



The Patriot

Vol. 2 Issue 1

September 2005

Monthly

The Jungle: Untamed and Uncut

What Really Goes on at Stony Brook



Photo Courtesy of Erik Berte

Welcome to Stony Brook University. Don't get the wrong impression from the headlines! Things at "The Brook"; as many of us affectionately call it, aren't that bad, even if there is a website devoted to why it sucks (www.stonybrooksucks.com). Rather, this issue addresses and explores some of the problems students have at the University from a unique perspective and offers some tips on overcoming them. Check out the special section, "Welcome to The Brook" for some tips and tricks for freshmen and transfers as well as some eye-opening information that will even surprise students who have been attending the University for years. From our analysis of the new mandatory health insurance policy to suggestions on how to make new friends on campus, this issue has it all. Enjoy it and don't forget to send us some feedback (www.stonybrookpatriot.com), whether you love us, hate us, or don't care.

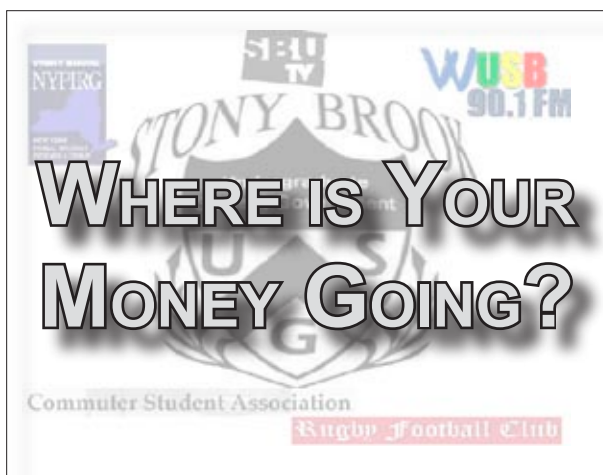
Investigation: Student Activity Fee Breakdown

By Erica Smith

There is no doubt that clubs are a meaningful part of the college experience and, for many of us, play a significant role. However, after looking at this year's budget, as well as those in the past, I believe that the student body needs to pay more attention to how their money is being distributed, as well as being more vocal about their objections.

This year, an average amount of \$9,767 was allocated to each of the 82 clubs that were included in the budget. This number seems to only be climbing, predictably along with the activity fee (up \$20 per year from last year to \$188.50), for over half of the clubs experienced a significant increase in their budget for the upcoming year.

Besides the money given to each club, an aver-



age of \$1,389 goes to each of the 26 dormitories and the West Apartments through LEG, the legislative bodies of the dorms, adding up to almost

\$40,000. The highest recipients are Benedict and the apartments. To be fair to those who do not live on campus, the Commuters Student Association is typically granted roughly the same amount, although this year they will receive significantly more than the dormitories with \$46,210.

While these numbers are all posted online at the USG site, there are other costs that are not publicized, such as the breakdown of the student activities' administrative expenses. These alone account for almost \$800,000. This money is being spent on things like salaries, legal fees, telephones, *Statesman* advertising, computer equipment, traveling, training, software, even furniture (furniture costs alone were \$19,000 in the last year). Add that to

Money: Continued on Page 14

INSIDE:



It started with raising the smoking age to 19. Now the County is considering a ban on some types of piercing and body art. Page seven.



How do the prices of campus food compare to similar items purchased at local supermarkets? Are you getting ripped off? Page five.



Stony Brook has instituted a mandatory health insurance policy, forcing students to pay for coverage whether they want it or not. Page two.

SBU Health Insurance Shake-up

By Robert Romano

Recently, Stony Brook University implemented a mandatory student health insurance policy effective for the Fall 2005 semester. According to the University's website: "All full time students are required to have an adequate health insurance plan... The cost of the insurance is \$900 – per year... Waivers for this insurance plan are given only if the student already has insurance" through a job, parent, spouse, some other related individual, or through Medicaid or "Healthy New York." Additionally, students enrolled in the Schools of Medicine, Dental Medicine, and certain clinical programs shall be billed an additional amount "that covers the required insurance riders for Clinical Practice."

In a letter dated June 2005, University President Shirley Strum Kenny stated, "The decision to implement this policy was taken after careful consideration. Many studies have shown that health insurance promotes well-being, safety, and success. Students who lack insurance do not receive adequate preventive care, risk financial hardship, and jeopardize their academic standing. We be-

lieve that the additional cost of health coverage is matched by the benefits it will bring both to the individuals and to the University community."

But were students given a voice in this decision? According to Leta Edelson, the manager of the Student Health Insurance Office, a survey of

"Approximately 86% of respondents, including graduate and undergraduate students, were opposed to the implementation of the mandatory insurance..."

students "was set up and done by the ... SHAC [Student Health Advisory Committee]..." SHAC's survey found that approximately 86% of respondents, including graduate and undergraduate students, were opposed to the implementation of the mandatory insurance at Stony Brook University, and that 95% were against the insurance at its pro-

posed annual cost of \$900. Previously, *The Patriot* had reported that SHAC was disallowed from conducting a survey by the administration.

In addition to conducting the survey, SHAC also produced recommendations against the proposed insurance policy and presented all of its findings to the administration. Michelle De Marco, the Chair of SHAC, when reached for comment stated, "SHAC strongly recommended against the mandatory student health insurance policy."

Students may not be able to afford the insurance, according to SHAC's report: "Approximately 66% of the surveyed uninsured undergraduate students and 68% of the uninsured graduate students indicated that the additional \$900+ fee may require them to discontinue their studies at SBU." Additionally, according to the recommendations, financial aid will not cover the cost of the insurance since it only affects 30% of the student population, and also that "SBU Financial Aid can-not compensate in aid for an additional \$900+ mandatory student health insurance fee, since there are

Insurance: Continued on Page 8

Bike Owners Beware

By Erica Smith

Last May, I was walking out of my dormitory early one Monday morning when I suddenly stopped short, my mouth dropping open. My bike was gone. Someone had snipped the cable lock and rode off in the night with my new and beautiful red Mongoose.

Ironically, this wasn't the first time the same bike had been taken from the bike rack. The month before, I had absentmindedly forgotten to lock it, and someone had taken it in the 20 minutes of broad daylight that I had left it vulnerable. After walking around the campus in a daze for a few hours, my hopes falling after every mistaken flash of red, I had come back to find it waiting for me in front of my dormitory. My friends had joked that someone must have "borrowed it" to be on time for class. This time, however, neither myself nor my bike, would be so lucky.

According to Deputy Chief Douglas Little of Campus Police, approximately 4-5 bikes are stolen on campus every year. However, Campus Bike, located across from the train station, figures the total to be much greater: "People come in all the time with bikes stolen," said Neal, an employee at the shop.

He went on to say how one Stony Brook Student actually had 3 taken already, and was on his 4th. It is not that the police are covering up crime on campus, but more likely that many students don't bother to report the theft. Understandably so, for both sources agree that although not impossible, it is very unlikely that stolen bikes will be recovered. Most bikes are painted after they're stolen, or taken off campus.



So should you leave the bikes at home? Well, I haven't given up hope yet. Four months later I'm shopping for another bike, and determined to keep it. The trick is how you lock it up. Both Deputy Chief Little and Neal recommend a Kryptonite, and Neal added that Ali Baba is also very good. Having any lock with a wire or chain that could potentially be clipped is a bad idea. (I had a cable). When I visited Sports Authority, I was told that although the "Kryptonite ATB U-lock" is not

Bikes: Continued on Page 8

For the last 200 years, this country has stood for truth, justice, natural rights, individual liberty, freedom, and independence. Become a part of the tradition. Contribute to *The Patriot*.

Please send submissions to:
stonybrookpatriot@gmail.com

Advertise with us:
Contact Chris Dolley at thepatriotads@yahoo.com

A paper of the Enduring Freedom Alliance:
<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/efa/>

Disclaimer: The views expressed in the opinions columns are not necessarily the opinions of *The Patriot* or its editorial staff.

The Patriot

Editor-in-Chief
Erik D. Berte

Managing Editor
Rachel O'Brien

Production Editor
Robert J. Romano

Financial Manager
Alexandra Borodkin

Logo Design
Willis Mason West

News Editor
Erica Smith

Advertising Manager
Chris Dolley

Public Relations Manager
Virginia Morgan

Art Director
Justin Cleveland

Staff Photographer
James Davis

Staff Writers:
Nathan Shapiro

Artie Perri

Elizabeth Alonzo

Ilan Nassimi

Andrew Curran

Leslie Mescallado

Stavros Zinonos

Chris Pitera

Enduring Freedom Alliance:

President
Erik Berte

Vice-President
Virginia Morgan

Secretary
Rachel O'Brien

Treasurer
Chris Dolley





Photo Courtesy of Erica Smith

"I think it is good to have the option, but making it mandatory is unfair to those that have to work two jobs just to be able to take a few classes there. To them, health insurance is a luxury they can not afford and only makes it harder for them to be able to find a way to come up with the necessary money."
-Sharissa Reiser, Junior

"I believe that this a case of the clash between ideology and practicality. On the one hand it is good in general for people to have health care. Students, being people, are not exempt from this blanket statement. Being able to go to the doctor when we are ill, and not having to worry about how we will pay for it, will most definitely make some of us better students. Especially, considering that, I'm sure, that there are some people who don't see doctors even when they are very ill because they don't have the money. On the other hand, I believe that it is our responsibility as adults to make our own personal decisions. While health care is a good thing, the university is overstepping it's jurisdiction to force it upon us. I suggest that the option of student health care be offered, by the University, for whatever it would cost us in tuition increase. This would be a happy compromise."

