

The Stony Brook

PRESS

The Community News and Features Paper

Vol. XXVIII, Issue 3

“Sit here before I rape your buffalo”

October 20, 2006



**KIM JONG IL : ALL YOUR NUKE
ARE BELONG TO US.**

SBU Officially Adopts Southampton Site: Yay!



Rebecca Kleinhaut

Though this picture is rife with possibilities for sexual innuendo, the Press is exercising uncharacteristic restraint.

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

New York State Senator Kenneth Lavelle stood before a crowd of approximately fifty people at the main entrance to Southampton College and reminisced about the first time he heard that the campus could no longer continue its drain on

the rest of the Long Island University system.

Senator Lavelle met LIU President David Steinberg and University Trustee/Long Island developer Roger Tilles “at breakfast” last year, where his companions informed him that the college was not doing well financially.

Senator Lavelle said that he knew at

that moment that “this property was going to remain an educational facility.”

Now, two years after the LIU system let go of their little college in Southampton, Stony Brook officially finished its transaction of purchasing the eighty-two acre property. On October fourth, Senator Lavelle celebrated with the unveiling of their new sign to a select group of government and school officials, including University President Shirley Strum Kenny, Congressman Tim Bishop, and Assemblyman Fred Thiele, all of whom were involved in getting the deal off of the ground.

Martin Schoonen, the newly appointed Interim Dean of Stony Brook, was also present, along with his team of administrators. When asked to speak, he pointed out to the soccer field and stated that he “couldn’t wait to see students playing on that field.”

Everyone expressed their high hopes for the future of the campus, which will boast an intensive program in environmental studies and sustainability. It will also offer a program in fine arts.

The campus is set to house students in the fall of 2007. According to President Kenny, students will apply through Stony Brook and will pay the same tuition as those who attend Stony Brook.

“Things are going to move very fast from

now on,” said President Kenny.

While Southampton College is no longer a part of the LIU system, it is still keeping many of its programs that were staples in the Southampton community. The Southampton College Writer’s Conference, which has in the past hosted authors such as Frank McCourt, Melissa Bank, and Amy Tan, will continue its lecture series and workshops at the campus as early as this summer.

The campus will also continue to offer other graduate programs, including Creative Writing, Social Work, and Nursing.

Southampton College closed its undergraduate programs in the spring of 2005 due to crushing debt. As enrollment declined, the campus was accused of draining money from the rest of the LIU system, which includes C.W. Post and a campus in Brooklyn.

At the end of the ceremony, Shirley Strum Kenny was presented with a ceremonial hammer to secure the first nails into the Stony Brook Southampton sign.

State Assemblyman Fred Thiele, who worked closely with Congressman Tim Bishop, ended the ceremony, with the sound of construction trucks blaring in the background.

“Keep the smiles on your face today,” he said. “Because after today, we have a lot of work to do.”

Whitman: The Door, The Door is On Fire

By Alex Walsh

Arson seems to be fashionable at Stony Brook this year. On October 5th, three small fires were lit in Whitman College in Roth Quad. The worst damage was done when a dry-erase board on the door of a room on the B0 hall was incinerated. The burning board charred an area of the door above it. Less damage was done to two doors on B1: one door decoration was burned and some minor charring occurred when a peephole was burned.

According to RA Nissa Mututanont, the fire alarm went off at 7:20 AM. The building staff followed regular fire procedure, and the police arrived. The officers looked around the building but could not find any suspects. No one had actually seen the fires being set. Whitman RHD Belind2a Arevalo said the custodians had seen a non-resident in the building at around that time, but they could not confirm that this was the arsonist.

Earlier this semester, a section of the roof of the Chapin Apartments was destroyed in a fire – most likely the result of arson. The Press has also received a report that a fire had been set in the basement of Douglass College in Tabler Quad.



Alex Walsh

We don't need no water

Renowned Newsday Photojournalist Visits Stony Brook University



Moises Saman

This is War: Witness of Man's Destruction

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

The second installment of SBU’s School of Journalism series “My Life As...” brought photojournalist Moises Saman to share his private photo collection with the journalism students.

For over six years, Moises has traveled overseas to some of the most dangerous zones of war and civil unrest for Newsday, but his work has appeared in many other publications, including The Chicago Tribune and BlackBook magazine. He has also compiled a collection

Continued on next page

Current Smoking Policies Not Being Enforced

By Jennifer Gustavson

When students walk through clouds of cigarette smoke while entering or exiting buildings, it is apparent that the "Smoke-Free University" policy that was approved on November 20, 1997 is not being enforced. The policy states that smoking is prohibited within fifteen feet of any building entrance and that "No Smoking" signs are to be posted as well.

Not only are there no signs at most entrances, but many smoking receptacles are placed within fifteen feet, contradicting the policy.

"The Environmental Health and Safety department has been called upon to enforce the provisions of the Smoke-Free policy since it was approved nine years ago," said Environmental Health and Safety Director, Gary Kaczmarczyk. When asked how many of those violations were related to smoking within 15 feet of building entrances he said, "I haven't kept track of the number, but there were a few."

Louis Mancuso, of the Environmental Health and Safety department, Manager of Occupational Safety and Training, said building managers and supervisors are to enforce all policies. When asked about his thoughts on smoking by the overhang when it's raining, Mancuso said, "It's still illegal."

Student violators are referred to Human Resources and employee violators are to be referred to their supervisors, Mancuso said. When the Human Resources department was contacted to receive comment, a staff member said that they weren't aware of this policy and they "will bring this up to the director's attention." Supervisors need to be aware of the policy, Mancuso said, in order for the policy to be enforced. He added that a yearly email goes out to all employees that includes information on

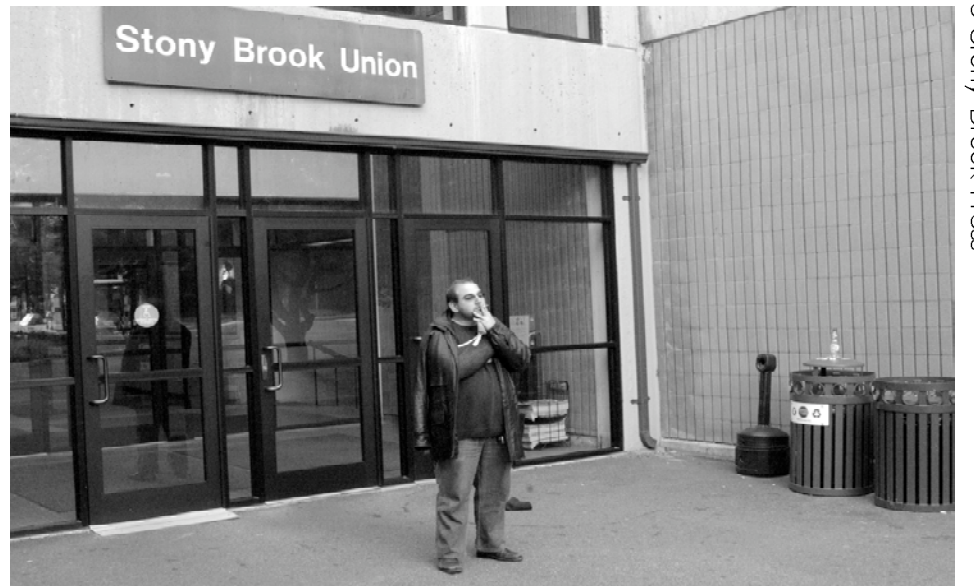
sexual harassment and the smoking policy.

Under Procedure Section 3 of the policy, "The Physical Plant shall provide receptacles for the extinguishing of tobacco products near building entrances." The following thirteen buildings were visited one day last month: Student Activities Center; Psychology Bldg.; Javits Center; Computer Science Bldg.; Educational Communications Center; Humanities Bldg.; Ward Melville Social and Behavioral Sciences Bldg.; Administration Bldg.; Wang Center; Fine Arts Bldg.; Student Union Bldg.; Staller Center and the Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library. Many entrances did not have smoking receptacles. And of those that did, 49% were placed within 15 feet of the doors. This conflict has not been addressed, Mancuso said. In his opinion, the main purpose of the receptacles is for smokers not to litter upon entering buildings.

If smokers are alongside the building, regardless of whether they are fifteen feet away from the entrance, it's still a violation, Mancuso added. Teachers have complained to him that smoke enters into their offices through the window. "When I receive complaints about this problem, I'll go and remind the person smoking of the policy," he said.

Under Procedure Section 1 of the policy, "The Physical Plant shall ensure that NO SMOKING signs are posted at all building entrances and at other strategic locations." Of the same thirteen buildings that were visited, only four "No Smoking" signs were located at the outside entrances. "People don't read signs," said Douglas Little, Assistant Chief of Police, of the Stony Brook University Police Department. A strong policy needs to be established, Little added, and Mancuso strongly agrees. "[There should be] no smoking, period," Mancuso said.

Under Procedure Section 4 of the poli-



Jowy Romano

Fumicus Smokerus: An endangered species in its natural habitat

cy, "Environmental Health and Safety shall provide information on smoking and offer smoking cessation programs to the campus community." According to Kaczmarczyk, his department, along with Student Health Services, has participated in promoting activities in conjunction with the Great American Smoke-Out. He also added that students can find information on smoking cessation programs through the Student Health Services. This information was located at their website, studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/shs/welcome, under "Other Health Links."

The State University of New York has an article posted on their website stating their chancellor, John R. Ryan, "directed the Office of University Life and the Student Life Committee of the SUNY Board of Trustees to develop an implementation plan to prohibit smoking in all residential facilities operated by and for SUNY, as of the beginning of the Fall 2007 semester." Mancuso doesn't understand how the current campus policy on smoking in residence halls is legitimate, he said. A father of an asthmatic SBU residential stu-

dent had recently visited his son and was shocked that smoking was allowed in the dorms, Mancuso said. The father then spoke to his son's RA directly, because the student didn't want to cause problems for the residential smokers, Mancuso said, and the father found it ridiculous that the RA informed him that if his son had a problem with it, he would have to file a petition. "It should be the opposite," Mancuso said.

Little described a time when it was legal to smoke in hospitals and when patients could even smoke in their hospital rooms. For many of the current SBU students, they were not even born during this time period, and the notion could seem unrealistic, but it's true. We all may have a memory of a loved one whose life was taken away due to cigarette smoking. Upon Mancuso's graduation date, he said, "My identical twin brother told me that he would quit smoking. He quit because he was diagnosed with lung cancer and died from it five years ago."

"I look forward to the day when smoking is no longer an issue for anyone on campus," Kaczmarczyk said.

Newsday's Moises Saman Visits (continued)

Continued from previous page

of his photographs in the book *This is War: Witness to Man's Destruction*.

For those of you who are thinking about turning to a career in photojournalism, there's still time; Moises became interested in photography at twenty-two, after he decided that he wanted a career that would allow him to travel. In a discussion after the lecture, he also shared that he now works primarily with digital photography but remains a fan of simple black-and-white film.

Moises, who returned from Lebanon one month ago, presented a slideshow of photographs of the recent tumult in the region, as well as some pictures from his time spent in Iraq, Palestine, Haiti, and Nepal.

Although all of his photos were taken while on assignment for Newsday, Moises's passion for his subjects was apparent in his photos and the many stories that went along with them. Moises, along with Newsday reporter Matthew McAllester, chose to stay in Baghdad during their time in Iraq rather than be embedded with the infantry. Moises said that it is "extremely important to see the Iraqi side [of the war]."

His time in Iraq began in 2002, just before the bombing in Baghdad began, and he has been to Iraq seven times since. In 2003, Saman and McAllester were taken captive and held in an Iraqi prison for eight days before being released.

Moises showed some apprehension in talking about his time there, but he char-

acterized their arrest as being "polite." He also shared a haunting photo that was taken after his release, which showed the bodies of his cellmates, two Egyptians and two Iraqis, lying on the ground after their execution.

Moises also shared an especially hard-hitting photo of a well-dressed man walking down the sidewalk in Baghdad. As he carries a briefcase, apparently on his way to work, the background is littered with trashed and burning American humvees.

After much deliberation, Moises also spent time with Sunni insurgents in Fallujah. He stressed that while they were extremely apprehensive about hosting a journalist for an American paper, "they were normal Iraqis" fighting for their country.

Most of his photos showcase the bullet-ridden buildings that litter many tumultuous countries. Others highlighted mass graves and families wailing over dead loved ones. For every picture, Moises was able to recall the exact situation of each one of his subjects.

When asked if his subjects ever show apprehension in having their picture taken, Moises stated, "Most people want their stories out there to the public."

He also stressed the importance of maintaining a support group of other journalists when bearing witness to such horrific scenarios. "When you get home, [what you've seen] really hits you." He also shared that the most frustrating part of traveling to many of the places he's photographed is that "every time [you] go back, it always looks the same."

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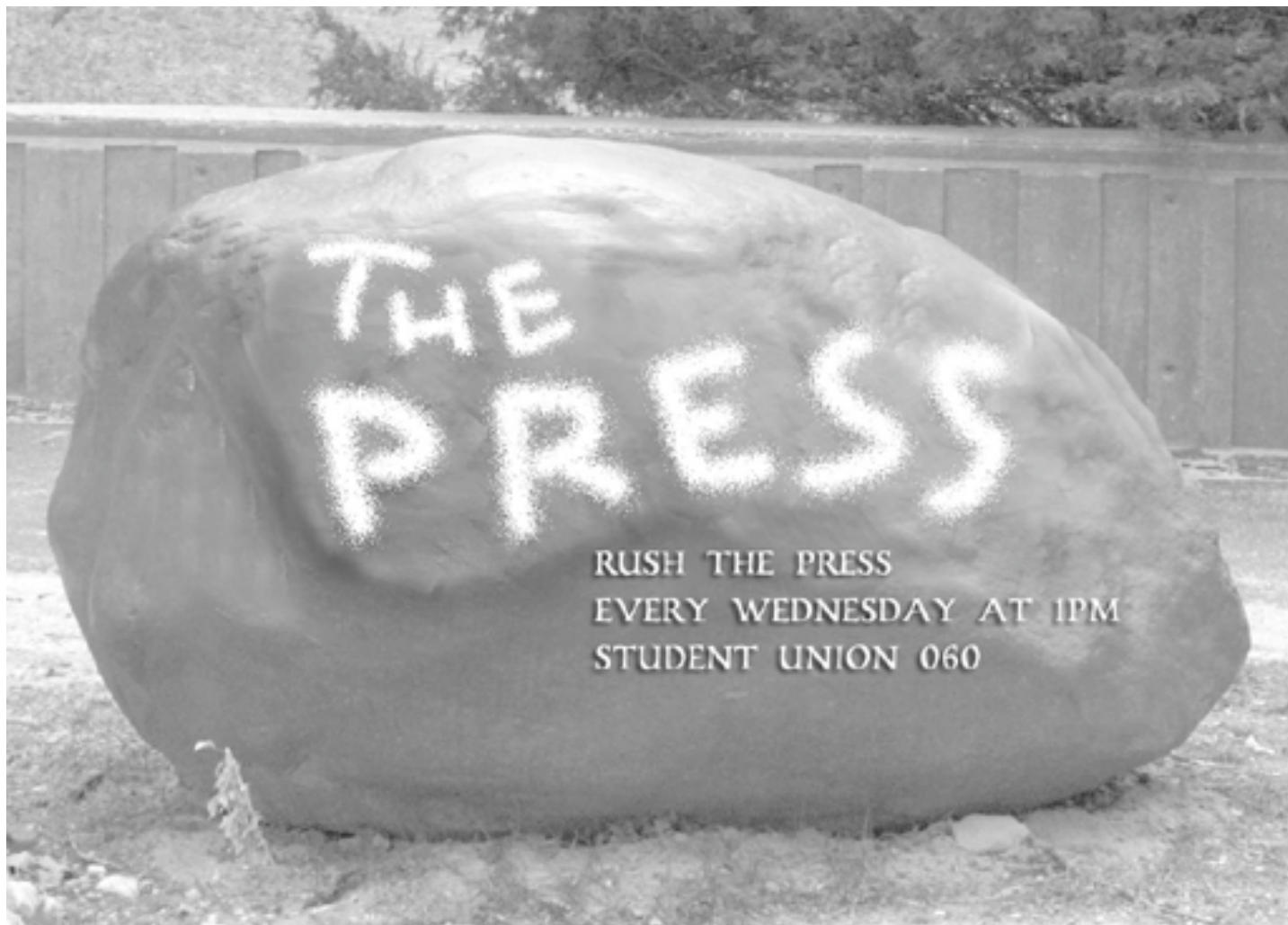
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(hint: It Rhymes With "Tony took less")

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NEWS-IN-BRIEF

Compiled by Rebecca Kleinhaut, Michael Kelly

Plane Crashes Into NYC Apartment Building; Yankee Pitcher Aboard

This past Wednesday, October 11th, a small plane carrying two passengers — Yankees pitcher Cory Lidle and his flight instructor Tyler Stanger — crashed into a forty-story NYC apartment building. Both men were killed in the crash.

While initially feared to be a terrorist attack, the FBI and Homeland Security quickly shot down this notion. The crash has raised concern over the lack of legislation that allows for small aircraft to fly within the crowded New York airspace. There also is no legislation stipulating that planes, private or public, check in with air-traffic controllers when flying over bodies of water. Essentially, anyone could fly a plane over a body of water unchecked, which has raised new concerns about possible terrorist plots. Senator Schumer commented, "I hope this will be a wake-up call to the FAA to re-examine flight patterns, which, amazingly enough, they haven't done since 9/11." As tragic as this accident was, hopefully some good can come of it if new legislation can be made to protect not only our country, but also our private flying citizens.

Lidle was 34 years old, and had pitched for 7 major league teams, most recently the New York Yankees, posting a career record of 82-72. He is survived by his wife Melanie, and his son Christopher.



"Microcredit" Wins a Nobel Prize

In an age when young couples cannot get a loan to buy their first home, we could all learn a lesson from Muhammad Yunus.

On October 13, Yunus was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for the loan procedures of the bank he founded in 1976. Grameen Bank has revolutionized the concept of microcredit, where miniscule loans are provided to impoverished Bangladeshi citizens so that they can start their own businesses and contribute to the economy. Loans as small as ten dollars are given to the people so that they can buy economically friendly products, such as cows or yarn. The average size loan that is given out by Grameen Bank is \$130.

When Yunus first opened his bank, he came under intense scrutiny because most of his loans were given to

women. Critics worried that Grameen Bank undermined fundamentalist Islamic beliefs.

Yunus, however, assures the world community that his motives were purely economically driven. He recently attended a panel called "Building a Sustainable Future" at the Sheraton in New York, where he shared the intentions behind Grameen Bank. Yunus stated, "All we are doing is telling beggars that... since you go from house to house begging, would you like to bring some merchandise with you?"



South Korea Wins Bid for Top U.N. Spot

Although it was branded "the impossible job" by Kofi Annan, the post of Secretary General of the United Nations has its eighth successor. Ban Ki-moon of South Korea was approved by the United Nations to take its top spot at the beginning of next year. Ki-moon is the eighth Secretary General of the United Nations, and is the second Asian to serve in the position. One term lasts for five years.

Ki-moon currently serves as the foreign minister of South Korea, which is a job that deals primarily in foreign trade. He also served in 2001 as Chief Secretary to Han Seung-soo, the President of the General Assembly of the UN, and has represented South Korea three times at the United Nations headquarters in New York City.

In his acceptance speech, Ki-moon stated that he hopes to bridge the gap between humility and proper diplomacy. He also expressed his belief in the future of the United Nations, a concept that many people are skeptical of. Ki-moon stated, "I earnestly hope that young boys and girls of today will grow up knowing that the U.N. is working hard to build a better future for them."



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Amnesty International Hosts Frank Lindh

By Alex Walsh

Frank Lindh is the father of John Walker Lindh, the American citizen captured as a Taliban soldier during the invasion of Afghanistan. On October 11, he came to Stony Brook to give a lecture on his son's case and its constitutional and human rights implications. The event was sponsored by the Stony Brook chapter of Amnesty International.

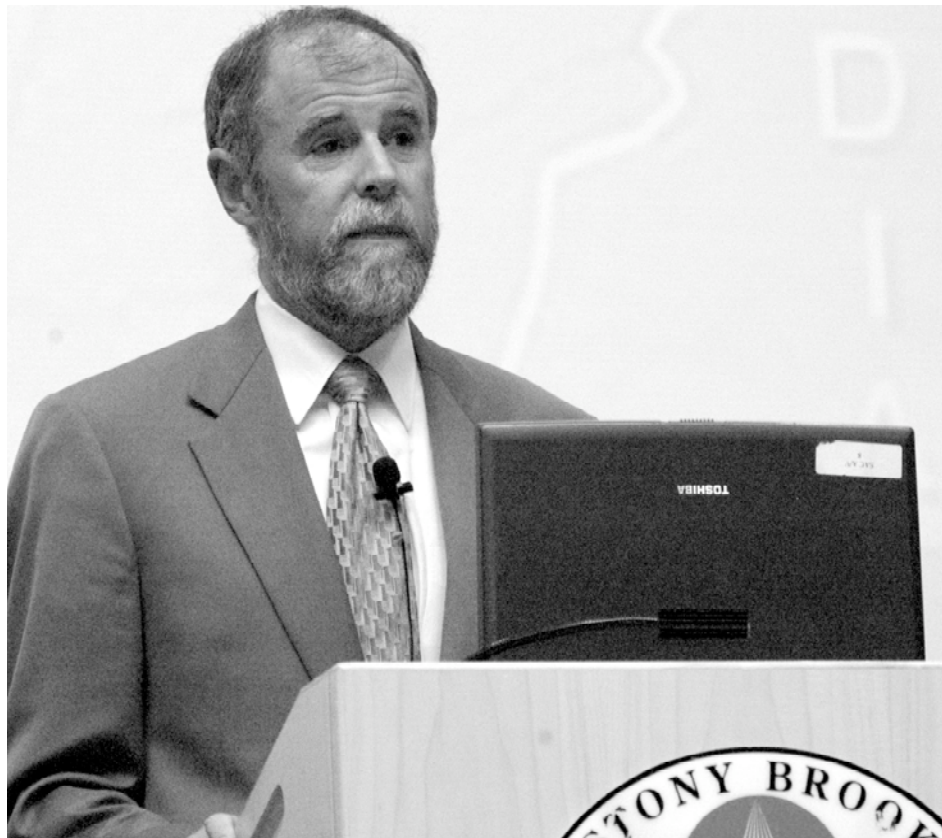
Much of Lindh's lecture was a narrative of his son's capture and the accusations against him. John Walker Lindh was born in Washington, DC, and raised as a Catholic. At sixteen, he converted to Islam. His father explained that, at twelve, John had seen the film *Malcolm X* and was struck by a scene at the end that depicted pilgrims to Mecca as being "all perfectly equal, perfectly humble." His parents supported his decision completely. "I've always believed, even as a Catholic, that Islam is a wonderful religion," Frank said. Eventually, hoping to become an Islamic scholar, John traveled overseas to learn Arabic. Originally studying in Yemen, by November of 2000 John had enrolled in a madrassa, or Islamic school, in Pakistan. While at the madrassa, he continued to keep in touch with his family. In April 2001, he told them he was going into the mountains for the summer to avoid the heat. He had actually traveled to Afghanistan to join the Afghan army. "I don't think that was a very good decision on John's part," Frank said, but emphasized that "John was not going in there to fight against America or to fight on the side of America's enemies. That was never in his mind." At the time, the Taliban was fighting the warlords of the Northern Alliance, who were backed by Russia and Iran. In fact, the US had just given the Taliban \$43 billion for opium eradication.

