

Police Blotter

Page 7

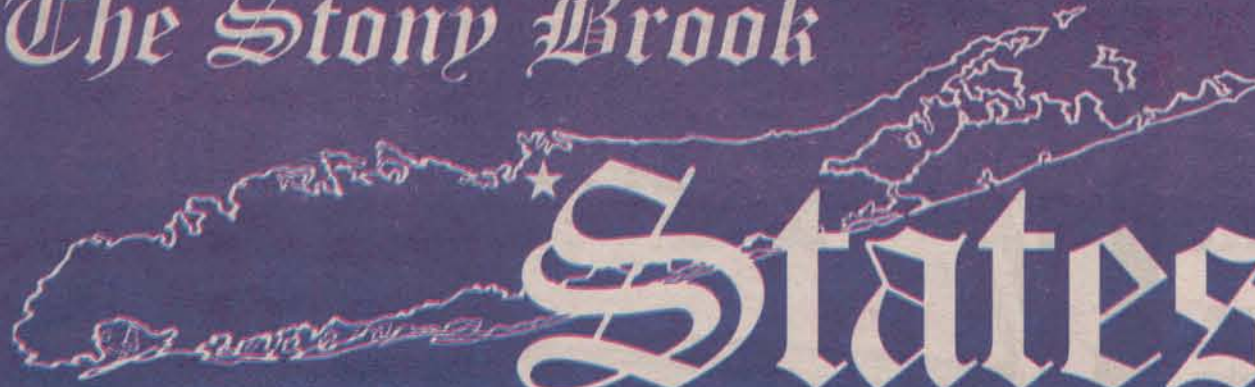
Shopping On-line

Page 5

The Stony Brook

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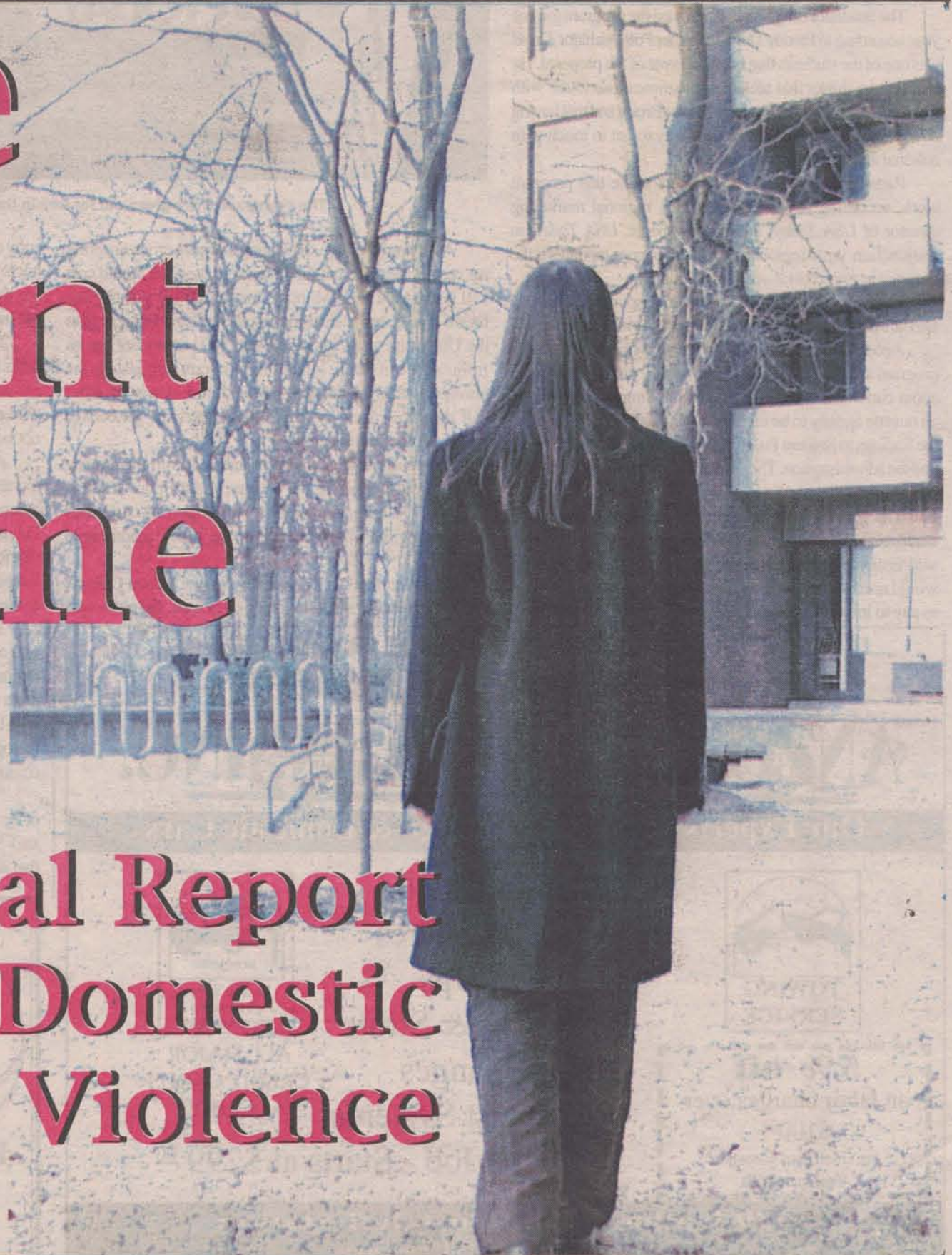
VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 8

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2000

PUBLISHED TWICE WEEKLY

The Silent Crime

A Special Report on Domestic Violence



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Extra, Extra: Free Newspapers on Campus

BY ANDREW CHIU
Statesman Staff

Students have been grabbing free copies of *USA Today*, *Newsday* and *The New York Times* in select residence halls across campus as part of a pilot newspaper readership program which began last Monday.

