

# The Patriot

Vol. 2 Issue 6

April 2006

Monthly



**HILLARY-HATING HIPPIES  
HOLD HOT-BLOODED  
PROTEST ON CAMPUS**

Pages 2-3



**FACE-OFF: MYSPACE VS.  
FACEBOOK**

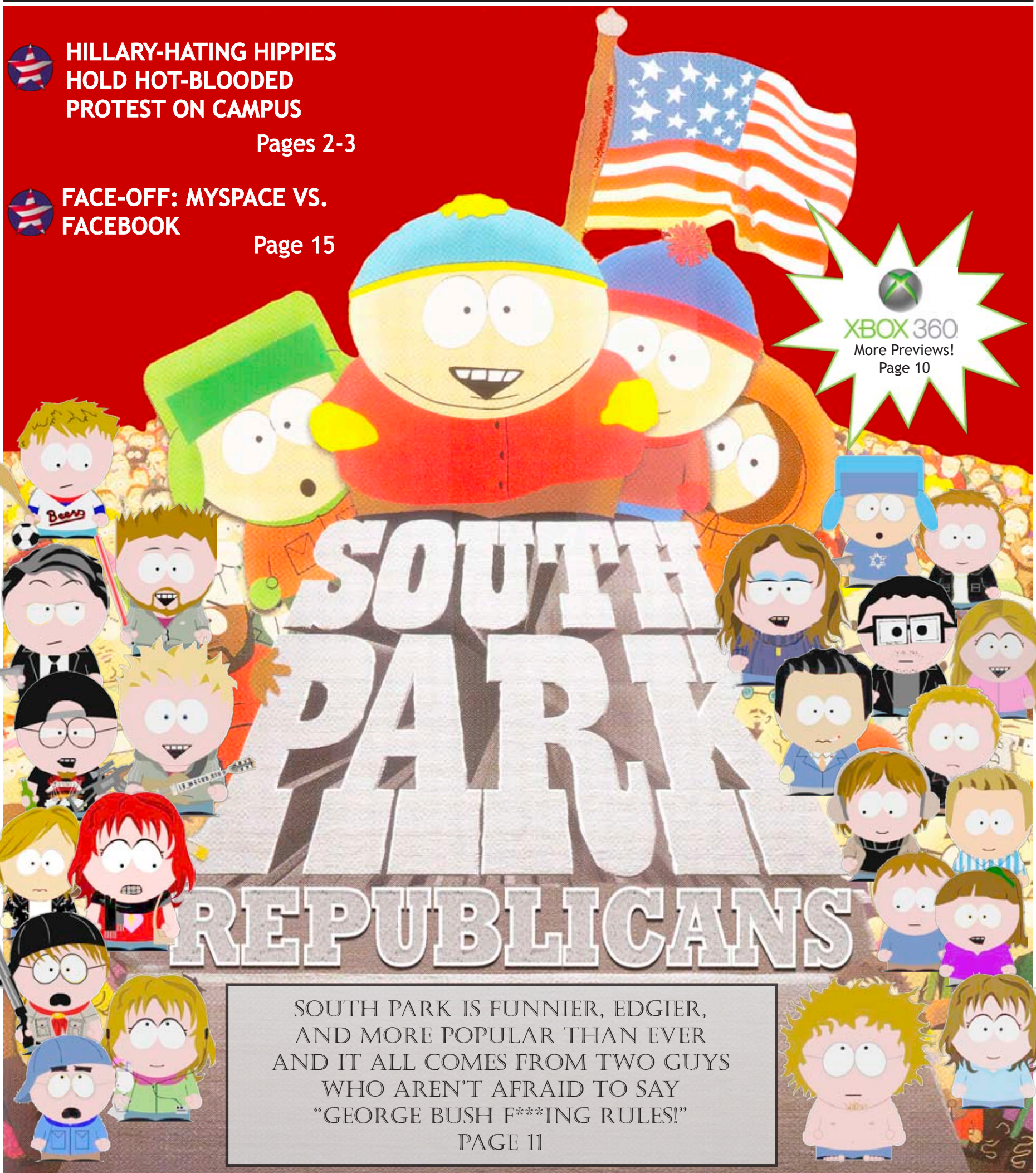
Page 15



# SOUTH PARK REPUBLICANS

SOUTH PARK IS FUNNIER, EDGIER,  
AND MORE POPULAR THAN EVER  
AND IT ALL COMES FROM TWO GUYS  
WHO AREN'T AFRAID TO SAY  
"GEORGE BUSH F\*\*\*ING RULES!"

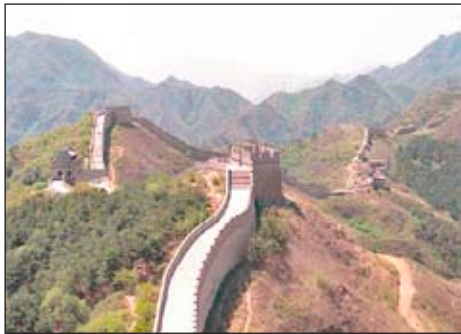
PAGE 11





# This Issue

# Protesters Pressure Clinton



Is the idea of building a wall on our southern border really that crazy?  
**Page 7**



Spotlight on Republican Girls.  
**Page 16**

## WTF?! Picture

Extraterrestrial spacecraft lands on campus.  
**Page 18**

## Who Ya Gonna Call?

The conservative message behind the movie, Ghost Busters.  
**Page 13**

Should the Student Activity Fee be mandatory?  
**Page 13**

Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month: Red-Headed Intern.  
**Page 19**

Lacrosse team's conference win brings high hopes.  
**Page 20**

**By Jorge Sierra**

"You don't belong here!" heckled an older woman at the Equity Pay for Women event at the Staller Center.

This charming dose of venom was directed, not at Hillary Clinton, who was moderating a panel, but at the young male student who interrupted her, asking how she could speak on a social justice issue when she was responsible for supporting the troops' continued presence in Iraq, and had done nothing to stop U.S. acts of torture at Guantanamo Bay. He was one of about 30 demonstrators who had stood up one at a time minutes before and turned their backs on Senator Clinton, revealing "Troops Out Now" emblazoned on their t-shirts. This was the "Act Out" portion of the Act Out: Die-In protest, organized by the Social Justice Alliance and local community peace groups. The indoor protest was predictable. Clinton has been heckled a lot at recent events, so until the protesters stood up I was craning my neck around the room like an idiot. Now everyone else looked around at the demonstrators, officers, and Secret Service agents in the room.

"Why don't you go to the White House?" another woman asked when the man called out again.

"How about respecting our rights?"

(All I did was boo like a barbarian. These genteel women put me to shame.)

Most people kept their cool, and the protester turned around again. After the second time, Hillary seemed to be engaging the protestor but was in actuality addressing a student questioner: "Would you mind identifying yourself?" The protestor identified himself as

Carmen Trotter, a member of a Catholic group from New York City. Was she possibly smoothly setting him up for Big Brother? The authorities and Secret Service were alert and quite ready to move in, but did not do so. To everyone's credit, the disruption was minimal.

"I thought he was going to have a heart attack," I overheard a woman say as we were exiting. "I thought he was going to pull out a gun."

"I don't know what they expect Hillary to do," said another.

"They're mad at Hillary because she voted for the Patriot Act, but so did everybody else."

that what it's called?" one lady asked as we viewed rows of flag-draped coffins and students lying down from the window. "It's interesting." Anita Halasz, a Social Justice Alliance member handing out fliers, explained that the organization sought to show students that Hillary Clinton does support the War in Iraq, and had invited local peace groups to send volunteers to the event. "We are asking her to support the immediate removal of troops." But for the most part, the protest appeared to be more of a pro-peace event than about Clinton. With mostly older demonstrators holding

That "you don't belong here" suspicion popped up again as a woman beating a drum asked me why I was interviewing "those Hofstra students." Indeed, counterprotesters Matt Veres (an Enduring Freedom Alliance member) and Connor Harrigan had explained that members of the EFA were there to show that there are conservative students on campus. "So their voice means more than ours?" the woman who helped me interview the SJA member fussed. Things got crowded, and heated very quickly as Jim Lynch, part of the North Country Peace Group and the Suffolk County Peace Network, began grilling the students, who explained themselves and responded in kind. They argued over the rhetoric of "Bush is a fascist" and "Islamofascism." They traded stories about beheadings of homosexuals in Afghanistan and dragging deaths of homosexuals in America (yes, conservatives and old men are avid readers of gay websites). Someone flabberghasted Mr. Lynch by explaining he was enlisting in the CIA, the drum woman silenced the other by pointing to a woman whose cousin is a student and in Iraq. Eventually an organizer breaks it up: "We need more bodies."

Despite the passion on both sides, even anger on Mr. Lynch's part, there was a spark of something that one does not often find in opposing partisans these days. It became an engagement, a test battle. The outrage and pride simmered into something else. Respect? A couple's bantering? Resignation?

Eventually the crowd thinned and I took in the rows of flat and slumped bodies, 70 in all.

*Brian Holt contributed to this article.*



The "Act Out" didn't exactly seem much like what the AIDS group ACT UP used to do, and it backfired badly with the mostly older female audience, but it did seem well organized. It had to be. By conspicuously identifying themselves before disrupting the event, the demonstrators may have saved themselves, and the audience, from serious physical danger.

Outside the Staller Center, the Die-In was in full swing. "Is

signs, reading names, walking around, and banging drums, it was even a little festive. Perhaps fewer women would have been perplexed earlier had they seen this event first, as several of them stopped to ask questions, although student spectators appeared perplexed and amused. The oddest sight was several students wearing black garbage bags, acting as corpses, except they were standing around chatting.

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:  
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Visit us online at: [www.stonybrookpatriot.com](http://www.stonybrookpatriot.com)

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

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# The Patriot

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# Equity Pay For Women?



## Hillary Gets More Than She Bargained For...

By Chris Dolley

Senator Hillary Clinton's motorcade pulled into Stony Brook on March 23 to speak on a panel about equal pay for women in the workplace. The event was held at the Staller Center. Other panelists for "Equity Pay for Women" included Carol Frohunger, founder of Negotiating Women; Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny; and Sharon Levin, founder and executive director of Women's Prerogative.

Senator Clinton served primarily as a moderator.

The panelists discussed past victories for women, such as the Equal Pay Act of 1963, which outlawed discrimination against women in wages and narrowed the gap between genders. There seemed to be a consensus, however, that this law does not go far enough. A common statistic used by the panelists was that women on average make 76 cents of every dollar that men make, and they said this has not changed for the last 20 years.

"Women feel that if they work hard and deliver results, somehow someone will notice," but this is not the case, said Clinton.

Clinton said it is necessary to create "incentives" for employers not to discriminate and pushed the bill, the Paycheck Fairness Act.

This bill is necessary to "aggressively pursue gender discrimination," she said.

The Paycheck Fairness Act was introduced by Senator Clinton and other Democrats in April 2005. This bill, as well as earlier versions of it,

failed to pass.

If the bill were successful, it would allow the Department of Labor to set wage "standards" based on the department's interpretation of each job's "comparable worth."

Essentially, it would replace America's supply and demand system, in which business owners and laborers negotiate pay, and instead the government would take over and set wages.

Critics of the bill point to the stagnation of Eastern European economies after the government implemented wage controls. Some call the bill a dangerous step toward socialism.

Frohunger, founder of Negotiating Women, had other suggestions on how women could try to reach equal pay. She said there are five things a woman should do during a job interview to higher salaries: Focus on your goals for the interview, research what kind of pay the market is paying for a particular job before the interview, consider alternatives to taking the job as is, create multiple proposals for employers, and anticipate how the other side will react to your proposals.

You need to "do a gut check to see if you're being paid right," Frohunger said.

President Kenny added to the event by mentioning her own experiences as the first female chair of the English Department at the University of Maryland, and the first female President of Stony Brook University. She proudly commented that Stony Brook is in the 97th percentile of female professor employers among

the Association of American Universities schools, with 36 percent of Stony Brook's tenure faculty being women. She also mentioned, however, that she gets many emails from women on campus who believe they have been victims of discrimination.

Some women, however, don't believe the gender wage gap is problem.

According to a study by June O'Neil, former director of the Congressional Budget Office under the Clinton Administration, when controlled for experience, education, and number of years on the job, women make 98 cents for every dollar that men make.

O'Neil says that, "discrimination almost certainly accounts for some of the gender gap," but it is not as severe a problem as some make it out to be.

Later on in the event, Senator Clinton said that women's struggles were not helped when "information on the wage gap was removed from the Department of Labor's website" after the Clinton Administration. The audience let out a murmur of discontent.

If this was the case, it no longer is. The Department of Labor's website has these statistics, last updated on March 22. They can be found in a section of the Department of Labor site called the Women's Bureau: <http://www.dol.gov/wb/welcome.html>,

The Women's Bureau has a stated mission to "improve the status of wage earning women, to improve their working conditions, increase their efficiency, and advance their

opportunities for profitable employment."

The website reads that in 2005, "The median weekly earnings of women who were full-time wage and salary workers were \$585, or 81 percent of men's \$722." This is 5 cents higher than the figure the panel was using.

Shortly after Clinton started speaking, about 20 protestors in the crowd stood up and turned their backs to the panel. The words, "Troops Out Now" was on the back of their shirts. One protester interrupted the panel twice with shouts that were not understandable from where this reporter was seated.

The first time he interrupted was when Clinton first began to speak.

President Kenny, clearly irritated, told him to respect the panel. Neither the Secret Service nor the police apprehended him, but he was not through. After students, pre-picked to ask questions beforehand, were allowed to ask Clinton questions, he started shouting again. This reporter heard something about "Guantanamo Bay" and being "Catholic" from "New York City." Clinton, clearly irritated, asked someone in the audience to "identify your-

self," but it was not clear whom she was asking. According to Patriot writer Jorge Sierra, the protester said his name was Carmen Trotter, a member of a Catholic group from New York City. Trotter then turned his back again.

Meanwhile, a protest was occurring outside of the building. It was a "Die-in," where students pretend they are dead U.S. soldiers and Iraqi civilians.

The organizer of the event, Chad Kautzer of the Social Justice Alliance, said, "This is a demonstration against the war and occupation. But more specifically, it coincides with Hillary Clinton's visit because of her support for war and occupation," he said.

