



PRESS

the stony brook

the community news and features paper

Vol. XXVI, Issue 16

"Beautifuck the Campus"

Aug. 30, 2005



Special Insert:
Freshman Guide to
Everything

Why Has The Student Activity Fee Been Raised To \$97.25?

By Esam Al-Shareffi

The USG Runoff elections, in which more than 447 votes were recorded, included a rather important vote on the increase of the Student Activity Fee from \$84.25 to \$94.25 per semester, per student. Despite the fact that the measure was defeated nearly 2-1, with 151 (35%) in favor and 281(65%) against, the Student Government exercised its power to approve the increase. This was made possible because referenda are advisory in nature and the final decision is left to the Student Government.

Without boring the reader with too many details, referenda were ruled to be advisory (with the exception of the Mandatory/Voluntary student activity fee referenda every two years,) because the SCOTUS (Supreme Court of the United States,) in several decisions, has ruled that the concept of "viewpoint neutrality" must be respected with regards to funding decisions to clubs and organizations. Since a referendum is an instrument of popular will, not constrained by the need to fund organizations based solely on their business plans, contributions to the campus community, and related criteria, with the possibility that voters will overwhelmingly support huge funding to certain organizations, while at the same time punish others for their views, the Supreme Court has effectively curtailed the democratic rights of students in an effort to defend all forms of speech and thought in the campus community. As the reader can see, the issue is rather complex, and I leave it to the reader to look more closely at this issue, should you desire, and leave my personal opinion to myself.

The point I would like to address in this article, however, is the implications of this decision to students, as well as the extent of student participation (or lack thereof.)

First, an increase of \$10 per semester (or the price of one dinner at Jasmine,) while inconvenient is certainly not cause for major alarm. The principle behind it, that of student government overruling the decisions of the electorate, certainly is troubling and requires closer attention.

As many who are involved in this subject can tell you, the increase in funding was essential simply to keep the student government operating on its present budget, including the funding of clubs, organizations, and student government sponsored events, in the next fiscal year, and that losing this income (or not getting in the first place,) would have rendered many cuts in the budgets of the clubs and organizations that contribute to the community and life of the campus. However, the student government never advertised for the increase, and outside of small circles close to the media or the student government, the mainstream campus community, all of which is affected by the increase, never knew about it! There was a distinct lack of planning in order to "sell" this idea, and the fact that the vote on this essential issue was deferred to the run-off stage either means that it was intentional to reduce the numbers of those who voted (thus making it easier to overturn their decision) or as a result of bad planning, both possibilities signal a failure of USG. Had the student government made it a priority to advertise this initiative to students, they would likely have realized the need to make the sacrifice and vote the funds needed for clubs to

survive. They could have also delivered a stinging rebuke to the activities of clubs and organizations on campus, in which case some tough questions would need to be asked on the operations of clubs, their real contribution to the campus community, and why students were dissatisfied. By not engaging in this issue, the student government effectively removed the opportunity for the public to debate this often overlooked topic.

If the first few years of USG's activities have taught me anything, it is that elected officials need to be held accountable. While some can be relied upon to exercise their moral values and dutifully carry out the affairs of office, many will not, and will be further emboldened when the vast majority of their "constituents" have no idea who they are, and worse, do not hold them to account when, "in their name" they embark on extremist policies that hurt the community and serve only the interests of selfish people.

Four hundred and forty-seven votes is not democracy, it is not a reflection of the will of students. Even the general election, which recorded nearly 2200 votes on the most popular issue (that of NYPIRG's continuing funding) meaning that at most, 17% of the electorate bothered to vote... a ridiculously small amount when only one out of every six students participates in the electoral process.

While it is true that the primary purpose of most students on this campus is the pursuit of knowledge that leads to a degree, real issues are being discussed and decided on your behalf that have an actual impact on you. If the \$10 increase does not rouse your interest, think of the potential impacts of unfunded (and therefore shut down) clubs and organizations, or think of the impact that this lack of voting could result in further increases to your fee, for the powers that be realize that no public out-

cry will come about from ignoring the electorate, which itself ignores its government and humbly kowtows to its demand for funds. The stakes are even higher, because the role of the Student Government as a lobbying entity on behalf of students is devastatingly shaken when they do not seem to have the confidence of their constituents. This will lead to meal plan prices, housing expenses, mandatory insurance, and other general fees to steadily increase, over the feeble objections of student leaders whose voice means nothing. Worse yet, when few people participate, it is extremely easy for extremists and troublemakers, who generally attract a small (and in cases of low participation, decisive) number of followers who make ridiculous decisions against the general will and opinion of students, opening the door to corruption, poor governance, and further alienation of students, reducing our sense of community and making our time here less well spent. I beg you, in the name of democracy, reason, and your own interest, take a few minutes to read the paper as you are doing now, keep your eyes open to what is going on in your campus, learn about the candidates and vote when the time for that comes, and for those few minutes of work you will have to pay less, get more, and be a well-informed member of your community.



The Price of Tuition Hikes, Courtesy of A Greedy Admin.



How do you prepare for your commute?

JOIN CSA!

Meetings:
Wednesday,
1:00PM in
the
University
Café



Outing Gay Conservatives

By Jorge Sierra

Do you know Michael Rogers? He's the owner PageOneQ, a gay news site, and blogactive.com, the home of his campaign to out homosexual members of Congress, and congressional staff members, who he believes are anti-gay rights politicians and their enablers. On July 14 he published an article outing a staff member who works for Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum, an outspoken opponent of advocacy associated with the gay rights movement. As reported on PlanetOut.com, Rogers tape recorded a phone interview, in which the aide, Robert Traynham, confirmed that he was gay, and out to the senator. He even stood up for his boss, calling him a man of principle, and a family man with whom he has been proud to work for eight years. Rogers then published the story on the strength of his audiotape, calling Traynham a "traitor" on his blog site.

If the intent here was to embarrass either Santorum or his employee before prominent conservatives, or to expose the senator as a hypocrite to his constituents, then the effort failed. As the *Philadelphia Inquirer* picked up the story, the senator issued a strong statement of support for his aide, stating: "Not only is Mr. Traynham an exemplary staffer, but he is also a trusted friend and confidante to me and my family." He portrayed the outing as bigoted, out-of-bounds personal, and partisan, aimed at helping Santorum's eventual opponent in his 2006 reelection campaign. Pennsylvania voters yawned. On July 13, the day before the outing took place, Santorum was polling 11 points behind his likely opponent. He has stagnated, with the same 11 point gap in two later polls released July 22 and August 2. Conservatives also slept through the story. The *National Review Online* devoted just a tiny blurb, condemning the outing, and very few conservative bloggers commented at all.

Even though this particular outing seems to have failed badly on the surface, underneath there is a disturbing trend that bears further discussion. Politically motivated outing is part of a political ruthlessness and intolerance that seeks to prevent gay and civil rights politics from being absorbed by a rapidly growing center. Even while the general cause of gay rights has made inroads even among social conservatives like Santorum, there are some who want gay politics to promote its full progressive agenda at any cost. This latest incident is an attempt to destroy a man for no greater crime than that he believes and acts out his own political convictions. Freedom-loving people of every political persuasion and demographic should condemn it as an exercise in bigotry and viciousness. People who believe in expanding the place of gays in this society

should be especially outraged at Michael Rogers' tactics, because he is directly effecting the silence and stigmatization of gays.

Ostensibly outing is about exposing conservatives as gays to make them visible to the fag-hating rightists. By that standard, this outing doesn't even fit the definition, since Senator Santorum already knew his staff member was gay and no one else on the right cares. The real purpose of outing is to expose gays as conservatives to the even more hateful leftists who advocate identity politics as the only legitimate choice for people who are gay or lesbian. In Michael Rogers' own words, "It's about exposing hypocrisy, about ending a conspiracy of deceit and silence." On his website, Rogers slammed Mr. Traynham in daily postings and then posted a link to his phone number. Surprise! The man starts receiving death threats. It's all about outing conservatives who are in range of the gay community so they can be punished within it.

"It's about exposing hypocrisy, about ending a conspiracy of deceit and silence"

It seems like every time a minority group in this country tries to achieve the same opportunities that white, male, Christian, straight, conservative middle-class, educated mortgage-holding (I think you get the picture) people supposedly enjoy, the first person to make it gets stabbed in the back. Famous conservative minorities such as Clarence Thomas and Linda Chavez know what this is like. Even discrete figures such as Condoleeza Rice and Miguel Estrada have been called "traitors", by some nut jobs, for their political alignment. They should all join Robert Traynham (who is also black), march up to Rita Moreno, and start belting out "Don't stick with your own kind" at the top of their lungs.

As gays earn greater individual liberties, there are those who will inevitably choose to embrace the greatest liberty of all—*be* Whitey! But under some mythical law enforced by self-proclaimed activists, to be culturally and politically different (or mainstream?) is to merit hatred, shaming and exposure to mentally unhinged zealots. Dissent is rejected as sedition, independence is tarred as self-hatred, independent thinkers become enemies of the movement. The result of this is that if you're a John Roberts, it is acceptable to be conservative,

but if you have dark skin or are attracted to the same sex, you'd best watch your back.

There are some liberal ideologies and world views that argue that it really is in the best interests of various minorities to reject conservative and Republican politics. That's fine. What is dangerous is the idea that there is a single political and oppressive expression of the Whitey establishment, and that therefore what minorities should fight for is not an equal share of America's great liberties, but for the primordial power to dominate white Christian heterosexual men; that minorities need to take back their country, protect themselves from imminent genocide and desecration of their communities and win the Culture War by political force. This is a wholesale rejection of American political ideals that places the interests of the sub-community well ahead of the rights of the individual. That's how far to the left you have to go to come even close to justifying the political abuse of minority conservatives for its own sake.

There is certainly no justifying the lie that conservatism is the cause of all this nation's ills, that conservatives are untrustworthy and malicious, that conservatives are waging war upon the select community of upright citizens, that one must treat any and all conservatives as the enemy. Such beliefs have floated about in this country and around the world about Catholics, about blacks, Jews, Muslims, gays, immigrants, Christians, capitalists, whites, Americans, and often there is hell to pay. These beliefs promote simplistic, all-or-nothing solutions to complex problems facing a diverse nation and world. Every single movement claims, "but this is different, we are actually right, look at our evidence!" They are so wrapped up in their own holy wars that they fail to see the bodies rotting in the street.

It is diversity that is this country's strength. The recognition that each person, no matter how much or how little we understand them, carries within himself a unique life and character that ought to be cherished for its own worth, on its own intrinsic merit and humanity. That whomever you may run into, you'll find that each person essentially strives to live his or her best life in this world. This is what tells us that we are not so different. We're at a point in our history at which an anti-gay rights social conservative can treat a gay man as his neighbor, while a liberal gay activist can try to destroy that same gay man and leave him to the wolves. Santorum was the better man in this case. If the leftists don't want that to happen again, they'd better ditch those who are sabotaging their credibility and start taking the high road.



TV SUCKS!
BUT YOU CAN CHANGE THAT
JOIN SBU-TV 20
WE NEED DIRECTORS, PRODUCERS, EDITORS
CAMERA PEOPLE, CREW, AND FRIENDS.
DROP BY ROOM 074 IN THE UNION BASEMENT
OR EMAIL SBUTV@IC.SUNYSB.EDU

The Role of the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS) in American Democracy

By Esam Al-Shareffi

The SCOTUS is a very intriguing institution that the founding fathers created. Although on paper it is supposed to be an equal branch with the Legislative and the Executive, it started out in the basement of the Capitol, with little regard or renown, but has steadily increased in strength such that it is now arguably the most powerful institution in the United States government.

The branch is entirely undemocratic, for its nine members are all appointed by the President, confirmed by the Senate, yet are nominated only based on the whims of the Executive (and to be fair, the competence of its candidates,) but there is never an election involved, and never a chance for anyone to cut short their life term in office, once they are elected. The few limited "checks" on the Supreme Court after the appointment of their members rest with Congress. It has the power to impeach and remove judicial officials from office, but in reality, in all of American History, the House impeached only one Associate Justice, Samuel Chase, in 1804, and even he was acquitted. http://air.fjc.gov/history/topics/topics_ji_bdy.html

The only other power that Congress has is in its control of the Budget, including that of the Supreme Court (for their operating a (for their operating and related expenses,) but it would have to be a rather dramatic and unprecedented decision for Congress to effectively shut down an "equal" branch, without due justification (and for all we know, the Supreme Court can declare the Budget unconstitutional, leading into other murky scenarios.)

The final check on SCOTUS's power rests with the people, of course, in the terms of making amendments to the Constitution, which the Supreme Court, in its solemn duty to interpret the Constitution, can be forced to take a certain view on any issue. The mechanisms of a constitutional amendment are well-known and are incredibly difficult (for good reason most of the time) to work, as not only 2/3 of each House of Congress is needed to approve an amendment, but so must 3/4 of states, an incredibly difficult task that has seen thousands of proposed amendments falter, while only 27 have ever been approved (this includes the first ten, commonly known as the Bill of Rights.)

The "undemocratic" nature of the branch is not a problem, however, at least as far as the framers saw it and as many interpret it today. It was never meant to reflect the popular will of the people, but instead to adjudicate on disputes at the highest level, involving questions of constitutionality, jurisprudence, and final appeal. Although no politician will admit

to it, it is often of great benefit to have a strong, unelected, and continuous vote guide the country and the life of the nation through disputes and arbitrate on decisions of utmost important, and so long as this branch does not have executive power (in terms of being able to enact its decisions through its own forces, for example,) or legislative power (in terms of creating law from scratch,) it stands to be of great benefit to the nation. If practiced in good faith and as a reflection of the will of the nation, the Supreme Court can be extremely useful in preserving the stability needed through which useful political discourse can be undertaken.



ECHOES LIKE MARY-TODD LINCOLN'S MOM'S VAGINA,
Courtesy of A Hippo-critical Government

My only problem with this branch is that it was never intended to be so powerful and so arrogant. It was only after the torturous opinion of Chief Justice John Marshall early in the history of the Supreme Court, in *Marbury vs. Madison*, that gave the court the power of judicial review (the ability to strike down laws interpreted to be unconstitutional,) a power that President Jefferson had intended to be given to the states (the concept of nullification did not completely die until after the Civil War, after several southern states, particularly South Carolina, "nullified" anti-slavery legislation.) Since then, the court's power has steadily grown over the years.

While the Supreme Court has expanded individual rights on many occasions, in opinions to cases such as *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka County* integrating public schools, or *Miranda v. Arizona* granting all

those arrested the right to be informed of their rights, as well as numerous other cases that make us as Americans flush with pride, the court has also ruled in ways that are disastrous to the course and history of the nation. In its original sanctioning of slavery in the "Dred Scott" decision (in *Scott v. Sandford*), in striking down "New Deal" legislation during the height of the Great Depression, in *Korematsu v. United States* when the court specifically sanctioned and affirmed the internment of American citizens of Japanese descent during World War II, and in numerous other cases, including *Kelo et al v. City of New London* this very year, wherein the court ruled that "eminent domain" can be used to seize private property (such as your home or land,) not for the purposes of carefully researched and vital public use, such as a highway or a road, but even for private use, so long as there is some public benefit... a decision by five people in black robes which will likely be in the textbooks of the next generation and shake property rights and their sanctity to their foundation. Clearly, the court's power and influence is wide reaching and affects us in our normal lives.

While we may all be unhappy about a particular decision or two, my distaste for the SCOTUS operation is that its individual justices have become too powerful and too politicized. The recent retirement of Associate Justice O'Connor, who served the court for twenty-four years, has already initiated a nomination fight that, at least at the writing of this article, looks set to be dominated not by the qualifications of individual candidates from a sober and neutral perspective, but on the candidate's political views on the major issues of the day. We do not need an ideologue or a mouthpiece for a particular view on the bench, nor should we as a nation accept that a candidate's well-reasoned and justifiable views should discredit them from the gavel.

When searching for the next justice, we should be mindful of the impact of this august branch, and instead of questioning the candidates on their views we should instead focus on their qualifications and ability to impartially, courageously, and unabashedly reach decisions that protect our freedoms to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, so enshrined in the Constitution, and leave the murky ground of politics to our legislatures and executives in the various federal, state, and local agencies. The court should only arbitrate and get involved when disputes threaten the proper functioning of the nation, where their lack of action could spell disaster to the people and to the country, but to otherwise leave the law to the lawmakers.

UniversityCafe

Student Union • Stony Brook University • Stony Brook, NY 11794
Venue 631.632.6027 Office 631.632.1463 Fax 631.632.1013
gpalaia@universitycafe.org • universitycafe.org

The War on Terror Ends in Failure

By Marcel Votlucka

Recently, U.S. administration officials, most notably Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and top military officers, have spoken of “a global struggle against violent extremism.” Hmm...no more “War on Terror”? Have these crooks finally figured out that you can’t wage a successful war against a mere tactic? Have these dishonest hacks realized that by definition, war is an armed conflict between nations, and that guerilla terrorist groups are not nations? Have these murderers finally reached an understanding that no matter how much money they spend, no matter how much blood they spill, no matter how many fluffy speeches they make, that they can never eradicate terrorism from the face of the earth?

Probably not. Anyway, despite the change in rhetoric, the fact remains that the “War on Terror” is an abysmal failure. Want proof? Just look at the subway bombings in London if you want it.

But how could this possibly happen, you wonder? After all, just look at the extreme measures the government has taken in its “War on Terror.”

\$314 billion dollars have been spent in the illegal invasion and occupation of Iraq. Tens of thousands of Iraqi, American, and Coalition lives have been lost. Our freedoms are being eroded by tyrannical legislation such as the PATRIOT Act and the Real ID Act. The government has access to your personal information, it can search your home without your

knowledge, search your personal financial records, and arrest and detain you without trial or any other vestige of due process. We endure humiliating, invasive (and unconstitutional) searches in airports, and now subways. We have a news media that passes state propaganda off as truth. We have radio tags on new passports and soon, on our drivers licenses-cum-national ID cards too. We have concentration camps like Gitmo and Abu Ghraib, where torture and rape are the order of the day—and where detainees, including children and teenagers, have not been charged with crimes; evidence, after all, is hard to come by these days. We have wars justified by conspiracy theories, fabricated intelligence, and outright lies.

On top of all this, we have a President whose well thought-out strategy regarding terrorists in the Middle East is “Bring ‘em on!” He sure does have guts, making bold statements like that. It really shows his, er...courage and, uh...resolve.

And what have we gained from all of this? Terrorists bombing subways in London. Terrorists bombing trains in Spain. Terrorists blowing up cars in Iraq every day. Terrorism has become worse because of the “War on Terror.” The undeniable conclusion we must accept is that, if its goal is to end terrorism, then the “War on Terror” is a monumental fail-

ure. Just like any government program.

Indeed, this failure should come as no surprise to liberty-lovers. History shows that whenever the government steps in to solve a problem, the solution not only fails, it becomes part of the problem. Let’s look at some examples.

The War on Poverty has not resulted in the eradication of poverty; poverty is alive and well despite a litany of welfare programs. The Convenient Excuse to Lock Up Black People—I mean, the War on Drugs—has not put an end to drug use; rather, the black market drug trade increases crime at taxpayer expense. The War on Illiteracy has not ended illiteracy; public school students can barely read at grade levels (it seems public schools can’t teach history or geography or math or the Constitution either). The War on Crime has not ended crime; criminal acts will exist as long as unprincipled people and politicians still exist. The War on Obesity is a failure too, as long as the government subsidizes the production of high fructose corn syrup, which is used as a sweetener in almost everything—and has been linked to obesity. And the War on Political Incorrectness in media will never succeed...as long as I keep writing essays like this.

No government program has ever succeeded in meeting its stated goals. That’s because government solutions never work; they always contribute to the problem and/or exacerbate it. Even conservatives can realize this. And in the case of the failed “War on Terror,” socialistic welfare wars and nation-building schemes have definitely become part and parcel of the problem.

Take a ride on the London Underground if you want proof.



THE FAMILIAL BONDS OF EVIL,
Courtesy of Lucifer

A Drunk Driver Killed My Mother

By Adina Silverbush

July 22nd, 2005 started off like any other day...I got up, was in a surprisingly good mood, and went to work. I was working this summer at a special education pre-school. It was about 8:05 a.m. and I was alone in a classroom when my phone rang. Although I wasn’t allowed to get calls at work, I picked up anyway because it was my brother. He was obviously crying... “Adina,” he said in a shaky voice, “where are you?” “I’m at work,” I said. “Adina, you need to come home right now.” “Why, what happened?!” “Adina, you need to come home!” I thought initially it must be my cats, that one of them must have got run over or something. Then, I thought maybe my dad had another heart attack, but never could I have imagined what was about to come out of his mouth. “Adina, mom was killed in a car accident.” KILLED, my MOTHER! I hung up the phone and started wailing! MY MOTHER! MY MOTHER! My mother is DEAD! I ran down a hallway until I collapsed.

I soon found out a 22 year-old drunk driver was responsible for this, and there had been four other women in my mother’s car. She was the only one killed, but the others were badly injured (including a mother of five who is in a coma). My mom had been in the front passenger seat. They were on route 7 in Massachusetts, and a car came at them around a turn, speeding on the wrong side of the road. There was only one lane in each direction and my mother’s friend who was driving tried to get out of the way, but didn’t have enough time. She swerved to the left and the drunk’s car crashed directly into the passenger’s side, killing my mom instantly. My mom had been wearing a

seatbelt & shoulder harness. The front and side airbags were deployed but neither could save her.

My mother was studying to become an administrator at the Leadership Academy of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. The night my mom died, she was attending a dance performance for those taking the class. They were driving back to the campus from the show, and my mom was singing in the car. It was a four-week course, which my mom had completed half of last summer. She only had one more week left this summer.

When I said goodbye to my mother a week before the accident, I was already sad that she was going. She’s my best friend, and it’s hard being the only girl around my house with my two brothers and dad. On her way up to Massachusetts, my dad called to say that it was going to be torture to be separated from her for two weeks. They were married for 32 years and couldn’t stand to be apart from each other, even for one night. My dad was excited because this was going to be the last time she had to be away in Massachusetts.

My mother was in perfect health; she was 51 but looked the same as she did when she was a teen (aside from some gray hair which she never dyed). She was so naturally beautiful, and incredibly strong. The morning of the accident, she woke up early, like she did every morning, to exercise. Then she went to a lake near the campus and swam dozens of laps, as graceful as a mermaid.

My mom spent 25 years working as a special education teacher, and most recently was a pre-school specialist. She also taught

children that other teachers avoided working with. For the last seven years, she was working as a home-bound teacher for a boy named Sal who suffered from a seizure disorder, while still working at her full-time job. He was confined to a wheelchair and was deaf, dumb, and almost blind, but she stuck with him and taught his family how to work with him. She provided such strong support to his family, and his mother considered my mom her best friend. The child’s parents told my mom she didn’t need to come on Halloween, but she came anyway, in a costume and took him and his younger brother trick-or-treating. This was the type of person my mom was; she went far beyond the call of duty because she truly got pleasure from helping people. She made personalized cards for all her coworkers and family members, spending hours making collages and writing poems just to make people feel special on their birthdays.