Six buildings, one from each residential quad, have been selected to participate in this four-week program, in which stacks of free newspapers can be found in giant racks in the lobbies of these buildings. The goal of the program is to increase readership for college students.

"The response by the residents has been overwhelming," said Malik Simmonds, the residence hall director of Toscanini College, one of the buildings selected to participate. "Students can't stop expressing how much of a great idea it is to have newspapers readily available."

"It helps you be more connected to the outside world," said John Everson, a Toscanini resident.

The Student Polity Senate approved the program the last year, according to Freddy Davis, a former Polity senator. Davis was one of the students that voted in favor of the proposal. He said that he thinks that students sometimes lose touch with the outside world when coming to Stony Brook and that having newspapers in the dorms is a great way to get in touch with national and international issues.

Partnerships between newspapers make this program work, according to Colleen McKean, regional marketing director of *USA Today*, a daily newspaper. *USA Today*, in conjunction with regional and local papers, sponsors the program at universities across the country.

In addition to *USA Today*, other cosponsors of Stony Brook's program include *The New York Times* and *Newsday*.

According to McKean, students involved in the pilot program are asked to fill out a pre-survey and a post-survey about current readership habits. The findings will be sent to an outside agency to be tabulated. McKean will then present the findings to Student Polity, the Residence Hall Association, and the administration. They will then evaluate how important this program is to students.

The goal of the first step, the pilot, is to see whether students are interested in the permanent readership program, said Emily Eldien, a residence hall advisor. After that, they would need to find out how much students would be willing to pay to implement such a program.



Statesman/Julie Mingione

The newspapers are given out for free in the lobby of Toscanini College.

As of now, the three sponsoring newspapers are covering the cost of the pilot, but the permanent program would cost \$10 per student for a Monday through Friday subscription for the whole semester, according to McKean. But it is up to the University to decide where that \$10 per student comes from. At Penn State, where the program originated, the university picks up half of the tab, and students pay the other half through an activity fee. Some universities get outside grants to cover the expense.

The program, largely student-initiated, is up and running in 45 universities across the country, and the pilot is taking place in 170 other universities. Overall, 70 percent of students participating have been picking up the paper, according to McKean.

Davis, currently a resident advisor in Cardozo College, thinks the pilot seems to be going over well. He picks up a

copy of *The New York Times* every day, which seems to be hot at Cardozo since its stack goes down every day. "If they see that certain papers are going faster than others, they'll put more of those next time," Davis said.

The Polity plan included having additional space on the racks for the two largest campus newspapers, *The Stony Brook Statesman* and *The Stony Brook Press*, and to create an area where all newspapers can be obtained. However, this has not been happening, he said.

A rack of free papers can also be found in the commuter lounge in the Student Activities Center. Commuter students, comprising half of Polity Senate, wanted to be involved too, Davis said. However, it is less clear how newspaper distribution would be structured for commuter students. Polity talked of possibly designing a deluxe system where the commuter gets a swipe card to get their papers.

The original idea for the newspaper readership program was conceived in 1996 by Graham B. Spanier, president of Pennsylvania State University, according to a *USA Today* press release. The University saw a need to provide students with broader perspectives on world and national views, and the opportunity to be more engaged citizens in their local community, and began the actual program in 1997.

"It is critical that college students have an understanding of the world where they will live, have jobs and raise families," said Spanier. "Reading a daily newspaper helps you gain that understanding."

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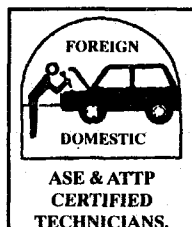
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Breaking the Silence

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

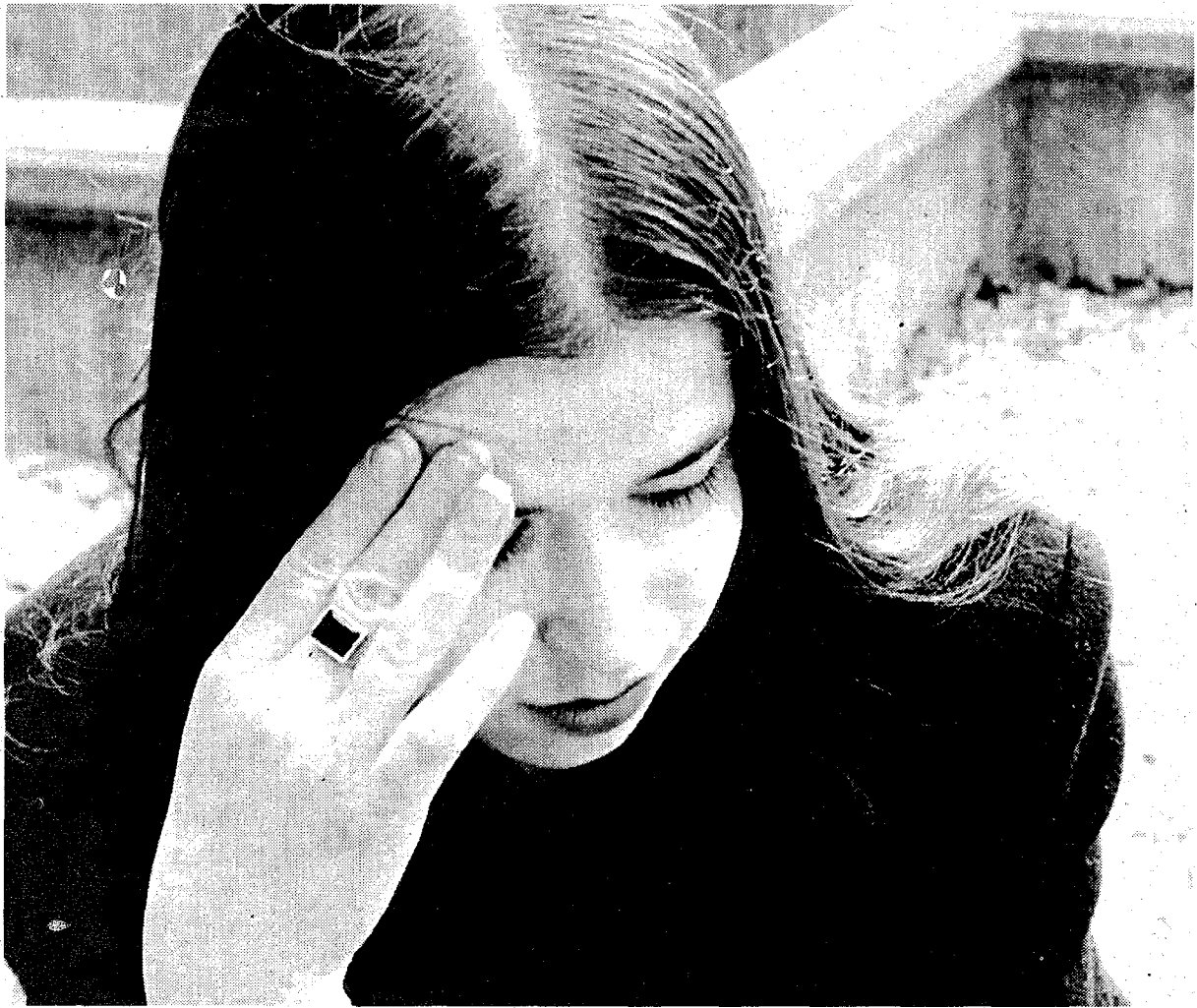
Senior Yvette Lopez, a member of Omega Phi Beta, says that domestic abuse is a problem that affects everyone. She and her sisters place the issue at the top of their priority list. "Domestic violence is Omega Phi Beta's national philanthropy," she explained, "and so it is at the forefront of any of our community service activities."

