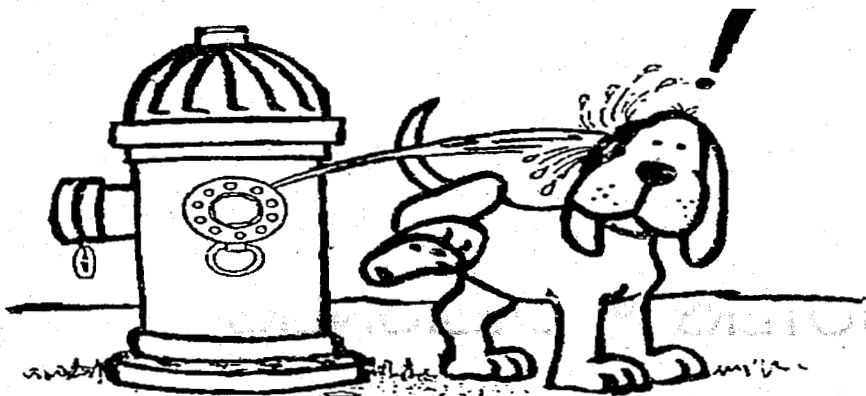


Want to know how?

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Contact your Senior Class Representative, Jannet Mey
at 632-9197

or visit the Student Polity Office, SAC 202

FRESHMEN



Do you want to "mark your territory"
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Want to know how?

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Contact your Freshmen Class Representative, Samantha
at 632-9197

or visit the Student Polity Office, SAC 202

JUNIORS

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or suggestions?

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Editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial board and are written by one of its members. The Stony Brook Statesman welcomes letters, opinions and information about events and issues on or around campus.

All letters and opinion pieces must include the author's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Please type all submissions. Anonymous and handwritten submissions will not be printed. Please keep all submissions to a maximum of 650 words. Statesman reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity, language and readability.

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Editorial

Setting the Record Straight

"Let Each Become Aware." It is more than just our motto. As the main newspaper on a campus that serves over 30,000 people, it is, in fact, our responsibility. Moreover, it is one we take very seriously, especially when one of our readers questions our newspaper's integrity (see below).

Statesman is published twice weekly, appearing every Monday and Thursday during the entire school year, and five times throughout the summer. All told, we produce roughly 60 issues per year, the largest production quota, by far, of any print media outlet at Stony Brook. We have been in existence since President Eisenhower's administration. We are proud of that.

Statesman would not exist were it not for the effort and dedication of its staff. In order to become a staff writer, one must get published three times. There are eight, not 14, current editors of *Statesman*, six of whom actually attend twice-weekly productions. Editors emeritus do not contribute to the newspaper.

It takes an enormous amount of time and effort to create a single issue of the newspaper. An average of four hours goes into the writing of a single article, including time it takes to attend an event, talk to people, and bang it out on a computer. This does not include editing and layout. The top editors put in more hours each week than a full-time job would require. In the past, editors' meager stipends approximated the daily earnings of barbers in underdeveloped nations. We hear that those "salaries" are currently being pooled to purchase a new glow-in-the-dark yo-yo.

Statesman is a nonprofit news publication. *Statesman* received \$28,875.00 from the budget approved by the Student Polity Association Inc. for the 2002-2003 school year. This amounts to 1.3 percent of the entire \$2,228,815.28 budget. Put another way, that amounts to the total student activity fee of 17 full-time students. Most advertisements come from Polity and other University-affiliated organizations, which receive discounted rates.

Other campus organizations receive considerably higher appropriations, including the *Stony Brook Press*, which receives nearly \$10,000 more than *Statesman*, but only produces an average of 15 issues per year.

And if you want to talk about questionable use of funding, *Shelanu* newspaper received \$20,250 over the

past two years, and during that time has produced one edition! There is evidence to suggest that these allocations and the office space provided to certain groups are being used in ways that do not benefit the community at large, but rather provide a few students with personal perks.

It is expensive to produce a twice-weekly newspaper. Printing costs come to roughly \$800 per issue. That alone totals \$48,000, almost \$20,000 more than we receive from Polity. There are several other costs as well. We are a business and have six individuals on our payroll—*none* of whom are editors. We have considerable insurance and supply costs. A purchase of four new computers this year, the first such expenditure since 1996, cost \$9,350. Another \$3,000 was appropriated for software and networking needs. You get the idea.

