

NYPIRG Prepares for New Semester at SBU

By MICHELLE PIRAGLIA
Statesman Staff

Dealing with issues ranging from the environment to voter registration, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) chapter at Stony Brook University, encourages students to take a stand on issues they care about on and off campus.

NYPIRG is a student-run organization which takes a stand on several controversial issues such as sweatshops, higher education, voter registration and the environment.

"[Students can] get involved with issues they care about," said Megan Reeve, NYPIRG project coordinator at SBU, adding that she became involved through her interest in environmental issues.

Jessica Deperio, a 20-year-old senior who is serving her first year on the NYPIRG Board of Directors, said she had a personal reason becoming a part of NYPIRG.

"My aunt in the Philippines works in a sweatshop, and I came to NYPIRG through the anti-sweatshop campaign," Deperio said.

Students are able to take charge at NYPIRG, according to Timothy Sostrin,



Statesman/Surabhi Gupta

NYPIRG coordinator Megan Reeve with NYPIRG intern Tim Sostrin.

a 21-year-old senior, is also one of 45 students state-wide to serve on the Board of Directors.

"Students have a hand in NYPIRG as a whole unit," Sostrin said. "We decide on what issues to work on, what the budget should be. The students are the heart and soul of it."

Deperio said students may have more of an active role in NYPIRG than many student activities on campus.

"You get to feel like you're really a part of everything," Deperio said. "You have a say, as opposed to other arenas in politics where students are put aside. You know you have a force

and you can enforce it."

Any student can join NYPIRG, and anyone who is a member of NYPIRG can run for the board, according to Reeve. Deperio explained some of the responsibilities of becoming a board member.

"As a board member, you act as a liaison between the project coordinators and the chapters," Deperio said.

Reeve said NYPIRG holds a state-wide conference each semester so students at SBU who aren't on the Board of Directors can meet NYPIRG members around the state.

"It's a weekend of workshops," Reeve said, adding that this semester's workshop will take place at SUNY Cortland from Friday, Oct. 26 - Sunday, October 28.

"We have all our campaigns up and running," said Meagen Reeve,

"Ideas are not set in stone," Sostrin said. "If a student has an idea, we'll put the resources into it if we feel it's worthwhile."

NYPIRG also co-sponsors many events around campus.

"We learn how to work with a diverse range of organizations," Reeve said.

Within NYPIRG, Sostrin is working to

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Famed Anthropologist Speaks at SAC



Courtesy of www.sailfish.exis.net

Leakey studied interactions of baboons.

By CHRIS FECAROTTA
Statesman Contributor

Noted conservationist, physical anthropologist, and environmental activist Richard Leakey spoke in a

lecture entitled "Leadership in Turbulent Times" at the Staller Center this past Friday. He stressed the importance of wise leadership in times when environmental conservation and wild life preservation are threatened.

Leakey, who was awarded an honorary doctorate by SBU in 1998, is a native Kenyan who discovered fossil sites in Kenya that provided important evidence for human evolution. In addition, he was an official in the Kenyan government and actively fought against environmental degradation, government corruption, and exploitation of wildlife throughout Africa. Finally, as the author of "Wildlife Wars," Leakey chronicled his efforts to save elephants and prevent poaching in Africa.

After opening the lecture with expressions of sympathy and condolences on behalf of Kenya for the terrorist attacks on the World Trade

Center, Leakey used an anecdote to describe the importance of leadership in turbulent times. According to Leakey, we should not panic in times of distress, like Kenyan baboons do. Instead, we should depend on wise leadership and think through our actions.

Relating this concept to environmental issues, a description of the difficulties in allocation of government resources ensued. According to Leakey, in countries like Kenya, where the HIV infection rate is nearly 20 percent and poverty abounds, government officials tend to spend more money on other issues than environmental conservation. He, however, stressed the importance of government spending on the environment.

"Part of the business of government in a modern state is to have excellent representatives who

make wise decisions based on sound information about the long term needs of the nation, as well as the short term needs of the indigent parts of that nation," Leakey said. "It is negligence [for future generations] to fail to preserve our environment."

Larry Hohler, a local resident who spent some time in Kenya, appreciated Leakey's emphasis on the universality

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CRR

Roth Food Court at a Glance

By TED LAI
Statesman Staff

With a view over Roth Pond, students can enjoy lunch, dinner, or a late night snack at Roth Food Court.

Students are also able to choose from a variety of different foods at Roth, ranging from Chinese to kosher cuisine.

At Deng Lee's, Chef Lee prepares lunch and dinner for the students. Dishes normally found at off-campus Chinese restaurants can sometimes be found here, such as General Tsao's Chicken and Beef and Broccoli.

The Food Court located in the middle of the dining hall is composed of Terra Ve, Origins, and Favorites. Terra Ve features vegetarian dishes. Ethnic foods from around the world can be found at Origins. Favorites, which is only open for lunch, offers a variety of hot foods such as Grilled Cheese and Veal Parmigiana Hero.

"The middle food court usually has something for me," says Sophomore Alex

Borress. "They also have reasonable prices."

One facet of the fast food craze can also be found in Roth: Burger King offers the same menu as any other off campus Burger King. They make to order and even have veggie Whoppers.

Another well-known fast food chain is also located in Roth. Although it doesn't open until 7 p.m., the Pizza Hut still draws a large crowd. Other than pizza, hot wings, chicken parmigiana heroes, garlic sticks, cheese sticks and bread sticks can be found here.

Roth is also home of the Kosher Dining hall. A plethora of tasty kosher dishes like Teriyaki Chicken and Mexican Rice are prepared everyday for lunch and dinner.

One service the Roth Food Court offers students is a delivery service for a charge of 50 cents and a minimum order of \$7.50. From the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., anyone can order from the take out menu and have it delivered right to their dorm room by calling 632-5201.

"The service is very convenient because I don't have to leave my dorm," said sophomore Rachel Addy. "However, it takes a while for them to deliver sometimes as long as two hours."

They can deliver the current dishes at Deng Lee's, Pizza Hut, as well as an assortment of Haagen-Dazs ice creams and snacks.

"Roth Food Court tries its best to serve its students and respond to their suggestions," stated Roseann Paruch, Director of Roth Food Court. "I am also very excited that Roth will



Statesman/Sarah Raleigh-Halsing

Campus dining services offers Burger King and Deng Lee at Roth.

be renovated for next year to better serve our students."

Overall, the Roth Food Court offers students a variety of options for their meals. If you would like to find out what they are serving today, call 2-MEAL or check out their website at www.campusdining.org.

Calendar of Events

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2
Salsa Extravaganza, Union Ballroom, 9 p.m.-12 a.m.