Lopez is serving as secretary on a sorority committee that is planning a banquet in March, with the intent of increasing student awareness of domestic violence.

According to a report prepared by Ronet Bachman for the United States Department of Justice, nearly two in three female victims of violence in 1997 were related to or acquainted with their attacker. Of these women, 28 percent were attacked by intimates, such as husbands or boyfriends.

The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services estimates that four million women in this country suffer violence at the hands of their husbands or boyfriends. On average, women experience 572,032 violent victimizations at the hands of an intimate, according to the US Department of Justice.

The University Police at Stony Brook fielded 69 calls regarding domestic incidents in 1999, and nine arrests were made. In the same year, six orders of protection were issued. So far this year, 17 calls have been made to the University Police concerning domestic incidents. Five arrests have been made. Seven orders of protection have been issued. There are 20 orders of protection currently active on this campus, and all are



Statesman/Ruth Chung

Victims of domestic abuse often feel alone and isolated from their peers.

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- Control all finances and force you to account in detail for what you spend?
- Humiliate you in front of others?
- Destroy personal property or sentimental items?
- Hit, punch, slap, kick, or bite you or the children?
- Use or threaten to use a weapon against you?
- Threaten to hurt you or the children?
- Force you to have sex against your will?

If you find yourself saying yes to any of these - it's time to get help.

Source: American Psychological Association

presumed to be related to domestic incidents.

Domestic violence, which includes emotional and physical abuse, is a serious and widespread problem that knows no racial, ethnic, sexual preferences or age barriers. It is a crime that often remains behind closed doors, because many of those who are victimized are too scared or embarrassed to discuss their problems with others. Bachman reported that a staggering 18 percent of women who are victimized by intimates do not report their abuses to police because they fear reprisal from their attacker.

Though numerous groups have been waging a collective campaign against domestic abuse since the mid 70s, their efforts have not been successful enough, according to a report released by the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence. "Despite increasing public awareness about the realities of abuse, there still remains a societal denial that domestic violence also affects the predominantly young and educated students on college campuses," offers the report, titled *Organizing College Campuses Against Dating Abuse*. Written in 1999 by Marilyn Best and Debbie Nelson, the report stipulates that domestic abuse occurs within heterosexual and homosexual relationships. This implies that the raising of awareness will have to occur on a broad and comprehensive scale before the problem can be effectively combated, especially on college campuses.

The Justice Department has reported that the 18-29 age group reported more incidents of violence than any other demographic. Violent relationships across college campuses have serious effects upon the victims of abuse. Aside from the obvious consequences of physical damage to the abused party, college students involved in abusive relationships tend to suffer a serious drop in grade point average, feelings of isolation from the rest of their classmates, and further feelings of fear, guilt, and inadequacy. It is only recently, though, that college campuses across the country have recognized

the severity of the problem. Some schools have enacted extensive programs to change the state of domestic abuse on campus.

For example, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign instituted a Dating/Domestic Abuse Project in 1994, and it has grown to colossal proportions since its inception. A committee that incorporates both students and staff meets twice-monthly to discuss activities related to relief from domestic abuse. To date, the committee has organized peer education groups, support groups for those who are abused, professional training for interested parties, and an intervention group that confront suspected abusers. Flyers, brochures, and seminars are part of the continuing education services that the project provides for students on campus. The school also provides emergency shelter for battered students and faculty.

USB has yet to institute so comprehensive a program on campus, but the University Police insist that they are ready and willing to assist victims of domestic abuse in any way possible.

"We wouldn't be doing our job if we weren't there for students every step of the way," said Doug Little, deputy chief of the University Police. Little explained that officers from the University Police force do everything in their power to ensure the safety of students who may be involved in a violent relationship. "We will take them through the process of getting an order of protection when necessary. We follow up on every call that comes in," he said. Officers have taken students to court, explained procedure to them, and helped them to feel safe instead of overwhelmed by the barrage of policy that often follows the initial police call.