When someone dies from medical causes, it’s horrible and extremely upsetting, but often unavoidable. When a healthy person is killed instantly and violently by a drunk driver, its homicide, and SO UNNECESSARY!! What a wonderful person my mother was, and her life ends because someone thought he was “ok” to drive after drinking at a sports bar. What happened is not “ok”. It is far from it.

My life will never be ok. There will always be an enormous void that can’t be filled by anyone else. An empty seat at every meal, three children without a mother, a man without his sweetheart who’ll spend decades alone, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren who

Continued on page 8

Editorial Board

Executive Editor
Rob Pearsall

Managing Editor
Jowy Romano

Associate Editor
Joan Leong

Business Manager
Melanie Donovan

Production Manager
Michael Prazak

Photo Editors
Matt Willemain
Peter Parker

News Editors
Claudia Toloza
David "Khazad-Dum" Ginn

Features Editor
Nicole L. Barry

Copy Editors
Stephanie Hayes
Laura Positano

Webslinger
Your Friendly
Neighborhood Spiderman

Minister of Archives
Joe "Wicked Pirate" Rios

Ombudsman
Mike Billings

Peasant Army

Matthew Augustine	Mike Nevradakis
James Blonde	Jason Ng
Ben Bravmann	Andrew Pernick
Philip Camacho	Rachel Eagle Reiter
Sarah Cassone	Ian Rice
Willy Cibinskas	Justin Rowe
Tom Clark	Tiffany Russo
Juliet DiFrenza	Joey Safdia
Mike "Bublz" Fabbri	Natalie Schultz
Vincent Festa	Tom Senkus
Joe Filippazzo	Jorge Sierra
Rob Gilheany	Christine Tanaka
Sam Goldman	Amberly Timperio
Tara Lynn Groth	Lena Tumasyan
Paula Guy	Marcel Votlucka
Jackie Hayes	Brian Wasser
Dustin Herlich	Meri Wayne
Daniel Hofer	Morgan Wilding
Adam Kearney	Chris Williams
"The Count" LeComte	Brian Wong
Antony Lin	Jessica Worthington
Seth Maggiore	Ed Zadorozny
Jamie Mignone	
Ali Nazir	

I Wish the News Was Like Anchorman

Peter Jennings will be missed. I never knew him but I'm sad that he's gone. It's sad that he died of cancer, the scariest killer anywhere. I don't know his history exactly, but apparently he was a damn fine reporter. It's all over the news.

Next up in the news is the Michael Jackson trial. MSNBC is on and I can't believe that they're still talking about this. I've got some jokes and a little bit of insight but I'm too fed up with the trial to keep it alive. Sensationalism in the media is deplorable. It's TV news and what we get from it is exactly that. We get entertainment. We get the pieces about murder. We get pieces about what people felt. We get fear. We get scared by cancer on MSNBC. The anchor went into a tirade against smoking at the end of a nice piece on Peter Jennings. We get a little bit of happiness. That skidded plane, that was so briefly in the news, where everyone got out O.K. is amazing. That story was hot for a day.

We, here, read the *Times* and we read the little stories that fall through the cracks of the International sections and the Washington sections. We pass right over the stories about the space shuttle. Have the media organizations on TV covered the fact the one in five children in Niger suffers from malnutrition? Did we hear about Plumpy'nut in the news? It could solve Niger's problems and it's making a difference as you

read this. But there's more to Africa than just Niger.

There was an article in the *Times* about why Niger was Africa's hot topic. The only answer was simply that it fell under the media eye. The media heard about Niger so the people that pay attention to media heard about Niger. Niger got help because of the media attention. What's going to happen to Niger when the media loses focus? What happens to the other countries that don't get the same coverage?

Americans don't see what happens in the world everyday because we don't go out of our way to find out. We don't see anything unless it's shoved down our throats. We see a lot of trials, a lot of celebrities, a lot of murder, and a whole lot of war. We don't see the deserts, the hunger and the tragedy not only in Africa but all over the world.

TV media doesn't deserve the label of "media." We (the news) have a responsibility to report on everything around the world. No matter what kind of support it has at home people need to know about the world they live in. When they're trading stock or enjoying McDonalds' newest chicken 'n cheese low fat low carb combo salad they need to know that there is more than America and the moral quagmire of Iraq on this little globe. Peter Jennings knew that when he dragged crews to remote places to bring their stories to primetime. Peter Jennings will be missed.

INDEX

Student Activity Fee Hike	Page 2
Remembering Peter Jennings	Pages 6, 13
Outing Gay Conservatives	Page 3
Esam SLAMS Supreme Court	Page 4
Freshman's Guide Insert	Between Pages 13 and 14
Top 10	Page, 17
Be-In Beautiful	Page 16
Comics	Page 20
Reviews	Page 22
Back Cover	The Last Page

The *Stony Brook Press* is published fortnightly during the academic year and twice during summer session by *The Stony Brook Press*, a student run non-profit organization funded by the Student Activity Fee.

The opinions expressed in letters, articles and viewpoints do not necessarily reflect those of *The Stony Brook Press* as a whole.

Advertising policy does not necessarily reflect editorial policy. For more information on advertising and deadlines call (631)632-6451.

Staff meetings are held Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. First copy free. For additional copies contact the Business Manager.

The *Stony Brook Press*
Suites 060 & 061
Student Union
SUNY at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200

(631) 632-4137 Office Phone (631)632-6451 Voice Mail

Wanna Know Where You Can Stick Your Opinions?

(Hint: It rhymes with "Stained-Glasshole")

sbpress@ic.sunysb.edu

or website-it-up big time at

www.thepress.info



A Drunk Driver Killed My Mother

By Adina Silverbush

Continued from page 5

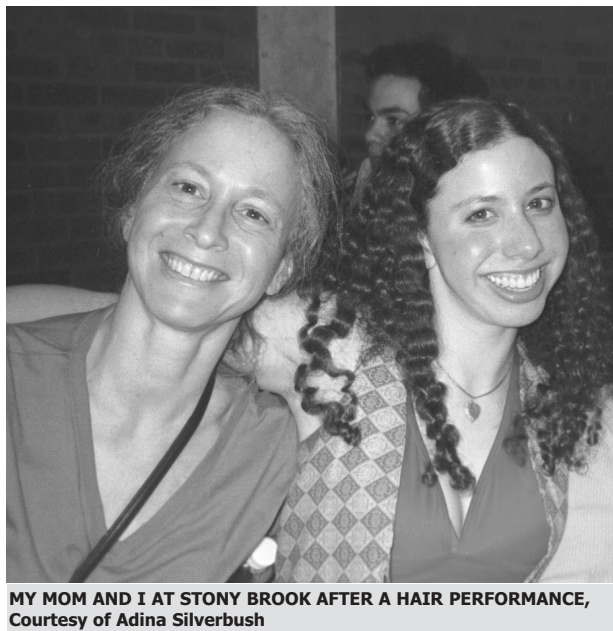
will be denied the most wonderful grandparent that they could have had! Everyone asks you how you're doing, and it's hard to respond to such a question, "I'm miserable." I lost the best thing I had, for no reason!

In a couple weeks, I'll have to face the man who killed my mother, and speak at his sentencing trial. What punishment does such a person deserve? How does he survive the accident and not my mom? This world is so unfair! He'll never realize the type of person he killed, and the hurt we will all have to bear for the rest of our lives. Every morning, I lie in bed not wanting to get out. I just want to wake up from this nightmare, and I can't! What's the point of life if you can be such a great person and be killed due to someone else's stupidity?

When you type in my mom's name into an internet search engine, you used to see an article about her winning a gardening contest. But now, what do you find? "Lenore Silverbush, 51 pronounced dead at scene," or "The woman who was killed, Lenore Silverbush, 51, was one of five women..." That just makes me angry because there is nothing about her wonderful life, only her horrific death. My mom's not a statistic. She's a wonderful person who's been stolen from all of us.

To me, I lost my favorite person in the world. My biggest fan, she would go to see every performance of every play I was ever in. She came to Stony Brook last spring to see me in *Hair*. For three of the four performances, she drove in from Brooklyn just to see me. Each night, she would cheer and clap

as though she had never seen me in a show before! She sent me an e-mail prior to the show telling me how "this is going to be the best week ever!!!"



MY MOM AND I AT STONY BROOK AFTER A HAIR PERFORMANCE, Courtesy of Adina Silverbush

It's amazing to have one person who you can tell everything to, and get wonderful advice from. Someone who you can just be totally silly

with, a buddy who comes up with ideas to keep you busy all the time. We had our projects together, and our girl talks. She loved to gossip with me, and I was finally at a point where I could be open and honest with her.

Please, I beg you all, don't get into a car even if you think you are "ok" to drive. It's not ok! Choose a designated driver before you go to that party or bar. If this could happen to my mom, it can happen to anyone. I read on Mother's Against Drunk Driving(MADD)'s website that every half an hour someone is being killed by a drunk driver! EVERY HALF AN HOUR someone is being KILLED UNNECESSARILY! The worst feeling is that of helplessness after something like this happens, because no matter what I do, I can't get her back. However, I decided to take a stand against drunk driving. If there's a chance of saving just one life it would be worth it, especially on a college campus where driving while intoxicated is far too common.

Everyone can help even if it's just by raising awareness or refusing to let your friends drive. If anyone wants to help, you can contact me via e-mail at asilverb@ic.sunysb.edu. You can also join my facebook, group "Drunk Driving Kills" for updates. MADD is a great organization, and ways to help as well as horrifying statistics about drunk driving can be found on their website

<http://www.madd.org/home/>. Please cherish your loved ones while you have them.

Mandatory Insurance Policy

By Marc Niola

I am writing this article to inform students about my dissatisfaction with Stony Brook University decision to implement a mandatory insurance policy plan for all students. In the face of soaring tuition hikes, the increase in the cost of living (mainly gasoline prices) and a stagnate economy, Stony Brook University decision to implement another mandatory fee could not have come at a worst time.

The matter of which this new mandatory plan was implemented raises a number of troubling questions. First, since when did Stony Brook University go into the insurance business? The insurance industry has been fraught with scandals and corruption for decades. Now Stony Brook comes up with a sophisticated ruse, billed as helping students raise their academic standing, but is really more akin to exploiting the vulnerable and disinterested; hoping at this would pass just under to radar.

Most college students are in the prime of their life (18-21) and are the pictures of great health. I'd like to know where the University got the idea that students need health insurance. I would also like to see some evidence that supports the case that students in the prime of their life need health insurance.

Now please do not misunderstand me I

am by no means discrediting the utility of health insurance. On the contrary health insurance has tremendous benefits to people who need it or in cases of unexpected or emergency illnesses. But these cases are rare to most students and only really occur to a very small percent of the student population.

So how does Stony Brook justify the need for implementing the student health insurance

plan—"studies have shown that health insurance promotes student well-being, safety and success." What a crock. If you believe this I got a bridge to sell you. Insurance companies care about one thing and one thing only—making money. Why is prescription medicine

so expensive, because the consumer/patient, who needs it, pays for the advertising for the medication, which only feeds the coffers of insurance company industry.

What is even more troubling is when I ask the University to provide me with a comprehensive explanation of what exactly this new insurance policy covers it could not even furnish me with one. Instead I was given the classic run-around and reminded of the so called "extensive bidding process." Now what type of service would you expect from a company that signs up thousands of clients without issuing

them any lecture about said policy? How about an 800 number to a lengthy computer recording that does not answer your question. Now I have to remind you that every student is automatically enrolled in this program, at their expense, without their consent. And this is where I draw the line.

No company, corporation or institution is going to dictate to me what is in my best interest. This is outrageous. The last time I looked America was a democracy. I have the liberty under the Constitution, Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights to decide what I want free of any outside influences.

If we let this travesty go unchallenged I dread to think what is next. We have the power to stand up to this injustice and keep Stony Brook free of any more corporate greed and corruption. We owe it to our founding fathers what risked their lives so we can live in a free country. We owe it to the next generation of Stony Brook students so they can enjoy the benefits of higher education at an affordable cost. And most importantly we owe it ourselves, the future of this great country, to defend our rights to choose how we live our life.

If you choose to defend your right to be an informed citizen and stand up to this blatant disregard of the democratic process join me in voicing my dissatisfaction against this travesty and hopefully rid our University of corporate impropriety; email me at sayno2corp@optonline.net

This email is just a portal to help organize a student petition and/or protest.

"What a crock. If you believe this I have a bridge for sale in Brooklyn"

End of 30 Years of IRA Actions in Ireland

By William Lewis

Disarming of the IRA

Belfast, Northern Ireland

It was on July 28 2005 that the leadership of the IRA (Irish Republican Army) also called Oglagh na hEireann released a statement on DVD. Unlike prior statements from the leadership of the IRA this statement was the long awaited call of the end of armed conflict with in North Ireland.

"All IRA units have been ordered to dump arms." The statement read. It was a stunning and historic move on the part of the IRA whom for 30 years has taken part in an ongoing paramilitary and terrorist campaign to remove the British powers from all of North Ireland and bring the north together with the south as a united nation.

The statement was a call for the members of the IRA to take part in democratic programs to use peaceful ways to bring about change in the same way that Sinn Fein has been able to do so as a political party lead by Mr. Gerry Adams. There has been a vacuum with in the power sharing in the government of North Ireland when all members of Sinn Fein and any Roman Catholic member of the government were locked out of the government under claims from the Loyalist political groups of the government that the IRA was not conforming with its disarmament agreement which was part of the Good Friday Agreement.

It has always been the stance of the IRA that it will disarm on its own terms which has been a sticking point with the Loyalist (Protestant) with in North Ireland. "The IRA leadership has also authorized a representative to engage with the IICD to complete the process to verifiably put its arms beyond use in a way which will further enhance public confidence and to conclude this as quickly as possible." The IRA statement went on to also say that it will have two independent witnesses from the Protestant and Roman Catholic Churches to testify to the disarming of the IRA.

"Today may be the day that peace replaced war, that politics replaced terror, on the island of Ireland." Said Prime Minister Tony Blair after hearing the statement from the IRA. However the call for the end of the armed conflict from the IRA did not address the actions of its members that have taken part in criminal actions such as gun and drug trafficking, gang violence, bank hold-ups, and vigilante behavior with in Roman Catholic areas of North Ireland.

Democratic Unionist part leader Ian Paisley said, "They have failed to explicitly declare an end to their multimillion pound criminal activity," about the IRA statement which was in response to a huge bank heist that took place in December as was blamed on IRA members as well a brutal murder with a bar-room and the IRA's attempt to cover it up in January.

In an interview with the New York Times writer Brian Lavery a Mr. Fred Russell said, "They're terrorists (the IRA). They'll never stop. They'll go under some other name or form." It is a common concern from people who have seen how things have how the IRA can splinter into different groups and factions that take part in bloodshed across North Ireland. Only time and the actions of the IRA as whole can really tell if there is a dawn of peace over North Ireland or if there statement was just an

attempt to buy time for the group while the rest of the UK is reeling from the terror attacks on its subways and buses.

British/ Loyalist reaction

Only two days after the IRA made its statement of disarmament, and an end to the 30 year long blood shed across North Ireland on their part, the Loyalist gangs had started to bring their hate to each other as they battle each other for control. The Loyalist gangs are also known as the Protestant Paramilitary groups that have waged terrorist war on the IRA and Roman Catholic Families across North Ireland.

In the town of Hollywood on the outskirts of the Ulster capital the local police have had to spend their nights and checkpoints to keep the factions of the different Protestant Paramilitary groups from engaging in warfare on each other. The conflict is costing the local police about \$53,000 American dollars per day.

The local police had to act after "hundreds" of people that where either part of or at the very lest on the side of one Protestant Paramilitary group drove out of town a family of another rival Protestant Paramilitary gang from there home. This has been one of many crimes



events that have taken part in the town of Hollywood. The police seized \$700,000 American dollars worth of hashish within the past weeks, as well dealing with the ongoing "turf war" between the Protestant Paramilitary factions that claim to be loyalist to the British crown.

Henry McDonaled (author of two books about the Protestant Paramilitary groups in North Ireland) told the New York Times "this is the fifth feud since 1997. But people forget that they're still an armed threat." Mr. Henry McDonaled also stated that the largest of the Protestant Paramilitary groups called the Ulster Defense Association (UDA) has the ability to arm an infantry battalion, the standard troop size stands at 820 for the British military.

The Protestant Paramilitary groups like the IRA have killed many innocent people across North Ireland. They have a history of part taking in different gangster enterprises as they also try to take on the role of vigilantes in the working-class neighborhoods in North Ireland. They seem to find safe harbor from

their daily violent actions that have victimized the people and drove away many of their notorious members such as Johnny "Mad Dog" Adair who was once the leader of the UDA. One of the more notorious Protestant Paramilitary group were the serial killers called "Shankill Butchers" who was credited with killing 30 known Roman Catholics with meat cleavers in the 70's. Yet at no real time has the British or the Protestant controlled government of North Ireland put into effect any real actions with the IRA aimed at stopping such people. Such actions have been a bitter sticking point in the civil rights movement with in North Ireland.

Despite the concern of the people in North Ireland that the blood shed with still go on the British Army said that they will pull out half of there stand forces from North Ireland on the time table of two years. The statement has drawn on it the condemned of Protestant politicians while the Roman Catholics welcome the movement from the British Army. As it stands the British Army has 10,500 soldiers stationed across North Ireland, 40 "military locations" which is going to drop down to 5,000 soldiers at just 14 military sites across North Ireland.

It was back in 1970 that the Roman Catholics where glad to see the arrival of British Troops. The troops were to be seen as the saviors able to stop the Protestant Paramilitary Groups and the mobs of Orange Men from attacking the Roman Catholics in Belfast and the burning of their homes. However things did not turn out the way that the Roman Catholics had hoped for when 13 "unarmed" men where shot to death in the civil rights demonstration dubbed the "Bloody Sunday Massacre" in Londonderry 1972 where the British Troops where given a shoot-to-kill policy against any one they suspected of being IRA, thus any one who would flee from the British Troops where seen as being guilty of being IRA and shot at.

It was also stated that the Royal Irish Regiment, which is made up of three battalions, will be disbanded entirely. The Royal Irish Regiment has seen military action in not just North Ireland, they were once called the Ulster Defense Regiment (UDR) which was the longest active service regiment since the Napoleonic Wars but they faced a reduction in there forces after the Cold War. The Royal Irish Regiment went from a membership of 18% Roman Catholic troops to about 3% after the UDR suffered image problems about the Roman Catholics when it took many ex-members of "B Specials" a large Protestant Paramilitary "police" reserves.

It did not help the RIR or the UDR with the on going allegations of its members being part of Protestant Paramilitary groups which resulted in the arrest and conviction of 2 UDR soldiers for the murder of 3 members of a cabaret band (Miami Showband) from a Protestant Paramilitary shooting and bomb attack in 1975. Yet thought out its 22 years of action with in North Ireland the UDR lost 197 soldiers, 64 former UDR members were killed after they left the regiment but Paramilitaries attacks. The UDR/RIR has had to provide a back up role of the local police in North Ireland when they where dealing with the heavily armed IRA gun men in shoot outs that would reduce buildings to shattered husks of bullet holes.

The RIR has had to also serve as peace keepers around the globe in places such as Bosnia where they protect they food convoys for the people, Sierra Leone where they mounted the rescue of 6 British soldiers in 2000, and in 2003 they took part in the invasion of Iraq to lend military aid.

A Lot of Gas and Not Much Else

By Alexander Chameessian

In a world of seemingly ubiquitous irrationality, simple and effective solutions seem equally ubiquitous, and they leave us asking ourselves, "Why don't they just do that?" I imagine most people have experienced such moments when an obvious answer to a pressing personal, political or social problem reveals itself so overtly that we are stunned that no one else has come up with the same solution. There is a reason for this – chances are they have thought it, but then also realized that many matters are wanting of a more elaborate and sophisticated course of action. To put this scenario into perspective I'll take one of the most pertinent issues of today – The Gas Crisis.

High gas prices; we have all experienced that dejected feeling one gets after spending \$40 to fill up an average tank.

Two summers ago when we really started to feel the impact of the average price increase most of us probably thought it was temporary and that we'd see them under two dollars once again. Unfortunately, two years later and they're higher than ever and from the looks of things it does not appear that they will plateau or even decrease in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, many people are quick to point fingers at various individuals or organizations, hoping to get some consolation for their emptied pockets. Some blame the government, particularly our president. Others blame poor international trading policy. Some just attribute it to the "bad economy," an equivocal phrase thrown around recklessly without giving thought to what really is making it bad. However, despite the uncertainty most people have when it comes to the actual causes of our petroleum woes, public advocates, mainstream media and many average consumers seem to have no shortage of obvious fixes.

As I was watching ABC World News a few nights ago I had the pleasure of being privy to one of those supersensible, end-all answers to our ceaseless gas price problems. This particular report adduced the dramatic decline in the number of oil refineries in the U.S. over the last twenty years as one of the foremost causes of the escalating gas prices nation-wide. Several analysts' opinions were asked, and nearly all of them expressed that the decline in the number of refineries does play an important part in the matter and that building more refineries could be an effective solution to the problem.

Easy enough, why didn't we think of that before? Yes, that makes a lot of sense; more refineries means more gasoline, which means a drop in prices. Wow, that was so simple! Good then, matter closed, let's just make more refineries! If that were the end of the matter we wouldn't still be paying more than \$2.50 per gallon for regular gasoline.

Building more oil refineries does *seem* like an effective course of action. More places to process oil means greater output, which would mean lower prices for consumers. This idea is not a bad one, but most people, even the proclaimed economic pundits look at the matter, see this superficial solution and stop their thinking at this level. For the majority of the people who watched the news that night building more refineries is a good solution, and they ask themselves accordingly, "Why aren't we doing this?" Unfortunately that's all they ask

themselves. They do not ask why the number of refineries has been cut in half over the last two decades. They do not ask themselves who will fund the building of the refineries, nor do they think about the nearly impenetrable wall of environmental and commercial regulations that keep entrepreneurs and large companies from realizing this goal. Furthermore, they assent to this solution thinking that wherever these refineries may be built, they will not affect them. I would dare say though that any of them would be eager to have a refinery ruin the aesthetic splendor of their neighborhoods.

As a result of considering complex issues like the Gas Crisis only on a primary level the average consumer feels a sense of indignation for having to put up with the effects, but he is not sure where to direct that indignation. To him, solutions are more like apparitions than gradual processes. When there is a problem, *someone* will take care of it. It is his not his job to think of whom or how, but to merely think of the problem itself. Thus, we come to what is best described as floating requests. Calling for more refineries, analogous to calling for more aid to impoverished foreign countries, or demanding a cure-all course of action to improve social security and Medicare, is a significant yet directionless entreaty; it is all well and good to think of the end result, but to neglect the particulars that lead up to that end only leaves one disillusioned and bitter when his elementary solution does not materialize.