-Joshua Stamos, Senior



Photo Courtesy of Erica Smith

"It was kind of a surprise, I think they should have told us last semester."

-Dan Rosen, Junior

"What do you think of Stony Brook's Mandatory Health Insurance Policy?"

"It should be optional, but I'm glad that the message is getting out that the university HAS an insurance policy for students who do not have insurance. Many kids aren't aware that SB has been offering this. It should NOT however be mandatory!"

-Lena Tumasyan, Senior

"I think it's ridiculous. It's just another way for SUNY to milk us for all we're worth. You know I got hit on the head by an easel in my art class last fall and when I went to the infirmary they charged me for an ice pack? Anyway, it's nice that they want to make sure that everyone is taken care of, but it shouldn't be forced upon us."

-Mary Hahn, Junior

"College is expensive enough and the reason that most people attend a State University is to save money, so they should have the choice whether or not to pay for health insurance; they have to make ends meet."

-Stephen Lantz, Sophomore

"People who think health insurance isn't an important thing better be fit and fiddle, because what are they going to be saying when they're sitting in the ER with no medical attention because they don't have insurance? Maybe some people have naturally on point immune systems, but we know that's not the majority. And the majority of people are klutzes, especially college students. Maybe it shouldn't be mandated by the university, since it's not really their place, but people should really think about the consequences of not having health insurance. A lot of people think they are invincible, and maybe one day while they're not insured, that invincibility is going to wear off and they're going to be stuck with a medical bill that's 30 times worse than what? The \$1000 per semester for insurance via school? Maybe less than that via your own private insurer? People lack a lot of common sense nowadays, and it bites them in the ass eventually."

-Ivy Villapana, Sophomore

"I think the new health insurance policy is a good idea because it forces students who would otherwise choose to save their money to obtain coverage. It may seem like a lot of money to spend now, but you never know what could happen to yourself from one day to the next and it provides a safety net to those without insurance. Four hundred dollars now would seem like loose change compared to spending a few days in the hospital and having to pay for it out of pocket."

-Nicole Thibert, Senior



Photo Courtesy of Erica Smith

"I think its a pretty good idea seeing as how the hospital and the school are pretty much one in the same and any student needing emergency medical attention will be going to Stony Brook hospital. I had to go there last year and did not have insurance. If they had implemented this insurance plan one year earlier it would have saved me a ton of money. This is for the benefit of the students mostly and since its going on your college bill you can use financial aid to pay for it. I owe a ton of money that I wouldn't have if I had this insurance last year."

-Ed Baldwin, Sophomore

The Patriot

Our Mission: The goal of *The Patriot* is to offer an alternative point of view to the students of Stony Brook University. It is a paper dedicated to raising awareness of student issues on campus, and conservative issues on the national scene. While it does not actively seek controversy, *The Patriot* strives to offer opinions and news that will encourage the students of this campus to ask themselves what their true values are. It is dedicated to building upon and fostering the conservative views that are strong among so many of us, yet suppressed in our community. But ideology aside, all of our news will be bound to three standards; we will always be *factual, sensible, and reasonable.*

Welcome to 'The Brook'

Quick Guide for Newcomers

By Andrew Curran

Welcome to Stony Brook University! At Stony Brook, not only will you have the opportunity to enrich yourself academically, but you will also be able to take advantage of the many exciting activities that Student Life has to offer, from clubs and organizations to food that's actually good, com-

pared to what you may have had in high school.

Friends

Although academics will take up most of your time (especially, those involved in the sciences), there are also many extracurricular activities for you to enjoy. Joining a club is one of the most effective ways I found to meet people on campus. At "The Brook" there are clubs for just about anything you can imagine. And if you think of something that there is not a club for, it is easy to start your own.

Food

Some of the best places to eat on campus are the End of the Bridge Restaurant on the second floor of the Student Union, Jasmine, located in the Wang Center (the building with the strange, antenna-shaped object on top) across from the Administration building, and Kelly Deli, conveniently located in the Kelly Quad Dorm. The EOB (End of the Bridge) is a full service restaurant serving dinner food. Jasmine is a buffet-style restaurant serving Indian, Chinese, and Japanese food. Kelly Deli holds true to its name serving deli sandwiches, but also offers a wide variety of other foods. These are some of the best places to eat. There are, of course, a variety of other places you can pick up something to eat between classes or have lunch at in addition to these. If you're looking for one place to go to for all kinds of food, make sure you visit the Student Activity Center's cafeteria (really more like a food



Photo Courtesy of Erik Berte

Studying doesn't always have to be boring. Doing it in groups can actually help you study longer and (dare I say) possibly enjoy it. This is also a great way to make some new friends.

court). You'll find some of the best pizza on campus there as well.

Class

I found the workload at Stony Brook to be challenging at first, but once you get used to it it's not that bad. Classes at "The Brook" have a classification system of one hundred to four hundred. The one hundred level classes are usually pretty broad and are often introductory courses. Three hundred and up level classes usually use material that is specific to one subject like Personality Psychology. This makes it easier for a student who is familiar with and has taken other classes in that field.

Study

Of course everybody's study habits are different, but these are some things that worked for me and hopefully they'll work for you as well. Expect an hour and a half to two hours of homework for every hour you are in class. When it comes time to study for a test, try to study in groups. I find that this makes it easier on me and the other people in my group. If you are in a class that meets in a big lecture hall, the professor will usually give mostly multiple-choice exams. There are several lounges around campus where students can study, including the commuter lounge in the Library and the "Traditions Lounge" in the SAC.

I hope this helped you learn a little bit more about Stony Brook. Please, get out there and be active in your campus community.

Upcoming Events

Every Tuesday

College Republicans Meetings: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. SAC 311

Every Thursday

Enduring Freedom Alliance Meetings: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. SAC 308

Friday, September 9th

SAB Comedy Show: 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the SAC Auditorium

Saturday, September 10th

SAB Laser Tag: 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the SAC A

Wednesday, September 14th

Involvement Fair: 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 pm in the SAC Plaza

Karaoke: 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Kelly Coffee and Tea House

Thursday, September 15th

Texas Hold 'em Tournament: 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. in the SAC A

Thursday, September 22nd

Kelly Idol: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Kelly Dining Center

Saturday, September 24th

Homecoming Game. SB vs. Georgetown Football: 2:00 p.m. at LaValle Stadium

SAB Homecoming Party: 11:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.



Photo Courtesy of Erik Berte

You can find the best pizza on campus at the Student Activity Center (SAC) cafeteria, shown above.

THE PATRIOT STAFF'S FAVORITE PROFESSORS

Paul Kaplan, Psychology

"He's had a great deal of experience with research and he's great at explaining complicated concepts and very helpful/available at office hours. He's also entertaining and has good stories."

John Shea, Archaeology

"He is a funny and highly knowledgeable professor who is very enthusiastic about his teaching, and is always eager to help students resolve their problems."

Helmut Norpoth, Political Science

"In his U.S. Foreign Policy class, the student is not immersed in propaganda, but rather walks away with an understanding of the various parts of America's foreign policy and its varied history from its isolationist origin to its superpower status on the world's stage. He gives an in-depth look at the politics of the Cold War, and in addition looks at President Bush's response to September 11th."

Helen Cooper, English

"She worked very hard to improve each individual's writing, and at the end of semester I definitely saw a difference in mine. She also made the class very interesting, intimate and entertaining."

Stephen Yazulla, Biology

"One of the best biology teachers at Stony Brook."

Meal Plans: a Sneaky Scam?

By Chris Dolley

Nearly all campus residents, except those who live in the cooking resident halls and the Apartments, are forced onto a school meal plan. Of course every student on campus needs to eat somehow, but one has to wonder why students are forced to participate.

Before many freshmen and transfers even realize it, they're charged \$40 for mandatory food at freshman and transfer orientation (those little sandwiches you get, some chips, maybe a banana). Next, there's an extra fee in the residence hall meal plans. In each of the four plans, there's an extra \$260 charge over the amount of points students receive. For example, on the bronze plan, after add-

logical for the person to receive a discount- but not so with the Stony Brook meal plan. As a resident, I can't help but think that if the school needs the money that badly, they should just charge me more openly. I'd rather it be part of my tuition than hidden, trying not to make me feel like an idiot, paying so much for food.

But most bothersome of all, students pay much more money at the SAC than anywhere else remotely near Stony Brook on simple things like bottled water, soda, yogurt, etc. The chart on the left shows the prices of some (mostly essential) items at the Student Activities Center and a local King Kullen in St. James for comparison.

Campus Dining probably assumes (correctly) that we will just go about spending these "meal points" that we will lose anyway at the end of the semester, without thinking too much about the prices.

Just because this has been going on for so long, that doesn't excuse it or make it unchangeable. All students have the right to speak at Undergraduate Student Government meetings, held every Thursday in SAC ballroom B at 7 o'clock, for 2 minutes- you could express your outrage there (just notify them 24 hours in advance).



Photo Courtesy of Erik Berte

Everyone's tired of paying so much for such a basic thing as food. We did some investigating and found that you're more often than not better off going to a supermarket to buy food than buying it at school.

Top 5 Tips for Commuters

By Deanna Scorzelli

Tip #1: The Commuter Lounge in the library is a convenient place to do some last minute school work or some quick studying. However, if you are just looking to pass some time and relax, then the Commuter Lounge in the SAC is the place for you. It has much more comfortable chairs, couches and even a television.

Tip #2: In case of snow, call 632-SNOW to find out if classes are in session. (Inside Tip: Even the smallest amount of snow can result in a low student turn out to class. Most professors do not think it is the end of the world if you are one of the students that do not make it.)

