

OCTOBER 2010 ISSUE



BLACK WORLD



STONY BROOK
HOMECOMING
2010

GO SEAWOLVES



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I have been a member of Blackworld since my Freshman year (Fall 2007). Now that it is my final year at Stony Brook, I want to this publication to leave a lasting impression on the student population here at Stony Brook. Blackworld has been an active media organization on Stony Brook campus since 1974 and we are quickly drawing closer to our 40th anniversary. Many people have asked me where has Blackworld been or why don't we see the paper around campus? To answer that question Blackworld never left! We have gone through so many trials over these past few years but we are stronger and regaining strength from our continuously growing staff. My main goal for this year is to resurrect a publication who has been the outlet for the underrepresented on this campus for four decades. We all have a voice but we must be loud if we want to be heard.

Sarah Demezier
Editor-in-Chief



**COME JOIN
US MONDAY'S
AT 8:30 P.M.
UNION BASE-
MENT ROOM
072. SEE YOU
THERE!!**

Well, obviously...



By Georganne Pierre

"We have a rapist in Lincoln Park. He's climbin' through yo' windows, he's snatching yo' people up, tryna' rape em' so you need to hide yo' kids, hide yo' wives and hide yo' husbands cause' they rapin' everybody out here"— as quoted from Alabama Native Antoine Dodson, was one of the biggest Internet hits this past summer. Dodson became an instant hit when his news interview was posted on the popular urban website Worldstarhiphop.com. Many didn't believe that it was a real news report because the situation at hand sounded unbelievable. A random perpetrator managed to climb his way into Kelly Dodson's (Antoine's sister) second-floor bedroom window and proceed to lay in bed with her. While fighting her attacker off, Antoine heard the noises in the next room and came to his sister's rescue. The next day, news reporters came to the crime scene, where they filmed Dodson as he told his story. Anyone who saw the news report could see he was clearly upset about the situation because his family was put in danger by a crazed man. "We got yo' T-shirt, you done left fingerprints and all, you are so dumb, you are really dumb, fo' real" was the message Dodson stated to the attacker.

Although the news is supposed to be a professional media outlet, the local Huntsville station decided to put Dodson on air while he threatened his sister's attacker by saying "You don't have to come and confess, we lookin' for you, we gon' find you, so you can run and tell that, homeboy." A few weeks after the interview was posted online, the video had over a million hits and has had over 27 million to date. Two Brooklyn producers named the Gregory brothers created the catchy Auto-tune version to the original broadcast that went on to sell thousands of ringtones on i-Tunes, entitled the "Bed Intruder Song," it managed to climb its way onto the charts—de-

feating Lady Gaga—and it was also played on urban radio stations such as Power 105.1. Not only did the song become a hit, but companies started printing his face and catchphrases on T-shirts and mugs—and he even has a Halloween costume out on the market. After weeks of being in the spotlight around the country, Antoine Dodson decided to let his fans know about the "real" him. He claimed that he knew that fame was his destiny, but never had an idea that it would have come to him in this way.

When you look at the video, it seems funny, but if you really think about what really happened, it is unfortunate, not only because they're being ridiculed for a rapist breaking into their home, but they are falling into the typical black stereotypes. Although Antoine has had to deal with the criticism from millions of viewers, he still managed to turn an unfortunate situation into a positive one. After gaining compensation for the ringtones and other items that companies sold, he bought a house and moved his entire family out of the Lincoln Park projects. Antoine also plans to go back to school for nursing. Being that the "Bed Intruder Song" was so popular, I knew that some of my peers would have mixed views on the situation. Some say he is a walking stereotype. I personally think that he is just a hilarious person. Stony Brook University senior Maxwell Awosanya stated this: "I think that even though he has gained fame for his outrage against crime in his neighborhood, he has also brought shame to his neighborhood by making it look like an... exceedingly unsafe place to live." Although Maxwell is correct, I do not think many people view "the projects" as a safe place at all. If the news station did not air the violent threats, Antoine definitely would not have the same fame that he has now. Antoine was just angry about the situation; what would you do if someone tried to harm your family? All he was doing was protecting his family and sending out a message to the perpetrator, letting him know that there will be consequences next time. Now all conservative whites and blacks want to claim that he is a typical stereotype of an uneducated black person. Little do critics know, Antoine stated in a video he posted on his YouTube homepage that he was in school for business prior to the incident, so he is not a typical stereotype. Yes, his actions reflect his surroundings, but he is not a stereotype or

Continued on page 15

EVENTS

8th Annual Alpha-Beta Carnival

by Steven Eloiseau

On September 26, the Brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated and the Sisters of Omega Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated threw their eighth annual carnival called The Golden Sea. This has been a collaboration that has been consistent and successful for the past eight years. The two organizations come together every year to put something together for the student community. Something attractive, something fun, and something for FREE! To make the carnival even more interesting, there is a theme every year. Since this year's carnival was called The Golden Sea, it was a Pirates of the Caribbean theme. All the rides and games were based on the theme—even the organizations were dressed up as pirates. The purpose of the carnival is to get students, family, and friends together and enjoy a day filled with excitement. The carnival started off with music, free cotton candy, nachos and cheese, popcorn, and snow cones, and everybody just socializing. At the same time the main attraction, which was the obstacle course, began to get very competitive. But altogether it was a great game.

