

# **BLACKWORLD**

**Fall 2004 – Summer 2005**







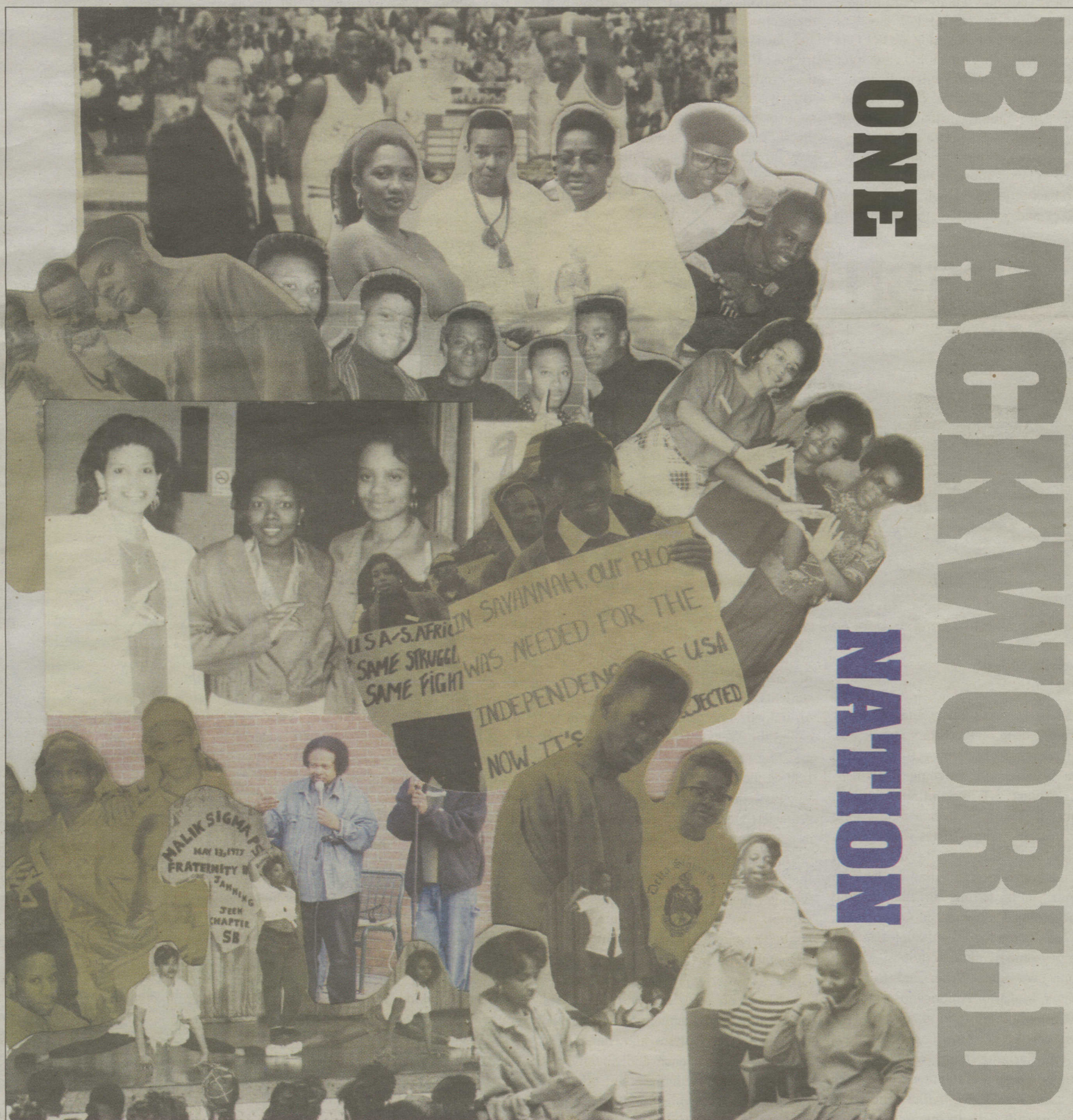
# BLACKWORLD

September 2004

ONE NATION

Volume XLIV, Issue 1

**30 YEARS OF BLACKWORLD - OUR PAST REMAINS PRESENT**





# FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

Greetings to all members of the Stony Brook community. Saludos a todos los miembros de la comunidad pedregosa del arroyo! Salutations à tous les membres de la communauté pierreuse de ruisseau! Grüße zu allen Mitgliedern der steinigen Bachgemeinschaft. Saluti a tutti i membri della Comunità pietrosa del ruscello. Elli, Kim, I am sorry! You will have to give me some more time. Perhaps in another couple months I will figure out a way to write your greeting!

Anyway, welcome back to school everyone. By this, we should have all settled down both academically and logistically, with regard to housing. As you can see BLACKWORLD is back, and with a vengeance! We have a new look; new staff and we are ready to take the community by storm! For those of you who don't know, BLACKWORLD is celebrating 30 years on campus and over the next few months, we will be featuring articles, poems, etc., to celebrate our heritage. Just a reminder that the paper is for everyone. We intend to engage more actively, student participation, and we will try to cover most, if not all, diverse cultural activities on campus. If you have an event and would like to advertise it

through this medium, please contact our Business Manager, Makarios Amerikanos, who will be happy to assist you. Our mailing address, telephone numbers and other pertinent information is at the bottom of the page. It is good to see so many new faces. And speaking of new faces...

...I have been here already two years and it took my volunteering with the International Student Services office to sensitize me to the fact that each year we have hundreds of students who leave their own country to study here in the United States. For three weeks I got to meet some very interesting students from Greece, Italy, England, India, and other countries - Some whose names I can hardly pronounce, but who have shown themselves to be loving, caring, friendly and open, and with whom I have become friends. It takes a lot of courage to leave the comfort and familiarity of ones home to visit for a year - some for four years - another country where you do not have the support of friends and families. It is only through ambition and determination that these brave men and women are able to leave their homelands to venture to this beautiful campus of ours.

So on behalf of the staff of BLACKWORLD newspaper and the Stony Brook community I would like to reiterate the warm welcome that have already been extended to all International students, from your Orientation Leaders and advisors, and all the warm and friendly students you have already met. There will be times when you will ask yourself, "Why am I here?" But remember you braved numerous air pockets to get here because you had a desire to achieve something more, something better than you had before. Whatever the reason, it must have been important at the time, or else you would not have left the 'safety' of your home. In the meantime, feel free to drop us a line. Let us know what you think. Offer us your suggestions. Come by sometime! You're always welcome! If you have something on your mind and would like to share it with the Stony Brook community, we will gladly publish it for you. Just remember to keep it within 500 words and no profanity or defamatory remarks! We welcome your input and look forward to meeting you in one of the numerous classes we are bound to take together.