Seawolves Men's Soccer vs. Albany, Sports Complex, 4:00 p.m.
Seawolves Women's Volleyball vs. Hartford, Sports Complex, 5 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3
Lecture, "Alterity and Its Discontents," E4341 Melville Library, 4:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4
PUSO Welcome Back Party, EOB, 9 p.m.-12 a.m.
Seawolves Women's Soccer vs. Hartford, Sports Complex, 4 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6
Seawolves Football vs. Wagner, Sports Complex, 12:30 p.m.
Seawolves Women's Soccer vs. Vermont, Sports Complex, 11 a.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9
"Unseen America: A First Look" Art Exposition, LACC Gallery, 5 p.m.-7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10
Lecture, "The I/Eye Record: Remembering the Civil Rights Movement," E4341 Melville Library, 4:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12
Seawolves Men's Soccer vs. Towson, Sports Complex, 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
Seawolves Women's Volleyball vs. Northeastern, Sports Complex, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14
Seawolves Men's Soccer vs. Delaware, Sports Complex, 12 p.m.
Seawolves Women's Volleyball vs. Albany, Sports Complex, 12 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16
Concert Sugar Ray, Indoor Sports Complex, 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m)

"Unseen America: A First Look" Art Exposition, LACC Gallery, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17
Karaoke, MTV Style!, SAC Plaza, 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Seawolves Women's Soccer vs. Yale, Sports Complex, 3:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18
Homecoming Parade, Center Drive, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19
Homecoming Pep Rally, front of Sports Complex, 10:30 p.m.-midnight

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, October 1, 2001



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A Thought From Rabbi Adam



The destruction of the World Trade Center was caused by people united in a single-minded effort to sow darkness in the world. However, just the opposite can be accomplished when good people unite in a single-minded effort to sow light and goodness in the world. For just like darkness cannot exist where there is light, evil cannot exist where there is good. Since the attack, there has been a spontaneous outpouring of grief, charity, and generosity- a testimony to the essential goodness that is to be found in mankind. Such goodness brings light into the world- illuminating the darkness and dispelling any evil. For our acts of goodness and kindness are channels for the wellspring of goodness and kindness upon which G-d established the world. With the power of sincerity and selflessness, a person can reach the depths of these wellsprings. And with a collective effort we can inundate the world with nothing but light and goodness. For we can create an environment in which then there will be no bad. We can trigger an age of good. And we can do it, for these wellsprings are the wellsprings of Moshiach, the Messianic Era. An age where there will be neither hunger nor war, neither jealousy nor rivalry. An age when "the wolf will dwell with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the young goat, and a little child will lead them" (Isaiah 11:6). But it all depends on us. For we have the power to tap into these wellsprings. We must reach down to the depths of our heart. Find our sensitive spot, and do a random act of kindness for another. And then for yet another. Until we all unite in a single-minded effort to sow light and goodness in the world. To make this a world of light and not darkness.

Sponsored by the Chabad Student Club/RabbiAdam@hotmail.com

BNL Appoints New Physics Chair

By TANIKA JAMES
Statesman Contributor

Samuel Aronson has been named chair of the Physics Department at the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), effective September 5, following the untimely death of his predecessor, Michael Murtagh, in July.

Samuel Aronson is a native of Huntington, Long Island. He earned a B.S. in physics from Columbia University, and a Ph.D. in physics from Princeton University. Aronson worked at the University of Chicago's Enrico Fermi Institute for Nuclear Studies as a research associate. He joined the Physics Department at BNL in

1982.

BNL's Physics Department has a staff of over 300, and an annual budget of over \$40 million, with more than 80 percent of funding supplied by the U.S. Department of Energy.

"[We] have a good relationship with the [U.S.] Department of Energy," Aronson said.

Research in the department primarily focuses on investigating the structure and behavior of subatomic particles. Scientists specializing in nuclear physics, high energy physics, solid state physics and physics theory design and conduct basic research in an attempt to better understand the fundamental laws of matter.

"I am proud of the accomplishments of the Physics Department," Aronson said. "Our research is flourishing, and I think Mike Murtagh did a tremendous service for the department. I hope to maintain the direction he set."

According to Aronson, now is a new and exciting time for science because many new developments are on way. One new project is the "D-Zero" at the U.S. Department of Energy's Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory near Chicago. This experiment involves studying a subatomic particle known as the top quark, which had been discovered by the "D-Zero" experiment in 1995. Aronson aided in the design and

construction of that experiment.

"I never understood why, but I liked it. I had an aptitude for working problems...math and science, I seemed to gravitate towards physics," Aronson said, while commenting on his choice to embark on a career in physics.

Aronson gave insights on the close relationship between BNL and Stony Brook University. SBU had a part in the founding of the laboratory, the Stony Brook Physics Department having close ties to BNL.

"One thing I'm looking forward to is a closer relationship with the Physics department at Stony Brook," Aronson noted. "We already have a working program



Courtesy of www.bnl.gov

Samuel Aronson is the new physics chair at the Brookhaven National Laboratory.

with Stony Brook, but I would like to see more Brookhaven scientist supervision of students at Stony Brook."

Legislator Speaks at Hispanic Heritage Month Opening Ceremonies

By DAVID LI
Statesman Contributor

Since October is National Hispanic Heritage Month (HHM), the opening ceremony for the many events planned on campus in honor of this month took place in the SAC on Friday.

An HHM committee of students, faculty, and staff, including members of the Latin American Student Organization (LASO), the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and the Union Universitaria Latino Americana (UULA), met over the summer to organize activities for the upcoming month.

At the opening ceremony, a procession of students carried flags of some of the many Hispanic nations represented on campus to officially signal the beginning of the events. Peaceful Andean music accompanied the guest speakers who addressed the crowd.

"The goal of this event is to let the school know Latinos are on

campus, and should count and be given the place they deserve," Jairon Arias, the Dominican Republic flag holder said.

Deacon Diaz began the ceremony by briefly discussing the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001. He read lines from the Bible to acknowledge the suffering endured by many people as a result of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington D.C.

He also mentioned that the Hispanic people of America would stand with the rest of the nation through this difficult time.

"We are mourning as America is mourning. We are all Americans regardless of whether we're born here or not," Adam J. Ortiz, Director of Environmental Management and Technology in the College of Engineering and Applied Science, and an active UULA member said.

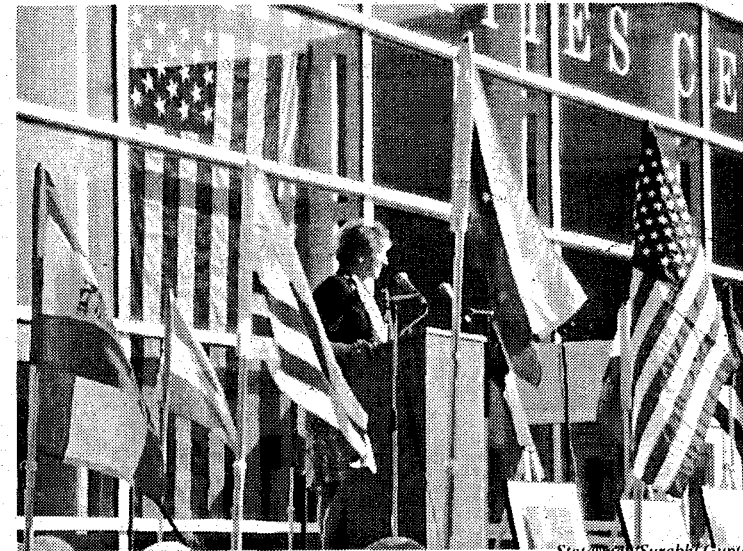
Keynote speaker, Legislator Vivian Vilorio Fisher followed Diaz and spoke of the unique identity problems that many Latin

Americans face. She shared stories of her childhood struggle with the conflicts that existed between her American and Hispanic backgrounds.

Fisher also discussed issues of racism, mentioning how the hate she encountered, "[had] caused an astonishing pain in her soul."

She urged Latin Americans to become politically active and make themselves a force to be reckoned with. Fisher commented on the importance of constituents holding their leaders responsible for their actions. She explained that the Cuban Americans in Miami represent an excellent example of people utilizing voting as a means to achieve a political advantage.

Dean of students, Carmen Vasquez who succeeded Fisher, called on the Hispanic students on campus to, "Stand up [against] racism committed against students of Arab descent." In addition, she provided students with information as to how they could contact her if



Statesman/Surabjit Gupta

Suffolk County Legislator Vivian Fisher speaks at the opening ceremony for the Hispanic Heritage Month.

they needed help.