Another competition that was overwhelming was the "Three Legged Race." A lot of students paired up and participated in this race, which took three rounds before two students were declared the winners and received a prize. Other competitions were a pie-eating contest and a Fear Factor-style competition. The Ladies of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated had a segment in the carnival where they had a double dutch competition called "Back 2 Basics." A lot of the female students took part in that competition and had fun. The day ended with a treasure hunt, which took students longer than usual to figure out, but eventually ended up retrieving the treasure. After asking a few students about how they liked the carnival, they all responded it was fun and a great event to attend on Sunday afternoon. One student mentioned that this was the best break she took from studying in the library. What started out as a chilly and boring Sunday turned into a day filled with excitement.

"We Are Carol's Daughters"

By: Patricia Diane Jimenez

Skin and hair care are what we, as women, and most of all—college women—worry about the most. From Garnier to Olive Oil and Neutrogena to Cocoa Butter, the range of experimenting that we perform on our bodies is more than Einstein has performed throughout his lifetime (maybe he should have worked on his own hair).

On September 14, 2010, the Pi Delta chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. hosted a program for the Stony Brook community titled "Back To Beauty." At the event, the members of the organization split the audience into groups of different hair types, according to how they categorized their hair. The groups were organized into short and natural; long and relaxed; short and relaxed; and long and natural. Various members of each group expressed what they felt their hair lacked and what it needed to be improved.

Thankfully representatives from Roosevelt Field Mall presented us with the new popular skin and hair product brand Carol's Daughter. The organic products were created by Lisa Price, who began producing the items while she was working on the set of The Cosby Show. She named the brand after her mother Carol Price.

The representatives left no questions unanswered as they demonstrated how the hair and skin products worked on some audience members. Some recommendations they gave the crowd was to use soy-based and high-end perms such as Mizani and Designer Touch. They also recommended NOT to use mineral oil and use colors that are water-based. Another important fact for those that are tired of frizz and irritation is to NOT towel dry and use a T-shirt to dry your hair instead.

All in all, the program proved to be successful, as women and even men came out with hair tips and free samples of Carol's Daughter products.

“I am my brother’s keeper, and together we will rise!”

by: Chrysterpher Neval Robinson

On Tuesday, September 28, the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB) hosted its Fall 2010 Student Welcome & Networking Event. A lot of prominent faculty members, including the Associate Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Jerrold L. Stein, the Associate Dean & Director of Multicultural Affairs Cheryl Chambers, and the Associate Director of Alumni Relations Russell Malbrough, among others, were in attendance at SAAB’s welcome back event. The purpose of the event was to stress the importance of networking and the importance of personal and professional development. Guest speaker for the evening was the Assistant Director of Campus Safety Scott Law, who stressed “the importance to take advantage of organizations like SAAB,” also to “utilize the opportunities such as the networking event to meet and work with faculty and the staff of the university”—two very good tips.

A prominent part of the evening was where everyone in the room were given “business cards” to fill out and network with others in the room whom they did not already know. I had a meaningful conversation with Russell Malbrough about the importance of having college alumni talk to high school students about success and college, and met a student who was as enthusiastic about history as I am. One of the people I networked with was Ms. Cheryl Chambers. When I asked her about the importance of networking, she replied:

“Networking is an important skill for all students to have. Feeling comfortable and communicating effectively are the first steps to creating relationships that are going to be beneficial down the road. Not just for careers, but to get necessary information from faculty members.”

Ms. Chambers and I also talked about the importance of carrying a schedule planner and how they make managing one’s time easier. I also talked to SAAB President Ronald Tomlinson, whom I asked about SAAB and networking. He replied:

“Many students aren’t comfortable with networking. SAAB provides an opportunity to actually learn about networking. Practice it, so that you as stu-

dents position yourselves for success.”

Mr. Tomlinson and I also talked about the vacant positions that are open in SAAB’s Executive Leadership Team (ELT). The organization is currently looking for a Membership Recruitment Committee Head and a Public Relations Head.

I also talked with SAAB member and RA of Langmuir College, Adal Regis, whom when asked what has SAAB done for him, replied:

“SAAB is the reason why I’m graduating. It’s not that I was the kind of kid that was unmotivated. After my freshman year I lost my father and my brother was incarcerated and my motivation was down. I received love and networking throughout the SAAB network. These things gave me the motivation to succeed.”

SAAB goals include enhancing the image of its members as positive and active participants on campus, and promoting and encouraging students and faculty on the SBU campus to engage and network. An important part of networking is dressing for success; Thursdays are SAAB’s dress for success days. Members are required to wear either business attire or SAAB casual attire consisting of khaki pants and the organization’s specialized Polo tee. To find out more about SAAB or if you are interested in joining, you have multiple opportunities to learn more at one of the SAAB events throughout the semester.

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BREAST CANCER: "THE SILENT KILLER"

by: JR

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is every October and, as some of you know, aside from non-melanoma skin cancer, breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women. Breast cancer is the number one cause of cancer death in Hispanic women. It is the second most common cause of cancer death in white, black, Asian/Pacific Islander, and American Indian/Alaska Native women. (Sources: Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion August 2010).