John completed his training in early September and was stationed in Tahar province to fight the Northern Alliance. He never actually fired his weapon during this service, doing mainly sentry duty and some cooking. In October, the American bombing campaign began, and the Northern Alliance routed the Taliban's army. No American ground forces were involved in the battle in Tahar. John, along with other survivors from his unit, was captured by General

Dostum, a former pro-Soviet militia leader well-known for human rights violations and mass execution of prisoners. Dostum kept about five hundred Taliban captives in the basement of a building in his fortress. After a number of the captives attempted to revolt, many were killed, and about a hundred fled back into the basement. Dostum's forces attacked those who hid in the basement with oil, bombs, and water. After a week, 86 were allowed to surrender.

After this surrender, John was taken by

Hastert, the Speaker of the House, called him a terrorist. John Ashcroft, the Attorney General, said John had dedicated himself to killing Americans. Frank Lindh said all of these statements, in addition to being inaccurate, served only to prejudice the public against John, making it very difficult to ensure a fair trial. Ashcroft in particular, as the Attorney General, was at fault. "It is unethical for a prosecutor to make prejudicial statements about a defendant outside the courtroom," Frank said.



Frank Lindh—Father of John Walker Lindh

Jowy Romano

US forces. The directions from Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld for dealing with the "American Taliban" were simple: "Take the gloves off." John was sealed in an unheated cargo container in the desert, tied up, and left for two days with an untreated bullet wound. American soldiers stood outside the container, mocking and threatening him. Except for one instance immediately after his transfer, John was not allowed access to the Red Cross.

Even before John had come back to America, seen a lawyer, or had charges filed against him, government officials made statements concerning his case. President Bush said he was an al-Qaeda soldier. Senator Clinton said he was a traitor. Dennis

John Lindh was initially indicted on ten charges, including conspiracy to murder Americans and providing material support for al-Qaeda. The government's lawyers eventually dropped all of these charges, and John was convicted only for violating economic sanctions against the Taliban. His sentence was extended from ten to twenty years because he was carrying a weapon. When allowed to make a statement in court, John said, "I condemn terrorism on every level, unequivocally. Terrorism is never justified. I have never supported terrorism in any form, and never would."

Frank Lindh also spoke about Yaser Hamdi, another American citizen who was captured at the same time as John. Hamdi,

who has dual citizenship with Saudi Arabia, was held at Guantanamo Bay without charges then was transferred to a Navy brig. When his case was brought before the Supreme Court, it was decided that he was entitled to a trial by due process. In response, the government released him and sent him back to Saudi Arabia.

The three main propositions of the lecture, according to Lindh, were that due process is essential to determining who is or isn't a terrorist, that the executive branch has demonstrated it is not equipped to handle adjudications in a fair, even-handed manner, and that the Lindh and Hamdi cases show that terrorism accusations sometimes prove to be untrue. While Lindh agrees that capturing terrorists is "essential to our national defense," preserving the rights and ideals in the US Constitution is more important. As Supreme Court Justice O'Connor said in the Hamdi case, "It is during our most challenging and uncertain moments that our nation's commitment to due process is most severely challenged, and it is in those times that we must preserve our commitment to those principles for which we fight abroad."

Christine Mahon, the President of Stony Brook's Amnesty International chapter, invited Lindh to speak on campus after seeing him give a presentation on C-SPAN. "I want as many people as possible to know what really happened to John, who he is, and what the government has been doing," she said. "They'd kind of subdued the Taliban, but they hadn't gotten any of the guys they wanted in the first place. So John was the center of all this media attention and the government had the chance to really throw the book at him, and that's what they tried to do." Comparing Lindh's twenty-year sentence to Hamdi's release and the short sentences of an alleged terror cell from Buffalo, NY, she said, "The War on Terror is so arbitrary in the way it's being prosecuted." Estimating that about a hundred people attended the event, Mahon said she was happy with the turnout but would have liked more. Amnesty International will be co-sponsoring a lecture on Darfur in mid-November and doing an awareness project about oppression and human rights violations in North Korea in December. They hold open meetings on Mondays at 7PM in SAC 304.

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Online Sex Scandal Shakes Up Capitol Hill

By Steve McLinden

With midterm congressional elections now less than a month away, Congressman Mark Foley's online gay teenage sex scandal could have a major impact in Washington next month. After ABC News broke the story involving the Florida Republican's sexually explicit instant messages with a 17-year-old congressional page, he resigned on September 29th. Since then, allegations have risen concerning recurring behavior over more than a decade, and questions are being asked about Republican congressional leaders' liability in the scandal.

In the first messages to become public, Foley's 2004 e-mails to a 16-year-old page included questions about what the page wanted for his birthday and if he could send Foley a photograph of himself. Of the more graphic conversations to be publicized, Foley asked another page in 2003 about his masturbatory techniques and habits, with Foley stating that he was "never to [sic] busy or tired... to spank it." MAF54, as he was known in cyberspace, was rather prolific in soliciting pages online. In a few conversations, he reportedly offered alcohol to pages or former pages under the age of 21. In April of 2003, as the House was voting on an emergency supplemental appropriations bill to fund the war in Iraq, Foley was apparently having cybersex with an eighteen-year-old former page.

Pages are volunteer high school students from around the country who, more or less, serve as runners of documents for

congresspersons and their offices. This is not the first time that pages have been involved in controversial affairs: in 1983, Congress censured Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) and Dan Crane (R-Ill.) for their affairs with 17-year-old male and female pages, respectively.

While Foley had no known instances of physical contact with pages, he once invited a page to his hotel room (where nothing purportedly happened), and he also had two pages visit his condo in 1997. Another then-17-year-old page says that Foley repeatedly offered to take him out for ice cream. Reports of at least two occasions of Foley coordinating a sexual liaison with former pages (who were over 18 at the time) have surfaced.

As November 7th draws closer, the GOP is in the precarious position of how to deal with a shocking scandal that has already ended, while the implications of it have not. Since his resignation, Foley has announced that he is a homosexual, that he will undergo treatment for alcoholism, and that he was molested by a priest as an adolescent. As continuing news of who knew what and when comes to light everyday, the pundits, bloggers, and talk show hosts on the left and the right flood the debate with accusations and counter-accusations. Meanwhile, House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.) is struggling to handle the matter amidst calls for his resignation (even from conservative sources like the Washington Times) for his reported negligence in ignoring alerts of Foley's worrisome behavior in the past. Roles of other leading House Republicans have also been called into question in the wake of the



Creepy Corrupt Politicians

Do I Make You Horny, Wolf Blitzer?

scandal. Long Island's own Pete King, Republican representative from the 3rd district of New York, has been one of the most vocal condemners of Foley, though he called it harsh to demand Hastert's resignation.

With all 435 seats up for election, the Republicans were expected to lose some of the margin of their majority due to public dissatisfaction with President Bush and the war in Iraq. Currently, there are 230 Republicans in the House, and their margin of 29 over the Democrats had been expected to slip, with some analysts suggesting that the Republicans may even lose both the Senate and House in the wake of this scandal. A Democratic candidate is now considered a shoe-in for the Florida seat that Foley held, especially as regula-

tions and timing mean his name will remain on the ballot, though another Republican replacement has been chosen by the party.

As a further personal embarrassment, Foley's actions seem to contradict the values he represented on Capitol Hill. Ironically, Foley had been serving as the chairperson of the House Caucus on Missing and Exploited Children, and he helped pass legislation that made it a federal crime to use the Internet to solicit sex from persons under the age of 18. As ongoing investigations by the House Ethics Committee, the FBI, and Florida law enforcement continue, it is a possibility that Foley could be the first congressman to be charged with a crime under a bill that he helped pass.

North Korea Conducts Nuclear Tests, Prompts U.N. Sanctions and Global Disapproval

By Joey Safdia

It looks like North Korea has the bomb. That's never good.

Earlier this week, North Korea made the announcement that it had tested a nuclear weapon, leading to immediate outrage throughout the international community. Numerous countries, including the United States, South Korea, and Japan, as well as the United Nations, have publicly condemned the communist nation's pursuit of nuclear missiles.

President George W. Bush called North Korea's claim a "provocative act," stating his commitment to swift, but peaceful and diplomatic, action by the United States and the United Nations Security Council. He condemned North Korea's claim as "a threat to international peace and security" and reassured allies in the region that America is committed to a Korea that is free

of nuclear weapons.

Bush also claimed that the government was currently working to assess the validity of North Korea's announcement.

This is not the first time that Kim Jong-Il, the communist dictator of North Korea, has defied the will of the United Nations and openly pursued nuclear weapon development. During the month of July, he launched multiple missiles that all landed in the Sea of Japan. In 1998, Pyongyang launched a Taepodong-1 over Japan. In 1993, a Nodong-1 was launched into the Sea of Japan.

There is a lot of confusion over the nature of the bomb itself. The size of the blast was unusually small for a nuclear device. Scientists and politicians alike are in disagreement over whether the explosion was even a nuclear one or not. While geological sensors did pick up the tremor caused by the explosion, the blast may have been too small to create the telltale radioac-

tive emissions that would show it was a nuclear explosion. While many believe it was a conventional missile, others believe it was a nuclear "dud."

The United Nations Security Council has already called for sanctions to be placed upon North Korea. The United States, along with Japan (which is not part of the Security Council), has proposed a draft that would impose tough sanctions right away. The provisions that were proposed by America in the draft call for an embargo on any goods that North Korea can use to further its missile tests, inspections of imported and exported cargo, the prohibition of any financial transactions related to the weapons program, and—for some reason—a ban on luxury goods entering the country. Japan has proposed a ban on the importation of North Korean products, is denying planes and ships permission to leave, and is prohibiting high-ranking North Korean officials from leaving the country. It is unclear

whether or not China will back these sanctions, but the North Korean ally has made it clear that these nuclear tests are unacceptable. China is working with the Security Council to agree on what sanctions should be placed on Kim Jong-Il, while calling for the continuation of diplomatic negotiations with North Korea.

Despite the fact that many high-ranking officials and scientists believe that North Korea has the capabilities to produce nukes that can hit the United States, there are



Trey Parker and Matt Stone

The Notorious K.J.-I.

Continued on page 8

Five Dead as a Result of Amish School Shooting in Pennsylvania

By Steve McLinden

In the rolling hills of the Pennsylvania Dutch Country, the Amish community usually keeps to itself, isolated from our modern world. On October 2nd, their separation was violated when a gunman entered a one-room schoolhouse in Lancaster County, killing five girls.

According to reports, local man Charles Carl Roberts entered the schoolhouse in Bart Township on that morning, armed with a 12-gauge shotgun and a handgun. The 32-year-old milkman also had plenty of supplies for restraining hostages, such as plastic ties, as well as wooden boards to barricade the doors and windows. After ordering parents with infants and the male students to leave, Roberts held ten female students and one man as hostages. After the teacher called 911, police arrived and attempted to negotiate with the hostage-taker. Roberts warned that the children

would be “dead in two seconds” if police didn’t back off, and when shots were heard from inside, the officers stormed the school. Roberts had already shot ten girls when he shot and killed himself. Three of the girls died at the scene, and two more died in the hospital. Five other girls were still hospitalized at the time this article was written.

As he apparently meticulously planned the shooting, Roberts had left his wife a suicide note partially explaining what he was about to do. In it, he detailed how he was angry with God for the death of their newborn daughter in 1997. He also explained that he had molested two of his younger female cousins twenty years previously and had been thinking of molesting again. However, those relatives told police they were never molested. Police found sexual lubricant among Roberts’s supplies but believe no molestation occurred, as Roberts was disconcerted when police arrived quickly.

The Amish, popularly known for

shunning modern amenities and technology in favor of a simpler lifestyle, migrated to Pennsylvania in the 18th century from Switzerland and Germany. As devout Anabaptist Christians, the Amish culture is based on living humbly and avoiding arrogance. Their rural lifestyle is focused on sustenance farming, and they rely on their strong work ethic and sense of community. In line with their nonresistant philosophy, several of the schoolgirls asked Roberts to shoot them before their sisters or neighbors. While dealing with the grief of burying their children, the Amish community showed a remarkable forgiveness towards the killer, making up more than half of the attendees at his funeral.

In a somewhat similar recent tragedy, a man in suburban Colorado entered Platte Canyon High School on September 27th, took several female students hostage and molested them at gunpoint, and eventually shot and killed one hostage and then himself as SWAT teams attempted to enter the building.

North Korea

(Continued)

Continued from page 7

those who question exactly how dangerous a nuclear-armed North Korea is. Some believe that Kim Jong-Il is using nuclear tests in order to gain attention from the international community. Many speculate that he wants nuclear weapons in order to be able to “play with the big boys,” so to speak; in today’s world, it seems that a nation must be nuclear-armed to be considered a global power. Many people in North Korea hate America for its role in the Korean War, with its heavy bombing runs—which the people feared at any time could have included an atomic bomb—and believe that the Korean War, in some sense, is not over, due to the lingering presence of U.S. troops and the existence of some of the economic sanctions that were in effect during the war. Since the war, America has sometimes used threats in order to deter North Korea from arming itself. With the Iraq War—the personification of the open declaration by America that it can launch pre-emptive military strikes against any nation it deems a threat—the people and government of North Korea most likely believe that a nuclear arsenal is necessary for defense against the United States, rather than for the purposes (real or fictional) of destroying America. Also, not only has North Korea for some time desired the United States to recognize it as a sovereign nation separate from its South Korean neighbors, but Kim Jong-Il and his government understand (we hope) that any nuclear strike against America will result in enormous consequences, namely a retaliatory strike that would leave his country devastated. Such is the very nature of nuclear deterrence: the costs of launching a nuclear strike outweigh the benefits. Even if he has nukes, the likelihood of Kim Jong-Il attacking America is low, for if he does, then North Korea will face massive retaliation.

At the same time, there can be no doubt that North Korea having nuclear bombs is far from desirable. While one can debate whether or not Kim Jong-Il would target the United States, South Korea and Japan would surely be in greater danger, as they both have very shaky relations with North Korea, to say the least. Also, the general instability of the region leads to the regime’s political goals constantly changing and lacking any sort of clarity. This unpredictable nature, coupled with a totalitarian form of government, makes it more dangerous for North Korea to have nuclear weapons than for such weapons to be held by a nation such as the United States, which has had a stable democratic government for 230 years.

Freedom Dies With a Majority Vote



Irv Novoa

Apparently Lady Liberty Likes to be Handcuffed...grrrr.

By Irv Novoa

The Military Commissions Act of 2006 (MCA), passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate late last month, was presented to the President on October 10, 2006, and still awaits his signature. The MCA bill has come under much criticism from civil rights activists, including Amnesty International, for its proposed suspension of habeas corpus to anyone deemed an “alien unlawful enemy combatant.”

Any detainee of the War on Terror found to be an “enemy combatant” at a

Combatant Status Review Tribunal (CSRT), required by the Detainee Treatment Act (DTA), will be unable to petition against unlawful imprisonment. In addition, the act prevents prisoners from invoking the Geneva Conventions as a source of individual rights. This is in response to the Hamdan v. Rumsfeld (2006) Supreme Court trial that found the military commissions set up to try prisoners of Guantanamo to be unlawful in accordance to military law and the Geneva Conventions. The MCA, if passed, would make it lawful for anyone detained to be tried by the established military commissions, including civil-

ians arrested on or off any battlefield, effectively locking out other courts.

Additionally, the MCA states that any information obtained through torture cannot be used against detainees in accordance with current U.S. torture laws. However, the questionable interrogation methods used at Guantanamo, which have been openly criticized as inhumane, have been justified by the Bush administration because the methods used did not intend to cause “severe mental pain or suffering,” which is quoted from the law the MCA references. Amnesty International believes this article of the bill gives the commissions the legal right to use evidence extracted from prisoners under cruel conditions against detainees, in violation of international law.

It is the opinion of this writer that we should start a national petition to send the Statue of Liberty back to France because we obviously don’t deserve it anymore. Or maybe for a sense of irony, we should melt it down into handcuffs for our newly defined “enemy combatants.” Who needed freedom, anyway?

To see other complaints about the bill, go to:

<http://web.amnesty.org/library/Index/ENGAMR511542006>

To see the bill, as passed by both houses of Congress, go to:

http://www.loc.gov/rr/frd/Military_Law/pdf/HCOR-2006-09-29.pdf

Peter King: "Homeland Security: Are We Safe?"

By Nicole Doonan

On October 10th, representative Peter King (R) was brave enough to step onto campus to deliver a speech concerning the security of our nation and our state. After the mixture of students and locals was seated, the President of NIAF (National Italian American Foundation) introduced the congressman. Not five minutes after he began speaking, the student protesters began chanting clever jingles (such as "Let freedom ring! Dethrone Peter King!") outside the Humanities doors.

Peter King has been representing New York's 3rd Congressional District since 1992, and he is presently serving his seventh term. According to the percentage of votes he received in the past few years, he seems to be accepted by the public. However, this is hard to believe when you hear the public voicing its opinions concerning his views.

King opened up his lecture with the statement that we have all heard from President Bush: "We are safer than we were five years ago." He stated that we have much more security personnel and checkpoints and therefore have safer air-

ports, safer train terminals, and safer ports. However, here a question can be raised: "Does more security necessarily mean we are safer?" Apparently, King believes this, and he listed a few cases in

Security Committee, King is obviously a firm supporter of the President and the international War on Terror. He believes that, in order to keep the terrorists from attacking again, the army needs to be

war against international terror may believe that the United States is, in fact, "safer," we are far from safe. "There is an absolute real threat...it is a question of when and where," Peter King stated. King, as well as most other New Yorkers, feels that a terrorist attack could happen anytime and anywhere. According to King, New York is at the top of the terrorist chart, followed by Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., and other major cities. He stated that a possible terror attack could be planned in the suburbs and brought into the city, similar to the London bombings.

King also took questions concerning the threat from North Korea and Iran. Since North Korea obviously has nuclear weapons, U.S. citizens and the government are worried that they could sell those weapons to terrorist organizations. King stated that the United States would need help from China to stop North Korea, since China provides food and oil, which are both necessities for North Korea. Meanwhile, Iran would be a more difficult country to deal with, as there are no stable countries in that area that could aid the U.S. and military action would be difficult and possibly worse than that in Iraq.



Peter King: One Badass Mambajahamba
The magic lightbox that's connected to telephone wires (aka the computer)

ports, safer train terminals, and safer ports. However, here a question can be raised: "Does more security necessarily mean we are safer?" Apparently, King believes this, and he listed a few cases in which the United States' security actually stopped homegrown terrorists from carrying out their devastating plans. However, with these successes also come tragedies, as seen in London in 2005 and in the Madrid bombings of 2004.

As the Chairman of the Homeland

forceful and aggressive. "As we adapt, the enemy adapts," King stated, concerning the war. He also stated that our troops have made significant progress in Iraq by capturing most Al Qaeda members (not including bin Laden).

While King and other supporters of the

Homecoming: We Won!

By Nirmala Ramsaran

Homecoming weekend turned out to be a triumph for Stony Brook, as many came out in red to support the Stony Brook Seawolves. In the parade on Friday, Kelly Quad won best float. The parade began in the freezing cold in front of the Administration building and finished in the stadium parking lot, which is also where the pep rally took place. As for the pep rally, it consisted of free pretzels (which were not that great); popcorn prepared by Jahlecia Smith (which was pretty good); and air brushed t-shirts prepared and sold by Vanessa Johnson and colorful calligraphic name designs distributed by Jacqueline Richards (which were both very popular). Saturday was a lot better, considering it was warm and sunny out and everyone received giveaways as they entered through the gate. The giveaways included "red hot" Stony Brook T-shirts that had BEAT ALBANY on the back (which meant we really needed to win or else we were going to be very embarrassed), mugs, the usual shiny necklaces, and Stony Brook red paws. There were also more free giveaways at the Club Expo from clubs such as the Environmental Club, which gave away recycle buttons to Student Activities that gave away Stony Brook photo albums, mouse pads, t-shirts, kids' puzzles and

tattoos, magnets, and, of course, lots and lots of brochures. There was also free food for alumni (which was also very tasty).

More importantly, in the football game, the Stony Brook Seawolves beat Albany 33-21, a victory that was motivated by the new marching band's excellent sound (led by John Leddy), the Stony Brook Cheerleaders, and the fans, dressed in their red t-shirts and caps, who cheered and did waves every five to ten minutes. Then, during halftime, which consisted of performances from the marching band and the dance team, the Homecoming King and Queen were announced. For Homecoming Queen the nominees were Danielle Fliiller, Mariana Karavolias, Ana Verde, Antoinette Otto and Danielle Gell; Antoinette Otto was awarded the crown. The male contestants were Jeffery Paul, Onte Johnson, Ali Mehrabian, Eric Burgie and Bryan Gershen; the crown was awarded to Ali Mehrabian. Ali Mehrabian and Antoinette Otto said, "It was very unexpected," and received their capes and crowns from last year's winners Cody Reluso and Elizabeth Roberts.

Homecoming weekend was a success for everyone; however, it would have not been possible if it were not for Alexandra Duggan, Sara Young, Allison Clough, Andy Auguste, and Will Neris, who worked extremely hard to make this year enjoyable for everyone.