## A FRESH START



One of the many BBQs prepared for Freshmen and Transfer students.

**BY JOAN GUMBS**  
EDITOR

To give Freshmen and Transfer students a taste of the Stony Brook life, the University Student Affairs office began a series of "Opening Activities" from August 30 to continue through October 2. The little over a month long activities includes BBQs, bus trips, movies and other socials introducing students to the different cultural events on campus, culminating in the annual Homecoming Festivities on October 1st, and 2nd. Look for other articles in this issue on some of these activities, written by our own Staff Writer and Business Manager, Makarios Amerikanos.

Throughout this period, a sea of "red shirts" can be seen helping newcomers and familiarizing them with building locations. These are volunteers who each year, assist the Student Affairs and Dean of Student offices in the mammoth task of

helping new students to settle into campus life here at Stony Brook. As these new students and their parents arrive and begin to unload, another set of "red shirts" called the Welcome Wagon, can be seen assisting them with their luggages and finding their respective accommodations.

For the first time starting this semester, every first-year student has been assigned an Undergraduate College based on his/her general interest. According to the official Undergraduate Colleges website, these colleges are "designed to support and develop the interests of students and assist them in taking advantage of the vast resources Stony Brook has to offer."

These colleges are the College of Information and Technology Studies, the College of Arts, Culture, and Humanities, the College of Science and Society, the College of Global Studies, the College of Leadership and Service, and the College of Human Development. There will be

subsequent articles on each individual college over the next several months.

Another fresh start is the new look of the SOLAR system. For those who don't know, SOLAR is an acronym that stands for Students On-Line Access to Records. SOLAR has information on your class schedule, a course description, your unofficial transcript, enrollment appointment dates, it even has messages that the University wants to relay to you, from time to time. By this, every student has been on the SOLAR system at least once. For incoming Freshmen and Transfer students this may not seem strange. However, for the "seasoned veterans" who have been on the system one time too many, this new SOLAR is a welcome change. According to some students, the new SOLAR is "cool!" There are a lot more features and access to information. Not everyone likes the new system however. According to one student who didn't want us to use his name (for fear of the Registrar's office), he preferred the old SOLAR. "It doesn't look welcoming, he said. "It looks cheesy!"

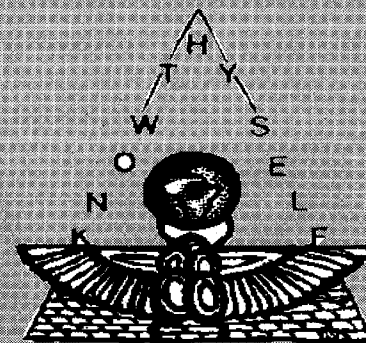
If you are unfamiliar with SOLAR or would like additional information on how to use the SOLAR System, visit the "For Students" page on the Solar system website: <http://naples.cc.sunysb.edu/DoIT/solarsystem2.nsf>.

And speaking of fresh starts...did you read the Editorial?

**"Face your deficiencies and acknowledge them..." — Helen Keller**

## BLACKWORLD

Celebrating 30 years!



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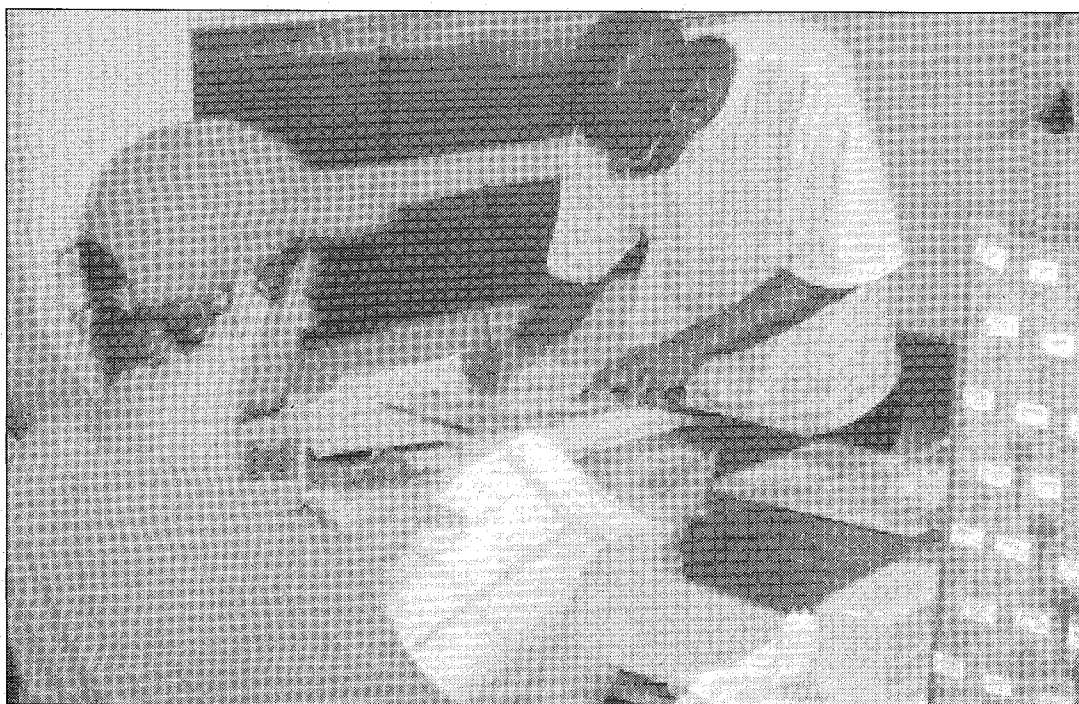
*The opinions and views expressed are not necessarily those shared by the Editorial Staff. Articles, letters, personals and poetry should be submitted to BLACKWORLD Newspaper, Room 072, Student Union, Stony Brook, NY 11794 or dropped in our USG mailbox located on the second floor of the SAC. Emails are also accepted at [bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu). Please include your full name address and daytime phone number.*

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## Opinions

# New faces, new beginnings



Student signing into dormitory during opening weekend last month.

