

## Anti-Graffiti Task Force: Express Yourself Another Way

By MARC NEWMAN  
Statesman Editor

Years ago, Doug Little, Stony Brook Deputy Chief of Police, collaborated with the Stony Brook administration to clean up a frequently vandalized rock near the main entrance and other graffiti around campus. Although this infamous rock has since been graffiti-free, many other vandalism problems on campus remain.

Last year, \$40,000 dollars were spent on graffiti abatement. The Anti-Graffiti Task Force was formed by the Stony Brook Police Department to address the issue. *Statesman* sat in on a Feb. 12 meeting.

Baycan Fideli, head of the cleanup operations at Campus Residences, began the



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Members of the Anti-Graffiti Task Force include those responsible for both the academic buildings and the residence halls.

meeting by describing the intricate and expensive process that went into cleaning up the latest graffiti "hit." It wasn't a scribbled "Harry-Loves-Suzy," but writing by a possibly gang-related figure called Toxic that did over \$10,000 in damages.

"It wasn't easy to clean-up. It was done with heavy, thick black markers," Fideli said.

"Sometimes students think they're making a political statement," said Rabbi Joseph Topek, Director of Hillel.

Suzanne Benedetto, Detective Squad Commander, added, "This guy Toxic didn't spell 'Palestine' correctly, so often we're dealing with people that just want attention."

But who are these people who waste thousands of dollars in tuition money every year?

Benedetto explained that because Stony Brook often hosts visitors from community schools and elsewhere, many of the vandals may not even live or work at the university. But on-campus regulars are the ones who have to deal with the aftermath of the damage.

"[Graffiti] is a downer," Fideli said. "It's psychologically damaging to those that actually have to deal with it."

There are a number of skateboarders on campus who have been recently given warnings and even trespassing tickets. These

individuals are suspected of producing graffiti, but Benedetto said that the destruction has many sources.

Benedetto described a recent arrest on campus, in which a man in his thirties was found harboring some 80 permanent markers, writing messages on trailers around campus.

Several years ago, a Stony Brook student whose fraternity was involved in campus vandalism was killed at the Smith Haven Mall when police attempted to apprehend him for his involvement in an elaborate credit card theft scheme.

The task force holds roundtable discussions to prevent future graffiti. Fideli mentioned the failed "Stop Graffiti" campaign where stickers with this logo were displayed on faculty vehicles. "[This] would only encourage vandals," said Fideli.

The department is working to advocate a more positively focused prevention program. One suggestion is an ad-campaign,



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

The Anti-Graffiti Task Force discusses ways to tackle Stony Brook's latest graffiti vandal, Toxic.

comprised of Anti-American foreign policy graffiti juxtaposed with an Anti-American foreign policy editorial news article.

Fideli provided the slogan. "The impact of graffiti one second, the impact of the news article," he said. "Priceless."

Topek agreed. "It's important that Stony Brook gets the message across that we're not about suppressing opinion."

He outlined the Ohio Wesleyan College plan, where students were permitted to write chalk graffiti in particular zones around

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## NYPIRG Sets Advocacy Agenda for Spring Semester

By REGINA GLICK  
Statesman Staff

The New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) hosted its biannual information and recruitment session in the Colors Café in the Union basement on Wednesday.

Representatives of NYPIRG tag-teamed their way through mini-talks about their efforts to close the Indian Point Nuclear Power Plant, help the homeless, end the use of sweatshop labor in America and the world and, most prominently, their efforts to defeat the proposed tuition increases for SUNY and CUNY schools.

"I want to know what [NYPIRG] will be doing," said freshman Jonathon Inbal. "Are they just going to run around with candles? Because I don't think that that is the best way to protest."

Kevin Doten, a student member of the environmental advocacy project, warned that New York City has no sufficient evacuation plan in the event of a terrorist attack on



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Higher education is at the top of NYPIRG's agenda for the spring. They are currently organizing a bus trip to Albany on March 11.

Indian Point nuclear reactor, located in Westchester County, and urged students to get involved in the effort to have it shut down.

Cheryl Lynch, a student intern with NYPIRG, discussed last year's food drives, trips to local soup kitchens, and the "sleep out," an event at which students slept near Roth Pond in cardboard boxes to raise awareness about the hardships

of being homeless.

Stony Brook's representative to the statewide NYPIRG student board, Joe Ferrara, spoke about the prevalence of sweatshops in the world.

"All over the world, hundreds of thousands of people work in sweatshops for way below minimum wage, Ferrara said. "There are 4,500 sweatshops just in New York City filled

with illegal, scared immigrants."

There will be a protest against sweatshops at a Long Island mall in April, he added.

In less than ten minutes, NYPIRG had covered a lot of ground, but the floor show then slowed down to emphasize the crux of the meeting: protesting cuts to higher education.

NYPIRG is organizing protests against

Governor George Pataki's proposed \$1,200 tuition increase, one-third cuts to the Tuition Assistance Program and cuts to the SUNY and CUNY operating budgets. Volunteers are in great demand.


Fortunately for NYPIRG, the audience seemed eager to hear about what members had planned and how to get involved.

"I'm here [at Stony Brook] only until the summer, but I have [younger] friends here and I think the cuts would be detrimental to them," said a senior who gave the name Najam.