Having watched that little segment, I walked away feeling inspired. I wanted to believe that what I saw was a closed case, but I could not believe it until I did some of my own investigation. As it turns out there has not been an oil refinery built in the U.S. since 1976 and the significant efforts made by petroleum refining companies to alter this reality have been shunted back by E.P.A. mandates and other federal regulations. I also found out that a company by the name of Arizona Clean Fuels has been trying for six years to build a new refinery one hundred miles outside Phoenix, Arizona. Over that time they have spent 30 million dollars, and for all of their efforts they have nothing yet to show. Such setbacks and expenditures are the very things that put corporations out of business, and that caused the number of refineries to decline from more than 300 to a measly 149. I would imagine that if the clamoring consumer knew of the kind of efforts American entrepreneurs have been making in spite of the multitude of anti-capitalistic, anti-business obstacles, he would feel now an even greater bitterness toward the roadblocks of government and bureaucracy. However, the irony in that is that those obstacles are the consequences of his clamoring fifteen years earlier to clean our air and save the whales. Maybe instead of running commercials of Paris Hilton eating burgers on soaped-up cars someone should make a mass public announcement honoring the age-old adage "You can't have your cake and eat it too." A world of good that could do, but I digress.

This article could have treated any one of the pressing matters of the day and could have developed in the same way, but just with alterations to the particulars; it could have treated the war in Iraq, global warming, foreign and domestic policy, etc. Apart from particu-

lars of each matter, what remains is the incessant shallow complaints and accusations coming from the misinformed public, media and politicians. What unifies them all from one situation to next is the lack of consideration to the subtle intricacies of the matter at hand. Such negligence, possibly even evasion, renders all the cries of the misinformed into nothing more than a lot of noise.

We as youths are most susceptible to making the directionless cries, because we desire growth and improvement, but we many times overlook the not-so-obvious obstacles that a more experienced and discriminating mind cannot neglect to consider. I, like many others, desire action, action to lower gas prices, action to bring some tranquility to an unrelenting world of hatred and violence, but what I am unwilling to do is to develop my convictions based on half-truths and hollow polemics.

Whatever opinion I do eventually come to take as my own necessarily addresses the entire spectrum of the issue, not merely the end result. To me building more oil refineries makes sense. Domestic refinement of crude oil would be an effective measure to take to bring the average price of gasoline back down to a manageable level, but I cannot only think of the end results. One cannot just say I want it, but not consider the methods by which it will be realized, the source of its funding, the people who will make it a reality or the possibility that it may do nothing at all in the end. All these things must be taken into account before one can take any definitive stand on the matter.

In the end, it is this dialectic process, the act of weighing and measuring all the facts of the matter, even the minutia that we typically brush off as trivial, that is in shortage, not gasoline.



The Stony Brook Press



Where *all* the
lonely women are.

Meetings
Wednesdays

at 1 pm
Union room 060

Grieving Mother Becomes Symbol of Antiwar Movement

By Marcel Votluka

Unless you've been living under the proverbial rock, it's become clear by now that Iraq is our generation's Vietnam, but a close look at the character of this era's anti-war movement reveals some startling contrasts.

The antiwar movement during the Vietnam War was led by scruffy professors, hippies, and disillusioned soldiers fresh from combat. The present antiwar movement is led



PEACE AT CAMP CASEY,
Courtesy of A Disparaged Populace

by grieving mothers. Thirty-odd years ago the marches and protests defined themselves through chanting and singing and drum beating. Today, protest comes in the form of a bereaved parent's private tears and public dignity. When Vietnam veterans came home, they were spat upon and jeered, but the modern antiwar movement uses soldiers' unnecessary deaths as the gravest argument against an illegal and unjust war. As blood flooded the cities and jungles of Vietnam, Americans talked about fundamental changes in the system; the war was only a symptom of what was wrong with the world, and it was time for a revolution in values—the dawning of the “Age of Aquarius” made that imperative. But at the dawn of the 21st Century there is no revolution pending, just a pervasive discontent, anger and rage targeted like a laser at one source; the murderous lies of President George W. Bush.

What caused this change? In the past, citizens learned about the latest casualty figures and perhaps thought of them as a necessary sacrifice for whatever cause the war at the time was about. But since Vietnam and Watergate, people have become far less trusting of the government, hence low voter turnout and even lower approval ratings for Congress and the President. Moreover, the Internet has made it possible to access information and images from around the world, painting a more vivid picture of the world than those with power want us to have. And in this present era of reality TV, images speak louder than words, and we treat the Osbournes, the Real World cast, and J-Lo and Ben Affleck, like our own families. Thus, it's

easy to see why the horror of war has become far better understood, far more personal and far more real.

This is where figures like Cindy Sheehan come into the picture. Sheehan's son Casey died in combat in Iraq last year, and like many of the parents of soldiers killed in the war, she wonders why her son had to die in a war justified by conspiracy theories and lies. President Bush claims that the blood of thousands of innocent Iraqis and ruthlessly exploited soldiers is being spilt for a “noble cause.” That answer isn't good enough for Sheehan, and when Bush took yet another vacation to his ranch in Texas on August 7, Sheehan decided to follow him there in order to get some better answers. She resolved to camp in front of Bush's ranch for the duration of his vacation, asking only that he take some time from his schedule to meet with her so she could ask one simple, poignant question. But let me allow Sheehan to put things in her own words:

“I want to ask him what was the noble cause that Casey and the others have died for, because he keeps on saying that they died for a noble cause, and I don't think a war of aggression against a nation that was no threat to the United States of America is a noble cause. And I'm not going to let him tell me about keeping America safe for freedom and democracy, because he told us before he invaded that it was about weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein with some kind of a link to al Qaeda. And that's been proven wrong, and it's been proven wrong consistently, and the Downing Street memos prove that as early as July of 2002, they knew that that was wrong and they had to fabricate the intelligence to fit their policy of invading Iraq. And that means that my son's murder was premeditated.”

What noble cause did my son die for? It's a simple, poignant question, with much power behind such few words. But for daring to ask this simple question, the President's loyal media terriers are vilifying Sheehan with animalistic ferocity. She's been called a “traitor” who is “exploiting death” to win political points. Radio host G. Gordon Liddy even accused Sheehan of being anti-Semitic! “She uses the term how the “neocons” are doing this thing—that's code word for “the Jews in the Pentagon.” Meanwhile, other pundits are complaining about today's “critical” press because of the coverage of Sheehan's protest. All of this outrage stems from one simple question: what noble cause did my son die for? Meanwhile, President Bush has refused to meet with Sheehan, although he seems to have ample time for attending fundraisers and clearing brush on his ranch. He also seems to be unable to fit into his busy schedule the funerals of soldiers killed in his “War on Terror.” All this cowardice stems from one simple question: What noble cause did my

son die for?

Why are they so afraid of Cindy Sheehan? Can one simple, honest question provoke so much fear and loathing? The answer is simple. Cindy Sheehan isn't a pundit. She's not seeking public office. She's not looking for any special favors other than an audience with the man whose war claimed her son's life. She embodies normal, middle class America; she's not a fuzzy academic roaring from her ivory tower, nor is she an “elitist” Hollywood celebrity singing antiwar songs at concerts, nor is she a pollster brandishing abstract statistics and poll data. She's merely a mother who lost her son to a war built on lies.

She is, in short, the human face of the antiwar movement, one they can't hide from, one they can't resist. And they are afraid, very afraid, because there is more power in her simple question and peaceful protest that all the guns and bombs and violence the warmongers praise from afar. And that is precisely why the chicken hawks attack her and the Warmonger-in-Chief hides from her.

And through it all, Cindy Sheehan weathers the warmongers' storm of slander with the tragic dignity and steadfast resolve of a bereaved mother. This baptismal by fire has made her the unexpected but welcomed symbol of the antiwar movement. You can't help but admire and respect mothers like Cindy Sheehan, Lila Lipscomb, and Nadia McCaffrey for opening their lives and allowing the world to see their private grief. Indeed it's a mother's love, pride, grief, anger, and thirst for justice that brought her to Crawford in the first place. And it's that same sentiment that is fueling the present antiwar movement.

The war and its opposition have a human face. And it is Cindy Sheehan.

*Out in the
desert...*



*...Leave a message and
I'll get back to you.
askamberlyjane@hotmail.*

How to Win a War on Terror

By Joe Safdia

Ever since September 11th, 2001, we have been led by President George W. Bush on what his administration calls a "War on Terror". Homes have been entered, arrests have been made, and countries have been invaded to make America safe from freedom-hating fanatics. But now, four years later, are we really safer, or are we in more danger than ever before? And does that danger come from alleged terrorists, or from ourselves? What the American people and government have to understand once and for all is how to win a war on terror.

The first thing that has to be understood is where does "terror", or "terrorism" as the rest of the world calls it, come from. Contrary from what seems to be a popular stereotype, it does not stem from the Muslim world (including Iraq) and it is not committed by psychopaths that hate freedom and have nothing better to do than kill people. Instead, it comes into existence when people heavily disagree with what a government or organized body does. Often, these anti-government attitudes come at a time when the ruling body has committed a particularly heinous act or revoked certain inalienable rights. The actions would have to be so unfair and treacherous that people would actually resort to violence to achieve justice.

Now how does this translate into today's world? Insurgents in Iraq are committing terrorist acts against U.S. soldiers stationed there. Why? Is it because they are fundamentally evil? No, it's because they are desperate. While their actions are heinous, vile, and reprehensible, they commit these atrocities upon Americans because of the atrocities Americans have committed upon them. The Bush Administration bombed the small, Third World nation and then ravaged through it with the most powerful military on the face of the Earth. Thousands have been killed, even more lost their homes, and all this was for our pursuit of oil. They have been left for years under

the rule of the U.S. Armed Forces and now a puppet government destined to collapse. The question to ask is, if the United States instead had been taken over by Iraq, would we resort to more peaceful tactics?

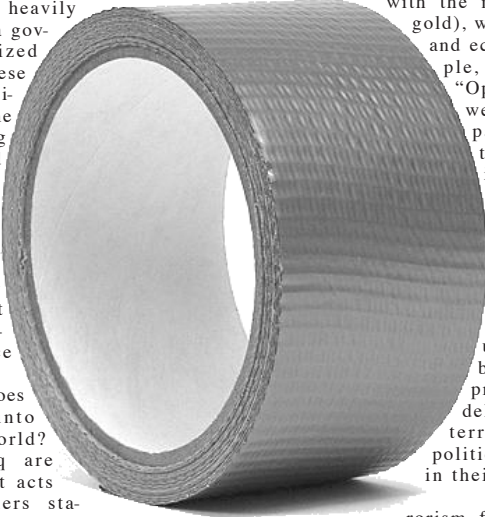
9/11 is another perfect example. The World Trade Center was destroyed by a terrorist organization called Al Qaeda. The question is, why would this organization want to strike such a deadly blow against the United States? Is it because we have freedom? Nope. Money? Uh-uh. Because they have nothing better to do? No I'm sure they have plenty of other things they want to be doing. The answer is America's poor treatment of the Middle East. Bush claims to oppose tyranny and oppression, but in reality we've been turning a blind eye to these totalitarian governments for years, even allying ourselves with these bloodthirsty warmongers when it suited our selfish needs. In our quest for Texas Tea (oil for those of you not familiar with the nicknames given to black gold), we have aided in the murder and economic ruin of many people, and in the case of "Operation Iraqi Freedom", we have personally taken part in the slaughter of these innocents. We have, in the pursuit of our own wealth, caused many Middle Eastern nations to be thrust deeper into poverty and now hold political power and influence over that part of the world. While the individual terrorist may have been drawn in to the prospect of killing "infidels", the leaders of these terrorist cells have more political and economic interests in their minds.

So how do we prevent terrorism from happening? Bombing countries that supposedly harbor terrorist factions is not a good option, since terrorism exists in EVERY nation. We would have to bomb ourselves, and I don't think that would go over too well. A good plan first off would be to take precautions against terrorist attacks. The Department of Homeland Security is a failure, a puppet organization designed to take in money and make the people feel more at ease. Those heavily armed cops you see now and then in the papers guarding random skyscrapers don't do

anything. Actual precautions have to be taken, including larger police forces and tighter security at our airports and other public buildings. Another VERY IMPORTANT step (the most important, actually) would be to strike terrorism at its root.

Why would someone from this country, for example, commit a terrorist act against America, for example? One reason would be the loss of our most basic rights, rights which are fundamental and necessary, rights that form the very foundation of our country. It seems that everyday another amendment from the Bill of Rights gets overturned. Between Bush's Patriot Act overturning the Fourth Amendment, the Supreme Court declaring it legal for state governments to confiscate private property for public use, the proposed constitutional amendments to ban gay marriages and flag burning, and many, many other things, this country has been drifting closer and closer to a fascist State in the past four years. While I do not advocate terrorism in any way, shape, or form, no exceptions, one cannot say they would be surprised if they ever witness or fall victim to a terrorist attack by once-upstanding American citizens outraged by the loss of freedom of speech and religion. This theoretical terrorist attack is not hard to prevent, believe it or not. The government can prevent it by not revoking our basic rights, or by sending our citizens into unjust wars, etc. Many people would say this is obvious, but if it were then there would be no support for the War on Terror, and the Patriot Act, War in Iraq, and proposed constitutional amendment to "protect" marriage would all not exist.

Of course, we live in a very politically complex world where not everybody can be happy. So in this world how can you fully eradicate what Dubya refers to as "terror"? In a nutshell, it's impossible. Well there is a way, but it would involve the eradication of the human race and I think we could all say we would be better off with the terrorism. Now even though terrorism is impossible to fully eradicate, since it is caused by people who disagree with the actions of the ruling party enough to take extreme measures, that doesn't mean it should be ignored. It should be dealt with, but not in the counter-productive methods that we have employed. Instead, the governments of the world, as cliché as this is, must stop working against each other and instead cooperate to make the world a better place. They must stop taking people's rights and lives away, and instead allow people to live their lives in peace.



SBU-TV, WUSB, The Statesman and the Stony Brook Press Present
a LIVE program discussing the pressing issues of student life today

IN FOCUS

8PM
Weds

WATCH it on **SBU-TV Ch. 20**
LISTEN to it on **WUSB 90.1 FM**

PRESS the stony brook
the community news and features paper

sb independent

MARBLE

Compositions

Name NEWMAN NEWBIE

School STONY BROOK

Grade FRESHMAN YEAR

18 Sheets

13¹/₂" X 10"

*The 2005 Freshman Guide
to Everything*

*Presented to you by
The Stony Brook Press
and the SB Independent*



The Kickin' -est Clubs on Campus

Independent: The Stony Brook chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists started this website last semester, and already it has gained respect and a good reputation for delivering serious campus news. The *Independent* delivers news and features with an emphasis on campus news and events, but it also offers national and world news with enthusiasm and authority. Overall, it's awesome. And it's independent. Oh yeah, you gotta love that independence.

Check it out at www.sbindependent.org. Union 071, Tel. 632-1395.

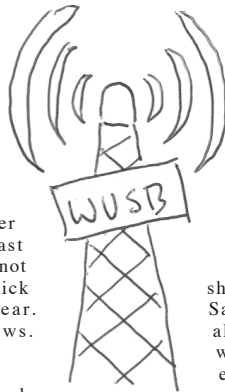
Blackworld - *Blackworld* features news and features from the perspective of Stony Brook's Black community. *Blackworld* won an award for Most Improved Student newspaper last semester, in addition to the awards and accolades it's received over the years, and it shows in its intelligent and enlightening articles. Unfortunately, due to budget problems that are endemic to student media on this campus, the newspaper put out fewer issues than usual last semester. But that's USG's fault not *Blackworld's*. Here's hoping they kick even more ass this year. <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/bknews>. Union 072, Tel. 632-6494.

SBU-TV - Did you know that Stony Brook has its own campus TV station? You didn't? Well now you know. Last semester the station debuted "Stony Brook Idol" and "Broken Radio", with more programs to come. And don't forget the side-splitting "Late Night with

Beverly Bryan". It's Channel 20 on your TV, be sure to tune in! <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/sbutv>. Union 073, Tel. 632-9349.

SBU-TV - Larry King, eat your heart out. SBU-TV offers an interesting alternative to the sometimes drab fare of basic cable TV, for those of you who are dorming, anyway. If you're in the dorms at 4 am and there's nothing on TV, flip it to Channel 20. Ghoul-a-Go-Go is a riot, as is the Bev Bryan show. Perhaps the funniest and most entertaining thing on SBU-TV, however, is their coverage of USG meetings. All the laughs, without the risk of getting arrested just for showing up.

WUSB - Did you know that Stony Brook has its own radio station too? It's 90.1 FM on your radio dial. Support the good folks at WUSB by tuning in while studying. The station has a diverse variety of shows including "In Focus", a public affairs program hosted by Dustin Herlich, "Long Island Liberty", a libertarian talk show hosted by Bruce Allan Martin. Sam Taylor and Vincent Michael Festa also host programs that are well worth checking out, among many others. The station recently added the excellent news program *Democracy Now!* to its lineup. Remember, it's 90.1 FM on your radio dial, check it out. They also broadcast online, <http://www.wusb.fm>. Studios located in Union 240, information/program guides available in Union 266. Tel. 632-



6901 (on air), 632-6498 (voice mail). **LGBTQA** - The Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual-Transgender Alliance is a safe space for queer or questioning students to meet with others in a supportive and diverse environment. The group does a lot of activist work on campus, including last year's Same Sex Marriage Rally, Diversity Day, and the National Day of Silence. Their office is in the Union Basement, around the corner from the SINC site, and meetings are held on Thursdays at 9PM on the second floor of the Union. <http://www.geocities.com/sblgbta>.

The Stony Brook Press - Don't join this newspaper. I repeat. Don't join this newspaper. I'm warning you. Avoid this paper at all costs. Oh wait, I thought we were talking about the Statesman. Whew. Yeah, the Press. The official paper of Stony Brook University. One of the most awesome publications on the planet. Just don't sit on the couches in the Press office ;-)

The Stony Brook Statesman - One of the finest editors of the Press' past, Sam Goldman, put it best: "this paper is the print version of white noise." Trust him on that.

NYPIRG: One of the most active groups on campus, involved in issues such as preventing tuition hikes to SUNY schools, environmental issues, the small claims action center, and registering students to vote. You'll remember us in a few weeks when numerous NYPIRG volunteers badger you in an attempt to get you to register. Our advice? Just do it.

TOP TEN Euphemisms for Vomiting

Welcome to college! Binge drinking! Don't forget to throw up, or you will die from the poison! This text was supposed to be pointed social commentary, but I am inexplicably sleepy!

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 10 | Boot! | 5 | Technicolor yawn |
| 9 | Make a deposit at the international bank of spew | 4 | Supplementing environmental nitosamine levels |
| 8 | Feed the babies | 3 | Oral dyssentery |
| 7 | The surgin' purge-reemergin' splurge | 2 | To cast the craw |
| 6 | The Yankee Rotation | 1 | Not choking to death only because someone rolled you off your back |

My Freshman Orientation Experience

—By Melissa Lobel

When you're younger, you always hear people talking about how you need to do well in school, so that you can get accepted to the college you wish to attend. At the time, college seems so far away and isn't something you want to even think about. Before you know it, you're walking across the stage getting your diploma, and after that comes the shortest, yet busiest summer of your life.

When I first got the packet in the mail telling me I was accepted, it wasn't long before I had to start registering for different things or mailing back forms before I could actually be considered a student. As a freshman one of the things that you need to do is register for SOLAR. For some people, SOLAR is their best friend, while for others it's their worst nightmare. To sum up what it is, it's the basis of your academic career at Stony Brook. It's the place you get your messages about what must be done before

you can start there. You can also register for classes or alter the schedule they make for you. Seeing as my orientation date was one of the later ones, friends who have been attending and know more about what needs to get done, told me I could make my schedule myself instead of waiting until orientation. With that said, I spent at least twenty hours trying to make a decent one that could coincide with my work schedule, and also having a decent day. I finally found one that would have worked out perfect.

About a week or so later, I went to help a friend make his schedule. When I logged into

my SOLAR account and clicked to view my schedule, they had changed it back to the original schedule they had made for me with all the wrong classes. When trying to get back in, I was told one was already full. Needless to say, I spent another ten or so hours trying to make a new schedule that would work.

Another thing that needed to be done was filling out a student health form which needs to be mailed in or brought down to the school within thirty days after the first day of classes. There's also several financial aid papers that need to be filled out as well.

When I finally did end up attending my orientation, unexpectedly it was quite boring. When I first got my orientation date, I was pretty excited. I was expecting to visit different parts of the campus and get to know where all my classes were. I also anticipated having people talk more about different clubs and activities that there were to take part in. Instead of taking an outdoor tour of campus, we stayed in the Student Activity Center the whole time, and rotated ballrooms for the different activities. The only time we left the building was to have our photos taken for our student ID's in the administrative building.

The basic points of an orientation are generally to help you accomplish a few key things: getting to know your surroundings, getting to meet new people, getting an idea of who is around to help you for different things, learning what the school has to offer, and being told what is expected of you. In my opinion, the only thing I feel was accomplished by

having the seven-hour orientation was introducing us to important people of the building and most importantly, our academic advisor. I don't feel you were able to actually get to know people due to the way it was organized. The only people you really had a chance to get to know were the six other people in your group who you walked around with all day. I also feel they only went into a very small amount of what was offered to both commuters and/or residents. As I mentioned earlier, I believe it is very important for students who are both living on campus and commuting to get acquainted with the area around them and have some idea as to which direction they're headed. Orientation did not accomplish any of this.

Even though orientation was supposed to end at 3:45pm, I ended up leaving a bit earlier due to illness. As a person who has several friends who have already been attending the university for a few years, 99% of the information we received were things I had already known from them. For that reason, I was pretty happy to leave. Given the fact that the next thing on the agenda was to sit in a room for an hour and learn about how to use SOLAR, I was even more happy to not have to stay at the building any longer. After my thirty hour escapade on SOLAR trying to make my schedule, I think I've had enough of that to last me a lifetime.

I fell in a puddle at my orientation

-Editor's Note

Transfer Advice

—By Emily Rothenberg

Transfer. Sometimes this student can be forgotten in the sea of activities and pamphlets targeted towards freshman. However, Stony Brook University attracts many transfer students, who often are forgotten in the rush to welcome freshman who are new to the college process. Everyone assumes that as a transfer, you're already familiar with the college process, however there are things that a transfer student at Stony Brook University should know.