Walking for Breast and Prostate Cancer

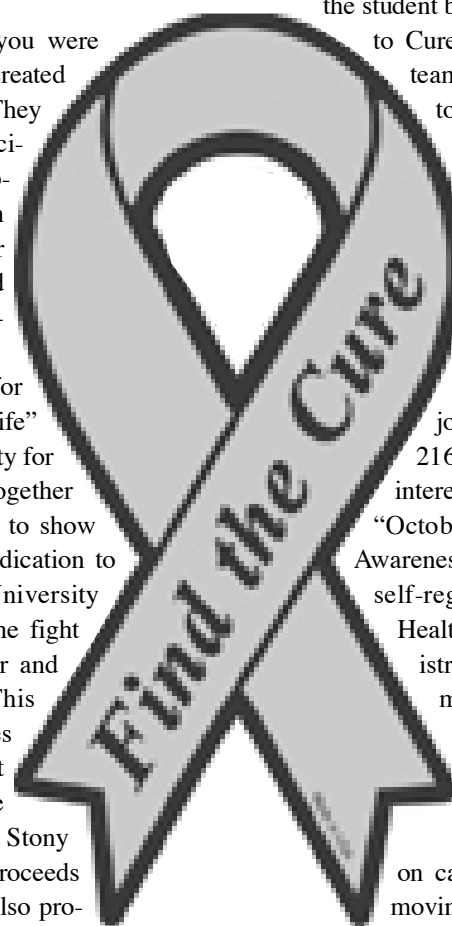
By Kotei Aoki

I think by now, you were invited to the group created by Yuifun Cheng. They are looking for participants and your support for the walk on Sunday, October 22nd. She provided the following information.

The "Walk for Beauty, Walk for Life" event is an opportunity for the students to join together with the community to show their support and dedication to Stony Brook University Medical Center in the fight against breast cancer and prostate cancer. This 6K/4K walk raises funds for vital breast cancer and prostate cancer research at Stony Brook University. Proceeds from the walk will also provide wigs, prostheses, and other special products to cancer patients. The CHOICE program, part of the Student

Health Service Center is fundraising for the event, is hoping to recruit walkers from the student body to join our "Helping to Cure" team. By joining our team and reaching the goal to raise \$500 for the Fight against breast cancer, there will be no registration fee to participate in the event. However, if you desire to self-register to be a walker, there is a registration fee of \$20. To join the team, contact 631-216-3698, or post your interest on Facebook group "October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month." You may also self-register at the Student Health Service. There are registration forms there. You may register on the spot at the event with fee of \$20. Thank you for your support.

It will be another event on campus that will get you moving. At least you will find friends who have the same interests. Support breast and prostate cancer research!





The Senate Throws a Pep Rally, Wastes Time

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

It looks like the Undergraduate Senate is in need of a morale booster, and Senator Nathan Shapiro was able to give them just that.

During the Senate meeting on October 3rd, Senator Shapiro of the Reform Party read a prepared statement in response to a dissenting letter that Recording Secretary Esam Al-Shareffi had written to The Statesman.

In his statement, Senator Shapiro praised the Senate for their “tireless efforts” involving the formulating of “a legislative agenda that will vastly improve the Stony Brook experience of our constituents.”

“Unfortunately, despite emanating from our own Senate Recording Secretary, some of these comments suffer from mischaracterizations and error,” said Senator Shapiro.

He was referring to Esam’s comments concerning the effectiveness of the Undergraduate Senate, specifically referring to the previous week’s meeting, where the University’s policy on banning smoking on campus was discussed. Esam claimed that the Senators “ramble[d] incoherently,” as they expressed their dissenting opinions. One of these Senators was Senator Shapiro, who, in response to the proposed smoking ban, invoked the spirit of Patrick Henry by quoting, “Give me liberty, or give me death!”

Esam, who was given a chance to explain his Statesman letter, claimed that he was “disappointed” in the way that the Senate handled themselves during that meeting. He stated that he wished that more people had come up with “constructive ideas” rather than stating their opinions. Senator Shapiro disagreed, stating, “When we give [the University Senate] our

input, they ignore us anyway.”

Esam also claimed that the student body is owed a “tangible benefit” for the payment of their Student Activity Fee, as opposed to the discussion of “internal matters” that he feels dominates every meeting.

Before the forty-minute discussion of Esam’s letter, official business was conducted smoothly. Jackson Georges was appointed as Chair of the Student Activities Board. Jackson, who has had past experience planning events as the Chair Person of Large Concerts, hopes to be able to plan activities that will keep more students on campus during the weekend.

Senator Shapiro also presented a bill that sought to establish a Commission on Student Due Process Rights. A group of Senate members will be appointed to take a look at the Non-Academic Judiciary to oversee proce-

dures and make sure that students receive a fair trial. The Commission would meet for six weeks and report their findings back to the Senate. They would also be able to make recommendations to the Judiciary if they find their results to be unsatisfactory. The motion to put the bill into effect passed, 14-0-2.

The Senate also voted on an amendment concerning the allotted time for speaking limits, which was presented in the previous meeting by Senator Ryan O’Connor. The amendment would allow for senators to yield their speaking time to another senator in order to let them finish their point efficiently. A senator would also be allowed to speak more than once on a motion. Although many senators expressed apprehension about allowing more speaking time, they were ultimately convinced that it would lead to more thorough debates, and the amendment passed unanimously.

Fannie Brice Theater Building Condemned, ERQ Now Officially Ghetto-est of all Quads

By Leeza Menon

Every quad on the Stony Brook campus has some special feature or characteristic to brag about. Kelly has the novelty of being the only group of buildings on campus with a private balcony for each suite. In addition, it houses the Kelly Coffee House, Stony Brook’s own little version of Starbucks, without the early opening hours, of course. Tabler has its own art gallery and music performance center for budding talent while Roth takes a stab at presenting multi-faceted international cuisine with Burger King, Dosa Deli, and the ever famous, or some would say infamous, Deng Lee’s. H-Quad and Mendelsohn both make up a chunk of prime real estate, especially for jocks, because of their close proximity to both the Sports Complex and the Academic Mall. So, what does Roosevelt have to offer? Well, before, it had the Cabaret, but that is about to change. Roosevelt’s proudest amenity, the Fannie Brice Theater, where the Graduate Student Drama Showcase is housed, is going to be torn down.

The Cabaret was first created in 1999 by Michael X. Zelenak, who was the Director of Graduate Studies at the time. Using the Yale Cabaret as a model, the intention was to create a program that could be run by graduate students in the MFA’s Dramaturgy program. With provocative subject matter and “filthy” language, *Out of the Kitchen* by Franz Xaver Kroetz, the first play ever put on by the Stony Brook Cabaret, proved to be a daring debut. It was directed by Steve Marsh, who is the current

Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Theatre Arts. He admits that he was “a little nervous about the material, but once [everyone] got into rehearsals, [they] realized it was really something special.” After the two lead actors delved into the serious storyline of domestic abuse, the audience’s enthusiastic reactions meant that the play as well as the Cabaret was a booming triumph. These early successes were put on in The Spot, a graduate student lounge, but the demand for more seating brought on by

Graduate Director Marsh’s favorite “experiments,” called *Wrestlemedia*, which turned out to be, in Marsh’s words, “one of the most entertaining and death-defying nights [I’ve] ever spent in the theatre.”

Even though the Cabaret was initially meant to give graduate students a hands-on approach to theatre, undergraduate students have also helped out by acting in some of the performances and submitting show suggestions.

Now the landmark theater that brought you



The Cabaret Building (located in ERQ across from Kelly)

Jesse Schoepfer

frequently sold-out shows caused the graduate students to relocate and to resurrect the Fannie Brice Theater in Roosevelt Quad.

Over the years, there have been several plays to make the Stony Brook community...think; *Seven Blowjob*s by Mac Wellman and *Shopping and Fucking* by Mark Ravenhill are two of them. It is also important to note one of

Tits and Ass: Sex on Broadway is being demolished, and the drama department was shocked to hear of Fannie Brice’s impending doom from the Dean’s office only two weeks before the semester started. The building had been labeled as “unsafe” for a while, but many of the graduate students and instructors who conduct theater classes there were already making plans for the

upcoming year, which are now all being shattered. The exact reasoning behind the demolition has not been disclosed; however, after negotiating with the Dean’s office and explaining the huge chunk that would be ripped out of the graduate drama students’ artistic welfare, the drama department has been trying hard to find a new venue to house the Cabaret. Possible temporary sites include rooms in the Staller Center, the Wang Center and the Tabler Living Learning Center for Culture and Humanities. However, they are really pushing for a new space in the Stony Brook Union, which could potentially mean more exposure and more parking spaces.

Everyone who has been closely involved with the Cabaret is obviously upset about the move, as well as the break in schedule. However, as Marsh says, “We didn’t pity ourselves too long.” The Stony Brook Cabaret’s Artistic Staff say that “they are currently planning and discussing the future” and refuse to make any further statement at this time.

So, if any of the readers are worried that they will not be able to see any more from the Cabaret that they know and love, they have nothing to fear. The old home of the Cabaret is in shambles right now, but the students involved are working in hopes that the Cabaret will be up and running in its brand new location at least by the spring of 2007. So, all the theater buffs will hopefully have to wait only a few more months.

Then, the question that remains is for the residents of Roosevelt. What will be Roosevelt’s claim to fame now that we’ll have to say goodbye to Fannie Brice?

Club Spotlight

ASL Club

By Adina Silverbush

The American Sign Language (ASL) club was founded by Cindy Chen last year in hopes of enriching the Stony Brook community with the knowledge of ASL and raising deaf awareness on campus. When Cindy first came to Stony Brook she wanted to take a sign language course to fulfill her foreign language requirement. Although Cindy is hard of hearing she grew up oral, always surrounded by hearing people, thus she had never gotten much of a chance to learn or understand sign language.

From the course, her skills greatly improved and she found a part of herself she never knew. Cindy said, "No longer did I feel that I was stuck in between two places — the hearing world and deaf world

— because I realized I could have both." She became a TA for two courses, and noticed that many of her peers not in the course were interested in ASL but couldn't fit the class into their schedules. This is when she decided to take action and create a club. This way the students could learn outside of the classroom in a stress free, fun environment.

The ASL club meets once a week, every other week. It consists of ASL workshops, learning about deaf culture and playing games (plus there are often snacks). Soon they're hoping to have guest speakers and show movies and documentaries. Cindy Chen is the club's President, and the other leaders are Vice President Rick Mason, Secretary Ventura Acosta, and Treasurer Safras Khan. All students are welcome to join; absolutely no prior experience is necessary. However, people that are deaf or



Adina Silverbush

Talk to the hand.

who already know sign language are definitely an asset to the group and are also encouraged to join. Julie Weisenburg acts as the club's advisor, which is great because she has experience in both teaching as well as interpreting sign language.

Even if students can't make it to meetings, other events are being scheduled which are not exclusive to club members. One such event will be a "Silent Dinner" where students will be able to interact in a practical setting and experience what it would be like to be deaf. Since the club is still very new and continuing to grow, the leaders are very open to moving the club in different directions and anyone can make suggestions as to what they'd like to learn or activities they might enjoy.

The club was hit with a major blow last semester when its treasurer, Jeffrey Eng, a Stony Brook Junior, was killed in a car accident. Cindy had this message to send to her friend Jeff who left long before his time: "Well, I just wanted to thank you for everything you have done for the ASL Club. Not only were you a great treasurer,

you were also a great friend. I doubt that we would have gone this far without you. I don't think I could give up now, and you've given us the hope that we really needed. The ASL Club has a different meaning to me now. It's become something really special in my life, and I want to share that with others. I know that you'd be proud of us, and you'll always be with us in spirit. I want this club to go on in your memory... This is for you..."

The ASL club meets every other Wednesday in the SAC room 309 from 4:30 to 5:30 pm. I attended their last meeting and watched as Cindy enthusiastically taught the group new signs and got all fifteen students very involved in signing their names and introducing themselves. The group seemed very eager and attentive. Their next meeting will be Oct. 25th. . If you have any interest in signing, this club has a warm, welcoming atmosphere that I really feel everyone will enjoy. You can contact Cindy and the other club members at SBUASLClub@gmail.com with any questions, comments, or concerns.



Adina Silverbush

Cindy, Esselle and Ventura (Yo, they're spelling out "ASL" Isn't that bitchin?)

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About NTDTV

New Tang Dynasty TV (NTDTV - www.ntdtv.com) is the largest independent, nonprofit Chinese language TV broadcaster established by overseas Chinese. NTDTV began broadcasting via satellite in North America in February 2002 and extended its 24/7 programming to cover Asia, Europe, and Australia in July 2003. Headquartered in New York City, NTDTV currently has reporters and correspondents in over fifty cities worldwide. It aims to provide people with accurate information to enrich their knowledge and lives, foster understanding between Chinese and Western societies, and assist Chinese people outside China to adapt and assimilate to mainstream society.



Is Your Professor Prejudiced? By the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance

Prejudice in the classroom is not always easily recognizable. Your professor may make a...

- Sexist-** discriminating against a particular gender or sex
- Racist-** discriminating against a particular ethnic or racial group
- Classist-** discriminating against members of a particular socio-economic class
- Homophobic-** discriminating against people who identify as queer, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, intersex, or transsexual...

statement, and be shamelessly open about his or her discriminatory attitudes. However, subtle cues, such as disregarding one group of classmates in favor of another or giving lengthier responses to certain students than others, are also signs of potential prejudice. We are all prejudiced to some extent, but to be stuck with a prejudiced professor for an entire semester can be alienating.

If you or somebody you know has had a disturbing or offensive interaction with a professor, in or out of the classroom, contact the Feminist Majority Leadership alliance at kathleen.fencesitter@gmail.com. We will act as receptive listeners, and, if you want, will write an article exposing your professor's discriminatory attitude so that other students can be aware, as an initial step towards tolerance.

Note: We accept all complaints, not simply those related to women's issues.

Peace ☺



A Candid Letter to RA's Everywhere

Dear RA Sir or Madam,

It has come to my attention that you RAs as a collective whole have become compulsive, nagging, and perfectionist. In short, you are becoming like my mother, whom I love dearly but have desperately eluded by living on campus. Your behavior is a far cry from my freshman and sophomore years where no one seemed to care about how any of their residents were living, and that is very well how things should be. Once you breach the line of what you think is right and wrong for us residents, you are crossing into dangerous territory my friends, and I don't think I can be responsible if you step on one of my land mines while you are doing a room and safety check. A metaphorical land mine of course, I mean no harm unto you.

First things first, the reason I write this letter to you is because of an incident that occurred last semester. The occasion? My twenty-first birthday. A time of revelry, merriment, and getting plastered out of your mind legally. Now, in my suite, I have not, in the 3 years previous I had lived there, seen any party broken up. And I lived with frat people who threw loud parties at 3 in the morning and disturbed my sleep: but did any RA do anything about that? Heck no. So much to my shock, my first party, which was a relatively quiet celebration with only about 15 people there, was interrupted by

an RA saying that there were too many people in the room and that everyone had to leave or get written up, plus any open alcohol had to be poured down the drain. Everyone knows: you mess with a college kid's liquor, you're going to be hated. forever.

This incident, horrible as it may be, was graciously overlooked by me, and I could not wait to get back to the freedom that Stony Brook provided before long. Then I have to go through crap like an RA saying that our computer wire cannot be taped down to the floor, rather, the 15 foot cable must somehow be taped to the ceiling! These RAs also wrote us up for having a dirty kitchen. We are guys, we live dirty by choice. I'm really glad that you RAs think that you're doing us a favor by telling us how to live, but you are not. In fact, you are slowly earning our ire. If our living conditions cause damage to the room, we'll take care of it. I don't believe for a minute you're looking out for our safety in just the same way I don't believe cops care about our security when they write us tickets for not wearing a seat belt. Oh, and when I was bringing in a 30 pack of beer with my 2 friends who were 21, you informed me that I could only have 6 cans of beer per person and I would have to pour the rest of the beer down the drain. Smooth move guys, smooth.

Look, I don't really care that you are an RA. You are not special to me in any way – I view you as a regular college student. In that sense, I wouldn't mind chilling with you or even partying with you. It's a part of college; relax and have some fun. But if you think that your 2 weeks of "training" (read: sleeping, drinking, partying with other RAs) qualifies you to tell us how to live our lives, think again. You think you need to earn the respect of your residents? Well we respect you already for what you're doing. You're helping us get back to our rooms when we lock ourselves out. You give us advice on what's going around campus, you build our floats, you talk to the annoying RHD for us, you're supposed to look out for us. And we respect that, we really do. But, we respect you forcing the school's rules unto us just like we respect the RIAA's wishes for us not to download copyrighted music. You don't have to earn our respect by being a hard ass; in fact, we'll respect you much, much less.

Stop being so damn pompous and thinking you're above a regular resident – you live by the same rules and in the same society as all of us. No one is going to fire you if there's a party on your floor and you don't bust us or force us to drain our liquor or kick everyone out of the party. Unless there are strippers and Metallica playing a live concert with 500 people stuffed in a

person suite, it doesn't exist, okay? No one is going to fire you if our rooms are "dangerous living quarters" due to a wire taped to the floor or because the garbage hasn't been taken out for 3 days. The whole premise of safety inspections is ridiculous anyway – if you give us an entire day to cover up any evidence of drugs, liquor, and other illegal goods, how is that enforcing our safety? Hypocrites.

Being an RA is stressful, I know. I have plenty of RA friends. But that doesn't mean you have to pass your stress onto us. Just because you live in a way where rules must be followed to the letter, doesn't mean we all want to be subjugated to your dictatorship. Live and let live. You collect your free housing and \$300 of free food from the school, and we say that's cool and won't bother you that much unless we really have to. Piss us off, and you know what, when stuff breaks in the building, or someone rips down your bulletin board, you'll have no sympathy from us. Or if you need the building's cooperation to compete in a recycling or float/boat building, you will not find our help. We don't want to hate you, we really don't. So stop making life hard for us. That is all I candidly ask from you.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
James Han

A Candid Response to 'Letter to RA's Everywhere' - from an RA

Dear James Han,

I've read your letter and you do make some valid points. I would like to let you know that I concur, we are not your mothers and we don't want to be. Also, contrary to what you may think, RAs DO NOT make-up the rules, BUT we are expected to enforce them. Constantly complaining to us about how stupid the rules are is useless.

If you really want change then YOU, the resident, must actually take the initiative and speak to Campus Res. I can't promise you change, but if you don't say anything, then the Administration may not even realize there is a problem. And don't think that RAs agree with everything that goes on around here; we have an RA Council that is currently working to address RA concerns with some of the problems.

There are additional things in your letter that as an RA I would like to address. Keep in mind that I do not speak for all RAs because WE ARE NOT ALL THE SAME. People in general may hear one thing and interpret it in different ways.

A common complaint is that RAs just do what they want and that we pull rules from our asses. Not true. However, we help to ensure that residents uphold the Student Conduct Code and the Terms of Occupancy, both of which you agreed to by signing your housing registration form. Like you wrote, we are students; you can't expect us to be perfect RAs after 2 weeks of training. We learn by experience. You'll find that some new RAs tend to be a little too over the top

in enforcing the rules but that may be because they are eager to do their jobs correctly. They need time to get comfortable with their positions and get a feel for what it makes sense to do, so cut them some slack.

As for the loud parties, YOU SHOULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING!!! RAs are NOT psychic. Even though an RA may live down the hall, s/he may not be there or be able to know. If I'm on duty and I live on the ground floor and there is a party upstairs on the opposite side of the building that may not have been going on during my last round (1 AM), unless I happen to pass by or hear about it from someone, I WILL NOT KNOW ABOUT IT BECAUSE NO ONE SAID ANYTHING.

A lot of residents think that we just know stuff automatically and then complain later that we never did anything, but these residents probably never said anything about it to us while it was going on. For example, if your studying is interrupted by loud music around 9PM (before quiet hours) and you/no one says anything about it, I will assume everything is okay.

If you don't want to start drama, you can always be anonymous. It's not like the RA is going to say, "Okay man you gotta turn down the music because the dude next door is complaining." But don't take this as justification for going to your RA to complain about everything. Most likely if you ask politely, the resident will stop.

With the liquor situation, understand

that it is policy to ask that the resident dump the excess beer, even if it's not always enforced. If you were stupid enough to blatantly advertise with an exposed 30-pack that there would be a party, you were asking for it. Personally, I would have asked you to leave the excess beer in your car, BUT technically, you were violating the Student Conduct Code. RA Protocol demands that the RA ask you to dump the beer. Some will ask and some will find a more rational alternative.

Also, even though your birthday party may have been quiet, that still doesn't change the fact that there were too many people in the suite. The maximum number of guests allowed in a suite is 12, 2 per resident I would have told you guys to keep quiet and stop people from constantly going in and out because of slamming doors. Again, different RAs take different approaches. You're lashing out at ALL RAs with the assumption that we, as a whole, react and feel the same way about everything but you are very wrong.

And it's not like RAs just roam the halls looking for people to pick on, we honestly have much better things to do. HOWEVER, if another resident complains about you (which may have been the case for your party) we HAVE to follow it up. We can't just say, "Okay, we'll talk to [Resident with the party]" to the concerned resident and then walk away as if nothing happened because that's just not right.

One more thing: Health and Safety Inspections. You have anywhere from 1 day to 1 week to get rid of illegal stuff. If you don't bother to read the signs posted all over then you deserve to get written up. An ICF for a "dirty" kitchen may have been much, but if you have old food all over the floor I will write you up too! Cockroach / ant infestations spread quickly. Your neighbors will blame the school and bitch at the RAs who can't do anything except report it, when the blame really lies on you!

Lastly, personal microwaves are not allowed. Period. If you have an issue, bring it up with Campus Res and stop complaining about the power outages at 3AM. I always get triples complaining about power outages at 1 AM. The reason the power went out is because they all had their individual TVs, computers, microwaves, etc. going AND they were ALL blow-drying their hair at the same time. Please tell your love-to-bitch-at-the-RA friends to do their hair in the bathroom and not to stick ten million appliances to power strips upon power strips because that causes power outages. Thank you.

Sincerely,
A Concerned RA

***Editor's Note: This RA asked to be anonymous because things she would do are technically against the rules. If what you are doing affects others she will come down on you. If not, as long as you keep the peace, that is what good RAs try to do too!



Seawolves Sports

Seawolves Women's Soccer Earns First Conference Win

By Antony Lin

The Stony Brook Seawolves would seize their first conference win over the Binghamton Bearcats, 1-0, at LaValle Stadium. Approximately 250 supporters were present to witness the Seawolves in their dominating performance.

"Our first conference win with a home win is always exciting," said Seawolves head coach Sue Ryan. "Both teams played hard. Binghamton is organized and well-coached."

Kate Collins' strike in the 15th minute would end up deciding the match. Kristin Mishrell collected a loose ball deflected towards her on the left wing. Mishrell's low, outswinging cross found Collins, who one-timed it with her left foot to put the home side on top, 1-0.

"I thought it was a great team effort," stated Seawolves' player Krista Shilts. "It was good we put something away early in the game and finished off with a win. We are coming together as a team."

Collins would have two additional golden opportunities in the 32nd minute. Collins' first header was saved by Kristie Bowers. On the ensuing corner, Collins' header was headed for the back of the net, only to have it cleared off the line by the Bearcats' defense.