Senior, Antonio Ferrantino, President of LASO felt that, "A major goal of the HHM events is to promote unity, diversity, and cultural awareness at Stony Brook. HHM adds to the diverse mosaic of Stony Brook"

Paul Gootenberg, the final

speaker, provided information on the upcoming events to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The planned activities include guest speakers and the annual salsa extravaganza. The HHM committee hopes that the events will be as successful as they have been in the past.

Humanities Institute Hosts Lecture on Art Theory

By KAREN RICE
Statesman Staff

Students interested in learning how South Africa dealt with its cultural trauma can attend a lecture on Wednesday, October 3. The Humanities Institute at Stony Brook will present guest lecturer Jill Bennett, a senior lecturer in art theory at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.

Her presentation, entitled "Face to Face Encounters: Testimonial Imagery and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission," will take place at 2:00 p.m. in room E4340 in the Melville Library.

The lecture will explore how media acts as a window to culture by showing the different perspectives certain artists portrayed culture in South Africa. Bennett will

focus on the animation of William Kentridge, Jane Taylor's play Ubu and the Truth Commission, and clips from the recent film, Long Night's Journey into Day. Bennett will look at these works as artistic responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, an organization formed by the South African government in the early 1990's, just after the end of

apartheid.

The commission was created as a way to reveal past injustices to its citizens and promote national healing. "The country was in shock — the TRC's about healing that shock and trauma," said Debbie Gilbert, graduate assistant of the Humanities Institute.

Students that would like to learn how a heavy traumatic

experience was dealt with in another country can come and observe, and perhaps compare it to their own country's response to the trauma just experienced. "She's looking back at a traumatic experience, but we just experienced one ourselves," Gilbert said. "It should be a dynamic presentation that relates to our recent trauma."

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International

Swiss Government Officials Slain

By RALPH D'AMBROSIO
Statesman Staff

On September 27 tragedy struck the community of Zug in Switzerland. A 57 year old Zurich resident stormed into Zug's government building with a standard Swiss Army assault rifle and opened fire.

In the ensuing chaos, 14 people were killed and many others wounded. Three members of Zug's seven member government were killed, as well as 11 of its 80 lawmakers. Government chief Hanspeter Uster was shot through the lung, and journalists were injured as well.

The shooter, identified as Friedrich Leibacher, ran into the chamber located in the two story building that houses Zug's government while wearing an orange police vest.

After firing his rifle and throwing a hand grenade that shattered windows and ripped doors, he committed suicide.

The reason for the attack can be traced back to a grievance between Leibacher and a Zug bus driver two years ago. Leibacher had written a number of letters complaining to many local officials and had filed a lawsuit at every level of the Swiss legal system. The suits had all been dismissed.

On the day of the incident a note was found with a large number of weapons in Leibacher's car in Zurich. The note was titled "Day of Rage against the Zug Mafia." In it, Leibacher, accused local authorities of being a "band of criminals," "pirates," and "alcoholics." Several individuals named in the note were among the victims.

Before this event, Zug was famous for low taxes, being close to Zurich's airport, and for having beautiful views of the Alpine mountains.

The area was a favorite place to film many foreign firms, and had become well known after former President Bill Clinton pardoned

Marc Rich, a fugitive US financier, who based his commodities trading operations in the town.

Security among politicians in Switzerland, before this event, was relatively light. Switzerland was always proud of the fact that their politicians could move around freely and have little police protection. T

There existed a great deal of pride over the fact that the legislatures were open to the public. After this incident the type of security at the political level might be changed.

This act is the deadliest episode of violence in Switzerland in recent years, and the community had not seen murder for several years.

National

Terror Attacks Prompt Harder Look at Immigration

By PATRICK McDONNELL AND RUSSELL CAROLLO
Courtesy of the Los Angeles Times

The Sept. 11 terrorists didn't have to steal into the country as stowaways on the high seas or as border-jumpers dodging federal agents. No audacious enemy "inserted" them, commando-style.

Most or all appear to have come in legally, on the kinds of temporary visas routinely granted each year to millions of foreign tourists, merchants, students and others.

The terrorist attacks have brutally exposed shortcomings in airline security and intelligence gathering. But the strikes also highlighted another vulnerability: the nation's visa-granting and immigration regimen.

"I worry about the whole screening process," said Rep. George W. Gekas, R-Pa., who heads

the House subcommittee on immigration and claims, which will be considering broad changes in the aftermath of Sept. 11. "It has been rather porous in the past, and we have to strengthen it."

However, any prospective reforms require a delicate balancing act. The United States records about 500 million legal entries each year. Officials must weigh the benefits of tighter enforcement against the value of free movement of people and goods.

Confidential records indicate that two possible hijacking ringleaders overstayed their initial visas. Yet despite having no valid visas, both men left the country and were allowed to return on flights through Miami and New York last January, said an INS official who reviewed the records.

Other hijackers may have been

in the country on lapsed or otherwise invalid visas, authorities say. Officials declined to provide more specifics.

Outraged critics on Capitol Hill and elsewhere are calling for tightened visa screening, mandatory waiting periods for visa applicants, systematic tracking of all foreign nationals in the United States and even the creation of a national identity card.

"Right now we have no ability to identify, locate or remove foreigners who deliberately remain in this country long after their tourist or student visas expire," said Sen. Christopher S. Bond, R-Mo. "That is intolerable."

Congress has long hesitated to fund immigration enforcement efforts in the nation's interior, in contrast to the lavish budget increases bestowed upon the Border Patrol. Raids of factories, fields and other sites where

illegal immigrants find work have never been popular with business.

There is no time to interview all visa applicants; those who are interviewed may only speak with a consular officer for two or three minutes.

In the last decade, federal officials have phased in a program to improve screening procedures and detect false or stolen documents at U.S. consulates and at the nation's ports of entry. How successful the reforms have been remains in question.

But improved screening efforts are only as good as the intelligence fed into law enforcement databases. It appears that all 19 hijackers were in the United States, and presumably planning their attack, before U.S. authorities were alerted to any possible terrorist link.

"Good intelligence is the best weapon," the National Commission on Terrorism said in a report last year.

Metro

One Third of New Yorkers Support Internment Camps

By MARC HUMBERT
Associated Press Writer

One third of New Yorkers favor establishing internment camps for "individuals who authorities identify as being sympathetic to terrorist causes," according to a poll from the Siena College Research Institute.

Fifty percent of those surveyed for the statewide poll said they were opposed to that idea while 15 percent had no opinion.

The telephone poll of 610 New York state residents over age 18 was conducted from Sept. 12, the day after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade

Center towers and the Pentagon, through Sept. 19. The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

The poll found 75 percent of respondents felt terrorist attacks would continue and 40 percent said they were very concerned they or family members could become victims.

Forty-six percent said the attacks make it less likely they will use commercial flights even though two-thirds of those surveyed said they believe the airlines can be made safe from terrorism.

Ninety percent said undercover,

armed security guards should be put on the planes.

Internment camps have been controversial since World War II when the United States ordered thousands of Japanese-Americans into such facilities.

Douglas Lonnstrom, director of the research institute, said that given that World War II experience he found it "startling" that 34 percent of those polled supported the creation of new internment camps.

Lonnstrom said he didn't know if those questioned equated the phrase "sympathetic to terrorist causes" to Arab-Americans.

But James Zogby, president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute, said, "You have to be very careful how you go down this road of defining sympathies. I think it's dangerous."

Zogby said creation of such camps would be unconstitutional, but that he wasn't surprised by the poll's findings.

"In the current context, when you ask that question you're going to get that kind of response," Zogby said.

I would say if you asked people, 'Should terrorist sympathizers have their toenails forcibly plucked from their toes?', you would probably get something akin to that."