It is not easy, but we put out a solid product. Most issues include 10-12 articles written by staff members, despite the fact that the newspaper is severely understaffed. We also run articles originally printed in the *Chronicle for Higher Education* (a subscription service for which we pay) that always include issues worthy of discussion on a college campus. Advertising comprises roughly 50 percent of each edition, which is standard for prominent news publications all over the nation. In addition, our advertising sources, whose ads do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *Statesman*, do reflect our campus diversity, containing widespread viewpoints and various products.

Furthermore, *Statesman* has been recognized by several outside organizations for our journalistic achievements. Last year, we received four first-place commendations from the New York Newsday School Journalism Awards. No other newspaper in the history of those awards has ever matched that total.

We are by no means perfect; nor do we claim to be. But our longevity and outside recognition point to the good work we've done over the years, including providing students with important information and exclusive insight into life on campus and beyond. We hope that our fellow students continue to hold us accountable. In return, we promise you will continue to get *more* than what you pay for.

Letter to the Editor

Getting What You Pay For

Dear Editor,

I was happy to see that you posted this year's Polity Budget, under the apt title, "Are You Getting What You Paid For?" (Page 3, Jan. 23 edition). The students of this campus have a right to see how their money is spent, and I commend your investigative reporting skills. However, I am confused. It seems that currently, the *Statesman* receives \$28,875.00 a year to put out the paper.

However, in a paper with an average of 12 pages, eight pages of the edition that covered the Polity Budget were composed of at least 50 percent advertisements. While some of these ads are provided free of charge to campus groups, I counted seven large ads of at least a quarter of a page (including the full-page anti-abortion ad), NOT including the ads in the classifieds. All of these are paid advertisements.

Furthermore, this edition containing the Polity budget contains a whopping SIX articles written by students of

this university. This is comparatively a lot of student writing from the *Statesman*; more often, it seems that the articles come from the Associated Press or the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. So, to summarize so far: 12 pages, eight pages containing a minimum of 50% ads, six articles written by students.

Now we move to the staff list on page six. It appears that there are 12 current editors, and two editors emeritus, totalling 14 editors. Fourteen editors to edit six articles?

Thanks to your publication of the budget, we the students now know that the *Statesman* receives \$28k+ of our money per year, in addition to advertising revenues. I would like to know how this money is spent, and what editors' salaries actually are. This is a student-run paper, I believe, and it should be accountable to the students. You ask, "ARE YOU GETTING WHAT YOU PAID FOR?" It doesn't seem like it to me.

Renee DiResta

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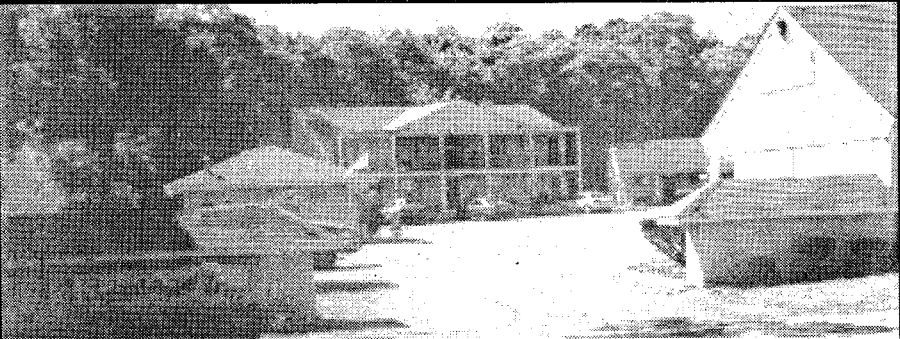
Thursday, 1/23	Casino Night	SAC Ballroom A	8:00 pm - 11:00 pm by SAFIPC
Friday, 1/24	Comedy Show	SAC Auditorium	9:00 pm by SAFIPC
Saturday, 1/25	The Mix Part II Party	Ballroom A and B	10:00 pm - 3:00 am by SAFIPC
Sunday, 1/26	Super Bowl Party	EOB	5:00 pm by SAFIPC
Tuesday, 1/28	Tip-Off Tournament & Food	Pritchard Gym	7:00 pm
Wednesday, 1/29	Recycled Percussion	SAC Auditorium	9:00 pm by SAFIPC
Thursday, 1/30	Scooping Out Success	SAC Lobby	7:00 - 9:00 pm
	Hypnotist	SAC Auditorium	9:00 pm by SAFIPC
	Islanders Game Trip		7:00 pm
Friday, 1/31	Kappa Alpha Psi Party	SAC Ballroom A	10:00 pm - 3:00 am
Saturday, 2/1	Caribbean Student Organization Party	SAC Ballroom A	10:00 pm - 3:00 am
Sunday, 2/2	Tanger Outlet Trip		11:00 am
Wednesday, 2/5	Involvement Fair & Winter Hot Stop	Ballroom A & B	12:00 pm - 3:00 pm
	Team Trivia Contest	SAC Auditorium	7:00 pm
Thursday, 2/6	Fraternity & Sorority Night	SAC Ballroom A	7:00 pm
Friday, 2/7	Rent — Broadway Show Trip		8:00 pm
	LUL Party	SAC Ballroom A	10:00 pm - 3:00 am
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SBU Hockey Splits Weekend