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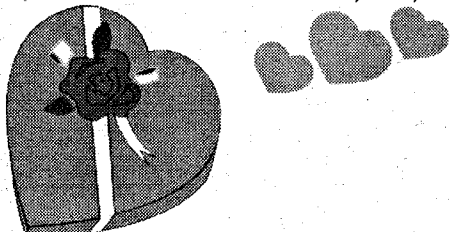


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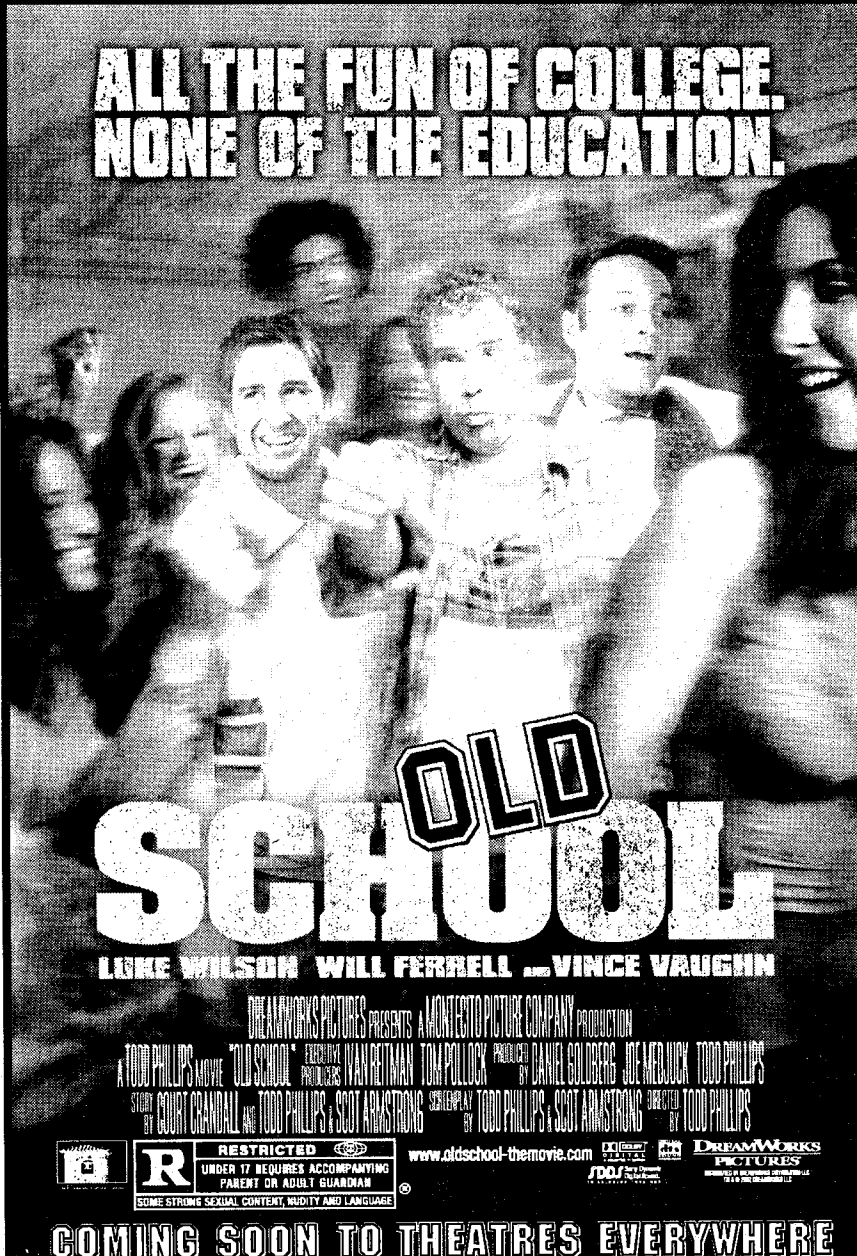


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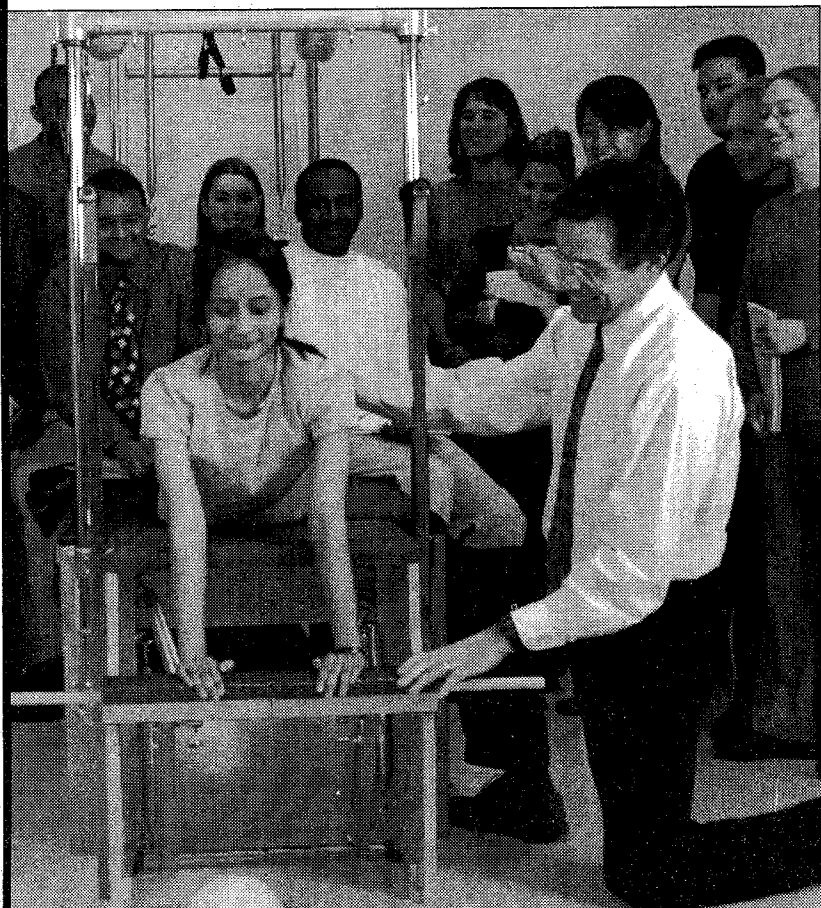
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# Muslims Face Discrimination and Intolerance