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Editorial

A Brand New Day

Today, October 1st, is noteworthy. It is the first time we can say that the terrorist attacks happened last month.

We have finally made it out of September, a month whose 30 days seemed much longer than that. We have ripped a new page off of our desk calendars. A fresh slate lies before us.

October brings us many traditions in all aspects of life. We will watch the leaves change to brilliant colors as the weather turns chilly, and we turn our clocks back one hour.

We will witness the return of the baseball playoffs and the World

Series. The NHL begins a new season, and Michael Jordan will usher in the start of NBA training camps.

The Supreme Court resumes oral arguments. Congress will pass a new slate of appropriations bills for the upcoming fiscal year.

We will observe Columbus Day, and remember our ancestors. We will dress up on Halloween, and celebrate our children.

In light of what has happened, though, it is hardly a return to normalcy. We will never again experience the normal we once took for granted, and would now give anything to have back. Each

Tuesday hereafter, no matter how routine, will always be considered a new week's anniversary.

But this *can* be considered a new beginning. On our own campus, we can expect the first full week of classes since August. Homecoming is almost upon us. The Senate will meet every Wednesday.

So no matter where we turn, there will something special to meet us. Sure, we'll still have some days where we just wake up, go to class, grab some food, do some work, hang out with friends, and go to sleep. But then we'll have tomorrow to look forward to.

And that is no small gift.

Op-Eds

On Language and Deceit

BY ARIF RAFIQ
Statesman Editor

The great thinker and writer George Orwell, in his 1946 essay, "Politics and the English Language", discussed what he feared was the decay of the English language. The downfall of the English language, in Orwell's view, was a result of the writing of those who sought to either imitate the words of others, especially their metaphors, and of those focused on deceiving their audience via the usage of partisan propaganda.

In regards to the latter, he stated, "Political language — and with variations this is true of all political parties, from Conservatives to Anarchists — is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind."

For those of you who read the letter to the editor entitled, "Terrorist Sympathizers Share Blame", in September 27th issue of this publication, you have become a witness to the demise that the late Orwell had feared so much.

The two authors of this letter "responded" to my September 6th op-ed

piece entitled, "Israel-Palestine: The Real Way Out". I placed "responded" in quotes, because they never actually quoted a single word of mine. Instead, the sick individuals manipulated my words and knowingly attributed false statements to me!

In my piece, I argued that the solution to the stalemate in the Middle East peace process would be to have a more factually based discourse in U.S. politics and the media, especially in terms of understanding the sources of Palestinian discontent. You may ask then: Why in the United States and not Israel or the Occupied Territories?

Well, it is American national politics and American participation in the negotiations that really drive the way things go in Bethlehem, Hebron, Jerusalem, Nablus, and Tel Aviv.

It is sad that we have politicians like John McCain who state that, "America's unequivocal support for Israel - not evenhandedness, not moral equivalence...is the best guarantor of peace in the Middle East". Do you actually think McCain is really

concerned about peace in the Middle East, or is he setting himself up for some big PAC money for a 2004 presidential bid?

Anyway, the authors of the September 27th letter labeled me a "terrorist-sympathizer" and said that my solution was to "wipe Israel off the map". That's a gross lie and I'm sad that this publication I write for chose to publish a letter full of so much manipulation.

I don't know the individuals who wrote the letter, and more importantly, they do not know me. If they did, they would know that I have all sorts of friends and associates - including Israelis. Apparently, they either did not read my op-ed piece, or they purposely chose to deceive you the reader.

Read my actual words. In my piece, I spoke out against all violence against innocents, both by Israelis and Palestinians! Furthermore, I wrote an op-ed published on September 13th entitled, "Not the Islam I Know", in

Continued on Page 14

Reflecting on the WTC Tragedy

BY ED MARKOVICH
Statesman Contributor

On September 9, I finished the first draft of my article about the situation in the Middle East. My goal was to give some insight on the conflict there by explaining away some of the stereotypes and biases against Israel that generally flow from the mass media. I wanted to ask you, the readers, how you'd feel and act if your country, your freedom, and your safety were under constant attack from a faceless enemy.

Regretfully, this article will never

be published because the events of September 11 made it unnecessary. So instead, I want to talk about some things we have to realize and learn from the events that took place, and hopefully this increased understanding will, in the long run, ensure our safety and freedom, and our continuous existence as a wonderful nation in a better world.

If not for the tragedy, I would have never imagined New Yorkers and Americans caring so much about each other and being so selfless. I would have never understood the

symbolism of the American flag, and why people fight and die to protect it. I was amazed at how we all came together as a nation, how we were smart enough to know that our enemies do not distinguish between Democrats and Republican, black and white, rich and poor.

I was also impressed that even among college students, very few have chosen to take the pretentious, condescending attitude of being above what they'd call knee-jerk, or rationalizing that America deserved

Continued on Page 14

Feminist Rants: "Bitch" is Bad

By MARIE HUCTION
Statesman Editor

Since everyone is trying to regain a sense of normalcy (whatever that is), I thought I would steer this column away from the recent tragedy and focus on issues generally associated with vocal feminism.

With this in mind, I'd like to address the gendered and sexist nature of the English language. I know this sounds like boring academic discourse, but I will try to make it interesting as well as educational.

I was recently having a discussion with two of my fellow Statesman editors, when one jokingly referred to the other as a "little bitch". This of course caused me to scathingly attack his choice of words.

I understand that it was meant playfully and that neither party took offense to their friendly banter; but neither of them understood the larger cultural implications of such word usage.

There then ensued a ten-minute discussion regarding the use of words that demean women. I will paraphrase the criticism I heaped upon my colleague and perhaps raise the social consciousness of a few readers.

Everyone engages in light-hearted banter among friends, and I do not criticize the intimacy and humor indicated by such activity. I would however like people to think about the words they use as insults and why they are demeaning.

When I asked the speaker why he chose that particular word, he said that bitch was supposed to imply weakness and timidity, it was not meant to refer specifically to women. He then tried to qualify that it was meant only

as an insult to his friend's masculinity.

I successfully restrained myself from beating my head against the wall and proceeded to explain why his usage was incredibly sexist. That the word bitch is a title acquired by women from female dogs should demonstrate its extreme negativity and low regard for the female sex. That he was using it to imply weakness and timidity shows the cultural association of these traits with femininity.

And finally, his use of bitch as insulting to a male is based upon the prevailing belief that men and women are polar opposites, men being strong and women weak. As a society, Americans are unconsciously bombarded with images of and references to men as active, independent, and heroic, whereas women are portrayed as passive, dependent and in need of rescue.

I can not remember the last time I saw a real-life woman saved from a fire-breathing dragon by a knight in shining armor, but the belief in women's negative qualities is still unconsciously perpetuated through thoughtless speech.

My colleague's use of the word bitch may not have consciously been derogatory, but the connotation and association of the word are extremely misogynistic. By using the word bitch, he was reinforcing the negative stereotypes of women.

I'm not going to rant about the historical social, economic, and political conditions that have created the male (and Caucasian) biased society we live in (at least not this week). I will content myself with this brief criticism of our innately and unconsciously sexist society.

Space Invaders

By MICHAELIS ZANNETTIS
Statesman Contributor

Ms. Schermer walks into her third grade classroom. She has a heavy heart this day. Standing in front of the class she waits for us to take notice of the silence that is forming. When the class is sufficiently patient to hear what she has to say she begins to recite an obviously well rehearsed and thought out monologue:

"Children, ninety days ago your president, George Bush, gave an ultimatum to the president of Iraq, Saddam Hussein. Under the terms laid out, the Iraqi army must withdraw from Kuwait, otherwise we will forcibly make them leave. That means that we are going to go to war."