The most important thing I learned as a transfer student is that not all universities are the same. I repeat: NOT ALL UNIVERSITIES ARE THE SAME. This knowledge is extremely valuable in choosing classes. The school I was previously attending was not strong in the sciences (I should mention it was a SUNY institutions, so naturally I would assume there would be similarities between the two) so I decided at Stony Brook, I would take a whole semester of just science and math classes. Big mistake! Do not do this, as Stony Brook is a highly regarded school of the sciences, and you will die if you load up on all science and math classes. Flesh out your schedule. Take classes that differ from one another. A science here, an English lit there. Really get a feel for where your personal strengths at **Stony Brook** are and where your weaknesses lay. You may have been strong in chemistry at So-and-So University, but it could wind up being the class you fail at Stony Brook.

Never assume that the student body at one school is akin to another. It's a big mistake. The student body at Stony Brook is incredibly diverse, and I suggest you take advantage of that and dive into all the groups on campus that interest you, be it the *Independent*, the *Stony Brook Press* (best publications on campus!), the dance team, or any other activity that catches your interest. Chances are you'll find people

there that suit your personality. The school I previously attended had 92% of its students living on-campus. Stony Brook has approximately a 50-50 ratio of residents to commuters, so that's a big change in the demographic between schools, just as an example. Not to mention the fact that Stony Brook will be in the shadow of one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world, with people all different regions attending, which can provide a stark difference between this campus and other campuses where the student body might be more homogenous. And if you don't sense any difference, just know

“The biggest mistake a transfer student will make is in assuming s/he knows everything...”

that there are plenty of people around every corner. If you couldn't find your niche at your old school, don't be discouraged when you begin your adventure at Stony Brook. I guarantee you will find at least one or two people you can be completely happy hanging around.

The biggest mistake a transfer student will make is in assuming s/he knows everything there is to know about college already and not ask questions. POLICIES DIFFER BETWEEN SCHOOLS, EVEN IN THE SUNY SYSTEM!! This is vital to your college life!! Ask questions and find out what the policies are concerning the things that are important to your college education. A mistake can potentially cost you an extra year at Stony Brook. Please please please listen to this advice most over anything. You'll

be glad you did. Ask questions about transfer credits and DEC's (your school might have a different name for them like "core curriculum," "required classes," "pre-req's," or "gen-ed's"), and if they match Stony Brook's own policy. This is of the utmost importance. You may think you have completed a DEC only to find out the second semester of your senior year that you haven't. It's worth it to bug someone for a half hour and have peace of mind. All the numbers and offices and names that will help you with this are listed in the guide for your easy reference.

For some transfers, living on campus might be a new experience. For that you should check out the sections on dorming and residence life. There will be specific dorm and quad reviews, as well as reviews on the dining areas located around campus.

As a transfer, though you may think not, there is an adjustment period to your new school. Try to get out there, join things, ask questions, and make sure you know where you stand with the school. And remember, the best thing about being a transfer is that you get a chance to re-do and correct the mistakes, if any, from your previous school. And that, my friends, is the advantage you have over freshman AND returning students. So hold your head high and know that you got that elusive 2nd chance and a fresh new GPA.

The Transfer Office at Stony Brook Office oversees all matters pertaining to transfer students, including transfer of credits from other institutions, advising geared to the transfer student, and more. They are located in the Administration Building, Room 134, Tel. 632-7028, <http://www.sunysb.edu/transfer>.

Stony Brook University is regarded by many as strictly a medical and scientific scholastic atmosphere. While the university does excel in those aforementioned areas, it is also a hot spot for the arts. There is a wealth of artistic statements being made daily on the Stony Brook University campus, although many are unknown to the student body in general. Here are a few of the locations and areas where the Stony Brook artistic community really shines...

The Charles B. Wang Center

The Charles B. Wang Center, a celebration of both Asian and American cultures, is one of the most beautiful and inventive buildings given to any university. Here you'll experience spaces of surprising traditional beauty juxtaposed with the latest in communications technology. Filled with light and air, graced by gardens inside and out, the Center offers spaces suitable for conferences, performances, exhibitions, and celebrations. The Charles B. Wang Center initiates and collaborates with academic departments, student groups, community organizations, and individuals in presenting the public with a multifaceted, intellectually sound, and humane understanding of Asian and Asian American cultures, and their relationship to other cultures. The Wang Center is also a presenting venue for events of cultural, professional and intellectual calibre that are initiated by and involve the various components of Stony Brook University, Long Island communities and organizations as well as other regional, national, and international constituencies. The Wang Center is non-partisan and non-sectarian, and upholds the values of pluralism, democracy, and equality. It includes exhibit spaces, an interdenominational chapel, an Asian food court, a theater, two lecture halls, a series of interior and exterior pools and terraces, and more than 35,000 square feet of sprawling gardens. A fiber optic network will enable students and professors at Stony Brook to exchange ideas across the world in real time, regardless of their physical location.

The Wang Center is open to the public Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with special events often held in the evenings and on weekends. Visit the Wang Center on the web: <http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/sb/wang/>. Also, check out Jasmine Dining, for the best Asian cuisine on campus (more in the food reviews).

The Staller Center for Performing Arts

The Staller Center offers a wide variety of performances from September through May and presents the Stony Brook Film Festival every July. Over 50 professional performances by entertainers such as Michael Feinstein, Judy Collins, Paul Taylor Dance Company and Opera Verdi Europa, as well as approximately 450 events generated by the departments of Art, Theater Arts, and Music, are part of the Staller Center season and are supplemented by those outside presenters such as the Long Island Philharmonic and the Seiskaya Ballet, which presents *The Nutcracker*. Since opening in 1978, The Staller Center for the Arts has presented an ever-expanding schedule of live music, dance, theatre, and fine art exhibitions in its five theaters and 5,000 square foot University Art Gallery.

In 1994, the center introduced 35mm film presentations in the Main Stage Theater, complete with Long Island's largest screen and

a Dolby sound system. The Fall and Spring Semester Film Series brings campus and community the best in art, foreign and popular films. The Main Stage theater seats approximately 1,050, the Recital Hall seats 380, and the three "black box" theaters have a seating capacity from 75 to 225.

For more information, visit the Staller Center on the web: <http://www.staller-center.com>.

University Art Gallery, 1st Floor of Staller Center

Each year the gallery has several curated professional exhibitions, a graduating MFA show, and an undergraduate senior show. Faculty exhibitions occur on a two-year rotation. Over the past 25 years the gallery has exhibited the work of such notable artists as Carl Andre, Leon Golub, Alex Katz, Lee Krasner, Roy Lichtenstein, and Cindy Sherman. Recent group exhibitions have included *Asian-American Artists: Cross-Cultural Voices*; *Distinguished Identities: Contemporary African Portraiture*; *Queer Visualities*; and *Intersecting Identities: Jewishness at the Crossroads*.

Recent Visions, Sept. 14 - Oct. 16

Lucio Pozzi: Photoworks, Nov. 6 - Dec. 11

MFA Thesis Exhibition 2005, March 5 - Apr. 9

Senior Show 2005, Apr. 30 - May 18

Graduate Art Gallery, 1st Floor of Melville Library

Run by M.F.A. students and faculty oversight by Grady Gerbracht. Second- and third-year students mount solo exhibitions in the space, including their individual thesis exhibition.

Gabi Moisan, *Make It Your Own*, Sept. 13 - Oct. 15

Lawrence Mesich, *D.B.I. Temporary Office*, Oct. 16 - Nov. 16.

Nilufer Ovaliglu, *Mirrorland* performance, Dec. 14, 16

David Grozinsky, Jan. 24 - Feb. 16

Max Liboiron, Feb. 17 - Mar. 9

Amy Bagshaw, Mar. 10 - April 10

Fumito Hiraoka, April 11 - May 2

First Year Group Exhibition, May 3 - 18

Undergraduate Art Gallery, Tabler Center for Arts, Culture and Humanities

Run by the student Fine Art Organization with faculty oversight from Christa Erickson.

300dpi, Oct. 17 - Nov. 24

Digression(s), Dec. 1 - 9

SAC Art Gallery, 1st Floor of Student Activities Center

Run by Curator/Interim Director Keith Miller. Gallery Hours: 11am - 5 pm, Tuesday - Friday.

Cinco, Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

Marriage, Nov. 4 - Dec. 9

Feb - March

URECA Exhibition, April 5-28

Pocket Theater

Completely student-run and student-managed, Pocket Theater puts on a number of entertaining performances throughout the year. Recent performances include "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged]," and "The Importance of Being Earnest." Check out their website at <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/pocket/>.

Prevention Through the Arts: "Swallow This"

An award winning program that puts dramaturgy in action. *Swallow This* is a touring production, written and performed by students, that utilizes drama, comedy and music in creative and powerful ways, cutting to the chase, and raise student awareness about Alcohol & Other Drugs (AOD). The program directly addresses the emotions behind substance use. The script is developed from actual anonymous stories collected from college student and staff relating their own experience with AOD.

For information, visit: <http://ws.cc.sunysb.edu/theatrearts/pages/swallowthis.htm>

Film On Campus

Aside from the annual Stony Brook Film Festival held in late July, Stony Brook University presents numerous opportunities for students to see films on campus throughout the semester. Here are a few of the upcoming highlights:

"Mad Hot Ballroom" September 9 at 7PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Walk on Water" September 9 at 9:15PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Up and Down" September 16 at 7PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Crash" September 16 at 9:15PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Sin City" September 20 at 8PM, SAC Ballroom A

"Ladies and Lavender" September 23 at 7PM, Staller Center Main Stage

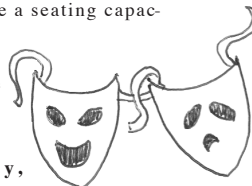
"Nobody Knows" September 23 at 7PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"War of the Worlds" October 7 at 9:15PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Broken Flowers" November 4 at 7PM, Staller Center Main Stage

"Hustle and Flow" November 4 at 9:15PM, Staller Center Main Stage

Also worth noting are the COCA Movie Nights, which are held each Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings, 7 - 11 PM, in the Union Auditorium. These events feature more mainstream, hit films for students to view and enjoy.



By Jeff Licitra

Stony Brook University has one of the most richly diverse and consistently busy campuses in the SUNY collegiate system. But sometimes one feels the need to get off campus and see what fun and entertainment lies in the surrounding areas. Luckily, Stony Brook and its neighboring towns hold a wealth of opportunities for activity and the necessary break from studying. The following are some of the better things to do and places to visit while spending some time off campus...

Avalon, Old Stony Brook - Avalon is a park and nature preserve complete with footpaths located centrally in rural Stony Brook. To get there, you go to Harbor Road and Main Street (at the duck pond) on your way to the old village. You can enter through the main gate, which is located across the duck pond with a gate on Harbor Road, or you can explore the northern end of the park by driving up Harbor Road and then turning onto Shep Jones lane, where you will find parking and a small information kiosk with maps and stuff. Avalon is just what you'd expect from a nature preserve but not something you often see in suburban Long Island. It's a place you've been missing out on if you've been around here for a while and a place you should check out if you're new.

Borders Books and Music, Stony Brook - Located mere miles from campus on Rt. 347, Borders Books and Music is a great spot for students to spend some time. Students frequently meet at Borders to get a coffee in the store's café, browse through the store's extensive selection of books, music and film or catch a glimpse of some of Long Island's most talented unsigned musical acts. For the computer savvy, Borders also offers discount coupons via e-mail, which is perfect for the often fiscally-challenged Stony Brook students. Borders Books and Music is open Monday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-11 p.m and Sunday 9 a.m.-9 p.m. Web site: www.borders.com. Call (631) 979-0500.

The Bridgeport-Port Jefferson Ferry, Port Jefferson - With numerous trips between Port Jefferson and Bridgeport, CT each day on one of three ferry boats, it's a great option for a weekend getaway of sorts. The Bridgeport-Port Jefferson Ferry Company also organizes tours throughout New England, which are worth checking out. Tel. (631) 473-0286, <http://www.bpfjerry.com>.

Martha Jefferson Cruises, Port Jefferson - Sailing out of Port Jefferson Harbor is the beautiful Martha Jefferson, whose deck is home to a variety of events that are both fun and reasonably priced. The most attractive of said events to students of Stony Brook University will most likely be the monthly Singles Cruise, which sets sail at 7PM on the first Thursday. What could be a better opportunity for romance to bloom than a boat filled to

the brim with dancing and partying, with the beautiful sunset on the Long Island Sound providing the backdrop. The Martha Jefferson offers singles of all ages a unique and perfect setting to meet new people and have a great time. The Martha Jefferson runs this and all of its events beginning in June through October. For more information, visit: www.marthajefferson.com. Call (631) 331-3333.

“[S]teer clear of the arcade and enjoy the other attractions...”

Mill Pond, Old Stony Brook - A right turn by the famous Stony Brook Museums will take you to a wonderful nature trip at Mill Pond. On a beautiful sunny day, ducks and geese alike flock to Mill Pond, where visitors feed and admire them as they soak up the sun. Mill Pond also features a recently-added series of nature walkways, which provide hours of outdoor adventure. And if that spirit of adventure captures you with particular distinction, a short walk up Main Street will take you to a small stretch of beach that proves very secluded and, thus, very relaxing. A great day outdoors!

Port Jefferson Village, Port Jefferson - The home of the Bridgeport/Port Jefferson Ferry, Port Jefferson Village offers a multitude of activities and attractions within its borders. Along Main Street (and its offshoot, East Main Street), visitors are treated to numerous bars, restaurants and shops that provide hours of fun. Plus, the docks adjacent to Danford's Inn are always a great place for a romantic walk for two. Places to look for: Tommy's Place (an excellent bar and restaurant offering live music and a late night menu), Billie's 1890 (a long-standing bar and restaurant which completes your visit to Port Jefferson Village), Tigerlily Café (a vegetarian-friendly eatery featuring acoustic-based live music frequently) and Toast (a café whose experience is so unique it defies description). Also worth noting are the free concerts the town puts on each Wednesday night on the lawn across from the Town Hall, which provide a cheap way to enjoy some music under the stars.

Sports Plus, Lake Grove - Although regarded by many as nothing more than a haunt for questionable young teenagers, Sports Plus actually has a few things to offer Stony Brook Students. The "Fun Center" features ice-skating and bowling year-round, which are a cheap and time-consuming way to beat the on-campus drabs. Sports Plus also features an arcade (com-

plete with a full-room laser tag game), but one would be well-advised to avoid these areas if the aforementioned questionable young teenagers are a concern. Sports Plus also houses a sports bar, Reunions, which is a great place to meet up with friends and check out the sporting events of the season. Additionally, Sports Plus regularly holds computer shows, which is a great place to purchase computer parts and accessories at dirt-cheap prices. So steer clear of the arcade and enjoy the other attractions Sports Plus has to offer. For a listing of events or for more information, visit: www.sportsplusny.com. Call (631) 737-2100.

The Long Island Museum of American Art, History and Carriages, Old Stony Brook - Talk museums to the average college student and more often than not they will tune right out. But this is one museum trip that simply cannot be missed. Only a short distance from campus on Rt. 25A, The Long Island Museum provides an abundance of rich, absorbing exhibitions. The Margaret Melville Blackwell History Museum presents changing exhibitions on American historical and social themes, with a gallery of fifteen miniature rooms and one of the top three hand-carved antique duck decoy collections in the United States. The Dorothy and Ward Melville Carriage House features nine galleries housing over 250 horse-drawn vehicles. Over 100 carriages, often regarded as the finest in the United States, are regularly on display, along with other rare artifacts from the carriage era. Additionally, art exhibitions are frequently held at The Long Island Museum, featuring some of the country's finest works and most intriguing artistic statements. For a full calendar of events or for more information, visit: www.longislandmuseum.org. Call (631) 751-0066.

Theatre Three, Port Jefferson - Tucked away at the far end of Main Street in Port Jefferson, Theatre Three is the home of some of the areas best and most critically acclaimed amateur productions. Each year, Theatre Three presents a Mainstage season of seven productions (four musicals, two plays, and *A Christmas Carol*); a Second Stage season featuring an on-going series of events including small plays, original one-acts, staged readings, and cabaret performances; an in-house children's theatre presenting nine original topical musicals; and a touring children's theatre offering four original programs dealing with child-at-risk or educational issues. Additionally, Theatre Three's Dramatic Academy offers three semesters each year (Fall, Winter-Spring, and Summer), an excellent opportunity to try out your talent for acting or (for Theater majors) to supplement your on-campus theater experience. For a calendar listing or more information, visit: www.theatrethree.com. Call (631) 928-9100.

STONY BROOK RECYCLES!		STONY BROOK RECYCLES!	
PAPER	PLASTIC	PAPER RECEPTACLES	
• NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, CATALOGUES	• BOTTLES & JUGS (MUST BE EMPTY AND CRUSHED)	ARE ON MAIN	
• WHITE/COLOR PAPER	• NO STYROFOAM, FOOD CONTAINERS	CAMPUS AND SOME	
• NO GLOSSY OR WAXY PAPER!		DORMS	
THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB ENCOURAGES YOU TO RECYCLE!			

Places For Peace and Quiet

By Ian Rice

Stony Brook University is one of the country's largest collegiate institutions, where thousands of students live and attend on a daily basis. Each and every day, the walkways are busy, the dining halls are packed and the air is buzzing with the hum of countless conversations. The dorms are often alight with activity and noise and it seems like the campus just never sleeps. So where can one go to get some peace, quiet and quality study time? Well, here are a few suggestions on where to take yourself to get some time to yourself...

SAC Traditions Lounge - Right across from the SAC Dining Hall, the Traditions Lounge is often a great place to get some work done. There are plenty of couches and tables to really spread out with your books on, as well as several outlets to get your notebook on the Internet. The only drawback: when the Dining Hall gets busy, the noise does manage to creep into the Lounge somewhat. Still, this is an excellent place for some solid study time. In fact, one editor from the SB Independent does the majority of his work there.

SAC Commuter Lounge - Just down the hall from the Traditions Lounge is the Commuter Lounge, a place for students who live off-campus to congregate and get some quiet time in before class. Similar in set-up to the Traditions Lounge (yet considerably smaller), the Commuter Lounge usually has plenty of space free and is a great place for quiet studying. The only drawback: the Commuter Lounge is right above a student recreation room, so sometimes conversation can drift up the stairs.

The Lobby of the Staller Center - One of Stony Brook's most overlooked getaway spots, the Lobby of the Staller Center is often very quiet and a great place to get your peace and quiet. With a bevy of couches, the Staller Lobby is both comfortable and functional for every student's study needs. The only drawback: the lobby gets busier as the day goes on, so this spot is best utilized in the early part of the day.

2nd and 3rd Floor, Social and Behavioral Sciences Building - On these two floors of the home of the history department are two beautiful study areas. Whether classes are in session or not, these study lounges are a great place to spread out your papers and really get to work. The only drawback: these are two pretty popular locations and space is limited, so you might be out of luck on occasion.

Melville Library - The Library seems the most obvious choice for a study location, as their number one rule is quiet. But the Melville Library is still worth mentioning if for nothing more than the sheer volume of places to get some studying done. There are many nooks and hide-aways in the library outside of the designated areas to get some work done, which makes the Melville Library one of the richest resources for peace and quiet.

Empty Classrooms - In any building on campus there are classrooms not being used at any given time. If you have searched high and low and can't find any other decent spot for some peace and quiet for study, just find yourself an empty room and get to work. Classrooms are always quiet and will provide you with at least an hour of undistracted time to work. The only drawback: Classrooms may only be vacant for the normal class duration, so may have to shift a few times if you're looking for an extended study period.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL STUDYING:

Don't wait until the last minute! - Spreading your studying for quizzes or exams out over a few days or even a week can greatly increase the amount of information you retain. Most professors indicate when the exams will be on the class syllabus, so you'll always be able to plan ahead. Cramming never pays off!

Take Detailed Notes - When in class, make sure you take notes that will be meaningful

later on down the road. Many professors will give you a brief outline with the notes the put on the board (or, in some cases, no notes at all), with the assumption that you will fill in the gaps with what you hear in their lecture. If you don't take detailed notes, you won't have anything to study later on!

Study for One Subject At a Time - Trying to fit in two or three subjects into one study period will more often than not lead to confusion and little to no informational retention. Sometimes you can't avoid studying for two or three exams at the same time, but if you have the option to focus on each course individually...do just that!

Form Study Groups - If you find that some of the material in a given class is going right over your head, chances are you are not alone. Try to seek out other students with the same difficulties and form a study group. That way, you can all contribute and perhaps give and receive a completely different perspective on the material!

Take Advantage of Office Hours - If you are having trouble, professors are ready and willing to help you. But you have to seek them out! All professors provide at least two hours a week to meet with them in their office and most will use this time or schedule other time to meet with you and help you through your difficulties with the course material. Also, many courses have one or more teaching assistants who will also be happy to assist you outside of class.

Go To Class - It might sound almost ridiculous to mention, but it really works. Regularly attending class and taking notes will help you absorb the material faster, and also gives you the opportunity to interact with your professors and fellow students, keep track of assignments, ask questions, etc. Trust us, this pays off when time comes to begin studying—you will find yourself much more familiar with the material!



Hey, did you hear about The Press?
The Press? Yeah, I heard about them.
Well?
I heard that they only like people with
raccoons on their backs.
Really?!?
Word yo. Raccoons.
Boo-yah baby, I'm in like Errol Flin!

THE STONY BROOK PRESS
RM 060 IN THE STUDENT UNION
WWW.THEPRESS.INFO #2-6451
MEETINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 1PM

Stony Brook A - Z

Academic Advising – These are the folks that can help you with such matters as advice on choosing majors, applying for graduate, law or medical school, choosing, dropping or withdrawing from classes, checking on your academic progress to make sure you haven't missed a required class or two, as well as petitions for such things as adding/dropping classes late. They are generally very helpful, but our advice is, if it's important, consult with more than one counselor to make absolutely sure that you're getting correct, consistent information. You can make an appointment, or stop in during walk-in hours. Their office is on the third floor of the Melville Library, at the top of the very large staircase. Open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tue-Fri, 10:30-5 on Mondays. Tel. 632-7082, <http://www.stonybrook.edu/aadvising>.

Banking – On campus, Teachers' Federal Credit Union has a full-service branch in the basement of the SAC and another branch in the hospital, offering the typical services you would expect to find at a credit union, including checking, savings and money market accounts. It is very easy for students to open an account here, and TFCU has other branches across Long Island and online banking



(<http://www.teachersfcu.org>). Student clubs and organizations can also open accounts here, and ATMs are located outside the branch in the SAC basement, and outside the Seawolves Market. There are also Bank of America ATMs outside the Stony Brook Union, by the entrance facing the library. Most major branches can be found in the surrounding region, especially on Route 347 and some on Route 25A. Both campus branches are open until 4:30 p.m. Mon-Thu and until 6 on Fridays.