## Religious Leader Seeks to Clear Up Misconceptions About Islam

By MAUREEN KER  
Statesman Staff

As the country sought to find answers in the wake of September 22, 2001, some Americans searched and found an easy scapegoat – American Muslims, most of whom have little in common, besides religion, with the hijackers.

The American Muslim community has found themselves in a precarious situation, according to the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR), a non-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., which said 57 percent of the seven million Muslims in America have experienced bias or discrimination since the terror attacks.

Even on Stony Brook's diverse campus, many Muslim students are painfully aware that things have changed for the worse.

"I get a lot more dirty looks than before," said a Muslim student who wished to remain anonymous.

Sister Saana Nadim, Director of the Muslim Student Association (MSA), said that Muslims in the U.S. have experienced



Sister Saana Nadim is the Director of the Muslim Student Association.

discrimination far worse than dirty looks.

"Discrimination against Muslims had resulted in loss of jobs and lives," she said.

According to CAIR, people who appear to be of Middle-Eastern or Arabic descent, but are not Muslim, have also been targets of discrimination. One of the most highly publicized hate crimes following 9/11 was the brutal slaying of Balbir Singh Sodhi of Mesa, Arizona. It was a case of mistaken identity. Sodhi, who was a Sikh by faith, was singled out because he was

thought to be a follower of Islam.

Most of the Muslim students on campus say the most common harassment they have encountered has been in the form of verbal abuse. Some said that they knew someone who had been accosted by strangers and threatened with violence, but that this form of harassment is more prevalent off-campus than on.

Nadim said that the negative portrayal of Islam and its followers in the media has made matters worse. She said that she was particularly offended by "Islamic experts" on television, perpetrating myths about Islam.

"Reading one book on Islam does not make one an Islamic expert," said Nadim.

After watching Uzi-toting terrorists proclaim bin Laden's death threats on primetime news, however, it might be difficult for some to distinguish between law-abiding American Muslims and extremist suicide bombers. According to Nadim, blurring the sharp lines between them has led to prejudice and injustice.

"It pains me to see young bright kids

labeled as terrorists," Nadim said. She was referring specifically to the three American Muslim medical students, whose run-in with the law in Georgia was the result of a police tip off by a "concerned" member of the public. The incident angered the Muslim community and civil liberties activists, who asserted that if the three medical students were Caucasian males, it would have been just another day in the South.

Nadim said that educating the public about the "true Islam" is the only way to counter public misconceptions.

"Islam is a religion of peace, not violence like they say on TV", she said.

Non-Muslims often have had little contact with the religion and no formal education about its history.

"I think [Muslims] should use the media to teach the public about their religion, while Americans are still interested," said Raymond, a Master's student only willing to give his first name.

Nadim said non-Muslim students rarely attend the events held by the MSA.

## BNL Leads Way on High-Energy Particle Accelerator

By CHRISTOPHER FECAROTTA  
Statesman Staff

A milestone in global science collaboration has recently been reached at Brookhaven National Laboratory. CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, took delivery today of the first U.S.-built contribution to what will be the world's highest-energy particle accelerator.

This superconducting magnet was built at Brookhaven National Laboratory and is destined to become a crucial part of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). In the future, the US will provide a few more advanced accelerator elements for the LHC. This is due to an agreement made in 1998 between CERN, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the National Science Foundation (NSF).

"The arrival of this magnet from Brookhaven marks a new era in international collaboration in particle physics," said CERN Director General Luciano Maiani. "The LHC is the first truly global collaboration in particle physics, and this magnet joins a steadily growing stream of LHC components arriving from around the world – a tangible

demonstration of people of all kinds working together towards a common goal."

The LHC is made up of more than 6,000 superconducting magnets, which are built in Europe. The U. S. contributed \$531 million to the LHC, and the LHC's interaction region, dipole magnets were built at Brookhaven as well.

"I congratulate the Brookhaven team on this milestone for international collaboration in scientific research," said Dr. Raymond L. Orbach, Director of the Department of Energy's Office of Science, which funds the U.S. LHC magnet contributions. "It is tangible evidence of the successful fulfillment of the commitment we have made to provide advanced U.S. magnet technology and accelerator expertise for the next step in worldwide particle physics research at the energy frontier. And it is exciting to be a party to the future accomplishments of the LHC."