There are many ways you can make your own contribution on our campus to finding a cure and raising awareness about this silent killer. If you are not sure how or where to start, you can start by supporting the "Pink Ribbon Campaign" hosted by the Brothers of the Pi Rho Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated. Below is a message sent out by the Brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated:

"Pink Ribbon Campaign: The Dr. Emanique Joe Memorial Fundraising Campaign Pink Ribbon Campaign for Breast Cancer

Campaign and Tabling will start during Campus Lifetime on SEPTEMBER 22ND, 2010, CONTINUE SEPTEMBER 29TH 2010, AND OCTOBER 13TH ALL IN THE SAC LOBBY

Dr. Emanique Joe was the wife of Dr. Sean Joe (member of the Mu Omicron Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. - 1989 initiate). She was also the mother of two precious and adorable boys named Edrick and Jordan (nine and seven, respectively). She was a native Chicagoan, however, at the time of her death (July 18, 2010), she resided in Dexter, Michigan, near the University of Michigan, where her husband is currently employed as a professor, and she was in her second year of a postdoctoral program (education).

As a consistently conscientious couple, subsequent to Emanique's diagnosis of breast cancer in May 2004, both Dr. Joes developed concerns about the increasing incidence of this disease in African-American women under 40. A few relevant facts on this issue include the following: in the age groups 30-54 and 55-69 years, African-American women have the highest death rate from breast cancer; in fact, African-American women have the highest overall death rate at 33.8 per 100,000 women, compared to the second highest

death rate of 25.0 per 100,000 in white women; the breast cancer incidence rate, in general, among younger African Americans (under 40) is higher than in white women; breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death among African American women; and African American women have a five-year survival rate of 77% after diagnosis as compared to 90% for white women (Sources: National Cancer Institute, SEER Cancer Statistics Review, 2007; American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts & Figures for African American 2009-2010).

Unfortunately, Emanique suffered from a form of advanced (mestastic) breast cancer and shortly after completing a five-year long remission, her cancer returned aggressively, attacking her liver and bones.

Irrespective of race, age, or statistics, it is quite evident breast cancer is a disease that affects us all. Family, friends, and even colleagues feel the pinch and bear the scars of this disease. But we are not without hope.

Emanique was a loving, God-fearing, and generous woman, whose life was cut far too short by a cancer that should, in this day and age, be curable.



The Brook OPS

Opinion: Why Are Black Women No Longer "In Style"?

by: Marika Bacchus

"Out with the old, and in with the new" is the saying that many people associate with fashion and style. Now, among black men, it's associated with women. It may sound strange but it is painfully true. So many black men are choosing which women are in "style" for them to date or marry. There seems to be a new epidemic that black men are purposely choosing women who are Latina or Caucasian just because of their race. These women are considered "exotic." My frat brothers of the Mu Delta chapter of Phi Beta Sigma, Fraternity Inc. had a program entitled "Are black women going out of style?" in the fall of 2008. This program was an open forum, discussing the issues that are brought up when black men try to court black women. There were so many issues on the attitude or the stereotypical composure that women of color allegedly have. They in turn explained that when they pursued a white woman or a Latina woman that the women were more susceptible to them. They did not address the issues or problems that black women gave. In almost a response to the program, my chapter, Theta Kappa, of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. had a program, "Is Chivalry Dead?" in the fall of 2008. We mainly discussed how black men have obviously done away with so many respectful courting techniques. Black men have issues speaking to black women because they refuse to court them. Being an educated woman of color,

I cannot count how many times men have disrespectfully tried to speak to me in ways that you simply do not speak to a lady. One secret I will give away to black men is that black women are not really acting "stuck up" or always have an attitude. The first instinct for a man approaching a woman is based completely upon sexual attraction, and black women know this. Initially men generally are not aware of basic facts about the women they pursue. So, to think that a relationship is the first thought that pops into a man's head is ridiculous. Sex is the first thought that pops into a man's head. Here is an example of what has happened to me: I was sitting aboard the Long Island Railroad and a man approached me. I generally was not attracted to the man, nor did I desire to initiate a relationship with him. He took offense that I didn't want to talk to him. His first mistake was his approach. He was abrasive, rude and disrespectful. Instead of a comment like "You're so pretty," he commented on how large and attractive he thought my butt was. Then he automatically categorized me as conceited because I did not take to his advances. There are so many black men who automatically take offense when black women decline their advances. In the eyes of these black men, black women are viewed as being "out of style." It is my belief that there is not one beautiful and educated black woman who wouldn't want a handsome, respectful, and well educated brother by her side. So before black men label black women as "out of style," they should take a good look in the mirror and think that maybe their tired tactics are out as well.

SB Experience: Good Times or Not? Opinion

by Richard Ciceron

The past year has led the way to many different developments for the many constituents of Stony Brook University, in the sense that all of them would agree that 2010 has been chock-filled with interesting changes, to say the least. Whether the people in question are faculty, administration, or the reason for the existence of this university—the students, there was rarely a time in which students on this campus weren't receiving word of some sort of change occurring. These developments ranged from budget cuts, downsizing of classes, closing of departments, and our all-time favorite plight here at "The Brook"—tuition hikes. One of the most notable facts about Stony Brook University is that it is a state university, which means that a great deal of our funding comes from governmental resources, and as quickly as word of statewide budget cuts began to rise, so did our tuition and other fees as well.