"Now listen children, war is a terrible, terrible thing and I want you to all go home and pray that we won't have to go to war. Light your candles and ask God to spare all the people that are sure to die and suffer if we invade Iraq."

Ms. Schermer finishes her speech and takes a moment to gather herself. She leaves the room and the class begins to chatter.

I turn to my best friend Jerry, "Hey man, what the hell is God going to do?"

"God is going to pull the troops out of Kuwait", Jerry replies.

"Yeah right, only people can pull other people out of Kuwait, God can't do anything."

"Why, don't you believe in God?"

"I don't believe God can save us."

"Then you want us to go to war?"

"I want a war as cool as World War II. Why do they get to have a war and we get stuck in times of peace. I want something cool to tell my grandchildren about."

"Like war?"

"War is the best thing to tell your grandkids about. War is when you get to be a hero."

At home that night:

A green night vision screen is flurried with the white embered flak of anti-aircraft fire. Periodically there is a projected flash on the lower half of the screen as an American bomb sears a crater in downtown Baghdad. Soldiers are gripped in a life and death struggle halfway across the world and I have a front row seat.

The screen is the filming of the fighter planes shooting around my bedroom, or the animation of a series of doodles I made in class that morning, or the movie I have seen a hundred times; it is Space Invaders for the home entertainment system.

In short, it is my dream.

I am the bomber pilot with the wind beneath me. I am the general with a hundred thousand soldiers behind me. I am the admiral with a fleet steaming ahead of me.

I see the plane soar and I know its speed. I hear the bombs thunder and I know their power. I watch the ship sail and I know the ocean it displaces. I eye the missile turn and I know the rocket's makeup that propels it.

I am a veritable military database, and I am not even ten years old.

At School:

The next day Ms. Schermer walks into class again. She is distraught from last night. And this time begins a monologue again:

"I just can't believe it children. I just can't believe it. Did you see the footage on TV? I hope your parents wouldn't let you watch. I didn't let my kids watch any of the planes bombing Baghdad. We're at war now. People are dying."

"There are people dying as we sit here. All these boys sent so far away from home are never going to come back again. And all the innocent Iraqi people that get caught in the crossfire, just coming home from getting groceries or shopping, just regular people that are at the wrong place at the wrong time."

"Planes are going to drop bombs on them. Tanks are going to shoot big giant shells at them. Ships are going to fire missiles at them.

They're going to have to engage in hand-to-hand combat in... in... in some war torn street in the middle of some dessert! Isn't war horrible?"

And as Ms. Schermer stood with her face in her hands at the front of class I thought to myself, "Actually, it sounds pretty fun."

The Stomp Throok Statesman

Monday, October 1, 2001

By ALBERT SCOTT
Statesman Staff

ALBERT SCOTT'S
INFAMOUS
CARTOONS

"WHO WANTS A TO GET AN 'A'?"

O.K. Welcome back to "Who wants an 'A' in their class? Now Timmy you have already received an 'A' on the Mid-Term all you need is to get an 'A' on the Final to get an 'A' in the class. Are you ready?

yes Regis

Are you sure? Is that your final answer?

YEAH I GUESS!

Well Timmy ... YOU'RE WRONG! YOU HAVE LOST EVERYTHING. YOU WILL BE LUCKY IF YOU GET A "B MINUS" IN THIS CLASS. GET OFF REGIS'S SHOW!

What is the name of your POL 103 professor? a) LAHAV, b) Northpoth c) Burger or d) George Pataki. By the way there are no Life Lines and if I see you using one I will report you to the Academic Judiciary.

Geel I don't know. Is it Northpoth?

Local Musician Releases Debut CD



Courtesy of www.johnnycuomo.com

Johnny Cuomo held his record release party at Borders bookstore on Route 347.

By RYAN SOBEL
Statesman Editor

On Sunday, September 23, the quaint Espresso Café in the Stony Brook Borders Books and Music was magically transformed and jam-packed for a rock and roll celebration. The celebration was in honor of 27-year-old singer/songwriter Johnny Cuomo, a local musical phenom who was promoting the release of his debut effort, *There and Back Again*.

What, you have never heard of him? Oh, believe me, you will. In fact, Cuomo already has a substantial backing of

family and friends that are determined to get him his deserved recognition. The new CD serves not only as a professional step forward for his career, but also a testament to the all the hard work Cuomo feeds into his music.

After realizing his true passion for music in his late teens, Cuomo he began to hone his skills as a lead singer and guitarist for the rock band Voice of the Turtle.

During his college years in Maynooth College in Ireland, however, Cuomo was highly influenced by a more traditional Irish sound. He formed the band Gallowglass, which focused mainly on his desire to explore traditional Irish music.

Today, Cuomo's musical style has flourished into one that has fused modern folk rock with an innovative Irish twist. If a comparison is necessary, imagine David Gray singing a Bob Dylan tune.

Being the consummate musician that he is, Cuomo is not the type of entertainer that will stand in front of a microphone strumming out aimless chords on an acoustic guitar. He constantly aims to dazzle by showing off his other musical exploits. For instance, Cuomo plays bass guitar, harmonica, tenor banjo, Irish flute, and mandolin. Pretty impressive, to say the least.

With percussionist Jerry Arias keeping the beat, *There and Back Again* artfully showcases Cuomo's diverse influences and talents, providing listeners with a groundbreakingly unique musical experience.

The disc opens with the enchanting track "Half Time." The initial parade of drums eases the listener into a moody guitar that establishes an aquatic, seafaring feel. The melody is addictive in its impressive blending of high and low tones, foreshadowing an artist who plays beyond his years.

The title track, "There and Back Again," is the only one of its kind on the album, offering a more hardcore taste of traditional cheery Irish beats. It truly makes one wish Michael Flatley would jump out and do an Irish step dance to it.

"Fear the Nightshift," on the other hand, takes a more folksy twist allowing Cuomo's inimitable vocals to shine alone. The acoustic guitar and snare drum combination has a glaring effect creating the insatiable urge to bob one's head along with the beat. Cuomo's short but sweet harmonica solo modestly adds another textured layer to the song.

The disc's featured track seems to be the fascinating "Modern Waste," which has more of a Brit rock sound reminiscent of Oasis or even the Beatles. The song marks a level of musical and lyrical maturity that signifies Cuomo's worthiness of being a household name. The pulsating choral arrangement exposes the catchiness of the tune and the reality of the lyrics.

If you are tired of hearing songs on the radio that all seem to sound the same, your cure may lie in Long Island's own multitalented singer/songwriter, Johnny Cuomo. Now, fresh off the release of his debut CD *There and Back Again*, Cuomo's popularity is rising faster than the stepping in Lord of the Dance.

NYPIRG

Continued from Page 1

repeal the higher education drug clause, in which any student convicted of a drug offense can have federal financial aid held back.

"We don't see this as a drug issue, but an issue about student rights and access to education," said Sostrin, who gave reasons behind the new campaign. "There's no other clause stating that if you commit a rape or murder, financial aid can be held back. Second, while the majority of drug users are white, the majority that are convicted are minorities. It's economically and racially unjust."

Helen Fu, a 19-year-old sophomore and first-year NYPIRG member, will be heading the crusade against sweatshops.

"Young women are working for very little, and are treated horribly," Fu said. "We're fighting for higher wages and better conditions."

On-campus, NYPIRG is redirecting some of its focus to recycling.

"The recycling cans look like garbage cans, and students are having trouble deciphering the difference," Reeve said. "We're working hard to make it more available and more efficient for students."