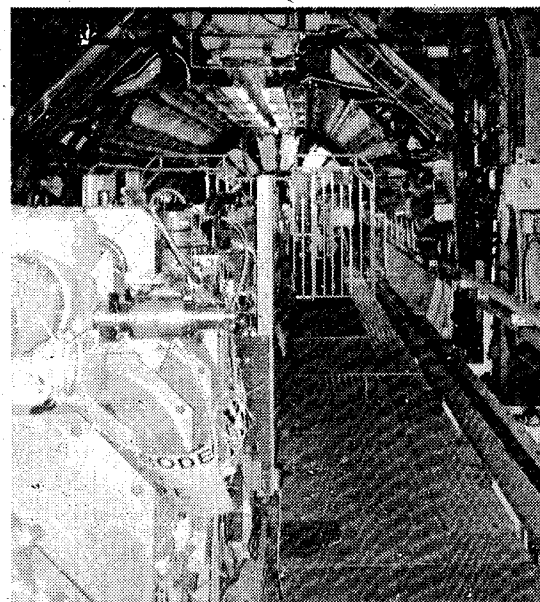
The magnet weighs 25 tons, and Brookhaven will provide at least twenty more. It took nine months to make, and over 100 scientists, engineers, and technicians worked on the massive project. Brookhaven's Superconducting Magnet Division is now

building the remaining 19 magnets, which will be shipped to CERN later this year.

Two other national laboratories were involved in the project, the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. Together, the labs are producing eighteen quadrupole magnets, superconductor cables, and utility boxes for magnet assembly.

"Our colleagues at Brookhaven have done a splendid job, producing the first U.S.-built superconducting magnet for the LHC project in time and according to specification," said LHC project leader Lyn Evans. "This will soon be followed by further deliveries from Brookhaven as well

as from Fermilab and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, all actively participating in the LHC design and construction. This constitutes a major step forward in international collaboration in the construction and exploitation of large facilities for particle physics research."



Courtesy of www.google.com

An earlier particle accelerator managed by CERN.

Jim Strait, a physicist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, hailed the collaborative nature of the project and its enormous success. The LHC will be put to use in April 2007, and will begin to search for frontiers not yet explored in matter technology.

## Graffiti on Campus

Continued from Page 1

sororities are permitted to write their symbols and messages on rocks around campus, provided they keep up the rock and the surrounding area.

Certain members of the group were concerned about sending a mixed-message, and focused on deciding once and for all: What constitutes graffiti, and what doesn't?

"I'm against a sort of 'if you can't beat 'em, join 'em' philosophy," Little said. "If it isn't your property, you have no right to write on it as if it were. We have to hit [graffiti vandals] legally."

There was additional concern about

gang-related activity and organization on campus.

"There are gangs on campus and in this community," Little said. "As the Smithhaven story emphasizes, and there is this element of violence and drug-related activity that our campaign against graffiti has to stamp out.

From the South P-Lot to the Student Union, vandals are having the time of their lives. The task force wants to emphasize other venues, like the editorial pages of the newspaper, for creative and political expression. Full-fledged campaigns to drive home this idea are on the horizon.

## NYPRIG Battles the Hike

Continued from Page 1

Pete Sikora, organizing director for NYPIRG and the keynote speaker of the afternoon, urged students to participate in NYPIRG's upcoming "March to Albany," beginning in Stony Brook and Buffalo Universities on Feb. 23 and culminating in a rally on March 11 to protest the proposals.

"State schools equal state funding, but Pataki is taking state funding away," said Rebecca Ahuja, student member of the NYPIRG higher education team.

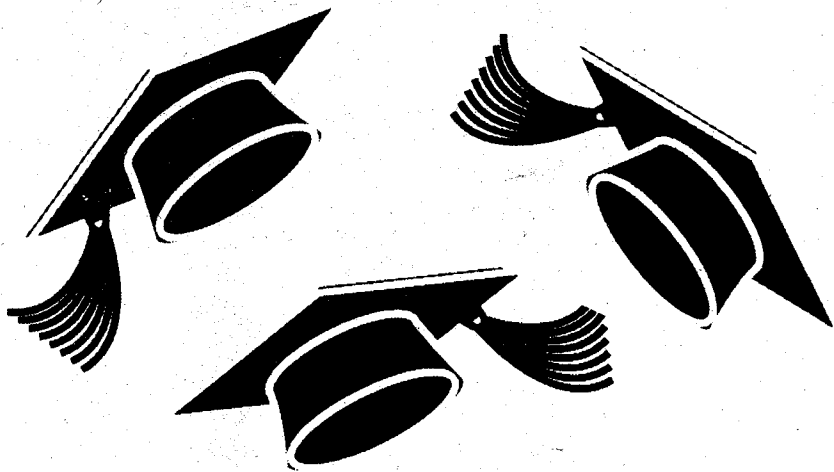
"Students right now pay 60 percent of the SUNY operating budget and Gov. Pataki wants to increase this, which barely makes this a state school," Sikora said.

After denouncing Pataki as an unreliable governor, Sikora rounded out the meeting with a practice call and refrain with the roughly 125 people in the audience, having them scream "Shove it!" when he called out the governor's proposals.