### 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.*



# USG Election Results 2006

**Student Activity Fee:**  
Voted mandatory

**President:**  
Romual Jean-Baptiste

**Executive Vice President:**  
Amy Wisnoski

**Treasurer:**  
Stephen Hui

**VP of Academic Affairs:**  
Chinelo Ann Onochie

**VP of Clubs and Organizations:**  
Ralph Thomas

**VP of Communications:**  
Clifford Pierre

**VP of Student Life:**  
Trevor Hirst

**Senior Class Representative:**  
Samone Rogers

**Junior Class Representative:**  
Onté Johnson

**Sophomore Class Representative:**  
Jeffrey Akita

**Senators for the College of Arts and Sciences:**

Matthew Cho  
Tae Kim  
Simone Grant  
Johathan Hirst  
Anupa Dalal  
Andrew Weber  
Ketty Dautruche  
Alexsandra Borodkin  
Ikechukwu Nwabuobi  
Matthew Maiorella  
Robert Romano  
Nathan Shapiro  
Andrew Curran  
Christopher Dolley  
Zorangina Castillo  
Ryan O'Connor  
Christopher Flanagan

**Senators for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences:**  
Sheena Joseph  
Kenny Hoang

# Night at the Chabad House

By Nathan Shapiro

As a senate candidate for the USG Reform Party, I have had the opportunity to be involved in several exciting events, but my favorite had to be when I was invited to join the weekly Shabbat dinner at the Chabad house.

I was joined that night by Reform presidential candidate Romual Jean-Baptiste, Reform secretary Alex Markow and the Patriot's own managing editor, Rachel O'Brien.

For those readers who do not know, Shabbat is the Jewish Sabbath, the weekly day of rest. Shabbat begins at sundown on Friday night and lasts until sunset the following Saturday.

Having been raised as a Jew, I had some understanding of the night and its meaning, which I shared with my compatriots, but even my understanding was limited by, among other things, the fact that I had never attended a "formal" Shabbat dinner with a Rabbi before.

We arrived at what we were told was the most ritualistic aspect of the night. Each participant washed their hands and, after doing so, was unable to speak until they had a taste of the homemade challah, the traditional Jewish bread. Shortly thereafter, Rabbi Adam Stein, or Rabbi Adam as he is

called, said the prayer over the tasty bread and shared it around the table. Then the night's festivities got underway.

Aside from the delectable dinner, which included the aforementioned challah, salad, pasta, chicken, kugel and cake, the night was filled with games and discussion. Most of us took part in a "Whose Line Is It Anyway" improvisation game led by Samantha Mandelbaum, for which I volunteered myself, Alex and Romual to play.

It was an improvisational version of the "dating game" where we each assumed a persona that, by a question-and-answer session, Samantha was supposed to guess who we were. While I managed to pull off a decent Kramer from Seinfeld, and Alex did a fine job impersonating Rabbi Adam, it was Romual's impersonation of Steve Urkel that had the entire dinner table rolling in their seats.

For me, the highlight of the evening had to be our discussions with Rabbi Adam, who is both friendly and informative.

Among the topics discussed were Jewish laws and traditions, including a fascinating talk about the Jewish conceptions of the afterlife and their versions of heaven and hell. Some of which even I, as a Jew, was completely

unaware of and pleased to learn about.

Among the topics which surfaced was how Jewish identity is determined on the mother's side of the family. As described to us by Rabbi Adam, the child and its soul forms inside the mother and, if the mother is Jewish, so is the child.

After some talk on the subject, we all learned that Rachel's mother is Jewish, and Alex also has Jewish roots on his mother's side, therefore making them both Jewish. Immediately upon realizing that three-fourths of the new guests at their dinner were Jewish, Rabbi Adam saw it as a sign of divine providence and we were soon thereafter dubbed "the miracle of three."

By night's end, our now mostly-Jewish party of four no longer felt like guests at the Chabad house, but part of the group. We thanked the rabbi, and everyone else, for a wonderful evening and left, agreeing with each other that we all had a great time.

The Chabad House hosts a variety of functions each semester and, if their Shabbat dinner is any indication, they are worthwhile to attend for Jew and non-Jew alike.

And, who knows, perhaps you and your friends are actually more Jewish than you may think. We certainly were.

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**GOT  
STONY BROOK  
HOCKEY?**



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# Recycling Continues at SBU

By Erica Smith

Usually when people think of college dormitories, they think of dirty laundry, weird smells, and scattered beer bottles. As for recycling? Forget it. But now, things have begun to change- or at least when it comes to cans and bottles. Recycle Mania, a two-month competition among the Roth Quad dormitories, has changed both attitudes and habits.

"I don't throw everything away now," said Seroos Salavati, in his Cardozo room, leaning back in a comfortable looking computer chair. "I've been made conscious of the choice to recycle."

And the \$800 prize to the building that recycles the most? "Yea, that had something to do with it," said Salavati with a laugh, adding that he wants his building to buy an air hockey table.

Recycle Mania is a national competition that currently includes 93 colleges in 33 states. Last year, Miami University won the trophy with an average of 71.9 pounds of recycling for each of its students.

The Recycle Mania in Roth Quad, however, is only a "Stony Brook version" of the event, and is not affiliated with the national competition, said Associate Professor of Marine Science Kamazima Lwiza.

"This is a practice run," said Lwiza, one of the event's coordinators.

The contest was planned over winter break by Lwiza, Recycling and Resource Management Manager Michael Youdelman, and Roth Quad Di-

rector Linda Eastman. The \$800 prize came from their pockets.

The way the contest works is that twice a week, Environmental Club members check the recycling bins in each Roth building. Each bin receives one, three or five points, depending on how clean the bin is. If a bin has pieces of garbage or bottles and cans still containing liquid, it will receive one or three points. Clean bins get five points.

After the student volunteers give a point value to the quality of the bins, Recycling and Resource Management determines the amount of each building's recyclables when it picks them up to take them to the campus recycling center. The assessments are combined to determine what building is winning each week.

When this article was written, Cardozo, home of the Honors College, was in the lead.

Youdelman, who was wearing a colorful tree frog tie, said he hopes to bring the competition campus wide next fall. Since the beginning of the event, Roth has seen a 100 percent increase in the amount of recyclables, he said. Extra bins even needed to be added to some of the dorms. There was also "a real nice improvement" in the quality, he said.

Cardozo Resident James Maier said the contest made him aware that recyclables need to be rinsed, crushed, and without bottle caps. Why did he change his habits? "Well besides the \$800," he said with a boyish grin, "I realized that contributing bottles not prepared is not contributing at all."

Not all students, however, are

impressed with the \$800 prize.

Vivian, a Mount College resident who declined to give her last name, said the money did not motivate her because "it's for the building, not for me. I'm selfish."

Brian Carfi, a West Apartment resident whose building would be involved in recycle mania if the event goes campus wide, agreed that the \$800 was not a powerful incentive.

"The building doesn't even have anything it could do with \$800. Do we even have a rec room?" He asked, turning to his friend. "Now if it went right into my pocket..." he added, laughing with his suite mates. Carfi also said he would recycle more if the contest were between suites or hallways, with the prize being divided among the winners.

Youdelman said that not only is it impractical to bring the competition to an individual level, but it would also ignore that recycling must be a community effort.

It's important "to be mindful of the community as a whole. All of us have an effect that's quite major," he said, explaining that the campus recycles 2,300 tons a year, materials that would otherwise wind up in already filling landfills.

Imagine how much garbage you throw out, Youdelman said. "Where does it all go?" he asked, looking at me intently. "Whose burden is it?"

*Note: the March 2006 issue's article, "Recycling: Not Just for Hippies," was missing its first paragraph due to a technical mistake. See our website to read the story in its entirety.*

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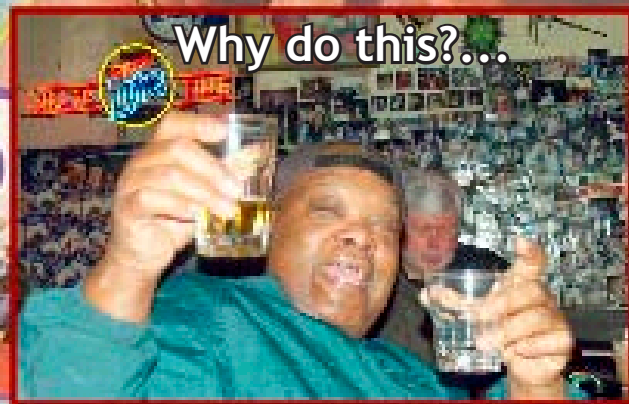
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# Spring Break Volunteer Work

By Erica Smith

This April, 45 Stony Brook students will spend a week picking up debris and digging building foundations in New Orleans, their nights spent packed in a church classroom on air mattresses and in sleeping bags. Their mission? To help rebuild a city.

The trip, organized through Habitat for Humanity, is one of the many "alternative spring breaks" that have become increasingly popular among college students. Each year, more students choose to spend their spring break doing community service instead of the traditional partying in tropical destinations.

Jenny Wang, lead organizer of the New Orleans trip, has no regrets about her vacation plans. "So many students wake up after of a week of getting drunk and wonder, 'What did I do for a week?'" she said. "These students are going to know they made a huge difference."

When Kenny Eng, a soft-spoken business and economics major, first learned about the trip to New Orleans, he said he jumped at the chance to sign up. "Not a lot of the activities I'm a part of help people," he said. "I wanted to do something for someone else."

Rosie Scavuzzo, one of the coordinators for the trip, said that when a friend came back recently from Louisiana, he described

a McDonald's with its golden arches laying on the ground, and shopping centers piled with debris- areas that had been neglected but could easily be cleaned up. "They just need people to help," Scavuzzo said.

In 2005, 12,700 students spent their spring break working with Habitat for Humanity. It is probably the most well known alternative for spring break. Other programs are more unusual.

Fifteen-hundred miles away from Louisiana, 14 other Stony Brook students will spend three days in Massachusetts waking at dawn to milk cows, feed livestock, and harvest crops. They will live in conditions that replicate impoverished countries, including Uganda, Thailand, Peru, Tibet and Guatemala and participate in educational workshops. These activities are designed by the organization Heifer International to raise awareness about global poverty while exploring the causes of and solutions to world hunger.

When the three days are over, the students will spend the rest of their vacation in Boston working in soup kitchens.

This trip was organized by Levy Solomon through Miracles on Long Island, a recent addition to Stony Brook's student organizations. Solomon founded the club to promote community service while bridging cultural gaps.

"We really stress service learning as

opposed to just community service," said Solomon, explaining that Heifer Farm makes its educational lessons hard to forget. "My friend had to fetch yak dung to make fire, because in Tibet it is too cold to start a fire. Here we don't think about that, we just turn on the stove," she said.

This is the second year that Solomon has organized a group of Stony Brook students to attend Heifer Farm.

Stony Brook students' enthusiasm for alternative spring breaks is underlined by the waiting lists for the trips to both New Orleans and Heifer Farms. Interested students are not concentrated in certain parts of the campus community, but instead come from "literally everywhere," said Wang.

Last spring, 38,000 American students choose to spend their vacation at more than 450 alternate spring break sites in the United States and abroad, estimates Break Away, a nonprofit organization based at Florida State University in Tallahassee. While this is only a tiny fraction of 16 million college students in the United States, it is more than a 50 percent increase from five years ago

But do these students feel that they are missing out on a real vacation?

Scavuzzo said that that although a part of her would love to join other college students at beach resorts, she will be consoled by the 80 degree weather in Louisiana. "I just want sun," she said longingly.

# Blogger Resigns

By Erica Smith

A new conservative blogger for the Washington Post website was forced to resign March 24, after being accused of plagiarizing as a college journalist. Ben Domenech, 24, co-founder of the conservative web site RedState.org, had just starting writing for the post's blog "Red America" when the liberal publication, Salon.com made the charges.

This should serve as a subtle reminder to all of us. Sometimes we forget that what we do as college students can come back years, even decades later, to tap us on the shoulder.

And this goes way past committing a crime. It also applies to the simple expression of opinion. How often are a politician's forgotten words thrown at him in accusation? Even at Justice Alito's recent confirmation hearings, the most minute details of his past were put in the spotlight. And you can bet that we will see this more often in the future as technology allows us to preserve more information.

So the next time you go to type that editorial, whether you're with the Patriot, Press, Independent, Black World, or the Statesman, remember: It may be just for fun now, but it may become much more serious later.

You may come to regret it.





**BEN THE HEBREW HAMMER**



*answers*

**AMERICA**

Dear Hebrew Hammer:

Hey Hammer! This is your old pal, Calvin! You remember, Calvin Klein, from high school!!!! Anyway, I took off from my busy schedule and tried to become more news-savvy. The problem is, the more and more I watch the news, the more and more the current situation in Iran scares me. How can a man like Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who calls himself a world leader dress so shabbily? I mean, the guy wears old suits, never, ever wears a tie, doesn't comb his beard, and has a \$2 haircut! On top of that, he is butt-ugly! When I first saw that filthy terrorist's mug on TV, I almost fainted! I mean, he is nothing like our handsome, well-dressed, well groomed President, George W. Bush!

*Calvin Klein  
CK Designs, Worldwide*

The Hammer Says:

Calvin, you stupid Jew! I know you mean well when you try to pretend to have a grasp on world politics, but this idiot president of Iran wants to kill me, you, and every other Jew! Just keep supplying my suits, and I will keep on protecting you from that anti-Semitic German prick next door, Hugo Boss. By the way, your winter line made me and my boys look absolutely magnificent this Hanukka.

## University Bans on U.S. Military Recruiters Unwarranted

By Byung Min Sa

Recently, there has been a decent amount of complaints across college campuses to cause quite a stir. The cause is the U.S. military "discriminating" against people who are openly gay. It's such a huge issue that universities are attempting to ban recruiters from coming onto their campuses. I guess they don't think we need a standing army to keep America's enemies at bay. Perhaps we could just try asking Al Qaeda nicely to cease hostilities against the U.S. Anyway, the protesters who are against the military recruiting on campuses are using the word "discriminate" on an asinine level. We might as well claim that the U.S. military is also "discriminating" against people with flat feet, people who are color blind, people who have missing limbs and people who failed the standard ASVAB test (a test to ascertain a person's level of intelligence and comprehension). Does the military also discriminate against people who are overweight, weak and old? Preposterous!

The truth of the matter is that the military does everything they can to stop discrimination. I challenge anyone to walk into a U.S. military base and look at the personnel in uniforms. You will see a diverse medley of different last names, skin colors and genders (granted there are only two). Equal opportunity representatives are available in every unit ranging from the highest commander to the lowest Non-Commissioned Officers. Religious accommodations are given at every opportunity possible (Keyword: Possible). I recall having kosher meals being delivered to soldiers who could only eat kosher/halal foods and this was in the middle of a war!