Domestic violence is a hidden crime, because concealment is embedded in its nature. Victims are male or female, straight or gay, intelligent or below average. The crime does not discriminate, because the personality disorders that permeate the majority of abusers can strike anywhere.

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The program will be held on Thursday, February 24th, at 9pm in the UNITY CULTURAL CENTER (U.C.C.). Please have members of your organization sign an attendance sheet, so that your club or organization could be acknowledged during the program. For further questions or information, please contact Joy Andrew at 216-4285 or Evelyn Benson at 216-4283. We are looking forward to seeing you all.

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Shopping Via the Web

By Tina Chadha, Statesman Editor

"I need more socks, Mom," you complain over the phone.

"I hate all my clothes. I have nothing to wear. I need shoes, my jacket has a hole in it." The list goes on. The drawback of going to college is that your mother is no longer responsible for you, nor is she even in the vicinity to drive you to the mall. In fact, you're not going to the mall, since you don't have a car, and neither does anyone you know.

Being stranded on campus is never fun. For all the lazy people who refuse to take the bus to the mall, there is a solution: shopping on-line.

With a simple click of the mouse, you can walk down the aisles of Bloomingdale's, check out the new sneakers at Nike or even bid on that much needed car.

"Shopping online is really easy and fast," said Shajeda Khan, a junior. It is also beneficial for tracking down older styles not in stores anymore or items that are sold out.

"I really liked this one pair of Nike Airmax's but they were sold out in all the stores. A friend of mine suggested

going to eastbay.com and I found them."

Another perk for those who are anti-mall is that there are no lines or annoying salespeople to harass you.

"I'm so busy, I have no time for malls," said Rishabh Shah. "While I was at work it took me two minutes to find the perfect gift for my friend."

Shopping online is still fairly new and hasn't caught on with everyone. "I'm scared to shop for clothing online," said Christina Figueroa. "I need to try the clothes on to see if they fit right. It's a pain to send stuff back."

Senior Jennifer Scholl had a different reason for staying away from stores online. "I don't shop on line because you need a credit card, and they're too much trouble."

Still the ease of shopping via the web has convinced many people of its benefits.

"If you have the patience for it, try on line auctions. You can find great deals. There's so much out there. You just have to know how to find it," said Vishal Dutta, a senior.

"The phat thing about Gap and J.Crew is you can go to their sales on line," said Kahn. "They'll ask for your e-mail address and send you information



Courtesy of www.nike.com

All kinds of apparel is available online.

about events like Banana Republic's slide show for their new spring line."

Whether they don't like shopping at malls or can't get to a store, people share a common desire to get the best deal.

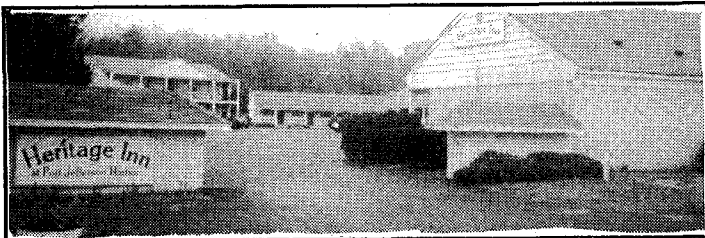
"My AMS book is \$94 in the book store and \$50 on e-campus.com," said Ismenia Molina. "From now on I'm going to look for all my books online."

Like it or not, online shopping is a growing trend that has caught on amongst the college-aged crowd, and appears to be here to stay.

"I saved 50 percent off the regular price by buying my car manual online," said Dennis Montoya, a junior. "It's the best. I can sit in my boxers, shop with others and save money."

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Editorials

Beware of the Computers

While some students are lucky enough to be equipped with computers either at home or in their dorm rooms, not everyone can afford this expensive luxury. If you go to Stony Brook, you are assured that this will not be a problem for you. "SINC sites abound on this campus," they brag to you, "they are open early and some are open late, they are staffed with knowledgeable and helpful employees and they offer the latest in technological software."

The SINC sites are such a supposedly impressive facet of this university that freshmen and transfers get a tour of the one in the library when they come for orientation. In addition to signing up for their free Stony Brook email account, they get to see the colorful new iMacs and meet with one of the computer professionals that run the place. But they also can be a student's worst nightmare.

Because of its prime location right in the center of campus, there is rarely a moment in the library's SINC site when it is not packed. Besides most likely violating fire codes, annoyed and hot people stand around waiting for a free computer to either check

email, go on the Internet or write a paper. Therefore, you can imagine, if you haven't experienced it for yourself, what the line looks like to print out documents.

There are about four printing machines in this site, two of which do not print off of the web. Imagine the horror of a student that has waited on that print line

"What happened? Who knows, not even a SINC site person can tell you. But your professor can tell you that your grade will be lowered a whole letter grade because it was late."

a good half hour watching a fellow student edit their paper right underneath the sign that says "Absolutely No Editing." They are ready to kill by the time they reach a computer, but class starts in 10 minutes so they slip in their disk and try to open the paper they have just been working on for hours. It won't open. The frantic student calls for help but not even a SINC employee knows what the

mysterious screen message means. The student tells the confused employee, "Forget it, give me my disk before it gets ruined."

The employee remarks quite casually that she thinks there was something wrong with the disk before it even went to get printed. "Isn't that unusual," you think. You were just there for the past three hours typing a paper onto that very same disk. Something went drastically wrong while waiting on line to print.

With just five minutes to go you run to a friend to beg use of their computer. They kindly agree but to your dismay, the SINC site computer ate half of your paper. The first two pages are okay but the remainder is a long list of circles, question marks and exclamation points.