Bowers would continue to deny Collins five minutes later. Brooke Barbuto slipped a through ball to Collins. Her near post shot would be parried away by Bowers.

Barbuto had a great opportunity of her own in the 42nd minute. After splitting two defenders, her shot from 24 yards out was touched over the bar by Bowers.

"Binghamton played well, and it was a big game," mentioned Barbuto. "For a while, we played kickball with them, and we settled it down. We wanted this game more than anything."

Binghamton would pressure Stony Brook throughout the second half, to no avail.

The Bearcats' first real threat would come in the 58th minute. Kelly Haslinger's shot from thirteen yards out forced Marisa Viola to dive to her left for the save.

The Seawolves nearly got the insurance goal in the 88th minute. Collins' bending shot from thirteen yards out would sail just wide of the far post.

Stony Brook is 1-1-0 in conference play and 6-4-1 overall. Binghamton drops to 0-2-2 and 3-6-2.

"We have learned lessons from previous games, and that served us well," said Ryan. "I am pleased with our performance tonight."

Seawolves Men's Soccer Blanks UMBC

By Antony Lin

The Stony Brook Seawolves came away with their first conference win of the season with a score of 2-0 over the UMBC Retrievers on a gorgeous night at LaValle Stadium. The Seawolves remain unbeaten at home for the season.

"We're another team at home," said Seawolves head coach Cesar Markovic. "At home, we play with confidence and believe more. There is a big game coming up against BU. Hopefully we can get a good result there, and then we got to figure out how to produce the same effort on road."

The first half saw limited opportunities for both sides. Stony Brook attacked for the majority of the half, while UMBC looked for the counter.

The first chance came in the 24th minute for the Seawolves. Tamer Mohamed's hard shot from 27 yards out would end up right in the hands of UMBC goalkeeper Steve King.

The next chance for Stony Brook came from Kevin Muller in the 38th minute. Michael Palacio's free kick from 35 yards found the head of Muller. Muller's header forced King to make a diving stop.

The second half included more attacking flair from the home side. "Just relax and have fun," Markovic told his team at half-time. "Let the game come to you and keep it simple."

Markovic's remark proved to be effective just four minutes into the second half. Adam

Ciklic notched the game-winning goal off a set piece outside the box on the left side by Palacio. Off a misclearance by the Retrievers' backline, Ciklic got a head to the ball before an onrushing King.

"We have been practicing set pieces all week," mentioned Ciklic. "Coach (Markovic) told us to be free in there and do what we have to do. I saw Palacio take the free kick and then someone flicked it on. Their goalie came out and I just flicked it over him."

The Seawolves added the much-needed cushion in the 65th minute. Mohamed's in-swinging corner was initially nodded down. Mahamadou Simpara ended up pouncing on the ball from point blank, putting it onto the upper left corner.

UMBC threatened to pull one back in the 67th minute. Dan Bulls' header off a free kick appeared to be headed into the lower left corner, only to be denied by Rich Skoblicki diving to the ground.

The visitors threatened again in the 80th minute off a direct free kick from Bryan Moffa. His swerving shot from 25 yards out forced Skoblicki to rise and make a diving stop, keeping the Retrievers scoreless.

Stony Brook improved to 1-2-0 in conference play and 4-9-0 overall. UMBC dropped to 0-2-2 and 3-7-3.

"I thought this game was huge for us," said Seawolves midfielder Alexander Betancourt. "I think everything we did today boosted our morale. It is huge for our season."



David K. GINN

WHERE THE "K" STANDS FOR "KNOCKOUT"

Hurra Torpedo - Total Eclipse Of The Heart



Is there anything in the world better than watching a trio of dirty men beat the shit out of kitchen appliances to the melody of Bonnie Tyler's "Total Eclipse Of The Heart"? No, I don't think so. There never has been, and there never will be. A guy who can slam the door of a chest freezer and make it sound like a bass drum is my personal hero, but when a bearded man who looks like he crawled out of his own sovereign nation can play the entire song on a guitar with uncut strings whilst this is going on without even hinting at a smile, that is pure awesome in a cup. Run-on sentences rock, too.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oIaz6zBz1go>

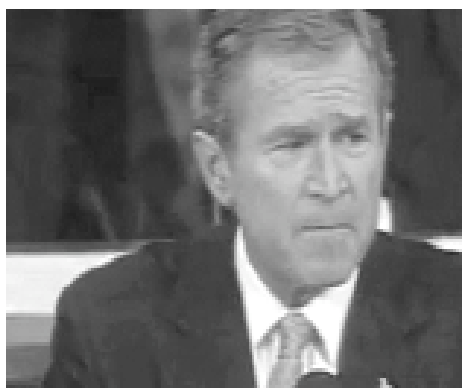
The Spirit of Truth



"I come in the name of Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit." Just watch. Bitches.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6x4H4ioUQwE>

George W. Bush - Sunday Bloody Sunday



The guy who made this video is a genius with a lot of time on his hands. A lot of time.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jS0xAiETUo>

STFU



Say "just one more time" to your friends when you're watching it. It's like eating a bag of chips on an endless loop. Fucking tasty chips.

<http://www.stfu.se/stfuse.swf>

Darth Vader Being a Prick



Oh god, this is how Darth Vader really was. We all know it. This video is brilliantly edited to show the true nature of the galaxy's dark enforcer. I love fans who have nothing to do with their time. They rock the socks so hard. This video proves it. Word.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XHtyA0qTnTE>

PRESS Staffer's

TOP 5



Steve McLinden



'THE OFFICIAL' My Way Power Rangers: Gansta Crizzab!

From the "I'm the Juggernaut, Bitch!" people comes this voiceover parody of your favorite childhood martial arts/monster/robot afternoon TV show.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=yHuWL4nLExc>



Crufix

While I don't condone harming small children, isn't teenage criminal mischief what the Internet ought to be all about?

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=fciLXSrRrY8>



Pokemon

In thick Brooklyn accents, two guys argue about the worth of different creatures in *Pokemon: The First Movie*.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=wz6xwwNMpRY>



Indie Clerk Assholes

A tongue-in-cheek short film about pretentious record store workers that was shot in Manhattan's Other Music. Recommended for music snobs only.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=LS4xTZUoyCQ>



Teacher Impression

Some high school student, apparently spoofing his teacher, manages to create a hilarious composite representation of all of the male teachers you ever had in high school.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2qjeXZsRbqk>

JAMES MESSINA



Reach! A Lecture Musical

A bright young chap in a green sweater taught me all I know about love. Without using his cock. That's how brave and unique he was. Anyway. This is a video by a Columbia group of students known as Prangstgrüp, wherein a lecture is interrupted for the surprisingly well-choreographed musical musings of a disillusioned student. Greensweater has a musical number that questions the very nature of our educational system. I know what you're thinking: *Musicals are gay, will this be any different?* No, no it won't. It's pretty gay, because it's a musical. But it's also hilarious. That prank you guys played that one time? No. Just no. These guys are way cooler.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=hZ0pFW-c8mQ>



Tarzan Rubberband

I don't know how to describe this one, exactly. It's a music video of sorts. The only words used in this video are combinations of "Tarzan" and "rubber band", and at one point, "vine swingin'". And yet the way the rubber bands are stretched, or touched, or even licked, the costumes chosen -- costumes that reek of a BDSM store clearance sale -- the sheer fucking insanity! They add up to more than the sum of their parts in the most disturbing manner possible. If you've ever laughed when you weren't supposed to -- and you know what moment I'm describing, so don't feign ignorance -- then this vid is for you.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=kGIJavsxauA>



LED Throwies!

This video kicks some ass. It's not funny, it's not weird, it's actually... charming. I know, I know. Why deviate from my heretofore uninterrupted path of scatological mayhem? I couldn't tell you. But the first time I saw this video, I was taken with it. In this video, LED lights of various colors are somehow made into stickyball things. And they're thrown against buildings. And it's awesome. Another bonus to this video is the soothing music that plays in the background, and complements the video perfectly. Watch this video to increase your awesome level. I'm level 99. You're level 4. Don't you want to level up?

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=m6kJsdkZEIQ>



My Animated World

This video has achieved its wicked level of awesome because it's fulfilled two burning visual needs of mine: stop-motion animation, and people from the Netherlands. In this video, we experience a day in the life of a dude named Jelle van Dun. There are numerous allusions to old video games, like Pong, Centipede, and Mario. There's the usual stop-motion coolness, what with the moving and the.... Look, I'm having trouble writing a description of this one. I've tried twice, and this is all I've got. Therefore, I implore you to watch this video. If nothing else, do it out of pity for me. You won't regret it, unless you're a Nazi. You're not a Nazi, are you?

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=LGtV3JgX0ac>



Parkour

Man, I got you guys good! You totally fell for it.... Haha, no, sorry. Just give me a minute and... and I'll get my breath back. Phew... So back to how I got you. Well, it's not that good. I labeled this parkour, only parkour is concerned with moving efficiently from place to place. This is actually free-running, where aesthetics are considered, too. It's a video of a guy jumping from building to building monkey style, doing crazy flips, and generally defying gravity. If you can already do these things, then don't waste your time, Superman. If not, this shit might even inspire you to hit the gym 'cuz shit, man, I want to run up walls.

http://youtube.com/watch?v=Rxv8SS1XU_8

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VINCENT MICHAEL FESTA



The Magic Garden

Oh, joy! Growing up in Brooklyn in the late 70s/early 80s, there was a show I used to watch called *The Magic Garden*. It featured two hippie women, Carol and Paula, singing folk songs, talking with animal puppets, telling jokes out of flower petals, and taking part in Sesame Street activities. Thanks to my curiosity, I stumbled onto a segment of it and it made me wonder: are there any locally syndicated children's shows from that era that still exist? (*Patchwork Family*, anyone?) Where can I get a copy of this and other shows from my youth? And why do children have to endure some of the worst unimaginative dreck on TV today? (And before I forget, double ponytails are very pretty.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63AcaoEjHXo>



The 4:30 Movie intro

...And then there were TV moments from my youth that were not so joyous, such as the long-gone intro to WABC's famous 4:30 movie. From 1968-1981, insomniacs and low-doers alike stayed up at that time to watch heavily-edited horror movies and this was the intro to it. When you're young, you tend to see things differently, such as a Hollywood movie camera having two huge eyes. Countless nightmares ensued. But looking back at it, bright tel-op graphics, rainbow effects, and classic long-gone TV footage of great cult shows are what media freaks just like me truly appreciate.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2es-lfRSD0I>



Viacom "V of Doom"

Speaking of horrifying images, remember at the end of some shows when after the credits and out of nowhere the big blue Viacom logo flew right towards the screen? Mysterious images coupled with high-frequency sound-bytes scared the hell out of many millions of children watching their favorite shows to the end back in the 60s to 80s. It's these little things that many people remember because it had that humorous impact on them. Also check out the "S From Hell", the Screen Gems logo.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VXjCqvWwvsc>



Japanese Stamps

Japanese game shows are known for their element of torture, and this one is no exception. Eight contestants in fake plastic noses dance around on a video floor and toss an inflatable eight-sided dice to see who gets whacked in the head with fans to the rhythm of Dance Dance Revolution, complete with DDR-style graphics. The finishing move has a player swatting a huge fan across the face of the loser with full force Ichiro Suzuki-style, causing them to fall down on the floor hurting. Someone get Joe Rios for this...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Idg0WkCaAmk>



Buffalo 66 "Spanning Time"

"We like each other a lot and we span time together, we just don't touch each other. Now let's span time together...let's look like we like each other and span time and do not touch me. OK? Do not touch me." The exchange between Vincent Gallo (Billy Brown) and Christina Ricci (Layla) in this movie is funny yet priceless. The characters are dating and step into a photo booth in a shoddy bowling alley where Billy Brown needs photos of them together for his parents. Layla seems to be having fun making funny faces and kisses while Gallo is all business. It could be said that Gallo is very well himself on-camera as he is off, making for some funny, yet very real situations.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-psP0gkkVs>

STEPHANIE HAYES

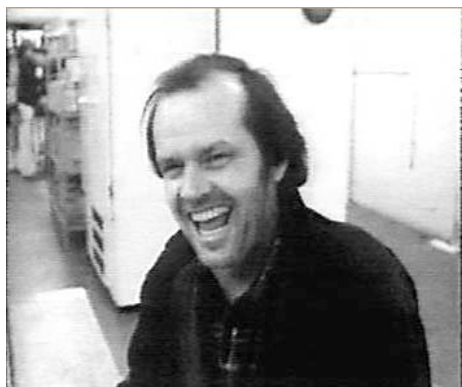
The Swedish Chef Makes Donuts



I'm glad YouTube gives me access to the Swedish Chef. You'll never learn the words to his songs but as long as you sing gibberish in what you think is a Swedish accent and end with Børk! Børk! Børk!, you'll be fine. Were I a nut job in a kitchen with gigantic eyebrows, you bet I'd prepare my food the Swedish Chef way. In case you don't know, he's all about making literal chocolate "moose" and using a boom-boom to cut up salad. I highly recommend this episode in which he makes some smokin' donuts. Fo'real though, donut miss out on his other dealings with the lobster banditos or nose-biting fish.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbs64GvGgPU>

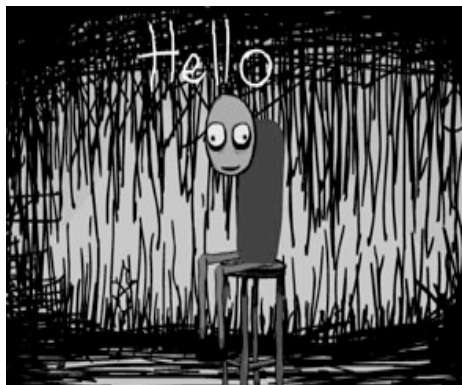
Shining



I'm really glad that there's someone out there who took one of the creepiest movies and reduced it to a romantic comedy trailer. This is just a really well done spoof. It makes me smile each time I watch it. Sometimes I worry that I've watched it too much and the funny will be gone but then I hear "Salisbury Hill" and know that it'll always be hilarious.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z11B9L2awVA>

Salad Fingers: Episode 2



If you're unfamiliar with the genius that is Salad Fingers, it's about a green, hunchbacked man who is oblivious to the mortality of other creatures and enjoys sharp, rusty objects. I'm about 90 percent sure that he's nameless and have decided that he should be called something along the lines of Edgar Cloister. So Episode 2, entitled 'Friends', is especially awesome because Edgar gives his "friends" a lick and informs the audience that Marjory Stewart-Baxter tastes like sunshine dust. Oh man. I love that! But ladies, resist the temptation to tell a guy you're into that they taste like sunshine dust; they aren't going to be as amused by it as you are...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ft5e80tRtPI>

Pete Doherty on Newsnight



Believe it or not, Pete Doherty used to be very polite during interviews, charming even. He used to be known for his badass music, not for smoking crack and abusing Kate Moss. This interview is a couple years old now, done when fans thought he'd just gone through a bad patch and saw a glimmer of hope for a Libertines reunion. For people who are obsessive about useless things like this, it's a very sad video. You want to invent a time machine, shake sense into the world and come back to a world where Pete Doherty is more than a running joke in the tabloids. Of course I still support Mr. Doherty, but it was a mistake for him to give up the Albion fantasy and become a rock star cliché.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lGmBmb2Jjkc>

Sheena is a Parasite!



Truth be told, I'm not a great connoisseur of Internet videos and this music video is the only sort of thing I really use YouTube for. It's a music video for a song by The Horrors, a once hyped-up British band. Chris Cunningham came out of semi-retirement to direct it and recruited the help of his friend, Samantha Morton. What can I say? I have a weakness for both Chris Cunningham videos and trendy British bands.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2sKjREoF_K4

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You Tube Videos

ALEX WALSH



Darth Vader Being A Smartass

I love this video. Perhaps it's the *Star Wars* geek in me that will never really die, but the idea of Darth Vader toying with General Veers like a spoiled three year old just makes me smile. The whole thing is cobbled together from a couple *Empire* clips. "Comscan has detected..."

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5b1bv4WFrIM>



Pterodactyls?!

Okay, so this one isn't actually YouTube. But the site has "Tube" in its name, so I figure it's close enough. I wouldn't normally put porn in my list, but this is so bizarre I don't even really consider it porn. It's a chick fucking some dudes in pterodactyl costumes while they flap their cheap, fake wings and an even cheaper, faker puppet opens and closes its mouth in the foreground. I don't see how anyone would be turned on by that. It's really more like a parody of porn. But it indulges my taste for the absurd, so I'll go with it. Thanks be to Neph, for bringing this to my attention.

<http://pornotube.com/media.php?m=32561>



The Oozinator

I actually saw this video playing on a product display in a toy store long before I caught it on YouTube. I tried to buy the demo DVD from the store, but they wouldn't give it up. Someone at the Super Soaker headquarters is laughing his ass off right now, having successfully gotten what appears to be kiddie bukkake past the corporate bigwigs as an ad for their new gun. Good work, sir. Keep it up.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wetrH_lzym4



Juggernaut, Bitch

The YouTube video that influenced a major motion picture. How do you beat that? As ridiculously played out as the video itself has been for a long time, at least one quotation of some part of it is used among my friends *every day*. Come by Ammann one day, and we'll prove it. I'm made out of laffy taffy.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=098PCZLpFgw>



Nitrous

Who can say shameless self-promotion? I've never had a whole lot of respect for myself, so I have no problem whoring myself out to the masses. My friends and I made this video for a contest FX was running. It's all improv, and we decided to just give continuity a miss. The absolute best part of this is that if you search for "dental comedy" on YouTube, this isn't the only result. BTW, I'm the one with the glasses. And creepy dentist man lives in Tabler. Hunt him down and exact vengeance for the evils he wrought upon my mouth.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iu-5XWRSGrY>

PRESS Staffer's

TOP 5

You Tube Videos

MARCEL VOTLUCKA



Not Gay

So there's these two guys...and they've been best friends since childhood...and they do everything together...and they're as close as two best friends can be... really close. But they're not gay! No way! That half-drunken kiss during Beerfest doesn't count! And neither does that groping session at the little league game! Poor, poor guys...how ever can these two goofballs prove to a skeptical world that they're not gay? Ahh...I laughed my ass off to this one. Wait a minute...two guys...close friendship...ass...haha-hahahaha!Text.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=7nk6SLBZMcU>



ITTV It's Twisted Television: The Gay Moms

Here we see a dude come out to his parents in a heart-wrenching, closet-smashing confession. His folks react in the way so many parents do; disbelief, anger, guilt, self-blame, denial.... Meanwhile, the poor kid haplessly tries to justify himself and explain that his sexuality is not a choice. But alas, nobody can reach a level of mutual respect and acceptance because his parents are so closed minded and phobic. Yep...those hetero boys sure have it right. And his two moms really need to lighten up. It's okay to be straight, you know! And he's not gonna find some nice boy who'll turn him back to normal! Overall, this video is a hilarious mind-fuck that twists conventions till they squeal.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=rX0Ip5eeyAM>



Portuguese Theme Song Video Smosh

Yes you judgmental fuckers, I used to like Pokemon. I even caught all 150 of them in that damned addictive game! And I watched the TV show! And yes, you clods who speak only one language, I am obsessed with foreign languages and I love listening to music sung in foreign tongues. Here, my two loves combine in the form of a makeshift web-cam video – a pair of hard-core Pokemaniacs singing the Pokemon TV show theme...in Portuguese! The video is actually a derivative of a video by "Smosh" so it loses points for lack of real originality, but it's cute nonetheless – in a dorky sort of way.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=z9gsaksQGL8>



Fuckin' USA

This clip, a mix of political cartoons and poorly-drawn animation set to a catchy rock tune, was created by a group of North Korean exiles living in South Korea as a protest against the US government's imperialistic aggression against Korea. Surprisingly (or not), it was quite popular in South Korea for a while. An animation of George Bush's face transforming into that of a monkey is hilarious, but the real clincher is a bizarre complaint that the US robbed North Korea of the Olympic Gold medal a couple of years ago. This particular version was ripped from a Japanese documentary; the original clip was pulled due to copyright issues.

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=ntwfdmcqCFk>



MAD TV - Vancome Lady - MAD TV Misadventure

"Tcha...you know what? Uh-uh!" Here's a trip down memory lane...the infamous Vancome Lady (played by Nicole Sullivan) struts her stuff and talks trash with venomous precision. Her outrageous, super-racist digs showcase the kind of classic black humor MAD TV is known for – this is MAD TV at its raunchy, politically incorrect zenith. You feel like you should detest this bitch, but you just keep wanting more... This clip in particular it ends up with the Vancome Lady dishing on other MAD TV cast members as well as other characters (such as Miss Swan). You can find many clips with these classic sketches on YouTube, oh joy!

<http://youtube.com/watch?v=Vh5qxZ3qFEo>

PRESS Staffer's

TOP 5

You Tube Videos

ELIZABETH KAPLAN



Dead Puppies

This one is from the hilarious guys over at Olde English, which is an awesome improv sketch comedy group comprised of a bunch of witty kids from Bard. This clip is a bit different from their usual stuff in that they basically just interview a bunch of people about how much money it would take for them to kill a puppy. They get some pretty interesting responses. (Puppy-cide does not ensue, no worries!)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7edXoU0J-3M>



My Hands Are Bananas

This one is fairly new to YouTube but I've already taken to watching it at least three times a day so therefore it is fair game as a favorite. In this little gem, a cute blonde dude sings in a fake German accent about how his hands are bananas. Definitely check this one out – you'll be belting out “*Frau shpots...und frau stripes!*” in the shower for days.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R010s_HK6d0



We're so scene we kiss other boys!

Right, so, here we have two decent looking “scenesters” playing tonsil hockey while their little girlfriends giggle in the background. According to YouTube's strict code of conduct, you gotta be eighteen to watch this one, kiddies. You should. It's hot.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SA1QdUt7cSw>



Sunday Bloody Sunday - Bush remix

Someone collected clips of Dubya saying all the words that make up the lyrics of U2's “Sunday Bloody Sunday” and set it to the tune. This video isn't particularly exciting in terms of its visual content, but the song is really catchy and perhaps even better than the original.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4kKN92DASn0>



Jesus: I Will Survive

Short but sweet. A semi-realistic looking Jesus lip-syncs to Gloria Gaynor's “I Will Survive.” The ending is epic.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVseBfMq_Dc

T-Day

By Thomas Mets



Author's Note: This is based on notes I wrote on September 11, 2001, describing what I observed. I was a student at Stuyvesant High School at the time and had a good view of a burning tower in my first class. The third part was about the evacuation of the school; I was fortunate enough to find and stick with two friends of mine, Charles and Hu. It was also supposed to be my younger brother Michael's second full day at Stuy, but I had no idea where he was.

