

BLACKWORLD

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BLACK WORLD

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Under Construction

By: Chealynn Feaster
Editor-in-Chief

The Africana Studies Department is under construction. Anyone who has visited the AFS Department on the second floor of the SBS building has observed the department chair's office boarded up in addition to the chair's assistant, whose temporary makeshift office is located in the AFS library. The necessity for more faculty office space as well as the enthusiasm of Stony Brook students for Africana Studies has resulted in the expansion of the department.

Despite the budget crisis, the AFS department is thriving. "Currently, we are undergoing a transitional phase that's quite exciting," said Dr. Tracey Walters, professor in the AFS department. Students are invited to play a more substantial role in their relationship with faculty and staff to ensure that they take advantage of what the department has to offer them.

Africana Studies courses have one of



the highest faculty to student ratios in the university. Courses are rigorous and of quality. Academic programs that are informative and thought provoking will continue to be established. "The extent to which our students have emphasized the significance of the AFS department, year after year consistently, make it clear that the courses taught are essential to academic development," said AFS professor and former interim chair, Dr. Olufemi

Vaughan. "Enrollment classes are full all the time. Students insist on quality courses. They vote with their feet," he said.

Professor Vaughan stresses that students' relationships with Africana studies does not end after the classroom. During office hours students come in one after another. Walking on campus, students feel comfortable enough to stop and speak with their AFS professors. Graduate students send letters.

"Faculty is responding to the students. We are moving forward and students are moving forward as well," said Professor Vaughan. He also credits the changes to the fact that senior administration and faculty members, "really have a profound understanding and belief in the intellectual, academic and social importance of the AFS department," he said. They get the support to improve the department and it is becoming a collaborative effort with the entire university.

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SSI is Gone

By: Diana Belazario
BLACKWORLD Writer

The Interdisciplinary major in Social Sciences is one of the largest majors on campus. According to the office of Institutional Research, as of September 16, 2003 the number of students enrolled in the major is 137. In Spring of this year, enrollment crept to 168.

Many students who graduate with an SSI degree further their education in law, social welfare, or business administration. Others go on to pursue careers in secondary school teaching, or government services.

Joan Kuchner, Director of Child and Family Studies and Director of Undergraduate Studies at Stony Brook, said, SSI has been a very successful major. When asked how she felt the major benefited students she said, "It allows students to integrate information from the Social Science field and identify

career paths that create opportunities for them to build communities and help individuals and families." Even with all of the positive aspects, the major surprisingly will no longer be offered at the close of this semester.

According to an administrative official in the department of Social Sciences, it is not a matter of student enrollment or success of the program but the problem lies in the amount of tenured faculty members. The number of tenured faculty members in the Social Sciences program has been dwindling throughout the years. It reached the point where there were only three tenured staff members including Greg Ruff and Professor Georges Fournon.

Ruff has accepted the position as Undergraduate Director of Asian American Studies and Professor Fournon, currently the chair of the SSI program, has taken on the role as Chairperson of

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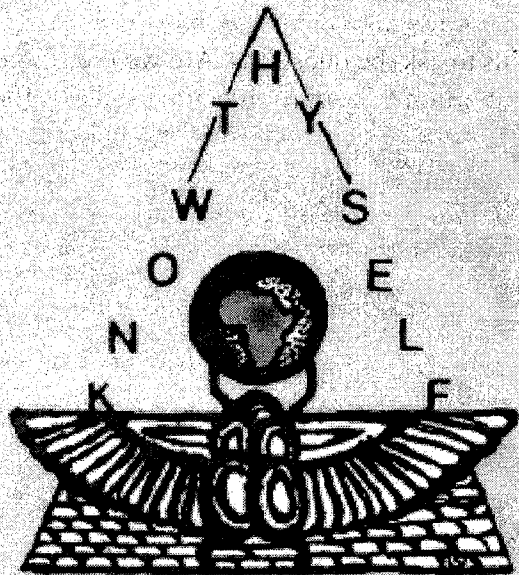
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BLACKWORLD

For Over 25 Years



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Letter From the Editor

Hello BLACKWORLD readers, my name is Chealynn Feaster. I am the Editor-in-Chief of BLACKWORLD and I would like to tell you a little bit about myself as well as my vision for BLACKWORLD.

I am a senior here at Stony Brook pursuing a degree in Africana Studies and media arts. This is my first year as Editor-in-Chief and I am very excited about my new position. I am looking forward to continually providing BLACKWORLD readers with educational as well as entertaining content. I want BLACKWORLD to be a paper that readers will look forward to picking up every other week. I want BLACKWORLD to be an interactive newspaper. When I say interactive I mean a newspaper that is not just written by the staff of BLACKWORLD and read by a select group.

I want BLACKWORLD to be a paper created by all students and read by all students. I want students to feel free to contribute their creativity, opinion, knowledge and voice. BLACKWORLD should be molded by all

Stony Brook students who pay an activity fee which is every student here.