"I can't guarantee that there won't be a tuition increase, but I can guarantee that if students don't protest, it will happen," Sikora said,

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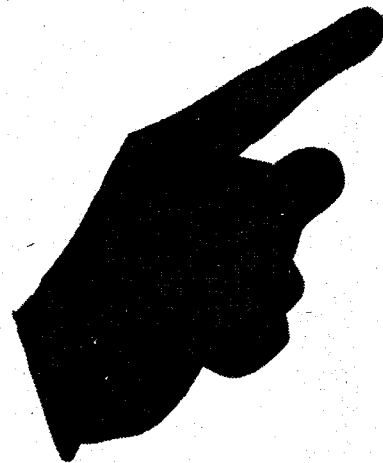
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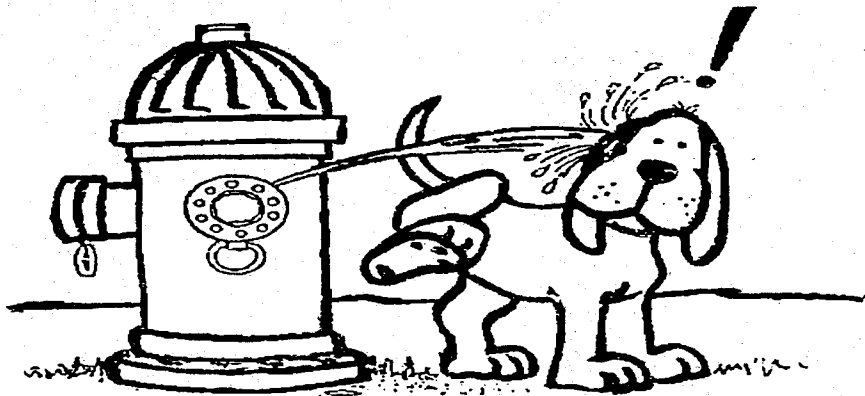
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# American Colleges Intensify Security Planning

By ELIZABETH F. FARRELL AND NICOLE FULLER  
The Chronicle of Higher Education

Colleges across the country, especially those located in New York City and Washington, D.C., are taking extra security precautions in response to a warning from the Federal Bureau of Investigation this week that campuses are potential "soft targets" for terrorist attacks because they are heavily populated and lightly guarded.

A few colleges have added security guards and purchased additional water and other supplies. More commonly, college officials say they are collaborating closely with public law-enforcement officials, expanding their efforts to disseminate information about emergency plans, and more vigilantly checking photo identifications and bags at large events.

Yet campus officials in both New York and Washington say that although the "Code Orange" security warning has put them on heightened alert, they had already gone to great efforts to improve campus safety in response to the attacks of Sept. 11.

"Just from a personal perspective, I think that because we've been through Sept. 11, we're very plugged into security here," said Columbia University spokesman Joseph J. Kennedy. "Our security officers are in close communication with the [New York City] Police Department, but they've been that way in general — it's not like we're suddenly putting up concrete barriers."

Columbia has imposed additional hurdles for vehicles attempting to enter campus property. According to Kennedy, security guards at campus parking garages are checking both the Columbia identification cards and driver's licenses

of faculty members. Additionally, the front entrance gate to Columbia, which is normally left open, has been secured to prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving onto the campus. Students are also being asked more frequently to show identification at campus lectures and other events.

To communicate with students, most institutions are relying on electronic methods such as e-mail messages and college websites to reassure students and keep them informed about previously crafted emergency procedures and safety measures.

Syracuse University sent out a mass e-mail message to all students and faculty and staff members informing them that additional security guards would be present at university sporting events, and urging them not to hesitate to report "anything that you consider out of the ordinary."

While such actions remind students of the increased risk of danger, several who were interviewed said that the recent elevated warning, and the efforts taken by their institutions, had little effect on their level of fear.

"My classmates and I don't really talk about anything besides the big film project we're working on," said Dawn M. Green, a junior at New York University. "I think it's because we were here for Sept. 11, so we already know what it's like" to be in a dangerous situation.

Parents of students attending college in Washington and New York are not so indifferent, several university officials said. Robert L. Johnson, the director of parent relations at George Washington University, said that he has been inundated with phone calls from parents who want to know what precautions the university is taking,

and whether they should let their children stay in Washington.

"They ask if we're closing down, if we have bunkers," said Johnson. "Parents have a right, and I don't blame

them for being concerned, but they have to understand that even though they may not see it, there are tons of people working to make sure their students are as safe as possible."

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### A THOUGHT FROM RABBI ADAM



The other day at Long Island Jewish South Hospital, Dr. Theodore (Tuvia) Hale saved a life. Being a gynecologist that's just part of his job. He's constantly delivering babies. Some are easy cases, some are not. He saves lives all the time. But this time, it was different. His patient was pregnant with twins. Fully dilated. Ready to give birth at any moment. However, there was just one problem: she was only 23 weeks pregnant, 4 1/2 months premature. Chances for her babies' survival were slim. If only the babies would stay in for another two weeks, maybe there would be a 50-50 chance that they would live. But her contractions wouldn't have it any other way. He tried halting the contractions with medication, but to no avail. The babies were going to be born. One of the twins died. The other was still alive, but chances for it surviving wasn't hopeful. Then a thought popped into Tuvia's head. The only shot at survival would be to return the baby to the mother's womb, tuck back in all the plasma membrane tissues and close the cervix. He would just have to recreate the pregnancy. Actually, such an idea had been done before in the US, but never on Long Island. And furthermore, besides the baby, it had the potential to put the mother's life at risk as well. Tuvia didn't have much time to think, for time was of the essence. He cut his indecisiveness short with the resolve: "No guts, no glory." Now Tuvia is a religious man. He wears a yarmulke and feels close to G-d. So it really wasn't the merit of "guts" that came the glory of life. But rather, having "guts" was just the conduit for the blessing for life. For Tuvia, the mother and her baby all needed a miracle—some kind of salvation beyond the reasonable workings of the world. Therefore, to engender such divine blessing, one had to have "guts"—one had to make a calculated plan beyond the reasonable workings of the world. And when one exerts effort on behalf of righteousness even though there may not be a logical way that righteousness will be victorious—that in and of itself is the conduit for G-d's blessing. And, thank G-d, as of this writing, the mother and her pre-born baby are doing fine.