Part 4

The decision to stay in Midtown became a moot point, as I saw people heading into the subway. I told Hu and Charles that if I had to be with any two guys after terrorists destroyed the World Trade Center, it would have to be them. Charles asked me which girls I would have rather been with, and I left.

I ran down to the subway and was a little surprised to find out I still had to use my Metrocard. It didn't matter; I just wanted to get home, and I nearly grabbed a train going in the wrong direction. When I got on the right train, it was the most crowded subway car I had ever been on, and it got worse with later stops. I was still glad to be on it. I never had a chance to grab a phone and call someone.

On the subway, I noticed a man who seemed to be Middle-Eastern with his head in his hands (he was bearded, had dark skin, and was wearing a turban). Maybe he was trying to sleep. Maybe he was crying. Maybe he didn't want to be attacked.

The train passed the 47-50th Street sta-

tion. I assumed it was because it was too crowded or because there was a threat in the nearby area. I just remember that I had thought about going to the area earlier, because I had known there were a few bookstores (Barnes & Noble, and Kinokuniya—I was a bit of a manga fan at the time) where I could have killed a few hours in case the subways wouldn't have been working until evening.

I eventually got to my stop at 71st-Continental Avenue-Forest Hills and ran out. I was happy to be what I considered walking distance from home (a mile and a half—my apologies to the Stuyvesant students/faculty who walked from Manhattan to Queens). I don't think I've ever felt better in my life than when I grabbed a phone, discovered it was working, and heard my dad's voice. I asked him where Michael was. He said Michael was safe but hadn't home yet, and he promised to come pick me up.

I waited for what seemed to be an unusually long time. Maybe I was just really eager to get home. When dad finally arrived with the car, I asked what was left of the World Trade Center. He told me nothing was left. He also explained that mom was walking home and that he knew Michael was safe because Michael had called our grandmother while in Manhattan.

Dad talked about a telephone conversation he had with mom. Upon hearing what had happened, she had wanted to go to the roof of her Midtown workplace to see the smoke. My father had then reminded her that two of their sons could be in

terrible danger. His exact words had been "Don't you understand? Our boys are in that smoke." Then he had hung up on her.

At home, I hugged Mom. I was pretty much in shock, but Christian, my youngest brother, was in worse shape. He had heard what had happened from gym teachers at his middle school, and when he got home, he had a perfect view from our 11th-floor apartment building of what was left of the Manhattan skyline. He hadn't seen anything on TV to prepare him for it.

I watched the news. Dad said something about how Stuyvesant could be closed for a month. Palestinian kids were celebrating and burning American flags. This disgusted me, and Dad was angrier. My father does not have a high opinion of Muslims, after working for two years in Saudi Arabia in the '80s. He still maintains that Carter should have ended the Iran Hostage Crisis by threatening to nuke important Muslim cities (I do agree that probably would have won Carter the election).

Dad suggested we become the Great Satan that Arabs said we were by nuking a few of their cities. I asked him how he felt when he was my age and discovered that Moscow's most famous building had collapsed (his parents had come to the United States from Estonia, a country occupied for decades by the Soviet Union). He tried to explain that it was different, but I don't really think it was. These Palestinian kids had been raised thinking we were the enemy.

I hugged Michael when I saw him a few hours later. I was just so happy that everyone I cared about was safe, and I knew

there were others who couldn't say the same. I prayed to God to thank him that my loved ones and I were secure. I don't think I had ever prayed as much as I had that day, and I'm pretty sure many others have felt the same. Meanwhile, Dad wanted to bomb Mecca and Medina. He said that since the World Trade Center was destroyed because it was a symbol, he'd destroy the symbols of the Arabs. "I'd be nice," he said. "I'd give the Arabs eight hours to evacuate before launching half the Trident missiles."

I answered several phone calls from worried friends and relatives. Many people, even those in Estonia, knew Michael and I went to school near the World Trade Center. My parents were now able to answer the phone without worrying about missing an important call from Michael or me.

On the live news, we watched World Trade Center 7, a 42-story building, collapse. It was the building that I had earlier noticed was burning. I started writing about the things I remembered seeing after I left photography class. No one knew who was responsible for the attacks. Osama Bin Laden was a prime suspect. All I knew about him at the time was from an interview he had done a few months earlier for *Esquire*. He gave the impression of a being terrible threat to the nation. His supporters said he was not as wealthy or powerful as he had been before. I thought of the obvious counterargument: "Where do you think his money went?"

Around 9 o'clock George Bush quoted a psalm as the news used a lot of stock footage. There was a tape of Bush reading to a group of kindergartners in Florida as he was told what had happened (I still remember his gasp and the look on his face as an aide whispered in his ear). Only channels 2 and 11 worked (I didn't have cable, so I don't know about the cable channels). I later found out ABC news was airing on a public television channel, but I had assumed no one would mention that on the news, as that would give the competition higher ratings (this was actually a ridiculous notion because ratings mean nothing when there is no advertising).

I wrote the essay on September 11, and the following is excerpted from that essay:

It's night. It's still September 11 2001, a day which is being

referred to as T Day. I am finishing writing all of this, as the shock is beginning to hit me. As I look at the Manhattan skyline, and the smoke coming from what's left of the Twin Towers, I remember what I thought when my best friend's father died. I try to cry, but the tears don't come.

One more 9/11 tale: immediately after I had finished writing the essay, Christian came and said something about the passengers on United 93 not being on the plane when it crashed, and I thanked God for the lives of people I didn't really know anything about. I went to Dad, who asked what I was talking about, and he said that we had just misheard something on the news.

Two Brave Souls Accost Roth Pond: The Story of Danny Rosen and Jonathan Inbal



Mariana Martins

Danny Rosen: The New SBU Pin-Up. Eat Your Heart Out Ladies.

By Kotei Aoki

“I am getting hypothermic.”

It was the first remark Jonathan Inbal made after completing his jump-in participation to swim across the Roth Pond. He was covered by algae and was drenched from head to toe. The day was especially windy, which contributed towards making him very cold, very efficiently. Jonathan told the Press that he was not planning to jump into the water and swim until his friend, Michelle Pizer, told him that she wanted to see someone really swim across the Roth Pond.

It all began on September 12, 2006, at 12:32 AM, when Daven Corbet and Danny Rosen created a Facebook Group called “If this group reaches 3,000 my friend will SWIM across the roth pond.” On the group page, they gave the motivation for making the event possible: “But why do you care [about the guy who’s girlfriend agreed to

have a threesome if his group reached 100,000]? ... So me and my friend decided to do something that you could use, A GOOD LAUGH.” Their event was more practical than the other group’s (whose motivation was probably that the creator’s girlfriend wanted an excuse to avoid the activity). No wonder his target number kept rising. On the other hand, Daven and Danny lowered the target number so that Danny wouldn’t freeze to death in a clown suit by the time enough people signed up.

After reaching their goal on October 3, 2006, at 9:15, the date of the event was set to “FRIDAY OCTOBER 6TH AT 1 P.M.” Hundreds of people gathered around the Roth Pond that day. I was as punctual as one could be; I arrived at exactly one o’clock, after studying for a geology midterm with my friend. A crowd of people was already standing by the pond, accompanied by geese and other Roth Pond residents. The crowd was denser around Danny’s starting point.

Danny, in a clown suit, cycled around the pond while everyone cheered him on in anticipation of this entertainment. After making one circle around the pond, he was ready to dip into the water. The dear residents of the pond probably sensed the danger that was about to befall them. They flew away to the other side of the pond, as if to signal to Danny, “Everything is up and ready. Come join us.” So Danny dipped into the water. He stalled for a few moments. Everyone cheered him on with a bit of amazement that he was actually about to do the crazy-sounding thing he announced he would do. There was excitement in watching someone swimming in the Roth Pond before the water was replaced. It was not just the water that made some people concerned. I was talking to another audience member with an Oxford University shirt that day on the opposite side of the pond. She mentioned something about snakes and turtles in the pond. The snakes might be just a rumor, but it certainly made Danny’s attempt crazier than it already was.

After getting used to the water, Danny started swimming. Danny swam across the minor axis of the Roth Pond. Certainly the costume prevented him from swimming as fast as he could. We all encouraged him as he advanced more and more slowly. Completing the shorter distance of the Roth Pond was apparently inadequate for all of us. Soon the Roth Pond was filled with a flood of booing. Danny seemed content. I somewhat sympathized with him, however. He swam, even if it was a short distance, in the cold water and struggled to keep his head out of the water (people were also concerned about him being contaminated by the water) and to not drown in the water with the costume.

Suddenly, I heard a splash sound again. Jonathan Inbal jumped into the water, completely voluntarily. He immediately became our new center of attention. He swam using

the front crawl. Reaching the middle of the Roth Pond, he stood up, and Danny threw his clown hat to him. He was not exceptional in the sense that he also swam more and more slowly. But he certainly gave us hope that we would witness the accomplishment of an act as crazy as crossing the Roth Pond before the water was replaced. As we all anxiously watched Jonathan conquer the Roth Pond, there was a sort of satisfaction and festivity.

It was the great entertainment of the day. As Vincent Michael Festa, a friend of Danny’s, commented, “[Danny] has a very wild, energetic, and endless drive in which he constantly needs to do things.” I think it was his character that allowed the event to become successful and kept the event real. Later that day, over forty photos were uploaded to the Facebook group, despite the fact that some members left the group after the event. Some people had their cell phones to capture the scenes. Some, probably the representatives from university media, carried cameras. The video clip was soon uploaded to YouTube (as promised earlier), and Danny posted the link on the group wall. As one might expect, Jonathan and Danny became Facebook friends after the event. Jonathan also joined the group afterwards.

Amazingly, Vincent told the Press that Danny never mentioned anything about his act before he created the group. They both work at Stony Brook’s radio station, so I would have thought they would have at least discussed something about his motivation. Apparently, Vincent had no prior knowledge about Danny’s ambitious performance. Nonetheless, Danny’s act did not seem to have surprised his friends. They just went, “Yeah, that’s him.”

Good job, Danny. Good job, Jonathan. Thank you for entertaining us and for making the campus talk about the event. You brought refreshing air to a stressed campus. I hope you are in good health.

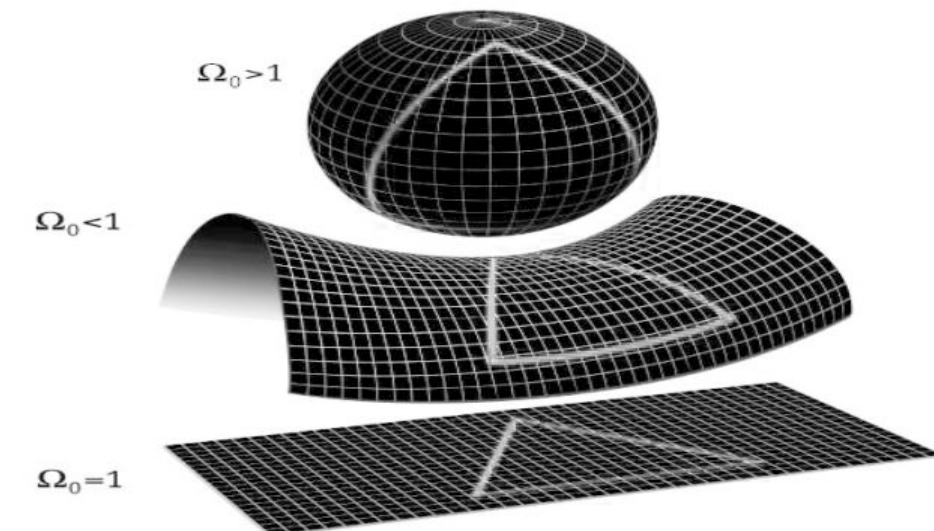
The Universe: Flatter Than a Training Bra?

By Kotei Aoki

This October’s first Friday night lecture was “The New Age of Precision Cosmology,” given by Kenneth M. Lanzetta. Since I am an astronomy minor, the title attracted my attention.

When I first arrived, only a handful of professors were present. It was about ten minutes before the lecture started. They were sitting in the center of the first few rows. Soon the lecture hall started filling up. It reminded me of my astronomy classes at the end of the semester. I even saw some high school students with their teacher.

The Astronomy Open Night started with Professor Peterson’s announcements that we



It kind of looks like a really nerdy type snowman, right?

Fancyg Raphics

could not go upstairs after the lecture to the Mount Stony Brook Observatory on the roof of the Earth and Space Science Building. I overheard that the telescope has a huge mirror that was ground from scratch at Stony Brook University. The Stony Brook University neighborhood is one of the darkest areas on Long Island. It must be an incredible experience to observe the night sky from the observatory.

The objective of the lecture was to prove that the universe is flat. Professor Lanzetta introduced the concept that the sum of the inner angles of a triangle differs if it is drawn on a convex surface, on a concave surface, or on a flat plane. To demonstrate this, he intro-

Continued on next page

If 3,000 People Read This Article, I'll Swim Across Roth Pond in a Clown Suit...Oh Wait...

By Elizabeth Kaplan

It's already been done. On Friday, October 6, 2006, senior Danny Rosen swam across the Roth Pond at about 1:00 p.m., outfitted as a common circus clown. As for the initial inspiration behind this noble feat, Mr. Rosen and colleague Daven Corbett undoubtedly took cues from the notorious Facebook group "If this group reaches 100,000 my girlfriend will have a threesome" when they decided to create their own, entitled "If this group reaches 3,000 my friend will SWIM across the roth pond." (If you did not get an invite to this group from at least one person, I regret to inform you that you are seriously out of the loop.)

In early October, Danny and Daven spoke in the AM's over AIM, when the swim idea randomly surfaced. Danny promised to create the group the following morning. Initially, it slowly got its toes wet, drawing in about three hundred hopefuls in the first three days. Over time, the membership rate sped up, and eventually reached a maximum of 2,553 members within two weeks of its creation. Although the original requirement was 3,000 joiners, the pair acquiesced at 2,500 due to a nosedive (are you getting the water references yet?!) in the join-rate, so that Danny would not freeze his ass off when swim-

min' time came around.

Last Friday, the day of the great swim, I skipped my Computer Science lecture and eagerly approached the lily pad-laden pond. Seeing the masses of students, I had to remind myself that it was merely an outspoken student paddling around, not the



MMMM...Soggy Clown Goodness

Mariana Martins

Roth Pond Regatta. The event managed to draw a reasonable-sized crowd; one would estimate it at two or three hundred. I was surprised not to see any campus police officers in sight; I thought for sure they had been tipped off and would stop the fun.

After waiting a few minutes, Danny came cruising down the Cardozo pathway on his trusty bike, clad in a royal purple

and sunflower yellow clown suit, a wildly colored 'fro wig atop his head. I was slightly disappointed that he lacked your typical garish clown facepaint, but yeah, the outfit did the trick.

After a brief interview over on the South end of the pond, Danny reluctantly

entered the less-than-pleasant, duck-infested waters and started paddling. The crowd egged him on, but I could see he had some difficulty. (It was frigging freezing out, after all.) After a brief rest on the edge of the water, amidst shouts of "Pussy!", "Be a man!", and some scattered booing, Danny resumed swimming, this time towards Hendrix. He did not cover the entire length

of the pond but managed a respectable distance. Before long, a brazen alumnus, Jonathan Inbal, jumped in and resumed Danny's quest, swimming all the way to the North end, which incited another cheer from the crowd. Danny then finally emerged from the murky depths, and gave a brief speech to the crowd. It wasn't entirely audible, but it included his stance on how anyone could successfully arouse public interest and could make things happen, and ended with "Stony Brook rocks!"

Despite the event's comical nature, Rosen and Corbett actually have a much deeper intent aimed at the community, Danny stating that he wanted to, in a nutshell, "take a website's content [and]...redefine it through an action, exploiting ideas[,]...meanwhile creating a source of entertainment for the students without government conduits." Yep. (At least, that's what I was able to jot down over the phone, as Danny descriptively and confidently addressed his reasoning.)

Overall, it was a fun and wholly effective event for all those involved. (Well, to some extent: unfortunately, Danny has a rather persistent cold at the time this article is going to press.)

If you decided not to skip out on your classes like I did and missed the festivities, the boys have posted clips on YouTube, in addition to the tons of photos available on Facebook.

Universe (continued)

Continued from previous page

duced us to technologies called COBE and WMAP mapping. They detect the ripple of electrons and draw their radiation maps. Filled with jargon? I know; it was a difficult lecture for me, too.

I did not like that Professor Lanzetta mentioned that dark energy occupies more than 70% of the universe and then left it alone. The part of the lecture that lost my attention was when he said that "the universe has been accelerating and will keep accelerating." I had heard long before that the general theory of relativity proved that no matter can exceed the speed of light. Well, I do not take physics, so I would not know of any exceptions to that. However, I thought dark energy was the reason for the phenomenon; he could have elaborated upon the idea of dark energy in that way. By the end of the lecture, I realized that I do not like cosmology. I like some things to be fantasy and to be kept unknown. I'd like to think of the formation of spirals in a galaxy as partial stirs in a bowl of soup. Still, I will come to another Astronomy Open Night, hoping that I will stargaze from the Mount Stony Brook Observatory.

Enlisting With Debt For an Extra-Large T-Shirt

By A Disgruntled Postal Worker (Bukowski in Training), also known as Bruce Russo, Jr.

There is nothing I hate more than attempting to dodge all the bank recruiters on campus. Bank of America, Death by Expense, Credit Unions, Washington Mutual, and Debt For Life have all graced my campus landscape with their applications on clipboards, free duffel bags, and free pens and pencils with their corporate slogans printed on them. I already have three bank accounts; I am certain I do not need another one, even if you promise me "free checking until graduation." What about all those hidden charges for using my ATM card or fees for going over my balance? On one level, it seems like a good idea to give students an opportunity to establish a banking account, but, on the other hand, these companies are trying to gain revenue by hoping mindless students with no financial experience get disoriented in the world of late fees and

surcharges. How does the administration authorize their presence here? Every other day I am dodging a woman with a courteous smile and clipboard trying to flag me down while I am trying to get to my literature class on the other side of campus on time. On an overpopulated campus with perplexed freshmen walking in contradictory patterns and speeds, and these corporate peddlers among them, it is almost like New York City. But at least in New York people walk at a sufficient speed and actually know where they are going. City peddlers, however, are handing out flyers for "Christ on Wheels" and photographs of aborted fetuses or something equally disturbing, like free drink passes to bad comedy shows; or there's a homeless man with no teeth asking for a quarter (your sympathy rises, but you shove it down before it becomes inflamed and visible). There has to be a solution, because the sea of wandering Asians, secondhand smoke, and illogical stone water fountains that bless you each time the wind blows is ruining my educational experience.

Yeah, That's Right

By James Messina

I was the goatse dude. Yeah, that's right. I can do that. I like to do that. I'm the goatse dude.

EDITOR'S NOTE

A Bucket of Sidewalk Chalk
Cela de San Lazaro
Bush's Original Baked Beans
A Traffic Cone
Ronald Reagan
The Romano Lisa
Nutt St.
Cocktopus
A Rope of Rape Whistles
Republican Macaroni and Cheese

But they matter not. Their presence is meaningless in the torturous void that now exists in the Union Basement. Our mascot, our prize, our companion is gone forever. Rest in peace, canned bread. Rest in peace. (James Messina, you're dead to us).

EAT THIS!

With Chef Heath

THIS ISSUE CHEF HEATH PASSES JUDGEMENT ON "THE BLEACHER CLUB"



After the SAC (-inator), the Bleacher Club, located in the Union, is probably the most popular eatery on Campus. Often times, when I tire of the choices available at the SAC, I head to the Union to satisfy my hunger, and I am usually not disappointed. However, the Bleacher Club has its own pitfalls, and you should always be wary of what to avoid for your own digestive wellness. I try to get to the Bleacher Club as soon as it opens at 11 am so that the buffet food offered is as fresh as it is going to be all day. After many years in this business, I understand that food starts to lose its flavor, texture, and robust good looks (well, the sexy food does anyway) as soon as you put it into the hotel pan and on the steam table. Thus, I try to give the chefs here at the Bleacher Club the benefit of eating their food as close to its prime as can be.

Once again, I offer my prayer to the Gods of Food: "Please forgive me for what I am about to do, as a Chef's own food is their beloved, as we are to you." To all those at the Bleacher Club, I give my deepest apologies and best regards.

On the first day of the Bench Quest, (that is what I have chosen to call it, if you don't like it, too bad.) I headed for the steam tables on the far end. I foolishly forgot to purvey all of the choices before I ordered, and so ended up with the first thing that I saw that looked edible. I was given a generous portion of General Tso's chicken, with some string beans sautéed with roasted red peppers and garlic. I picked up a fountain soda (seltzer actually), and made for the lines. Upon first glance, I thought the lines would be moving slowly based upon the ages of the cashiers; I was amazed, however at the speed at which they operated. Such speed! Such dexterity! I then found a table with relative ease and dug into my meal.

The chicken was well, how can I put this without hurting feelings... awful! General Tso must have pissed in that batch. The chicken had entirely too much spice and very little of the actual chicken; it ended up being mostly breading. However, the saving grace of the meal was the string beans. Hot, crunchy, and absolutely delicious. I wrote off the bad meal as a fluke on my part. I should have looked at all the choices before I had ordered, a decision which came back to bite me in the end, as it gave me a terri-

ble case of heartburn and a chance to "Run the Charmin 500" for the next 12 hours. However, the cost at which I crippled my digestive tract was reasonable. Eight dollars for a main dish, a side, and a fountain drink of any size; a fact that at least made me feel better about feeling like shit.

On day two, I downed the last of my bottle of Pepto-Bismol, and went to the Bleacher Club for round two. I looked over the items offered in the buffet, and I went with the roasted glazed ham with some mashed potatoes and gravy. I added a small seltzer to get the combo deal and paid Grace a visit at the register. Once again, the total was about eight bucks. The Ham was mostly akin to the sort of thing that mom would make for Easter Sunday. Nothing special, but good down-home cooking which satisfied the hunger I had accumulated after having nothing in my stomach for twelve hours (stupid chicken). The mashed potatoes were, by the same token, a tasty treat for the starved commuter without a meal plan. Nothing fancy, but just plain satisfying. The gravy was the kicker, though. I think that the addition of the sauce made the meal. I know a vegetarian who has a real problem keeping away from the gravy at the Bleacher Club. We are currently trying to get her into a twelve step program. All in all, it was not a bad meal: glorified cafeteria food, but still pretty tasty.

Upon entering the Bleacher Club on day three, I decided that I would go for the grill in order to vary my diet. After my experience with the SAC grill, I was wary about what to order. I chose to get a turkey melt sandwich, a side of fries and, of course, a small seltzer. I only paid \$7 for the meal: a substantial deal to a broke commuter. I found the sandwich to be somewhat bland, greasy, and altogether unappetizing. Turkey and American cheese on white toast just does not appeal to my palate. Only with the addition of tartar sauce was I able to enjoy the sandwich. The fries were what I expected: soggy bits of potato that had been sitting under a heat lamp for too long.