Students should feel free to comment and offer suggestions, letting us know what we can do to make the most insightful and engaging paper. I want to thank you for taking the time out to read a copy. I hope you will enjoy what we offer you as a reader in this copy as well as future copies. Thank you, and have a healthy and productive semester.

Managing Editor's Note

Aside from completing my last year at Stony Brook and earning a B.S in business management, I couldn't be more ecstatic about being Managing Editor for BLACKWORLD. My name is Darise Jean-Baptiste and I have been with the BLACKWORLD family since my freshman year. The familiarity that I have with the newspaper's triumphs and weaknesses is one that I believe will aid in reaching our goals.

One goal was to increase recruitment and facilitate an environment that engages new and old members. My first general body meeting with BLACKWORLD turned out successfully, attendees were receptive, interested, and generous with ideas. It was a motivator for me, fellow staff members, students and contributors as the outstanding participation and cooperation evidenced. The goal criteria seems to grow longer as one goal is achieved.

My vision for BLACKWORLD is to become a reliable source of information for all Stony Brook students. I know how easy it is to become consumed in the world of Stony Brook unaware of the issues that take place around the world-the issues that ultimately affect you. It is our duty as a newspaper to bring those issues to the reader's attention. It is the reader's duty to use and share that information in the classroom, at home, and with friends.

I have already learned so much in one month as Managing Editor and the use of class material from my major and English minor courses has been an inspiration to pursue similar career fields.

Overall, to enlighten readers and receive the kind of response that motivates BLACKWORLD consistently is a personal goal. There are so many positive changes and ongoing legacies to bring forth. I welcome everyone to a promising experience with us this year.

Why are Abortion Rates High in the Black Community?

By: Kendra Edwards
BLACKWORLD Writer

Open up the current edition of the Yellow Pages. Now, turn to where the abortion clinics are listed. Most likely, this list extends two to three pages. Depending on your position or view of abortion, this may be either a good or a bad thing. Putting your personal opinion aside for the moment, try to take a closer look at the addresses of the abortion clinics listed. Do the street names sound familiar? Chances are, if you live in an urban area almost all of these abortion clinics are in your own neighborhood.

According to a study published by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, "Nine out of ten abortion providers are now located in metropolitan areas." This raises questions about the causes and effects of this alarming trend. Michael Schwartz, vice president for Government relations at Concerned Women for America, tries to attribute this trend to the inhabitants of the area- people of color. Schwartz says that "Abortion shops are located close to their target population."

It is no secret that most of the people in



urban areas are members of minority groups. Even though black women might not see themselves as a target, someone out there does. Apparently, their aim is precise since black women have the highest

abortion rates in the United States. This forces us to ask the questions, Are we the "target" of abortion? Is abortion being used as a form of genocide to eradicate members of our race? Or could high abortion rates be explained by looking at the issues and events that have plagued our race since the emancipation of slavery?

Statistics for abortion in the United States published by the Alan Guttmacher Institute show that while whites account for 75% of the total U.S. population, white women have 60% of all abortions. However, blacks only account for 12% of the population, with 33% of all abortions in America are performed on black women. These figures are alarming.

There can be several reasons why black women have higher abortion rates than white women. Some of these explanations blame the higher incidence of unwanted pregnancies in black communities on the high rates of teenage pregnancies in black communities. Others choose to look at poverty and the welfare reforms of the 1990s, which gave less support to disadvantaged families as the forces behind racially disproportional

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By Mike Crafone
BLACKWORLD Writer

A Different Kind of Explosion

Americans are beginning to fight back but this is no ordinary revolution. Americans are not just using physical force anymore. Americans have found a different way to fight the war on terrorism. It is evident on campus and in other areas of New York that ones creative powers can be used as a weapon to combat terrorism and the lingering fear that has been left on the minds of Americans, especially New Yorkers, since September 11, 2001.

What we are experiencing here at Stony Brook and all across the country is an explosion of the arts. It seems Americans are beginning to take control of what we see and hear. We are steadily becoming more aware of how we perceive the world. Students at Stony Brook are becoming more involved using creativity, attending media programs and joining art-based organizations. The effects of this new explosion are becoming more obvious.

Diana Belizario, a junior at Stony Brook, said she had absolutely no interest in art. However, when Diana was asked to comment on how she felt about music and dancing, her love for these two forms of art was apparent. Diana represents a large number of students who lack a clear understanding of the definition of art.

"How will it benefit me to consider music or dance a form of art?" she asked. One answer could be that if a person considers oneself to be



an artist, then naturally that person realizes the creative power they have and can produce the art which they so love to create with ease. But this answer is too simple. Most people have difficulty defining art.

Is music and dance a form of art? The question was posed to third year student Jennie Morel about whether she considered dance an art. "Define art for me," she said. Webster's dictionary defines art as "the conscious use of skill and creative imagination specifically in the production of aesthetic objects." After hearing this, Jennie then went on to say, "Well then dance is art because it requires skill and creativity to produce it." "Dance is an expression of emotions," she said.