What happened? Who knows, not even a SINC site person can tell you. But your professor can tell you that your grade will be lowered a whole letter grade because it was late. After all, it is hard to retype four pages and get to class on time.

This is a true story. In the span of a half hour, a student's disk and subsequently her paper were fine only to become unreadable after contact with a SINC site printing computer. The moral of the story is invest in your own computer or save on two disks!

The Problems with Stony Brook

To the Editor:

I am a transfer student at USB and I am very angry about the new policy regarding the residency of seniors and transfer students. I received a letter yesterday stating that transfer students are now only allowed to live on-campus for six semesters (This is my 6th semester and I have just two more semesters to go before I graduate). Therefore I will have to find off-campus housing.

The letter notifying me of this was also accompanied by two other letters. One was an application to put me on a waiting list. A waiting list!!!! I know there are students on campus who are trying to fight this new rule but when I transferred from Pace University to Stony Brook I was guaranteed housing. Continuing students were

guaranteed housing...so what happened?! This so-called University decided that they were going to take in more freshmen than they could house (they do it every semester). And guess to has to pay for it — us..the transfer students and the seniors...This is the most unfair and ridiculous policy that SB has made so far excluding the meal plan policies. This school is looking only for money and doesn't give a damn about the students that attend the university!

All they want is money, money, money....they mean to say that we (seniors and transfers) will be graduating in a year or so and we will pay tuition only for the short time that we are here. However, the freshmen coming in next semester will be here for the next four years....so they'll be paying tuition for four years and we will be paying tuition for one

to two years more. So who gets kicked in the ---us, the seniors and transfer students who want to finish their degree here at SB. Of course SB knows this and is only taking advantage of our situation so they can make money all around.

I would like to see something done about this injustice! This school only wants money...and everything/everyone else is not worth -- ...There damn security system is lacking...but they don't care once you pay them on time!

There students get raped, has anyone been arrested? If only a huge media network got a hold of this, I'll be so happy to see this university shaking in it's boots because the parents of the freshmen would not want to send their students to a school that is unfair and lacks security.

Sincerely,
Anna Sahadeo

Police Blotter

Thursday, February 10

1:51 am A fire alarm was set off by a cigarette in Dewey College. There was no fire or damage reported.

3:39 am A resident assistant in Ammann College requested assistance in reference to the smell of marijuana in the hall. Marijuana was unfounded upon police arrival.

4:00

am Burnt popcorn was the culprit in a fire alarm set off in Irving

College. No fire or damage was reported.

12:09 pm A parking permit was stolen from the Bursar's office in the Administration Building.

10:57 pm A party in a room in Dewey College would not disperse upon resident assistant's request.

Friday, February 11

5:11 am A visiting non-student in Amman College reported that there were 20-25 males in the building looking for him. The alleged suspects were gone upon arrival.

Saturday, February 12

1:48 am A male was struck in the face during an altercation in the End of the Bridge restaurant. The victim suffered facial injuries, was treated on the scene and refused treatment.

2:21 am An unknown person punched a hole in the wall by the EOB restaurant.

4:38 am There was a roommate dispute in Hendrix College and the RHD was called.

Sunday, February 13

7:32 pm In Ammann College, a students boyfriend threatened another student.

Monday, February 14

1:46 am Four or five white males were reported in the Kelly Inner Quad throwing flower pots at balconies. Damage was done to two picnic tables and umbrellas. The males then fled in an unknown direction.

3:25 am Male residents were threatened by other male residents in Hamilton College

and all parties were referred to Student Affairs.

2:24

am On the Kelly Quad basketball

courts, numerous male residents were involved in an altercation stemming from a previous incident at the Student Union on 2/12. One male suffered injuries and was seen at the University Hospital Emergency Room. All parties were referred to Student Affairs.

11:38 am A suspicious, empty box wrapped like a Christmas gift was left at the Humanities inside loading zone door.

11:23 pm An RA in Stimson College reported the smell of marijuana in the hallway.

Tuesday, February 15

8:57 am A computer, valued at \$18,000, was taken from the Light Engineering Building.

9:56 am An adult male fell five feet off a ladder at the SAC construction site and was taken to University Hospital.

3:35 pm Credit card fraud reported in Baruch College.

Wednesday, February 16

3:48 am Two males were reported running around screaming in people's windows at Sanger College. The suspects were gone upon police arrival.

Compiled by Julie Mingione, Statesman Editor

Blotter of the Week

Thursday, February 10

8:41 pm There was a report of an opossum in a room in Sanger College. The report was unfounded, as the animal turned out to be someone's ferret.

Dancing the Night Away

BY APRIL GLASS
Statesman Contributor

Learning to dance just got a little easier.

Thanks to free lessons sponsored by the Hillel Student Club, Graduates and Professionals, the Ballroom Dance Club, and the Graduate Student Organization, anyone can learn to do the salsa, the lambada, the cha cha and most other popular dances in the Sports Complex Thursdays at 9:30 p.m.

If dancing makes you squeamish, this is just the thing for you. Finally, you will be able to learn all of those popular dance steps without feeling embarrassed by your dancing inadequacies, no matter how great. This is because the instructor Rob Levine, does not stop until you get it right.

Jun Li Chen, president of the Ballroom Dance Club, demonstrates with Levine how each dance is ideally supposed to look. Watching these pros at work is an inspiration to the participants. Once they see how graceful the dances can look when done right, they gave it their all.

The lessons are varied. The first three weeks featured the salsa, the merengue, and the tango and Levine is open for suggestion on what attendees would like to learn the following week. If you have your

heart set on learning to swing or do the lambada, just attend a session, request it and dance.

The line of dancers at the first session surpassed the length of the dance studio and several people were left dancing behind the line. There was a discrepancy between the ratio of males to females who attended and several girls were left without male partners. But they had to make do with each other. However, according to Levine, the second session had the opposite problem with two guys more than girls.