**BY MAKARIOS AMERICANOS**  
BUSINESS MANAGER

It's a new school year and that means a time of new beginnings, a time of orientation, and a time of preparation. Two weeks before the start of the new school year and before students returned from their summer vacations, the Resident Hall Directors (RHD's) and Resident

Assistants (RA's) held their two-week training session. Opening weekend saw the arrival of freshmen students on Friday, August 27 followed by transfer students who arrived the following day. The last to arrive were the returning students.

There was a sense of relief coming from the freshmen class as they made their way onto campus.

Many of these freshmen have anticipated leaving home and being on their own since graduating high school, and now they are finally free to do so. According to my RHD, Aja Holmes, there were a lot more transfer students this year. Many students were coming from other schools within the tri-state area.

Returning students still make up the majority of the students staying on campus and some of them felt reluctant about coming back to school a day before the beginning of classes because that

isn't enough time to settle in. The desire was expressed that "the powers that be" should think about these things when they decide students' fate.

Freshmen Orientation was held on Friday, August 27th through Sunday, August 29th. During Orientation, freshmen were given a tour of the campus and information about school services. There was

also several BBQs the weekend before school started. There was the new First Year Student BBQ as well as the Blazin' Saddles BBQ put on by Kelly Dining. There was even a comedy show on Saturday, August 28, 2004.


Some of the programs were put together by Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and Student Activities Board (SAB), which included programs such as the street fair, comedy show, and a trivia game show with a \$750 cash prize, just to name a few. There was also a DJ in the Kelly deli all weekend. According to my RHD, these events were designed to build student spirit and campus pride.

Also, the plan is to get new students, mainly freshman, to enjoy and embrace the university experience, get involved with school extracurricular activities as well as interact with other students and faculty. As a result of them becoming involved in campus activities, there will be less incidents of boredom or the desire to drop out their first semester of school. This is also why many of the programs and events have been scheduled for the first six weeks.

EVERY 14 SECONDS, AIDS TURNS A CHILD INTO AN ORPHAN.



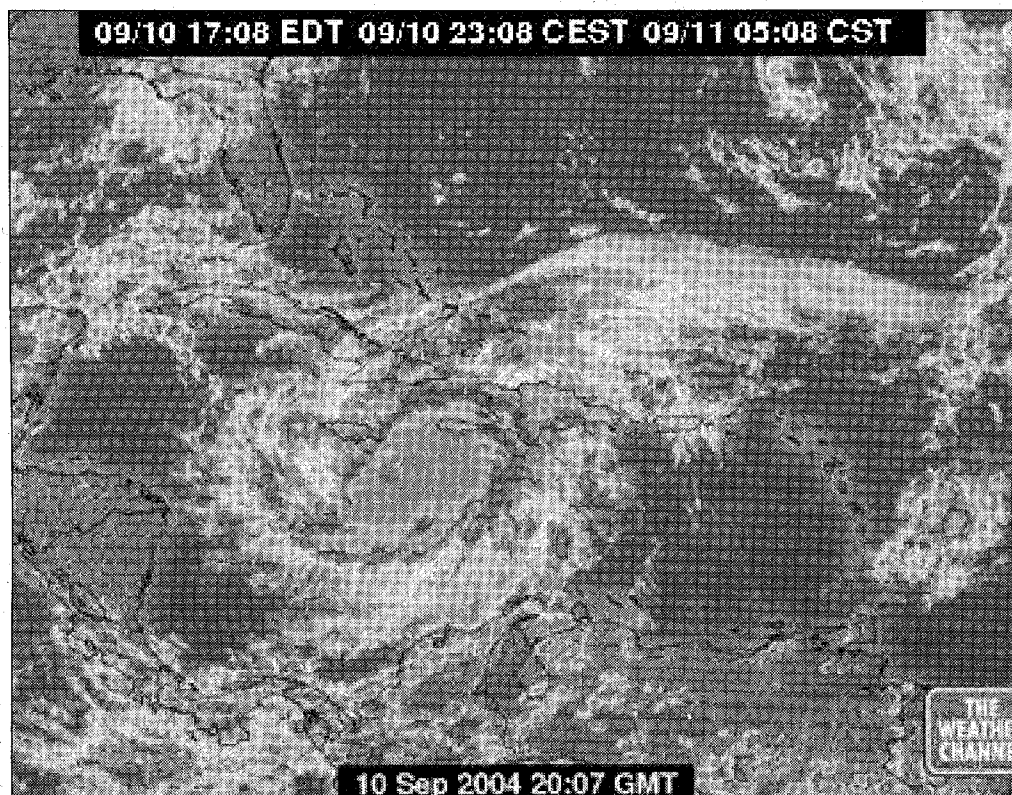
AIDS HAS CREATED 14 MILLION ORPHANS WORLDWIDE. TO HELP, CALL 866-AIDS-FUND OR GO TO [APATHYISLETHAL.ORG](http://APATHYISLETHAL.ORG). **AIDS IS PREVENTABLE. APATHY IS LETHAL.**

UNITED NATIONS  
FOUNDATION 



## Weather

# Ivan The Terrible



**BY PAUL AKINS**  
MANAGING EDITOR

Hurricane Ivan, the third major hurricane to hit the Caribbean and southeastern United States in less than a month, has left a trail of destruction all across the Caribbean and when last reported, was expected to hit the Florida

Keys on Monday.

Following on the heels of hurricanes, Charley and Frances, Ivan has brought more damage to the already devastated Caribbean islands and U.S. coastline.

When the class four hurricane struck the island of Grenada this past week it left over 20 people dead and over 90 percent of the homes on the island in ruins.

According to CNN, in a statement given on Thursday by the Associated Press' United Nations Spokesman, Fred Eckhard, most of the major buildings in St. Georges have suffered structural damage and the United Nations was sending their disaster team to help relieve victims.

This was reported to be the largest hurricane to hit the Caribbean, thus far, in ten years. In response to the extreme amount of damage caused by Ivan on the island, the U.S. has officially declared Grenada a disaster area. The U.S. will immediately send \$50,000 to the island and plans to send more in the future.

As of this writing, Ivan was reported by the Associated Press to be just a few miles away from Jamaica and was producing winds of up to 150 miles per hour. As of Saturday's projected forecast, Ivan was expected to hit Jamaica by late Friday evening into Saturday morning. It was expected to cause a lot of damage when it reached the mainland of Jamaica early Friday morning and the coast of Florida on Monday.

Interestingly, it was 16 years ago this

same time that Hurricane Gilbert created havoc on the small island, killing 45 people and leaving \$600 million in damages in its wake. As of this writing, tourists were gathering at the airports to get on any available flight out of this island paradise.