When asked why it is necessary to express ones emotions, Jennie said, "Well because it is part of being human."

If Webster's dictionary serves us correctly, and art is the creative production of beautiful objects, and beauty is something that "pleasurably exalts the mind and spirit," then why does so much of what is considered to be art in the world seem so depressing at times? Art can be like life, full of sadness and difficult situations. Art imitates life, and life imitates art.

Onome Oddiri and Namdi Nwachuk, juniors at Stony Brook, said that in the context of Hip Hop music, life imitates art, and art imitates life. Particularly, on the new Sheek Louch album, entitled "Walk Wit Me." The cover of the album is a photo of Sheek walking on the street presumably somewhere in Yonkers. Onome and Namdi said that the album is about the artist's personal experiences, so therefore art is imitating life. Sheek's passion for his craft is obvious in his hard-hitting delivery, so then in this case life is imitating art as well.

Just by walking around campus and talking to some of the students at Stony Brook one can find a student body that is keenly aware of the arts and entertainment industry. New dance

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AFS

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The renovations occurring are not only physical but in the quality of education too. The requirements for the Africana studies major have currently been updated so that the department can continue to be strong and competitive.

Professor Vaughan has witnessed the quality of faculty improve during his thirteen year career at Stony Brook. A great number of faculty are leading scholars and teachers in their fields of history, political science, literature, and art. This current academic year, Professor Georges Fouron has been selected to serve as the new AFS department chair.

"Students insist on quality courses. They vote with their feet."

Georges Fouron has been a professor in the SSI department at Stony Brook for eighteen years and department chair for two. Professor Fouron has always been affiliated with the AFS department so, when the need to fill the chair emerged he was selected. He is currently playing both roles

as AFS department chair and SSI caretaker until the end of the fall semester. After the fall semester, SSI will no longer be offered as a major at Stony Brook.

When asked what he saw for the future of the AFS department, Professor Fouron said, "...a stronger, more vibrant and visible department attracting the best possible scholars in the field." Students are encouraged to visit the department and share ideas concerning events and programs they may want to see. "Doors will be open. Any suggestions you have we are willing to listen," said Fouron.

Abortion

Continued from pg.2

tionate abortion rates in the country.

Some even choose to look to the history of slavery and segregation that black Americans have faced in the United States to account for the fact that since 1973, black women have had almost 10 million abortions.

This brings us to the theory that abortion is being used as genocide. To explain this theory, we can first look at the close proximity of abortion clinics in the black urban community. Only 10% of abortion clinics are in rural, white communities. Some believe that the government planned it this

way.

In 1973, the United States Supreme Court declared in *Roe v. Wade* that abortion would be legal. Many opposed this decision including politicians. The theory suggests that these politicians against abortion decided to create abortion clinics in urban areas to deter rural or white people from obtaining these abortions. They had these abortion clinics put into black communities because they knew that this close proximity would make it a lot easier for black women to get abortions. This in effect, would help to eradicate the black race.

The theory on abortion as being a form of genocide is extremely controversial. There have been many objections to this theory. Some discredit the theory by saying that no one forces women to get an abortion. Others say that even though the clinics are close to black communities, it is not the black woman's only option. She can choose against having an abortion and raise the child or put it up for adoption. Also, abortion clinics may be more prevalent due to demand.

The fact is that in 2002, black women had over 200,000 abortions. Ignoring the issue of abortion will not make it go away.

The Scarlet Death Sentence

By: Darise Jean-Baptiste
Managing Editor

On September 25, the Katsina State Shariah Court of Appeal in Nigeria overturned the death sentence of Amina Lawal. If convicted, Lawal would have been buried up to her waist in the ground and then stoned to death. After two years of fighting her case, Lawal, 31, lives another day victoriously.

Lawal was divorced but found guilty of adultery after she became pregnant by a man who later denied sexual relations with her. Two witnesses testified in defense of the man and he was freed of all charges.

After gaining sympathy and attention from around the world, Lawal will not face the torturous death sentenced to adulterers under Shariah Law. Under the Islamic law, one faces amputation if convicted a thief.

Though the long and loud outcry at such a cruel and unusual punishment for a woman from a village where her alleged penalty is recognized lawful proved to be effective, the just treatment of women in the 21st century is questionable.

A disparity in the way women are treated and acknowledged continues to exist on a global level. Women earn less than men for the same occupations, are subjected to vicious castration and circumcision, and when violated, their offenders



Amina Lawal accused of adultery

often are not penalized justly.

According to Rape Abuse Incest Network, there is a 50.8% chance that an arrest will be made if a woman is raped, an 80% chance of prosecution, 58% chance of felony conviction, and 69% chance that the offender will spend time in jail.

The man that allegedly impregnated Lawal had witnesses prove his innocence, but the child growing in her womb was evidence to automatically condemn. He faced no charges while Lawal sought to escape a harsh penalty insensitive to the circumstances of her story and place in society.

Lawal is the second woman from Nigeria to be spared the violent and painful execution of stoning. The fate of the next woman that faces any such penalties under Shariah Law is unknown. Lawal was extremely fortunate to receive the attention she did.