Affirmative action also has no role in the military. If you deserve a promotion, you will get it. Regardless of age, sex, religious preference and skin color. People want to claim the military is a "discriminating" machine. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The only reasons I could think why people say the military is "discriminating" is because either they don't understand the military or they just don't like the military at all and will look for any excuse to tarnish its reputation. Hopefully I will be able to help clear up these misunderstandings. First, the fact that these people want to serve their country is greatly appreciated. Yet sadly, that

will not be enough. As much as the military wants to meet the individual needs of the soldiers, the military can never make compromises. That would cost them their integrity and decrease their effectiveness. If anything causes the military effectiveness to diminish, it needs to be dealt with immediately. With the fall of military effectiveness, incidents like 9/11 wouldn't be so bad because right after it would be 9/12, 9/13, etc.

Understand the lifestyle of the American soldier. It's not about big comfortable living where the biggest concern is about catching the latest episode of "24" on TV. Soldiers live in cramped quarters with little or no privacy. They use communal facilities, often showering in full view of other soldiers and sharing the other bathroom facilities. Sometimes they sleep huddled with each other in the field to share body warmth or the fact that they have no other option due to cramped living conditions. Now imagine throwing a homosexual individual to that equation who is sexually aroused by incidents like that. The moral and psychological effects on the other military personnel would be devastating.

Now I've heard the argument before that if a certain homosexual individual has strong control over their sexual desires it shouldn't be a problem. Well let me ask you this. I'm telling you that I have a strong control over my own sexual desire. Would it then be permissible for me to walk into the ladies locker room and share the shower room with other females? Where I would be able to observe their firm, tone, athletic bodies completely naked, lathering themselves with soap, observing their hands go about their bodies in ways that would never be acceptable in the public view? After that would I then be allowed to huddle with a group of females to share body heat? Would I be allowed to do all this because I made a claim to you that I have a strong control over my sexual desires? (I say we judge these universities to similar standards that they judge the military.)

Come on, let's use some common sense here. I do believe that the military should have civilian oversight but it should be done from a distance so that they may operate with full effectiveness to keep our country safe. Even at the cost of their own lives as unfortunate as that may be. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to take a cold shower.

## Limits of Educational Reform

By Jorge Sierra

In January 2002, President Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Later that same year, New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg won unprecedented control over city schools from the state legislature. Though ostensibly colorblind, both policies target the failure to provide students from minority and low-income communities with a quality education and are clearly intended to combat intergenerational poverty and inequality. This educational double-whammy has put tremendous pressure on New York City public school teachers and principals to push student test scores up, at the risk of neglecting other children's needs recognized by schools and communities; needs that require desperate attention in those same communities targeted by education reform.

The National Education Association (and many others) is critical of the No Child Left Behind Act for not providing enough funding for schools to do what it takes to avoid the executioner's axe of being tagged a "School in Need of Improvement." For example, Yonkers, NY, is spending more money on test preparation, while drastically cutting extracurricular activities and eliminating teachers and support staff such as guidance counsel-

ors and social workers. New York City has laid off paraprofessionals, closed cafeterias during summer classes, and still has schools with a shortage of computers and other school supplies. A 2002 report by the Public Policy and Education fund also cites extracurricular cutbacks in New York City public schools due to an inadequate state education budget.

Given the disastrous example of the Washington, D.C. school district (still failing, and spending over \$11,000 per student in 2005), and the short term local and national improvements in test scores, it's hard to take complaints about funding seriously. I also completely agree that with the increasing demands of the job market, students will need to learn very specific skills to succeed in adulthood. But money is only one resource, and academic prowess is only one measure of child development. Students need opportunities to explore creatively and interact positively with peers in an environment that doesn't depress them. They need to learn right from wrong, and a respect for the country and community that they live in. Budgetary cutbacks on activities such as sports, art, and music, on investments in technology and school repairs, and on school support staff, not to mention already existing inadequacies in many schools, are cheating stu-

dents out of resources necessary to child development that test scores cannot measure.

Even more disturbing than budget cuts are cutbacks in time. Where decades ago gym classes were given daily, now students only take gym once or twice a week. Yet to meet the dual demands of the city and the federal government, New York City schools have recently mandated an extra 37½ minutes of instruction for some students. Recreational after school programs are being replaced by after school tutoring. But is fostering academic learning the only goal of our schools? I think there is something much greater at stake for this nation's children than their intellectual development. There must be a place for emotional, social, and moral development, both for students who will succeed and those who will fail academically. What kind of generation are we creating if we teach people how to read, calculate, and reason but not to feel, enjoy, and relate to others?

A few days ago I met a young man on the LIRR who was selling candy to fund raise for basketball uniforms for some kind of "Boys and Girls Basketball" tournament, probably a youth club rather than a high school team. That's ex-

Continued on page 14

# If You Build It They Won't Come



Chris Pitera

Nearly five years ago, the United States suffered one of the most heinous attacks that have ever been carried out on domestic soil. Today, however, our borders remain a vulnerable point of entry for terrorists and illegal aliens. Considering we have the strongest military and the greatest technology that exists, it is certainly embarrassing that hundreds of miles between Mexico and America remain unsecured. Volunteer militia men are improperly equipped with obsolete equipment, and the National Guard is stretched so thinly across the Mexican-American border that it is as if they are not even there. There have even been reports of marine-style troops with automatic assault rifles in the dark of night mobilizing and entering America forcefully by gunpoint. These individuals do not represent the average immigrants fleeing for economic prosperity and healthcare.

According to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, 139,000 of the 1.1 million people apprehended on the border in 2005 were criminal aliens seeking to illegally reenter the United States. More than 25 billion dollars of narcotics cross the border

each year, and the rise of health costs in America can be partially attributed to the mass illegal immigration movement.

Illegal immigrants will equal more reliance on healthcare assistance, such as Medicaid, and thus higher taxes and insurance premiums for "the rest of us." What is it going to take for Congress to stop grandstanding on these issues of border control and domestic security?

Maybe Los Angeles has to be subject to nuclear devastation, healthcare costs too expensive for the average American to afford, or even another felony against an innocent American citizen. It is negligent of the Congress and the President to sit idly on this issue, while tons of suspected terrorists cross the border each and every day.

There are economical issues that are worth considering, namely our agricultural economy, which is very dependent on immigrants. That is fine, but they should be documented and paying taxes like all legal American citizens. And frankly, I am tired of the far-left rhetoric blasting conservatives of being racist and discriminating against the illegal immigrants. According to Hillary 'Roten' Clinton, "This administration has failed to provide the resources to protect our borders, or a better system to keep track of entrants to this country." She further complained, "I

welcome the addition of more border security." She must have been drinking with Teddy before she gave that statement because her thumbs down vote for a Department of Homeland Security spending bill said otherwise, which, according to the Washington Times, would have funded plans for 2,000 new Border Patrol agents and more than 5,000 new detention beds to house illegal aliens.

We should not be soft on immigration at any expense; after all we are dealing with homeland security. At a time when terror cells are anxiously waiting to deploy right here in America, more are flooding in every day because of the lack of border security. This congress has been spending money onerously, and I do fault Bush for not acting on this issue tougher and more expediently. The American people want to be safe, and it should be a priority of the American government to protect its citizens.

The issue is hot, and each party is afraid of losing the Hispanic vote, especially with congressional and presidential elections forthcoming. Politics should not be played when it involves homeland security, and the party who takes the initiative to secure the border will walk away victoriously. Homeland security is a priority for many Americans who believe that sealing our borders is essential and of utmost important in securing the victory in the war on terror.

## Border Patrol

Satire by Damon Vetere

From the creators of Dance, Dance French Revolution and Where in Time is Osama bin Laden? comes an all-new action/adventure game: Border Patrol. Choosing to play as either the evil, heartless border patrol agents or the happy-go-lucky illegal immigrants, players will have to play through intense campaigns that will rock them to the core.

When choosing to be a border patrol agent, your sole objective is to prevent the illegals from entering the country - by whatever means necessary. As a border patrol agent, you will be equipped with tazers, barbed wire, night-vision goggles, and rocket-propelled grenades. Each agent will be able to ride an ATV, or hop on the back of a pickup truck for intense turret-style missions.

If playing as one of the good guys is your thing, the illegal immigrant campaign has loads of excitement. Using fellow illegals, you must create traps for the border patrol, hide in bushes, and throw rocks at oncoming cars to cause distractions! Each illegal is equipped with spam and a whiffle-ball bat, but you must find other resources to survive, such as water or new pants.

Taking the game online is where the fun really is. You can choose to play as either side, and it's a mad dash to the Rio Grande River. If all the illegals cross the river they win, but the border patrol can use secret weapons such as George W. Bush's Hurricane Machine to dislocate them.

Border Patrol will be in stores when Hillary takes office, so keep your fingers crossed and your socks dry.



# Women's History Month on Wrong Track



Erica Smith

Women's History Month is on the wrong track. A poster pasted all over my dormitory reads, "Can you imagine life without drip coffee, pink champagne, pulsars, solar heating, ice cream cones?...You don't have to, women invented them!" Ice cream cones? Pink champagne? Should I be feeling some sort of pride?

This poster is one of the many examples of people trying to portray woman's history as something it is not. Because of societal oppression, women were generally not engaged in intellectual pursuits until recently. Despite this, efforts like Women's History Month tend to exaggerate the importance of women's intellectual feats. This is inaccurate, condescending, and demeaning to what women's role in society truly was.

Since the beginning of time, women were confined to the home, primarily to raise children. I am by no means saying that this is what it should still be. In fact, it gives me shivers to think of it. But to dismiss this role would be to say that billions of lives across history have had no purpose, when it is in fact, quite the contrary. How many men became great in this society because of their mothers? Wouldn't you be different, good or bad, if it wasn't for your mom? I know I would. Yet it seems that Women's History Month ignores this, mentioning it only in scorn.

What is the purpose of women's history



month anyway? Is it to prove women's worth? Because I doubt it has changed the mind of any sexist. Is it to somehow make up for the wrongs done to women over history? If so, it is a flimsy offering. Many want it as a source of pride for women everywhere, but one's pride should come from one's own accomplishments, not those of strangers.

If its purpose is to point out the gender inequalities that still exist in America, then it is no longer necessary. Women are doing pretty well on their own.

According to the US Department of Labor, in 2004 women earned on average 80.4 cents to every dollar that men made, a disparity

mostly accounted for by many women's choice to place family first. One study that confirms this, done by June O' Neill, former director of the Congressional Budget Office under the Clinton administration and CUNY Professor of Economics, showed that when controlled for experience, education, and number of years on the job, women make 98 cents for every dollar that men make.

There are also about 40 careers in which women routinely earn more than men; including aerospace engineering (111 percent of men's wages) and speech pathology (118 percent). Even never-married female college professors make 145 percent of their male counterpart's salaries. And the future is looking even better with females attaining the majority of bachelor and master's degrees.

The advancements of American women, however, are not representative of the rest of the world. On the contrary, some countries have regressed. Across the globe, there are many places where slavery, rape, oppression, and domestic and societal abuse are routine for those perceived as the inferior sex. And little is being done. If Women's History Month is to be relevant and productive, maybe this is what it should be focusing on. Not pink champagne.

I would just like to take this opportunity to tell my mom, Lisa Smith, how much I love her and how much I truly appreciate the sacrifices that she has made and continues to make for me. She is unique in that she always thinks of others first- whether it be her husband (and best friend), children, mother, siblings, in-laws, or animals in need. I hope the rest of your life will be happy and satisfied, for that is what your influence has had on those around you.

Enduring Freedom Alliance  
Presents:

The First Annual  
Alexander Hamilton  
Dinner Banquet

Wednesday, April 26

7:00pm

SAC Ballroom B



Featuring Acclaimed  
Author Daniel J. Flynn



# Life, Liberty, and Pursuit of Happiness?

By Joshua Fritz

Using historical documents to present a position in the current day may seem pointless, but its relevancy proves to be an anchor to an ongoing argument. Abortion has been one of the most important issues when it comes to choosing leaders for public office. Without the history of our great country, where would we be today? The Declaration of Independence was written by then statesmen Thomas Jefferson, who believed all people were born with “unalienable rights endowed by their Creator.” These rights are “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness”.

As with the Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, although political in its history, provides ample proof that today the rights of the unborn are denied. Why? There is no life to be lived, no liberty, and no pursuit of happiness. A child should have everything to hope for in this country. A chance to live the expression known as the “American Dream” where one can pursue one’s goals and become educated to move upward socially, and economically. These very dreams we have now, have been denied to millions.

South Dakota has passed legislation to outlaw abortion except in the case of a birth that would be detrimental to the mother’s life. Many organizations such as the ACLU are watching carefully so they can wage a court battle, revoke the law, and have the “landmark” case (Roe v. Wade-1973) enforced. Governor Mike Rounds (R-SD) has signed the law to be in full-effect by July 1, 2006. Should the time come, there will be a court battle. South Dakota, a conservative state, has passed laws to curb abortion rates and has done so since the Roe case. The very thought of banning abortions has been the talk of media outlets since the confirmation of the Supreme Court’s Chief Justice John Roberts, and Associate Justice Samuel Alito. This law enacted in South Dakota could bring either a reversal to the case or a fierce enforcement of precedent. The laws of the land matter, and the representation of the people matter.

The Declaration of Independence, directed toward the British crown, initiated a war for human liberty and sovereignty apart from foreign control. Likewise, this law in South Dakota, has answered the cry for human life, and liberty, from foreign (political) control. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness should be a gift to all of humanity. Americans that are for the murder of innocent babies, deny that precious gift given by our Creator. By continuing this deprivation of life, the United States of America will fall considerably among the global community. The very rights promised since the inception of this country, have spread to other nations influenced by our national philosophy of ensuring the rights of all people. Hypocritically, the United States has gone the other way, by killing babies without thought. What message is the United States sending by enacting laws contrary to our national philosophy of ensuring rights to all?

With the passing of this legislation and the considerations of other states, the eyes darkened by the blindness of stripping life away, will be opened. Mental scars will be healed, in seeing life chosen over murder. The very peace that comes from the Creator will be enjoyed by all, and that is called happiness.

# Letters

Dear Editor,

I’ve worked on this campus for over 26 years and have never seen a publication make such an impressive debut as The Patriot. Though I’m not really sympathetic to most of its views, I do admire the paper: it’s attractive, and bespeaks a committed, competent, well-meaning staff.