People in Haiti and the Dominican Republic were praying that Ivan will not cause a repeat of the floods they had this past May. During those floods over 1,500 people died between the two respective countries. They also took heavy damage when Charley and Frances hit.

Government officials in both the Caribbean and U.S. have been evacuating many residents and preparing for the worst. In both countries, people are still trying to put their lives back together after being pummeled by Charley and Frances. Many people lost their homes, livelihoods, and family members. Even so, they now have to prepare to deal with an even stronger storm in Ivan.

This is of concern to many Stony Brook students, as many of them are from the Caribbean and may have families still residing there. Our sympathies to all the families in Grenada and Jamaica!

**LOVE TO WRITE....JOIN  
BLACKWORLD!  
VISIT OUR TABLE AT THE  
MEDIA OPEN HOUSE ON 9/20/04  
AT THE TABLER QUAD.**

**Undergraduate Student Government**  
**NYPIRG**  
**Volunteers Needed!!!!**

THERE WILL BE A SERIES OF EVENTS THAT WILL TAKE PLACE FROM SEPT. 8 - OCT. 8.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP US IN A

**CAMPUS WIDE EXPLOSION ON VOTER REGISTRATION.**

**"my vote, my future"**

WE URGE STUDENTS AND ESPECIALLY CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO GET INVOLVED TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING COME TO SAC SUITE 202 AND SIGN UP.



# A Look At Things Past

By PAUL AKINS

MANAGING EDITOR

This year marks the 30th Anniversary of Blackworld newspaper at Stony Brook University. The paper was created in 1974 by African American and Caribbean students, as there was a need to provide news pertinent to minority students. Through the years society has evolved and Blackworld have evolved also to include issues pertinent to the campus at large.

As a tribute to those who led the way for us to be here however, over the next few months we will be reproducing an article each month, which we think was either well written or covered an issue we feel is very important to all minority students. As you read the article, formulate an opinion as to whether the ideas posed in it are still relevant today. It is understood that some of the principals may no longer be employed by Stony Brook University, so please refrain from sending letters to that effect. Please send your comments about the story to Blackworld newspaper, Rm 072, Student Union. Or send us an email at [bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:bwnews@ic.sunysb.edu).

## Psyched Out

By Curtis Morris

An inter office memo originating in the Psychology department implied that PSY 347, Psychology of the African American Experience, a new course to be added to the Spring 1998 curriculum will not be a useful addition because it will "attract large numbers of students with poor academic credentials."

The memo, addressed to Richard Gerrig, Psychology Undergraduate Director and Judy Thompson, Psychology Chairman Assistant, also said that "the course does not appear to easily fit into our new core curriculum. We should not get into the habit of altering the new curriculum structure whenever a new course is proposed or else we would be back where we started before we undertook the curriculum revision."

The 300-level course will examine the broad spectrum of theory, research, and practice in relation to the study of psychosocial experiences from the unique framework of the history and culture of African Americans. Both the course and topic are entirely new at Stony Brook. The class will taught by Shawn N. Thompson, a Psychology graduate student, who has also designed the curriculum.

In a meeting with three

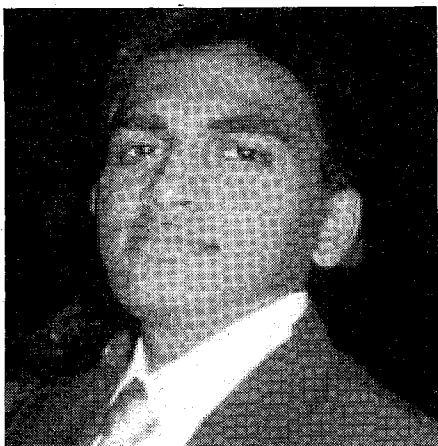
Psychology faculty members involved with the memo, Dr. Brener confirmed that he did indeed write and circulate the memorandum. While Brener admitted that the memo was, "very embarrassing," he went on to explain the meaning of what Professor Thompson categorized as, "a poorly worded document." "The reference here to 'poor academic credentials' refers entirely and only to the adequately prepared in Psychology [sic]. And since this was going to be an upper division course, we wanted to ensure that students would be adequately prepared to undertake a serious study of Black psychology said Brener. The psychology chairman explained that the premise behind the memo was based on a desire to protect Thompson from an over-enrollment of students outside of the psychology major.

BLACKWORLD spoke with Dr. William McAdoo, Chair of Africana Studies, concerning the memo, and he stated that Dr. Brener had called him to discuss the matter once the it became public. When shown the memo, Dr. McAdoo expressed astonishment that such a memo could emanate from the Psychology department let alone from Dr. Brener, who he had known to be an ardent opponent of Apartheid in the

past. Dr. McAdoo. However, expressed the concern that in substance and tone, despite what was intended, the last paragraph of the memo unfortunately had the appearance of harboring "sexist, racist and elitist assumptions." He also observed, that given the unfortunate fact that this memo is now in the public domain, and given the current assault on Affirmative Action, it prove highly inflammatory.

Dr. Brener could not provide any reasonable explanation as to why the memo was not addressed or sent to Shawn Thompson directly, if it indeed was designed "to protect." Nor could he legitimize the fact that the Black Psychology course will be limited to juniors and seniors who have already taken core curriculums in Psychology, presumably eliminating those academically poor students. In accordance with University guidelines, graduate instructors are prohibited from teaching over sixty students, thereby solving any overcrowding issues. The Black Psychology course will not be cross listed, like the Psychology of Women course, which is cross listed with a Women's Studies course and is taught by faculty member.

## ISS' Orientation Leader Issues Service with a Smile!



Suresh Pothuraju, Orientation Leader at International Student Services

By JOAN GUMBS

EDITOR

Three weeks before the start of the new semester, I had the pleasure of being involved with an organization that has received little attention, but which provides a most needed service to our campus community. The office provides information on immigration, and all other issues relating to migration into the country such as employment, tax issues, insurance, and arrival/departure notices. This is the International Student Services office, otherwise known as ISS.

I became aware of this department when a friend of mine gave me the name of the Orientation Leader employed by that office, Suresh Pothuraju, and advised me to do some volunteer work there. Everyone who knows me, knows that I love to volunteer. Every year I volunteer at the office in charge of Opening Activities. I also volunteer at

ICON and at other activities sponsored by the Dean of Students office. I emailed Suresh and he provided me with the necessary information needed to be a volunteer at ISS. This was perhaps one of the best volunteer jobs I have ever done.