To whomever at the Bleacher Club this may concern: rotate the fried food! The general practice in the buffet world is that if the person serving the food would not eat it, neither should you. Asking your server the simple question: "What

do you recommend?" can save you a lot of heartache and burn in the long run to the nearest bathroom. The most enjoyable part of this meal was the seltzer, not a good sign.

Day four, and I actually had company for lunch! I have been trying to get people to come to lunch and help me review, but so far I have had few takers. The extra guest enabled me to taste more food, as we shared the better part of three whole meals. Between us, we split two dishes of cheese tortellini, one with red sauce, and the other in a cream sauce. I also bought a personal pizza with pepperoni and a side of mashed potatoes: the soul food of a Caucasian boy. The total meal was quite expensive, so I do not recommend eating this much food on your own. However, for the price, it was not insurmountable to split the \$20 bill. I ate the pizza first: nothing special, but by no means unsavory. It was made in a northern style (deep dish rather than thin crust) and loaded with sauce and cheese.

The pizza was well worth the price. I next devoured my mashed potatoes, and they were consistently good. After all, it is the consistency of a dish that makes all the difference. It is better to have a consistently mediocre recipe than a dish whose taste can range all over the spectrum. Next we shared the tortellini between us. However, I ended up eating most of the cream sauce because my dining companion was a vegetarian (*sigh*). The tortellini themselves were quite good, a nice mixture of cheesy-starchy texture while retaining a fair amount of moisture. The cream sauce emitted a smoky ham perfume, which literally made me drool on the table. I feel that it added even more to the cheesy taste of the filling. The red sauce was a bit of a shocker. It was fairly spicy for a red sauce, heavy on pepper but still quite good. It added a nice contrast to the tortellini. By far the best meal I have had, and I was so full that they literally had to roll me out the door.

The fifth and final day of my Bench Quest was a double-header. I had to stay late for an exam and decided to eat early and then just before close. For lunch I chose the garlic and thyme basted turkey with the string beans which I have come to love, and place in my heart right next to the garlic knots of the SAC. Excuse me while I wipe the drool from my chin.

The turkey was, well, like anything else bought from a national distributor of food. Over-salted, Over-spiced, and Overpriced. I will admit that it had a surprising amount of moisture (a rare feat for buffet food) and was still quite edible, but I quickly downed it in a rush to get to the string beans.

I ate a large meal around 3:30 pm in order to stay full before my 8:30 exam; I went for the fried fish special (notice I said fish, due to the fact that they did not tell me what kind of fish it was) with mashed potatoes, a side of stuffing, and a burger from the grill. A large haul for the \$13 I forked over to Grace, my new favorite old lady in the whole wide world. The fish was, as I expected, nothing special: false advertising if you ask me. However, with the addition of some tartar sauce I found it to be quite tolerable. The burger was what I expected, a much less than savory hunk of well-done ground beef ends which were held together by filler. It was no better than the ones in the SAC, and I was not even able to eat half of it. If you cannot get your burger to order, then don't eat one. The stuffing was the most satisfying part of the meal. It was a nice touch of home cooking that filled me up and gave me a satisfying feeling.

All around, the Bleacher Club is not a bad place to eat. You just have to remember some basic rules to eating well here. Go for the buffet as soon as it opens, this way you are guaranteed to get something that is somewhat fresh. It can be a gamble with what you get, but if you find something that you like, you are generally able to get it on a consistent basis. I would stay away from the grill, as in the SAC, because I just do not care for soggy fries, ill-made burgers, and greasy grilled cheese sandwiches. I do however, commend these chefs for their ability to manage orders and cooking without the use of order slips and wait staff: you are some fine line cooks. I avoid the pre-made items on the walls because of their outrageous prices and lack of freshness. I do recommend the Pizzeria in the Bleacher Club. It delivers a more rustic style pizza and hot heroes, which together add some contrast to the rest of the menu items. I give this eatery 2 stars out of 5: not-bad food, but you have to know your way around in order to get a good meal.

Nuclear Weapons Testing in North Korea

By Miguel Sanchez

Within a matter of moments of initial detonation, the South Korean diplomatic authority informed Beijing that it was undertaking a nuclear test in northern North Korea. Within a matter of moments, the President and his advisors, along with his Chief of Staff, were informed of the incident in the middle of the night. North Korea would go ahead with its nuclear test, yielding a one-half kiloton nuclear blast detonated five miles underground. As Russian and Chinese diplomats scrambled to make sense of the crisis, the President was amazed, but not, of course, surprised. He realized that US foreign policy would necessarily have to change within the next few weeks. A week before, there were talks that testing would occur sometime around the birthday of North Korea's founding leader. The world overall, especially Britain, France, and Germany, struggled relentlessly over the years to bring some balance to the situation; nevertheless, the blast only clarified the realization that the international community had failed to hinder imminent nuclear testing. The initial findings from various geological surveys evaluated the blast as being equivalent to four megatons, but further testing by various intelligence services on the air particles around the area indicated that the blast was much smaller than anticipated. Of course, the country—not to favor North Korea—has to finally realize that it must make certain internal changes that would offset any reaction from the West, including invasion. Even then, the security relations established between itself and South Korea could be jeopardized. This means that Japan, South Korea, and China may realize that they

might have to pursue their own nuclear ambitions, meaning that the entire South East Asian peninsula would go nuclear. With that, if Russia feels threatened and it undertakes its own nuclear program, and the US, as a consequence, feels threatened, then, most assuredly, a vast global arms race would begin that would make the Cold War look like a minor flu. This situation could have near-devastating effects if terrorists get their hands on these weapons. North Korea could, of course, bypass strong international regulations on its counterfeiting projects by selling these weapons to Iran. Even if Iran is to be closely watched (though it

“...if Russia feels threatened and it undertakes its own nuclear program... then, most assuredly, a vast global arms race would begin that would make the Cold War look like a minor flu.”

has been complying with IAEU regulations, something the US press has been unable to admit), they may well see the North Korean nuclear test as a signal to go ahead and build their own nuclear weapons. Even then, if the US attempts to react in a way that threatens or makes imminent a military strike against North Korea (a violation of international norms preventing attacks against “perceived threats,” norms that are cornerstones of international law), then Iran, and even China, would have to view this as an “aggressive measure” against a poor and starving nation. First, one must analyze what the US demands in particular from South Korea; most importantly, what is South Korea demanding from the US? Are these demands unreasonable, or are they reasonable? The central picture that has to be taken from this is that North Korea is desperately attempting to make

clear to the world that the sanctions and isolation have starved the country of food, water, medicine, technology, and, of course, understanding of the outside world. The regime, of course, is facing tough sanctions, and the very act of attempting to test a nuclear bomb indicates the futility of the matter; they are merely presenting their stance of deterrence, perhaps a weak one, but one with near-catastrophic effects on the stability of the global community. There are now only eight leading nations with the capacity to launch nuclear weapons; they are the US, Russia, China, Israel, France, UK, India, Pakistan, and North Korea.

Israel allegedly participated in the Vela Incident, thought to be a joint nuclear test by Israel and South Africa. Now the idea is that if Japan refuses to follow its pacifist stance and goes nuclear, it may then trigger a response from the South Koreans, who may go nuclear as well. This may indeed threaten North Korea and China, and the security of Russia (and, hence, the US) as well, creating a vast and unstoppable arms race, a virus infecting a network into self-termination. Recently in the New York Times, an article spelled out that diplomats within the Chinese government are unwilling to beef up sanctions for the very reasons that strangulating Pyongyang would inevitably lead to more starvation and hunger, and perhaps even proliferation of weapons, but they are willing to compromise on a deal to allow further diplomatic efforts to go forward. Nevertheless,

think tanks across the world are scrambling to figure out a means to secure the Korean Peninsula from nuclear weapons being bought or stolen from the North Korean regime by other rogue states and terrorist organizations. Their proposals, such as the Japanese think tank's to fund projects for nuclear armistice and testing, should also create concern that private officials within the state-capitalist institutions are proposing a more deadly concept. The legitimacy of the United Nations lies in its capacity to adhere to international law, but it also cannot follow the status quo. It must prepare itself for inevitable disagreements between the United States and North Korea, which are deep, considering they go back to the beginning of the Cold War. Nevertheless, a United Europe, within the province of the core European states, has worked relentlessly to find a diplomatic solution, and should not give up. In the mean time, though, it should look for ways to behave as a third force should behave. As a buffer between American preventive action and Korean defensive reaction, Europe can work alongside the Russians in a common regional strategy to bring aid and financial support to the North Koreans via efforts to alleviate the starvation, hunger, and defensive reaction of the North Koreans. A common defense between Russia and a United Europe should center more on defensive and isolation purposes, rather than on offensive measures. There is a lot to say on this matter, as is known from particle emissions that indicate that the test was not that successful. It should not be concluded, however, that it was not a nuclear explosion that occurred. The future, of course, looks grim, but if enough pressure can be harnessed, then, of course, the doors will begin to open.

Hey Revolutionaries: An Anti-Manifesto

By Lukasz Chelminski

As many of you know by now, Jim Gilchrist, the founder of the Minuteman Project, was given a distinct welcome to New York City last Wednesday. His speech was cut short when two students -- members of Columbia University's student socialist party -- ran onstage and unfurled a banner which read “No One Is Illegal” in Spanish, English, and Arabic. What followed can adequately be described as a scene from a punk-rock show. Several dozen people climbed onto the stage, yelling at Gilchrist and to the crowd. Fists were raised and slogans shouted. In total, Gilchrist was given a few seconds of time to voice his opinions. He would not get a chance to continue his speech.

According to a Columbia University student I spoke to, the Republican student group has planned several such controversial events. A precursor to this incident was a “Global Warming Tanning Day” in protest to the screening of An Inconvenient Truth. Quite simply, they're trying to make a name for themselves so they can take up O'Reilly's throne when he moves on to bigger and better things. Both Gilchrist and the student Republicans were counting on controversy and publicity from this event. Groups like the socialists were eager to provide it, as they attempted to use the event for their own purposes. The President of Columbia University has since released a statement that ends in the following paragraph:

Let me reaffirm: In a society committed to free speech, there will inevitably be times when speakers use words that anger,

provoke, and even cause pain. Then, more than ever, we are called on to maintain our courage to confront bad words with better words. That is the hallmark of a university and of our democratic society. It is also one of our central safeguards against the impulses of intolerance that always threaten to engulf our commitment to proper respect for every person.

Well, there's the news, and here's my take on it: When I first saw the video, the inner revolutionary in me rejoiced. The Minutemen are a bunch of middle aged Texans who want to play war without all the risks associated with it; namely a drawn out, lonely, and bloody death, right? If we assume this to be the case, we are not only underestimating the Project, but doing a disservice to our society. Even if the individual members are racists and bigots, they currently have a right to exist

from any viewpoint, be it legal or moral. In addition, I feel that the main advertised problem that the Minuteman Project wants to bring to the fore is worthy of attention.

Gilchrist represents a group that decided the government of the United States was not doing a good job enforcing some basic laws. I have no reason to doubt that this is the case. To voice their dissent before the government, they began conducting legally questionable, but not illegal, actions. For those not in the know, members of the Project are supposed to watch the southern U.S. border for illegal immigration and report sightings to the official border patrol. Of course, the effectiveness of this strategy is called into question if one begins to imagine it in practice (think Canadian Bacon). The Minutemen currently patrol a 23 mile area

Continued on next page

Stony Brook is Overcrowded! Too Many Undergraduates, Not Enough Facilities

By Esam Al-Shareffi

In my last article in the Press, I reported on the “State of the University” address delivered by our University President, Shirley Strum Kenny, and while the university seemed to be in good shape according to various statistics, I was troubled by the fact that there are now more undergraduate students than ever before, and that the university plans on getting even more students in the coming years.

There is nothing wrong with more students; in fact, the more we have, the greater the diversity is on campus, making our experiences at Stony Brook richer. The problem arises when this admissions growth is inadequately planned and poorly directed, which is what I am accusing the administration of this University of doing. We have a limited capacity for dining facilities, SINC sites, parking spaces, housing assignments, and other infrastructure on campus, and the school simply cannot handle the current student influx, much less continued increases in these numbers. I am sure that if you have ever been to the Union Deli on a weekday or at the library SINC site at any time, you will find that there is a significant wait time in order to use those facilities. It is unreasonable to have to wait over half an hour for a sandwich or the same amount of time to find a computer in order to print your class notes; and if we continue on this current course, matters will only get worse. We came to Stony Brook in order to spend our time studying and bettering our

existence, being enriched by our positive experiences and enjoying our time with friends. Waiting in line for significant amounts of time every day in order to get basic services lessens our quality of life and



Students protesting at Stony Brook

www.sbindependent.org

adds to our frustration, making this a matter that needs to be seriously planned for and addressed.

A recent personal experience has made me slightly more embittered, and since I have your attention, I will share it with you. It was on Tuesday, October 10th, around 6:30 pm. I had been fasting during the day and was anxious to get a slice of pizza to eat and some water now that the sun had set, in order to have some energy for the upcoming USG Senate meeting at 7 pm. What I found was a

rather long line extending across the hallway outside of the SAC cafeteria and bending around the corner, comprising at least fifty people waiting patiently in line. Having never seen this before (though I have several times

since), I approached an officious-looking person standing outside of the cafeteria who occasionally let in a few more people (who then had to contend with long lines at the grill and sandwich-making stations). Concerned, and somewhat hungry, I asked what was going on. The jerk at first laughed and ignored me, speaking instead to some of the students in front of the line who were about to go in. When I inquired again, asking what the line was about, he cynically told me that it was the line for those wishing to become

“President of the United States” and added a few more snickers. He then graciously offered to allow me in “to get a water,” still standing there with his disgusting smirk, his position of power in letting hungry students into the cafeteria clearly going to his head and inflating his ego. I decided that I would rather not take him up on his offer and would go without food or drink rather than be subjected to the whims of a power-crazed FSA employee. My only regret is not asking for his name, though, given his earlier help, he may have given me another wonderful answer, such as “Frank Smith Abbot Douche-Bastard.”

At any rate, returning to the overriding issue, it seems apparent that if the status quo is maintained, the University will be adding hundreds or thousands of new students in the next few years; yet this added strain to our infrastructure and resources is not being seriously evaluated, with additional dining areas, SINC sites, parking spots, and other necessary facilities either completely unplanned or given too low a priority. I urge students to make these and other related concerns known, either by talking about them with your friends, publishing articles or discussing them through campus media, speaking with your elected USG representatives, or complaining directly to the University Administration. If those leading our university would simply take the time and small effort of reaching out to students and taking their views into account, we would not have a policy calling for additional admissions, at least not without making the necessary preparations to handle the influx.

Anti-Manifesto (continued)

Continued from previous page

of the 1951 mile southern border. It is important to realize that the Minutemen are, first and foremost, a political entity.

I consider myself a fairly radical person as far as American politics goes, but even I don't find this completely or even offensively immoral. I immigrated here myself over fifteen years ago. Unable to cross the Atlantic Ocean illegally, I boarded a plane for New York City at the age of six with my family. I consider myself lucky for being given that opportunity. A lot of Mexican people are very unlucky. Not being able to enter the U.S. legally due to our policies and procedures, they try to cross illegally. In doing so, they assume a certain risk. I've yet to hear a completely sound argument on what should be done about this situation. Groups like the Minutemen, and the socialist students at Columbia, both have valid points.

Looking at this in a sort of ethical vacuum, people should be allowed to move wherever and whenever they please. Unfortunately, this is not a realistic view

to hold. People will be affected negatively by an influx of illegal immigration on both sides of the border. Completely sealing off our border would also have unwanted consequences. What, then, is the solution? This is the real world: a perfect and realistic solution doesn't exist.

So what is to be done? I'm not encouraging placidity. We should stimulate change, but thoughtfully. The only way things are going to get better is if society guides itself toward peace through justice, understanding, and all that other good stuff. This is a never-ending pursuit. Events like the Columbia University incident only serve to shunt progress. What we need is civilized discourse, not reactionary protests and yelling matches. A right-wing equivalent to events like this is the O'Reilly Factor; although he gets to attack reasonable discourse in our society on a nightly basis, likely for personal gain. I can't see how any decently intelligent human being could think that they are doing anyone a favor, in the long run, by whipping people up into a thoughtless, knee-jerk frenzy.

Actually, I'm not completely right in that comparison. This incident was worse. O'Reilly disparages people on his own time. The students in the Columbia case actually infringed upon Gilchrist's scheduled time to speak. Would it have been difficult, if they felt so strongly, to pose challenging questions to Gilchrist after his presentation? I'm sure it would have proven much more rewarding and helped their cause more than what transpired. The people who cut Gilchrist short did everyone but the Republican involved a disservice.

Based on what I've been reading and hearing, a lot of people are happy for the Columbia revolutionaries. I can only assume that this is a preliminary, emotional reaction to the event. Like I said, I felt a flutter in my heart upon first hearing the news as well. Don't get me wrong, I used to listen to Against Me! (When they were good, but that's a completely different article), and I like all the romantic notions that come with the thought of revolution, but sometimes you have to be realistic. Do your Bastille-raiding play acting on

your own time, unless you can actually encourage progress.

Events like this just perpetuate a cycle that only serves certain politicians in their pursuit of power. O'Reilly will feed off of it and stir up people on the left, who in turn will do more things like this. In the end, instead of compromise we have lots of angry people that carry on in the same state of affairs because everyone was too distracted to stop and think.

Go to the PBS website and watch Frontline (www.pbs.org/frontline) if you're bored and need some TV. Sitting down to watch O'Reilly and get pissed off, just because you have nothing better to do, is dumb. In addition, The rest of President Bollinger's statement can be viewed at www.columbia.edu/cu/president/communications%20files/freedomofspeech.htm.

Problems With North Korea: Yea, This Concerns You! (So Pay Attention, Dammit)

By Amelia Fischer

North Korea has gone nuclear. Is anyone all that surprised? The North Korean communist government is one of the most oppressive regimes in the world. It is classified by the American Strategic Studies Institute as “highly repressive, heavily militarized and strongly resistant to reform...a dynastic dictatorship that adheres to a hybrid ideology.” North Korea’s leader Kim Jong-il is desperate to gain international clout, rouse terror and to protect his influence over a brainwashed, starving population. However, his actions will lead to the opposite of these disturbed goals if world leaders cannot communicate and collaborate successfully.

It is important to note that there has not been factual confirmation of a nuclear explosion; North Korea claims it was performed deep underground. It could have been conventional explosives or it could have been a successfully shielded nuclear explosion. The question of whether or not the explosion was actually nuclear is irrelevant to the greater issue: the prevention of the proliferation of destructive weapons. This event could be a great opportunity for world leaders to finally have honest and productive communication about the perils of nuclear weapons and to prevent them from being built and developed by anyone.

Amnesty International has accused North Korea of extensive human rights violations. There is evidence of concentration-camp-like locations where prisoners are tortured, raped, starved and forced to do heavy labor. It’s no wonder that North Korea refuses to allow any independent human rights observers into the country. The North Korean government is characterized by everything that most of the world abhors. Kim Jong-il is obsessed with power: power over his subjects, power over other party members, and power on the international stage. He wants to play with the big boys and this nuclear test has certainly gotten the attention of the superpowers too busy observing the debacle in the Middle East. This dictatorship’s ideology is dangerous to the world population.

We should have been expecting this. We know that the Bush administration seems intent on feeding the American people a completely false sense of security. While our military is severely strained in the fiasco that is Iraq, dictatorial regimes have been making weapons of mass destruction right under our noses. All this time many people have been thinking that we are safer

from terrorists because we invaded Iraq and Afghanistan. Now, the analysts are claiming we are now more vulnerable to attack because these two war zones have incited even more fury among the Islamic fundamentalists and stretched thin our resources. Consequently, Iran and North Korea’s threats are looming.

While North Korea doesn’t have the capability to hit the mainland U.S. with a nuclear bomb, they can certainly reach other countries in Asia, including Japan, a strong ally of the United States. But, what we all really need to be worried about is whether or not Kim Jong-il will sell his weaponry to terrorist organizations intent on destroying the United States (and Western Civilization) and everything it stands for. This is the most serious threat, especially since the North Korean dictatorship is in dire need of cash (the U.S. has claimed that the dic-

If multi-party talks fail, the steps the U.S. will need to take will be uncomfortable and unpopular. Military action against North Korea will become necessary.

tatorship has been producing counterfeit dollars and laundering drug money).

Now, it’s really not a good idea for any government to engage in empire-building invasions and assassinations unless the circumstances are appalling enough and all diplomacy has failed. The invasion of Iraq, for example, is not an example of an appropriate situation for an unprovoked war. This situation, however, is different, because the weapons of mass destruction in this case are not figments of the imagination. It is highly unlikely that any military action would pass the UN Security Council with Russia and China both having veto power. However, military action may be necessary.

The Security Council will probably agree to ban all imports of weapons-building materials to North Korea (but they probably have stockpiles anyway) and to ban other forms of aid (which will endanger the lives of impoverished North Korean civilians), as well as impose trade sanctions (which will only encourage the dictatorship to sell its weapons technology to terrorist organizations for some cash). We need to encourage multi-party talks and not eliminate the possibility of military action. Sanctions will not be enough to

prevent the desperate North Korean dictatorship from doing something destructive.

Kim Jong-II’s seriously deranged muscle flexing is causing the suffering and starvation of millions of North Koreans who were dependent upon food aid from South Korea and Japan. Both countries abruptly cut off supplies after the weapons test and these actions are in conjunction with already severe sanctions imposed after the North tested seven missiles in July. Kim Jong-II’s actions demonstrate his blatant disregard for the well-being of his citizens.

Some countries are arguing for regime change, some for multilateral talks amongst the superpowers. Others argue for bilateral talks between the U.S. and North Korea. Still some support heavy sanctions or for no sanctions at all. The U.S. needs to use its economic relationships with China and Russia to strongly persuade them to support multilateral talks and possible military action.

Each county intimately involved in this problem has its own specific economic interests. South Korea is afraid of incurring the wrath of the North by joining the international community’s strong denouncement of the test. They forget that the 38th parallel is heavily populated with landmines and that most North Korean refugees would probably choose to go to China instead of to South Korea if a war were to begin. If North Korea were to attack South Korea with a missile, it would be a declaration of war against the United States, as well, since there are 30,000 American troops still stationed there. China is not pushing for military action because they fear an influx of millions of refugees, not to mention what it would mean to their long-standing trade relationship with North Korea.