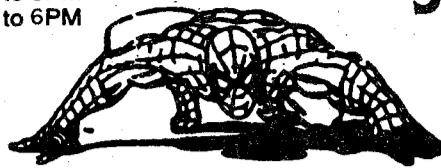
Rachel Jurisz, director of Hillel, encourages everyone to go. "It's free and it's romantic," she said. "It's a great place to meet people, and there's enough time to go clubbing afterwards."

Whether you just make friends or find the love of your life on the dance floor, dancing brings people together and it can prove to be a truly magical experience. However, regardless of finding a date, just go for the dancing. Levine would have to agree: "We have had 60 people attending for the first two weeks. I think they're satisfied."

For those who have been inspired, the remaining three lessons are scheduled for February 17, February 24, and March 2.

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1. Morningstar Variable Annuity Risk, 6/30/99. 2. Standard & Poor's Insurance Rating Analysis, 1999, and Lipper Analytical Services, Inc., Lipper Director's Analysis Data, 1999 (quarterly). 3. DALBAR, Inc., 1997 (based on Contribution Knowledge Ratings). For more complete information, including charges and expenses, call 1 800 842-2776, ext. 5509 for CREF and TIAA Real Estate Account prospectuses. Read them carefully before you invest or send money. TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services distributes CREF certificates and interests in the TIAA Real Estate Account.

ATTENTION!

Students Interested in Financial Aid

**A reminder from the Office of Financial Aid and Student Employment about
APPLYING FOR FINANCIAL AID (CURRENT YEAR, SUMMER 2000 AND 2000-2001)**

1999-2000 (Current Year) Applications

Students who have NOT applied for financial aid for 1999-2000 (current year)

- Federal regulations require students to complete the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)* and submit the valid Student Aid Report (SAR) to the Financial Aid Office before the last day of classes for the spring semester = May 16, 2000. Federal financial aid cannot be processed after the last day of class attendance.
- We strongly urge you to file the *FAFSA* immediately as the process of filing the *FAFSA* will take four to six weeks.
- The deadline to apply for TAP is May 1, 2000.

Summer 2000 Applications

- Students must complete and file the *2000-2001 FAFSA* and have it date-stamped at the federal processor by March 1, 2000.
- Students must obtain from the Financial Aid Office a *USB Summer 2000 Application for Financial Aid*. It must be completed and returned to the Financial Aid Office by the deadlines specified (Summer 2000 Federal Work Study deadline = April 1, 2000).

2000-2001 Applications

There are three ways you can file the *FAFSA* for the 2000-2001 school year:



Complete, sign and send the *Renewal FAFSA* that you receive in the mail to the federal processor; OR



Complete, sign and send the *FAFSA* that you requested from the financial aid office to the federal processor; OR



Complete and electronically sign the *FAFSA on the Web* application at: www.fafsa.ed.gov

*Before preparing the *FAFSA on the Web*, you must first complete *PIN Registration* on this website. First, click on "Getting Started" and then click "PIN Request". *PIN Registration* allows you and your parent(s) to electronically sign the *FAFSA on the Web* application, make corrections to your data over the internet, view the status and results of processed *FAFSA*'s, and view a history of federal student aid on the *National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS)*. Once you've completed the *PIN Registration*, you can follow the instructions for completing the *FAFSA on the Web*.

Upon filing the *FAFSA*, New York State residents will receive a pre-printed *Express TAP Application (ETA)* from Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC). The *ETA* must be reviewed, completed, signed and returned to HESC.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact us in one of the following ways:

PHONE: 632-6840

FAX: 632-9525

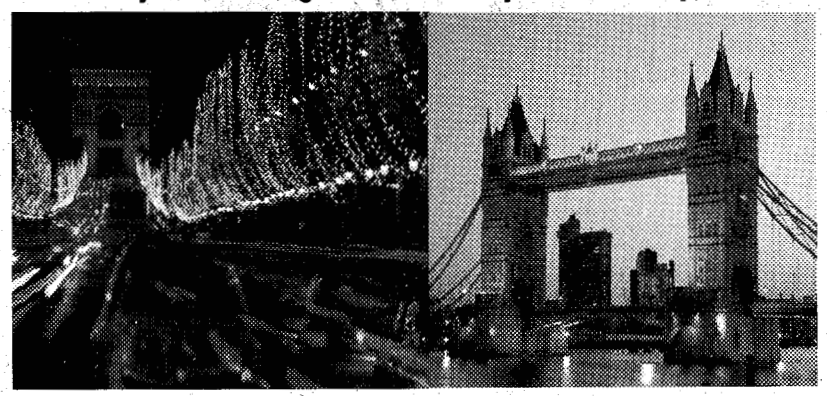
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Create Good Luck in Your Career

By

Van L. Morrow, Ph.D.

In my job as a career counselor, I am constantly encouraging students to plan ahead and explore job fields in order to reduce the likelihood of disappointment in their future careers. Yet there is another point that needs to be made for students that at first may seem to contradict the idea of planning in order to reduce chance. This involves learning to increase the frequency of unplanned, beneficial events. That's right. Instead of reducing so-called chance events, the idea is to increase what appears to be chance but is rather a way of being open to change and knowing how to capitalize on opportunities when they occur.