I wondered if you could answer this question: just how does a paper like yours, competing with at least three other long-term, well-established student newspapers on campus, accomplish such a debut? You have more (expensive) color photos than any campus paper; you have many, lengthy articles; you seem not to need or use advertising; you have a very polished look; and your publication refers to commercial, politically-oriented websites that somehow seem tied into your production and editorial content in ways that ads in the other papers don’t.

Is your paper funded in the same way other campus papers are funded? What kind of outside funding or editorial help is permitted to local campus student newspapers? Does your paper deserve the same sort of distribution on campus as others’, based on its SUNY sponsorship?

I have no objections whatever to your publication or your editorial stance; in some ways it’s been a long time coming, and I welcome it. I’m just wondering how it appeared so suddenly full-blown and competitive. Thanks.

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I really appreciate your complements on The Patriot. We’ve worked really hard over the last year to get it where it is today. I’ll do my best to answer your questions:

As far as competing with the other major papers on campus, we have an advantage in that we are filling a niche that hasn’t been filled by them. Though there are a handful of conservative writers for The Statesman (and even fewer, if any, for The Press). We are the first paper on campus with a primary objective of reaching out to conservative, libertarian, and middle-of-the-road students, while at the same time including stories that any student would enjoy.

Personally, I view the papers on campus in the following way: The Press is definitely a left-leaning paper, The Statesman tends to be dominated by campus news and a few editorials with views from both sides, and The Patriot is the right-leaning paper. Each paper has its own role on campus and has a different audience, with plenty of overlap, obviously.

We’re not really the only paper with color photos on campus. Last year The Statesman was in color and The Press always has a color front and back page. I believe Blackworld also uses color on the front and back pages.

Our many lengthy articles are from the many conservative-leaning students that are in a way fed up with the liberal-dominated culture on campus. Our writers are very dedicated and passionate about what they write.

The layout has been evolving since our first issue and improves with each issue as I learn how to better use our layout software. But I think it’s one of the best features of our paper, and I try my best to keep in on par with not only other campus papers, but with the national papers as well.

Our funding is very much the same as other papers on campus. The paper is paid for by the Enduring Freedom Alliance, which is a club on campus. It’s a little different in that the paper is only one thing the club does as a whole, while the mission of The Press, for example, is solely to publish their paper. Any and all outside funding is allowed for campus papers and clubs. We’ve received a couple of grants and we’ve gotten some revenue from advertisements from local businesses in Stony Brook. However, at this point our paper is funded mostly by the school.

Anyway, thanks for reaching out and I’m glad to see that you admire our paper.

Sincerely,  
Erik Berte  
Editor-in-Chief  
The Patriot

## A Replacement for Displacement

This is one of the oldest questions in the book. For years, the general consensus has been that if you want to have a motor produce high amounts of torque and horsepower, you needed to increase its size. This makes sense, since the more air and fuel you burn, the more power you make. However, within the last 10-15 years, there have been great advancements in the ways you can increase power from a gasoline combustion engine.

The most prominent tool capable of this is a turbocharger. A turbocharger is a device that uses spent exhaust gasses to spin a turbine, which in turn pressurizes air and forces it back into the motor. This pressure combined with the mass of the air will force a motor to combust for air and fuel, thus resulting in more power.

A turbocharger allows much smaller motors to compete with large domestic V8s. One of the best examples of turbocharge usage is the Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution. The Evolution debuted in

America in 2003 as an Evolution 8, but it has been in Japan for over a decade. The Evolution uses a 2.0 litre, turbocharged 4 cylinder engine. Despite the engine’s tiny size, it produces 286 horsepower and 276 ft/lbs of torque. This is enough to propel the Evolution from 0-60mph in 4.6 seconds, and to complete the quarter mile at about 13 seconds flat. To put those numbers into perspective, that’s about as fast as a Porsche Carrera S, faster than the 2004 Chevrolet Corvette, and it blows the doors off of a Nissan 350Z.

Those numbers are for an Evolution in stock form. However, hardly anyone that owns an Evolution will leave it as such. AMS Tuning of Chicago has a street legal Evolution project car. Currently, they have achieved roughly 800 horsepower at all 4 wheels. Using a 20 percent drive train loss, that’s over 950 horsepower. The motor is still 4 cylinders, and the car is still street legal. It is simply amazing. This car was able to

Jason Frank



run the quarter mile in 9.4 seconds at 145 mph back when it had “only” 700 horsepower at the wheels. That is well beyond the speed of any factory production vehicle ever produced, including the McLaren F1 and Bugatti Veyron.

So, what is the compromise? Well, a small motor will eventually reach its limits when it comes to how large of a turbo it will be able to make power with. Also, the larger the turbo and smaller the motor, the greater the delay in power delivery, also known as turbo lag. The point remains, though, that small motors can most definitely make serious power, and on many occasions, can outmuscle domestic V8 blocks that are sometimes double and triple in size.



# RAs Deserve Better

The merciless, high pitched screech of the phone rouses me from sleep. My right eye slowly creeps open, and I read the blurry time on the clock next to my bed: 3:15. "Mmmprh." Oops, try again. "He-hel-hello?" I manage to croak on the second try. "Oh, the frat guys are at it again?" I hang up the phone, cursing an incoherent blue streak. I throw on some accoutrements slightly more reputable than my moth-eaten, vintage 1998 Austin Powers boxers and trudge, still half-asleep, to the other side of the building. Shut up, or else. If I am not clear enough, I am sure the police would be more than willing to convince you. Slam. I trudge back to my beautiful accommodations, crawl into bed, and wait for the phone to ring again, this time with some numskull who managed to lock himself out of the building, his suite and his room (the simple task of keeping track of a key is apparently too much for a lot of people). Are you jealous yet?

In addition to being kept up by idiots who get their kicks from breaking windows and tearing down our bulletin boards, RAs are also responsible for being on duty one night per week (from 7PM to 8AM), being on duty two to three weekends per semester, working out a Thanksgiving/Spring Break duty schedule, conducting monthly programs for their residents, hall meetings, being available to moderate conflicts between residents should they arise, serving on a committee in their respective quads, weekend duty (during which they may

not leave the building except briefly to eat), checking residents in and out at the beginning and end of the semester (requiring extensive finals week duty hours, often making it difficult to study), various in-services, attending LEG meetings, homecoming/spirit week activities, and then, once school is over, staying a week after everyone else has left—with no hot water. Ah yes, the innumerable joys of being an RA. But my experience as an RA has left me with, in addition to a bad taste in my mouth, a question that many people have asked me: was it worth it?

To answer this, I would first like to estimate how many hours an RA works on average during a semester. This will vary from building to building depending on how many staff members there are, how strict the hall director is, and how many residents there are per RA. Conservatively, I would estimate this to be around 515 hours, or on average 32.125 hours per week. This may sound high, but once a week, RAs are on duty for 13.5 hours (or 216 hours per semester). Also, weekend duty several times per semester adds at least 96 hours (two days, or 48 hours x two), and staying after finals week for five days on average adds 120 hours. Programs add 12 hours to the semester total, and spring break duty adds 48 hours, though many RAs end up working more than two days. Committee meetings account for another six, and random tasks such as conflict mediation, and homecoming/spirit week



Brett Denyer

add another 15 hours. Again, for some RAs these figures will be low, depending on how many hours they work during spring break and finals week, or how rowdy the residents are in their buildings.

Now that we have some idea of the total hours worked, what about compensation? RAs are given free housing and a meal plan subsidy. In Tabler Quad, the cost of a premium room is \$2600, and the meal plan subsidy is around \$300 (though it is only \$150 for new RAs), for a total of \$2900 (for second year RAs). Dividing \$2900/514 hours gives an average hourly wage of \$5.64, barely over minimum wage, and certainly less than the prevailing wage for many jobs that college students work in the local area. For example, Target pays its beginning cashiers \$6.50 per hour.

This also pales in comparison to RA compensation at other schools. I have yet to hear of another college or university that does not give its RAs a free meal plan. Last spring I spoke to an MBA student here who got her bachelor's degree at SUNY Albany. She said that when she was an RA there, she re-

Continued on page 14

Peter Griffin's



**GRINDS MY GEARS**

**SPECIAL PUBLIC BATHROOM EDITION!**

**1.** People that exaggerate the necessity of washing your hands: You know the people that look at ya funny after you do your business and then just walk out the door. I mean most of the time I don't even get any on my hands, so what's the big freakin deal here? This is America people. America! It's a free country and if I don't want to wash my hands then I shouldn't have to.

**2.** I also can't stand the fact that every time I choose the last urinal of an empty row (clearly stating that privacy is important to me) some douchebag always comes in and starts peeing in the urinal right next to me anyway. And you know, the guy not only turns out to be an "eye wanderer" but his spray-back gets all over the freakin place too.

**3.** People that sing or whistle while taking a dump: Come to think of it, I'm just as guilty of that as the next guy so, uh...never mind then.

**4.** You know those phone numbers that people always scratch into the toilet stall's walls? They really grind my gears. You know why? Because, well, uh, every time I call one of those numbers that say "for a good time," ...my wife answers. Well, either that or some dude named Romone. Not really sure what that's all about and uh, I'm not sure I really want to know either.

**5.** Finally, obvious bathroom etiquette rules would include not only flushing, but also cleaning up any messes left behind. Well not for me. I'm a fat S.O.B. and therefore it's in my very nature to neglect those things. So, to anyone else who does the same—you're alright in my book. In fact, I say get creative. Don't just miss the target, but take a dump in a sink every now and then. Or, if you get the urge, leave an upper decker. Yeah, some might frown upon such action, but one thing's for sure- You'll never have to worry about Peter Griffin if you do. And when I finally get to the door, these do-gooders get pissed at me for not thanking them when the only thing I would thank them for is a nasty case of swamp ass. The freakin' nerve of some people.

# Everything Causes Cancer!

Erik Berte



These days it seems like every time you read the paper or watch the news you find something else that will give you cancer. You can't drink tap water anymore, you can't use deodorant, you can't even eat french fries at McDonalds anymore, without worrying that you'll somehow develop cancer as a result. Well I'd like to take a moment here to reassure you that not all of it's true and a lot of it is blown out of proportion as a result of media hysteria. There really isn't much evidence to support the claims for many of things people say cause cancer.

It seems to be common knowledge that cell phones cause brain tumors. We've got radiation shields you can put on them, techniques of holding them that minimize exposure, guidelines of the age of people who should use them, all kinds of stuff. But a lot of the hysteria has to do with a poor understanding of what causes cancer.

Cancer, though still not well understood, is caused when DNA in a cell is damaged, causing it to multiply without stopping. Normal cells are self-regulated and know when they're supposed to stop dividing or slow down. But something in these cancer cells (in their DNA) is messing up this regulating process. So, by that

logic, for something to cause cancer it would have to damage your DNA. Cell phone radio signals can't do that.

To understand why, one needs a quick physics lesson. Scientists use the electromagnetic spectrum to describe different types of radiation. Some examples of radiation are visible light (remember ROYGBIV? – red, orange, yellow, etc.) FM radio (WBLI, Z100), AM radio (for old people to listen to crappy music on), microwaves, and X-Rays. Now what differentiates these different types of radiation is wavelength. FM radio and AM radio are some examples of longer wavelength radiation with lower energy, whereas UV light, X-Rays, and gamma rays have a shorter wavelength. Now, because of the tiny size of DNA (something you can't even see with a microscope), in order for it to be damaged by radiation, it requires something that's very high in energy and short in wavelength. Just think of how skin cancer is caused by UV (ultra-violet) rays.

Basically, anything that has a wavelength equal to or longer than that of visible light (microwaves, radio waves, and heat), cannot penetrate your DNA and therefore cannot damage it. And right there I've already pointed out a myth: you know, the one about putting your face in front of a microwave being dangerous. The truth is, microwaves are lower in energy than visible light, so they can't damage your DNA directly. So rest assured, if you were to be put into a gigantic mi-

crowave, you wouldn't get cancer! All of the water inside of you would heat up and you might explode or something, but you won't get cancer. And don't worry about putting your face close to the microwave; the door in front of it blocks microwaves from escaping anyway, so you won't get burned or anything. Trust me; I've been doing it since I was a toddler and I'm still alive.

So, the same logic follows with cell phones, which work with radio waves. Radio waves, just like microwaves are longer in wavelength and lower in energy than visible light and cannot penetrate your DNA. So don't worry about chatting on your cell phone all night long and don't worry about all those TV and FM radio waves traveling through the air and through you; they're completely safe.

I guess the lesson learned here is that the media tends to generate hysteria over these sorts of things and when research is done afterwards disproving the claims, little coverage is given to it. People hear about this stuff and get all worked up over nothing, really. And then, when something's discovered that might put them at ease, they never hear about it. It's important that we do a little research on our own and use some common sense when hearing about these things. Otherwise we're just giving into the media hysteria and putting money into the pockets of those companies that make cell phone radiation shields and the like.



# GAMER'S GUIDE

By Damon Vetere

Now that the gaming blitz of March has finally subsided, it's time to set our sights on April, because more games are on the way. If there's one thing that has become strikingly apparent when looking at the Xbox 360 release schedule for 2006, it's that Microsoft has no plans of slowing down. Instead of using March as a showcase

for some of the best games of the year, Microsoft seems to have used last month to jump-start an incredible lineup of games that should carry throughout 2006. This should excite gamers, because it is a true deviation from industry norms, where the spring and summer seasons usually see few titles, and even fewer successful ones.

By breaking away from industry standards, not only will Microsoft

dominate the barren months of April through August, but gamers will finally not have to wait until the fall to see great titles.

April, which is usually regarded as the slowest month in video games, is the first of these months. Instead of bringing in the slow season of gaming, April begins where March left off, with lots of promise, release dates, and cash to spend.



## Battlefield 2: Modern Combat

Battlefield 2 is a first-person shooter mostly known for its multiplayer component. Modern Combat has already been released on last-gen hardware, Xbox and PS2, but has seen a makeover for the 360. While the console versions of Battlefield 2 were developed exclusively different from the PC version, the spirit still remains the same: multiplayer mayhem, featuring 24-player battles including tanks, helicopters, and planes just to name a few. Overall, the list includes more than 30 vehicles, and more than 70 weapons, if going it on foot is your fancy.

Just don't get your hopes up. Battlefield 2 isn't known for its single-player experience, and should be considered only a bonus for picking this title up. If you are looking for an immersive, intense war game, pick up Ghost Recon: Advanced Warfighter. However, if multiplayer carnage is your thing, then this game has your name all over it.