By CHARLES CLIFFORD
Statesman Staff

Two offensive explosions and two solid goaltending performances over the weekend for Stony Brook added up to one win. The Stony Brook ice hockey team split their games this past weekend, losing to Marist and defeating NYU.

On Friday, it just wasn't meant to be for the Seawolves when they traveled to Marist to take on the Red Foxes. With a lot going their way, including an impressive offense and great goaltending, SBU simply couldn't put the puck in the net enough. Even after taking 22 shots in the first period alone, Stony Brook found itself in a scoreless tie. Seawolves goalie Mike Gragnano was outstanding, as he made 36 saves many of which were from close range.

The second period proved to be SBU's downfall. The Seawolves allowed two goals midway through and trailed 2-0 going into the second intermission.

The Seawolves took a little bit of the momentum back when Mike Keane scored off a wrist shot early in the third period to cut Marist's lead in half. With ten minutes remaining in the game, Marist scored on a breakaway to take a 3-1 lead, which is how it ended.

In their second attempt this weekend, the same solid effort produced a win. On Saturday night the Seawolves traveled to

NYU in a pivotal game. This time SBU looked like it could score at every turn even with a disadvantage on the ice.

Once again the Seawolves came out of the gates firing, and this time Joe Hirschy opened the scoring for SBU midway through the first period on a shorthanded breakaway. Less than a minute later the Seawolves struck again when Anthony Fronzoni scored on a backhand shot while SBU was still shorthanded. Nate Hould rounded out the scoring for the period when he scored on a slap shot to give the Seawolves a 3-0 lead after one.

Goalie Brian Andruskiewicz was stupendous in net, turning aside 30 shots for the victory.

NYU climbed back into the game early in the second, scoring on a power play goal. SBU quickly responded when Mike Keane picked up a loose puck in front of the net and put it by the NYU goaltender. Jesse Muro added the Seawolves third shorthanded goal late in the period to give SBU a 5-1 lead.

Arty Martrano, who had been moved from defense to forward just one night earlier, proved that the coaches had made the right decision as he closed out the scoring for the Seawolves when he scored a power play goal late in the third period, pushing the final score to 6-1.

Dave Weiss contributed to this story.

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LGBTQA Reaches Out to Overcome Ongoing Obstacles

By ATHENA DANALAKIS
Statesman Contributor

During an information fair for incoming students three years ago, The U.S. Army recruitment table was set up next to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance's station. Throughout the day, tensions between the two groups could be felt until they finally came to a breaking point. A member of the alliance sneezed, and one of the men from the Army's table said, "The fag probably forgot to take his AIDS medicine."

Lowell Kane, current president of the alliance, said that LGBTQA members felt that such an incident might occur again. "All the Army recruiters had to do," Kane said, "was write a half-hearted letter of apology, but we were left wondering whether these kind of stereotypes still existed among students." He also worried how these stereotypes would affect the organization.