Several countries offered Lawal exile. Stoning is reported to contradict the Nigerian constitution and would violate international treaties against torture.

A step towards victory for those that oppose death penalties and corrupt justice systems is won. A victory for women is questionable. Kelliann Flores, Women's Studies Lecturer at Stony Brook, said that her biggest concern is the future outcome of similar cases after the West has possibly lost interest. She asks, "How can we exert pressure to have these laws changed?"

When the West loses interest or directs its attention toward other acts of inhumanity in other countries, there will be more motherless children. The problems at home do not go away- women in

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Africana Studies.

A department or program is not viable without tenured tract lines. Furthermore, due to the budget, more tenured faculty members will not be hired.

Although SSI will no longer be offered as a major, Dean James V. Staros has made a positive effort to preserve the Child and Family Studies minor, an interdisciplinary program offered in Social Sciences.

Child and Family Studies is the largest minor in the College of Arts and Sciences and will continue to be offered.

“If the major stops a lot of students will probably be lost.”

Nitzalli Rodriguez, a junior and double major in SSI and sociology, believes that SSI is an important major on campus. Without it she would not have known that her passion was working with people. Taking sociology courses

helped her to decide her major. She said, “SSI is the foundation of my sociology major.”

If students are unsure of what to major in, then SSI allows them to take different areas of concentration thus enabling them to develop an interest in one or two fields of study. “In order to be involved in social sciences you have to be a people person and if you don’t know where to concentrate in, it allows you to take a variety of courses from different fields of study,” said Rodriguez. She thinks it is ideal for students who are interested in a lot of different areas of study relating to social sciences but are unsure as to exactly which one to pursue. “If the major stops a lot of students will probably be lost,” she said.

If students think SSI should be continued then they should write to the Dean or the Provost expressing how it is a useful major and why it fits their needs and interests.

The Social Sciences program will continue to accept declaration of the major until the end of the fall semester. Students create their own individual plans of study by combining courses ranging from Africana studies, anthropology,

women studies, political science, psychology, sociology, economics, as well as the social sciences program courses.

Students who do not declare the major before the end of this semester may be interested in the multidisciplinary major. This major is also designed for students who are interested in more than one discipline to create their own programs from different areas of study.

The multidisciplinary major is similar to SSI but different in that students are not limited to take courses only pertaining to social and behavioral sciences. For more information on the multidisciplinary major, students can make an appointment with one of the multidisciplinary studies advisors to plan their individual program.

Voting 101

By : Shamika Gaskin
BLACKWORLD Writer

Voting in the black community does not seem to hold as much importance as it once did. In the 1950’s and 1960’s black brothers and sisters fought for the right to vote. Through sit-ins, protests, marches, even with death, they fought for the right. Let us not make their effort in vain because it is important.

Voting is important because it offers many privileges. It gives you the power to select a person to represent you and your needs in public office. Voting gives you the opportunity to change the world around you. It also gives you the opportunity to practice your civil rights as a citizen of this country.

Voting actually solves a lot of daily life problems such as taxes, unemployment rates, and the quality of public schooling. For college students concerned with off campus housing, zoning restrictions, and tuition increases, voting will help to rectify these issues.

If you are not registered to vote here is some helpful information.

Students who live on campus can fill out a voter registration form in their college office. It

takes about one minute to fill out.

For all other students, NYPIRG (New York Public Interest Research Group) is there to help. NYPIRG’s office is located in the lower-level of the Student Union. NYPIRG, which is one of the largest and most effective consumer and environmental advocacy groups, has registration forms you can fill out on weekdays.

As the 2004 presidential election comes closer, we as a community need to start voting. In 2000, out of the 24,132 blacks who are eligible to vote only 12,917 participated in the elections. Compared to the 95,098 white, non Hispanic voters this is a minimal percent.

In the population survey taken in November 2000 it was reported that blacks more likely did not vote due to transportation problems. The majority of non-voting was due to preoccupation. Among college aged individuals roughly half are registered, and out of this half only 39.4% voted. Word to the wise: register today.

Every voter should have information about the candidates and the issues concerning them. Research on the top eight presidential candidates of 2004 is as followed:

John Edwards (NC), Bob Graham (FL), John Kerry (MA), General Wesley Clark (AK), Dennis Kunicich (OH) all are Democrats and support educational savings accounts and smaller classes.

Alfred Sharpton (NY), also a Democrat supports public schooling.

Joseph Lieberman, (NY), Democrat supports private schooling.

George W. Bush (TX), Republican wants to use \$1.5 million for colleges, \$275 for prepaid college tuition tax credits, \$400 million for after-school programming.

The presidential election will be in November but debates will start in late January. Stay informed, interested, and active, it’s your civic duty

West Indian Day Parade

By Reishelle Maynard
BLACKWORLD Staff

"Murder Parade", "Death Carnival"—these are just some of the words that were used to describe the West Indian Day Parade that took place on Labor Day this year in Brooklyn. Why were these words used by respected papers like The Daily News and The New York Post? That is a question that the Caribbean community has been trying to answer.