I got to meet most of the staff including the chairperson, Assistant Dean Elizabeth Barnum. But I spent most of my volunteer hours with Suresh, because he was the Orientation Leader. I asked him if he enjoyed doing this job and he was quite excited. He informed me that due to his position as an Orientation Leader, each semester he gets to supervise anywhere from twenty to thirty volunteers. This of course is not the highlight of his job, which starts from the first letter he receives from an International student who wishes to attend Stony Brook University (SBU).

He has to coordinate the arrival, room assignment, orientation sessions and any thing else relating to the registration of each International student.

During the Orientation period, information sessions about academics, security issues and financial aid are held. Specific meetings are also held for the J1 and J2 Visa holders. "I like my job. I get to meet a lot of people," Suresh says. "It is hard to learn about the whole college experience in two weeks, but students get a little taste of what it is like, and this is good." "You can tell he likes his job, by the way he attends to each task and involves the volunteers in the process of international services.

Suresh recently graduated from Stony Brook University and is looking to further his career in Business

Management. While at Stony Brook he was fundamental in the establishment of and is one of the founding players of the Stony Brook Cricket Club. He is always smiling and is truly an Ambassador for the ISS. The ISS is located in the

Graduate School at the Computer Science building, and is available to International students attending SBU or who are planning to attend SBU.

## National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) Leaders Passed On Over the Summer

By DIANA BELIZARIO

COPY EDITOR

Carl Morris, a former National Association of Black Journalists' Executive Director, and several other black journalists, regrettably have died this summer. Morris, also founder of the National Association of Minority Media Executives, and publisher of an industry newsletter on diversity, "The Morris Memo," a newsletter on people of color and the media, died on August 27, 2004 at the age of 73.

The National Association of Black Journalists is an organization of journalists, students and media-related professionals, in which Blackworld is a member, that provides quality programs and services to journalists and advocates on their behalf. It is the largest organization of minority journalist in the world.

As the Executive Director, he was adamant about publishing material on the accomplishments of

black journalists, such as Pulitzer Prize winners. Sidmel Estes-Sumpter remembers him as having a "...no-nonsense attitude" and deep dedication to the organization.

Peggy Peterman, a 1989 lifetime achievement award winner, also passed in August. She died at the age of 67 on August 19. Peterman was also a longtime reporter, columnist and editorial at the St. Petersburg Times, having worked there 31 years. She helped change the face of the newspaper as well as the community. She mentored dozens of young journalists throughout the years; founded and directed a black history pageant and later in life, became a minister. According to Paul Tash, the St. Petersburg Times' editor and chairman, "She challenged the newspaper to make room for new voices."



THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ART IN OUR SCHOOLS.

NO WONDER PEOPLE THINK  
**LOUIS ARMSTRONG**  
 WAS THE FIRST MAN TO  
 WALK ON THE MOON.

It's a long way from the Apollo Theatre to the Apollo program. And while his playing may have been "as lofty as a moon flight," as *Time* magazine once suggested, that would be as close as Louis Daniel Armstrong would ever get to taking "one small step for man."



Armstrong left his footprints all over the jazz world. And he usually did it in lace-up oxfords.

But as the premier jazz musician of the 20th century, giant leaps were a matter of course for Satchmo. No person before or since has ever embodied — and revolutionized — jazz the way Louis Armstrong did.

Take solos, for instance. It's impossible to imagine jazz without them. But they actually didn't become an established part of the jazz vocabulary until Armstrong helped popularize them. Seventy years later, his solos are still revered for their audacity and virtuosity.

In the 1950s, when his popularity became too big to be contained within our borders, he accepted an invitation from the State Department to act as an American goodwill ambassador around the world. And when he



Instead of a giant leap, Louis Armstrong delivered one giant freeform crazy jazz groove for mankind.

became the last jazz musician to hit #1 on the Billboard pop chart, he beat the Beatles to do it.

Not bad for a kid whose first experience with a trumpet was as a guest in a New Orleans correction home for wayward boys. If only today's schools were as enlightened as that reformatory was.

**LOUIS THE FIRST.**

Ask almost any parent, and they'll say arts education is very important to their child's

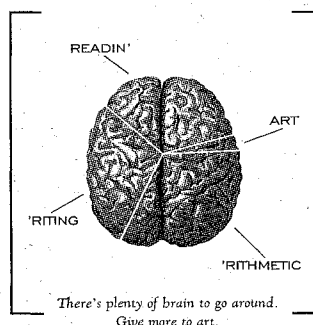
well-being. Virtually every study shows that moms and dads like the effects the arts have on their children. They like that dance and music and painting and drama teach kids to be more tolerant and open. They like that they allow boys and girls to express themselves creatively. And they appreciate that the arts help promote individuality, bolster self-confidence while also improving overall academic performance.

Which makes it so surprising that the arts have been allowed to virtually disappear from our schools. And our children's lives.

**THIS IS WHAT HORNS ARE FOR.**

A little art is not enough. If you think the hour or so of art your kids are getting each week isn't nearly their fair share, it's time to make some noise. To find out just how to get involved or for more information on the ways your child can benefit from arts education, please visit us on

the web at [AmericansForTheArts.org](http://AmericansForTheArts.org). Just like the great Satchmo, all you need is a little brass.



There's plenty of brain to go around. Give more to art.

**ART. ASK FOR MORE.**



For more information about the importance of arts education, please contact [www.AmericansForTheArts.org](http://www.AmericansForTheArts.org).







# Arts & Entertainment

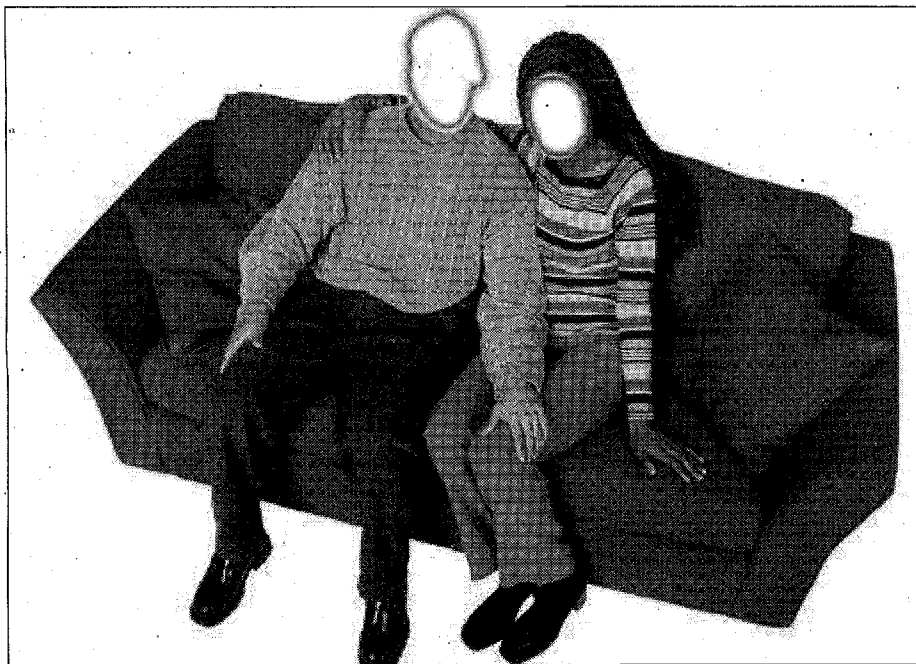
FOR YOUR READING PLEASURE...