Occupations in our technological society can be altered drastically and new jobs can emerge while others disappear. The future is unpredictable and constantly changing. An open-minded, even opportunistic, approach to career development is probably wise. Prepare yourself to take advantage of changes and opportunities that may lead you in a new direction. In fact one theory of career development, known as "planned happenstance theory", states that individuals can learn to generate, recognize, and encourage beneficial chance events through the development of certain skills. In a recent article by Mitchell, Levin and Krumboltz in the *Journal of Counseling and Development*, the following five skills were suggested:

1. Curiosity: exploring new learning opportunities
2. Persistence: exerting effort despite setbacks
3. Flexibility: changing attitudes and circumstances
4. Optimism: viewing new opportunities as possible and attainable
5. Risk Taking: taking action in the face of uncertain outcome

Finally, it is important that students learn to tolerate normal anxiety over career concerns while at the same time experimenting with possibilities and learning entry skills such as interpersonal communication, networking, and building social support. A good start would be to begin taking advantage of educational opportunities available on campus, whether it is a computer course you ought to take, an academic organization you could join, or some needed internship experience you could obtain through the Career Placement Center. Start exploring. The opportunities are out there!

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February 17, 2000

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, February 17, 2000

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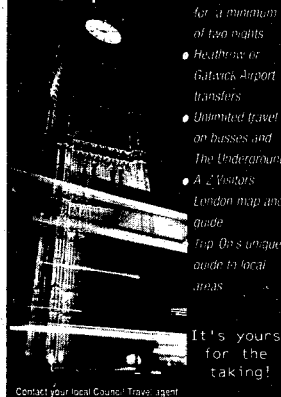
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Deadline: March 15

For more information on these programs, contact Christine Bentley at 2-7114 or christine.bentley@sunysb.edu

(Undergraduate students who are graduating in May 2000 are not eligible.)

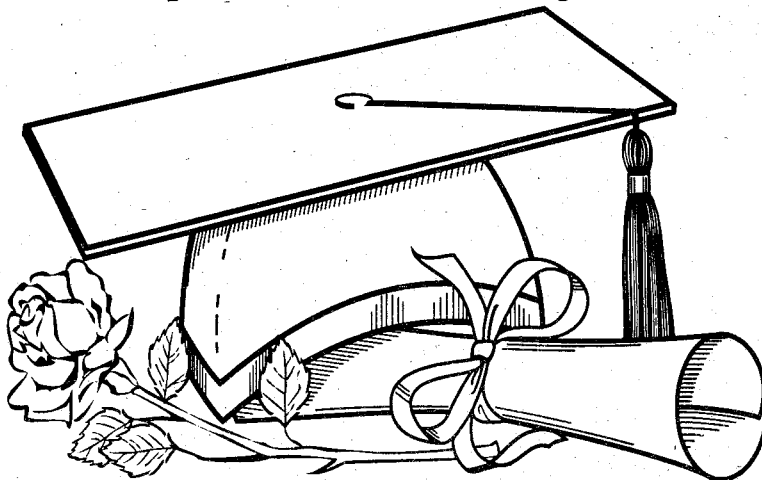
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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, February 17, 2000

Statesman

Campus Lifestyles
Entertainment, Leisure, Sports & Alternatives

Sports

USB Suffers Loss to Lafayette

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Staff

Monday night, the *Steve Pratta Show* debuted at the Sports Complex, where the Stony Brook men's basketball team hosted the Leopards of Lafayette but lost 71 to 69.

Pratta (#4) led all players on the floor with a career-high 25 points, shooting 64 percent from the floor and an awesome 71 percent from three point land. Something can be said about the timing of his shots and the poise of his play. He took the game over and scored the Seawolves' last 10 points, including tying the game up at 69 with 39 seconds left.

But Pratta's last second heroics were not enough to overcome Lafayette's experience and Patriot League's Player of the Year, Brian Ehlers (#32) and his better than 18 points per game. Ehlers went baseline and made a lay up that put Lafayette up two with 10.2 seconds left. On the ensuing possession, the USB offensive set disintegrated.

The bitter defeat was difficult to swallow on sweet Valentine's Day, especially when everyone just 39 seconds earlier had been brought to their feet by Pratta's three pointer. The air was let out of the balloon and a hush fell over the crowd, as about 1,300 people experienced the spectrum of feelings in less than a minute.

"I am happy with the way they played tonight. We did a lot of the things we needed to do. We shot well, and had several big defensive stops, I'm just disappointed that we lost," said Coach Macarchuk. "Unfortunately, we played against a good, veteran team in Lafayette."

In spite of the loss, which dropped the Seawolves to 6-21 for the year, USB played one of its best games. "I thought the team played well. I was feeling my shot today," Pratta said. He then made the understatement of the day. "I just took what the defense gave me."

But Pratta had some help. Three other Seawolves scored in double figures. Pablo Porras (#44) had 13, and Francois Oloa (#13) and Ryan McDermott (#45) had 10 each. The USB defense produced six steals and four blocked shots, which resulted in 20 points off turnovers.

This display in resiliency was from a team who had suffered an 18-point loss to Navy two nights before and was certainly an over ten-point underdog coming into the game against Lafayette.

Nevertheless, the Seawolves withstood

a quick start by Lafayette and went on a 17-2 run that took up 5 minutes and 20 seconds, and put them up 19-9. The three point shooting of Pratta and Porras, and the driving and slashing ability of Oloa fueled this run. McDermott also made his presence felt in the paint with 8 first half points and a monster block.

More importantly, the defensive combination of McDermott and Joakim Eriksson (#22) kept the Leopard's big lowpost men to only 16 points in a combined 43 minutes of play. Lafayette's starting center Stefan Ciosici (#34) and Frank Barr (#54) were kept well below their season averages. Coach Macarchuk was impressed. "I was happy that we were able to control the low post against some all league centers," he said.