It all began with the fatal shooting of 20-year-old Anthony Bartholomew on the parade route. Anthony was shot once in the head and died shortly after. While Anthony lay dying on the streets of Eastern Parkway, a photographer on the scene saw this as an opportunity to "run a story." He photographed a picture of the victim lying in his own blood in the streets. The picture was published in the Daily News on September 3.

The picture accompanied an article that suggested the shooting was sparked by Anthony bumping into the gunman while he danced behind a float. A single incident like this caused newspapers to describe a parade that attracts more than 2 million spectators each year negatively. This may also be because about a half-hour after the shooting, Jean Thomas, 29, was slashed across the neck during an argument. That argument was said to have started when the suspect's girlfriend complained about men dancing and rubbing on her.

Other high profile incidents include the deaths of two 11-year-old girls who were hit by a van in 1999, and a shooting in 1998 in which a cop was struck in the leg. Anthony's uncle, Lord Mattis, who is asking the parade to be moved into Manhattan, said "I think they should stop the parade and put it in the city with the rest of the parades. I went there myself and there are a lot of problems, a lot of fighting, and a lot of shooting."

However, many in the West Indian community are coming to the defense of the parade, which was established 36 years ago to promote Caribbean culture within New York City. Governor George Pataki proclaimed September 1st West Indian American Day in New York State. "The West Indian Day Parade is an exciting celebration of the accomplishments, traditions and pride of the West Indian American community in Brooklyn and throughout New York State," Governor Pataki said. "The legendary warmth of the West Indian people is on full display at the parade, and we strongly encourage local residents and tourists alike to come enjoy this special event."

The parade is a major event that generates over \$300 million in revenue and attracts people from within the US as well as Canada, Europe and Caribbean islands.

Jean Alexander, a spokesperson for the West Indian Day Carnival Association (WIDCA), said it is important to note that virtually all those at the parade were peaceful. The police have stated that parades in past years have gone on without major incident. Officers now ride on each float and line the route.

Many in the community believe that the massive number of police officers is excessive, yet others think it is needed to combat against the large crowds. Still, police officials have said that unless everyone who attends the parade is searched—a logistical nightmare—it is extremely difficult to prevent every act of violence.

The 2003 West Indian Day Parade, which was dedicated to slain Councilman James E. Davis who also campaigned against violence, may have been clouded by senseless acts of violence this year. However, it would continue to be a venue for people of Caribbean heritage to celebrate and teach others about the beauty and splendor of their native islands.

Everyone must come together to assure that Anthony Bartholomew's death does not become an excuse for newspapers like the Daily News to

discredit a parade that is the biggest festival in New York City.

The parade is truly positive in regards to revenue, tourism, and most importantly the expression of pride, culture and excitement among people of West Indian heritage.



Coming Soon: CSO Fashion Show

By: Safaraah Williamson
BLACKWORLD Staff

On November 15, the students and visitors of Stony Brook University will receive the opportunity to engulf in a lavish display of pride and culture. These elements of culture will be provided by one of the campus' most highly acknowledged and revered cultural organizations better known as CSO (Caribbean Student Organization).

The CSO fashion show is one in which the audience can expect an array of fashionable entertainment. The stage will be graced by an allotment of Stony Brook's very own students. These are young ladies and young men whose goal is to light the stage on fire with a flare of urban attitude and confidence that has the ability to bring the clothes to life.

The revealing nature of many of the clothes is an issue that often fosters both positive and negative attention. In response to this issue, Denielle Fairbarin, CSO cultural officer and representative, said, "Revealing does not always have to mean negative. We are showing how confident many Caribbean people are about their bodies and that women that can wear revealing clothes and are confident about it and should be commended. We

want the audience to know that you do not have to be the typical model to be on the catwalk or love who you are. We hope to open minds to the fact that the body is a beautiful thing."

The clothes that will be adorned throughout the show will be provided by black-owned, new and innovative designer labels, such as Downtown Wear, Hyfishman Furs, Meoshe and Denouncement. The participation of many of these labels within the CSO fashion show has been made possible through the affiliations and connections warranted by the annual Black Expo event held at Jacob Javits Convention Center.

*"Revealing does not
always mean
negative."*

The CSO fashion show is one that is usually filled with much excitement. This is due to the atmosphere of pride generated from the many students in the audience that either originates from one of the islands or countries of the Caribbean or have ancestral ties that cultivate a sense of pride or simply enjoy in the festiveness of the atmosphere.

Continued on next page

Not Just a Reflection of Pride, A Reflection of Beauty

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The music that is incorporated into the show will be a mixture of Reggae and Hip-Hop culture. This connection may be regarded as a depiction of the infusion of different realms of ethnicity. Collaboratively, the connection becomes a very influential aspect of culture, for those who identify themselves as West Indian, African-American or even both.