One of the most noticeable changes in the university was the tuition increase. Students are now expected to continue paying these additional fees while maintaining successful academic careers, despite the dwindling number of faculty members. Economic issues have long been a topic of discussion in our capitalist society. It is needless to say that this is the same within the microcosm of the real world

known as Stony Brook University. Here at Stony Brook, those who are most affected by the imposed standards go along with the high expectations of the changes made. With this said, I have one question for my fellow Stony Brook attendees: Are you satisfied? Do you as Stony Brook students feel as if there are tangible indications of a better SBU in sight? Using on campus housing as an example of these increased additional fees, one cannot help but question the legitimacy of these increases. In order to switch a room on campus from the occupancy of two or three people to single occupancy, a student must be charged an extra fee. However, how respectable and satisfying are these singles? So much has been raised in terms of pricing for housing at Stony Brook, but the only noticeable change is a couple of new buildings (yet to be completed) and poor public aesthetics, which include the daily sighting of a large TomCat or John Deer tractor, lift, or other construction-related equipment. In nearly every residence hall of every quad there is some sort of maintenance neglect or never-ending repair being done.

I, for one, am a huge fanatic of change, and I am in no way, shape, or form attempting to belittle the efforts of certain administrators and individuals in charge of the quality of living and overall campus interaction, but where is the money going? It is not realistic of the administration of this university to expect the populace of this campus community to sit idly by and accept all

of the decisions made and dare not to even raise the question of where the money that we have been shelling out has been going. Time seems to be the perfect rebuttal to such inquiry. It is understandable that the bigger picture will only exhibit beauty as the artist completes each stroke only if the abstract idea of the bigger picture is believable. I'm curious to know how much more time it will take before there isn't mud everywhere I walk, or dirt mounds shrouding my vision for hundreds of feet at a time? As a resident of Stony Brook, how much am I supposed to believe that I will no longer face the issue of overcrowding and tripling if this campus is said to be over one hundred percent capacity? Where is the space? I for one do not have the answer to the questions that have been raised previously and in no way am I aware of any of the efforts or decisions being made on the behalf of the money that I pay towards my tuition. So, where are we supposed to go as students? Who are we supposed to expect to get answers from? Who still cares about my college experience and opinion on college quality? One voice will be nowhere as powerful enough as needed in order to gain attention for such a cause. But the constant awareness as to where our money and state funds combined are being invested, students everywhere will begin to raise the same questions and hopefully answers will not trail too far behind.

A 30-minute nap a day ...

by: Sarah Demezier

Remember the good old days when all you had to do was go to school, play, and at the end of the day have a good night's rest? It seems like those days may be over for college students in most universities and college campuses around the country.

College students are constantly losing sleep to a variety of reasons, whether it is a full course load, working part-time, getting involved on campus or simply just preparing for exams and typing up papers. This past summer there was a recurring trend of students complaining that they were not getting enough sleep or any sleep at all. Stony Brook student Leah Norona commented on a Facebook post this week: "When I get tired I start writing words backwards. I talk in my sleep; I think it's from all the stress and sometimes I can't help sleeping in class. I don't even realize I fall asleep, it's that bad!"

This is a scary reality for many other students in other schools as well. Soukena Jean-Jacques, a student from Florida Memorial University, said, "Actually, I've been having problems sleeping lately, I did not sleep at all last night at all and I'm still up! Insomnia, maybe? Oh yeah, it's not the first time either! I can't even write properly anymore."

For some it does not seem much of a big deal—some students

even believe that they can catch up on sleep later—wrong! According to an article in the Journal on Adolescent Health by assistant professor of psychology Roxanne Prichard at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, "Students underestimate the importance of sleep in their daily lives. They forgo sleep during periods of stress, not realizing that they are sabotaging their physical and mental health." Once a person loses sleep they can never regain it—not even if they took the initiative to sleep for a whole day.

The percentage of students who are sleep-deprived is the startling number of 63 percent. According to the National Sleep Foundation and according to the Journal on Adolescent Health, on a regular school night, about 20 percent of students stay up all night at least once a month. "Prichard said that physicians, counselors and student health professionals should be more aware of and proactive in helping students realize the importance of sleep."

It seems no matter what the average college student does that they can't seem to keep up with the fast pace of exams, papers and other activities and get a decent eight hours of sleep. Other reasons for loss of sleep among college students are factors like excessive partying and the use of alcoholic beverages, which on the contrary does not help in getting sleep but actually disrupts sleep patterns, according to www.sleep-deprivation.com.

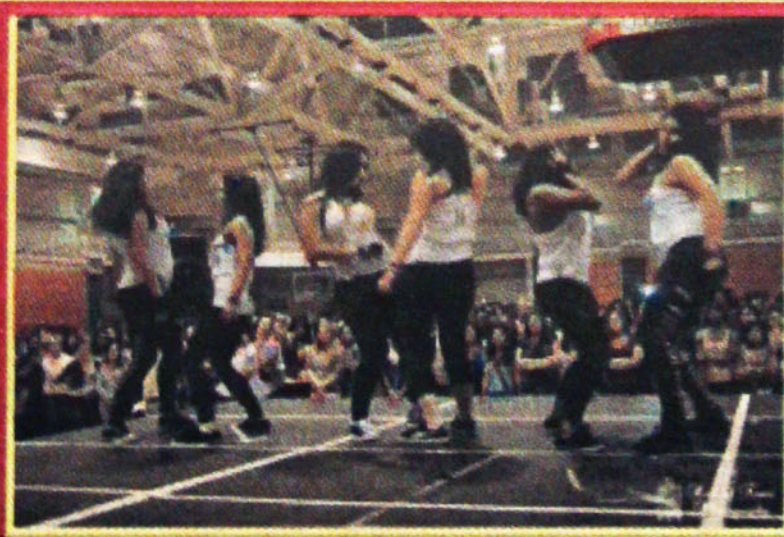
Did you know that the loss of sleep also has to do with the infamous "freshman 15?" Yes, according to the website the less sleep a student gets, the more weight the student gains.