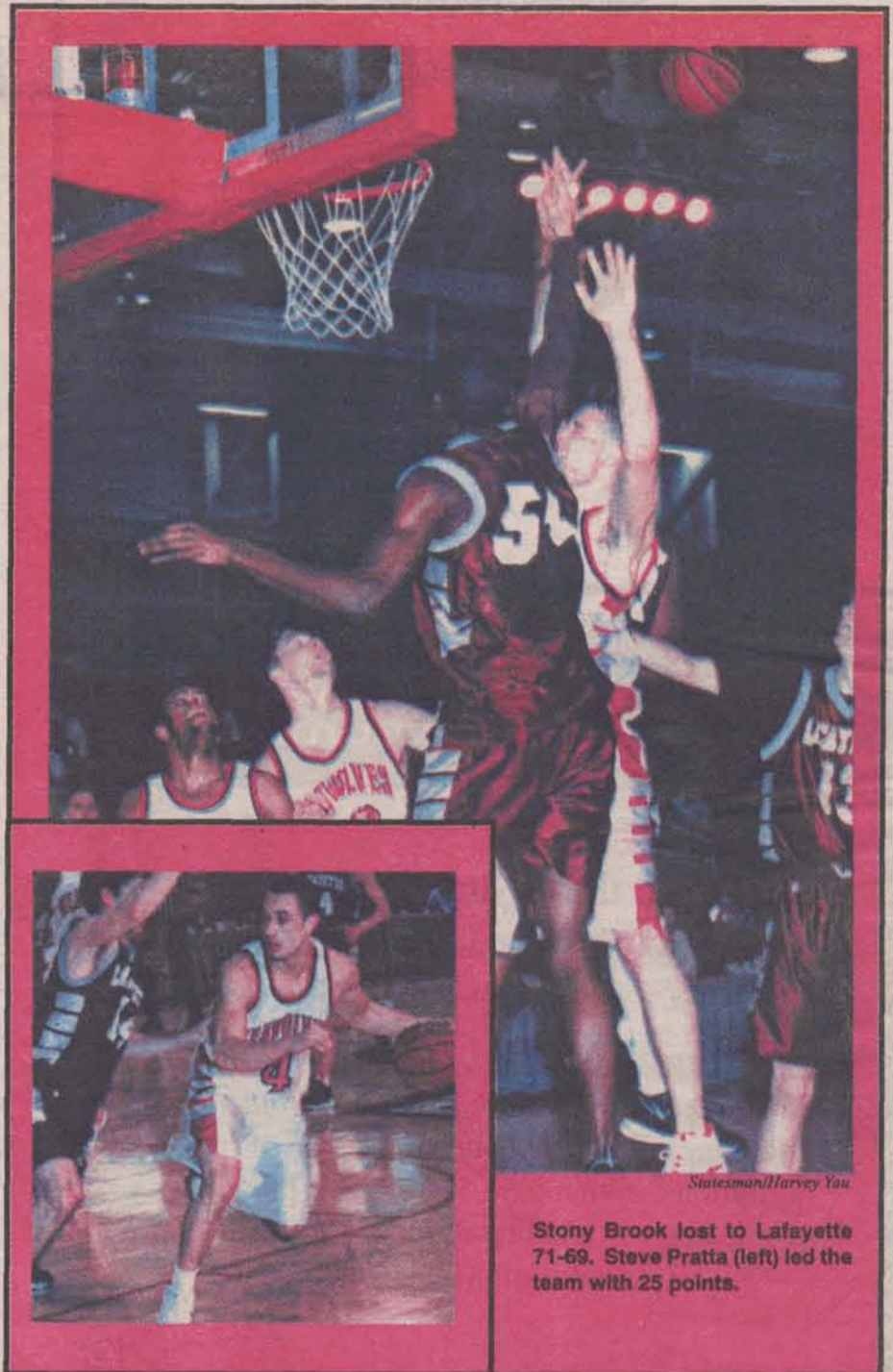
The blocked shot by McDermott and the charge taken by Rob Hartman (#24) stopped a late 8-2 run by Lafayette and allowed the Seawolves to take a 33-28 lead into halftime.

Unfortunately, the second half was very different from the first, which had seen USB lead the majority of time. Lafayette came out of the break with a ferocious start and went on an eight point spurt to recapture the lead for the first time since the 17:29 mark in the first half. Subsequently, in the last 20 minutes of the game, both teams exchanged leads several times and no team lead by more than seven points.

Coach Macarchuk had foreseen this. "I told the players at halftime to keep up the intensity and keep attacking inside. I told them that Lafayette was very experienced and talented and they wouldn't give up that easily." He then shrugged his head and said, "Then we went out and didn't match their intensity at the beginning of the second half. The first five minutes we let them back in the game."

The fact that Stony Brook was playing its third game in six days was evident in the second half of the game. The intensity and the energy that was seen from the Seawolves in the first half was lacking in the final 20 minutes. Their tired legs couldn't fight through the screens and as result, Lafayette was getting better looks. Stony Brook also began to get beat down in the lowpost for the first time in the game. In the last 20 minutes, Lafayette scored 18 points to Stony Brook's 4, and they out rebounded the Seawolves 18 to 7.

Tired legs and all, Stony Brook didn't



Stony Brook lost to Lafayette 71-69. Steve Pratta (left) led the team with 25 points.

give up and continued to compete, exchanging blows with Lafayette. Timely shots by Porras, Oloa, and especially Pratta kept the Seawolves in the game. It seemed like each 3 pointer made by Stony Brook was just another affirmation of their attitude this season and a testament of their coach—never say die.

USB is no stranger to tight games. They have played 14 close games this season, seven of which were decided by four points or less. So when the Seawolves had the ball at half-court with 6.4 seconds on the clock and trailing by only 2, a win or a trip into overtime seemed plausible.

But the more experienced Leopards

attacked the point with three players and prevented the ball from reaching an open shooter. Lafayette showed why they were 17-6. They can close out tight games.

After the game, a disappointed Coach Macarchuk, said, "The play was designed to get the ball into Porras's hands. It just broke down."

Despite the loss, the Seawolves played well against a more talented and experienced team. Stony Brook has played much better than their 6-21 record, which could easily be 11-16.

Stony Brook closes out its first season in Division I at home on Wednesday, against Cleveland State.