When asked what she believes the significance of the CSO fashion show is, Stony Brook student, Sancia Christie said, "I believe the show is very valuable to the students of Stony Brook University because it is not only entertaining, but it reflects a sense of pride in elements of Caribbean culture, which has inevitably become a part of American culture as well, such as music and dance. Everyone should be encouraged to acknowledge their identities and share these acknowledgments with others."

The acknowledgment of identity that this Stony Brook student speaks of is a factor that must be prevalent amongst a university that is fortunate enough to have the beauty of so many diverse cul-

tures and ethnicities. It is crucial that the culturally based organizations at Stony Brook University do their part in trying to educate those who may be unfamiliar with realms of life that are external to their own. With this education, whether it is displayed through the outlet of a fashion show or a serious discussion, all must be encouraged to participate regardless of their race or background.

In a university and a world submerged in diversity, ignorance must be replaced by the desire for people to educate, be educated and extend their knowledge to others. Those organizations that are aiming to educate others on aspects of various cultures, such as CSO, must be commended for stepping beyond the restrictive barriers that difference may often create, setting an example for others to contribute in educating as well.

Capturing the Unconscious

By: Darise Jean-Baptiste
Managing Editor

Unlike an ordinary art gallery, Room N320 in the Social and Behavioral Sciences building resonated with shouts and laughter of playful children and the aroma of burritos and guacamole permeated through the air. At the opening reception of "Dream Edits" on September 24, guests had the pleasure of taking a trip into the unconscious while sipping on fine wine and margaritas.

In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, "Dream Edits" - an exhibition of photography by Mexican artist Monica Gutierrez-Kirwan is on display in the Latin American and Caribbean Center art gallery. The exhibition includes eight pieces that express a rich culture and astounding creativity.

The photographs are "filled with ideas," said Paul Gootenberg, director of Latin American studies. He says that after seeing Gutierrez-Kirwan's portfolio he invited her to exhibit at Stony Brook.

Gutierrez-Kirwan described her work as "riddles to life." She says that the themes of life and death can be seen throughout her work. She defines "dream edits" as a trip into the mind where you capture and edit a dream.

The Mexico City born artist says that her work deals a lot with the unconscious. Gutierrez-

Kirwan was not conscious of why she hated carnations-shown in Sin Titulo (Untitled). She says that she later realized that carnations appeared at her mother's funeral.

The eight pieces can be purchased at prices ranging from \$400 to \$1,800. La limpia (The cleansing) represents beginnings and endings with an image of a bodiless dress hung over a cracked egg. Monica explained that a limpia is someone in the community that performs different rituals such as one where an egg is used to take away bad spirits. She wrote, "In these fantastic scenarios, photography serves an alchemic for an inner world to emerge."

The LACS gallery has been a starting point for many young and talented artists. It is one of the most active galleries on Long Island, said Mr. Gootenberg. Artists from countries such as Argentina and Chile have graced the gallery and contributed to Stony Brook's permanent collection.

Gutierrez-Kirwan wrote, "The resulting images are arranged as multi-paneled pieces that create a narrative." Until December, students have the pleasure of viewing the color and black and white photographs filled with ordinary images and deep meanings.

Targeted

The Government's Problem

The economy has been in a state of emergency since 9/11. New York State faces an \$11 billion deficit.

Offsetting the Government's Problem

January 2003- Determined not to raise taxes, Governor George Pataki's budget proposal targets school districts, educational institutions, Medicaid and other healthcare. He proposes SUNY and CUNY tuition to be raised by \$1,200 a year as the State University of New York's Board of Trustees recommends a \$1,400 increase for in-state students. The board backs the proposed tuition increase 14-2. The proposed increase would be the largest in history.

According to NYPIRG (New York Public Interest Research Group) intern, Tyler Burke, Pataki also proposed a 33% cut in T.A.P. and a 50% cut in opportunity programs such as E.O.P. and complete elimination of S.T.E.P. and C-S.T.E.P.

The Students' Problem

SUNY fees have been increasing since the last tuition hike in 1995. When tuition increased enrollment decreased. Each SUNY University has increased its fees by nearly 137 percent. The thousand dollar increase is damaging to students.

Offsetting the Student's Problem

For weeks, students embarked on intensive "No Tuition Hike" protests. A large banner was placed over an expressway in Buffalo that read "Governor Pataki, no tuition hike, no SUNY cuts." Students from SUNY and CUNY schools such as Buffalo State, Albany University and Stony Brook University, marched across parts of the state with petitions and signs eventually reaching the state capitol.

Students bombarded lawmakers with thousands of telephone calls during an organized "call-in" to express disapproval over the tuition hike proposals.

The Compromise

Instead of the proposed \$1,200, undergraduate in-state tuition was raised by \$950. The tuition hike became official in June 2003 and went into effect this fall. Opportunity programs and T.A.P. were unaffected.

The Moral of the Story

Elected officials like George Pataki, who will run for re-election, will target the population that have the lowest percentage of voters- students when making drastic budget cuts.