A word of advice from the website: naps do not only benefit kids in pre-school, so take a 20-30 minute nap every day and get eight hours of sleep at least two days out of the week to prevent long-term health issues in the future.

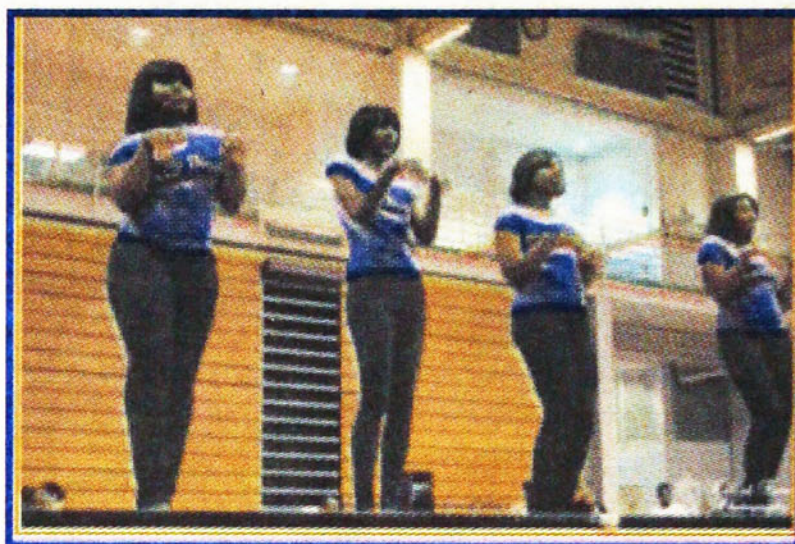
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& Sorority Night



All photos contributed by Hall of Fame Photography. Photographer Neville Hall

Stony Brook: Operation Black Shutdown (Opinion)

by Marika Bacchus

Diversity is one of the principles that Stony Brook proudly states on its website, banners and throughout the campus community. But how truly diverse is Stony Brook? I know that it has come to the attention of the campus community that Student Activities Board (SAB) was recently terminated, as of Spring 2010. It was alleged that SAB was solely targeting a black audience. Basically, people were making assumptions that SAB was trying to solely generate a black audience leaving out other ethnic groups. I personally felt this was a direct slap in the face.

The assumption that the events were too black related puzzled me. This reminded me of an AFS course in which I was told that black was a dirty word. This is what some members of the Stony Brook administration and the Undergraduate Student Government made the situation appear to be. It makes it seem that black individuals are associated with being a lower class. Even if SAB were focused on these so called "black events," I'm pretty sure that these individuals cannot designate what exactly made the events "black."

There cannot possibly be an absolute level of "blackness" that can be associated with a specific genre of music or entertainment. I personally did not serve on the board that made the decision to get rid of SAB. However, I could be content with the decision if they simply had legitimate reasoning for the termination

of SAB. The reason being that college is first and foremost a business. The institution could care less how you obtain the money for your tuition just as long as it is paid. In the case of SAB I couldn't understand whether the issue was the amount of money allotted in their budget, or the assumption that their events were not beneficial to the campus community due to the level of "blackness" involved.

This brings me to another important issue. Suffolk County is a very segregated county in the United States. Because our school is located in Suffolk County it is not hard to believe that something like this would occur. As I sit in my AFS classes there are so many white students that take the course because they are told by Stony Brook counselors that "it is an easy A." For a school that is so diverse, there seems to be this widespread idea that the black population must be eliminated. Everything that is "black-related" has to be shut down or wiped out. It is almost as if there is a silent cleansing on the campus. I personally learned the truth about how "diverse" our beloved campus is, but I am fully aware of this ethnic cleansing occurring. I have high hopes that with what I have said, everyone else can catch on as well. For those organizations who do not catch on, they too will be reprimanded and when they become too "black-oriented," they may be eliminated just like SAB.

Beyond the Brook

BIGGER Things for Oprah Winfrey

By Felicia S. Fisher

From being the queen of daytime talk shows to being the first Black or African-American billionaire in American history, there is no doubt that Oprah is indeed a very successful woman. I mean she was the first woman to not only own her own talk show but also produce it. Oprah has been shown in over 117 countries. Last spring, the world was afraid that Oprah would be no more. This is because Oprah almost made the absolute decision to put Oprah to bed. Earlier this year, in about April 2010, Oprah shocked the world. Instead of getting rid of Oprah altogether, Oprah shall add another chapter to the extensive book of successes which is her career. This new chapter is her very own cable television network. Ironically enough, the network will be called OWN, which stands for the Oprah Winfrey Network. When it comes to her business, Oprah seems to be walking up the never-ending staircase of success.