**Release Date: 4/11/06**



## Tomb Raider: Legend

Out: 4/11/06



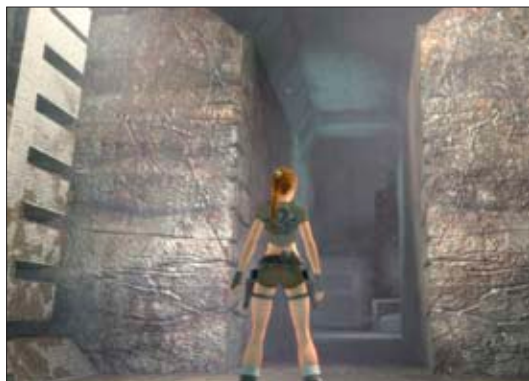
In case you've been living under a rock or in a tomb (pun- get it?), Tomb Raider is an action/adventure platformer that features main character Lara Croft, an athletic and beautiful English treasure hunter. The Tomb Raider games were always known for excellent level design, exciting action-packed moments, and interesting places to explore. Unfortunately for Tomb fans, some of these elements have been disappearing more and more in every latest Tomb Raider release. To be honest, Ms. Croft's star has faded significantly.

The franchise certainly has had its ups and downs. The first few Tomb Raider titles really brought great success to the genre, and Tomb Raider set the bar high for action/adventure games during the Playstation era. Unfortunately, Tomb Raider could not find that same success on the Playstation 2, and the latest game, Angel of Darkness, was awful. So after reading all this negativity, you're probably asking yourself why do I want this game?

The biggest reason why is that Tomb Raider: Legend has hopes to redeem the franchise and Crystal Dynamics is now the developer. The studio may

be able to produce that series freshness that Eidos Interactive (the game's publisher) has been looking for. Overall, the game's level design is meant to feel like an action flick, with intense combat moments mixed with vehicle sections. The game will also include puzzles, and the platforming elements that is expected in a Tomb Raider title. Crystal Dynamics has also redone the combat system, hoping to add a little speed and acrobatics to the fray.

Legend certainly has the odds stacked against Tomb Raider, but hopefully Crystal Dynamics is up to the challenge of bringing Tomb Raider back to respectability. When tomb Raider works, it really works. Killer visuals and platforming elements blended in with action sequences in exotic locales are the reasons why gamers still have hope for this franchise, no matter how small they may have become.



## FarCry Instincts Predator

Out: 3/28/06



In case you missed Far Cry on the PC (2004) or Far Cry Instincts on the Xbox (2005), you definitely don't want to miss Far Cry Instincts Predator on the Xbox 360.

In this jungle-based, first-person shooter you are Jack Carver, a freelance mariner who finds himself being hunted in the base of operations for blood-thirsty modern-day pirates on an island in the South Pacific.

The big draw to the Far Cry series is the intense jungle combat, allowing you to interact with the foliage to set traps or ambush enemies. As usual, the jungle will look better than ever on the 360, including fully interactive and destructible environments. What sets the game apart from other

first-person shooters is the inclusion of "Feral Abilities", essentially an animalistic skill set allowing you to maul enemies, smell fear, and have lightning-fast reflexes and agility.

If this doesn't get your juices flowing, maybe the multiplayer will. Included are several gametypes, including Chaos, Team Chaos, Steal the Sample, Predator, and Seek and Secure modes. Returning to this iteration is the famous Far Cry map editor, allowing users to create and showoff their own multiplayer maps, fully playable online. If that's not enough for you, the original Far Cry Instincts game is also included with all-new updated graphics.

So, to recap: modern-day pirates? Check. Jungle traps and ambushes? Check. Animal instincts and abilities? Check. Picking it up March 28th? Check.





# South Park Republicans!



By Erik Berte

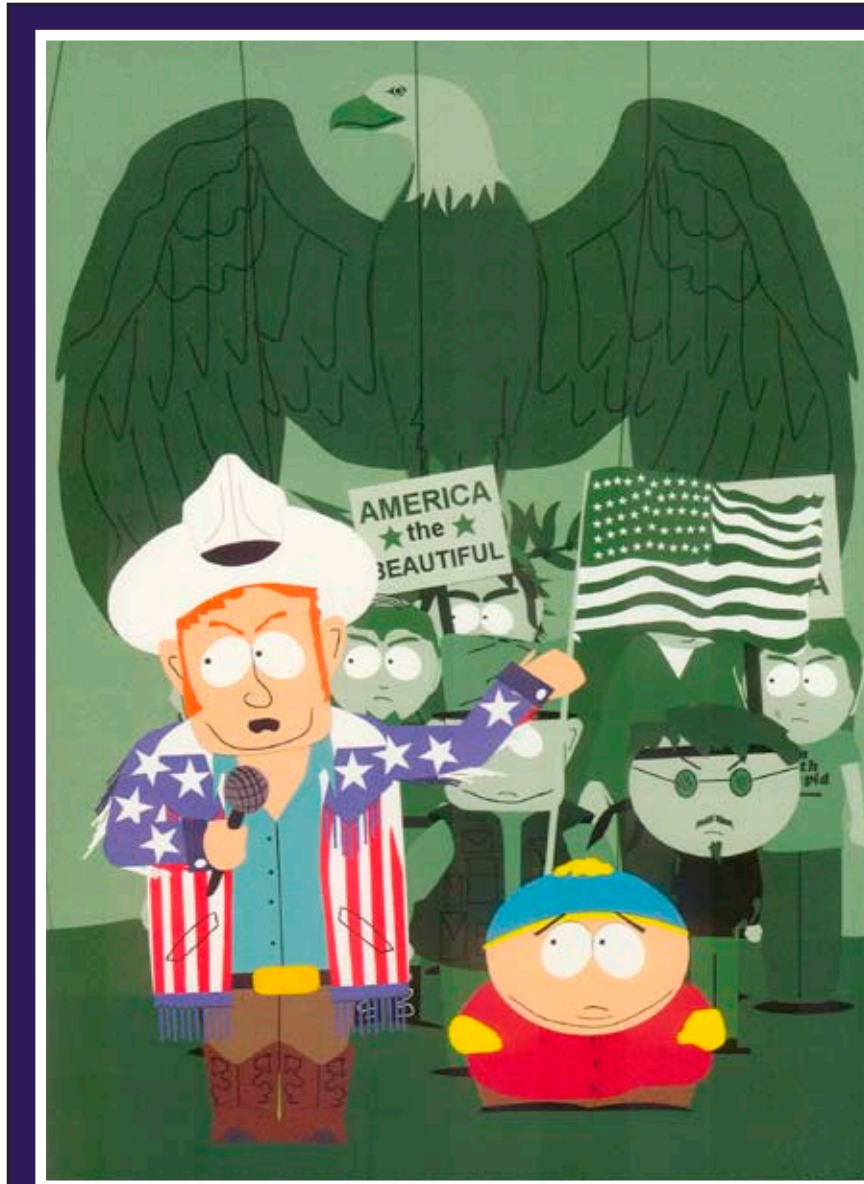
Republicans are becoming cool and you might not even know it. You've seen the show, South Park, and laughed your ass off while watching it. You often agree with the points made in the satire. You may very well be a South Park Republican and be completely unaware of it.

For those of you who don't know what I'm talking about, here's a little background. The term "South Park Republican" comes from the incredibly popular Comedy Central TV show, South Park. You might even be surprised to know that the term has a whole page devoted to it on wikipedia.com.

Though the show makes fun of both sides of the political spectrum, it certainly spends a lot of time ripping on the liberal establishment, which is something few, if any, programs on TV did in 1997 when the show first premiered. And when it does criticize the right, it's usually fundamentalist Christian conservatives that it's mocking.

How does the show accomplish this? It uses the four boys it follows to teach lessons in politics, morality, and hypocrisy by using humor and satire. In most episodes, Kyle or Stan ends the show by saying, "you know, I think I learned something today..." Often times what they learned stemmed from the ridiculousness they witnessed during that particular episode. And more often than not they end up solving the issue in that episode on their own (if political, usually in a libertarian or conservative manner), showing how these ideas come naturally to you when you're not being indoctrinated and told to think a certain way.

So what does this have to do with being conservative or Republican? Well, Republicans aren't the nerdy, rich, white Protestants that people often think they are anymore. "We're not your daddy's GOP" is a slogan heard a lot from today's College Republicans chapters all over the country. (An interesting fact: there are 1,148 College Republicans



chapters in the U.S. compared to only 903 chapters of College Democrats)

The party has become much more diverse these days in the types of people involved and

even the ideas that they support. Just look back at the 2004 Republican National Convention, where non-traditional conservative politicians like John McCain, Rudy Giuliani, and even Arnold Schwarzenegger gave speeches promoting the diversity of ideas within the party.

This emerging new brand of GOP is a lot different than the stereotype portrayed by biased films and TV shows in the past. Many members are moving in what you might call a libertarian direction, especially the younger ones (college students).

"South Park Republicans are true Republicans, though they do not look or act like Pat Robertson. They believe in liberty, not conformity. They can enjoy watching The Sopranos even if they are New Jersey Italians. They can appreciate the tight



"We've always been f\*\*\* the system punks and the only way to be punk anymore is to into a party and say 'George Bush f\*\*\*ing rules!'" - Matt Stone



"So, Scientology, you have won THIS battle, but the million-year war for Earth has just begun." - Trey Parker and Matt Stone

## South Park Vs. Scientology

By Stephen Macomber

Ladies and Gentlemen, well probably more gentlemen than ladies. Children of all ages, again mostly just teenagers to mid-twenties. Are you ready for the greatest battle of all time? South Park vs. Scientology! South Park has taken on so many great religious beliefs in the past: Catholics, Jews, Muslims, Mormons, and even Hindus. And now they take on Scientology.

For those of you who don't know what scientology is, here is a quick rundown. According to the website, <http://www.scientology.org>, scientology means "The study of Truth." Scientologists don't believe in a god, but instead in a super-being that is in everybody through their own personalities. Drugs are bad (mmmokay?) and can in no way be a part of a scientologist's life.

The religion has taken a foothold within the Hollywood lifestyles of many high profile names. Some

celebrity Scientologists you may know are Tom Cruise, Katie Holmes (recently), and Issac Hayes.

Now back to the battle of South Park vs. Scientology. It started in a recent episode called "Trapped in the closet." In this episode, Tom Cruise comes to South Park. He locks himself into a closet because Ron Hubbard, the founder of Scientology, doesn't think Tom is a very good actor.

This episode tears apart all foundations of Scientology and questions Cruises's sexual orientation. Tom Cruise, since that episode, has tried to get it off the air permanently.

Throughout the years Issac Hayes, the voice of Chef, has never questioned any of the episodes that rip on any other religious belief. But suddenly things changed when they hit close to home and tackled Scientology with that episode. He claims that no one should make fun of anyone's religious belief, but of course he had no problem making fun of

Jews, Christians and Muslims. With Trey Parker and Matt Stone, creators of South Park, not budging on the episode and telling Hayes to basically suck it up, he quit the show.

Even though Hayes quit the show, Matt and Trey needed to write him out of the script. They did that in an episode called "The Return of Chef." Matt and Trey got really creative with the voice of Chef. If you watched the episode you may have noticed something odd about Chef's voice. It was Issac Hayes's voice, but being spliced together from other episodes. They went on to turn Chef into a child molester, who was later on eaten by lions and bears. Then to top it all off they show Chef returning at the end as "Darth Chef."

So if history has taught us anything, South Park will be fine without Issac Hayes and will go on without him. You can be sure that there will be many more fights South Park can pick and many more celebrities to rip apart.

abs of Britney Spears or Brad Pitt without worrying about the nation's decaying moral fiber. They strongly believe in liberty, personal responsibility, limited government, and free markets. However, they do not live by the edicts of political correctness."

That quote from Stephen W. Stanton, who first wrote about the idea of South Park Republicans, perfectly sums it up. One of the most important features of the show is that it is sharply against political correctness. Nothing is too taboo to be mentioned on the show, and this stuff sells! Just look at the new show, Mind of Mencia, also on Comedy Central. Terms like "wetback" and his signature "dee dee dee" appear constantly in his skits and rants. Or consider Drawn Together, an animated mock reality show that makes a habit of poking fun at stereotypes. People are tired of leftist political correctness and it shows.

It's important to mention though, that there is no specific South Park Republican platform. South Park Republicans have many different ideas and disagree with each other on lots of issues. But they're brought together on a set of key attitudes and feelings. Stanton writes, "Voting Republican is one of the group's two defining characteristics. The other defining characteristic is a visible disconnect from the stereotypical Republican... The cartoon is just a metaphor. Many South Park Republicans have never seen the cartoon. Maybe some are fans of the X-Men movies, which make a strong case for Second Amendment rights, limited government, individual liberty

Continued on page 17



# TERRORIST GROUP STILL DETERMINED TO RULE THE WORLD!

## COBRA'S KNOWN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Household cleaning product pyramid scheme

Sold mindless sitcoms to networks to futher lower intelligence of Americans

Armies of Cobra accountants advised millions of Americans to cheat on their taxes, denying funds to government and prompting cuts in defense spending

Invaded Emirate of Benzheen to take control of oil fields

Sparked revolution in Sierra Gordo undermining U.S. anti-communist efforts in early 1980s

Built weather dominator WMD

Controlled the town of Springfield, USA, and converted it into an underground Cobra base

Repeated this several years later in Broca Beach, NJ

## Cobra Extremists Deny False Rumors of Military Mishaps

## Displays of Violence After Mocking of Their Leader



**Cobra Comander**  
Mock him at your own risk.

### Satire by Alex Ovtcharenko

I'm sure everyone's been aware of the recent cartoon controversies ongoing in Europe and the Middle East. However, unbeknownst to us or anyone else, another cartoon controversy is brewing in the world, with possible disastrous results following it. The following text is the mysterious correspondence we intercepted, that explains the latest in this world-wide phenomenon of humorless rubes expressing their misplaced outrage at the free media. It has been transcribed from an audio tape that sounds like it was recorded somewhere underground, possibly a cave.

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 "We, The People of the sovereign nation of Cobra, are outraged by the portrayal of our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) on American television. In the devilish cartoon you American Devils call G.I. Joe, our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) is shown as incompetent, lazy, cowardly and in various situations you Yankee Dogs consider "funny". We are not amused! It is absolutely FORBIDDEN to poke fun, make jokes at the expense of or portray in any negative way our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name)! We, the people of COBRA are People Of Peace

and do not condone violence, but we can not be responsible for past, present or future outbursts of anger if the Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) is further lampooned by you Ignorant Imperialists in any more cartoons! Our numbers are many, our power comes from the holy one himself, the Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) and we will NOT accept this "freedom of speech" as an excuse to make ANY jokes about Him!