Tip #3: The best way to make friends outside of class is to join a club. (Inside Tip: The College Republicans meet every Tuesday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in SAC 311. This club is considered the best club on campus and is full of fun and exciting people and activities.)

Tip #4: You have a car, so use it. Food on campus is not very tasty and is way over-priced. There are lots of places to eat near campus, so take the five minute drive. It's worth it.

Tip #5: If possible, try to schedule your classes close together. An hour break in between classes is nice, but more than that is a waste of time and can lead to extreme boredom.

Deanna Scorzelli is the Vice-President of the Stony Brook University College Republicans.

Campus vs. King Kullen Prices

SAC	King Kullen
Dasani (20oz) \$1.30 (1Liter) \$2.35	Dannon or Poland Spring (128oz) - \$1.49
Dasani (24oz) Sports cap \$1.80	Poland Spring (24oz) Sports Cap \$0.69
PowerAde (20oz) \$1.90	PowerAde (32oz) \$1.11
(20oz) Coca-Cola Soda \$1.50	(2Liter) Coca-Cola Soda \$.99-\$1.49
Vitamin Water (20oz) \$2.15	Vitamin Water (20oz) \$1.39
Columbo Yogurt (8oz) \$1.55	Columbo Yogurt (8oz) \$0.95
Kelloggs Cup (1.5oz) \$2.05	Kelloggs Box (16.7oz) \$5.00

After a comparison of prices of food in the SAC to supermarket, King Kullen, it was easy to see that the SAC's prices were much higher. Notice that in the first row the Dasani is 20oz compared to 128oz at King Kullen.

ing up the 'flex' points with campus points, you're charged an extra \$260 in the end, because you pay \$1,385 while you actually receive 1,125 points. So the residence hall bronze meal plan can in effect add about a 20% price increase to everything they're charged, every day, automatically. So that 1 liter of Dasani is more like \$2.95 (whoa!). The commuters and apartment residents are only charged an extra \$25 for some reason, and of course those plans are optional. Changing prices of food based on whether one lives in a resident hall in Kelly, the Apartments, or is a commuter is unwarranted, especially when the people who buy the most (residents) are made to pay the most. After all, when an extra fee is involved in typical food clubs like Costco, it's only

LOOKING FOR
FEMALE BASSIST
high harmonies
for
PIXIES TRIBUTE
BAND

must be familiar with
Pixies material

Call Doug Bleggi
(631) 862-6331

MORE FAVORITE PROFESSORS ON PAGE 6

Sung-Youn Kim, Math

"The best math teacher I've had at Stony Brook by far! Though he's not a full professor, unlike some 'professors,' he actually knows how to teach."

Turhan Canli, Psychology

"He's very intelligent and a pleasure to listen to. I swear saw girls swooning over his accent."

Paul Schreiber, Head of Journalism Dept.

"He's such a great professor because he teaches aspects and techniques in journalism that you use a lot in actual hands-on reporting. He is very humble and doesn't even like to be called "professor" because he doesn't technically have professor status; instead we call him "Instructor Schreiber" which ties into him being very down-to-earth and friendly, which makes him a great mentor."

Frank Myers, Political Science

"Professor Myers gives a great lecture, and is open to discussion. Students of politics are certain to learn a lot."

Margaret Gwynne, Anthropology

"She makes her classes interesting and relevant to today as well as showing lot of concern for her students."

Free Fiona Apple!

Third album that had been 'collecting dust' is finally being released from Epic Records' basement.

By Erik Berte

You may remember her for her smash hit, Criminal, with its bluesy tone and deep lyrics. A true fan wouldn't be surprised to know that Fiona Apple's album, Tidal, as well as its successor, When the Pawn..., were both certified platinum in the United States. What most fans have a hard time understanding, however, is why her third album, Extraordinary Machine, has been held up for more than two years after its completion. That is... until now.

Extraordinary Machine was complete and ready to go in May of 2003. Possibly due to a change in management and the new direction in which Epic Records has been moving, the album was deemed too non-commercial, without any radio-worthy songs.

More recently there have been reports that Apple was unhappy with her producer. Either way, the record was shelved.

Then a funny thing happened. Songs from this album that Sony executives claimed didn't exist, started popping up all over the internet and on P2P networks, like Bit-torrent. Many people were lead to believe that the album was finally released, yet they weren't able to find the songs on iTunes or Napster. The album had actually been leaked and many loyal fans with internet access had the entire record on their hard drives.

Campaigns to have the record officially released began, including website, www.freefiona.com,

run by Dave Muscato, who actually sent boxes of apples to Epic Records in protest. His site also contained a petition, which over 33,000 fans signed.

On June 26, 2005 MTV.com reported that Fiona Apple was making a second attempt at her third album with a new producer. Though no one knew



After releasing two albums that went platinum, the third, Extraordinary Machine, was supposedly shelved because of its lack of a radio-worthy song. However, there have been more recent reports that the hold-up was due to Apple's discontent with her producer.

"Many people were lead to believe that the album was finally released, yet they weren't able to find the songs on iTunes or Napster."

if this would be successful, there was some hope that the campaigns and media attention would pay off. And sure enough, they did!

Finally, on August 15th, freefiona.com posted a thank you to all the fans involved in their campaign. Two singles would be legally available on the 16th from iTunes, finally.

News spread quickly that Extraordinary Machine will be arriving at record stores on October 4, 2005. The new album will contain some new songs as well as nine revised songs from the failed album. "Now that my album is finally finished, I am very, very excited to have people hear what we did. I am so proud of it, and all of us who worked on it," said Apple.

Interview with Ed Hennessey

By James Davis and Robert Romano

Ed Hennessey is the Republican candidate for Brookhaven Town Supervisor.

James Davis (JD): One of the big issues in this year's campaign is corruption in government. Why has corruption been such a problem in Brookhaven for so many years?

Ed Hennessey (EH): I have always been an outspoken critic of the management system of Brookhaven Town government. I believe that the Town government should be as transparent as possible so that the people can clearly see the hard work being done by their elected officials. Earlier this month I introduced a comprehensive government reform package that was passed by my colleagues and I plan to strictly implement it. Corruption has been such a problem in Brookhaven because of a series of ethical lapses by members of the administration. It is truly a shame that in a government with over 2000 employees that a few bad ones give the rest of the hardworking employees, who serve the public with pride and dignity, a bad name.



Candidate for Brookhaven Town Supervisor, Ed Hennessey, believes that a handful of corrupt individuals have given Brookhaven a bad name.

JD: What have you done to fight corruption in

Interview: Continued on Page 9

THE PATRIOT STAFF'S FAVORITE PROFESSORS CONTINUED

Martin Palermo, Biology

"He's only a T.A. but he's one of the best Bio teachers that I've had at Stony Brook. He's very direct, enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and challenges the

Celia Marshik, English

"She puts a lot of work into her lectures, usually beginning with a good historical background for the text. Always smiling and very sweet."

Bakhtavar Hagedorn, Math

There is no question that she is the best math teacher I've had since 8th grade. She's very organized and great at explaining concepts. I hate math, but she actually made Statistics bearable.

Richard Howard, Philosophy

"He made it easy to understand, gave you the test questions in advance, and his lectures were brilliant."

Everett Waters, Psychology

"He makes his classes funny and interesting. He also shows a lot of concern for his students

Aaron Godfrey, European Languages

"He mixes lessons in with interesting historical facts, and never fails to make you smile. His upper level classes are actually held at his house!"

Where Are Our Rights Going?

By Rachel O'Brien

Twenty-one years ago President Ronald Reagan took away a right that many teens and college-aged people view as vital to their happiness: the right to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages. In 1984, Reagan signed a law passed by a Democratic house and Republican Senate that increased the drinking age from 18 to 21 in order to reduce the high number of alcohol-related deaths from car accidents. There was little basis for this logic then, and now, in 2005, politicians from all sides of the aisle continue to try to take away the rights of teenagers without solid reasoning.

States that didn't change their drinking age from 18 to 21 would lose federal transportation money, basically forcing states to raise their drinking age because they couldn't afford to lose the federal transportation money that was being provided to them.

According to a 2004 study from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, nearly two thirds of people aged 12 to 20 consume alcoholic beverages. In 1984, when the legislation was in the process of discussion and voting, statistics were given that said teens are involved in only eight percent of all fatal accidents involving alcohol. That means that the high number of accidents had little to do with young drivers.