Oprah's new show is not exactly going to be Oprah in either content or title, but it will be "Oprah's baby" just like Oprah's original TV show. The difference will be that the name of Oprah's new show on the OWN network will be entitled Oprah's New Chapter. Winfrey has allegedly stated numerous times that she is "tired" of her show.



After years of hosting Oprah since its debut in the year 1986, when it was named The Oprah Winfrey Show, it is clear that Oprah wants a drastic change. Oprah was known for its guests whose experiences pulled at the heartstrings of its viewers, as well as Oprah's constant giving nature. It is safe to say that just about everyone in America remembers back in September 13, 2004 when Oprah gave her entire audience vehicles because they were in desperate need of them. Oprah's New Chapter will be more focused on Oprah's life and her personal interests. The format of this new show will enable Oprah to be shown in a more relaxed atmosphere rather than sitting in a chair on the same set interviewing people every day. I think it's a reasonable change for Oprah to want to switch things up a bit.

Oprah is said to be "the most successful woman in the world" and I would have to agree with this. If we measure success by the amount of money someone has made, and the amount of people someone has helped, then Oprah Winfrey most definitely fits this standard. In light of her many accomplishments and her being 56

years of age, I am actually pretty excited to see the new show. After all, everyone deserves to enjoy their life to the fullest. I respect her decision to take a different approach to her career. I only wish there were some kind of handbook that taught us all how to be as powerful a force as Oprah Winfrey. I see big things for OWN. Now if only I were related to her!

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THE MEETINGS
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Happy Anniversary: The 9/11 Site, the Mosque, the Controversy

by Simone Brown

As the ninth anniversary of the September 11 attacks drew near, a storm cloud of controversy loomed over the lower east side of New York City. A proposal to build a mosque two blocks away from Ground Zero had set off a whirlwind of heated debate over the appropriateness of such planning. Since the summer, protesters from both sides of the argument have been lining the streets to make their voices heard, hoping their demands will be met. However, with all of this swirling controversy, one had this question to ask: Why should one of our most basic founding principles of this country constantly come under fire, especially from a political group that vehemently claims to have the ideas of liberty as a significant priority? So far, all that has been heard of their reasoning is that the mosque presents a direct insult to the victims of the 9/11 attacks and their families; not to mention it is also a supposed "victory" for the people with whom we have been continuously fighting for nearly a decade. More importantly, what happened to the basic idea of religious freedom without the fear of persecution? Are they to be suspended in a time of anxiety and conflict, much like it was over 70 years ago with the Japanese internment camps? And wouldn't the demonstration of such bigotry (including the proposal by a pastor of a fundamentalist church in Florida to make an official "burn the Quran" day on the anniversary of 9/11) only further enflame the extremists who have made it their mission to cleanse the earth of "infidels" through brutal retribution? As complicated as the situation might seem, if one could look past the media sensationalism that has gripped both the left and the right, it could be possible to reasonably

conclude why such hysteria over religious intolerance is unnecessary in a century deemed to be in the post-modern era and in a country which claims to live up to its principles of "liberty and justice for all."

The Park51 project (as it is also referred to) was proposed in order to construct an interfaith bridge between three of the largest religious groups in the world. Yet, because its proposed location is within close proximity to Ground Zero, it has sparked worldwide controversy. It also shed light upon the growing problem of "Islam-phobia" that has gripped the United States (if not the entire western world; let us not forget that France has its own issues with the public wearing of the burqa) since the 9/11 attacks. With such a firestorm of media coverage (again, from both the left and the right), it seems there could be no end to such a spectacle. However, with significant thought process, it could be possible to see why there should be a need for such interfaith interaction, rather than a vehement desire to shut down all things Islamic stemming from ignorant fanaticism. For one, it would show the world that the United States can live up to its promise of religious freedom and tolerance. Because the mosque is proposed to be a center of interfaith understanding, it would bridge a gap between two worlds that have been at odds with each other since the Crusades. It is also a widely known fact that the more hatred and ignorance that is bred on one side of the globe, the more it will continue to spread to the other hemisphere. Therefore, to halt an ever-growing toxic atmosphere of prejudice, it would be wise to extend a hand in understanding to our Muslim neighbors rather than a finger of condemnation.

Another aspect in light of all this controversy is that the extremists who have terrorized thousands all over the world to further their hateful agenda DO NOT represent the millions all over the

world who choose to worship Allah peacefully. Just like the Ku Klux Klan in this country does not represent the entire white Christian population in this country, it is wrong to paint a broad stroke over a majority of Muslims who do not resort to violence and destruction in the name of God. The extremists, like the Klan in this country, are simply terrorists, nothing more. Their goal is to purge the world of "infidels" and will resort to whatever brutality necessary to achieve that. In fact, if one has been paying attention closely to current events all over the world, these extremists not only seek to eliminate the West (as well as the state of Israel); they have also been known to attack their fellow Muslims. They have a creed to eliminate non-believers, which is anyone who disagrees with their cause (or their branch of worship, if one wants to exemplify the Sunni/ Shi'a conflicts in Iraq). These people thrive on hate and destruction, which seeks to impede any sort of progress of peace anywhere. With true understanding of Islam (if not Christianity as well), it can be easy to see what extremists seek to do is horrific and inhumane. They do not represent an ideal civilization; they only embody barbarism.