We, The People of COBRA, will not stand for anymore misinformation about our Peaceful Ways. We are not terrorists, we are freedom fighters. The so-called "acts of

terrorism" are just our reasonable reaction to the satirical portrayal of our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) in your dastardly cartoons. The American Assault by the forces of G.I. Joe on our beloved homeland of Cobra Island were responsible for creating a Cobra civil war which has further divided our people. We will not accept blindly your misguided need to "spread democracy" by supporting American puppets like the sententious Serpentor, who wishes to establish a constitutional republic in our land! We take our orders only from our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name),

and He does NOT approve of your democratic freedom-loving ways! We will continue to infiltrate your borders, attack your infrastructure and target civilians until you apologize for your mistakes and accept our Beloved Leader Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) as your God and worship Him in the manner He deserves. We appeal to your leader, George W. Bush to accept Cobra Commander (Praised Be His Name) into his heart and follow the ways of COBRA!"

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# Ideology Vs. Entertainment

## By Damon Vetere

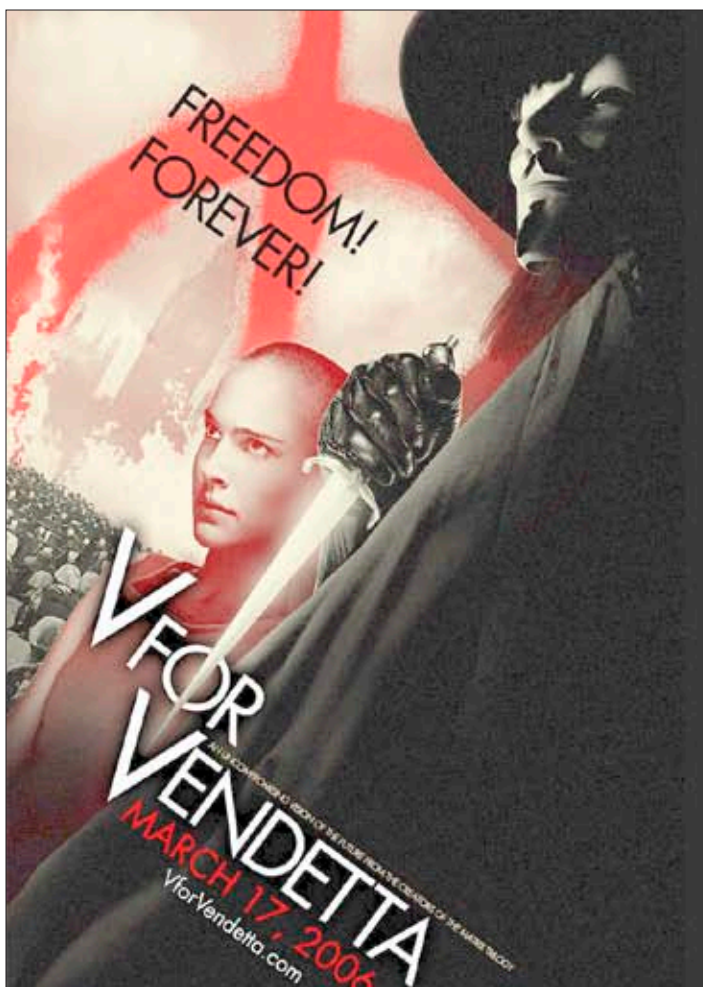
It isn't often that a movie is released that I totally disagree with its message and still find a way to not only enjoy the movie, but be fascinated by it. This was the case for V for Vendetta. After all, from the opening voice-over, to the closing words, the film manages to keep up the anti-American/anti-conservative agenda. In fact, the opening scene spews out some strong words about the demise of the United States and never lets up its frequent reminders about how the steps taken by our government today could lead to the eventual negation of human rights as depicted in the film (the war against terrorism, anti-Islamic extremists, and even wire-tapping). Yet despite the flawed ideologies, the film is great. As long as the viewer can manage to shrug off the mindset of the film's writers, he or she will definitely enjoy the film. No

matter what, you will find yourself rooting for V and friends to destroy that nasty, fascist government!

For those inclined to dig a little deeper into the mythologies of V for Vendetta, check out the original comics that it is based on (currently available in graphic novel form). While the film and book have some plot differences, it is interesting to see just how much anti-American and anti-Bush sentiments were added. Keep in mind, the comics came out in the early 1980s and the times were much different back then. It's interesting to note that the original creators of the comic wanted nothing to do with the film. But then again, what do you expect with the changes those wonky Wachowski brothers made. After all, who would expect anything less than questionable ideologies from someone in the middle of a sex change operation? Yes, its true people, one of the Wachowski brothers is soon to be a

Wachowski sister.

In the end of V for Vendetta, it becomes clear to me that ultimately, it's their ideology that takes a backseat to overall entertainment. Therefore, I strongly recommend the film to both the people who want to be entertained and the people who want to feel "changed" afterwards.





# Student Activity Fee: Just Say No

I hope that by now all of the frantic “campaigning” (read: brainwashing) regarding whether or not the student activity fee should be mandatory is beginning to fade from our minds. Everywhere, it seems, one could hear people urging everyone to vote to keep the student activity mandatory as though they were speaking of the apocalypse. At LEG meetings, walking to class, eating at the SAC, in classrooms, in hallways, even on Facebook.

You see, we were told, unless the school takes your money and gives it to other people, there won't be anything to do on campus, and our school, already less than a paragon of social activity for its students, will become even more dismal. Besides, our campus is supposed to be about the amorphous blob of community and collective identity, and we can't have these petty individualists and their silly principles about liberty wrecking our glorious model.

It is my hope that in the recent election, which is undecided at the writing of this article, that everyone was able to see through the haze of frantic interest-group propaganda to the truth: the activity fee is nothing more than petty theft, regardless of the benefits it supposedly provides to students.

This is a classic case of de Tocqueville's “tyranny of the majority”. Suppose there is fairly popular support for an event that the SAB wants to host on campus using student

activity funds, with 70% of the student body approving. If the event is hosted at the expense of all, the rights of the remaining 30% who do not approve are ceded in the name of the majority. One must break some eggs, noted Stalin, in order to make an omelet.

There is, however, a very simple solution to this problem. If the activity fee is eliminated, then everyone will still have that \$90. If there really is majority support for an event, then it is reasonable to expect those students who want to attend to pay for it themselves, and not expect those who oppose it to pick up the tab. That's how society works, folks. If you try to take a stranger's money to buy a concert ticket in the real world in the name of “the greater good” (by which inevitably the speaker means what's better for himself), you are not likely to have much success.

Moreover, despite the insistence that the elimination of the activity fee will reduce the number of clubs on campus, what about those clubs who don't rely on activity fee funds? Somehow, organizations like Up Till Dawn, and many frats and sororities still manage not only to survive but thrive by raising their own funds through various events, bake sales, and other fundraisers (or — a novel idea — members could pay a membership fee out of the \$90 that would have gone to the activity fee, and likely end up with a sizeable amount left over). If all clubs and organizations were encouraged to do this instead of being given

welfare checks for their budgets, surely the possibility is there for success — if there's a will, there's a way. This is similar to the notion of free markets and demand for campus services discussed by Nathan Shapiro in a well-written article in the last edition of The Patriot, “Free Markets and USG” (see [www.stonybrookpatriot.com](http://www.stonybrookpatriot.com) for this and other past articles).

Another issue that follows from the current setup is illustrated by the following example: a club such as MSA (who recently sponsored the Blasphemy or Freedom panel discussion) that is funded at least in part by the activity fee puts on a free event. Since all undergraduate students funded the event (including beverages, food, etc.), all undergraduate students should have the right to attend the event. However, this is not possible due to the limited seating in the on-campus auditoria and ballrooms, therefore potentially depriving those who have paid for the event the right to attend.

I cannot speak for all of the student body, but there are quite a few clubs and organizations that I end up funding through the activity fee that I have no desire to fund. Why should I be forced to fund them? Why should any of us be forced to fund clubs that we don't particularly like? This is yet another reason why the activity fee should not be mandatory.

So why all the fuss over \$90? In compari-



Brett Denyer

son to tuition and housing, that's mere chump change. It's important because through participation in USG students are, at least theoretically, learning about the nature of government and its role in society. If students at this level are brainwashed into thinking that it's ok to take money from some to fund a project for “the greater good” (I dare you to define this ambiguous, leftist catch phrase), even if it is not desired by those who are funding it, then it is a simple matter to extend that reasoning to the federal government. The result is the current state of affairs in which citizens are forced, ultimately at gunpoint (if you are belligerent enough in your refusal to pay taxes), to fund programs that may not directly benefit them.

The student activity fee is socialism in action: it effectively takes money from some, gives it to others, and results in an inequitable situation among students. While some students take advantage of the fee and gain much more than their \$90 worth, others are left with much less than their fair share. The solution is simple: abolish the fee and put the responsibility of paying for events or clubs on those who actually participate or attend.

# Who Ya Gonna Call? Ghost Busters!

Nathan Shapiro



Over a decade before South Park ever aired, at the height of the Reagan presidency, there was another band of misfit heroes that stood for the ideals of Republicans. These were, of course, the Ghostbusters from the 1984 film of the same name. Ghostbusters is a timeless film, but one which captures the spirit of the Reagan revolution and has virtues which all Republicans can admire. The film's story, above all else, represents the values of free market capitalism and the benefit it brings to mankind, correctly identifying its opponents and the consequences of their ideas.

For those who don't know what Ghostbusters is about, it features three para-psychologists who, joined by a fourth member, go into business for themselves to catch ghosts and end up saving New York City from being overrun by ghosts and evil demi-gods. However, the film is far more significant than that brief plot-description suggests. Like most children, I enjoyed it for its action, comedy and concept more than anything else. However, as I matured, and my political opinions matured, I came to see the film's wonderful philosophical underpinnings, which I could really sink my teeth into.

In America, much of the strongest support for government control of “public services” over the evils of the private market has come from the universities. The film begins with the trio of heroes, Peter Venkman (Bill Murray), Egon Spengler (Harold Ramis), and Ray Stantz (Dan Aykroyd) working for such a university, at which the intellectual elites in charge cannot see the potential value in their work, and they

are tossed out of the school. Their response is not to give up their ideas and find comfy, secure jobs elsewhere, but to establish a private business to offer a ghost-elimination service. And their gamble is a huge success as the demand for ghostbusting skyrockets, creating a profitable business. If left up to the intelligentsia, ghostbusting would have been destroyed in its infancy before it could have done all its good, but the free market, combined with a keen business sense of Peter Venkman to see its potential, was able to reward the value of the endeavor.

It cannot be overlooked that the heroes of the film do not subscribe to the ethics of altruism. The Ghostbusters are a business, they do not serve the people of New York and save the world out of self-sacrifice, but they do it for the allegedly evil “almighty dollar.” But the film shows that it is not evil to do so, that by pursuing such a goal they provide a valuable service which without a profit-motive would not exist. It's private individuals in the pursuit of self-interest, and not government, that discovers the science of ghostbusting and puts it to effective use. For that reason, Ghostbusters provides a unique heroic paradigm that supports Republican principles on the benefit of private companies and free markets.

Despite the imminent invasion of our reality by malevolent supernatural spirits, Ghostbusters presents a second, more significant protagonist, whose actions provide significant harm to the city. The true nemesis of the Ghostbusters is a government bureaucrat from the Environmental Protection Agency, or E.P.A., named Walter Peck (William Atherton), who uses his authority to shut down the



Ghostbusters and subsequently releases all the spirits they had captured and triggers the apocalypse that the Ghostbusters ultimately have to stop. The conflict of the film, therefore, is private business portrayed as the heroes who have to save the world versus government agents who try to quash innovative ideas and actually place the world in peril. I cannot think of any other mainstream film which so perfectly encapsulates Ronald Reagan's charge that “government is not a solution to our problem, government is the problem.”

There are other aspects of the film that seem to reflect the conflicts of Ronald Reagan, conservative Republicans and the liberal establishment of the time. At the time Ghostbusters was released, the nuclear anti-proliferation movement was in full swing, protesting Reagan's nuclear policies. Interestingly enough, like the U.S., the heroes of the film don't shy

away from using technology and their ghost-fighting weaponry is in fact described as nuclear-powered.

Why Ghostbusters so perfectly represents such Republican ideals is a mystery to me. Perhaps it was because director Ivan Reitman, who was born in a communist country, had a personal revulsion to government intervention. Or perhaps it was just a result of the ideas which permeated American political culture in the 1980s seeping into the film's creation. Ghostbusters' co-writer Harold Ramis once said that he wrote the film Animal House to be a reflection and attempted resurrection of their generation's revolutionary energy in the early 1960s. Regardless of whatever the source of Ghostbusters' Republican ideals, it stands as a monument to remember, and an inspiration to continue, Ronald Reagan's political revolution of the 1980s.



# Port Deal Dead: Now Troubles Begin

Due to the united opposition by Democrats and Republicans in the US Congress, as well as the states involved and the public, the deal to allow a Dubai-owned company to purchase and operate several ports in the United States had been effectively killed. Defenders of our national interests claimed a victory for port security, but little have they realized the long-term damage they may have brought our country by their opposition to a relatively insignificant business transaction.

Dubai is an emirate, part of the United Arab Emirates, with a vibrant economy founded on banking, construction, transportation, tourism and a handful of lightly or non-taxed economic free zones. They have also been an ally to the United States, providing access to their ports (owned and operated by Dubai companies) for our military vessels to carry out operations in the Gulf as well as use of their air fields for our spy and attack aircraft which, if conflict ever erupted over Iran's nuclear program, would be of immense value to us.

Despite Dubai's strategic military importance to the United States, the Congress was opposed to a deal in which a Dubai-owned company bought a British company that operated many ports around the world, including several in the United States. The deal, already given approval by the British government and the American Treasury Department, would not have involved the company overseeing port security, and proper



checks could easily have been put in place to counter such concerns. But Democrats saw it as an opportunity to attack Bush on national security grounds. Meanwhile, Republicans, fearful of their prospects in the 2006 Congressional elections, tripped over themselves to out-do the Democrats.

In their haste to irrationally sound tough on national security, Congress not only ignored the military importance of allowing this relatively minor deal to go through, but they also ignored the economic significance. Dubai, and other Arab nations, found the American government's reaction to this deal as a personal affront, and considering how significant these nations are in regards to our economy and security, their anger at us, which could have been avoided entirely, will come back to haunt us.