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## Op-Eds

# Residents Battle Perilous Paths

By **KELLY BROWN**  
Statesman Editor

By the time this is printed and delivered to the public, Stony Brook will probably have seen some twelve to eighteen inches of snow added to last week's dumping. The question on the minds of most students--particularly residents--is whether university maintenance will clean up its act and put some real effort into clearing parking lots and walkways, or whether these areas will continue to present a real threat to those who live on campus.

Last Friday, the plows and salting trucks were out even as the flakes continued to fall. Crews worked in main areas of campus to ensure that, by Monday, the academic areas would be mostly cleared, so that students, staff and faculty could go about their daily business.

But the residential areas were conspicuously neglected. On Monday night, my professor announced that one of our classmates would be absent because she could not venture out in her

wheelchair. The ramps in her residence hall were icy and buried in snowdrifts. Okay, perhaps it was just an oversight. Surely, Campus Residences would make sure that the residential areas were sufficiently cleared by Wednesday or so.

But ten days after the first snowstorm, the Tabler Quad parking facility is still slick with black ice and piled with snow. Tires spin and yellow lines are obscured. It's a dangerous place. Outside of every residence hall, students battle slippery walkways that have likely not seen a plow or salt in over a week, despite the subsequent dustings of snow and consistently low temperatures. This author took a spill outside of Douglass College and was saved from serious injury thanks only to a conveniently located snowbank.

Student safety is supposedly a major concern of this university, but it seems that as of late, the administration has put its priorities elsewhere. Investing in more equipment and allowing workers to put in more hours may cost money, but it could save the university future lawsuits and improve quality of life for students.

## Letter to the Editor

# Constructive, Not Destructive Criticism

Dear Editor,

The cycle of madness at Stony Brook continues. This cycle is one of student initiated pro-active destruction.

In recent months, *Statesman* has come under much scrutiny and these situations have oftentimes been displayed through countless op-eds, mass emails and editorials. As is the case with many entities in this school that are criticized, *Statesman* is being attacked on financial, moral and organizational issues.

What I find most absurd are the motives and hoped-for results of some opponents of the Statesman. As was the case with Polity, a contingent of students became motivated by what they saw as an ineffectual, disorganized student government (I am not saying I agree or disagree, I am merely stating a point). Of course, each person is entitled to their fair opinion and students slowly became involved in aspects of student government. In essence, student involvement is what is hoped for and beneficial to all. However, the prevalent cycle of madness on this campus becomes destructive when it leads to those who are already involved. It is one thing to be a revolutionary and attempt to affect successful and beneficial change, but people are now insistent on seeing the demise of student government rather than helping to build it up.

The same is happening with student media, in this case, to the *Statesman*. There are naysayers, because, quite frankly, it is easier to destroy and criticize than to contribute and build. Could there be 'problems' with *Statesman*? I'm sure there could. Could it be better, depending upon each person's definition of the word 'better'? Like everything on this campus, yes, of course it could.

The frightening realization is that, much like Polity, there may be people motivated to dedicating time and energy to enact a change that would satisfy them only if *Statesman* ceased to exist, rather than people who are willing to constructively criticize and strengthen a long-standing media pillar of this university.

And in the thought of getting what you pay for (RE: Editorial, 1/30/03), the Asian American E-zine ([www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine](http://www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine)) is a university registered organization, currently with no funding support or media spacing.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Quan  
Asian American E-zine

## Reaction to Ayn Rand Op-Ed

Dear Editor,

The Ayn Rand Institute must be in a truly sorry state if it employs people like David Holcberg. His letter to the *Statesman* (Feb 3, 2002 issue) betrays a remarkable, even profound, prejudice against American University Professors. Anyone who could construct an equation that likens our educators to the non-thinking mullahs and clerics of Iran, and brands himself as a victim of the same type of mindless reactionary thinking that he is railing against!!!

Professor Francis Johnson  
Pharmacology

Questions? Comments? If you want to express your opinion, send it in to the Statesman.