Basically, that center of interfaith communication (which is believed to be put on hold due to death threats and separate issues involving the leader of the proposal) should be seen as a peaceful representation of the American ideal of liberty and justice, no matter the race, religion or creed of the people of this country. The only victory that need be established is that in the pursuit of peace in the face of ignorance and bigotry in all its forms. From there would come a significant stride forward in the war on terror—bigger than any military occupation could accomplish.

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a statistic. Stony Brook Professor Lynn Rubin stated that Antoine Dodson is a walking stereotype because of his actions. Senior J.R.

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Yussuf stated that "The camera man should not have filmed the violent rants in the first place." Another senior, Roxanne Hoshing, said, "Well I think he just portrays somebody from Lincoln Park"—as she giggled—"but I'm sure if they had a story on white people from the trailer park, those people are not going to be the most eloquently spoken folks, and also, anybody can put a face on for the cameras—he just chose to be himself."

Most people are worried about the stereotypes that blacks face but others are more attuned to the fact that Antoine Dodson is abusing his newfound fame. A friend of mine from high school, Ryan Collymore, said this about Antoine when I asked him his opinion: "I don't know man ... to me he's just running on his 15 minutes of fame. Eventually it's going to come to an end ... and in a few more months, everyone will say, 'Antoine Dodson who?'" Senior Melissa Mayard stated, "We love Antoine because he is real." We all have our opinions about the Dodson family, but it isn't our place to judge anyone or what they do to make their living. This whole situation started out as something negative, but being that Antoine is such a positive person, he flipped it into something good that'll benefit him and his family. So you can run and tell that ... homeboy!

**Join Us
Every
Monday
At
8:30p.m.
In The
Union
Base-
ment
Room
072**

Using your resources

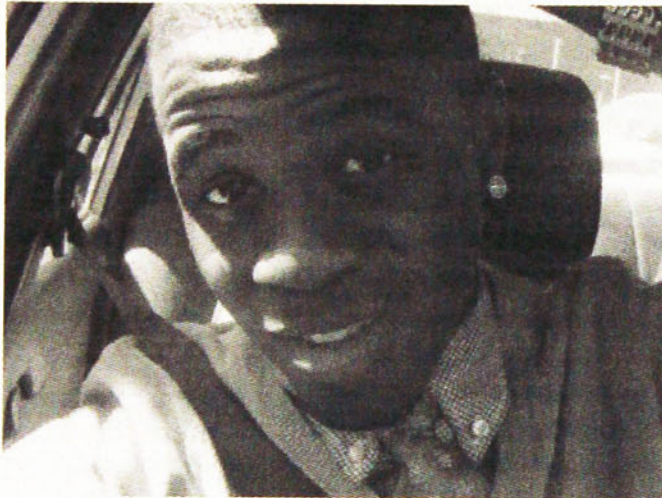
by Deron Hill

It has come to my understanding that a lot of Stony Brook students are not using all of these resources that the campus supplies us with to make our lives somewhat easier. I decided to write this article because a classmate of mine asked me last week, "Deron, where is client support? I need my computer to be registered." I was in total disbelief at the fact that some students have been in this school for nearly three years and still do not know where client support is. This is what brought me to sit down and write this article about using our resources. I know for a fact that a lot of Stony Brook students do not know what they are paying for, people think that things on this campus are free, such as transportation, client support, the programs but in reality we pay for every single thing. We need to take advantage of our expenses because they are expensive. Just in case you don't know, here it goes: the athletic fee is \$239, so we need to start taking advantage of these gyms that surround us; there have been too many times that I have walked by the SAC and other parts around campus and I see nobody utilizing the gym. We should be using these resources because we are paying for them. Next up, we have our infirmary fee- \$138, yes, the clinic/ health center that's located near H Quad, that's another resource people do not take advantage of—too many people run over to Stony Brook Hospital when there is clearly a clinic on campus that could clear up your cough with a simple cough drop. Next is \$199 for a technology fee which is the client support; they do it all, from installing software to fixing parts on your laptop. We pay \$121 for a transportation fee which is comprised of all those buses that go around campus. I know for a fact that anytime I see a bus I immediately get on it. "Why not?" I ask myself. If I pay for it, I might as well use it. Next is a college fee of \$12 and what that

fee is for I really have no idea. Lastly, there is a student activity fee, this fee to me is the most important and I feel that students don't know what this fee is for. This fee goes towards the various activities that occur on campus—it sponsors the majority, if not all, of the clubs and organizations on campus. A lot of people complain that there isn't enough to do on campus but there really is. There are over 300 clubs on campus—so there has to be something for you and if there isn't, which I highly doubt, you have the opportunity to create your own club. I just want to express that students have to get involved—there is too much to do on this campus and too many things to get involved in to say that campus life is dead, when the simple fact of the matter is a lot of people just don't have a positive attitude and are not committed to making their experience here epic.

**For more info on
how to find these
resources visit the
school website
www.stonybrook.edu**

'Ask J.R.'



Q: I've been texting this guy everyday for about a month now...and I really like him. The problem is...I DONT think he likes me the same way I like him. What should I do?