What has gone unnoticed by the pundits is that Dubai is one of the few nations we have a trade surplus with. In fact, as operators of the world's 10th largest air lines, Dubai is one of the largest customers for airplane manufacturer Boeing. Boeing, which is already facing stiff and possibly illegal competition from the European-subsidized Airbus, cannot afford to lose another

multi-billion dollar deal, and when the entire port issue erupted, they received some subtle hints from the United Arab Emirates that further purchases could be in jeopardy if the opposition of the port deal goes through.

I'm sure if Dubai chooses to buy airplanes from Airbus as a result of this embarrassment, Hillary Clinton will go visit some laid off Boeing workers in California and explain to them how they lost their jobs for political expediency. After all, she could always suggest they go to work for the numerous west-coast ports owned by communist China, some of which her husband approved while he was in office.

The Boeing deal is only one of the more concrete examples of how this might hurt us but there are other, more abstract long-term troubles we may face. Although oil is a small

Nathan Shapiro



factor in Dubai's diverse economy, many other Arab countries who were offended by Dubai's treatment will likely begin accelerating the movement of trading oil in both euros and dollars, rather than dollars-only as has been the case for half a century.

While the move for "petroeuros" may not seem significant, it most certainly is. With the American greenback used as the means to purchase oil, nations around the world have high dollar reserves. Having the world's primary reserve currency allows the United States to fund its deficits. With the decline of petrodollars, nations around the world, including the Arab states whose faith in their ability to invest in the American economy was shaken by this incident, will lessen their reserve of dollars in favor of euros, which some have predicted could lead to rapid inflation and other difficulties, and America's ability to support its budget and trade deficits may be made more difficult.

When reports of difficulties in dealing with Iran, layoffs, a weakening dollar, high gas prices and costly deficit reach the halls of Congress, they have no one but themselves to blame because this time the president's hands are clean.

## Stony Brook RAs

Continued from page 9

ceived free housing, a free meal plan, and a \$250 per month stipend.

At the RA conference here at Stony Brook last fall, I spoke to RAs from schools such as NYU, Wagner, Hofstra, and others. At many of these schools, the duties required of the RAs were significantly fewer than those required of Stony Brook RAs. Many of them don't have to deal with containing parties (they simply call the police instead), and some of them didn't have to remain on duty after 11 PM. The worst part of this is that in addition to having fewer responsibilities, and therefore less of a time requirement, these RAs also received more compensation than Stony Brook RAs.

Additionally, most RAs at other schools that I have spoken to, including Hofstra, Albany, and NYU, do not have roommates. Compensation issues aside, this makes sense because oftentimes not only are RAs woken by phone calls at 3 AM, but so are their roommates, which is hardly fair to them. Also, if an RA needs to have a private discussion with a resident about a personal problem, that resident might not feel comfortable if the RA's roommate is sitting there listening to the whole conversation.

Some Stony Brook RAs have avoided this problem because they actually do have singles, such as those in the West Apartments and Roosevelt. However, this leads to another problem: compensation equality among RAs here at Stony Brook. The singles where West Apartment RAs live are more expensive than the other designated RA rooms in other buildings. At almost \$3100 for those rooms, that gives those RAs not only an average hourly wage of around \$6/hour (recall for the rest of

us it's about \$5.60 an hour), but also a brand new, air-conditioned room all to themselves. Compared to the cramped, stuffy space of my room, that's more than enough to cause some discontentment, especially since all undergraduate RAs have the same requirements and we are all expected to do the same amount of work. For the allegedly "progressive" nature of the Department of Campus Residences, this inequitable situation among its employees is interesting to say the least.

I can certainly attest to the fact that many RAs, myself included, are not terribly happy with the compensation, and I would argue that this is negatively impacting the performance of RAs. Happier employees usually work more effectively. If I had a single room, or additional meal plan compensation, my motivation to complete that stack of surveys or to spend more time involving residents in campus life would be much greater. This common sense approach to increasing workers' performance has been around for quite some time; an analogy that comes to mind is the case of Henry Ford. Back in the early 1900s, when the prevailing wage among automotive plant employees was \$2-\$3 per day, Ford began paying his employees \$5 per day. The results were immediate: productivity went through the roof and absenteeism ceased almost entirely. One would hope that one hundred years later, Campus Residences would be able to reach the same conclusion, but I am not holding my breath.

So given that we are undercompensated compared to RAs at other universities, required to do more than RAs at many other universities, and are expected to work like dogs to the detriment of our grades and social lives, was it worth it?

Nope.

## Education Reform

Continued from page 6

actly what I'm talking about: his team, club, whatever he's in that's keeping him active and engaged, was in a tournament and they didn't even have money to buy their own basketball uniforms!?! And you know what race he was. He thanked an older black lady for "supporting the cause," called me "good man" when he asked me to buy some, no "support the cause" talk when he approached that white couple. He knew better. I know of "the cause": I'm supposed to support people (and you know which people) when they're doing the right thing for themselves and their community.

I give this example to show where educational reform is not reaching. President Bush and Mayor Bloomberg are two of the most reform-minded public officials in recent memory when it comes to education, and we still cannot rely on them to fight for all of our children's needs. It has taken the mayoralty years just to get city control

of public schools. The No Child Left Behind Act's provisions are so complicated that parents have virtually no investment in national education reform. Education reform may even have contributed to social apathy. We are relying on our bureaucratic and unreliable government to assume all the responsibility, accountability, and guilt for the least among us, while still isolating ourselves in our own chosen communities. Let the government deal with the outsiders.

The attitudes of Bush and Bloomberg are a step in the right direction, but what they really should be doing is instilling their own sense of responsibility and hope in the rest of the country. Bush negotiated with both Republicans and Democrats to push No Child Left Behind through. Bloomberg took on a hostile union and moved a famously lethargic legislature to act. Both did these things for communities they have little in common with. It's time for us to adopt their attitude and energy, instill it in our neighbors, and make our own strivings for the ends that we know are right.

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# The Battle You've All Been Waiting For!



VS.



By Matt Veres

For internet savvy college students, the internet offers a diverse selection of websites in which they can avoid one's homework and other responsibilities. Two of the most popular procrastination destinations are MySpace and Facebook. While both sites enjoy millions of users, a debate still rages over which site is the best.

I came across Facebook while I was a freshman at Southampton College. To join the site, one only needs an active college e-mail address. One advantage of Facebook is that you can easily locate people on campus that share your interests. You can also find people that share your classes so you can arrange a late night Adderall-fueled cram session. You can add friends from other colleges and just recently, from high school. Each page has a straight forward presentation. Users can list their favorite movies, books, and TV shows. A Facebook page also has a section for quotations where users can quote masters like Winston Churchill, Martin Luther King, or Homer Simpson. A big attraction to Facebook is the ability to post large amounts of pictures and place them in various albums.

The shortcomings of Facebook stem from the blandness of an individual's page. Every user's page has the same layout and color scheme. Outside of pictures and added in text there is little room for personalization. No videos, no flash animations, no nothing. Another disadvantage is that if you form a group you can only invite friends from the school you attend. Also, Facebook is geared towards college students, high-schoolers, and college alumni, so you cannot befriend anyone outside a given age range. Facebook can also be used as 'Exhibit A' in your student court hearing. In some colleges, faculty and administrators can view student's pages and check for inappropriate behavior or underage drinking. Who knew that the picture of you wearing a lamp shade and humping an inflatable sheep would come back to bite you in the ass?

A second option for your internet perusal is MySpace. This site offers a chance for people to meet without the limitations of Facebook. People do not need a college e-mail, and can be of any age. You can add anyone you like whether it is a new friend

Facebook's interface is very easy to navigate, with a convenient panel on the left side of the screen.

MySpace is a lot more customizable because you can actually use html to change your background, add pictures, and even put in videos.

MySpace also provides a built-in blog, where you can express yourself or just put up random stuff.

Personal information can only be viewed by other students at your school or your friends at other schools.

Facebook allows an unlimited number of photos that can be "tagged". This means you can have pictures of your friends show up on their profiles.

Layout is plainer than MySpace, but it keeps the pages under control and prevents them from being unreadable because of people who have no sense of color coordination and think it's cool to put lime green text on a bright yellow background.

You can add full songs to your profile from your favorite artists and bands. Though this can get annoying when you're browsing profiles at 2:00am and you forget you have your volume all way up.

Insert pictures of whatever you like directly into your profile using html. Why simply list Austin Powers as one of your favorite movies, when you can put a picture of him there?

Using third party services like youtube.com, you can insert videos into your profile, something you can't do with facebook.

Make your friends compete with each other and watch them squirm for an exclusive spot on your "Top 8". You can even enter code into your profile that allows you to have more than eight people listed there and also change their names and pictures.

or a celebrity impersonator. Unlike Facebook, MySpace is available to personalize. You can change your fonts, colors, banners, add videos, and animations. The site also allows for users to have their own blog, where they can write anything from daily observations to dark poetry befitting of an emo song. Users can also post bulletins that can be viewed by everyone on their friends list.

Like Facebook, MySpace also has its shortcomings. Some people take editing their profiles to gaudy extremes. They'll place every shiny, flashy and otherwise obnoxious

decoration on their page in an attempt to assert their individuality. The page could be so busy that your eyes may start bleeding (and make your computer crash!). There are also those who do not know that a lime green background does not mesh well with a yellow font. Picture posting is also very limited as you are only allowed twelve photos. The biggest pitfall of MySpace is that it is open to everyone. There is no age limit. This poses a problem because young girls on the site are notorious for acting a lot older than they are. Anyone who has visited the site knows what I mean. They are the

girls that have pictures of themselves posing in skimpy outfits or in some cases just pictures of their cleavage. Nothing can get you in hot water faster than hitting on a fifteen year old because you saw her suggestively licking a lollipop online.

After weighing the pros and cons of both sites, it is my opinion that MySpace is the better site. The ability to befriend people outside of college and add personal flair to your page puts MySpace just a notch above Facebook. But I suggest that you check them out for yourself to see which one is right for you.



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### Jennifer Love Hewitt

Jennifer Love Hewitt first got our attention back when she was on Party of Five in the late nineties. Since then she's gotten our attention in other ways...

Another Texas girl, she's a big supporter of President Bush and enjoys visiting injured troops in Iraq. "It was an amazing experience," the patriotic actress says. Miss Hewitt has a new show, "Ghost Whisperer," Fridays at 8:00pm on CBS.



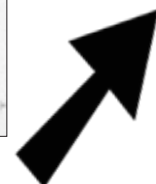
### Suzanne

This dance major loves singing, acting, and Republican boys.

She's got a great sense of humor and it shows with her love for Seinfeld and Saturday Night Live.



The Patriot



WANTS YOU!

Got a camera and a conservative girl?  
Send photos to:  
submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com



# The New Right Wing: South Park Republicans

Continued from page 11

and personal responsibility. Other would-be Republicans do not watch TV at all."

However, recent surveys certainly support this change in attitudes among college-aged people. An annual survey conducted by the American Council on Education recently found some surprising results, indicating a rightward shift among college students, in general (as in more than just those who are registered Republicans). 17% of college freshmen in 2003 thought it was important to be involved in an environmental program. This number has been cut in half since 1992, and it certainly reflects the feelings of the South Park episode, "Rainforest Shmainforest," which completely mocks radical environmentalism. The episode even ends with a funny caption on the screen:

"Each year, the rainforest is responsible for over three thousand deaths from accidents, attacks or illnesses. There are over seven hundred things in the rainforest that cause cancer. Join the fight now and help stop the rainforest before it's too late."

There's a common political myth that older people tend to be Republicans, prob-

ably because they start paying taxes, and that younger people tend to be more liberal, but the results of this survey show exactly the opposite. Over 53% of freshmen in 2003 believed affirmative action should be abolished, while among their adult counterparts the figure is at 43%.

On many political issues, including affirmative action and taxes, college students appear to be much more conservative than their parents. Even socialist tendencies, which seem to be trendy among college and high school students these days, are in decline. 53% of students thought that wealthy people should pay a larger share of taxes than they do now. Thirteen years ago that figure was at 72%. Some pro-capitalist ideas are portrayed by the South Park episode, "Gnomes," where a Harbucks, supposed to symbolize Starbucks, moves into town and wants to buy out a local coffeehouse to put the shop there. The owner writes up a presentation for the boys to give, which sparks the town into taking action against the Harbucks and trying to stop it from being built there.

After being given a tour of the "Underpants Gnomes" business and learning a lesson about how corporations can be good, the boys confess that they didn't write up the

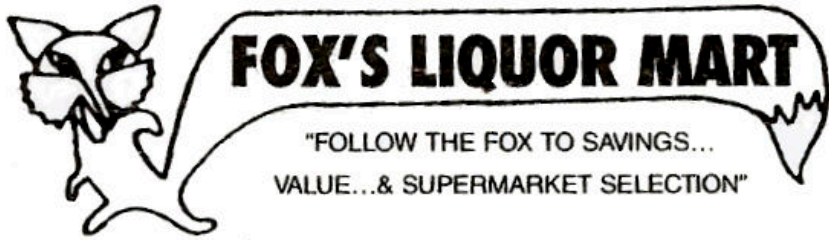
report. In the end the owner and his wife actually try some Harbucks coffee and realize it's quite good; much better than their own shop's java. The lesson learned is that Harbucks started out at one point as a small coffee shop, but because it was so good, it grew and expanded. So, there's nothing wrong with a Harbucks being built in South Park, and the coffeehouse owner is made manager of the Harbucks.

Another example is the more recent "Something Wall-Mart This Way Comes" episode, where a Wall-Mart (instead of Wal-Mart), is built in the town. Though the people try to resist it, they simply can't stop shopping there even though it's putting the local stores out of business. In the end the boys find out that the "evil power" of Wall-Mart comes not from some CEO in an office, but from the consumers themselves who just can't resist the incredibly low prices. The boys learn that the success of the store is really just because of the great deals it offers consumers.

Now, I should point out some more of the differences between these new right wing students and the old GOP establishment. As mentioned before, many students are headed in a libertarian direction, which means that

they tend to be conservative when it comes to their money and taxes, but liberal when it comes to social issues. The American Council on Education survey found that almost 40% of freshmen thought that legalization of marijuana is a good idea. And 59% of freshmen supported gay marriage, while only 30% of all Americans do. South Park makes fun of this issue in "Follow That Egg," when Mr. Garrison, now Mrs. Garrison after his sex change, jealous that his former gay partner has moved on and is engaged to Big Gay Al, leads the charge in the state to ban gay marriage. The way they show Mrs. Garrison in this episode, ridicules those who are firmly against the idea.