Books – Locally, the options are fairly limited. The campus bookstore, operated by Barnes & Noble but lacking the variety and ambiance of most such stores, is known for its sky-high prices, low buyback rates, and very long lines during the first few days of each semester. Why long lines at a place so expensive? It's simple: convenience. Located on the lower level of the Melville Library, with an entrance directly across from the Union, it's the easy way out for many students, but it doesn't have to be that way. However, the closest option outside of the campus, Stony Books (Route 25A across from the train station), isn't terribly better, featuring long lines and quite often, rude service. The prices are slightly better though, and there tends to be a larger selection of used books, which are always less expensive. On Route 347 across from the Smithhaven Mall, you can find a Borders, with the typical selection one would expect from a large chain bookstore, and some students find some of their textbooks here, for less. Finally, an excellent option is ordering online. Half.com and sunyexchange.com are popular sites for buying and selling textbooks, and the prices are often much lower than at any of the local bookstores. If you have the patience to await your books to arrive by mail, this is definitely a great option.

As far as the campus bookstore goes, it is also a quick fix if you are looking for university souvenirs (sweatshirts, etc.), magazines, newspapers, and office supplies, which Stony Books also sells. The staff at the bookstore is also friendlier than that at Stony Books. Both

establishments also buy back books, but beware of books which have changed editions, which in many cases means that neither store will buy them back any longer. Another word of advice would be to attempt to get in touch with your professors before the start of each semester, to find out which books will be used in the class. The difference? No lines at either bookstore if you buy your books at least a couple of weeks in advance. The campus bookstore also accepts book reservations, at least a month in advance of the start of each semester—a convenient service, but be prepared to pay the establishment's inflated prices.

Finally, some classes offer "course packs" which are available through the respective department's main office, while others sell them through an establishment known as Budget Print (next door to Stony Books, across from the LIRR station).

University Bookstore: Melville Library – Tel. 632-6551 – <http://www.sunysb.edu/bookstore>. Typically open until 8 p.m. on weekdays during the fall semester.

Stony Books: Tel. 689-9010.

Buses – There is an on-campus bus network which links most major buildings. Once upon a time, students actually had to pay 50 cents a ride to go from building to building, but that's been replaced by the much wiser (as far as the administration is concerned) "transportation fee" which mysteriously appears on your tuition bill—whether you ride the buses or not. Nevertheless, the North and South local link buildings like the SAC, Union, most of the residential quads, hospital, South-P lot and railroad station. There is also an express bus which runs from the SAC loop to the South-P lot, but be prepared for long waits in the cold for most of these buses. The difference between the North and South local is the direction they run in, but they make the same stops. Yeah, we haven't figured it out either.

Additionally, there is a weekend campus bus which leaves every hour from the SAC loop and outside the Union, and travels to the Smithhaven Mall, and the shopping center across from the mall which contains a Borders, Waldbaum's and Sports Authority. Buses also leave from those locations to return to campus each hour.

Finally, there is Suffolk County Bus Service on campus, making stops outside the Union. The routes that service campus are the S60 (Gordon Heights-Smithhaven Mall), S69 (Port Jefferson), S71 (Brookhaven-Shirley), and 3D (Brentwood-Central Islip-Ronkonkoma).

Stony Brook Transportation: 632-6423 – <http://www.sunysb.edu/facilities/tps/transportation>

Suffolk County Transit: 852-2500 – <http://www.sct-bus.org>. Fare: \$1.00 w/ student ID.

Cable TV – All dorm rooms are equipped with a cable TV jack, usually found in the same wall outlet as the phone and internet connection. The campus cable system offers most basic cable channels, as well as HBO, HBO2, SBU-TV (the student-run campus cable station on channel 20), and a bunch of instructional channels which usually don't show anything but a Windows 2000 screen saver. If you're lucky, you'll catch the blue screen of death instead. Most, but not all (including Mendelsohn and H-Quads) dorm buildings also have lounges, which

typically offer big-screen TV's.

Campus Sights – On a campus often considered drab and boring, and often rightfully so, there are some interesting sights to see, even if not always picturesque. Roth Pond, in the middle of Roth Quad, is the artificially-made pond that is the butt of many student jokes, and home of the Roth Pond Regatta each spring (more in student traditions). Look out for the days when it is refilled with a fire hose.

In the lobby of the Graduate Chemistry building, the world's first MRI machine, invented right here at Stony Brook, is on display.

The Staller Center offers a variety of theatrical and musical productions, including major names in the arts. (More in "arts on campus")

The art gallery on the first floor of the library, by the main entrance, is often home to student art exhibits. Likewise, the Wang Center is often home to numerous exhibits of Asian art and culture.

The 9/11 memorial, between the Humanities and Psychology buildings, is a simple, yet somber memorial to the lives lost on that tragic day.

The Earth and Space Sciences (ESS) building is home to the Museum of Long Island Natural Sciences, with interesting exhibits on the geological history of Long Island. (<http://pbisotopes.ess.sunysb.edu/molins/>, 632-8230).

Finally, the Ashley Schiff Forest Reserve is a 26 acre stretch of untouched natural forest, and features hiking and biking trails, as well as numerous native species of plants. The reserve is between Marburger Drive (the road that leads to the South-P Lot) and Nicolls Road, south of Roth and Tabler Quads. <http://pbisotopes.ess.sunysb.edu/aschiff/home.html>.

Cars and Parking – Oh boy, one of our favorite topics. As this is a major commuter school (over half the students commute), one would expect that parking services would be top-notch. Wrong. Probably the most frequent commuter complaint is the lack of accessible parking on campus. We'll guide you through the ins and outs of bringing a car on campus.

Residents: Normally, residents with fewer than 57 credits (in other words, freshmen and sophomores), are not allowed to receive a parking permit to park in the resident lots. The exception to this is if you can prove that you need the car for employment or health reasons (proof constitutes a note from a doctor, employer or other such figure). If you are eligible to park on campus, you will receive a blue parking permit, and you will be able to park in the resident lots (likewise signposted in blue). Some of these lots are easier (Tabler) to find spots in than others (Roth).

Commuters: Any commuter, regardless of number of credits, is eligible for a green commuter pass. However, that's where the problems start. Most commuters opt to park in the South P-Lot, which typically involves a 20 minute commute to the main part of campus by bus (including wait). Others opt to park in the North P-Lot, by the railroad station, but this lot fills up quickly except for its furthest reaches, and also requires a bus ride, albeit shorter, to the heart of campus. There's also a very small commuter lot by the Sports Complex, which fills up extremely quickly as well.

Other parking lots: Of course, you could

Continued on page 7

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from page 6

opt to park in one of the metered lots (behind Social and Behavioral Sciences, behind Earth and Space Sciences, behind the Union, behind the SAC), or get on the waiting list for a stadium pass (allowing you to park in the conveniently-located Stadium Lot...however, there are over 200 names on this list and it literally takes years to make it to the top), or search for one of the precious few—and we mean *few*, curbside parking spots on campus (mostly on Engineering Drive). You could also risk a ticket and park in the faculty/staff lots, signposted in red, or in other areas designated as “special services” or “no parking.” Tickets are typically \$15-\$25 and can be appealed, but are issued frequently. However, everything changes after 4 p.m., when parking is allowed in all areas of campus except where otherwise designated (either as a “no parking” section or as a 24-hour staff or special services lot). Our advice? Choose the lot that is nearest to your first class, and get to campus 30 to 45 minutes, if not more, before class begins.

Parking services: 632-6423 –
<http://www.sunysb.edu/parking>

Class Selection – If you are an incoming freshman, undoubtedly you have already been through part of this process during orientation, though we learn that this year, class schedules have been made up for freshmen, instead of allowing freshmen to make their own with help from advisors. This, we feel, is a mistake, as class selection is truly a skill, and doing a good job of choosing your classes can help make or break your undergraduate career.

First things first, in order to register for classes for the following semester, you will need to know when your enrollment appointment is set for. These are usually posted on SOLAR by early November, under “Enrollment Appointments.” Simply, this is the exact date and time that you will be able to start registering for classes on SOLAR. Enrollment appointments are given in order of class standing—i.e., seniors register first, followed by juniors and so on. Athletes, RA’s, honors college students, etc., also receive priority appointments. To be a full-time student, you need to register for a minimum of 12 credits. You can register for up to 17 credits up until a couple of weeks before the start of the semester, when the limit is raised to 19. There are no printed class schedules, in order to find out which classes are available, you need to use the “Class search” option on SOLAR, and to add the class, the “enroll” option.

Most students need 120 credits, including 39 upper-division (300 or higher) credits, a minimum 2.00 GPA, all DEC’s must have been completed, and at least 36 credits earned at Stony Brook after their 5th credit, in order to graduate. You also need to choose your major by the end of sophomore year, and have completed the upper-division writing requirement within the major, preferably by the end of junior year. Students in the college of engineering must complete 128 credits to graduate.

How do I select a major or minor? You pick up the major/minor declaration form in the lobby of the second floor of the Administration Building, fill in your majors and minors of choice, and get the signature of the head of the respective academic department you are choosing. You then submit the completed form to the Registrar’s Office, in the lobby of the second floor of the Administration building. You can

choose to double major, and can choose up to three minors. Be sure to scan the Undergraduate Bulletin (available in book form or online in .pdf format at <http://www.stonybrook.edu/ugrdbulletin>) to be absolutely sure of all the requirements within your major or minor, as well as to explore all the different academic offerings available to you. There are many minors which share many classes with many majors, and even a few majors which overlap the same classes, so with careful selection, you can easily knock off a minor or two or even complete a double major!

What are DEC’s? Short for Diversified Educational Curriculum, these are the closest thing to a “core curriculum” at Stony Brook. There are 11 categories of DEC’s, some of which have one class, while others have two. When searching for classes online, you can specifically search for all the classes from a specific DEC, and all DEC classes are also noted in the Undergraduate Bulletin. Our advice? If you at least have an idea of what you will choose to major (or even minor) in, check the Undergraduate Bulletin to see if any classes are offered within that department that count towards any DEC requirement. That way, you won’t take a class needlessly for a DEC, if your major or minor also offers a class which will not only count towards your DEC, but completion of your major or minor as well. For all other DEC’s, choose wisely, and ask around. Some classes are easier than others, and just because a class is listed as a 300-level course does not automatically make it more difficult than a 100-level class. For DEC categories which are not covered by your intended major/minor, try to take the classes as early as possible in your undergraduate career, just to get them over with. Sites like www.ratemyprofessor.com are great for checking out other students’ comments on professors. Finally, make sure that you meet all the prerequisites for any class you intend to take.

Dropping/Withdrawing: For about two weeks or so after the start of the semester, you can continue to add/drop classes for whatever reason, with no penalty. After that, however, dropping a class will result in a “withdrawal,” which appears on your transcript as a “w.” It honestly isn’t the end of the world if you have one or two on your transcript, but a consistent pattern of withdrawals will not look good if you intend on going on to graduate study. You will also need to maintain at least 12 credits after withdrawal.

Pass/No Credit Option: Fortunately, there is another option besides withdrawal. You can choose to P/NC a class, which means that if you pass, even if your grade was to be a D, you will receive a “pass” for the class, and “no credit” if you fail. This does not count on your GPA, but this class cannot be counted towards your major, minor, or 120/128 credits towards graduation.

Petitions: Sometimes, extenuating circumstances will necessitate that you petition for a late add/drop of a class, an increase in the amount of credits you can take for one semester, etc. For such things, you need to fill out a petition form, complete with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. You can pick up a petition form in the Academic Advising Office (see “academic advising”) and submit it to the Undergraduate Affairs office in room E-3310 of the Melville Library, and await the decision (which can be appealed).

AP Credits: Stony Brook recognizes AP

credits and they are a great way to get a head start on your academic career, and in some cases, can partially fulfill a DEC requirement or count in place of an introductory course in topics such as economics, psychology and history. A listing of AP scores recognized is on Page 22 of the Undergraduate Bulletin (<http://www.stonybrook.edu/ugrdbulletin>). In order to get credit for your scores, they need to be submitted to the Transfer Office (Administration Building, Room 134, Tel. 632-7080, <http://www.sunysb.edu/transfer>).

Changing Majors/Minors: All you have to do is pick up the same form you used to choose a major, and select the option to drop the major that you write in.

Waiting lists for classes: Most classes, once full, do not have waiting lists to enter. Your best option would be to keep checking on SOLAR, in case another student drops the class and a seat becomes available, or to show up on the first or second day of class and attempt to have the professor sign you in. The latter is officially discouraged, but common practice in most classes, and usually, professors will keep an unofficial list of who wishes to enroll, or if there aren’t too many students, might give permission to enroll.

Checking grades: After the end of the semester, grades are posted on the SOLAR system, under “view grades.” Usually, they take a week or two to be posted, but it’s not unheard of for some professors to take even longer. Whatever the case, don’t expect your grades to be available the day after finals.

Academic Probation: If your GPA falls below 2.0 for a semester or overall, you are immediately placed on academic probation. There’s no reason to panic, but if your GPA continues to remain below 2.0 for another semester, you may be expelled from school. While you are on probation, you have periodic meetings with an academic advisor, who oversee your progress in classes, assist you with your schedule and time management, etc.

Final advice: Don’t try to go all out, taking 19 credits each and every semester, but don’t slack off either, and make an informed choice about which classes and major/minor you choose. If you have an idea of what path you will be taking, consult with the undergraduate bulletin and attempt to “map out” a rough sketch of what your 4 (hopefully) years will be like. If you’re taking a major and a minor that are of similar subject matter, look for classes which overlap and will count for both. Likewise, if your major offers classes that fulfill specific DEC’s, plan on taking those instead of an unrelated class for that same DEC (do make sure, however, that it is a class that is regularly offered—the undergraduate bulletin often lists classes that have not been offered in a few years). Try to get the rest of your DEC classes over with as early as possible, and don’t be afraid of upper-division classes after your freshman year, but be sure to ask other students about specific classes and professors before deciding. Be careful of pre-requisites and co-requisites that some classes have (they are listed in the course bulletin and on SOLAR), and avoid taking classes that don’t count for anything—DEC, major, minor, upper division credits—unless you are seriously interested in that particular course. Finally, especially in your junior and senior years, look into opportunities for credit outside of a traditional classroom setting: internships, research projects, teaching assistantships, and study abroad opportunities.

Clubs and Organizations – There’s over

Continued on next page

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from previous page

200 student-run clubs and organizations on campus, and new groups appear each year. Whether you are interested in another culture, politics, sports, the arts, or an area close to our hearts, media, odds are that an organization on campus already exists that matches your interests. During the first few weeks of the semester, a number of involvement fairs are held, and individual student clubs hold open houses, which are advertised throughout campus, and which are open to any interested student. The office of Student Activities, on its website and at its office, has a listing of all registered clubs on campus. They are located in the SAC, Room 219, Tel. 632-9392, <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/studentactivities/>.

If, however, there is no existing club out there that meets your interests, you can start your own. The deadline for registration is October 1st, and there are a number of steps which you will need to take, including attending required workshops, filling out applications, choosing a faculty advisor, and drafting a constitution, but it is doable! More info is available at Student Activities.

Commuting – As mentioned again and again, this is a hardcore commuter school. Unfortunately, being a large campus, many commuters fall into the trap of fading into the crowd on campus, coming to school only for their classes, and leaving at the end of the day. We feel that as a result, commuters miss out on what could actually be a very fun and rewarding experience outside of the classroom.

Yes, we understand that parking is extremely difficult (as covered in “cars and parking” above). We also understand that many commuters also have outside jobs or other responsibilities which require them to be off-campus. But we’re also sure that most commuters have at least some free time which they could spend on campus. And, looking around, there are a number of clubs and organizations on campus, all of which welcome commuter students. In fact, some of the students who are most involved and dedicated to student life on campus are commuters—commuting hasn’t stopped them, and it shouldn’t stop you either.

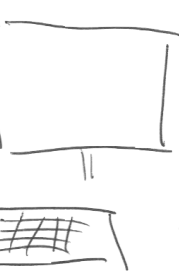
There is also an office of Commuter Student Services, which runs a number of workshops and programs for commuter students, and from our experience at least, has a very friendly staff. They are located in Suite 222 on the 2nd floor of the SAC. Tel. 632-7353. <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/commuter/>.

Additionally, there is the Commuter Students Association, which is an actual campus organization made up of commuter students, featuring various programs put together with the commuter in mind. They hold weekly meetings and often serve free breakfast for commuters in the Commuter Commons, a commuter lounge on the 1st floor of the SAC across from the Seawolves Market.

Finally, there is also a commuter lounge in the library on the first floor. The entrance is by the art gallery, across from the elevators.

Computing On Campus – A word of warning before you read any further. If you will be living on campus and plan on bringing your computer along, please, PLEASE make sure that it is equipped with the latest anti-virus and anti-spyware software (AdAware is a good start, as

well as any major AntiVirus software maker). We cannot stress this enough. The residential network on campus is polluted with spyware, viruses as well as malicious users who have nothing better to do with their time than to cause problems for everybody else. Protect yourself and your computer by doing this.



That said, if you will be dorming, the first thing you will realize when you plug in your computer is that it needs to be registered. During the start of the semester, this is a process which often takes a couple of days, as thousands of students are all moving in and registering their computer almost at once. During that time, you won’t be able to

access the internet, until your computer is finally fully registered by the system. Once it is registered, you will have access to the internet, but another word of warning: downloads of mp3’s and certain programs like IRC are almost impossible to use, thanks to the very stringent firewalls in place on the network. However, surfing the web, e-mail and instant messaging should work properly. Beware, however, of frequent network outages.

That said, if you will not be bringing a computer, don’t despair. Each residential quad has a computing site, usually open from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., where you can get online, write a paper, print things out, etc., though printing anything over 10 pages is usually frowned upon. There are also computing centers, known as SINC sites, in the library (1st floor), Union basement, and smaller ones in the Computing building, Harriman and in the Central Reading Room of the library. The library is by far the busiest, and there are often very long lines if you wish to print something (typical limit: 30 pages). The Union site offers the same services as the library, but in a much more relaxed atmosphere.

There is also Wi-Fi access at some main points throughout campus, including the SAC lobby and commuter lounge, the Fireside lounge on the first floor of the Union, the University Café, the Union SINC site, the main lobby, SINC site, commuter lounge, east side stacks and north reading room of the library, the Harriman Café, the Computer Science library and the Javits lecture building. You will need an 802.11b adapter. Call 632-8568 or e-mail telnet@notes.cc.sunysb.edu for more information about connecting.

SOLAR system: This is where you add/drop classes, enter timesheet information if you are a student employee, search for which classes are open, check for your grades at the end of each semester, get an unofficial transcript, etc. The system is annoying and sometimes confusing to use, but there’s really no other way around it. Use your student ID number and password (which you should have set up during freshman orientation) to log in, <http://www.sunysb.edu/solarsystem>.

Blackboard: More and more classes seem to be using Blackboard to supplement the course material in class. Many professors post syllabi and other course documents on blackboard, while others even make use of other features on Blackboard allowing the student to submit homework assignments, check homework/exam grades, or use the message board for a virtual class discussion. Use your sparky username (typically your first initial and first seven letters of your last name, or some variation thereof) and student ID to log in, [\[board.sunysb.edu\]\(http://board.sunysb.edu\).](http://black-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Student e-mail accounts: Every student has their own “sparky” e-mail account, which consists of your sparky username @ic.sunysb.edu. Visit the SINC sites in the Library or Union and speak with a representative there about setting up your password. You can configure programs such as Microsoft Outlook to check your mail for you (POP/SMTP server: mail.ic.sunysb.edu), or check online at <http://webmail.ic.sunysb.edu>. There’s also a FAQ at: http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/student_accts/index.php.

Student webspace: Every student is entitled to 20MB of free webspace, hosted on Stony Brook’s servers. The format of the URL is <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/stu/sparkyusername>. You can upload files to your site via any FTP program, and get information on how to start your site at: <http://www.sinc.sunysb.edu/helpdesk/docs/webdevelopment/index.php>.

Dialup access: If you find yourself off-campus and needing to get online by any means possible, you have access to the university’s dialup system. More information at: <http://clientsupport.cc.stonybrook.edu/modem/numbers.shtml>.

Computer/network help and repairs: For help with any computer or networking problems, contact Client Support at 632-9800 or 632-9602, or online at <http://clientsupport.cc.stonybrook.edu/>. Be prepared to wait as much as a week, or longer, for help, especially during peak times (start/end of each semester).

Special software pricing for students: The university has a license with major software makers, including Microsoft, allowing for students to purchase programs at minimal cost, as well as Dell computers with a discount over regularly advertised retail prices. More information at Client Support’s website (above).

Dean’s List – A relatively unimportant issue (except to some), but since it seems to be asked about pretty often, we’ll include it anyway. It’s really not that hard to get on the Dean’s list, with a 3.0 GPA typically required for a full-time student. If you make it to the Dean’s list, it should be noted on your transcript within a few weeks.

Disability Support Services – Agency which assists students with any sort of physical impairment, hidden disability or chronic medical condition and offers counseling. Located in Room 128 of the ECC Building (between Psychology and Javits), Tel. 632-6748, <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/disabilityservices/>.

Dorming – Dorming can either be a memorable, enjoyable experience, or can go sour very quickly, depending on a number of factors, including your building, your roommate/suite-mates, your neighbors, and the staff (RHD’s and RA’s) of your building. The convenience of dorming, of course, is unmatched, as you are literally just a couple of minutes away from most places on campus, and are around thousands of other students who you can interact with. There are two main types of dorm buildings: those with corridor-style rooms and those with suite-style rooms. The corridor style rooms are basically a large bedroom for two students, with no living room or private bathroom—there are men’s

Continued on page 9

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from page 8

and women's bathrooms for an entire hallway. What these rooms tend to lack in personal space, they seem to make up for in terms of a more vibrant social life than suite-style rooms. Suites contain 2 to 3 double bedrooms, and a bathroom and living room shared among the residents of the suite.

Here are some tips and advice on a number of different dorming-related issues:

Getting along with your roommate: Sometimes, especially if you are an incoming freshman and have no choice over who you will be living with, this is a tough one. Try to be friendly and open from day one, and definitely try to be considerate of the others' space. Relations between roommates tend to go sour, most often, due to a lack of communication. You may not end up being best friends with whoever you are living with, but as long as you can get along on some level and respect each other's right to be there, there shouldn't be that much of a problem.

Problems: That said, even a student with the best of intentions might end up living with someone they just can't get along with. If you can't resolve the problem with your roommate, attempt to bring it up to the RA. There are multiple RA's in each dorm building, one for every section, and it is their responsibility to keep things in order. If you try that and still feel that your problem isn't getting resolved, move up a step, and talk to the RHD, who oversees the entire dorm building. Hopefully they will be able to assist, to save you further troubles and to avoid the hassle of dealing with Campus Residences, which, unfortunately, has often proven to be very ineffective and inconsiderate of students' problems.

Inspections: Every month or so, RA's come by your room and inspect the premises. You usually have 24 hours' warning and they basically make sure that everything is clean and that there are no safety hazards. They will also look for anything that you are not supposed to have (microwave ovens, candles, pets, etc.) but are not allowed to touch or search through anything.