The intent was good: to lower the number of alcohol-related deaths every year. The current percentage of fatal accidents involving alcohol and teenagers has decreased to around six percent. However, the outcome still fell short of initial hopes. On the contrary, it might have increased the dangers of teenage drinking: "When I was growing up it was 18 and that was good because kids didn't have to lie to their parents about drink-

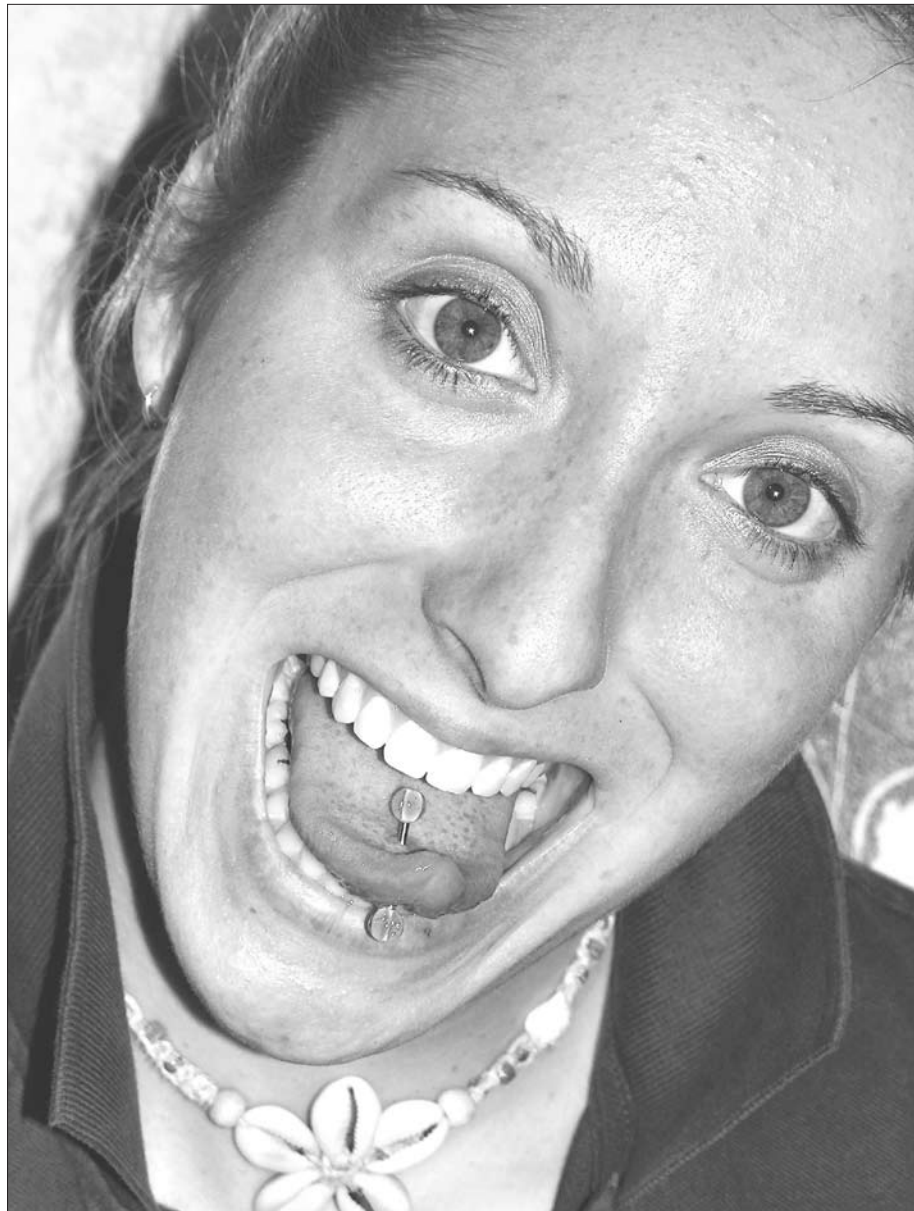


Photo Courtesy of Erik Berte

Many of us don't like to look at strange piercings, not that the example above is particularly rare these days, but to think about banning some forms of the practice is completely ridiculous. Our bodies belong to us, don't they?

months, there has been discussion among Suffolk County health officials over an idea to ban body art including skinbraiding, scarring, ear stretching, branding and some types of piercing around the eyes, tongue, nose and genitals.

When an individual goes to get one of these procedures done, they sign off on their acknowledgment of their responsibility for the procedure, not the piercer or tattoo artist. By getting one of these procedures done, people understand that they have a chance of getting an infection. So why is it then that Suffolk County feels the need to play babysitter? Arguably, branding, braiding and scarring skin are surgical techniques that are being done in tattoo parlors and there is great potential for infection. However, Suffolk County should place stricter restrictions that call for sterile

environments and tools rather than banning it altogether.

This country was founded on principals that call for personal responsibility and freedom from tyranny of the government. Having to wait until you're 21 to purchase alcoholic beverages legally is bad enough. But by raising the smoking age to 19 and proposing a ban on body art, Suffolk County is infringing on the people's rights to make their own decisions free from governmental rule.



What's next, a ban on tattoos? There are risks involved with this practice as well.

So I ask you, where are our rights going?

You can thank this guy, Brian Foley, for the new smoking age. By the way, he's running to be your town supervisor for Brookhaven.



ing," said 41-year-old parent, Sharon Grube. "We could drink with them around. In the basement, the backyard and there wouldn't be a problem because they could keep an eye on us and we knew we were allowed to do it."

Now, in our own county, this type of mentality continues. In May of 2005, Suffolk County Legislator Brian X. Foley (D-Blue Point) sponsored the bill that increased the smoking age from 18 to 19 in Suffolk County and said it "will keep [cigarettes] out of the hands of 18-year-old high school students who pass them on to younger students."

In an article published in the New York Times, William I. Stoner, the regional advocacy director for the American Cancer Society on Long Island was quoted as saying, "We hope Albany will follow Suffolk's lead in taking this proactive step in protecting the state's children from the scourge of tobacco." Making a law that bans college-aged people from smoking is ridiculous. Kids will get cigarettes however and from whomever they can. I will use the common argument given by people my age: someone can go to college, fight for their country and vote but they can't legally buy cigarettes.

Over the past few

Unborn Again Christian

By Matthew Nelson

I was late for the train again this morning. Hustling furiously up the concrete steps leading to the platform, my mind was scattered and my breath quick. Rounding the corner, with the rapid haphazardness of one thinking only of himself, I was stung by a moment of brutal clarity. It was the kind of instant of lucidity that one encounters when awakened from slumber by the sudden splash of ice water or a child's shriek. For, upon turning the corner, my once sleepy and befuddled eyes were met by the grim, black ferocity of an automatic weapon.

The 'War on Terror' had come home. It came not through the usual, more comfortable channels to which I had become accustomed. No, this was not a television news report delivered in placid, non-regional diction nor was it a gloomy newspaper article about a distant land. This message was delivered by a soldier, one stern and quite perturbed by the reckless actions of an irresponsible commuter. Indeed, the war is truly real; it has reached the suburbs!

This nation has adopted a new vigilance since the London bombings of 7/7. With great resolve our government is attempting to protect innocent citizens from an onslaught of barbarous marauders. These men seek to promulgate a perverse utopian ideal, via the nefarious means of random violence and arbitrary murder. As I sat, now fully awake in the train's first car, I realized that the ter-

rorists had left me in a situation analogous to one from which I had emerged long ago. For, I had become more susceptible and helpless than I cared to fathom. It was as if, again, I had become...

For over three decades this nation has allowed a wave of terror to sweep across its cities and suburbs with savage efficiency. This terror, as the one spread by Islamic fascists, is based upon a pernicious, self-centered philosophy. This terror seeks to destroy the innocent and strikes its victims

"I realized that the terrorists had left me in a situation analogous to one from which I had emerged long ago."

without warning. This terror is abortion. The guiltless targets of abortion were left to the capricious whims of those who wished to destroy them. Currently, many living unborn children are left at the mercy of those who desire to do them harm in order to further another perverted utopian philosophy, a creed that seeks a world without consequence or sacrifice. The ideologies of abortion proponents and Islamic fundamentalists could not seem more radically estranged, yet, their results are remarkably similar: destruction and death.

Now, at this moment of national vulner-

ability, we must look squarely at the terror that has been perpetrated within our midst over these last three decades. For every poor, innocent victim murdered by Osama bin Laden and his ilk, thousands more have been claimed by the scourge of abortion, under the sleepy eyes of the American government and an apathetic citizenry. It is time that our great nation recognizes that the call to vigilance must be extrapolated to protect our most defenseless citizens; children still nestled in their mother's womb.

All of us, born after the cataclysmic Roe vs. Wade decision, are survivors of terrorism. We survived because of the strength and sacrifice of our mothers and fathers, who sought to keep their most precious resource safe. Each of us has been asked to make sacrifices during this time of national trauma. Part of that sacrifice includes ensuring that abortion, the most diabolical of terrorist activities, is eliminated. It is impossible to convince the world that the United States is truly interested in founding an international order upon the values of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" when it routinely denies so many the right to life. This blatant hypocrisy will not be tolerated and our credibility will always remain suspect.

So, if you happen across a soldier as I did, I leave you with four tiny pieces of advice: First, always approach slowly. Second, smile. Third, remember to say thank you for a job well done. And finally, stop and wonder why he or she has not yet been ordered to protect us all.

Insurance

Continued from Page 2

not enough programs to meet the current financial needs of SBU students."

Ilan Nassimi, former Vice President of Student Life of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and failed presidential candidate stated, "as

far as I know they lied..." referring to the University administration. Previously, the administration had indicated that there would not be enough time to implement the new mandatory insurance policy before the Fall 2005 semester. After initially blocking a survey from SHAC in March 2005 due to concerns about its tone, the administration finally relented on April 14th in allowing a new survey to be conducted, since the previous survey was years old and only had questioned 95 students. SHAC's

most recent survey questioned 1,034 students, and was distributed to students of several majors and disciplines.

The USG President, Diana Acosta, has not committed to opposing the mandatory insurance policy, though she indicated that she would request that the present Vice President of Student Life, Romual Jean-Baptiste, get more facts about the decision. When questioned about the new policy, Acosta stated, "It's a done deal."

Bikes

Continued from Page 2

the most expensive at \$25, it was the best to use for our campus. What is also important is the way you lock it. You should never lock it up by the wheel. Most wheels today have a "quick release" feature so they can easily be popped off without tools. Sports Authority recommends always locking the bike up by the frame and the wheel. Campus police also offers the free service of engraving an ID number into your bike, which increases the chance of recovering it if it is ever stolen. Just call them up and they'll come right to you.

Still nervous about your bike? There's always just walking.