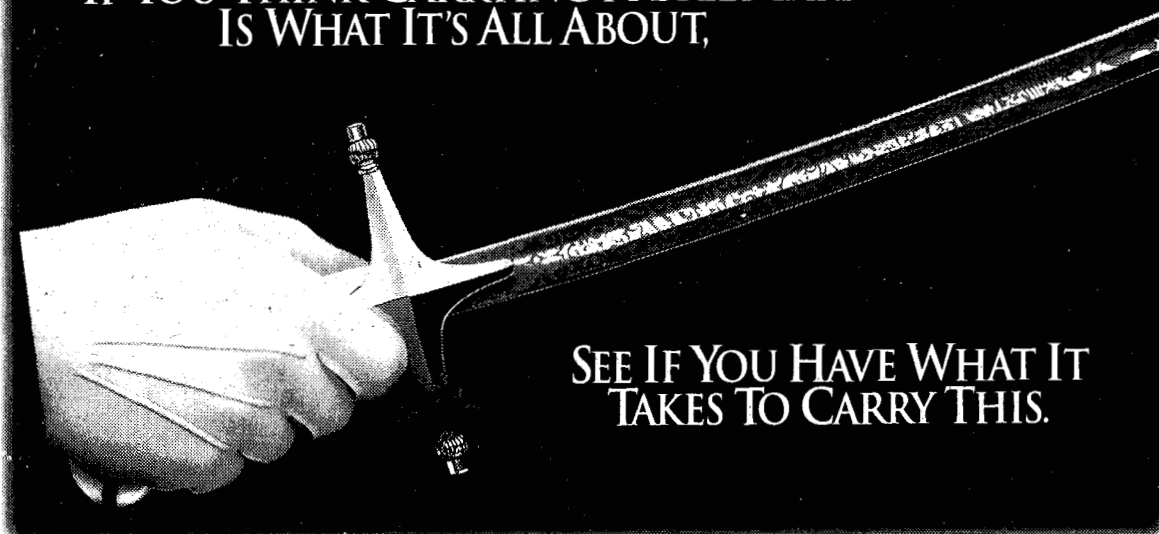
Todd Stebbins, Long Island regional coordinator of NYPIRG, believes students should join in order to support others.

"Students should join because they can see the big picture," Stebbins said. "We've been around for 28 years and passed 120 laws. What else would make you feel better than helping other people?"

Sostrin concurs, and feels it is an educational and rewarding experience.

NYPIRG is also open to student input. "If a student has their heart set on an issue they feel strongly about, we help to give them the support, education and experience they need," Sostrin said.

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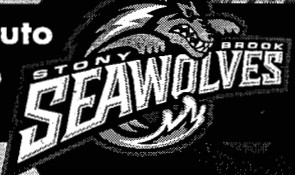
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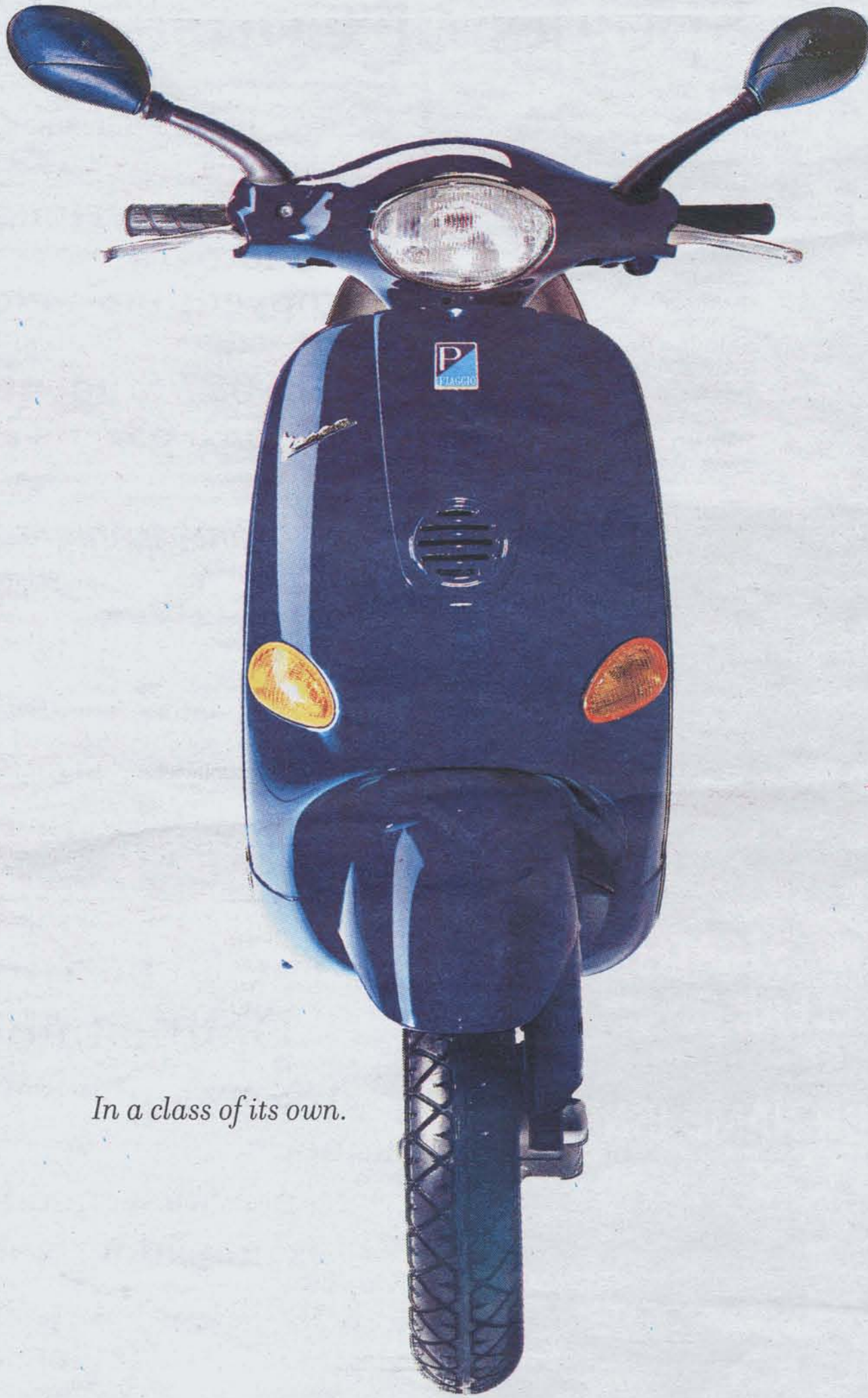


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Leakey Speaks of Conservation

Continued from Page 1

of environmental problems.

"Instead of separating ourselves from the world and going our own way, we need to do what [Leakey] said," Hohler noted. "We need to work together because the problems are global. That was the message he brought today."

Leakey went on to describe the consequences of global warming, stressing that we can already see its effects. As an example, he cited the well known Mt. Kilimanjaro, famous for its snow-capped peaks. A rise in temperature has melted the snow, replacing it with rocks and dirt.

One problem Leakey and other Kenyan officials faced in preserving wildlife involved

cultural differences between Africa and the western nations. Many Kenyans view the idea of a national park designed to preserve the environment as foreign to their national entity. Leakey, however, stressed that Africans should not remain tied to old ideas and should look to their leaders to provide answers.

Some SBU anthropology students like Kristina Lynne Hogg viewed the lecture as a unique opportunity.

"I was most interested in the endowment that he talked about for the wildlife trusts, because we've talked about it in classes that we've had here," Hogg said. "Some of our professors have had similar ideas about Madagascar, so it was interesting to see he had some of the same ideas for East Africa."