The members of the UN Security Council need to compare the possible consequences of imposing very tough sanctions versus the economic consequences of a nuclear terrorist attack in a major city. This is a likely possibility if sanctions are the only method used to deter the dictatorship from proliferating. There will undoubtedly be economic consequences for many of the parties involved no matter which action is taken, but these consequences can be lessened through cooperation and communication.

The United States needs to stop being so blatantly hypocritical with regard to international nuclear proliferation. The United States can’t praise India for developing nuclear technology and condemn Iran for doing the same. China and

Russia need to wake up and realize that good relationships with the U.S., Great Britain and India are more important in the long run than good relationships with the dictatorships of North Korea and Iran. Leaders must encourage multi-party talks with fundamental goals of non-proliferation. It is in the best interest of the global community that nobody has this lethal technology.

War is repulsive and abominable, but the concept of a “just war” is still necessary in today’s complicated world. The Vietnam War, the “war on terror” and others do not fit under this category of “necessary and just,” but military action against North Korea could be classified as such, for it is a drastically different situation. Once the world is safe in the knowledge that no country is supporting terrorism, making nuclear weapons or committing genocide against its own people, the concept of a “just war” will be invalid.

If multi-party talks fail, the steps the U.S. will need to take will be uncomfortable and unpopular. Military action against North Korea will become necessary. The draft will also need to be reinstated. The burden of these wars is being carried by a small number of families with loved ones in the military. The majority of the country is barely involved. People will have to make economic sacrifices. Views of the war will dramatically change once the draft is reinstated and the public starts to actually care about the situation. It’s understandably hard for people to care about issues that don’t affect them directly, and therefore, the long-term consequences of the irresponsible actions of this administration need to be widely known. Re-instating the draft would wake the country up. Global issues are everyone’s responsibility.

The Bush Administration needs to face the facts and dismiss the inevitable political fallout which will result from re-instating the draft. It is the fault of the administration that our troops are stretched so thin in the first place. These consequences of military action are severe for the United States, and primarily, full effort must be made in multilateral negotiations or two-party negotiations. The most depressing thing is to know that, if North Korea had extensive oil resources, we would have attacked the right dictatorship the first time. I hope that members of the Security Council agree to take swift, harsh action that will ensure the safety of the global community. I also hope that leaders can abandon the hubris and self-indulgence that has prevented finding real solutions to nuclear proliferation for so long.

Frankie D. Presents: The Bible Boy Story

So over the summer I got kind of sick; and when I say sick I mean double nostril congestion, face red like Santa Claus, coughing up what I assume is the lining of my liver. For the past couple of days I have been taking it easy, leading a completely boring and uneventful life.

My birthday is in a couple of weeks; for those of you deadbeats who haven't been keeping track via Myspace. In my current condition I am worried that when it arrives I won't be able to drink myself into a sweet comatose state. After all, birthdays are the most valuable source for hilarity. I called up my regular physician to make an appointment and the soulless beasts on the other end of the line wouldn't cooperate with my demands.

Receptionist: "Dr. Sedat's office"

Frankiee D: "Hi it's Frankiee D"

Receptionist: "Frankiee D who"

Frankiee D: "Are you kidding me, how do you not know my voice by now?"

Did I mention I am a borderline hypochondriac? I spent the entire last week with the doctor's office phone number on speed dial because I decided to get a full STD test. I shit you not, people. I can be pretty tenacious when I want something. And by the way, I'm clean as a preacher's sheets...well, you know what I mean.

Receptionist: "How can I help you Mr. Frankiee D?"

Frankiee D: "I need antibiotics...AND FAST."

Due to my voracious drinking habit, I am almost guaranteed to hurt myself EVERY TIME I GO OUT; just ask my friends. Now, I'm not a doctor,

but I've been to one a million times and I know that alls they gotta do when someone is sick is look at them, scribble some obscure words on a little pad, and tell them to come back in a couple of weeks. PROBLEM SOLVED. BUT NOOOOOOO, apparently I have to wait because Nazi Receptionist over here doesn't seem to think my needs are important.

Nazi Receptionist: "Mr. Frankiee D I don't have anything open till next week."

Frankiee D: "Did you hear me? I'm coughing up another life form in pieces, I'M GONNA DIE IF YOU DON'T HELP ME."

In the end, she didn't seem to think my predicament was that crucial. If you know me, you would already see that this little disappointment was to put me in a really bad fucking mood for the rest of the day. Texas, if you're reading this, I'm so very sorry for picking up on your phone call and hang-

ing up right away. It was an asshole thing to do and I apologize. For the rest of day, I walked around campus with a scowl pasted on my face. This, coupled with an abrasive attitude to whomever crossed my path made me a walking, ticking time bomb; which brings us to the point of the story.

So there I was in the quarry not an hour ago, eating a Haagen-Dazs ice cream bar to celebrate the

breaths I looked up to see this freak looking at me; Stilts: "Hey man. Do you know where I can (inaudible gibberish being obscured by my chewing and lack of attention)?"

Frankiee D: (swallowing) "Huh?"

Stilts "Do you know where I can get like a book that has all the classes in it"

I mean who the fuck do I look like? I'm wearing ripped-up pants and a white t-shirt with chocolate stains on it. Why the fuck would I carry around a book with class descriptions in it? Instead of telling him this, I decided to be nice.

Frankiee D: "Fuck no dude. The last thing I want is a reminder of the classes I'm taking here, but dude the admissions office is right that way."

Stilts: (pointing in said direction) "That way."

Frankiee D: "Yeah, that way man. If you run you can make it before they close down"

Stilts: "Oh I just came from there."

Frankiee D: (with a look that suggests he's shit out of luck then) "Oh."

Yeah, at this point I figured he'd just say thanks and walk away, wouldn't you? Right, right. Oh no, no, no, boys and girls. He just stood there. Watching me finish my ice cream sandwich. It was really eerie; he just stood there

waiting for me to finish. I

felt like he was vicariously living through me and trying to

savor my meal. I was going to tell him to get the

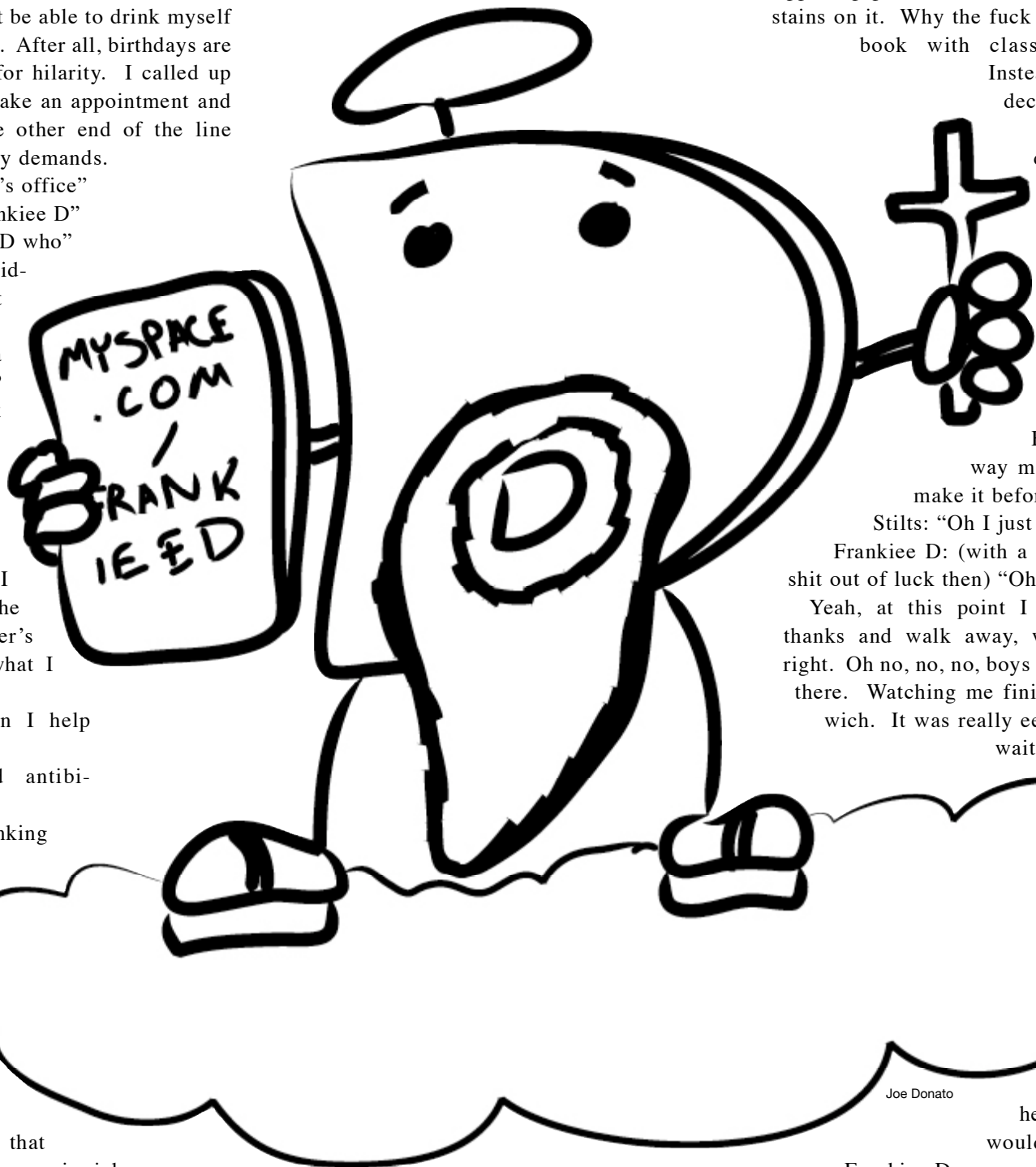
fuck away but then

he dropped the bomb that would unleash the wrath of

Frankiee D.

Stilts: "So my name is (I honestly wasn't listening at this point) and I'm with the Stony Brook's Christian Bible Reading Association, would you like to join?"

What the fuck did you just say to me? Are you kidding me? So did you come over here inquiring about a book that will ensure your registration status into our great university, or did you approach me solely to preach the word of God? This is the type of shit that really pisses me off. This kid was trying a covert operation, that's standard operating procedure - inserting oneself on the basis of forging a friendship. **BIG FUCKING MISTAKE BUDDY.** Now I mean if Stilts would have come up to me and just been honest with me to talk about



Joe Donato

natural decongestion of my nasal passages. It is a beautiful day and I was recounting the recent story I had just written, when I saw a very awkward looking person walking in my direction. He was a short male with a crew cut, badly shaved face, and glasses. One of those kids you expected to lurk under the school's theater stage looking up girls' dresses. The most noticeable thing about him was his cumbersome walk. It was as if he had wooden legs. Yes, it was as if he was fucking walking on stilts. Now I know what you're thinking: "Yeah, you're such an asshole, I bet you made fun of him because you're such a miserable person". Quite the contrary. I just minded my own business and continued to inhale the succulent explosive taste that is a Haagen-Dazs ice cream bar. In between

Continued on next page

Porn Blooper Top Five

Ok... This is going to be disconcerting. Some of the things I'm going to talk about, I wouldn't want done to me. And I wouldn't want to do to somebody else. That having been said, I still laughed when I saw these videos, and that's cause enough to write about them, I figure. See, we did a YouTube Top 5 this issue, and I feel it's only appropriate we have this as well. Though I don't know why. These videos are listed in no particular order.

1. Japanese blooper

A dude from the Land of the Rising Sun is giving it to some lucky young lady, when he feels that his time with her is drawing to a close. He therefore disentangles himself from her and stands up, preparing to drop a mighty load. Joke's on you, sir! As he stands, he slips on a strange piece of furniture and lands face-first, dick in hand. I laughed and laughed... Then watched it again. Then laughed and laughed.... Ah, good times.

<http://www.break.com/index/pornblooper.html>

2. Shower curtain rod

This video is very quick, like less than five seconds

quick. A girl is getting sexed-up in a shower, and she's holding onto the shower curtain rod for support purposes. Joke's on you, young lady! The shower curtain rod gives way and she tumbles down. On a personal note: I've been familiar with this clip for some time, and yet I wasn't aware how real this danger is. I was having sex a while ago. In a shower. And I myself grabbed the shower curtain rod to help myself out. Let me tell you: there is nothing more frightening than the thought flashing through your mind that you may slip, fall, and somehow snap your dick off. I love you, penis. Don't ever scare me like that again.

http://www.metacafe.com/watch/95575/drunck_chick_blooper/

3. Oops!

I like this one. A girl's putting a dildo in and out of her ass while fingering herself. And then the dildo pops out. Very simple, but never fails to crack me up. It's a good thing I don't put dildos in my butt, or I'd be laughing my ass off all the time.

<http://www.heaven666.org/videos/s-anal-dildo-96.php>

4. Fart

We're entering the Land of the Disgusting. This is another short clip. In it, a woman is rimming a man when a fart blasts her solidly in the face. I'm not into rimming. I wouldn't do it or have it done to me. And that's the price you pay for doing it, slut. So there. No, I don't wanna be open-minded. Poo comes out that hole; you keep your tongue away.

<http://www.consumptionjunction.com/content/detail.asp?ID=36207&type=1>

5. Vomit

Ok, I figured the last video should be the grossest. This one's kind of long. It's a video of well-known porn starlet April Summers giving a guy a blowjob. And subsequently blowing chunks. I felt guilty as hell, but I laughed. If you watch this, there's a good chance you won't laugh. That's why it's last on the list. I'm kinda ashamed of it. Wouldn't you be? Shit, why did I include this one? This interview is over.

<http://www.killyourroommate.com/movies.aspx> (Search for "April Summers")

—James Messina

The Bible Boy Story (continued)

Continued from previous page

God I would have just told him his God doesn't want me and he would have left me alone. I would have treated it as a joke, probably would have even been nice to him...maybe. But me, being the defensive prick I am, took it as this kid was belittling my intelligence and misjudging my ability to pick up on shit like this.

Frankiee D: "OOOOHHHHHH REAAAALLL-LYYYYY"

Stilts: "Have you ever read the Bible?"

Frankiee D: (With a shit eating grin) "WHY YES. I HAVE ACTUALLY."

Stilts "I can see from your face that you have."

I'm not being pretentious, people; I have actually read the Bible, well, at least parts of it. There are specific sections that have been taught to me by two very important people in my life; Texas and Carlos (my manager at work). I consider myself a follower of empirical thinking so the preachings of any book boasting the authenticity of any god conflict with my own personal tenets of rational thought. This is not to say I don't believe in a god, just not Stilts', or any other. So, what does this spell for Stilts? Disaster you say? Ding, ing, ding. Tell them what they've won, Jerry.

Frankiee D: "Sooooo, yeah I've got a question for you."

Stilts: "Sure, anything you want to know."

Frankiee D: "So on the first day God created what?"

Stilts: "Ummmm, the light and the, ummm darkness."

Oh, this is gonna be too easy.

Frankiee D: "Riiiggghhhhttt, and on the second day he created the..."

Stilts: "Darnit I should have brought my Bible with me, it's sitting in the car actually."

Frankiee D: "Well I can tell you, he created land and water, so to speak."

Stilts: "Right, that's right."

Frankiee D: "And do you know what he created on the third day?"

Stilts: "No."

Frankiee D: "Well he created the Sun and the Moon to tell the day apart from the night."

Stilts: "Yeah, that's right."

I'm gonna be honest and inform you that this shit doesn't come off the top of my head. I have argued this point many times with proponents of the religious faith. There is only one person I have met so far who can downright school me in an ideological debate over religion, and that is Carlos (my manager at work). Again this is not to say I am not religious, but those thoughts are for another time.

Frankiee D: "Sooooo, if God created the Sun and the Moon on the third day, how were the first two days considered days?"

Stilts: "Ummmm, well I mean..."

Frankiee D: "Yeah, that always bothered me."

Stilts: "Well ummmm..."

Frankiee D: (patiently waiting)

Stilts: "You know the Word of God is always true?"

Frankiee D: "So I've heard."

Stilts: (obviously seeing that I am straight from Hell) "You know I think I should go read my Bible."

Frankiee D: "Sounds like a plan, Stan."

Stilts: "Nice meeting you."

Afterwards I shook his hand and sent him merrily on his way probably to start his own religion after what I just did. Let's be honest, deploying an axe to the infrastructure of what his faith stood on. Now don't get me wrong; I think faith is a beautiful thing, especially in terms of religion. It keeps

most of the world order in check and helps those lost in the darkness find some shards of light to discern the wood from the trees. But let this be a lesson to you people; if you ever approach someone with some agenda, in this case a supernatural ideology, you better have your shit fucking straight, like A-game type shit. Although Stilts probably considers me a heathen, which let's be honest I clearly am, at least he'll reflect on how much he sucks at being the advocate of his religion...maybe. He also better re-evaluate his approach in the art of advertisement because I am most certainly not the worst-case scenario. But all in all, I gotta say the kid handled himself well; he remained calm and cool instead of throwing holy water on me. Well I guess if the Bible is the true Word of God I'm going to Hell. I might even have a management position there waiting for me.

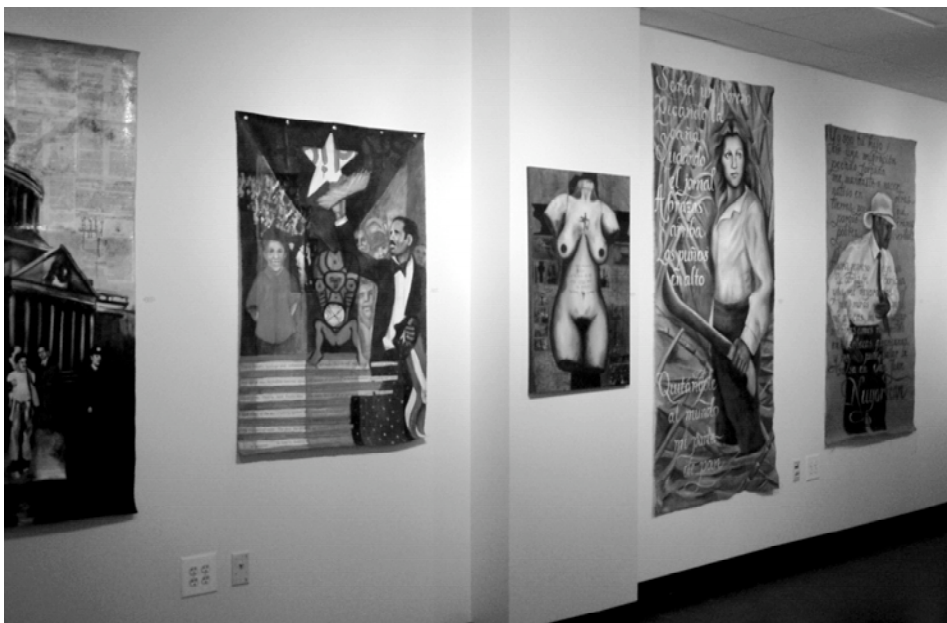
EDIT: This happened over the summer, and now that the semester has started I can't be sure whether the organization he said he was from is actually the one I wrote into the story (how can I be sure of anything with a mind as twisted as mine). As a matter of fact, I'm pretty sure he was from one of the Fellowship programs I see fliers for all over campus. If need be to prove the authenticity of my story I will personally walk into a committee in session and find Stilts myself. I'll even bring some of good ole Jesus' blood (wine dumbasses). Hey, I too observe religious traditions.

Read my stories now on Myspace at

<http://www.myspace.com/frankieed>

—Frankiee D.

Tabler Gallery: Yasmin Hernandez



TK TK TK TK TK TK

Hernandez's work is influenced by both her Puerto Rican and American Backgrounds

By Mariana Martins

The show currently up in the Tabler Arts Center gallery is a solo show by Yasmin Hernandez. Her art is mainly concerned with the struggle between both of her cultures – American and Puerto Rican. On her website (<http://www.yasminhernandez.com>), she claims to, “challenge notions of U.S. iconography, rejecting racist and elitist images that intend to eclipse (her) own history and its heroes.” This is an extremely interesting show because of its mixture of American and Puerto Rican influences and the tensions that arise between the two cultures. In one of her pieces, Yasmin displays comparatively a youth in the United States’ armed forces and a youth

that is a Puerto Rican freedom fighter, leading the viewer to consider the important role that place of birth and upbringing has on the development of the individual. It is not difficult to see where the artist’s allegiances lie; many of the pieces display upside down American flags while others show the Puerto Rican flag triumphantly and feature Spanish text. Beyond the obvious political implications of the work lies an enormous talent in painting and a very strong aesthetic sensibility. This show will be up until October 21st in the Tabler Arts Center gallery.

*The Tabler Arts Center gallery is the only student-run gallery on campus. If you are interested in participating in or curating a show, you can e-mail the Fine Arts Organization (FAO) at faoclub@gmail.com.

Staller Gallery: Paumonok Show

By Mariana Martins

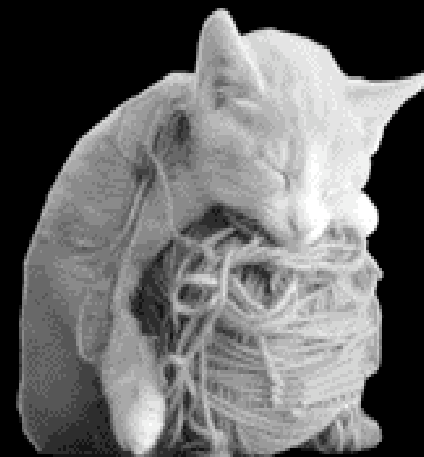
The Paumonok show, currently in the Staller Center for the Arts gallery, showcases a collection of works by artists who explore their Native American heritage in unexpected ways. Jeffrey Gibson explores the idea of a utopia within his colorful paintings and discusses the differences in what he was led to believe was a utopia by his tribe: “As a native person, the idea of utopia was important for me to explore because of the perception that pre-contact tribal life was idyllic and harmonious with the land. This is a simplified version of history that I have learned since I was a child. With this series of paintings I wanted to imagine this utopia for myself.”

Lorenzo Clayton's lithographs explore the relation between human nature and mathematical equations and are, perhaps, the least expected works within this show. They do not refer to the artist's heritage, but to general emotions that are shared between all cultures.

Sarah Sense combines the Native American art of weaving with the relatively new medium of digital printing, and creates images that juxtapose “cow-girls” and “Indians”. Though there are several artists' works in this exhibition, the feeling of cohesiveness is strong: all of these artists appreciate their heritage and have incorporated it into their artwork in some way, but all of these artists also want to be appreciated as artists and not just as some expected icon of their culture.