RA's: Like we said, one in each section of the building. Try not to badger them with silly problems, and keep in mind that it's the luck of the draw with RA's as much as with anything else...some are friendlier and more laid back than others. RA's will respond to such things as noise complaints and have been known to break up parties that are too noisy, have too many people in a room or some such thing (that's assuming they themselves aren't partying, of course). They also occasionally hold hall meetings.

LEG: Each building has its own "legislature," which receives an allocation from the student government which can be used in whichever way is decided...anything from organizing a barbecue, to a basketball tournament, to purchasing a new pool table. In most building, they tend to meet on Tuesday evenings in the building's main lounge or classroom space. A president, vice-president, treasurer, and secretary are elected before each semester begins.

RSP: These are the students that you will see roaming campus in teams of two or more, usually wearing jackets bearing the RSP letters. They go around closing doors which have been propped open, check ID cards of students entering dorm buildings after a certain hour, and can respond to or report emergency situations. Not a favorite of other students on campus.

Guests: Typically, each resident is entitled to bring in up to three guests with him/her

at any one time, and in theory at least, they need to be registered with the RA on duty or some other such figure. If you're planning on having a party, it is also suggested that you mention it to your roommates or suitemates and make sure that they are OK with it as well.

Quiet hour: There are some buildings that have sections designated as "24 hour quiet," and generally, these sections are quieter than other parts, though that isn't always a guarantee and this doesn't always seem to be enforced. Many dorm buildings also have quiet study rooms and lounges to use if there are too many distractions in your room.

Holidays: The buildings stay open during breaks such as Thanksgiving, but hardly anybody is around, and we feel bad for the lonely souls who have no other choice but to stay. At the end of each semester, i.e. during Winter Break, the dorm buildings are closed and you have no access to those rooms until the following semester, even if you are keeping the same room.

Choosing a room: This process tends to begin in April, and there is typically some paperwork to be filed. If you intend on staying in the same room or at the very least in the same building, the process is generally as simple as putting your signature on paper. If you choose to move to another building, in most cases, all you need to do is denote it on your application and then go to that particular building during room selection. If you have a friend or friends who want to live in the same suite as you, all you simply need to do is find a suite that has enough spaces available. The only exception to all of the above are the West Apartments, where heavy preference is given to seniors and juniors, especially those with good GPA's.

Changing a room: This is extremely difficult to do, especially in the middle of the semester, but if you have a serious reason to, you may be able to convince Campus Residences to allow you to make the change, depending on whether or not there are other rooms available. It is a bit easier to make the change before Winter Break, as there are a number of rooms which become available at that time.

Drinking - There was a time when the legal drinking age was 18, and each dorm building on campus featured its very own student-run pub or coffee house. Those days are long, long gone, and most of those pubs and coffee houses have been converted into "recreation rooms" which few students seem to utilize. However, as at most other college campuses, drinking is a fact of life for many students. The only venue on campus which serves alcohol is the University Café, in the rear of the Union, however, a strict 21-and-over policy is enforced in the evenings, when drinks are served.

What does that leave us? For most students, parties in dorms. Parties happen all the time, though Stony Brook won't be mistaken anytime soon for a serious, hardcore party school. Most dorm room parties are relatively small, and the size and extent to which these parties are rowdy depends on the students involved, as well as the RA's and RHD's of each building, who may or may not choose to turn a blind eye (we can't make any guarantees). It's not uncommon for parties to get broken up, but it's also not uncommon for many parties to last into the wee hours of the next morning. Thursdays are typically the traditional party night on campus, and a walk through the hallways of most buildings those evenings will turn up a few parties...we can't guarantee that you'll be welcome

in each one, though.

There's also various favorite spots for drinking off campus, including the Full Moon Café on Route 25A and various other clubs and bars which spring up each year, and change names so often that we can't keep track. Though it's technically illegal, promoters freely distribute flyers to such establishments throughout campus, so you'll definitely catch word about these places sooner or later.

Facebook/Myspace - The nationwide phenomenon has also swept Stony Brook by storm, and literally thousands of students have already set up accounts on both of these sites, as well as online groups and message boards. If you don't know what these are, check them out, even if you don't start your own account. <http://www.thefacebook.com>, <http://www.myspace.com>.

Financial Aid - The first step towards receiving financial aid each year is to fill out the FAFSA, online at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>. It is a ridiculous, convoluted application, much like filing an income tax return, but absolutely vital if you hope to receive federal or state tuition assistance such as TAP or qualify for Stafford Loans. The best time to complete this application is December or January, and a few months later, you will likely receive your financial aid award decision in the mail. If you receive TAP or any other state or federal assistance, it should immediately apply to your tuition bill at Stony Brook, but always double and triple-check, as mistakes have been known to happen (and sometimes happen often). For any problems with tuition, billing or financial aid, contact the Bursar's office, in the lobby of the second floor of the Administration building, Tel. 632-9316, <http://www.sunysb.edu/bursar>. Financial Aid office: Administration building, room 180. Tel. 632-6840, <http://www.sunysb.edu/financial>.

Food - One of the biggest questions of them all. If you are a resident, you are required to be on a meal plan (there are four levels, depending on how much you think you will spend in one semester). They are all quite pricey, and odds are that the first or second (bronze or silver) will be sufficient for you, unless you will be eating 3 meals a day, staying every weekend, and treating your friends. It's always wise to start low, as more money can be added to your meal plan at a later date. We say this because any leftover meal plan points (1 to a dollar), are not refunded, which leads to the familiar end-of-semester scene of students hoarding overpriced chocolates and boxes of cereal in order to use up their remaining points. Meal plans are divided into campus points, which can be used anywhere where meal plans are accepted except Jasmine, and a smaller amount of flex points, which can be used only at Jasmine, and leftover points can be used towards other dining areas as well if you run out of campus points. More information about the meal plans can be found at www.campusdining.org.

Fraternity and Sorority Life - Despite the rocks scattered throughout campus with the Greek letters painted on them, this is not a major school as far as fraternities and sororities go. They've only been around for about 20 years and have, quite honestly, limited appeal. That said, there are over 20 frats and sororities on campus, and they are fairly visible on campus—you will see them in force during rush week,

Continued on page 14

Pocket Map: A Guide to Campus Locations

Editor's Note: The corresponding map is on the next two pages.

Residence Halls

1. H-Quad – Home to many members of the football team and various sports teams, chaos is usually ensuing. Often, you can see them running around the courtyard at night in drunken rampages. From my experience, the biggest ones are the nicest ones. So don't be afraid to make friends with them. Benedict holds the SINC site, the dining hall and the gym. They all have strange hours, so figure it out. P.S. If you want to play tennis, the courts behind Langmuir are a piece of crap but beggars can't be choosers. There are more courts behind the H-quad parking lot; however you will probably never play on them since they are always taken as well. Also you will never find parking, so good luck!

2. Mendelsohn – This is Mecca to students involved with the greek lifestyle. While frat boys and sorority girls are scattered all over campus, the majority of them end up here. There is no dining hall here but they do have Campus Residences. You can't eat anything there. Campus Residences usually tells everyone to go away, but if you bring your mom you can make it past the 3ft high door. I once saw a guy leap over the door in desperation to get someone speak to him but he was quickly reprimanded and kicked out. Irving is supposedly haunted, so that should be fun for all living there. Ammann is a safe haven for anime lovers to watch anime without getting punched in the gonads. The parking perks of this place is that when you can't find parking, students pretty much park wherever the hell they want like on the sidewalk. We don't know what the hell the descending rectangular pit is for but it sure is fun.

3. Roth – The sometimes overwhelming smell of fertilizer doesn't stop anyone from hanging around the Roth pond. The popular Roth Regatta boat race is held here every spring and hundreds of people show up to enjoy the festivities. A lot of smart people live in Cardozo. The general ambiance of Roth is an eclectic group of friendly and fun kids. People are usually feeding the fish animal crackers, fishing for three-eyed albino fish (I SWEAR) or skipping rocks across the pond. The lucky residents of Roth do not have to walk far to get anywhere because they are situated close to the SAC and Academic Mall. Lazy Mount inhabitants believe a bridge should be built over the pond so they do not have to walk around it. When winter hits and the pond freezes, the fun isn't over. The daily scene is kids tiptoeing around the pond to find out where the ice is weak and wonder if they will fall in. People have put chairs out in the middle of the pond to sit back, reflect and smoke a lot of pot. Get to know people here because in these suite-styled dorms, great parties happen.

4. Tabler – Weed. Weed. Weed. Pot. Pot. Pot. Marijuana is a permanent smell for this quad and every door number is 420. Way out in the "sticks" and on top on a monstrous hill, this is a pothead paradise. Take a quick stroll around the quad and signs such as Weed Boulevard are everywhere. Many suites are decked out in colorful tapestries and posters of Bob Marley. I don't know how anyone who lives here is able to graduate. It is laid back and everyone just wants

to be your friend and smoke a lot. This is the home to many colorful characters on campus. This quad is all about fun and you will probably go to many parties here. In the winter people all over campus steal lunch trays and sled down the steep Tabler hill.

5. Roosevelt – I have no idea what goes on in here. I went in here once, it was dark and scary. I haven't been back. Roosevelt rocks out the prison style quad because the architect who designed it used to design prisons. That's a fun fact! Skateboarders usually hang out in the courtyard because of the many ledges and steps. But I think the majority of people don't know what goes on in Roosevelt. We just leave it at that.

6. Kelly – This is where you will usually find yourself late at night because the cafeteria is open till 3AM. It is quiet and reserved. Usually a lot of lacrosse and baseball players live here. There are many parties but they are usually private. People are very private around here. The balconies are a great plus for cigarette smokers. Beneath each balcony are millions of stogie butts and the occasional pile of hair after someone shaved over the balcony. A lot of firecrackers and fireworks happen here. The Midnight scream during finals week is usually the best here and it can be heard all the way from the apartments. Also hip hookah smokers congregate almost nightly outside Kelly deli so join them and make some friends.

7. The West Apartments – Everyone wants to live here. Reserved for the upperclassmen, usually anything goes here. Since most of them are legal, a lot of drinking goes on here. The parties thrown here are always fantastic because the RAs usually don't care and the people know what they are doing. The apartments are enormous, with two bathrooms, a kitchen, a common room, singles and doubles. People usually smoke pot whenever and wherever they please because nobody cares. This is where you want to live in the future so don't fuck up. The only downside is that it is about a billion miles away from everything on campus.

Dining Halls

8. Jasmine – Chinese Food, Thai Food, Indian Food and Japanese Food. All yummy but pricey. There is also bubble tea. It tastes like pure crap. Don't bother. Beautiful place to eat. Try everything else. Vegan friendly. Carnivore friendly. Best place to eat on campus.

9. Roth Dining Hall – You kids know Burger King. The Terra Ve Lunch/Dinner is only open for a few short hours and serves pasta, sandwiches, salads, and the usual crap you see around campus. Sometimes has sushi night or lobster night. SBU Delivery delivers you Deng Lee's and pizza two hours later. (Call 2-5201) There is also Kosher dining. Vegetarian eating options available now. Deng Lee's sent my suitcase to the ER twice. So you do the math.

10. Kelly Dining Hall – Open until 3AM. That usually is enough to get people to eat there. They make sandwiches, burritos, tacos and nachos your way. White castle burgers sneak in once in awhile. There is a pizza and pasta station. A salad bar. The meat carvery is open for a few short hours and they have a vegetarian corner. The deli has ice cream, cereals, canned foods, frozen foods, etc. Kelly refrigerators have

many herbivore options.

11. The Union Eateries – The Union has four eateries, the Bleacher Club, the Union Deli, and the new Delancy Street. The Bleacher Club is usually packed with more frats and sororities than you can handle. The food there rarely changes and mainly consists of mash potatoes and macaroni and cheese. The Union Deli makes pretty good sandwiches, but the lines can be very long. Delancy Street is new, so you can tell me about it when you go there.

11b. The End of the Bridge – An actual restaurant on campus. Yes, I'll say it again: an actual restaurant on campus. If you want to actually sit down and have someone wait on you and get appetizers and drinks and entrees, and occasionally hear really loud people be really loud, this is the best place to be. They aren't very expensive, but they're not notably cheap, either. Try the Buffalo wings. Simply to-die-for. Very nice place to eat and spend more than an hour in. Plus there's big-screen televisions.

12. H-Quad Connection – There is no Friendly's and there never will be a Friendly's here. Taco Bell is ok if you do not eat any of the meat from there. Eat only vegetarian items and you will stay as healthy as the day you entered Stony Brook. The grill here is where I would eat. Chicken tenders, hamburgers, French fries and Philly cheese steaks are the only way to go. All the other stuff they serve is not so great and might give you stomach aches.

13. Kelly Coffee and Tea House – Absolutely the niftiest place to go on campus. It's like a Starbucks, except not as artsy-fartsy and you don't see struggling New York City actors strapping on their messenger bags and adjusting their non-prescription glasses while straightening the legs of their corduroys and reading the works of Sartre cross-legged with a cappuccino and a single napkin on the table. This place is much better than that, especially when you sit up on the high chairs and feel social and important. Plus, if there's a person sitting in the high chair alone, you can laugh at him. Quietly, though. Don't hurt his feelings.

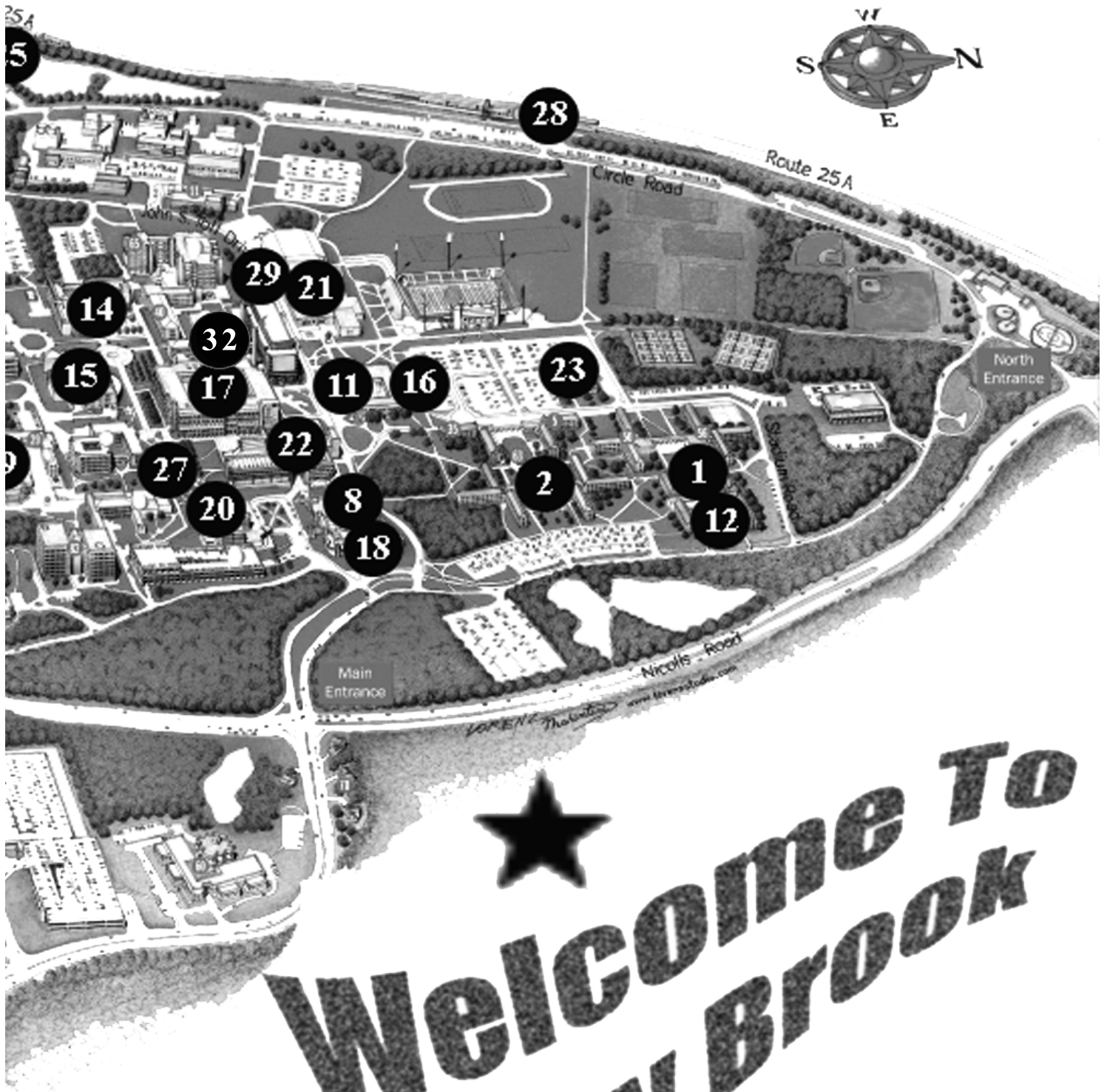
Important Buildings

14. Earth, Space and Science Bldg – The roof is usually open so students in Astronomy classes can get a good look at the sky. You can see the entire campus from here which is pretty cool. The outside of it is so pretty. Go sit on the pretty grass. This is a good spot for you to wait between classes.

15. The Student Activities Center (SAC) – The SAC, which is located in the center of campus, is the place Stony Brook loves to show off during orientations and in catalogs. The SAC includes the Seawolves Marketplace, which is an on campus store where the tampons and aspirin are made of gold, or at least their prices make them seem so. The SAC has the biggest food court on campus, and most of the food is pretty tasty (if you are not adventurous and stick with pizza and hamburgers.) In the lobby of the SAC are those damn fake bicycles that can entertain you for hours between classes. Free food can usually be found during different events in the SAC. In the lobby, the ballrooms or other areas throughout the building, just pretend you are

Continued on page 13





★
Welcome To
Stony Brook
★

Pocket Map: A Guide to Campus Locations

Continued from page 10

interested in what they are preaching and you can get yourself a cup of coffee and a donut.

16. The Student Union – The Union does not look as pretty as the SAC, but it is the home to the glorious Stony Brook Press. The Union has the Union Deli, the Bleacher Club, Delancy Street and the End of the Bridge restaurant. Since the Union is located near H-Quad and Mendelsohn Quad, many sororities and fraternities can be found wandering around here. But do not fear, the rest of the building houses the SBU TV, WUSB, classrooms, two ballrooms and more. There are many entrances to the Union when it is locked, you just have to look really hard and do not give up. The Union also has some nice lounges and a small courtyard to hide out and study.

17. Library – The library is a big ass building that you can not miss. In the main stacks are many quiet corners to study where no one will find you. The creepy silence and the lack of humans in the stacks will lead you to believe that no one will hear you scream. You have nothing to be scared of; there could be a young creepy fellow just around the corner to save you. There is a food stand in the middle of the library although there is no eating in the rest of the building. No worries here, because although you will look at the food every time you pass, you cannot afford those cookies. The largest Sinc Site is also in here, and is almost always packed. Only go here if it is an emergency, all the other Sinc Sites are empty and have nicer employees. In the grass field right outside of the building is where if the weather is nice, you will find some Ultimate Frisbee taking place. Many offices and classrooms are located in the other floors of the library.

18. The Wang Center – The Wang Center is a beautiful building that we cannot use. The art and architecture is very modern, with some ancient Asian art inside. This building would be a wonderful place to have classes in, but this has yet to happen. Many indoor gardens, fountains and quiet corners can be found in this building. The Jasmine Café, located inside does draw many students in, but it still has a cold feeling to it and needs to be more broken in. Last year this building was used mostly for non-student dinners and company conferences. The lecture halls and classrooms are gorgeous and look like they have never been touched. Hopefully this year, the Wang Center will get more use by the students since it is a part of our campus.

19. Javits Lecture Center – The Javits Lecture Center caters to all your introductory course needs. Gigantic lecture halls where you are just a number, projection screens that never work, malfunctioning computers, unpredictable temperatures and more! And if you are lucky enough to enter into a major where all you have are lectures, then it is Javits from 8 am to 9 pm for you! Javits 100 is the largest lecture room on campus, it holds about 500 students. You will only see it full during the first weeks of classes and test days. Sitting in the balcony gives you a nice view, but it can be very tempting to fall asleep or throw things at people, so I would not suggest sitting up there. The couches in the center of Javits are not too bad and give you a chance to stare at the people passing by.

20. Administration Building – Welcome to the place you will hate going into for the rest of your undergraduate career. Administration has many of the important offices on campus for students. So why would they hire only the angriest and the slowest people to work there? The Financial Aid, Registrar, and Bursar offices will keep you waiting on line forever.

21. Sports Complex – To lose that freshman 15, stop eating. But also check out the racquetball courts, swimming pool, basketball courts etc. They offer Tae-Bo, kickboxing, aerobics and various free workout classes throughout the week. There is also a sweet gym there, but I do not think you can use it.

22. Staller Center for the Performing Arts – Walk through any of the halls and you will hear beautiful music escaping from tiny offices of talented professors. There is an art gallery where you can admire artwork and quite frequently there are performances you can attend. There are also piano rooms where you can practice your skills. Girls only want boyfriends with great skills. Bow hunting skills, computer hacking skills, nunchucks skills...

23. Student Health Center – It takes months to get an appointment because everyone is sleeping around. Yep. Sure its fun, but then you end up here. The nurses and doctors are really nice so don't fear their cold hands. It takes forever to get an appointment so play it safe! But if you call after 1 pm, you could sometimes get an emergency appointment. I also hear they give massages but I don't know how.

Randomness

24. Shortcut near Kelly – This is the infamous risk-getting-raped “woods.” While it is relatively safe during the day, you probably should avoid it at night. It saves you four minutes walking from Kelly to SAC parking lot. There is a stick somewhere marking the parking lot side and the other one, you're on your own.

25. Death pit behind Kelly parking lot – Climbing in the tubes seems fun at first but it's really not. Steeper than Tabler hill, you will probably break something trying to sled down it, but by all means try it. It's completely deserted which opens the door to destroying incriminating evidence and performing illegal acts.

26. Bamboo Forest – You will soon realize that Stony Brook makes a lot of mistakes. However, this bamboo experiment gone wrong worked in students' favor. For years, kids trekked through the woods to get to this secluded area to get drunk and sing around the bonfire. Often, you have no idea who you are talking to but usually it was one of the greatest memories you had of Stony Brook. Too bad you suckers missed it. Apartment H is now the bamboo forest.

27. The Fountain – The fountain is what you see on the Stony Brook website. The pictures of it will include students smiling and having fun front of it but you will never see these students on campus. It is nice to look at when it is on, but it's a bitch when the wind blows in your direction on a cold day and sprays water on you.

28. LIRR train station – It will be packed

on the weekends all day with students trying to run home crying to their mommies about how they have no friends. So if you really need a train ticket, get there very early because the ticket line is insanely long. If the train comes and you are on the wrong side DO NOT run across the tracks after the bells start ringing, use the overpass. Someone got killed last year. If you go during peak hours, sometimes it's so packed, they don't check the train tickets and you get to ride free. Whee!