Have info on a campus crime?
Call Crimestoppers Hot Line anonymously
632-TIPS Receive up to \$1,000 reward

Like reading us? | Try writing for us

Come to a meeting: Thursdays - 5:30 - SAC 308



Your Name Here

Your Title Here

Stony Brook University
(631) 123-4567

stonybrookpatriot@gmail.com
www.stonybrookpatriot.com

Taxation Without Representation

By Robert Romano

“Taxation without representation is tyranny.” Those oft quoted words derive from James Otis, an advocate of the Revolution and a patriot. At the time of the Revolution, the American people were being taxed by the British Parliament, but they did not have representatives sitting at that body. After the Revolution, the U.S. Constitution changed this. But, what if we still lived with a form of government that did not require legislative approval to raise taxes?

Such is your **Undergraduate Student Government**. On May 6th, despite a referendum in which the undergraduate student body voted against raising the student activity fee from \$168.50 annually per student to \$188.50 by a margin of 65% to 35%, the Executive Council nonetheless voted to raise the student activity fee. Article IX, Section 1.E. of the USG Constitution does allow for a referendum to be overturned, but only with the mutual approval of both the Executive Council and the Senate. However, the Senate was never informed that it was their constitutional power to have a say on this matter, and instead the student activity fee was raised without their approval.

This unconstitutional act has resulted in several problems. As a result, the annual budget of \$2.43 million which was also approved at the May 6th meeting was done so improperly, since it was based on an assessment of the fee being \$94.25 per semester. Additionally, since we have already been billed, improperly so, once the budget starts being tapped, the USG will be liable for spending money that legitimately never was theirs.

This outrage, despite my best efforts over the summer, has not been averted. I informed the University Administration and the Executive Council of the USG's error on July 5th, and after a month of deliberation and putting together budget options based on a \$168.50 annual fee, the Council resolved at its July 29th meeting that raising the fee was indeed appropriate. This “decision,” if one can comfortably call it that without laughing hysterically, was really willful ignorance on the part of the Council. Go to the USG office and request the minutes of that meeting (if they've been made official yet) and read their justification. See if you're satisfied.

Better yet, demand that the Executive Council cite the statute or part of the Constitution that gives them sole discretion to overturn a referendum on

the amount of the student activity fee. Their position, strangely enough, appears to be that referenda to raise or cut the fee are not covered in the USG Constitution! Their position, oddly so, is also that referenda to raise or cut the fee is not covered in the SUNY Chancellor's Guidelines, or 8 NYCRR Part 302.14. In fact, their position, on its face, is that they had no authority under law to raise the fee! Can they cite the law which enumerates this power? Have they cited it? Instead, sadly, the President, Diana Acosta, has stated that if the fee raise had been improper, and thus the budget passed in error, the Vice President of Student Affairs would not have certified the budget. Talk about passing the buck!

The undergraduate student body deserves better, and frankly, we know better. Taxation without representation is not only tyrannical, it is that very arbitrary act which compelled patriots to overthrow the foreign hegemony of Britain. We should honor the patriots of the past, and alter or abolish the Undergraduate Student Government to better represent our values and interests.

Robert J. Romano is the President of the Stony Brook University College Republicans and the Chairman of the USG Elections Board.

Interview

Continued from Page 6

government during your 11 years as a Town Board member?

EH: As a Town Board member, at my first meeting I spoke up and spoke out against a plan that I felt was not in the public's best interest. I have always been an outspoken critic of the way in which some key decisions are made in Brookhaven Town. Although I have been in the political majority, I have almost always been a minority within that majority.

JD: If elected, what will you do to fight corruption and to ensure an open and transparent government that we all can trust?

EH: The comprehensive government reform package that I introduced was very broad and covered many aspects of Town government. One example would be the implementation of a 311 central complaint system so that quality of life complaints and calls can be tracked and routed to the appropriate area of Town government so that the public need not call eighteen different departments to get an answer. Our response and duty to the public is of paramount importance and we should have adequate speedy responses to their inquiries. Another part of this package included changing the way in which the Town procures certain items such as insurance. I am a believer that this should be put out for competitive bid so that we ensure the residents are getting the best possible coverage for their hard earned dollars.

JD: A recent Supreme Court decision ruled that local governments can claim eminent domain for a public purpose if, as a part of a broader redevelopment scheme, the incoming property owner would generate more tax revenue than the present property owner. This appears to be a clear departure from jurisprudence and with what a public use is. Would you support legislation in the Town that would protect property owners and define what is considered public use? What would you say is public use?

“Although I have been in the political majority, I have almost always been a minority within that majority.”

EH: This Supreme Court decision has raised a lot of eyebrows among homeowners and the building community. We must clearly protect the rights of individuals and it will be interesting to see how this Supreme Court decision plays out in the near future. I would expect this issue to be extremely litigious.

JD: Your campaign has stated that it will shut down all known illegal housing, including those that are occupied by illegal immigrants. Do you believe that the Town of Brookhaven has a role to play in tangent with County, State, and Federal officials in combating illegal immigration? What else can we do to identify all of our residents in Brookhaven?

EH: The Town of Brookhaven needs to enforce

their building, health and safety codes. In 1996 I spearheaded Operation Firestorm, a program within the law department to close down crack houses, drug dens and derelict structures. That same year I executed the first search warrant, under police escort, which became the model by which today's searches are being conducted today.

JD: The Democratic nominee for Town Supervisor, Brian Foley, once tried to get a hiring hall opened for illegal aliens to go and look for work; however, the Federal Government is still considering immigration reform options, like a guest worker program. If the guest worker program becomes the law of the land, what role would the Town of Brookhaven play in identifying and assisting illegal residents to find employment? Was Mr. Foley putting the cart before the horse?

EH: Brian Foley's proposal to use taxpayer dollars to build a hiring hall was absolutely the worst idea to solve this problem. I am 100% against such a hiring hall or using any hard-earned taxpayer dollars to build a hiring hall for illegal immigrants to congregate in Brookhaven Town. This will only make the problem grow and promote an illegal underground economy that both evades taxes and exploits workers. How any elected official can propose using taxpayer monies to build a hiring hall when our young and elderly are leaving Long Island and our middle class resident can barely afford to hang on is outrageous. The taxpayers, who want the best for their children, have children walking to and from school this year, some without after school programs, because they simply cannot afford any increases and are having trouble making ends meet.

Could We Just Dump the IRS?

By Christopher Pitera

In Article IV of the Bill of Rights it states, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized." Income taxes have deprived you and I of our civil liberties that are promised in the original Bill of Rights. The 16th amendment contradicts this right by allowing Congress to take up to 100 percent of our income. This is not justified on any grounds.

Not all politicians believe in redistribution of wealth, so the income tax has always been a partisan issue. During the Cleveland administration, the question of income tax's constitutionality was presented to the Supreme Court. They ruled that it was a directed tax on the citizens of the United States, a violation of the constitution (article 1, section 9). The battle lines were drawn in red, and on one side were the Democrats and the other were the Republicans. Democrats were very eager to spend the money that would amass from the income tax in both their 1896 and 1908 platforms. Republicans on the other hand, were opposed to the idea and the principal.

Although income tax was ruled unconstitutional, the 16th Amendment was ratified in 1913, and the infamy began. Only one percent of American income earners paid income tax at that time. Those who paid it made the equivalent of \$250,000. This was an attack on wealthy individuals. In 2005, the income tax is still being used as weapon of class

warfare. According to the Congressional Budget report, in 2004 the wealthiest 1% of Americans paid 20.1% of all federal taxes. The top 20% percent paid 63.5% (Income average \$183,000). The top 80% paid virtually all of it.

Other galling taxes such as corporate taxes, slow economic growth. For example, some compa-

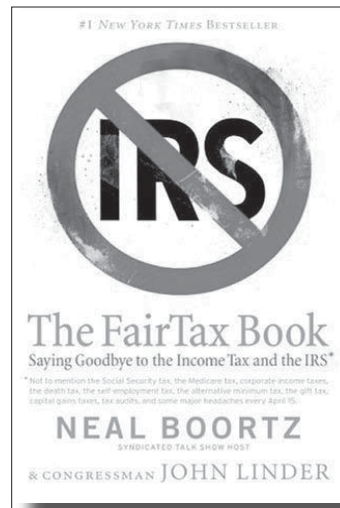
through higher prices. So, in the end it really hurts everyone.

Now you may be asking yourself, why do I care about this economic history of income taxes? Doesn't the government need my money to budget programs? Income taxes are something we will always have to pay, right? Wrong!

There are alternative plans to eliminate income taxes, corporate taxes, embedded taxes, Medicare taxes, and so on. It is called the Fair Tax plan, created by Radio Talk Show host Neal Boortz and Rep. John Linder (R - GA). They have published a book that has been very successful at explaining this issue entitled, "The Fair Tax Book". I encourage everyone curious about tax reform to purchase a copy and read the possibilities for abolishing the IRS and keeping all of your hard-earned money.

Their plan is to eliminate most personal taxes and replace them with a 23% personal consumption tax at the retail level (national sales tax). Proponents claim the fair tax will jump-start the U.S. economy, bring businesses home, and increase jobs in the United States. Most importantly though, you should know that it will allow you to keep 100% of your pay. You'll pay taxes only when you choose to spend your money. All in all, The Fair Tax plan wants to make April 15th just another beautiful spring day!

For more information, visit www.fairtax.org. Feel free to ask questions, and monitor the progress of H.R. 25 (the bill's name in the House of Representatives). And if you are truly enthusiastic about the Fair Tax, write letters to your congressmen and senators letting them know you are interested in this proposed legislation. After all, wouldn't it be phenomenal to keep 100% of your paycheck?