[statesmn@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:statesmn@ic.sunysb.edu)

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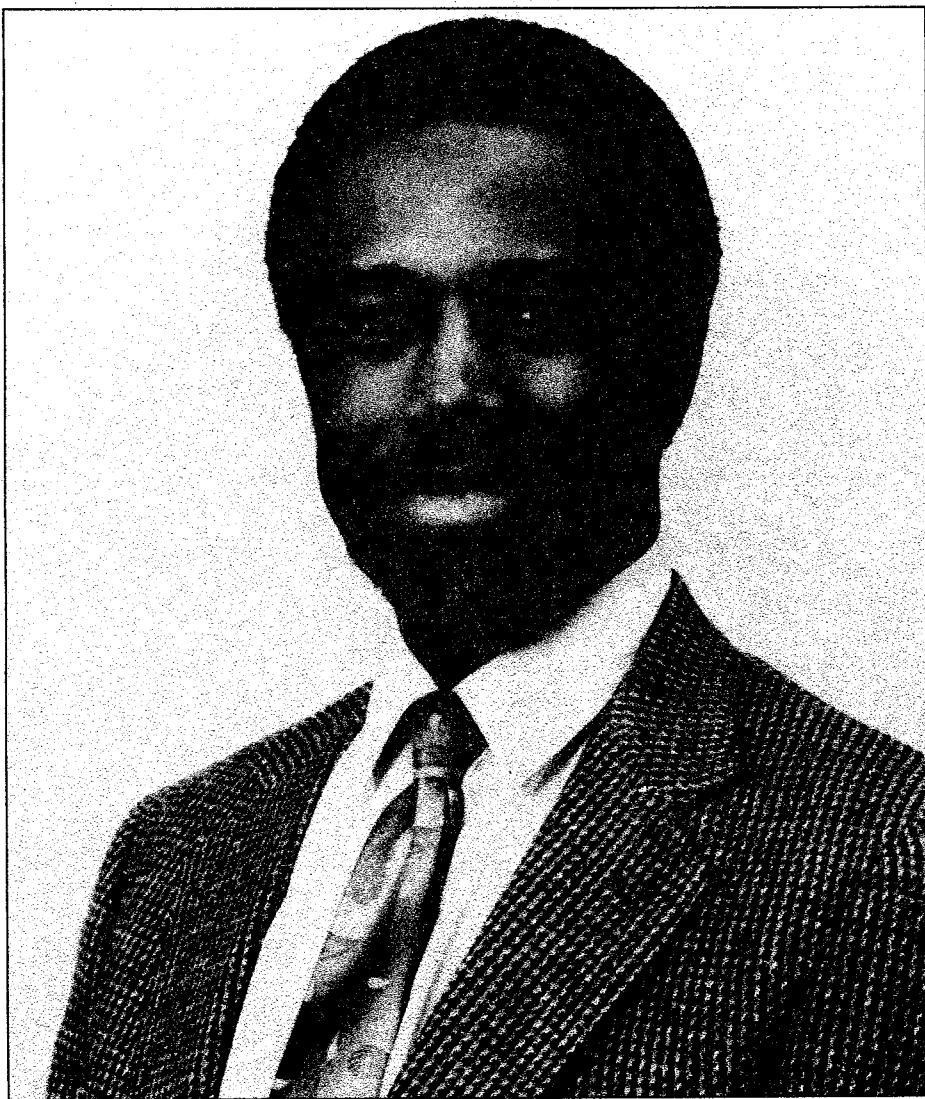
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Tickets go on sale Monday, February 10, 2003 at the Polity Box Office located in the Student Activities Center.  
Ticket office hours are 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, Monday - Friday

For additional information or a disability-related accommodation, please contact Junior Dorsainvil at (631) 632-6280 or e-mail [jdorsain@notes.cc.sunysb.edu](mailto:jdorsain@notes.cc.sunysb.edu)

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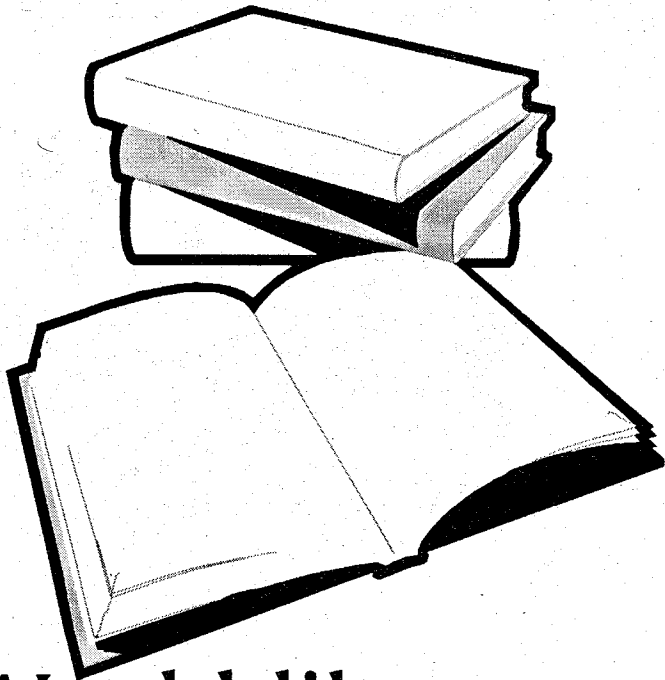
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# THE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE



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# ATTENTION SENIORS

Senior Portraits  
for the  
**SPECULA YEARBOOK**  
will be  
**February 17 — 28**



Sign-up sheets are in the  
Student Activities Center, Suite 202.  
For further information, please call 632-6460.



# ASU AFRICAN PRIDE WEEK



Monday, February 17

**AFRICAN THREADS:** An all-day event wearing African and Afrocentric clothes, accessories and jewelry for African Pride.

Tuesday, February 18

**AFRICAN VS. BLACK AMERICAN:** Lecture/Discussion forum featuring guest speaker with the purpose of promoting Black Unity. 8pm at the Stony Brook Union Fireside Lounge.