29. John S. Toll Drive – What the heck is this road you ask? This is actually a very interesting one. Once a year, nerds all over the eastern seaboard gather by the thousands to dress up like their favorite anime hero or fight with their light sabers. Seriously, check it out. Also this is where the homecoming parade takes place and you come out to show your school pride by wearing a big foam hand. The Special Olympics is also set up along this road. Go sign up and volunteer for this rewarding and fun event.

30. The Tree Right Near Roth Pond That's On A Strange Angle – This tree is the greatest freak of nature. It's right there, in your way, as you try to get to Tabler Quad in a hurry. It's on such a unique angle that you will practice different stylistic ways of hurdling over it each time you pass. Simply wonderful.

31. University Hospital – Big strange looking building. If you are not in any kind of medical major, you probably will not be here very often. It is very nice inside with some never ending escalators.

4b. The Tabler Steps – Fuck these steps. Fuck them right in their step asses. These steps are my bane, and I loathe them. But somehow, against all logic, I feel some sort of appreciation for them. They are quite cool. After about three weeks, though, you'll stop wearing heels.

4c. The Tabler-Roosevelt Connection (The Magical and Enchanted Passageway in the Woods) – This is the greatest path on campus. It's fucking amazing. Here's what you do: go to Eisenhower college and bear east to the big tall fence. There should be an elevation of stone and grass that gradually meets an apex. Go to that apex and climb the fence. Once on the other side, you will be in Lothlorien. The ground consists of colors of green you thought you'd made up in your dreams. Climb that beautiful hill and be careful not to fall in any holes covered up with autumn leaves. After a minute or so of this, you will reach another fence. Climb that fence and... BAM! There you are, right at Toscanini. A walk that would normally take you fifteen minutes has just taken you three. Pat yourself on the back. Well done.

32. The Zebra Path – This infamous path can be seen in every single pamphlet that glorifies Stony Brook. There must be something really special about this path if its picture is everywhere. I walk this path everyday and each time I think, “What a piece of crap.” This does not even look like a zebra. It looks like a nine-year-old dropped paint on the floor and said, “Look, it's a zebra.” They have to repaint it every couple of months, so why keep it there? It is a waste of time and our money.

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from page 9

likely see various pledges doing things like marching like soldiers in straight lines throughout campus, and likely see groups of students from the same organization decked out in their Greek letter jackets. The Inter-Fraternity Sorority Council oversees all Greek-letter organizations, <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/ifsc>.

Gyms and Healthy Living – The SAC is home to the Wellness Center, located on the 3rd floor of the SAC and featuring most of the amenities of any health club, plus plenty of students eager to show off their bodies. The center is open 7 days a week, often until late. Tel. 632-7168, <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/recreation/wellnesscenter>.

Additionally, each residential quad also houses a small gym, with exercise bikes, weights and cardiovascular equipment. They tend to be open in the evenings and are good for a quick workout.

The campus also has many miles of often scenic hiking and biking trails, alongside most major roads and through the Ashley Schiff Forest Preserve (more info in Campus Sights)

There are also a number of intramural sports teams on campus, including basketball, indoor soccer, flag football, bowling, volleyball and softball. More info by calling 632-7168 or at <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/recreation/intramural>.

Finally, there are indoor basketball courts, a swimming pool, and various sports facilities in the Pritchard Gym (adjacent to the Indoor Sports Complex). Outdoor track, basketball and handball courts, as well as, baseball and football fields are located behind the Indoor Sports Complex and LaValle Stadium. Take the bus towards the South-P lot and one will also find a large soccer complex next to the parking lot.

Students can usually be found shooting hoops, playing football, or handball at various times of the day. Pick-up soccer is usually found behind the sports complex typically on late Friday afternoons. Beware of geese droppings.

As far as healthy eating goes, there's honestly not much of it on campus. At most establishments, you will likely find some pre-packaged vegetarian meals, and in the SAC and Union, you should be able to find pre-packaged salads, sushi, bagels and other lite fare. More details in the food reviews.

Honor Societies – Are they worth it? Depends on your perspective. While many see these organizations as nothing more than money-making tools (and honestly, some of them are pretty much just that), there are some who are actually active on campus and which appear on your transcript if you become a member (Golden Key, Sigma Beta). One constant with all honor societies is that, if you qualify (typically a 3.5 GPA or higher is needed, but the exact number varies from group to group), you will receive a letter notifying you that you qualified and inviting you to an event, but informing you that there are membership dues. Again, for certain groups, paying such dues is worth it, but for others, the money is better spent elsewhere.

ID Cards – Absolutely vital in your day-to-day life as a student, especially if you are a resident. Besides containing the obvious: your ID number, they are also valid photo ID's and can

be used to purchase food on campus if you are on the meal plans, borrow books at the library, as an ATM card at Teachers' Federal Credit Union, as a laundry/vending machine card for the laundry rooms and vending machines on campus, and are necessary in order to be able to enter dorm buildings. We've probably missed a few items as well. Since these cards are heavily used, they are often lost or damaged. In a choice between the two, try to damage the card instead of losing it—replacing a damaged card that doesn't work anymore might not cost you a thing (depending on the mood of whoever is in the ID card office), but replacing a lost card will cost you \$35. Even if it's stolen. Welcome to Stony Brook?

ID Card office: Administration Building, Room 103 (this is where you go to get a new card, or to fill it for vending/laundry purposes). To fill your card with more meal plan money, visit www.campusdining.org.

Jobs – If you are a work study student, finding a job on campus is easy. Of course, that's for the obvious reason that you need the job to pay your tuition. For students ineligible for the work study program, finding a job is a bit more tricky. The SOLAR system has job listings, however, our experience tells us that most listings are outdated and in many cases, the qualifications are such that most undergraduate students cannot meet them. Early in the semester, there is a large on/off-campus job fair which takes place in the SAC, which is a good place to look for a job. Another option is the Career Center, located on the side of the Melville Library, by the Zebra Path, where you can sign up with MonsterTrak, or speak to someone about finding a job or internship on or off-campus. They also host a number of seminars and workshops about finding jobs and internships and for career options after graduation, and also assist with such matters as choosing a major. As a student, you can receive academic credit for an internship, and the Career Center is able to assist with that as well.

Most on-campus jobs range from 8 to 20 hours a week, and most of them pay anywhere from \$6 to \$8 an hour, though there are a few jobs that pay more than that. If you are not a work-study student, you receive a paycheck every two weeks, on Friday, in the office of the department that you work for (e.g., if you work in the Student Activities area, your check will be available in the Student Activities suite in the SAC). There is also the option to have your check mailed home. Whatever you do though, be sure to put your academics ahead of employment, and to choose a job that you think you will genuinely enjoy or excel in...there's no reason to ruin your college experience just to make a few extra bucks.

Career Center: Tel. 632-6810, <http://www.career.sunysb.edu>

Laundry – Each dorm building on campus contains a laundry room, typically in the basement, with washers and dryers for student use. The machines are not free, and can be used with your ID card, assuming that you have inserted money into the laundry/vending account on the card (you can do this in the ID card office, Administration Building, Room 103). Beware, however, as panty thieves are a common, and

unfortunate, part of campus life.

Additionally, the Seawolves Marketplace (SAC first floor) features a wash/dry/fold service, which, as you can expect, is fairly pricey, but promises next-day service.

Libraries – Almost everybody is familiar with the Melville library, the "main" library on campus, but there are actually quite a few branches on campus. Here's an overview:

Melville Library: Home of the Central Reading Room (featuring computers connected to the internet, newspapers/magazines and basic research material such as encyclopedias, as well as videos, DVD's and rooms to watch these in). The main stacks are also located here (second and third floor, entrance on third floor at the top of the giant staircase), as well as the Music library (Tel. 632-7097) and the Science and Engineering library (Tel. 632-7148) and University archives. The building also contains the library SINC site, a commuter lounge, art gallery, the Galleria Café (meal plans not accepted), the alumni office, the academic advising center, the honors college, and various classrooms and department offices. There's also a Kinko's on the lower level, where the bookstore and Austin Travel are also located. Somewhat disjointed from the rest of the building is the Career Center, also on the lower level.

Chemistry Library: Chemistry Building C-215. Tel. 632-7150.

Computer Science Library: Computer Science Building. Tel. 632-7628.

Health Sciences Center Library: Level 3, Health Sciences Center (East Campus). Tel. 444-2512. <http://www.hsclib.sunysb.edu/>.

Math, Physics, Astronomy Library: Physics Building C-124. Tel. 632-7145.

To borrow books, you simply need your Stony Brook ID card, and can keep the books for 4 weeks. Overdue books, as one might expect, are fined. Don't take this lightly...if you are about to graduate and have outstanding fines, you will not receive your diploma!

Believe it or not, the library also sponsors tours. More information at <http://naples.cc.stonybrook.edu/lib/libforms.nsf/tours>.

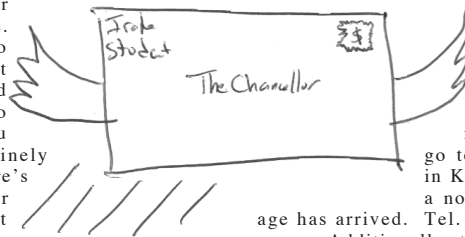
Finally, the entire catalog of books, magazines, articles and other resources at all the campus libraries can be found online.

Melville Library: 632-7100, <http://www.sunysb.edu/library>.

Mail – If you live on campus, you can receive letters in your own P.O. Box (shared with your roommate), located by the main entrance to each building. Ask your R.A. or RHD for the combination. If you need to receive a package, it will go to the central mailroom in Kelly Quad. You'll receive a notification when the package has arrived. Tel. 632-6231.

Additionally, there is a U.S. Post Office in the lower level of the SAC, open weekdays until 3 p.m. There are mailboxes located there, as well as outside the Union (by the parking lot) and on the corner of Circle Road and Engineering Drive.

Medical Care – The University is home to Stony Brook University Hospital, one of the major hospitals on Long Island and also home to the medical school. However, for most minor medical situations, you can visit the infirmary,



Continued on page 15

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from page 14

located on Stadium Road across from James College (H-Quad, by the Stadium Lot). Routine medical care and light emergencies can be handled here, though there is sometimes a bit of a wait. The infirmary is also home to the counseling center, which offers free and anonymous counseling, crisis intervention and therapy year-round. The counseling center also provides emergency services in the unfortunate event of a sexual assault (call 632-7320 during the daytime or university police at 632-3333 or simply 333 after hours). Anonymous STD testing is also available, as well as immunizations, and the infirmary has a pharmacy on premises. Infirmary: Tel. 632-6740, <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/shs/>. Counseling Center: Tel. 632-6720, <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/counsel/>. The phone number for emergencies from a campus phone is 333 or 911. Off-campus or from a cell phone on campus, 632-3333 (dialing 911 from a cell phone on campus will likely connect you to off-campus services). University Hospital: Tel. 689-8333, <http://www.stonybrookhospital.com>

Off-Campus Housing – We know about the students that live in the dorms. We also know of the commuter students who live at home and commute to school by car, bus or train. But there's also a lot of students who, especially after having dormed for a year or two, have chosen to rent a room or apartment off campus. Granted, housing on Long Island is usually expensive, and this is definitely the case for rooms that are for rent very close to campus, especially those within walking distance. However, in the surrounding towns around Stony Brook (Setauket, Port Jefferson, St. James, Centereach, etc.), it is entirely possible to find housing for approximately the same price as dorming, but with the added convenience of not being required to be on a meal plan, and often, the price you would pay off campus for a single, spacious room is equal to that of a cramped double room on campus. Other students have also been known to rent large apartments or even houses, splitting the cost and utilities between them, also a very good option if you have enough friends that are willing/able to do this.

The Off-Campus Housing Office has a very useful listing of available rooms and apartments in the area, online at <http://och.vpsa.sunysb.edu/och.htm>. The office is located in the lobby of the Union, next to the information desk and the Seawolves display, and is open weekdays until 3 p.m. Tel. 632-6770.

Phones – Each dorm room is equipped with a telephone, to be shared with your roommate. The phone lines on campus, it should be mentioned, are digital, so odds are if you bring a phone from home, it will not work on campus, but since phones are provided, this is not a problem. Each phone has a voice mail box for the room. To dial a phone number on campus, you need only dial the five digit extension, instead of the full seven-digit number (e.g. 632-6000 is 2-6000, 216-5000 is 6-5000, etc.). Additionally, calls to phone numbers in the 631 area code are free. Just dial 9, followed by the number without the area code.

For long-distance calls (long distance being anything other than 631), you can either use a phone card with a 631 access number (phone cards are available at 7-11's and convenience stores), or set up an account with the campus telecom service. Call for more info, 632-9137.

As far as cellular phones go, it is wide-

ly acknowledged that Verizon has the best reception on campus, though Cingular's service is also pretty good and they reportedly have towers on campus.

Police – For better or for worse, the University Police don't have the greatest of reputations among students on campus. It is worth mentioning that the University Police are actually State Police, not Suffolk County Police, though for serious crimes, the University Police and Suffolk County Police do work together. The police headquarters is also out of the way in South Campus, impossible to find unless you specifically go looking for it. That could be a good or bad thing depending on your point of view. That said, they are a bona fide police force, so any arrest or charge will be reported to the Campus Judiciary, and if serious enough, to the appropriate Suffolk County authorities. The number, in case of an emergency, is 333 or 911 from any phone on campus (including the blue boxes that are lit at night outside dorm buildings), and 632-3333 from off campus phones or cell phones (do not dial 911 from a cell phone if it is a campus-only emergency, as the call will likely be directed towards Suffolk County Police and bypass the campus police...they will tell you to call Campus Police).

Campus Police also patrol the roads on campus, and will not hesitate to stop you and write you a hefty ticket if you are caught speeding, passing stop signs, or otherwise doing something that would make them want to stop you in the first place. Unlike campus parking tickets, tickets issued by the police are pricey and can affect your driving record, so keep that in mind.

The Police also have a walk service, especially useful if you feel at risk or uncomfortable walking alone on campus after dark. No, this is not a personal escort service. The phone number is 632-RIDE (7433). Website: <http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/police/>.

Railroad – The Long Island Rail Road station is on the north side of campus, running alongside the North-P lot and Route 25A, across from Stony Books, Cosmos and 7-11. Stony Brook is situated on the Port Jefferson branch, with the train heading to Port Jefferson in one direction, and Penn Station via Huntington, Hicksville or Jamaica in the other. In all honesty, the LIRR isn't much of a convenience. The trains run every 90 minutes to 2 hours, and usually take about that long to reach the city (it takes about half the time to go by car, barring traffic). There's usually lots of stops along the way, and there's often delays, especially during bad weather. It's also expensive. However, we realize that for many students, it's the only way to get home or anywhere off campus, for that matter.

Timetables can always be found at the Stony Brook train station, and sometimes at the information desk in the Union. They're also online, at <http://mta.info/lirr/html/ttn/j.htm>.

Religious Services – There are a number of religious organizations on campus, including the Catholic Campus Ministry, Hillel, Protestant Campus Ministry, Islamic Society of North America, and the Baptist Campus Ministry, as well as a number of student-run groups such as the Muslim Students Association. They are all overseen by the Interfaith Center, and all of the above groups have offices in the second floor of the Union. Religious ceremonies and events are organized throughout the year.

Tel. 632-6565, [\[brook.edu/OSA/interfaith.nsf\]\(http://brook.edu/OSA/interfaith.nsf\)](http://naples.cc.stony-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Research Opportunities – Stony Brook is a major-league research institution, and each year, receives millions of dollars in state and federal grants. It's affiliation with Brookhaven National Laboratories, as well as the existence of Stony Brook University Hospital and a number of renowned professors in their fields, especially in the sciences, add to the wealth of opportunities on campus. Sometimes, it seems that *too* much emphasis is placed on research, at the expense of other academic offerings, but there is no doubt that there are some serious opportunities available for interested students.

Through UCREA, you can find out information about research opportunities and grants, fellowships and competition, as well as advice on how to further your research endeavors. Additionally, you can contact your departmental research liaison, talk to your professor, as well as other students who may have already experienced such opportunities.

UCREA is located in Room N-3071, Melville Library. Tel. 632-4378. <http://www.sunysb.edu/ucrea>.

Scholarships – The University and its academic departments, as well as some on-campus organizations offer a number of different scholarships, grants and awards for high-achieving students. Additionally, the Scholarship Office on campus offers information on competitive national and international scholarships and awards as well. It's definitely worthwhile to apply to some—you can't win it if you're not in it. A number of ceremonies are held throughout the year for scholarship winners, culminating in the Undergraduate Achievement Awards in late April or early May.

Office: Administration Building, Room 440. Tel. 632-6712. <http://www.sunysb.edu/scholarships>.

Smoking – Quite often, it seems that the students who seem to make friends most easily are those who smoke, and the reason is obvious: since smoking isn't allowed in most buildings on campus, you will often find groups of smokers huddled outside the entrances to buildings to catch a puff. As far as smoking in the dorms goes, the rule of thumb is to be considerate and to ask your roommate and suitemates if they would mind your smoking. There are also sections of dorm buildings which are completely non-smoking, so be sure you're not in one of those areas. Cigarettes are not sold anywhere on campus.

Snow Emergencies – The university has a spotty record in recent years as far as these are concerned, often having cancelled classes for a storm that never arrived, or not canceling classes in time (or at all) for a legitimate storm. The best way to find out if classes have been cancelled or not is to call the Snow Hotline, at 632-SNOW or 444-SNOW. Be sure to call back often, though, as information is often not updated until literally the last minute. Emergency information also appears on the university's website and on the campus information channel, Ch. 10 on the residential cable system. Oh, and don't count on too many snow days.

Now, what to do on campus when it snows. Assuming you are a resident and won't leave campus, you will realize that snow cleanup is very slow, especially along the

Continued on next page

Stony Brook A - Z

Continued from previous page

pedestrian paths. You will also notice that once the snow melts, the campus tends to get very muddy and sometimes flooded. Please, for your own sake, be as careful as possible when walking around campus after a storm, as there have been incidents of students getting injured due to inadequate snow removal.

That said, the numerous fields and grassy areas of the university provide ample space for great snowball fights, while the more daring go sledding with food trays down Tabler Hill or venturing on top of a frozen Roth Pond...activities frowned upon by the powers that be at the university, and probably rightfully so as they are both very dangerous things to do...the ice on Roth Pond is rarely very thick and the pond does get pretty deep, while Tabler Hill is steep, often jagged, and littered with fallen branches from trees.

Socializing – Stony Brook, for better or for worse, can often seem like an impersonal, faceless campus. With close to 14,000 undergraduate students, this could be expected. However, your best bet is to be proactive: join campus clubs and organizations, go to events that interest you, find something to do other than sitting in front of the computer or TV all day. Areas like the SAC, Union, Academic Mall outside of the SAC, library (outside of the stacks and reading rooms, of course), are all great places to see student life in action. Our experience tells us that lasting friendships are made through getting involved in campus clubs and organizations, so don't be afraid to sign up or show up at an open house or meeting.

Sports – It's almost hard to believe, but Stony Brook is an NCAA Division I school, with men's and women's programs in most sports, including basketball, football, baseball/softball, soccer, lacrosse, tennis, etc. Seawolves football, soccer and lacrosse matches are held in the spacious and expensive 8,000 seat LaValle Stadium (behind the Union). Basketball and volleyball matches are held in the Indoor Sports Complex, and baseball and softball games are held in the baseball fields behind the stadium. Admission to all of these sporting events is free for students, with a student ID needed for football, basketball, and men's lacrosse. More info at www.goseawolves.org. And no, we still don't know what a seawolf is.

Student Government – Whoo boy, talk about opening a can of worms. The Undergraduate Student Government (USG) has been around for three years now, and is the butt of many a joke among campus, as well as the subject of fierce attacks by many campus media outlets. Their track record has been spotty at best, but it would be unfair to judge this year's incoming government as a whole, just yet (more info elsewhere in this guide about specific elected officers). The honest truth is that there are some individuals within USG who truly have good intentions and want to make a positive difference, but there are also a few who have used their position to further personal or other agendas, with detrimental effects for the USG and all students. That said, the USG and its related agencies (Executive Branch, Judiciary, Senate, Student Activities Board) have a big role in the student life that exists on campus. All student organizations must register through the USG and apply for funding through the USG, various events, concerts, trips and other programs are organized by the USG and the SAB, and disputes between student organizations or even within the USG are, supposedly, settled in the Judiciary.

If you begin following the USG, and become unhappy with the way things are run, there's a couple of things you can do. You can go to their meetings, which are open to the public (well, usually)...the Senate tends to meet on Tuesday nights in one of the SAC Ballrooms (usually), and the Executive Branch tends to meet on Fridays in one of the rooms in the 2nd floor of the SAC (usually). You can also run for office. We can't stress this enough, as in the past few elections, there have been very few candidates running for most positions. Much of the responsibility lies in the hands of the Student Elections Board, which has done a poor job publicizing elections and the procedures necessary to become a candidate, but if you're serious (and are willing to withstand a lot of pressure), be proactive and find out information for yourself.

Elections usually take place towards the end of April, though there are usually additional elections and referendums held during the fall semester. Elections are held over the SOLAR system (the link, often hard to find, is on the right-hand side if there is an election in progress). Turnout has been low as far as we can remember, so we can't stress enough the importance of making an informed choice.

The USG suite is on the 2nd floor of the SAC, Rooms 202-218. All elected officers are supposed to have office hours, which are held and posted here. Tel. 632-6460. <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/usg>.

Study Abroad – This comes highly recommended from us. The university offers programs in the fall, spring or summer in a number of beautiful locations around the world, including Italy, Spain, India, France, Tanzania, Korea, Australia, Russia, China and England. Additionally, you can also receive credits for enrolling in a study abroad program anywhere in the world with an accredited institution of higher education other than Stony Brook, but be sure to consult with the Transfer Office before applying to ensure that your credits will be recognized. Studying Abroad is a wonderful experience and costs about the same amount of money as a semester's worth of studying here at home, and we haven't met anybody yet that has had a bad experience. In most cases, you do not need to know the native language of the country you are choosing to study in, and in all cases, your experience abroad will include more than just sitting in a foreign classroom, but field trips and time to explore.

The Study Abroad Office is located on the 5th floor of the Melville Library, Room E-5340. Tel. 632-7030. <http://www.sunysb.edu/studyabroad>.

The Transfer Office is in the Administration Building, Room 134. Tel. 632-7028. <http://www.sunysb.edu/transfer>.