So I guess what we have here is an incredibly innovative show that seems to be taking advantage, whether intentionally or not, of this new shift in political attitudes of its primary audience, college students. Not only is the Republican Party becoming more diverse, but because of this, more college students will likely be interested in taking part in it and shaping the way this country develops over the next several years. They'll be doing it not in the stereotypical conservative way, though, but in the South Park Republican way.



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When we were younger, matters of the heart were much easier to deal with. For example: when Valentine's Day came around you gave everyone a Valentine's Day card, except Robby because he smelled like he was dipped in a vat of piss. Why did we do this? We were young and we didn't sit and weigh the consequences of giving everyone a card and what it may mean to tell someone we liked them. We subscribed to the philosophy of nothing ventured, nothing gained. We never sat there secretly pining away for someone hoping they'd make the first move. Instead we'd pass them a note saying "Do you love me? Do you want to be my friend? Check yes or no, 'cause I think this is how love goes'."

So what's different now? Why do we

step carefully when it comes to matters of the heart? Well, there are as many answers to that as there are lovers in the world because as individuals we react differently to different situations and circumstances. However, whatever our fears or reservations, I am convinced they can be overcome. First one must realize that there is competition in the dating game and if you don't make a move soon, the person you have your eye on will be whisked away by someone else. Or as the movie *When Harry Met Sally* so eloquently put it, "All I'm saying is that somewhere out there is the man you are supposed to marry. And if you don't get him first, somebody else will, and you'll have to spend the rest of your life knowing that somebody else is married to your husband."

Second one must realize that it is ok to have feelings for your friends. I am a firm believer that you can never be friends with your exes but you can be exes with your friends. If you have a strong, solid friendship with someone, testing out the waters of love won't ruin it. You just need to make it clear that if it doesn't work out in the love arena, you'll both drop it and go back to being friends.

Third you must learn how to turn potential negatives into positives. For example, you should never be afraid to ask someone out because they just got out of a relationship. There were obvious reasons why their relationship ended and, for lack of a better term, you should capitalize on them. By finding out what problems plagued their

relationship, you can learn what to avoid from the beginning.

Lastly, it's important to remember that it's ok to be a little nervous or unsure. It's not always easy going up and asking someone and chances are they are going to be a little nervous too. Sure you're not asking them to marry you, but dinner and a movie can be a pretty big thing. Oh, the most important thing to remember is if they say no, don't keep secretly pining away for them. Just drop it all together because if you don't it's highly creepy and may be construed as stalking or harassment.

So just breathe in, breathe out, take it one step at a time and hopefully you'll land a date with that special someone you've had your eye on.

## Depressing Poetry Corner

For those times when you think *your* life sucks.

### How Many More Days?

By 'Dejected With Grief'

The veins of my love are infused  
with the novocain of your indifference.

You yell that I'm scared of maturity  
I whimper back that you lack patience.

You tell me you're just saying that you wanted me to know  
we play this twisted word game every day before you go.

"Goodbye," you say, as you walk away  
from my protective pillow fort.

I clutch at my inhaler;  
I'm too asthmatic to retort.

Now Pinkerton's on the stereo,  
and the tears, they freely fall.

I scribble a brand-new emo poem...  
Is it really worth it all?

## WTF?! Picture of the Month



What's with this strange extraterrestrial device that landed on campus?

Once a month, we shall publish an odd picture that can only make you go, as you would on AOL Instant Messenger, "WTF?"

This month we came across what appeared to be some sort of extraterrestrial communications device or possibly a UFO. There can be only one answer...

And you have it! Please send in your explanations, and we'll publish them alongside the picture as a caption. Tell us what you can discern from this picture, and the events which might have brought it about.

Send in your submissions to  
[submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com](mailto:submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com)  
with the subject line, "WTF?!"

### Submitted Captions:

"The official pastry of the Third Reich!"

"What? It's a a ninja star with a flaky crust!"

"SBU's not so secret message to Ben the Hebrew Hammer."

"Don't worry, it's Kosher."

### Last Month's Picture:



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# Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month

Satire By Virginia Morgan



## Red-Headed Intern

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

### Ingredients:

1oz Cranberry Juice  
1oz Peach Schanpps  
1oz Jagermeister

### Directions:

Pour ingredients into a glass and enjoy.  
Note: should be consumed as a shooter or shot.

**Yield:** 1 serving

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. This month's drink: Red-Headed Intern

## OFFICIAL Drunk of the Month

### Stephen Macomber

#### Best Drinking Story:

It was October 22, 2005. My friend and I went down to Orlando, Fla. for a couple of days. I had won a contest at work and everything was paid for. The first couple of days down there I had to do work stuff. On that Friday, we went down to the pool where a friend of mine was with a couple of older women, about 35-40 years old, who were there celebrating a birthday. Later that night my friend and I went out to City Walk, a strip of clubs and bars located by Universal Studios.

While at the first bar, we met up with those same two women who were at the pool, so we had some drinks with them. I was drinking Jack and Cokes, my friend was drinking 7&7 I think, and the women were drinking something called a hurricane which is about 64 ounces of alcohol. After a couple of drinks there, the four of us leave and head to another bar. This time it was a Latin dance club. Now I'm as white as can be and have no rhythm whatsoever. Imagine a drunken Irishman trying to dance to reggaeton music with a beer in his hand and with a much older woman.

After about an hour and couple of drinks we all left and went to a jazz club to end the night. We got in and I ran out of money. This was no problem because since we were all drunk the women were buying us the beers. Can't beat that. At the club the alcohol finally hit us all and the girl I was playing wingman to was all over me. My friend's girl was still playing nice girl towards him. Strange since she wasn't the one who was married. Finally the place closed at around 4 am. We all went back to the hotel and I let my friend take his girl back to her room while I had to distract the other woman for about 30 minutes. So I took her back to my room. I woke her up after being passed out for half an hour and brought her back to her room and got my friend. He claimed that I got there too soon and cut his time with his girl too short.



## Get Wasted Like Ted at These Fine Locations



### Stony Brook Area

Three Village Inn  
150 Main Street  
Stony Brook  
751-0555  
Happy Hour: 5-7

J&R's Steakhouse  
1320 Stony Brook Road  
Stony Brook  
689-5920  
Happy Hour: 4-7

### Port Jefferson Area

Tara Inn  
1519 Main Street  
Port Jefferson  
473-9602  
Happy Hour: 5-7

Village Way  
406 Main Street  
Port Jefferson  
928-3395  
Happy Hour: 5-7

Printers Devil  
105 Wynn Lane  
Port Jefferson  
473-1130  
Happy Hour: 4-7

Billies 1890 Saloon  
304 Main Street  
Port Jefferson  
331-1890  
Happy Hour: 5-7

### Lake Grove Area

John Harvard's Brewhouse  
Smithaven Plaza  
Lake Grove  
979-2739  
Happy Hour: 4-7



#### Drinking Philosophy:

"Go hard or go home"

#### Favorite Drink:

Irish car bomb, Jack and coke.

#### Favorite Bar:

Irish Times, Holbrook

#### Favorite Bartender:

Whichever one will get me my drink.



#### Drunkest Ever:

21st birthday. Too many different drinks in one night.

Puked on a couple of church properties.

I actually to this day don't even remember leaving the bar.





**Sean Martin**

**SPORTS  
MINUTE**

The World Baseball Classic finished up on March 20 with Japan defeating Cuba in the final game. Team USA was eliminated from the tournament before it reached the semi-finals in San Diego, leading to an onslaught from the national media. All month long we've had to read about how our players are overpaid, lack heart, and the rest of the world has overtaken us in our own national pastime. Maybe I wasn't paying attention, but weren't these the same writers who were calling this tournament nothing but a money-making ploy two months ago? The United States failing to reach the final round was disappointing; however, to rip them for showing any lack of effort is just ridiculous. First of all, this tournament consisted of teams playing each other one time in each round, and anyone with even a passing interest in baseball can tell you that it is impossible to determine the better team in only one game. Secondly, the United States team had only begun their spring workouts three weeks prior to the start of the WBC. The teams in Asia begin to practice in early January, and those from Latin America often play throughout the entire winter. Maybe this tournament will take off in popularity someday, and I hope it does, but to truly determine the best teams, the games will have to be played at another time of the year. It appears that many sports writers in this country have never actually picked up a bat or put on a glove at any point in their lives.



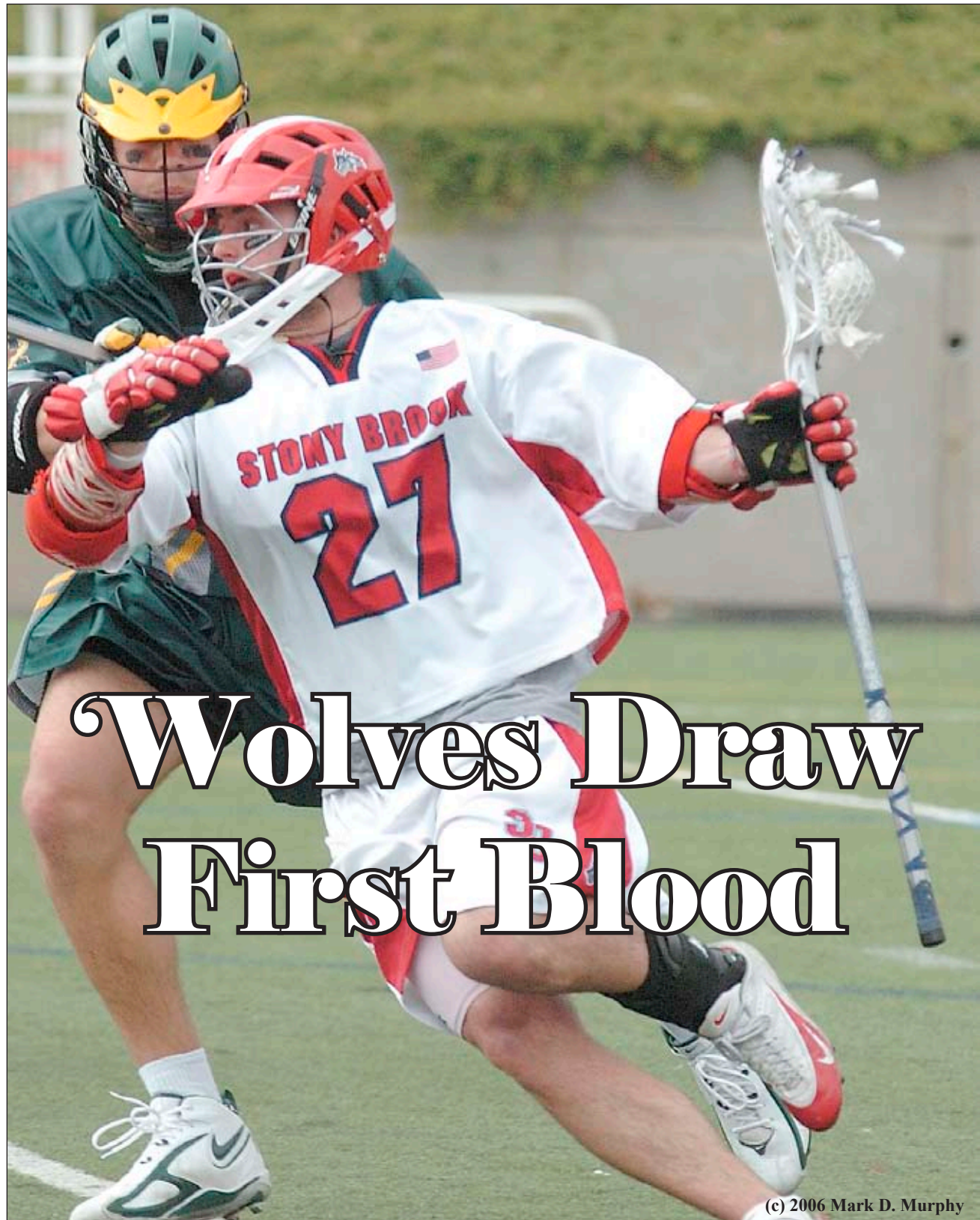
Terrell Owens was released from the Eagles this month and signed on with Coach Bill Parcells and the Cowboys. As a Giants season ticket holder, I cannot decide whether or not this is good or bad news. There is no argument that when he is on the field, Owens is still one of the biggest playmakers in the game. With the Giants secondary being suspect the past few seasons he will not be fun to face twice a season. That being said, it was quite enjoyable for an Eagle-Hater, like me, to have front row seats to their Owens' led demise. Here in New York we can only hope that Owens causes similar trouble in Cowboy land. Either way, the relationship between Owens and Parcells is going to make for some great TV.



Dwight Gooden was arrested yet again this month, this time for violating probation by admitting to again using cocaine. The story of the former Mets and Yankees star just gets more and more difficult to read. Gooden was a real hero of mine growing up, watching him as a kid I had hopes to one day tell my children stories of the Mets hero with lightning in his arm. Unfortunately, now the only story left to tell is the story of a man whose chance at immortality was lost in battle with his inner demons.



It seems that the problem of steroids in baseball is one that is going to remain an issue for a long time to come. A new book was released on March 23 detailing the actions of Barry Bonds since 1998. With opening day quickly approaching, it is unfortunate that the whole steroids saga is going to be at the forefront for yet another season. This issue will only get uglier in the next few months as Bonds is within striking distance of both Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron on the All-Time Home Run list. I know I can't wait to hear how Barry attempts to turn himself into a martyr this year.



(c) 2006 Mark D. Murphy

## Wolves Draw First Blood

STONY BROOK 11, VERMONT 5

### Conference Win Brings High Hopes

By Brian Scott

All it took was thirty four seconds for the Seawolves' lacrosse team to do something they hadn't done all season—score first. Drawing first blood against Vermont must have done something to spark the team as it went on to trounce Vermont 11-5 and improve the team's overall record to 3-4, 1-0.

Brendan Callahan, the junior goalkeeper was impressive as he kept the lead intact throughout the game. He finished with 13 saves and four goals al-

lowed. Not bad for a guy returning from off-season knee surgery.

The final score must have been a big boost to the team after their disappointing loss against Rutgers their last time out. That loss and any others that came before it are behind them now as they look forward to further victories against upcoming Denver and Albany. This was the opening game of the conference and big wins against those teams should not only help their chances but bring hope to a team that wants badly to advance all the way to the NCAA playoffs.



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