The following is an excerpt from the book **WHAT IF...**

Theresa got off the plane and scanned the crowd for her stepmother. She had expressly told her 10:00p.m. because she knew the flight would be late. There was no sign of her. She checked her watch. It was already 10:30p.m. "She must be stuck in traffic," Theresa thought to herself. "Oh well. Guess I will have to call a cab." Theresa walked outside the terminal to the waiting area and immediately was surrounded by half a dozen males, all holding out their hands to take her luggage. "It's okay," she sweetly smiled and said. She was used to having that kind of effect on the opposite sex. Ever since she can remember, guys have always fought each other to gain her attention. Oddly enough, she was not self-obsessed with the idea, just very aware and occasionally used it to her advantage. Today was not one of those days. After seven hours of flight all she wanted to do right now was get into a hot tub and then curl up in bed. She beckoned and immediately a cab pulled up to the curb. "88th Street between L and M please," she told the cab driver. "My pleasure ma'm," he drawled, taking the suitcases effortlessly from her.

She got in behind him and immediately settled back to take a five as he quickly pulled away from the curb. She knew it would take forty-five minutes easily to get there and she was not in the mood to chitchat with another admiring male, even if he seemed as disarming as this one. "Excuse me miss, is the radio too loud?" "No it's okay, although I would prefer a different station," she told him. "Of course, what would you like?" "Could you put on Love FM," she asked. "My pleasure," he murmured as he turned the dial to the requested station. Faith Hill was singing, "breathe" and Theresa wondered what was wrong with these women. A man is always duping Toni Braxton and some of these "divas" act like they would die if they didn't have a man in their life. Ah! She scuffed to herself. She didn't have one and look at her. She was thirty years old, the CEO of a large Magazine company and was not lacking for male attention. However, because of her Christian beliefs, she was not able to maintain more than the few friendships she shared with members of her church. How boring! Not that she didn't like the guys at her church, but they were too

young for her. The men more suitable for her were already married. Not that she was looking for a husband. No way! She was quite contented with her lifestyle. However, more recently she has been feeling the pangs of motherhood and yearned to have a child. "Lord, you have given me everything I have ever asked for and I feel so ungrateful right now," she thought. "What the ...." She was rudely jolted from her reverie by the cab driver's expletives. Apparently, some guy in a Cherokee jeep was holding a conversation unperturbed in the middle



of the road. Honk honk. Mr. Congeniality of the last half hour was now a raving lunatic. "Will you take the @\$%&& jeep out the road so people can pass?" He shouted. Mr. Cherokee turned around and Theresa felt like she had been hit in the stomach. "Why couldn't you find guys like these in the church?" She thought.

As if reading her thoughts he smiled and Antoinette caught a glimpse of pearly white teeth against chocolate colored skin. She sucked in her breath, apparently quite audibly because the cab driver tuned around to see if she was okay. "I'm fine," she fibbed while mentally crossing her heart. She hated lying and tried not to make a habit of it. At last the road was clear and they resumed their journey. Another fifteen minutes and they pulled up in front of a three-story building. Home at last. Theresa thought. There was no sign of the Honda so she presumed her stepmother was still out there looking for

her. She would let her sweat for a while before calling her on her cell phone. That should teach her to be late! Immediately pangs of guilt hit her. "Sometimes I wish I wasn't such a goody-two-shoes," she thought.

She brought in her things and immediately went to the phone. She got her stepmother's voicemail and left a message. "Let's hope she check her voice mail." She was about to go up the stairs when the phone rang. "Hello!" "Hello, may I speak with Leroy please?" "I'm sorry he's not home... may I take a message?" "Yes, tell him to call Anthony

when him come home seen?" The voice quipped. From the accent and the language she knew he was Jamaican. "Sure! Does he have the number?" she found herself asking. "Yeah man!" the voice answered. "Just tell him Anthony and him will know where to call." "Okay, Anthony!" She had never heard her dad talk about him before. She had been away for six months but surely she would have remembered that name. And that voice! It did things to her stomach. She thought she must have been coming down with a bug or something. For first, it was a road hog now it was a mysterious voice and she was feeling like she had the flu. New York. It will do it to you every time. "Immediately after coming off the plane you pick up a flu virus," she thought. Ah well. "I'll just go take extra Vitamin C." She brought the remainder of her luggage to her room then ran a bath. Essence of Bain Mousse filled the air. As she sank beneath the bubbles and literally feel the stress ooze

from her body she drifted into a light sleep.

Wednesdays were not Anthony's favorite days. Everything seems to go wrong on Wednesdays. Don't know why, but it did seem that way. Take today for instant. He got up late and missed his appointment with John even though they had reaffirmed last night that he would meet with him at 9:00a.m. God knows he needed to get this job. Construction was a seasonal work and if you didn't get a good job before the winter there was a slim chance you would get one before spring. Then to make matters worst Sharon came by creating a scene because he was late with the child support payment. If he had gone to the appointment she would not have seen the jeep and know that he was home. He needed to move. That was the only way he was going to get that girl out of his hair he thought. Thinking of girl. That was the only bright spot in the day. That girl he saw on Rockaway Avenue. He had had his fair share of women but this one was different. She had an air of mystery about her. She seemed so aloof. Yes, he liked the challenge. Recently he had become bored with his love life. There didn't seem to be any challenge. The girls all wanted him and even though he knew he was attractive, he knew it was more than that. They wanted his Cherokee and what appeared to be money. The truth was he didn't have any but they refuse to believe that, thinking that if they became Mrs. Gordon they would stand to inherit a fortune. Fools! "Not Miss thing though," he thought and smiled a slow smile. No. She was different. You could see that. She didn't seem to be the type who would run after any man, not even if he owed child support. In fact, she seemed quite self-sufficient - she wouldn't need his pittance. I wonder what is her name and where can I find her? I must be losing it. Back in the days I would have gotten out of the jeep and insisted that she gave me her number. "Matter of fact, by the time I was finished with her she would be eating out of my hands," he thought. "Ah well, Que sera, sera, whatever will be, will be..."