But since becoming president in 2000, Kane has been surprised to find that the Army incident was the last serious opposition that the alliance would face on the Stony Brook campus.

The LGBTQA was established at Stony Brook University in 1974. According to Stony Brook's LGBTQA website, it is currently the oldest running gay organization. The alliance, which does not ask individual members about their sexual preference, welcomes all people, regardless of sexuality.

Kane and his co-president, Matt Napolitano say they raised the membership of the campus chapter from roughly 25 people in 2000 to nearly 60 people three years later.

"Our approach for reaching out to students is to go around to

is no longer a big issue. "It seems like there is so much information about gay issues that a lot of the stereotypes people once had are slowly beginning to go away," said Sarah James a third-year student at Stony Brook. James admitted that

what they believe in. Damien Johnson, a second-year student, said that even though he has always viewed homosexuality as being sinful, "having freedom of speech is one of the best things about this country, even if you don't agree with what the person has to say."

The most promising sign that a real alliance between the gay and straight communities may one day exist is the appearance of members like Rita Zusman, a heterosexual. Zusman said she joined the organization because several of her friends were part of it and she wanted to show her support for the gay community. Although she has had mostly positive reactions from members and non-members of the alliance, she says she experienced some unfriendliness from the club members themselves because she is one of the only straight people in the group. The biggest problem she experienced was the fear that she may break the only rule that the alliance has, which is the confidentiality of membership.

"One of my friends who has still not come out was so shocked and worried to see me," Zusman said. "He was afraid I would out him."

She also acknowledged that despite the support she has from her straight friends, many of them questioned her purpose in joining.

She responds "If people really want to know why I care so much, it's because I really think I can make a difference in bridging whatever gap there still exists between the two communities, something that I already see happening and it's really encouraging."



Statesman/Jefferrey Javidfar

LGBTQA members have been subject to discrimination since the group's establishment nearly 30 years ago, but have also found support in unlikely places.

classrooms and dorms and let people know that we exist and are welcoming of anyone who needs help or wants to support," Kane said. During the two years they have been using this as a method to get members, Kane said they have not yet had a bad experience. And even campus police said that in the last year they have not had any reports of violent crimes that were committed based on sexual orientation.

Many students throughout campus seem to agree that being gay

before coming to Stony Brook, she was ignorant about many of the issues facing the gay community. But since attending the university, and becoming friends with gay students, she said that she has now "gained an understanding of the problems that many gay students must deal with" and she feels she has become more tolerant as a result.

Even many students who said they were "opposed to homosexuality" agreed that everyone has the right to speak about



Statesman/Jefferrey Javidfar

D.J. Munir looks on as Stony Brook routs Centenary College 87 to 38.

Chorus Line Composer to Perform at Staller

By ANJALI DOGRA
Statesman Editor

Award winning composer and pianist Marvin Hamlisch perform on the Main Stage at Staller Center for the Arts at 8:00 p.m. Feb. 1.

Hamlisch has composed pieces for films, recordings, the concert hall and the stage including "They're Playing Our Song," "Sweet Smell of Success," "Imaginary Friends" and "A Chorus Line." He composed the scores for more than 40 motion pictures, most notably his Oscar-winning score and song for *The Way We Were* and *The Sting*.

He has won every major award that exists for composers including three Oscars, four Grammys, four Emmys, three Golden

Globes and a Tony. Hamlisch also won a Pulitzer Prize for his show, *A Chorus Line*. He currently serves as the Principal Pops Conductor with the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

J. Mark McVey, who has performed with Hamlisch and leading orchestras around the country, will be Hamlisch's guest during this show. McVey won the Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Actor while making his Broadway debut in *Les Miserables* playing Jean Valjean. His latest album, "If You Really Knew Me: The Music of Marvin Hamlisch," features new arrangements with Hamlisch on piano and is available at www.jmarkmcvey.com.

The Staller performance is sponsored

by Teachers Federal Credit Union. Tickets for the show are \$38 and can be ordered at www.stallercenter.com or by calling (631) 632-ARTS.



Courtesy of www.staller.sunysb.edu

Marvin Hamlisch, a Broadway and movie composer, will perform some of his works at the Staller Center in early February.