Play America's Greatest Pastime

“Dead or Sleeping”

Every Wednesday at 1pm
060 Student Union

The Stony Brook Press:

Where dead things and sleeping
things can peacefully co-exist...
and then we guess which is which

CD Review: Justin Timberlake



“Future Sex/Love Sounds”

Justin Timberlake

By Jake Wallace

Anyone who hasn't reconsidered their opinion of Justin Timberlake since *NSYNC disbanded in 2002, should take this time to do so. Justin is the first former boy band member to do the solo career right. Justin managed to avoid sticking with his wholesome boy band image by injecting just the right amount of sexuality into his music, without coming off as gay (Ricky Martin) or cheap and trashy

(Robbie Williams), all the while perfecting a sound of his own. It's here that we find *FutureSex/LoveSounds*.

Justin's 2002 debut, while a huge leap forward from his work with *NSYNC, was still your average pop album, sprinkled with a few big hits. For *FutureSex*, Timberlake decided not to go with The Neptunes (the production team behind most of *Justified*) and instead went almost exclusively with Timbaland (who produced *Justified*'s biggest hit, “Cry Me A River”). This move paid off well for Timberlake, as “SexyBack,” the album's inescapable first single which was both produced by and features guest vocals from Timbaland, has now become his first number one.

As far as pop records go, the first half of *FutureSex/LoveSounds* is near flawless.

It's fun without being fluff, and consistent without every track sounding the same. The album opens with the thumping “FutureSex/LoveSound” and picks up the pace further with “SexyBack.” The second single, “My Love,” while not as immediately catchy as “SexyBack,” is sure to put Justin in the running for another number one, even with its pointless and distracting verse from guest vocalist T.I. Sadly, as the scornful “What Goes Around...” draws to a close, so does the most enjoyable part of the album.

FutureSex severely slumps with “Chop Me Up,” featuring Three 6 Mafia, which ends up sounding like yet another generic “dirty south” rap song; though bonus points are given to Timbaland for his lyrical contribution, “Simon says touch yours while you touch mine.” WIL.I.A.M.'s guest

vocals and production on “Damn Girl,” prove further that the only person worthy of collaborating with Justin is Timbaland. While the album rebounds with “Summer Love” and stays consistent through the end, it never quite regains the strength of its first half. Let's hope that for the next one, Justin and Timbaland lock themselves in the studio and keep all the second rate rappers out.

When all is said and done, *FutureSex/LoveSounds* is a huge improvement over *Justified*. And while I could do with a little less use of the word “girl” and the kind of falsetto notes that convinced the parents of teenaged girls that *NSYNC were closer to castrati than hormonal teenage boys, the album ultimately reaches its aim of being a fun, sexy and mature pop record.

Movie: Water is Filled With Heart

By Amanda Shapiro

Water is an impressive work of art. It is a story that touches upon a variety of issues, concerns, and emotions. It questions the treatment of India's widows: past, present, and future. When a husband dies the wife has one of three options. The most likely to be selected is to live in a Widows' House where she will remain unmarried, wear white linen robes, and keep a shaved head. Their lives are spent mourning their loss.

The web of characters and their relationships are set against the year 1938 as Mahatma Gandhi passively resists British imperial rule. Chuyia, a seven-year-old widow, was left by her parents to live with other, much older, widows in the holy city of Baranasi. It is heartbreaking to watch her take the time to understand she is there to stay. Kalyani is a young woman who has been widowed since her childhood but has been a prostitute to the men of the city as a way of bringing money into the Widow's House and thus allowed to keep her hair. The older widows of the House are representative of the women who have lived out the lives which Chuyia and Kalyani are to continue on the path to. When Kalyani meets Narayan (a handsome recent law school graduate), she begins to wonder if love and marriage are still possible for her to experience. Though a law exists legalizing widows to remarry it is still very much

abhorred and it is this that stirs up conflict when it becomes known that Narayan would like to marry Kalyani. It is their romance that provides a hope for Chuyia's (and other very young widows') futures while also taking away the meaning of what widows have experienced for centuries before.

Water is filled with heart. It is evident that not only the director and writer Deepa Mehta has worked very hard and with great passion to complete this film to its greatest potential, but also the producer, the cinematographer, the art director, the music director, and the actors. The colors in every shot are balanced and easy to take in. The music is expressive and enjoyable to listen to. The performances are worthy of much praise and portray their characters with understanding and hope. This film falls under the genre of drama but is more of a commentary on the role of women in India, childhood, tradition, marriage, and personal ways of thinking within a society's culture. Underneath this already complex story is the symbolism Deepa Mehta has made clear. Here water represents cleansing, renewal, purity, life, simplicity, and punishment. This film is for the viewer that wants to see something brilliant and different from today's Hollywood garbage.

After seeing Water, it will be hard to believe that Deepa Mehta is also responsible for Bollywood Hollywood but don't hold it against her. She has much talent and will not fail again.

Video Game Review: Xenosaga III



Adam West

Bam! Thwap! Pop!

By Ray Reilly

Xenosaga Episode III: Also Sprach Zarathustra is the long awaited sequel and finale of the Xenosaga trilogy. Considering how wonderful the first Xenosaga was and how disappointing the second one was, I came into the game with mixed feelings. What I got out of it was a grand, well-written story and a great game.

Since the story is so completely involved, it

would be hard to appreciate without remembering the events of the other Xenosaga games. Luckily the creators put in a game directory giving definitions, character descriptions, and a brief recall of the events of the first two games.

The game starts out with Shion working with the underground organization, Scientia, to find out the connection between Vector, the Gnosis, and the U.M.N. After Shion's mission for Scientia (which can only be described as a

Continued on next page

Movie Review: Transamerica

By Kari O.

Last night I was impressed to see Desperate Housewives' Felicity Huffman play a transgender female in the controversial film Transamerica. The movie was presented by the Stony Brook Women's Center this Thursday night, and, sadly, there was a slim turnout, so many students missed this heartwarming film.

Transamerica is a story about the last week before Bree, the main character, has her sex change operation. Director/Writer Duncan Tucker surprisingly chose Felicity Huffman to star as the gender-challenged female. This made for an interesting sight, watching Huffman (a woman) pretending to be a man pretending to be a woman. During her last week as a man, Bree gets a call from a boy claiming to be her son. Toby, played by Kevin Zegers, is the result of Bree's only sexual experience with a woman. Bree decides to bail Toby out of jail but does not reveal her true identity...or her true sex, claiming instead to be a Christian missionary. Toby is a seventeen-year-old bum who sells his body for drugs and money. He ran away from home after his mother committed suicide and his stepfather began to molest him. He reveals to Bree that he wants to go to L.A. and

become an actor. Bree, who is also going to L.A. for her surgery, unhappily allows Toby to tag along. The movie follows the two on the cross-country road trip to California from New York.

This movie did an excellent job of delving into a topic that has been shyly explored by cinema. Other than Boys Don't Cry, a film starring Hilary Swank, I can't think of another movie that portrays queer Americans in a positive light or any films that try to get behind their motives or experiences. Bree's character goes through a lot of therapy before her surgery, as do all pre-transsexuals. She not only has to deal with her family being against her decision, she must also deal with society's disapproval. No one seems to support what she's doing. Bree admits that in the past she had a hard time sticking to a decision, recalling the occasion when she swallowed a bottle of Nembutal and then backed out of her own suicide by calling the police. However, there is never a moment in the film when she second-guesses her sex change operation. Her mind is entirely focused on getting to L.A. for her surgery, even when the car is stolen and when Toby runs away. I guess she wasn't going to back out of this. I admire her character's resolve, especially when it seems like the whole world is against her.

Nominated for an Academy Award in this role, Huffman did an excellent job portraying this transgender female. Her voice was low and monotone, her posture stiff and heavy, everything reminiscent of a man pretending to be a woman. Huffman created a picture of a lonely, disheartened individual trying to find her place in this world, taking her performance beyond mere impersonation.

One of the most powerful aspects of the film is the relationship that unwittingly develops between father and son. There is a scene where Toby tells Bree that he is in love with her and wants to have sex. Although this can be interpreted as gross and disturbing, I thought it was sweet. Toby is a disturbed young man who has no support or positive influence in his life. Bree is the first person to care about whether he lives or dies. She wants him to make something of himself. She gives Toby food, shelter, and care, never once asking for anything in return. Although Toby doesn't understand it, this is the way a parent cares for his or her child. It is right that Toby has these feelings for Bree. Although he inaccurately equates love and sex, it makes sense that he has these feelings for her. Toby and Bree are two characters with the same question: who am I supposed to be in this life? The father and son duo haven't grown up together,

but they're so much alike: both are alone and feel that no one understands or cares for them. It's significant that they find what they're looking for in each other.

The film isn't entirely serious. When Bree's car gets stolen, she and Toby have to stop by her childhood home and ask her parents for money. Bree's family introduces some comic relief into the story, especially her mother. Bree's shrill and haughty mother, played by Fionnula Flanagan, spends every second reminding Bree of her failure as a son. When her mother realizes that Toby is her grandson, she sees him as her second chance at a son. According to Freud, an overbearing mother is the reason for her son's homosexual orientation, so we watch as Bree's mother makes the same mistakes with Toby by babying him, combing his hair, and feeding him.

Transamerica takes the "road trip flick" in a whole new direction. From the powerful performances of Huffman and Zegers, to the poignant writing of Duncan Tucker, this movie immediately will strike you as the most original film of 2005. It takes you through a spectrum of emotions; I often found myself laughing at the awful situations Bree encountered. Tucker takes a controversial topic and relates it to the everyday person, teaching us "life is more than the sum of our parts."

Movie Review: The Departed

By Eddie Zadorozny

Vermin, rodents, and rats are all mammals associated with sleaze, disgust, and apprehension. The sight of them usually incites fear and panic followed, by a response of extermination and annihilation at the hands of particular common people, such as homeowners, storeowners, and restaurant owners. The mission of eradication is simple and obvious: search and destroy! Yet, for a different mass of people, namely a movie-going public, this entity of the rat has never been so intense and gratifying to watch. The gestation of this rat is the whole symbol and driving force of this very gripping and absorbing drama *The Departed*.

Of course, there is no actual rat in the film (except at the end, where an actual rat does appear; director Scorsese brilliantly portrays it as an allegorical statement. I couldn't really lie and say there wasn't)! Yet I do need to explain how this film is about human beings torn between decisions and circumstances.

The setting is Boston, where two graduates of the Boston police force are looking for work. Billy Costigan (Leonardo DiCaprio) and Colin Sullivan (Matt Damon) apply for the same job as special investigator. Billy is denied the job due to a past of family issues and circumstances that question his suitability for law enforcement, despite his desire to become a Boston cop as his uncle once had been. Colin, on the other hand, lands a job on the state police department in the special investigation department. Unbeknownst to the boss (Martin Sheen) and sergeant (an excellent Mark Wahlberg), he has ulterior motives to have such a job. He is a product of the crime lord Frank Costello (Jack Nicholson), who had become a father figure to a very young, impressionable Colin as he grew up in the streets of Boston. All the while, Costello groomed him and showcased the bounties that a life of crime can bring.

Yet, Costello is an organized crime virtuoso, a man on the Most Wanted list for years; but prosecutors were unable to get the evidence or proof to convict him.

The brilliance of this story lies in the choices of the two young cops, Billy and Colin, and how they both mimic and become rats for their intended bosses. Billy, having been denied work in the police, is asked to work for them in a different role than he had intended. He is assigned the role of undercover cop to infiltrate into Costello's better graces and organized crime family with the hopes of getting the evidence and proof they will need to take Costello down. He succeeds in winning over Costello, but in the process does such a good job of being phony that Costello is confounded as to how info about his actions are being tipped to cops. A rat has been born and is growing!

At the same time, Boston police officials are equally baffled as to why their info from their inside mole comes back as hopeful and promising with an arrest in sight for Costello. Yet, when the set-up and sting operation is near, miraculously Costello is a step ahead of the cops and comes out triumphant. As Costello was thrown for a loop, the Boston cops and investigative specialist team are faced with questions of perplexity. This rat has a fraternal twin! I found the representation of each side of the law both good and bad, right and wrong, depicted in Billy and Colin as quite interesting and intriguing. Both of them work for the law as they sought out to do growing up, yet their intended representation and respect of it comes from the opposite symbol of it. The struggle each actor puts up on screen to emulate this opposition is well-acted and the writing to suspend this concept for the length of the film is smart, engaging and clever.

The acting is top notch all around; I found Leonardo DiCaprio fine, as is Matt Damon. I was really impressed with Mark Wahlberg in the Sergeant role, very angry and agitated, and

the banter with him and Alec Baldwin as the head of the special investigative force was fun to watch and funny to hear (let's just say here is where we get the R for language). Nicholson, as always, is good, and here I don't see his ego getting in the way of his portrayal of his character as a crime lord, as other critics have stated. He is the major force and subject of the film that drives this film on its pace! The one problem I may have had with his performance as a crime lord would be his appearance, which has no effect on his acting – but seeing him in nearly every scene so unkempt and unruly looking makes you wonder. I am not suggesting appearing as a dapper don in every scene, but let's see some of the extravagance that a man of his magnitude is supposed to possess after all! Is a crime lord supposed to look like a bum?

The director Scorsese is such a brilliant auteur that in all of his films he engages the use of the camera in brilliant ways. One particular scene that is very well-executed is a pursuit of Billy by Colin as each doesn't know whom the other one is, but knows that both are rats. The scene is an homage to film noir as the street is very dark and dank with minimal light. The fog engulfs the lower end of the screen at moments, while shadows become larger than life charac-

ters, as they transgress and grow to distorted beings against walls. The scene lasts for three minutes but is executed so beautifully it possesses an aura of surrealism.

Compared to other films Scorsese had done in this genre like *Goodfellas* or *Casino*, I found this film to not be as violent or bloody. I need to rephrase: it is a violent film, no doubt, but compared to the others mentioned I find no scene as memorable or lingering as the others left behind when the viewing was over. What is memorable is the intensity and pacing of the film as the suspense and anticipation builds on the flushing out of the rats. This could be a departure for Scorsese, the violence being downplayed (to an extent, but still pretty violent), it being no more than standard gunfire. The title *The Departed* could be a metaphor for a road less traveled by him in the future but I should hope not. Scorsese is still the king of our era in filmmaking at the moment, and here he has another film to add to his growing catalog of great films.

The Departed Rated R (language, violence, sexual situations) running time 165 minutes

Released by Warner Brothers, directed by Martin Scorsese

Xenosaga III (Continued)

Continued from previous page

tutorial level), she finds herself meeting up with her old allies. The story gets infinitely more complex afterwards.

The battle system is quite different from the previous iterations, swapping out the zone and system stock systems of Episode II, and the button combo system from Episode I. This makes the battle system less unique, but more streamlined. The game introduces the boost gauge which allows your characters to stun and weaken enemies by depleting their break HP. Special attacks have also been added, allowing you to use your boost points to unleash very powerful attacks. The ES battle system is very similar to the one in place in Episode II, but without magic: all standard RPG fare.

The level design is pretty straightforward with several side paths for items and extra treasure chests. The two towns in the game are only created to progress the story and can't be accessed afterwards. The game is made just so you can get on with the story.

The in-game graphics aren't that surprising,

but the cutscenes are beautiful. The cutscenes consist of either very well choreographed fight sequences or very well acted and scripted story sequences. The character models are detailed and robust, and they are able to portray emotions very well. The environments are interesting and varied which is only brought out by the amount of color used in the textures.

There are many, many story sequences within the game, most of which are at least twenty minutes long. But unfortunately many of the major events portrayed in the game take place in voice acted text boxes. The game is well paced despite the length of the cutscenes, revealing just enough plot to keep you interested in the story.

This game on its own wouldn't hold up well, but along with the other *Xenosaga* games, it manages to be a beautiful and engrossing RPG trilogy. The themes portrayed in this story like religious oppression, suffering, love, heroism, loyalty, friendship, and sibling rivalry reflect what it is to be human. The story really comes together at the end, giving each event and character a purpose. This game is not an experience to be missed.

Five Must-See Movies That Can Be Considered Brain Food

By Yana Polikarpov

These are not in any particular order. Here's a game: watch them all and rank them for me, I would love to hear how much my taste sucks.

5. *Elizabeth* (1998)- For the history/biography/drama buff, this movie covers the ever interesting life of a member of British royalty, Elizabeth I. Portrayed by the wonderful Cate Blanchett herself, the young queen lives through religious torment, passions, and the trials and errors of being a newly coronated queen. Brain food? I thought Britain had horrible food, but yeah, this movie is awesome for a flavorful trip into the past, and gives you a reason to be thankful that society has (somewhat) changed. The costumes and scenery are pleasing to the senses, along with some lust scenes for those of you who want to impress your mates with an intellectual movie choice and get a kick out of it as well. (P.S. British accents are hot).

4. *Memento* (2000)- What am I writing about again? Oh, um... this movie is freaky, in a freaky I-forget-shit-really-easily way. The fact is that there are no facts. A man has tattoos, Polaroid photos and Post-Its that contain facts/observations and what little else he knows about the man that killed his wife. He is on a quest to find the killer, but suffers from short-term memory loss. Who's manipulating who? Is that a pretty bird? But hey seriously, if you have time to sit down and follow the twists and turns, you will be rewarded with a journey into the human psyche that will be good training for your mental cavity.

3. *Donnie Darko* (2001)- A bunny named Frank, an old lady who discovers a time warp, sleep walking, and schizophrenia. What's not to love?! In this role, played brilliantly by Jake Gyllenhaal, we meet a frustrated and confused young man that commits crazy acts of randomness thanks to the advice of his demon bunny friend. If you haven't seen this, take a hit of acid and sit down with your favorite stuffed animals for a wild brain trip. I watched it sober and I was like "What?!!!" but wait till the end, it all comes together.

2. *Eternal Sunshine For the Spotless Mind* (2004)- Jim Carrey playing a serious role and doing it well? Hooking up with Kate Winslet? Nice. This movie is actually a trip into the hearts and minds of two people who hate each other but love each other. Sound familiar my love-struck friends? Well sit down with your other half and get some ideas on how to not to do a relationship. Imagine if the service that is offered in the movie was real. Hmmm. By the way, it's set somewhere on Long Island. Advice: do not pick up chicks/dudes on the LIRR, my lonely commuter/weekender buddies. Not unless their name is some sort of citrus.

1. *Battle of the Algiers* (1966)- Another historically based social commentary, but this one includes French curses, bombings, racism, and pure mandatory viewing for US Intelligence on how not to handle terrorism. Riight. But I think we all can learn from this. Prepare to cry while trying to read the damn subtitles. It's in French, directed by an Italian, set in Africa. Sick.

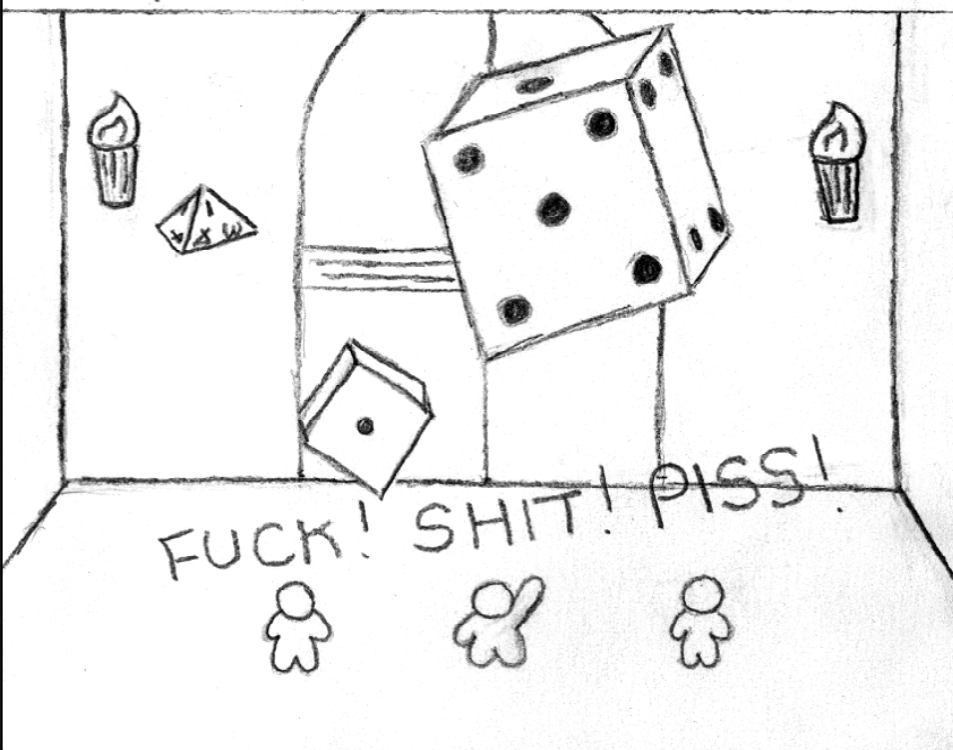
The Fantastic Adventures of FES

By: John O'Dell

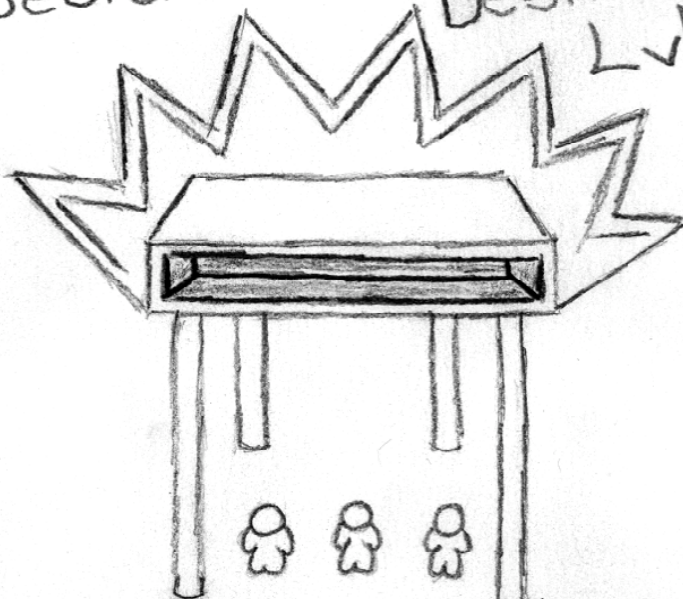
Before invasion of filler comics... our heroes were engaged in an epic struggle with an unknown foe. Looks like they about to get owned...



YOU SHALL NOT PASS!!!



We'll use 3 skill points to use our special skill... Wooden Desk Shield Lvl. 10!



It protects against nukes and falling D-4's!

In response, I use my epic level 216 spell Wingardium Leviosa! It easily topples the ordinary wooden desk. Of course I could have used my Ring of Power to pwn you!

Fake Beard →



Alright... Who invited Gandalf the Retard into our campaign again?

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