According to the University of North Caro-

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RHAPSODIES

"ONLY FRIENDS"

*She said that we could only be friends.
But it's harder now because history repeated itself again.
Something that was supposed to be ignored and kept quiet has resurrected.
But the last time was more unexpected.
We didn't officially cross it, but our feet were definitely on the line.
I wanted to cross it, but I kept our friendship in mind.
Damn... My mind and my heart can't even meet on mutual grounds.
One is saying, "ignore it" and the other is saying, "she'll come around".
But it's not that easy to keep forgettin' about it and lettin' things ride.
And her gorgeous smile doesn't make it any easier for me to decide.
I'll just take both advice.
Because three times is a charm and we already fooled around twice.
And both times the attraction was strong, the kisses were long and things were
feelin' too right for us to call it wrong.
I was feelin' it. Maybe she was because she went along. (I don't know.)
All I know is, I did not want those nights to end.
Because I knew in the morning we could only be friends.*

By: Leandriss

"Like most poor and oppressed people in the United States, I do not have a voice. Black people, poor people in the U.S. have no real freedom of speech, no real freedom of expression and very little freedom of the press. The black press and the progressive media has historically played an essential role in the struggle for social justice. We need to continue and to expand that tradition. We need to create media outlets that help to educate our people and our children, and not annihilate their minds. I am only one woman. But I feel that people need to be educated as to what is going on, and to understand the connection between the news, media, and the instruments of repression in Amerikkka.....let people know what is happening. We have no voice, so you must be the voice of the voiceless.

-Assata Shakur

BLACKWORLD'S Question of the Week

Why can't Black women get along? Do other races have the same problem?

From my perspective, many black women are intimidated by one another. That intimidation is then masked in hatred, which is a cover for lack of self esteem. Many women, in general, live in hunger for attention, making them quick to rob another of hers. Attention fuels women's confidence more than it does for men. Confidence is the foundation for Womanhood. So, judgments which are inadequately made towards other women are made from those who are not pleased with themselves. They see this method as an ego-booster for themselves. This is a problem prominent in the Black women community but also exists among women of all races. You can probably just blame it on the estrogen.

From, Diezelaquasoul

The Next Question of the Week: It is no secret that we are living in the midst of an AIDS epidemic, so why do we continue to have unprotected sex?

Class Grades

Class: RLS 270

Professor: Ryan

Student: Adekemi Akingboye

Why did you take this class?

Because of its popularity, the main things I wanted to know before I registered for this class was, the DEC it completed, which professor to take and how he or she graded. I found out RLS 270 was a DEC I, three-credit course, and that I should take Professor Ryan. Everyone fought tooth and nail to get in. I thought it must be a good course.

What didn't you like about this class?

Sometimes Professor Ryan could be very boring in lecture. One thing that is very important to keep in mind about the way Professor Ryan grades is that it is unpredictable.

What did you like about this class?

Students were only required to write one-page papers about how they felt about the lecture material, in short, events that took place in Christian history or Christian doctrines. The best way to ensure an A in this course is to hand in your weekly one-page papers on time and to drop by Professor Ryan's office every once in a while. I found that if you go to his office hours and talk to him he is more interesting to speak with aside from helping with your grade.

Would you recommend this class to a friend?

The actual course work was not as fulfilling as I would have hoped it to be, but it is certainly a course worthwhile taking for a DEC I.

**To respond to
the question of
the week or
grade one of
your classes
email us at**

blackworld74@hotmail.com

Explosive

Continued from page 3

troupes are being formed, students are singing with professional quality in the parking lot of Kelly quad, and participation in student media has increased. Leo Borovski, program director at Stony Brook Television, said, "There has been a significant increase in interest in student media here at Stony Brook. There were three times as many students at this year's media workshop than there were last year."

The people of America are beginning to become more conscious of the art that is being created constantly everywhere around us. This can only result in a greater empowerment of a people scarred from the day to day tragedies of the world, especially that of the 9/11 disaster. The effects of this horrific event can be combated against with an artistic empowerment. True art is the opposite of fear. Terrorism is an exploitation of fear and horror. Is fear and horror beautiful? Clearly it is not. It is safe to say then that beauty is NOT in the eye of the beholder. In 2003, the "age of information," beauty is in the eye of the artist.

Women's Rights

Continued from page 4

women in the U.S still struggle with issues that affect their day to day living. Issues like child support, health care, and glass ceilings.

It will truly be a victorious day when women around the world unite to fight for the rights due to mothers, daughters, and sisters of the world.

Bulls-Eye

Continued from page 6

lina, less than fifty percent of citizens age 18-25 are registered to vote and only twenty percent that are registered actually vote. These officials avoid upsetting tax-payers age 25-50 that are viewed to have the most voting power.

When students came together and fought the tuition hike and budget cuts, officials paid attention but students do not always have to wait for desperate times to call for desperate measures. Voting and politics may get a little confusing but it's not just for our parents anymore. Student organizations such as NYPIRG are there to help students see through the muddy waters of elections campaigns, policies, and referendums. Taking an active role in choosing the right candidates can make the difference between an affordable education, struggling to pay bills or not attending school at all.