**BE SURE TO CATCH THE  
NEXT CHAPTER IN THIS  
EXCITING STORY! COMING  
NEXT MONTH!**

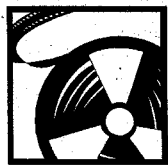












# Arts & Entertainment

## Mak: Students Say HBO Def Poets Wack



George McKibbens, right, along with Lynne Procope pose for the camera after the show.

**MAKARIOS AMERICANOS**  
BUSINESS MANAGER/STAFF WRITER

Friday, September 3, 2004 the Student Activities Board (SAB) and the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), presented HBO Def Poets show at 9pm in the SAC Auditorium. There were approximately 400 students in attendance. George McKibbens and Lynne Procope took turns "passing the mic" back and forth. The audience was receptive to both poets. However, it was clear from the audience's applause that people favored McKibbens.

Perhaps the audience was more receptive to McKibbens because of the humorous approach he takes on viewing the world and the issues in his life. Also, the response from

the audience suggested that they found his talks on topics covering his experience in New York City and the boroughs of New York, appealing. He spoke about former Mayor Gulliani, moving to Brooklyn, and generally people in NYC.

Lynne Procope spoke about her thoughts and feelings on issues provoked by her life experiences growing up listening to the drums on the Caribbean island, where she was raised, and on current affairs, like the terrorist attacks in Russia. Although she is a black woman, Procope also spoke about being a black man in America. Later, interviews with a few students showed that they thought the poets were reading from a script. They said they were "wack" because they did not speak about what students could relate to, they were reading scripts, and their delivery was not moving.

## Transition

**By: Dorcas Osafo**

You're prepared for the worst and yet when the worst comes it take you by surprise  
You've heard and imagine a whole lot of stuffs But nothing had prepared you for this  
Here you are, your first week at Stony Brook It's a little bit confusing, that you can't deny  
You are keeping appearance, pretending everything is okay  
But deep inside you know better  
It's not at all like high school, everything seems small and yet big  
Guy, you are totally at lost, without knowing what to do and where to go  
You have conflicting feelings about everything  
You're happy and yet sad  
You think you are free, after all there's nothing to care for  
And yet you feel like the world is on your shoulder  
You have reached the end of the world, that's what you're thinking  
And yet everything seems to start afresh  
Hey, wait, let me introduce you to the lecture room  
The lecturer now elaborates on what he expects from you as a student  
Is he serious, you keep asking yourself

Does he really expect me to do all these work  
Of course, he does Do you think college is a joke  
Well, that is not it Come to think about the numerous homework  
Here you are in your room  
Trying to figure out how many moles there are in a 15g of carbon  
Gee, is chemistry that hard, you can't help asking yourself  
Oh, that's when your roommate gets a call Tried as you would, you wouldn't be able to concentrate.  
After all how could you when you keep hearing "chi, chi"  
She gasps at everything she hears and you think something terrible is happening  
You're pissed off and you keep imaging how nice it would be to shut her down  
Of course, you can't, that was just to appease your hurting ego  
At long last the conversation had ended and you resume your work  
How long am I going to endure all this  
That's where it is confusing Because you don't even know yet what you would like to do  
How much more how long it takes to do the unknown  
Well, you must adjust to all the new changes  
It's hard but believe it or not you would come of it  
And someday you're going to look back and laugh at it.



# Perception of Money

The love of money is the root of all evil

But how can you not love it?

Without it you're unable . . .

To pay the rent, to buy the food

And don't forget church, work and school

Then there are things like books and tools

Light bill, water bill and gas bill too

The most of us, don't have enough

To buy us clothes that fit

So when we do get some of it

Don't blame us if we love it

It's easy to say it's only money

When you are fully loaded

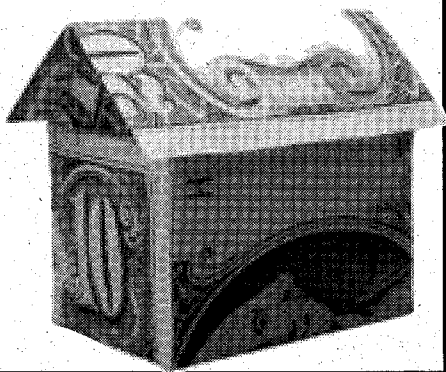
But for us folks who are always broke

And hardly can make ends meet

Money is like water in a desert

And sometimes just as sweet

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## TRUST ME IT'S REAL LIKE THAT

I'm not a simple person, yes, I'm really complex

I'm never content with mines

It's like life is a race against time

And I got to meet a deadline

I don't think I can die satisfied

I try to be humble and swallow my pride

In the past I used to look for a leader to guide

Not realizing the answers are inside

I see kids stuck behind question marks where

they hide

Using their idol time to get high

Being lifted without wings to fly

Am I living in a vague façade

Where everyone is subjected to renegade

And no one is here to come to our aid

I'm filthy with sin but in Holy water I bathe

I'm from a new age where everyone misbehaves

Ends up in graves

With tombstones reciting scriptures off the page

Yea you know it's true

But nothing is real until it becomes real to you

Take a bite out of life

Lay low and escape the hype

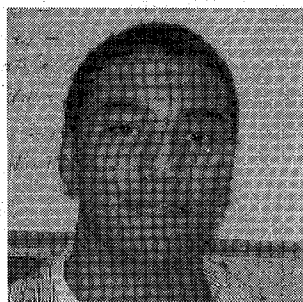
When the world turns trife'

Hold back from using your might and just believe in the light

And tell everyone hating go fly a kite!

Trust me its real like that

-Mak



Paul Akins Jr.

## I have been through the flames

I have been through the fires that burn through the night,

I have been through the flames that engulf all life,

They burn endlessly, fueled by the spirits of those who  
succumbed to their intense heat

I have been through the fires, that will burn for all eternity,

I have been through the fires , for now, the flames that once

sought to take my life,

Now they burn in me.



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# Ask JJ....