Abolishing the IRS isn't quite as crazy as it sounds. The Fair Tax Book describes a tax system that utilizes a national sales tax rather than income tax.

nies must off-shore to alleviate the burden of corporate taxes. They do not relocate just to increase revenue, but in order to survive; in a capitalistic society a company must be able to compete with low prices, thus they outsource. It is important to understand that businesses and corporations do not pay taxes, they simply collect taxes and forward them to the government. The person really paying for these extra expenses are the consumers,

Sex at - - The 'Brook

By Virginia Morgan

College is the time to be young and impetuous, so it stands to reason that college relationships always tend to be easy and carefree. However, I have begun to think that perhaps they have become too easy and carefree. The advent of websites such as www.thefacebook.com have made finding a relationship, having a relationship and even ending a relationship just a few mouse clicks away. It sounds so easy but is easy always right?

When you first log onto Facebook and create your profile you are asked to list your relationship status, your sexual preference, your interests and even your favorite books, music and movies. Once you have listed all of the aforementioned in your profile, you can then click on each category and search for people who have listed the same responses. Thanks to Facebook there is no longer a

need to walk around campus and check out who's hot and who's not. You can just sit comfortably in front of your computer scrolling through page after page of a carefully refined list of people who share your same affinity for "Pulp Fiction." Once you've found that certain someone, you can "poke" them or send them a message. Next thing you know you are chatting away via Facebook messages and making plans to have dinner together at Jasmine. Then somewhere between the messages and the hanging out, you start to think, "Is this a relationship? Are we just dating? What's the deal?"

Next thing you know you've got a Facebook message saying, "<insert name here> would like to add you as a boyfriend/girlfriend." and the option to confirm or reject. Of course you confirm. This is only Facebook after all; it's not that serious because had they been serious about it they would've asked you in person. So there it is for

everyone to see, "<insert name here> is in a relationship with <insert name here>". You feel good, you feel great because you are in a relationship.

"Websites such as thefacebook have made finding a relationship, having a relationship and even ending a relationship just a few mouse clicks away."

You take a picture together and both use it as your profile picture. You leave cute messages on each

The 'Brook: Continued on Page 14

Why Liberals Hate America

A collection of quotes from the left of politics. We like to just let them speak for themselves. You can judge how crazy they are.

By Aleksandra Borodkin

September 11, 2001

“‘Why?’ I asked, trying not to sound wary. ‘For all the people that died when the airplanes hit the buildings.’

“I fear the sound of saber-rattling, dread that

“There is the beginning of a permanent global war to cement the domination of the U.S. Government and its allies... Islam is being demonized, while racism and xenophobia are deliberately propagated....Opposition to the war is at the heart of our movement.”

not just my taxes but even my children are being dragged to the cause of death in the wake of death. I asked quietly, ‘Why not wear black then? Why the colors of the flag, what does that mean?’ ‘It means we’re a country. Just all people together.’ So we sent her to school in red, white and blue, because it felt to her like something she could do to help people who are hurting. And because my wise husband put a hand on my arm and said, ‘You can’t let hateful people steal the flag from us.’ He didn’t mean terrorists, he meant Americans.”

---- Barbara Kingslover, best-selling novelist, on her dismay that her daughter asked to wear the colors of the American flag to school, September 25, 2001.

“My daughter who goes to Stuyvesant High School only blocks from the World Trade Center, thinks we should fly the American flag out of our window. Definitely not, I say: The flag stands for jingoism and vengeance and war.”

---- Katha Pollitt, *The Nation*, “Put out No Flags.” September, 2001

The War in Iraq

“Here is our answer: We refuse to allow you to

speak for all the American people... We refuse to be party to these wars and we repudiate any inference that they are being waged in our name or for our welfare. We extend a hand to those around the world suffering from these policies, we will show our solidarity in word and deed.”

----New York Times, “Not in Our Name”, September 19, 2002

“These {protests} will be direct action oriented, un-permitted demonstrations to interrupt Business as Usual in the Capital of Capital and to raise the social costs of the U.S. government to Wage war on Iraq and the world.”

----www.dcindymedia.org

The American Government

“I see many very frightening signs. I see us creating a deviant ‘out-group’ once again. For example, the treatment of the Afghan prisoners, whom were taken halfway across the world without a trial, without investigation. We are removing them from their homeland; we are putting them in open cages, like animals. It’s horrible. And I think the only reason for doing it is that the government wishes to create **THIS TERROR GROUP** (compiler’s boldface) as the new scapegoat for everything that’s wrong with society. It is very dangerous. I also see the automatic, knee-jerk ‘patriotism’, quotation marks in response to the terrorist attacks, and the immediate demand for conformity, so that anyone who questions whether bombing Afghanistan was the proper response will be treated as a traitor. That’s familiar ground, I’ve been there before.”

----Gerda Lerner, historian, “Post-Marxist” on the comparison between the Nazi regime and the American Government

“We have in Washington a poisonous government that spreads its venom to the body politic in all corners of the globe. We now resume...our quests...like David going forth to meet Goliath, like Beowulf the dragon slayer...like Sir Galahad seeking the Holy Grail. And modern heroes, dare I mention? Ho and Mao, and Lenin, Fidel and Nelson

Mandela and John Brown, Che Guevara...”

----Lynne Stewart, National Lawyer’s Guild Attorney for Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman, mastermind of the World Trade Center Bombing in 1993

American Culture

“The political history of the United States that culminated and is reflected in the {Constitution} is in large measure a history of almost unthinkable brutality toward slaves, genocidal hatred of Native Americans, racist devaluation of nonwhites and nonwhite cultures, sexist devaluation of women, and a less than admirable attitude of submissiveness to the authority of unworthy leaders in all spheres of government and public life.”

----Robin West, *Progressive Constitutionalism: Reconstructing the Fourteenth Amendment*, (Duke University: Durham, 1994), 17-18

“Treason to whiteness is loyalty to humanity.”

----Professor Noel Ignatiev

“Peace is not patriotic. Peace is subversive, because peace anticipates a very different world than the one in which we live---a world where the U.S. would have no place. U.S. patriotism is inseparable from imperial warfare and white supremacy. U.S. flags are the emblem of the invading war machine in Iraq today. They are the emblem of the occupying power. The only true heroes are those who find ways that help defeat the U.S. military.”

----Professor Nicholas De Genova, Columbia University

For a full Contextual Analysis on all quotes, please read **Unholy Alliance: Radical Islam and the American Left** By David Horowitz



Jimmy and Lollapalooza 2005

By James Davis

At 4:00 AM on July 22nd, I piled into a tiny white Saturn with four girls, some of whom I knew better than others. To avoid fistfights, we reminded each other of the “no political discussions” agreement we had made. I had hardly slept the night before, so I put my concerns out of my mind and tried to fall asleep again as we pulled onto the highway and headed west. I was going to need the rest when my turn for driving came around ... because we were driving all the way to Chicago, Illinois, for the biggest musical event of the summer. Every time I describe Lollapalooza, I tend to spit back the numbers from the event website ... “60 bands on 5 stages, over 2 days.” Sounds impressive, but the impact and experience

experience with The Redwalls. The Redwalls began as a classic-rock cover band, specializing in the British Invasion era. The band was then known as The Pages, and all of the members were still in high school. They hail from Deerfield, right in the Chicago area. They now write original songs, retaining the sound and attitude of the ‘60s rock ‘n’ roll artists they once emulated. Due to early-morning apathy on the part of the attendees, I had no problem securing a spot close to the stage. The Redwalls put on a very entertaining show. The presentation was energetic, and the sound was upbeat, loud, and reminiscent of the Rolling Stones. A few of my friends purchased the Redwalls’ album *De Nova* from the Virgin Megastore tent. The album captures much of the style and energy of their live performance, and showcases a more Beatles-esque sound on some tracks.

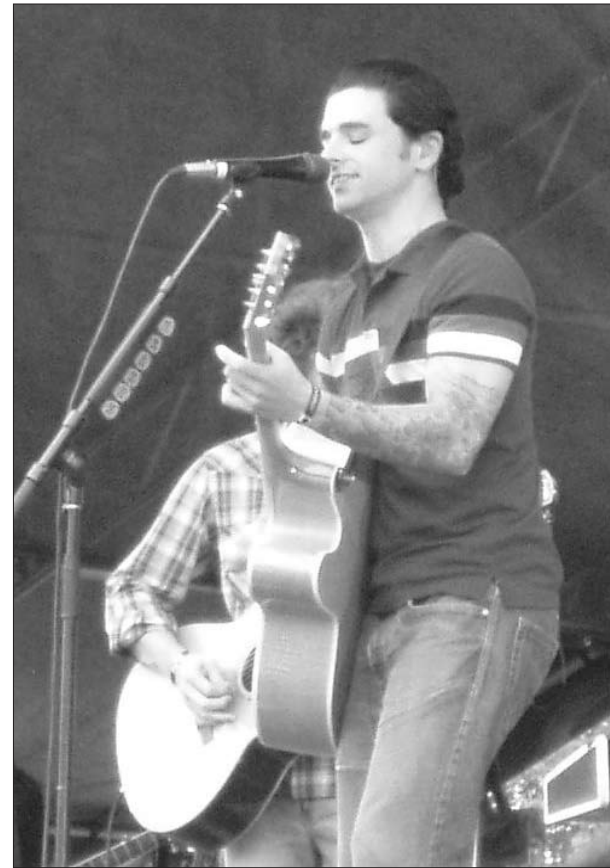


Photo Courtesy of James Davis

Right after the autograph signing, I headed right over to the SBC East Stage to ensure a good spot for the celebrated emo band Dashboard Confessional. Before Lollapalooza, most of the Dashboard material I had heard was Chris Carrabba’s solo acoustic songs. While they were good, the live performance with a full band far eclipsed his solo work, in my opinion. The driving force of the drums, combined with the fuller, more amplified instrumentation of two guitars plus a bassist really improved the sound and accented the emotional

Chris Carrabba of Dashboard Confessional

and Safety Belts). Cake’s performance at the festival completely lived up to my expectations. Their song “No Phone,” in live form, became a sing-along Viking chorus of angry male voices intended as therapy for the modern man in today’s postmodern world, in which technology is ubiquitous. They finished up the set with their hit song “The Distance.” To hear Cake’s unique sound for yourself, check out their albums *Fashion Nugget* and *Pressure Chief*.