Coming Together

*By: Jennifer Jacques
BLACKWORLD Staff*

On Sept. 11, mourners gathered across the county and around the world to remember and commemorate the two-year anniversary of what many would consider America's darkest hour. Subsequently, September 12th, Stony Brook commemorated this day by hosting "Interdependence Day Celebration." The theme of the event: "Democracy, Diversity and Civic Engagement" could be seen throughout the afternoon.

The event lived up to its theme of diversity through its catered array of food which included different international dishes. Groups and organizations from on and off campus took active roles in the event. Organizations included: Industrial Workers of the World, Suffolk County Chapter Patchogue Food not Bombs, Students for Peace and Humanity, Amnesty International and our own BLACKWORLD Newspaper.

Key speaker Joan Ross Frankson, a representative from Women's Environment and Development Organization (WEDO), discussed the women's movement as it has moved across different boundaries and obstacles to improve women's rights around the world. "During the last 30 years women have stopped making coffee and started making policy," she said.

Frankson said that women have secured

policy in written form having the possibility of changing the world and bringing about sustainability and peace. Frankson quoted Bella Azburg stating "we have the words, now we need the music." Despite the leaps that women have made in advancing women's rights, they are still the poorest and most underrepresented group.

A question and answer session followed Frankson's presentation where she was asked her personal opinion on the war in Iraq. Her mantra of the afternoon "US out and UN in" expressed her dissatisfaction with the way the US is handling the war.

Subsequently, there were four workshops held entitled: "Crossing Borders on Campus", "Interdependence and Pre-emptive war in Iraq", "Citizenship Skills Workshop", and "Primer on Globalization." Each workshop addressed the issue of democracy, diversity and civic engagement and provided an outlet for individuals to engage in discussions regarding controversial issues that affect their every day lives.

**BLACKWORLD
wants your feedback!!
let us know what you
think. call us at 2-6494
or come to our meet-
ings Monday nights in
the Union 10pm
Lower-Level
room 072**

What's Happening

Wednesday Oct. 1

Academic Advising Day
Melville Library, 11am-2pm

Homecoming Kick-Off
SAC Plaza, 12:40-2:10pm

Thursday Oct. 2

Women's Soccer vs. University at Albany
LaValle Stadium, 7pm

Saturday Oct. 4

CSO Campus Clash
Union Ballroom, 10pm-3am

Tuesday Oct. 7

Spanglish, Que Eso?
SAC 305, 9:30-11pm

Wednesday Oct. 8

Men's Soccer vs. University at Albany
LaValle Stadium, 7pm

Thursday Oct. 9

Health & Wellness Fair
SAC Ballroom 11am-2pm

Friday Oct 10

Academic Achievement Banquet
Benedict Atrium, 6pm

Omega Phi Beta Golden Touch
SAC Ballroom A, 10pm-3am

Tuesday Oct 14

Thick and Proud
James College Main Lounge, 9-10pm

Wednesday Oct 15

Career Fair
Sports Complex, Main Arena

Thursday Oct. 16

Women's Soccer vs. University of Hartford
LaValle Stadium, 6:30pm

Friday Oct. 17

Homecoming Parade

Saturday Oct. 18

Homecoming and Family Day

Men's Soccer vs. Hartford
LaValle Stadium, 11am

Football vs. St. Francis

Sunday Oct 19

Homecoming Run
Sports Complex, 10 am

Wednesday Oct 22

Sigma Lambda Gamma Breast Cancer
Lunch
SAC Ballroom B, 12:30-2:30pm

Wednesday Oct. 29

Passport Information Fair
SAC 12:40-2:10

Friday Oct. 31

LUL Annual Noche Dorado Banquet
SAC Ballroom A, 10pm-3am

C.O.C.A.

2003 FALL SEMESTER MOVIE SCHEDULE WEEKEND OF:

OCTOBER 10 LEGALLY BLONDE 2
OCTOBER 17 PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
OCTOBER 24 T3: RISE OF THE MACHINES
OCTOBER 31 BAD BOYS II
NOVEMBER 7 AMERICAN WEDDING
NOVEMBER 14 S.W.A.T.
DECEMBER 5 LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER

ALL FILMS ARE SHOWN IN THE SBU AUDITORIUM
AND ARE FREE FOR STONY BROOK STUDENTS, \$2
DOLLARS FOR NON-SBU STUDENTS.

FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY

7:00PM & 9:30PM

Contact us @ x29278

All movies are sponsored by:
Committee on Cinematic Arts (C.o.C.A.)

JOIN BLACKWORLD

THIS IS A CALL TO STUDENTS OF
COLOR AND ALL OTHERS INTERESTED

BLACKWORLD NEWSPAPER IS
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COPY EDITING ASSISTANTS,
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AND JUST IN CASE YOU ACCIDENTALLY GLANCED OVER THE WORD

WRITERS