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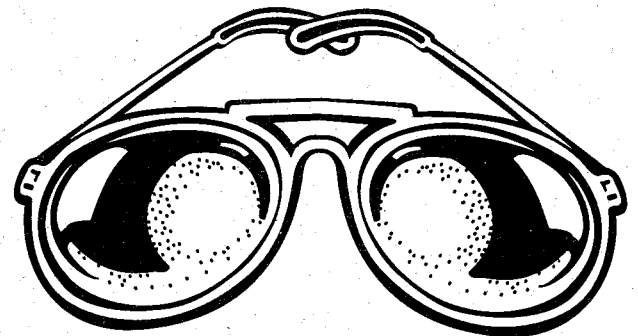
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The Department of Ophthalmology

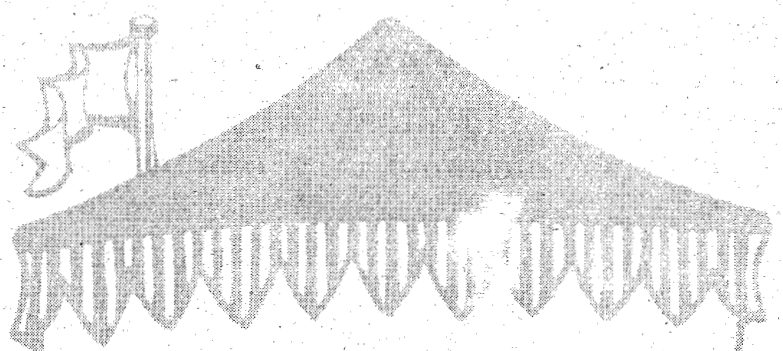
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Wednesday, October 10, 2001
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7:00PM

**Application Deadline:
October 5**

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- Eligibility Requirements:** All candidates must:
- be enrolled at the University for the 2001-2002 academic year.
 - have attended the University for at least one semester.
 - have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.25.
 - not have a disciplinary record with the University.

The Application includes a **two-part essay** in response to the following:

- *Why should you be selected as Homecoming King or Homecoming Queen?*
- *Stony Brook University is uniquely diverse campus. In what ways can student leaders further unify our community?*

Please include the name, title, and telephone numbers of two references.

Each contestant will present his or her responses in a **3-5 minute speech presentation**. A Selection Committee will judge each contestant in the areas of speech presentation, leadership experience, campus involvement, interpersonal skills (communication), and appearance.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2000 @ 5PM

Applications are available from and are to be submitted to the Department of Student Union and Activities, 219 Student Activities Center. All contestants must attend an **Information Meeting on Friday, October 5, 4:30 - 5:30pm in the Student Activities Center Auditorium**. If you are not able to attend this meeting or have other questions, please call the department at 632-9968.



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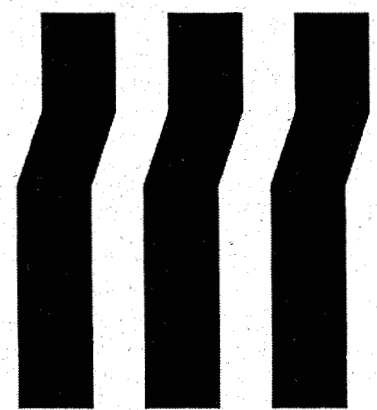
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, October 1, 2001

Setting the Record Straight

Continued from Page 6

which I condemned the un-Islamic terrorist acts that stole the lives of over 6,000 human beings on September 11th.

I am a Muslim. My faith has instilled in me a deep respect for all life, whether it be of a Jewish or Muslim human being, a ladybug, or a tree. All terrorism is wrong - whether the victims are those working in a NYC skyscraper, Palestinians living in a refugee camp in Southern Lebanon,

Israelis eating at a Sbarro's in Jerusalem, or unarmed Vietnamese civilians.

I condemn the acts of Arafat and the PLO, of Ahmed Yasin and HAMAS, of Ariel Sharon and the IDF, of Yitzhak Shamir and the Stern Gang, and of Menachem Begin and the Irgun. All these

men have the blood of innocents on their hands, and I suggest that those in the Middle East start choosing better leadership!

The allegations placed against me are baseless and ludicrous. I will never ever support the killing of the innocent. I do so not because of what others think, but because I know God will hold me accountable. This is the third op-ed piece in which I condemned all terrorism. I need not do it again.

Anyway, my September 6th op-ed was a sincere effort on my part to look for a means towards attaining peace in the Middle East. The violence there is senseless.

It appears, however, that the authors of the September 27th letter to the editor sought to make "their side" look better - at the cost of truth and honesty. How in the

world will amoral, Machiavellian tactics like theirs bring the Israelis and Palestinians out of over 50 years of war?

I stated in my September 6th op-ed that the Israelis and Palestinians are like "two first graders engaged in a tit-for-tat exchange of slaps, saliva, and name-calling. Both want to get the last hit, jab, or jar." It appears that some at Stony Brook want to play the same game. But I won't.

I've merely chosen to defend myself, but I won't malign those of the Jewish faith and those who are Israelis. That sort of partisan name-calling only makes our discourse and language dumber, and wastes time that could be spent on saving the lives of others. It's wrong, it's childish, and I won't play this silly game. That's my final word on this issue.

WTC at a Glance

Continued from Page 6

what it got. Most people humbled themselves, cried, worried, feared, raged. I am proud of how we've carried ourselves! Let us not forget the family we've become in light of this crisis.

But while most of us are just realizing how beautiful humans could be, we must also admit to ourselves the ugly truth that not everything is nice and neat, and that not everyone can get along.

We have to recall how less than a month ago, we blamed Israel for going after terrorist leaders, and observe how our national security now depends on going after bin Laden, a terrorist leader. We must remember how only a month ago we almost uniformly believed that suicide bombings in Israel were a fair retribution for the terrible things Israel must have been doing. We could not imagine that these attacks were unprovoked and undeserved and unjustifiable. Can we see things in a different light now that it has happened here?

Let's be open to the idea that terrorism is not about justice. It is not a struggle for civil rights. Terrorists attack Israel not because of religion or because of land. They attack Israel because it is a beacon of freedom and democracy, and they fear these ideas are contagious and will ultimately undermine the tyranny they so adore.

We have to understand all this before we can understand why our own nation became a target. It's not because of anything we did, it's because of who we are. It is because people of most countries in the world would wish to live the way we do if they could only see what it's like over here.

This is the same reason Israel is a target. Arab leaders and terrorists don't care about that tiny scrap of land, nor about the people living in the camps. If they did, they would have helped them settle in their own countries long ago. Instead, they use Palestinians as pawns to justify fighting against the little island of democracy in order to stop its spread.

There's no surprise that Israeli intelligence warned the US about the oncoming attack. The elements Israel is threatened by are the same enemies that hurt our own nation.

What I wrote is not a political call to action. It is a reminder of the things each one of us should think about, not only today, but for years to come. New York will be cleaned up, the Pentagon fixed, and Americans will start to forget what they've gone through.

But I hope this generation carries in its heart the memory and the understanding of what happened and why it was done to us. Together we will be able to not only secure our lives, but let freedom ring throughout the world.

CREDIT CARD QUIZ (CONT.)

22) Using your credit card to buy stretch pants on-line is

- A. convenient
- B. safe
- C. a cry for help

For answers to questions like these and others about how credit cards really work, visit www.credit-ed.citibank.com. Be smart. Get the facts you need to use your card wisely.