Right after Cake left the stage, the crowd at the SBC West stage shrank dramatically. As most of the crowd was moving away from the stage, I ducked and dodged my way against the flow to get closer. I managed to reach about the 7th or 8th row on my own ... and then I spotted some people I had met on line that morning, way up front. They got me up to about the second row. Needless to say, I was thrilled with my new spot.



Photo Courtesy of James Davis

Jimmy and his best friend in front of a Lollapalooza banner.

of Lollapalooza transcended any quantitative summary.

After almost 20 CDs and countless rounds of “The Name Game,” we arrived in the Windy City. After dinner and a night of deep, recuperative sleep, we headed to Grant Park in the morning, and were greeted with the impressive sight of the Clarence Buckingham Fountain (as seen in the opening to the TV show *Married With Children*). We traded in our tickets for 2-day wristbands and entered the park. Inside the park, all of the signs, balloons, and “centerpieces” (I can think of no better name for them) sported angular Nickelodeon-esque forms and bright coloring. Some of the “centerpieces” were structures enclosed with netting and containing bouncing balloons in Lollapalooza’s orange and blue. The one in the center of the field resembled a cross between a weathervane and a child’s mobile. However strange the décor may have been, I found it fitting for such an exciting and festive event. The main field in the park had one of the four main stages at each corner, each adorned with a sponsor name and vibrantly colored banners.

Once we had passed the elaborate entrance and bought the first of our overpriced water bottles, we headed to the Parkways Stage to kick off our festival

impact of the songwriting. Songs from Carrabba’s acoustic album *The Swiss Army Romance* such as “Screaming Infidelities,” “The Sharp Hint Of New Tears,” and “Turpentine Chaser” made excellent performance pieces. The rest of the crowd seemed to agree as they sang along with every song. Though his lyrics are heartfelt and often melancholy, Carrabba played with a smile. He looked very comfortable on stage and appreciative of the audience’s enthusiasm. For Dashboard Confessional’s full-band sound, check out their album *A Mark, A Mission, A Brand, A Scar*.

Starting at 4:30 on the SBC West Stage, where Weezer (my favorite band) would later be playing, was Cake. Cake was already on my list of bands to see—the songs of theirs that I had heard had a very unique sound that I knew I wouldn’t find elsewhere at Lollapalooza. Their style can be described as alternative rock with a trumpet player, showing influences of funk, hip-hop, and even a little rockabilly and folk (i.e. “Stickshifts



Photo Courtesy of James Davis

OK Go’s autograph signing in the Virgin Megastore.

Not quite able to lean on the guard rail, I waited in that spot for an hour, until Primus came on at 6:30. While I waited, I watched them inflate two giant rubber duckies on the stage. I had heard that Primus was a very “unconventional” band, so I didn’t even ask. Primus had previously disbanded and reunited, but had only one show scheduled for 2005, and this was it. Primus’ sound is unlike that of any other band. The bassist and founder, Les Claypool, is a talented musician who can produce sounds from his instrument that you will not hear elsewhere. He uses these abilities to his advantage when creating Primus’ unique sound, and when playing some very impressive solos. I had not followed Primus before the concert, so I was not familiar with their material, but their set was very entertaining. Primus’ albums include such creatively-titled works as *Sailing The Seas Of Cheese*, *Pork Soda*, and *Tales From The Punchbowl*.

After Primus finished their set, my queue buddies decided to leave—and I got their spot in the front, right against the guard rail. I was now in the ideal spot to see my #1 favorite band. I had one more hour to wait, but I didn’t mind at all. At 8:30, it was almost dark when Weezer finally took the stage. By that time, the crowd was huge and the atmosphere was electric. Weezer had their classic lighted “flying W” erected at the rear of the stage, and the lead singer Rivers Cuomo was only 20 or 30 feet away from me. They opened up with their hit “Say It Ain’t So” from their self-titled 1994 debut album. Their debut album is often referred to as “The Blue Album” to distinguish it from their 2001 release (“The Green Album”), which is also self-titled. They went on to play a very good set, mixing material from their most recent release, *Make Believe*, and their older albums, including their sophomore release *Pinkerton*. *Pinkerton* was, in essence, the first emo album. It was ahead of its time. Combine this with its radical departure from the style of Weezer’s first album, and it was a commercial flop. Though it has since developed a cult following, it is often underrepresented in concert set lists. Weezer’s Lollapalooza lineup, however, did not disappoint. They effortlessly weaved together songs from all their albums for an hour and a half. *The Blue Album*, my personal favorite, was well-represented. At the end of their set, they played an encore that ended with their song “Surf Wax America”. Weezer was the main reason I went to Lollapalooza, and they provided an excellent day to close out my first day there. If you are not familiar with the band, I highly recommend you check out their “The Blue Album”, or” for a broader sampling of their work, check out *Pinkerton*, “The Green Album,” and *Make Believe*.

The beginning of the second day at the festival was similar to that of the first. A certain percentage of attendees didn’t bother to show up for the early acts. Once again, this permitted me to easily secure a good spot to see OK Go. OK Go is a rock band on the rise that shows great promise. Their self-titled debut album was released in 2002. Most of the songs are tight, upbeat, and slickly-produced rock tunes with lyrics that are more clever than those of your average band. The slower tunes were thoughtfully written as well. OK Go also has a new album (*Oh No*) coming out on August 30th. Their rousing set included many of my favorites from their first album, as well as a few from their upcoming album. Their entire show was very energetic and displayed a lot of flair. Their theatrical exploits included lead singer Damian Kulash leaving the

stage and climbing partway up the structure surrounding the soundboard, during a Violent Femmes cover. They ended their set with a choreographed dance number, lip-synced to a song played directly from the CD of their upcoming album. Their performance was exciting, and showcased OK Go’s playful side, as well as their musical talent. Right after the show, I headed to the Virgin Megastore tent with my friends to wait in line for their autographs. At the autograph signing, they shook everyone’s hand with a smile, asked their name, and thanked them for showing up so early to see them. Their friendly conduct was consistent with their fun-loving stage presence.

Due to the autograph signing, my expensive lunch, and helping my friend Alex overcome dehydration, I did not see any bands play for the next 4 hours. However, at 4:30, Alex and I emerged from the “cooling bus” much refreshed, and headed toward the Budweiser Select stage to see Ben Kweller. Ben Kweller is a very talented guitarist and pianist with songwriting ability to match. His melodies are very catchy, and they work very well combined with his smart, heartfelt lyrics. I arrived just in time to see Kweller doing his own sound check. He proceeded to put on an excellent set,



Photo Courtesy of James Davis

Jimmy in the front row for Weezer

playing the best songs from his two solo albums *Sha Sha* and *On My Way*. He played lead guitar on most of the songs, including “No Reason” with an extended instrumental interlude that featured some impressive solos. On his piano-driven songs, such as “Sha Sha (How It Should Be)” and “No Reason,” he played the keyboard. His live performance displayed all the talent and emotion of his albums, and then some. For a great album that includes Ben



Photo Courtesy of James Davis

Primus and their comically oversized rubber duckies.

Kweller’s best work, check out *Sha Sha*.

After Ben Kweller, I took a nap in the sun. Even journalists get tired.

When I woke up to see The Killers, the crowd at the SBC East stage was already pretty large. I managed to find my friends, though, in the fairly distant spot they had secured. The Killers are a quartet of Mormon indie-rockers from Las Vegas, who only somewhat recently made it big. I stayed for only half of their set, since I intended to get a good spot for the next band I saw. However, my best friend Rebecca (a fan of the Killers) stayed for the whole show and had some comments to make. According to her, their singles were spread out accordingly, saving the most recent (“All These Things That I’ve Done”) and the best (“Mr. Brightside”) for last and second to last. The lead singer, Brandon Flowers, appeared somewhat distant due to his relative lack of inter-track banter, and the moody look created by his eyeliner. The crowd didn’t seem to mind, however; they were very into the music, and never lost interest, even on the lesser-known songs. To hear the songs that catapulted the Killers into the spotlight, check out their album *Hot Fuss*.

The reason I left the Killers early was to try and get near the Budweiser Select stage, to see Death Cab For Cutie, the finale act for Day 2 of Lollapalooza. Perhaps my efforts didn’t accomplish much ... Rebecca stayed for the whole Killers set and I was still able to pull her up to our spot. Regardless of how futile my efforts might have been, I was still excited to see Death Cab. They had recently become a favorite band of mine, and I had not yet seen them live. Their show at Lollapalooza didn’t fail to impress. It incorporated the first 7 songs (not quite in order) from *Transatlanticism*, the album that many consider to be their best to date. The live performances of their tracks were just as moving as the album versions, and conveyed with lots of heart. Their set included a few songs from their other albums, and closed with the touching and dramatic title track from *Transatlanticism*. The song was an excellent choice to wrap up my Lollapalooza experience.

After Death Cab, we headed down the road to our motel, to head back to Long Island in the morning. As we left, we drove past the stages that towered over the now-deserted field. Lollapalooza was an invigorating, very memorable experience that reminded me of just how important music is to me. All I can say is that I can’t wait for next year.