Wednesday, February 19

**THE BEAUTY OF OUR ROOTS:** Cultural Expo/Exhibition. 12 noon - 2 pm (Campus Lifetime) at the Stony Brook Union Fireside Lounge.

Thursday, February 20

**THE ART OF LOVE:** An Open Mic Poetry Night. 8 pm at the Stony Brook Union Colors Cafe.

Saturday, February 22

**QUEEN OF THE MOTHERLAND:** First ASU Queen of Africa Beauty Pageant hosted by Marc Theobald (BET Comic View and Comedy Central). 7 pm at the SAC Auditorium.

**WHEN THE LAST TIME:** Official After Party by Black Vibes Entertainment's DJ Spider. 10 pm at the Stony Brook Union Ballroom.

# Features

Circulated to over 100 off-campus locations  
Weekly readership estimated at 30,000.

## Successful Sequel Cheats Critics' Death Sentence

By ALI KHAN  
Statesman Staff

Released in 2000, the original *Final Destination* had the makings of a classic thriller: Thrills, spills, and, of course, the type of cringing scenes that made audiences jump out of their seats and want more.

The plot was simple, yet effective. Preparing to get on an airliner with the rest of his French class for a school trip, a high school student has a premonition that the plane is going to crash. He panics, and the scene he creates changes the minds of a handful of other students.

When the plane finally does end up crashing, and all aboard die, you figure



Courtesy of www.deathiscoming.com

**Final Destination 2 chills audiences and astounds critics despite many doubtful predictions.**

those who opted out at the last minute had cheated death in a stroke of luck. This, however, is not the case, as each person is subsequently killed in a distinct manner. You wouldn't think there was much more to be done with that idea, but as director David R. Ellis demonstrates, sticking with a successful idea and throwing in a couple of key plot twists can work nicely.

*Final Destination 2* proves much grislier and bloodier than the original. As death stalks its victims one by one, each death proves to be more gut-wrenching and gory than the previous almost to the point of being humorous. Be warned, this flick is not for the faint of heart, and queasy stomachs might want to pass.

This time around, it's a mind-bending, violent traffic accident that the "fortunate" characters avoid. The audience gets to see it all, complete with decapitations and a series of exploding fireballs. There are a series of clever omens inserted along the way—as the teens pull out of the driveway, there is transmission fluid on the pavement that eerily resembles blood. Also, as the band of kids drive along the road, the radio plays "Highway to Hell," and a boy in

the next lane holds up two toy cars and bangs them together cheerfully.

But the whole accident was just a vision. The prophet in this movie, Kimberly, (Canadian actress A.J. Cook) regains her composure, turns on the radio and lo and behold, she finds that blasting on the radio is "Highway to Hell." Ellis uses this technique throughout the film, as he piles glaring omens atop scary warnings, little details onto tiny tip-offs until everyone is a nervous wreck, left wondering, "Who's next and how?"

Ellis plays catch-and-release with the audience for 90 minutes, something that makes this movie even more appealing than the first. Even when we know that someone is a goner, there are quirks and twists in the execution—Death, it turns out, is also a comedian.

I was a little late to catch onto the



Courtesy www.deathiscoming.com

**Director David R. Ellis explores the dynamics of fate and predetermination through a cast of high school students.**

*Final Destination* hype, and ended up watching the two films practically in succession. Although it's not imperative to watch the first installation to appreciate the second, I would definitely recommend it. One of the keys of *Final Destination 2* is its ability to play on and connect with events that occurred in the first movie, and tie them all together in one intricate design. If you're looking for eye cringing thrills and scares (and some laughs thrown in as well), definitely check this film out. I give it 3 stars out of 4.

## Students Face A Dangerous Winter at Stony Brook

Statesman/Jeffery Javidfar



As of last Thursday morning, four days since the weekend that brought over eight inches of snow, the sheets of ice blanketing residential paths had not been cleared. Students skirted, slid, and slipped en route to class while battling sub-zero winds. The Academic Mall and parts of central campus, however, were free of obstructions.

Statesman/Jeffery Javidfar

## SBU Hockey Headed to National Tourney

By CHARLES CLIFFORD  
Statesman Staff

Prior to the final rankings, which were announced last Tuesday, the Stony Brook hockey team found themselves ranked third in the northeast region by the American Collegiate Hockey Association. The players knew that they were assured a spot at nationals, but one question still remained: where would they finally stand?

After a decisive 6-1 win over NYU and a thrilling 2-1 OT victory against Siena, in which the Seawolves trailed before Billy Sullivan tied the game and Anthony Fronzoni scored to win it, that question has finally been answered.

Not only will the Seawolves be heading to their fourth straight national tournament, they will do so as the number one ranked team from the northeast region of the ACHA.

This year will mark the first time that SBU will head to nationals as the number one team from their region. The top four teams from each geographical region are invited.

This year's tournament will be held in Anaheim, California. In round-robin play, the Seawolves will face the University of Illinois, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Colorado State University. The winner of the pool will move on to the semifinals.

Before the Seawolves focus their full attention on the national tournament, they will go after the league title. Stony Brook finished the regular season in second place in the Super East Collegiate Hockey League with an 11-3 record (21-8-2 overall). As a result, they will receive a bye in the first round of the playoffs. They took on the winner of the Siena College/Marist College match up on Feb. 15.