A: LEAVE HIM ALONE. I really mean this with all my heart. If a guy really likes you, you will know by the way he introduces you to his friends. If that has never happened that's a red flag. You will know by the things he says to you, about how you make him feel or how he feels about you. If you don't know, that's another red flag. You will know because he will do things with you that he has always wanted to do or has never done with another female. If this has not occurred, that's yet another red flag. I have been where you are. Everyone has. It's nothing you did or said and there is nothing you CAN do or say to make him like you. Leave it alone before you get hurt.

Q: Are blind dates the best dates even though you've been talking to that person for a while so both of you guys have a good connection, but once you meet that person they look disgusting...should you keep going to try and make a relationship out of it or end it?

A: Depends on you. Depends on how old and mature you are (no offense at all).

Honestly if I am not physically attracted to someone, it could NEVER work and that is that. I know myself, you know what I mean? You have to ask yourself that question. Can you handle dating someone that you connect with but are NOT physically attracted to...?

Q: I was involved with a boy and after a couple months we had sex. Things got weird and we stopped talking. Should I try again or just leave it alone?

A: Well I would say that you should leave it alone. Sometimes in life we grasp at people and try to bring them into our lives-forcibly. We shouldn't do that because the people that are like you, will naturally gravitate toward you and anyone you have to force to be your friend (or anything more) is not meant for you. Hope that helps.

**Hey Readers,
If you need some advice and want to 'ASK JR' contact him at
jryussuf@aol.com**

STONY BROOK FASHION

by JR

Sweats, hoodies, basketball shorts, and tanks. Fashion statement of the century? Ha! I think not. However, the students of Stony Brook University, both commuter and resident alike, obviously disagree. Day in and day out, I see students wearing gym wear even though they don't set foot near the gym. New Yorkers are known for our rudeness and our creative sense of fashion worldwide, so my question is "Why is the latter false at Stony Brook?"

I went around asking students to get a general consensus and here is what people had to say: "Going all out with what I wear takes way too long, especially when you're talking about every day. It's a lot easier to just throw on a hoodie rather than pick out an outfit and have to dress it up with accessories and stuff," said Anjulie Jacques. "It's like this: I live on campus, so why would I dress up, because I'm not really going anywhere," asked Yael Saint-Armand.

While these statements are very true, I think that the way you dress and the way you present yourself is very important, especially on a college campus. I find that when I am wearing a nice blazer or even a long sleeved white shirt with a pashmina, people approach me differently and my professors take me more seriously. For example, I'd missed one too many classes from a class that allotted four unexcused absences and on the fifth you automatically failed. So I chose to wear a clean, well-pressed long sleeved fresh white shirt and a green pashmina (trust me--I was looking all kinds of good!) when I approached my professor with a weak sob story explaining why I had been absent for the fifth time. Had I been in sweats or clothes that suggested a less-about-my-business demeanor, I'm sure my excuse would not have allowed me to be excused. In this instant I learned how much people link physical things, such as what you wear, to what kind of person you are, such as

being responsible and the like.

This might not have happened to you, though, when you tried it, and maybe you feel like it was just coincidence that my professor excused me. Well, to all you nay-sayers out there I say to you be quiet and just believe me! No, I'm kidding. I have another example for you: I met a girl that went here, that was a photographer, (she should have been a model though because she was looking better than the General Tso's chicken from 'Jasmins') who worked for a talent agency and when I had begun to tell her of my background in fashion, she took an immediate liking to me (maybe it was because I had been working out and I was looking like a Greek god in the flesh, aow!). I wore a dangerously low V-neck shirt and a tan blazer and I know that because of the way I was dressed, she took me a lot more seriously than she would have had I been wearing sweats. She made a direct connection between how I was dressed--the way I presented myself--and my skill level and ability. Even if you don't find my argument to be valid or you find much fault with it, we should all care about how we dress to an extent. Also, when you have on nice clothes you tend to just feel better, so let us all make a vow to "get fly" at least once a week.

Am I the Lowly Poet?

Am I the lowly poet?
 The arsonist with pen and paper?
 The schooled fool?
 The painter with no patron, who
 dreams through a kaleidoscope?
 The termite-infested marionette?
 Or a joker with a grave mission?

Am I the lonely poet?
 The weary, vehement traveler?
 The blind seer?
 The social hermit?
 The baptized heathen?
 The wealthy pauper?
 Or a dimming Giant on Milky
 Way's bend?
 by Simone Brown

Home-Made Recipe Section

Homemade Exfoliator- Scrub Paste

- 1/2 of a Banana
- Crushed Almonds, Hazelnut
 or Peanuts (any nuts)
- Orange Juice
- Lemon Juice
- Peppermint Oil (May be pur-
 chased at Trader Joe's)

Mix Together and apply to face.
 by Patricia Jimenez

7 WAVY Facts of the Day:

by Steven Eloiseau

- 1) When you sneeze, all bodily functions
 stop ... even your heart!
- 2) 40,000 Americans are injured by toi-
 lets each year.
- 3) People do not get sick from cold
 weather; it's from being indoors a lot
 more.
- 4) Your feet are bigger in the afternoon
 than the rest of the day.
- 5) If coloring weren't added to Coca-
 Cola, it would be green.
- 6) All 50 states are listed across the top of
 the Lincoln Memorial on the back of the
 \$5 bill.
- 7) Babies are born without knee caps.
 They don't appear until they are 2-6
 years old.

HOMECOMING

2010

CHAMPIONS

**CONGRATULA-
TIONS**

SEAWOLVES!