Club Budget Statistics for 2005-2006

Where is Your Money Going?

Money: Continued from Page 1

the USG budget and you have more than half (1.4 million) of the activity fee used merely to manage the clubs that the fee is intended for.

How is the budget decided? Each year, dozens of organizations apply to the Student Government to be granted money from the approximately 2 million collected with the activity fee (\$2.4 million for 05-06). In past years, USG mostly leaned on the budget from the previous year to guide them in their allocations. This year, a "viewpoint neutral"

to speak in front of the budget committee (a subsection of USG) in order to justify their funding requests. The most important qualities that the committee looked for in the clubs were that they offered a service that could not be found elsewhere on campus, and that they allowed any students to join. Although the Senate usually votes to approve the budget, they relinquished this power over to the Student Government Executive Board in order to meet the budget deadline.

Many students come to this University because of its low tuition; nevertheless, many of us are barely getting by. The annual \$188.50 student activity fee, not including summer sessions, is no small request. However, at the same time I know from my own experience with The Patriot, that the budget granted by USG is all that allows many clubs to survive. (EFA, The Patriot's parent club, receives \$1500/yr at the moment) I ask that the administration and organizations request only what they truly need, spend their budget frugally, as if it was their own money, and give back the remaining at the end of the year. As for USG, I hope that in the future they too will distribute funds more judiciously, and, hopefully, the activity fee will no longer need to be increased.

If you are a student concerned about how your money is being spent, I recommend speaking out at

a USG meeting, held every Thursday in SAC ballroom B at 7:00PM. Any student is allowed to speak for two minutes as long as he or she notifies USG 24 hours in advance.

Top 10 Most Expensive Clubs

Club	Cost
NYPIRG	\$150,000
WUSB (radio)	\$67,000
CSA	\$42,000
The Press	\$32,000
Ice Hockey	\$31,000
The Statesman	\$30,000
Black Women's Weekend	\$22,000
Crew Club	\$22,000
Blackworld	\$20,000
Men and Women's Rugby	\$15,000 each

The Lowest Funded Clubs

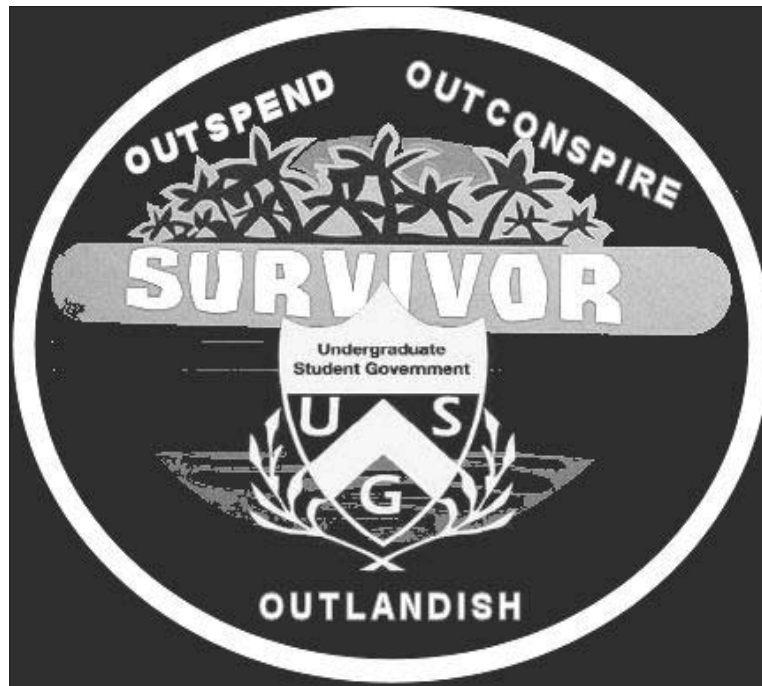
Club	Cost
Musicians Alliance for Peace	\$1,000
Persian Cultural Association	\$1,000
Pocket Theater	\$1,000
SB Cat Network	\$1,000
Minorities in Psychology	\$1,000
Taiwanese Student Association	\$1,000
Shades of Afrika	\$1,000
Thillana	\$1,000
Economics	\$1,000
Undergrad Chemistry	\$750

Ethnic Clubs

Club	Cost
Black Women's Weekend	\$22,000
African Student's Union	\$12,000
Caribbean Student's Association	\$12,000
Latin American Student's Org.	\$11,000
Chinese Association of Stony Brook	\$9,563
Asian Student's Association	\$8,7000
Haitian Student's Organization	\$7,500
Japanese Student's Society	\$5,500
Vietnamese Student's Association	\$5,000
Cultural Italian American Org	\$1,700

Campus-wide Events

Event	Cost
Roth Pond Regatta	\$14,500
Opening Week Activities	\$8,500
Homecoming	\$8,000



policy was implemented, meaning that organizations were supposed to be judged objectively, regardless of how new they were or what they had received in the past. Each club was given a chance

The 'Brook

Continued from Page 10

other's Facebook walls. It all looks so wonderful, like you are really into each other. Then you stop leaving the cute messages because it just gets old, you stop going to dinner all the time because you want to eat with your friends instead and you stop hanging out as much because you have to study. You don't know what to do. You want to tell the other person how you feel but you don't want it to be awkward or painful because they are a nice person, you're just not that into them. So you log onto Facebook, go to your profile, and find your personal info. Next to the line that reads, "You are in a relationship with <insert name here>", you see an option that says cancel. You click it and see a message reading, "Are you sure you wish to break up with <insert name here>, yes or no?" How nice, they've given you a moment to think about it, but you know you're just not that into them so you click "yes." That's it. What once was is now no more. You've resumed your single status with just one click. There was no awkward conversation and

there were no weird feelings. Your relationship is no more. Another casual and carefree relationship that's come and gone but was this too casual and carefree? It started online, developed online and ended online. There was minimal personal interaction when it came to emotions and feelings. All of the serious work involved in the relationship was done via a click of the mouse.

Love and relationships are complicated when you are in college. You want a relationship with someone who you like and share common interests with, but you are in college so you don't want it to be too serious or too long term. Therefore, it seems only natural that you'd turn to a place like Facebook to make it a little easier, but there is no substitute for good old fashioned one on one interaction. Check out the people you see in your classes or when you're walking around campus. When you find one you like, go up to them, introduce yourself and see where it takes you. Go out to dinner at Jasmine, see a movie at the Union, or lounge around together in the Staller Plaza but whatever you do make time for each other in person not just online. Enjoy it while it lasts and when it comes time to end, don't just click "cancel," but have the heart to tell him or her in person, "Look, I'm just not that into you."

Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month



Satire by Virginia Morgan

When not ambling through the halls of Congress or filibustering judicial nominees on the floor of the Senate, there's nothing Senator Kennedy likes more than kicking back on the shores of Chappaquiddick with a nice, cold drink in his hand. Each month this column will highlight one of Senator Kennedy's favorite drinks.

Jack Daniel's Lynchburg Lemonade*

*Not intended for the weak of stomach, faint of heart or for those who are under 21 years of age.

Ingredients:

- 1 part Jack Daniels
- 1 part Triple Sec
- 1 part sweet and sour mix
- 4 parts lemon-lime soda (preferably 7-Up)

Directions:

- add ice to a tall glass
- add ingredients in the order they are listed
- stir gently
- enjoy

*Not intended for the faint of heart, weak of stomach or those under the age of 21.

Well thanks, Ted. We're proud of our fourth issue too. Keep counting with us!

What's a Sudoku Puzzle, Anyway?

5				6	2			
6			4				8	
8		7		1	9	3		6
				4	7	8	1	
		5				7		
	8	4	1	3				
3		2	7	8		4		9
	9				6			7
			3	9				8

Here's an interesting puzzle that's been taking the nation by storm. One-by-one, newspapers around the country have been starting to print them alongside crossword puzzles.

"Sudoku, sometimes spelled Su Doku, is a placement puzzle, also known as Number Place in the United States. The aim of the puzzle is to enter a numeral from 1 through 9 in each cell of a grid, most frequently a 9x9 grid made up of 3x3 subgrids (called "regions"), starting with various numerals given in some cells (the "givens"). Each row, column and region must contain only one instance of each numeral. Completing the puzzle requires patience and logical ability. Its grid layout is reminiscent of other newspaper puzzles like crosswords and chess problems. Sudoku initially became popular in Japan in 1986 and attained international popularity in 2005."

Source: Wikipedia – check out <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudoku> for some tips on how to solve these addicting puzzles.

Wireless Plus Suffolk

Cingular | Nextel | Sprint

Life is what happens
when you are making plans
Let's make more plans...



Nextel
i850
\$150
After
Rebate



Cingular
V3
\$99



i836
\$150

Cingular
5000 Nights & Weekend Minutes
Free Camera Phone
450 Rollover Minutes
\$39.99/Month

Sprint
Unlimited Nights & Week-end Minutes
Nights Starting at 6pm
1000 Anytime Minutes
\$55/Month

V551
FREE!
After
Mail-in-
Rebate



i760
\$125

Nextel
National 1000 Plan
Unlimited Nights and Weekends
Cellular Long Distance Included
Unlimited Local Walkie-Talkie Minutes
1000 Cellular Minutes
\$55.99/Month

V220
FREE!



i560
\$100

240 Route 25A
East Setauket, NY 11733
(In the Stop & Shop shopping center,
located between Starbucks
and Wild-by-Nature)

V180
FREE!



631-689-1122

Coupon:
Any Accessory \$10
with Stony Brook ID

Coupon:
20% Phones
with Stony Brook ID

Coupon:
Free Phones & Accessories
with New Contract