**W**elcome to Ask JJ. A forum where you can say what is on your mind. Questions can be on any subject providing it is in good taste and not offensive. Questions should not be time-sensitive e.g. Don't write asking for directions to the Wang Center for 10/17 when the paper comes out on 10/18. All responses will be published in the newspaper, as personal replies cannot be accommodated.

**Dear JJ:**

I wish to join a Sorority Club but I am afraid to be hazed. My friend tells me that there is no hazing but she refuse to tell me what they do at their initiation ceremonies. What should I do?

A.D.  
Confused

**Dear A.D.**

According the University Student Conduct Code, "No student shall take,

whether by omission or commission, any action, create, or participate in the creation of any situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers another person's psychological, mental, or physical health or that involves the forced consumption of liquor or drugs for the purpose of initiation into or affiliation with any organization. Examples of hazing activities include, but are not limited to:

**"In the case of an organization that authorizes such conduct, there will be a rescission of permission"**

paddling or other physical abuse or brutality; activities that involve illegal acts of excessive fatigue and/or stress; verbal and/or psychological abuse that compromises the dignity of individuals. Hazing conduct may result in charges and arrest under the New York State Penal Law, and charges under this CODE, which can lead to suspension or expulsion from the University and withdrawal of chapter recognition. In the

case of an organization that authorizes such conduct, there will be a rescission of permission for that organization to operate on campus property. Students who are members of fraternities, sororities, or other campus organizations, whose campus recognition has been suspended either temporarily or permanently, are not permitted to participate as individuals, or as a group, in any campus activities or events, i.e., Rush/Pledge Program, Athletics, Club Sports, Intramurals, Interfraternity/Sorority Council, Campus Committees, Talent Shows, Contests, or Community Service Projects, in which such student(s) participate as a representative(s) of any suspended organization. Any violations of this policy/directive may result in individual and/or group sanctions, such as the extension of the current suspension, or the permanent expulsion of the organization from future campus recognition." I hope this puts your mind at ease. At the very least, you can forego joining a Sorority. After all, there are over 200 other clubs and organizations on campus. I hope you find what you are looking for. This information is also available in your Student Handbook under "Hazing."

**"SOME PEOPLE,  
NO MATTER HOW  
OLD THEY GET,  
NEVER LOSE  
THEIR BEAUTY.  
THEY MERELY  
MOVE IT FROM  
THEIR FACES TO  
THEIR HEARTS."**

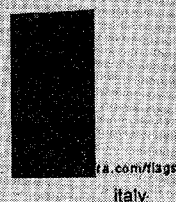
**— BARBARA  
JOHNSON**

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Seniors*

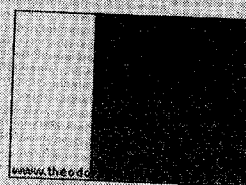
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Exchange Options!*



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*This Event Is Sponsored By The Academic and  
Pre-Professional Advising Center, Study Abroad, and  
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*When: Monday, Sept. 27th  
Time: 4Pm  
Where: S.A.C Rm 302  
Snacks Will Be Available!*

**STONY  
BROOK**  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

**Biological  
diversity is fundamental  
to agriculture and food  
production.**

From the millions of genes that serve as life's building blocks, to the thousands of plants and animals that inhabit the Earth, to the almost limitless combinations of organisms that make up natural ecosystems, biodiversity makes an essential contribution to feeding the world.

Living things are interdependent, intricately linked in birth, death and renewal. Human beings are just one small part of this vibrant mosaic yet put increasing pressure on species and the environment. As a result, many plants and animals are at risk as well as essential natural processes such as pollination by insects and the regeneration of soils by micro-organisms.

To feed a growing population, agriculture must be intensified to provide more food. It will also be essential to increase the resilience of agriculture by maintaining a wide array of life forms with unique traits, such as trees that survive drought or cattle that reproduce in harsh conditions. Sustainable agricultural practices can both feed people and protect the oceans, forests, prairies and other ecosystems that harbour biological diversity.



To pay tribute to biodiversity's role in ensuring that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives, FAO has chosen "*Biodiversity for Food Security*" as this year's World Food Day theme.

Also in 2004, the world celebrates the entry into force of FAO's International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. The Treaty will play an important role in achieving lasting food security and sustainable agriculture.

**Biodiversity for Food Security  
WORLD FOOD DAY**

**16 October 2004**





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Fill out the application and return by  
Monday, September 13th, 2004 at 5pm.  
Office of Student Activities, SAC 219.  
Any questions?  
Contact Monique Howell at 632-9392



# Sports

## Men's Soccer Team Wins First Match!



Seawolves' Michael Palacio, left forefront, lines up himself to make the winning shot

**BY MAKARIOS AMERICANOS**

BUSINESS MANAGER/STAFF WRITER

On Saturday, September 4, 2004, the Stony Brook University's (SBU) mens soccer team won their season opener against Marist College, at home, 2-1 in a non-conference game.

It was a good game for SBU even though both teams were trying to find their rhythm through the entire first half. Going into the second half the score was 0-0. The Stony Brook Seawolves came out more aggressive and dominated the field. Even so, Anthony Graci from Marist scored the

first goal for their team. SBU never gave up hope and scored their first goal 83:17 into the game. Excitement began to build towards the end when Jose Sura pulled the trigger sending the equalizer into the back of the net, sending an otherwise calm crowd into a frenzy.

In the final minutes of overtime SBU scored the winning goal by a kick from Micheal Palacio, a freshman from Long Beach, N.Y. The winning play started with a corner kick taken by Zack Norwood. His kick was fielded by Chris Megaloudis, who assisted Palacio, who then scored the winning goal ending the game 2-1. What a beauty!

After the game I spoke to coach Cesar Markovic about his expectations for the team. Markovic has confidence in his team and feels they are still in the process of development. Markovic was happy with the win but gave the impression that it was not good enough. "This is an all new group of guys and we are still learning to play together," he said, "except for six students who followed him from his former team at St. Peters of Staten Island." The team is looking good, though there are still some things that need to be worked on. They won a lot of their 50/50 balls and their defense was good enough to hold Marist to one goal. However, some players looked tired and were walking around with their hands on their hips. They also made some fundamental mistakes throughout the game like misjudging the ball in the air right next to the goal, and allowing the other team to carry the ball out on defense, uncontested.

They have one win under their belts which starts the team on a positive and promising beginning. Even if they go 500 this year it's an improvement from



Jose Sura, right, who scored one of the two goals for Seawolves, defends a Marist player.

last year when they went 4-13-1 for the season and 2-7 in the America East Conference. Hopefully, we will start seeing me big things from this new team.

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