HISPANIC HERITAGE

MONTH



Campus
Dining Services

Dominican Lunch Special

The Bleacher Club
Thursday, October 4th
From 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Festival Latino

The End of the Bridge
Thursday, October 4th
From 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

DJ Entertainment and Dance Instructor
Renee Direstra

Spanish Buffet

The University Club
Friday, October 5th
From 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
Live Music

Latin Night

Campus Connection @ H-Quad
Thursday, October 11th
From 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm
DJ Entertainment

Latin Night

Roth Food Court
Thursday, October 18th
From 5:30 pm - 10:00 pm
Sundae Bar
DJ Entertainment

Latin Night

Kelly Dining Center
Thursday, October 25th
From 5:30 pm - 11:30 pm
Featuring Khana, a live
Andian Folk Music band

Special menus will be available at
these events during regular dining hours

www.campusdining.org

Freshman Goal Helps SBU Rally to OT Win

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Editor

The diminutive, freshman forward, Jude Osei Bonsu climbed the ladder in the third minute of overtime and buried a header in the top right corner of the net from six feet out to preserve Stony Brook's undefeated record. The Seawolves' 3-2 victory improved their all-time record against Sacred Heart to 5-2-1 and maintained their lead atop the America East standings.

"It was beautiful. I guess I just wanted it more," said Bonsu. "I just wanted to make a difference. I'm so happy this was my first goal in college."

The Seawolves were fortunate to come away with the win after a series of defensive breakdowns and poor finishing put them behind early. With 42:04 remaining in the first half, Igor Gupskiy shed his marker and latched onto a pass from

Franco Cartiera, which put him in a one on one with SBU keeper Dan Ferrin.

Betrayed by his lead-footed central defenders, Ferrin frantically rushed out to meet the oncoming Gupskiy, but Gupskiy managed to push the ball to his right and shot it past the helpless Seawolves' goalie to put the Pioneers up 1-0.

Though the SBU midfield controlled the tempo of the game from kickoff, the Seawolves lack of a true number one striker became painfully obvious as time and time again they wasted chances with excessive dribbling or because shots came off the wrong side of their feet. The absence of sensational sophomore striker Shane Arikian, due to a dislocated ankle, was glaring as the Pioneer's keeper was called upon only once to make a save in the first half.

Nevertheless, the SBU

midfielders battled and were rewarded after two players got tangled up in the Pioneer's penalty box early in the second half. Although it seemed that no foul had been committed the referee made a controversial decision that gave the Seawolves an indirect kick from 12 yards out.

Freshman Mike Salvador, who was making his first career start at left back, stepped up and coolly deposited the ball in the bottom right corner of the net, to draw the Seawolves level at one.

Two and a half minutes later, the hard working Jaime Gaither was pulled down from behind while simultaneously being tackled by Pioneer's goalie Anthony Lombardo in the box. The official signaled for a penalty kick, but refused to book either culprit.

Gaither stepped up and notched his team leading third goal, at the 57:10 mark to give



Courtesy of www.goseawolves.org

Freshman Jude Osei Bonsu headed in the game winning goal.

SBU a 2-1 lead.

"Today was my dad's birthday," Gaither said. "I just wanted to play hard for him."

The Seawolves had a chance to go up by two eight minutes later. Evertt Watts dribbled into space at the top of the box and fired a magnificent shot, only to have Lombardo

push the ball around his left post with his fingertips.

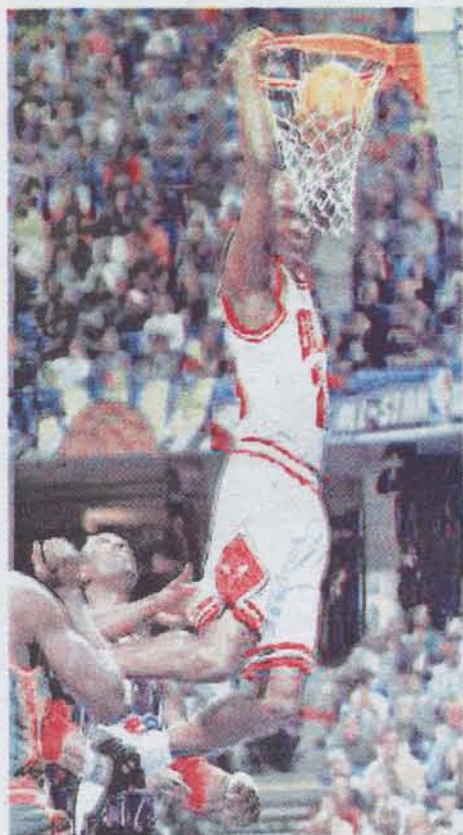
With a little more than 15 minutes left in the game, senior captain Johan Thomsson made a rec-league mistake when he played a poor ball back to Ferrin who was also under heavy pressure. Ferrin made a diving save on the first Sacred Heart shot, but after his defense failed to clear the rebound Jorge DeSousa tied the game up at two.

Ferrin who had come into the game leading the America East with a minuscule goals against average of 0.60 made up for his central defender's poor showing with a series of world class saves in the waning minutes to keep his team in the game until Bonsu's header won it in overtime.

"Dan has exceeded our expectations," said head coach Scott Dean. "He's a very smart and intelligent player and a great leader on the field."

From Speculation to Skepticism

By CHRISTOPHER HUNT
Statesman Editor



Courtesy of www.geocities.com

Shaquille O'Neal and Kobe Bryant of the L.A. Lakers look forward to playing against Michael Jordan this season.

Michael Jordan finally made it official. After three years he's back, again. But, this time he has skeptics.

There are some that question Jordan's ability and say that he's making a mistake and erasing the fairy tale ending of his career in 1998.

Some people say they don't want to see a 38 year-old Jordan who may return to mediocrity. He can't jump anymore. He won't dunk. He's a defensive liability. He'll have trouble with the new zone defense rules.

They say he can't handle Kobe Bryant, Tracy McGrady and Vince Carter who are just waiting to destroy the legend and take over the torch. He doesn't have the supporting cast he had in Chicago and can't turn the Washington Wizards, who won only 19 games last season, into a playoff contender.

News flash: Jordan is without question the greatest player to lace-up a pair of basketball sneakers. It's common knowledge that Jordan will not come back if he doesn't think he's ready.

Jordan dominated the league nearly every year he played. Then he retired, came

back and dominated all over again. He knows how to play the game.

If he doesn't tomahawk-dunk over the person he sees it won't be anything new. When he came back the first time, Jordan didn't try to make posters and be a part of every highlight film by dunking whenever the opportunity presented itself.

Jordan took jump shots. He hit turnaround jumpers one after another over just about any defender in the league. He didn't expend any more energy than was needed. His knowledge of the game sets him apart from all the young players in the NBA.

McGrady, Carter and Bryant are all waiting in the wings but they all respect Jordan as the greatest player they've ever seen. Shaquille O'Neal has a poster of Jordan in his son's bedroom.

People are forgetting that Jordan makes other players better. After he retired for the second time and his former Chicago team was dismantled. No part of that supporting cast continued on and had a good season. No one. Not even Scottie Pippen.

He went on to show how much of a leader he really was in Houston and then in Portland. All his statistics dropped and his

heart was questioned. He couldn't play the role of team-leader. He couldn't be the go-to-guy.

In Chicago Pippen did take the tougher defensive assignments. He was the one who picked up Magic Johnson, he would probably be assigned the before mentioned players. But that's not to say that Jordan couldn't defend those players. He had other things to worry about, like taking over the game on the other end of the floor.

He's supporting cast this season will be Jahidi White, Richard Hamilton and Courtney Alexander. But remember Jordan turned Steve Kerr and Luc Longley into stars. He demands an unwilling effort from his teammates and has the ability to bring the best out of them.

Jordan said that he thinks he has a playoff-contention team. People shouldn't expect Jordan to win the league championship. He said that he wants to help young players understand the game and make them better. He wants to repay all the fans that stuck with the Wizards through losing-seasons. He's going to donate his one million-dollar salary to the tragedy relief effort. He just loves the game.