Summer Classes – Stony Brook offers summer classes on campus as well as at its Stony Brook Manhattan campus. A great way to knock off 3 or 6 credits in a little over a month, though be prepared for a lot of work during that month, as the course material that is typically spread out over a full semester is condensed into that five-week period. It is also possible to live in the dorms on campus (Stony Brook only) while taking summer classes, though you will realize that the campus during the summer is close to dead and the latest anything is open for the purposes of food or shopping is 6 p.m. Tel. 632-7790, <http://www.sunysb.edu/summer>

Traditions – Stony Brook is a young university (having only been around since the late 1950's), and doesn't really have the traditions

one would expect to find in a more stereotypical college campus. That said, for better or for worse, there are a number of yearly traditions, which may or may not appeal to you. These include Homecoming (a number of festivities culminating in a parade, visits by alumni and a football game, in late September), the Roth Pond Regatta ("boats" made solely out of cardboard and duct tape take to the high seas of Roth Pond, in late April...probably the finest of existing traditions on campus), the Strawberry Festival (as the name suggests, anything you can think of having to do with strawberries—in mid April), Midnight Scream (some students scream at the top of their lungs every night at midnight during finals week—a great way to relieve stress or a great annoyance when you're cramming), and Midnight Breakfast (breakfast served at midnight during finals week). Check out the Roth Regatta's web page, www.rothregatta.org.

Transcripts – You can view your "unofficial" transcript online by logging on to the SOLAR system and clicking on the link on the left-hand column. To get an official transcript, you can request one online, again through the SOLAR system by requesting an official transcript, or in person by filling out the forms available in the lobby of the second floor of the Administration building, paying at the Bursar's window, also in the lobby (regular requests are \$5, the cost goes up if you need next-day service, overnight mail, etc.), and then submitting the paperwork and receipt to the Registrar's office (booth also in the lobby). For pick-ups, you come back to this last booth with your student ID.

Voting – If you live on campus you can register to vote with your campus mailing address. On Election Day, a polling station is set up in one of the SAC Ballrooms, and leading up to election day, student groups such as NYPIRG are out in force, encouraging students to register to vote. We strongly encourage it too. You can also pick up a voting registration form in the University Post Office in the basement of the SAC. If you are already registered to vote at your home address, but live on campus, you can apply for an address change with the Board of Elections, or choose to receive an absentee ballot instead. Contact your local Board of Elections for details.

Weekends – Perhaps this should have been listed under "traditions" because it is so prevalent, but a very large number of students go home or otherwise leave campus every weekend. None of the commuters are around either. It can be argued both ways, that students leave because there's nothing to do, or that there's nothing to do because students leave every weekend. Whatever the case may be, while this isn't a big party school and while some of the events that are organized by the administration and USG are, quite honestly, lame, there's a number of things to do on campus on the weekends. Many campus organizations organize events, meetings or gatherings. There's hiking and biking trails on campus and the athletic facilities are all open and less crowded than they are during the week. If you're into the mall scene, there's a free campus bus that goes to the Smithhaven Mall (more info in "buses"). If you need a quiet place to study or just relax, there's plenty of that over the weekends on campus. Or you can organize your own fun. If all else fails, the *Independent* and *Press* have open doors even during the weekends. A few trips back home or to the city are fine, but try to stick around on some weekends and make the most of it.

One of the most intriguing and enticing forms of entertainment still remains live music. But where can one go to hear it? Well, happily, Stony Brook University is in close proximity to a variety of excellent places to hear some great live music. Whether it's a local band or a worldwide sensation, there are many options for fans of live music to get a taste of what they love most. Here's a list of the best places to check out for your live music needs:

University Café, Stony Brook University - Right on campus is one of the best venues for live music: The University Café! Every genre, from jazz to blues, folk to funk, is covered by the many signed and unsigned artists that appear at the University Café. Don't miss out...it's right in your backyard! For more information, visit: www.universitycafe.org.

Café Bada Bing, Port Jefferson - Located steps away from the Port Jefferson LIRR station (one station West from Stony Brook), Café Bada Bing features one of Long Island's greatest acts every Tuesday evening: Reckoning. Paying tribute to The Grateful Dead, Phish, The Allman Brothers and more (not to mention peppering in their own original material), Reckoning never disappoints with their amazing jams and ability to get the crowd dancing. Shows usually start at 11 p.m. For more information, visit: www.reckoningband.com. Call (631) 474-4427.

The Velvet Lounge, Stony Brook - Adjacent to the Curry Club restaurant at the corner of Nicholls Road and 25A in Setauket, the Velvet Lounge has a unique vibe that no ordinary bar could achieve. Within its unique layout, the room is furnished with candles, antique couches, paintings and wall to wall carpeting. On occasion, The Velvet Lounge also offers some of the band unsigned acts around. For more information, call: (631) 751-7575.

Port Jazz, Port Jefferson - Atop the Port Jefferson Village Starbucks coffee house lies one of the best venues for live music around: Port Jazz. A very small, intimate setting, Port Jazz is a more classy establishment, requiring collared shirts and pants in order to gain entry. The dress code is often well-worth the performing acts, making it a great place for a more quiet night of musical enjoyment. For more information, visit: www.portjazz.com. Call (631) 476-7600.

Paula Jean's Supper Club, Setauket - If you want the best in improvisational jazz and blues, look no further than Paula Jean's Supper Club. No bigger than your average suburban home, Paula Jean's is a very intimate setting for music and is perfect for a large gathering of friends or a romantic night for two. For musicians, Sunday is the "Open Blues Jam," where anyone can sign up and play a song or two. Remember, Paula Jean's is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays. For more information, visit: www.paulajeans.com. Call (631) 751-5483.

The Downtown, Farmingdale - Although this rock club is only accessible to students with their own transportation, The Downtown in Farmingdale is well worth the trip for any fan of live rock music! Voted AOL City Guide's Best several years running, The Downtown has been the venue for both the hottest unsigned bands and the biggest acts in the country! Upcoming names include Little Feat, Evolution (the Journey tribute featured on the Opie and Anthony Show), Saturday Night Special (Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute), Henry Rollins, The Misfits, Mammoth (Van Halen tribute) and many more! For more information, visit: www.thedowntown.com or call (516) 454-6744.

FOR THOSE WILLING TO TAKE A TRAIN RIDE

TO NEW YORK CITY:

Here are some of the city's best venues for live music, along with some upcoming acts on their calendar. Also, stay tuned to WUSB 90.1 FM, which often features ticket giveaways to venues on both Long Island and the city:

Irving Plaza, 17 Irving Place - *Clutch, Presidents of the United States of America, Story of the Year, Liz Phair, Yonder Mountain String Band, Leo Kottke/Mike Gordon and more* For more information, visit: www.irvingplaza.com

Roseland Ballroom, 239 W. 52nd Street - *Los Lonely Boys, Fall Out Boy and more* For more information, visit: www.roselandballroom.com

Hammerstein Ballroom, 311 W. 34th Street - *The Used, Tracy Chapman and more* For more information, visit: www.mcstudios.com

Bowery Ballroom, 6 Delancey Street - *The Hackensaw Boys, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Seu Jorge, Steve Winwood, Nada Surf, Steve Kimock Band, Moby and more* For more information, visit: www.boweryballroom.com

BB King's Blues Club, 237 W. 42nd Street - *Eric Burdon and the Animals, Tower of Power, Poco, Twiztid, Dave Mason, Spin Doctors, The Misfits and more* For more information, visit: www.bbkingblues.com

Knitting Factory, 74 Leonard Street - *Basement 31, Tea Leaf Green and more* For more information, visit: www.knittingfactory.com/kfny

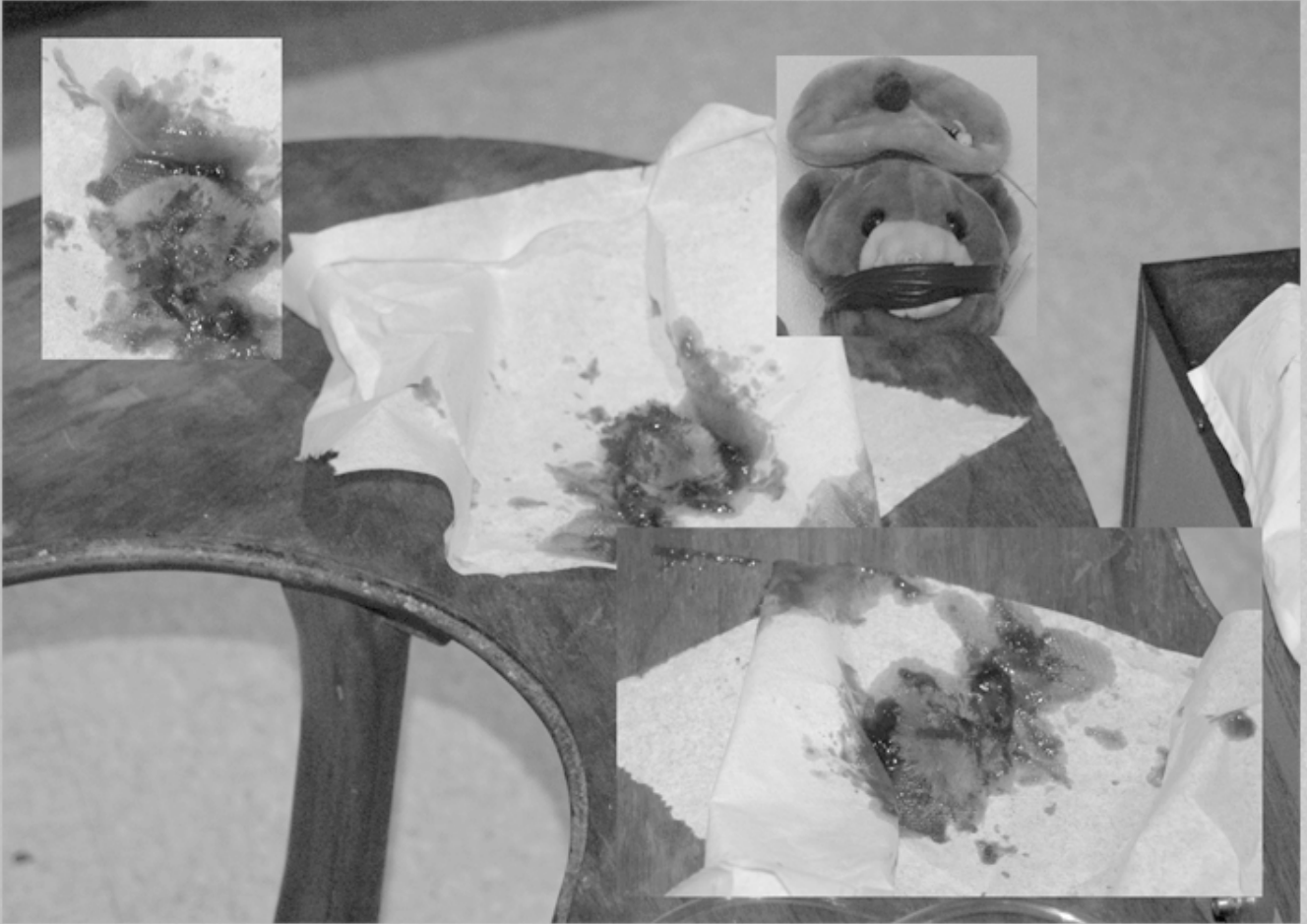


BE INDEPENDENT

THE SB INDEPENDENT
CAMPUS NEWS, LIFE, AND COMMENTARY

VISIT THE SB INDEPENDENT AT:
[HTTP://WWW.SBINDEPENDENT.ORG](http://www.sbindependent.org)

**CHECK OUT OUR OPEN HOUSES FOR MORE INFO
AND FREE FOOD!**
TUESDAY 9/6 AND THURSDAY 9/8
UNION LOWER LEVEL - ROOM 071



**TIME IS ALMOST UP FOR YOUR
PRECIOUS BEAR.**

**GIVE IN TO OUR DEMANDS
OR YOU WILL RECEIVE
ONE FINGER FOR EVERY
HOUR YOU DELAY.**

THIS IS OUR FINAL WARNING.

Area Businesses and Shopping

By Ian Rice

Stony Brook and its surrounding towns have a great deal of unique shops and big-name stores to keep even the most selective shopper satisfied. The Survival Guide has compiled a list of the most noteworthy places to get your shopping need fulfilled, sorted by category and listed along with a brief description of what they have to offer.

MUSIC/FILM:

Three Village Music, East Setauket - Three Village Music is a great place to fill your instrument needs. Behind its doors, you'll find a wealth of guitars, basses, wind instruments and all the necessary accessories for the practicing musician. The store also offers private lessons on virtually any instrument at a very reasonable price! Call: (631) 941-4499

Borders Books and Music, Stony Brook - Aside from being a premiere meeting spot for students (see our Area Attractions feature), Borders Books and Music is also a great place to find all the CDs and films your heart desires. If they don't have your title in stock, the store's always-attentive staff will assist you in making a special order that arrives in no time! Call: (631) 979-0500

FYE @ The Smithhaven Mall, Lake Grove - Although more suited to the needs of mainstream music and video shoppers, FYE @ The Smithhaven Mall still has enough obscure selections for even the most discerning customer. FYE also buys and sells used CDs and DVDs, perfect if you're low on cash! Call: (631) 724-3268 (Additional FYE locations in Rocky Point and Selden)

Saturday Matinee @ The Smithhaven Mall, Lake Grove - Although the prices might be slightly higher than other stores, the element that sets Saturday Matinee apart from other retail video outlets is their knowledgeable staff. These dedicated professionals know so much about movies that it would be almost impossible to walk out of the store unsatisfied! Also worth noting is Saturday Matinee's practice of buying and selling used DVDs. Call: (631) 979-6933

ENTERTAINMENT/ELECTRONICS:

Best Buy, South Setauket - Best Buy is one of the best stores around to fulfill your electronics needs. In their vast inventory, you can find blank CDRs and DVDRs, stereo components, televisions, video recording/playback units, car stereos/accessories, PC and console systems and games, DVDs, CDs and appliances. Their prices are very reasonable and they are always having a sale. Call: (631) 737-1632.

Circuit City, Lake Grove - Located just adjacent to the Smithhaven Mall, Circuit City is a great place to fulfill your electronics needs. In their vast inventory, you can find blank CDRs and DVDRs, stereo components, televisions, video recording/playback units, car stereos/accessories, PC and console systems and games, DVDs and CDs. It's a little more than a stone's throw from campus, so check it out! Call: (631) 724-9170.

Game Stop, Lake Grove - In the same shopping center as Circuit City, you'll find Game Stop, one of the best resources for all your gaming needs! Game Stop carries titles for all gaming consoles, new (Xbox, Playstation) and old (Nintendo, Sega Genesis) and all the accessories to go with them. They also buy and sell used

items, which means a visit will be light on your wallet! Call: (631) 366-6320.

Office Max, Stony Brook - Located in the same shopping center as Borders Books and Music, Office Max is a great place to get all of your office and computer supplies at a very low cost! Office Max is a great place to stock up on notebooks, printer paper, ink cartridges and a wealth of other materials for your scholastic needs. Call: (631) 360-0590.

HOME ACCESSORIES:

Target, South Setauket - Sharing the same property as Best Buy, Target is a great place to get all of your "home" accessories at a tremendously low cost! Target has toiletries, clothing, food, furniture and a whole slue of other items you'll need over the course of the semester. The prices are so good here, you'll surely be satisfied! Call: (631) 580-5356

Wal-Mart, South Setauket - A little further away from campus is Wal-Mart, which is no doubt familiar already to most students. Much like Target, Wal-Mart Target is a great place to get all of your "home" accessories at a tremendously low price. Also like Target, Wal-Mart has toiletries, clothing, food, furniture and a whole slue of other items you'll need over the course of the semester. Wal-Mart is also home to a photo center, where you can take your film or digital camera for reasonably-priced developing! Call: (631) 474-3287

MULTIPLE-STORE LOCATIONS:

Smithhaven Mall, Lake Grove - Minutes away from campus is the Smithhaven Mall, which houses a plethora of stores for a convenient one-stop shopping experience. For students without their own transportation, Stony Brook University happens to be one of the stops on the bus line that runs directly to Smithhaven! Here is a list of all the stores located within Smithhaven Mall:

Accessories Cingular Wireless Claire's Boutique Club Libby Lu Coach Icing by Claire's PacSun Sharper Image

Cards / Books / Gifts / Stationery American Greetings Amy's Hallmark Brookstone Sharper Image Spencer Gifts The Disney Store Things Remembered Waldenbooks Yankee Candle

Children's Fashions GapKids Gymboree Icing by Claire's Rave Girl The Children's Place The Limited Too

Department Stores H&M JCPenney Macy's East Sears

Entertainment Island Carousel

Health and Beauty Axios Salon & Spa Bath & Body Works GNC Rose Valenti Fragrances The Body Shop Top Ten Nails Victoria's Secret Vitamin World

Home Furnishings Bombay Company Brookstone Elite Gallery Select Comfort Sharper Image Williams-Sonoma

Jewelry Bailey Banks & Biddle Barclay Jewelers Kay Jewelers King Richard Jewelers Lundstrom Jewelers Major Jewelers Piercing Pagoda Piercing Pagoda + The Watch Connection Watch World Whitehall Co. Jewellers Zales Jewelers.

Men's & Women's Fashions Abercrombie & Fitch Aeropostale American Eagle Outfitters Banana Republic Express Dual Gender Gap Guess? J. Crew Law Jeans PacSun Wilsons Leather.

Men's Fashions Abercrombie & Fitch Aeropostale After Hours Formal Wear American Eagle Outfitters Banana Republic EPIC Express Dual Gender Gap Guess? J. Crew PacSun Sweats N Jeans Wilsons Leather

Music / Electronics / Video Brookstone Cingular Wireless Electronics Boutique fye - For Your Entertainment GameStop Planet Comics RadioShack Saturday Matinee Sharper Image

Photography The Picture People

Restaurants (order at the counter) Bourbon St. Cafe Carvel Great Steak & Potato Nathan's Panda Express Sarku Japan Sbarro Subway Taco Bell Wendy's

Restaurants (order via wait staff) BEN'S Ruby Tuesday T.G.I. Friday's Wild Fig Mediterranean Grill

Services After Hours Formal Wear Cel Net Cingular Wireless Cohen's Fashion Optical Freidman Marketing Glamour Shots Nextel Sterling Optical T & T Nails The Picture People The Watch Connection Verizon Wireless

Shoes Aldo Shoes American Eagle Outfitters Ann Taylor Bakers Footaction USA Journeys Kids Foot Locker Lady Foot Locker PacSun Payless ShoeSource Steve Madden Stride Rite The Athlete's Foot World Foot Locker

Specialty Food Auntie Anne's Pretzels Cinnabon Godiva Chocolatier Haagen-Dazs Lindt Chocolatier.

Specialty Shops After Hours Formal Wear Bailey Banks & Biddle Bath & Body Works Brookstone Cingular Wireless Glamour Shots Hot Topic Lids Motherhood Maternity PacSun Sharper Image Sunglass Hut

Sporting Goods / Activewear Eastern Mountain Sports Footaction USA The Athlete's Foot World Foot Locker

Toys and Games Build-A-Bear Workshop® GameStop Lego Planet Comics Sharper Image The Disney Store .

Women's Fashions 5-7-9 Shop Abercrombie & Fitch Aeropostale American Eagle Outfitters Ann Taylor Banana Republic Caché Casual Corner Charlotte Russe Contempo Casuals EPIC Express Dual Gender Forever 21 G & G Gap Guess? J. Crew Lane Bryant Motherhood Maternity New York & Company PacSun Petite Sophisticate The Limited Torrid Victoria's Secret Wilsons Leather

Women's Specialty Fashions Caché

FOOD, COFFEE AND DINING:

Green Cactus Mexican Grill, Stony Brook - Just across from the Stony Brook LIRR station is one of Long Island's best eateries: The Green Cactus. The main attraction (aside from their enticing menu) of this Mexican grill is their refusal to use any ingredient that is not 100% fresh in their food. The only warning that should be issued about Green Cactus is that it

Continued on next page

Area Businesses and Shopping *Continued...*

Continued from previous page

can sometimes get very busy! But it is well worth the extra wait. Call: (631) 751-0700.

Soup's On, Stony Brook - Located in the same shopping center as Green Cactus, Soup's On is one of the most unique and delightful restaurants around. Fresh, homemade soups are prepared daily and they are beyond magnificent. This restaurant is a great stop for a light lunch or dinner and provides the perfect meal to warm you on a cold night. Call: (631) 751-8500.

Cosmo's Café, Stony Brook - Directly across from the Stony Brook LIRR station is Cosmo's, home to Greek fast food like souvlaki and gyro, as well as baklava. Cosmo's also serves pizza and other Italian dishes, equally as good as their Greek specialties. Cosmo's Café also offers a 10% discount to Stony Brook students, making it an inexpensive place for a night out! Call: (631) 246-8000.

Curry Club, Setauket - One of the finest Indian restaurants on Long Island, the Curry Club is conveniently located near the intersection of Route 25A and Nicolls Road, next to Subway. Open for lunch and dinner, Curry Club features an extensively large selection of curries, as well as kebobs and appetizers. We strongly suggest the radioactively spicy Chicken Vindaloo, as well as the creamy Korma curries. Curry Club is also home to the Velvet Lounge, a great place to relax and enjoy a cocktail. Call (631) 751-4845.

Full Moon Café, Stony Brook - The Full Moon Café is Stony Brook's newest dining experience, offering fresh brick oven pizza in a wonderful atmosphere. The Full Moon Café welcomes Stony Brook students, often offering deals and special events exclusively for their benefit. At nights and at weekends, Full Moon does a 180, turning into a very popular bar among students. Call: (631) 689-5999.

Mama Sbarro's, Lake Grove - On Route 347, in the same shopping center as Circuit City and Trader Joe's. Features a seating area to grab a slice of pizza or two, and a dining room where you can enjoy a full Italian menu of pasta dishes, brick oven pizza, entrees and really good desserts. The bread is freshly-baked and served warm as well, and there are often really unique dinner specials, including an excellent lobster ravioli. Consider yourself lucky if the Italian Cheesecake or Tiramisu is available. Only drawback is that it closes at around 9 p.m. Call (631) 265-9200.

Lake Grove Diner, Lake Grove - The closest 24-hour diner to Stony Brook. The service is typically good, and the variety is what you would expect from a 24-hour diner: burgers, pancakes, sandwiches, entrees and desserts. Has lots of lunch and dinner specials. The corned beef sandwich is usually excellent, and they have buffalo burgers. Breakfast, as you can expect, is served anytime. Call (631) 471-5370.

J & R's Steakhouse, Stony Brook - The closest restaurant to campus on it's southern side, J & R's Steakhouse is located on the corner of Route 347 and Stony Brook Road. It is pretty cheap by steakhouse standards and usually has some juicy specials that you can sink your teeth into. You get free antipasto to play with before your food comes and their complimentary toothpicks are individually wrapped. Call (631) 689-5920.

John Harvard's Brew House, Lake Grove - Located on Route 347 by the Smithhaven Mall, John Harvard's boasts a great variety of hand-brewed beers (brewed on premises), great home made root beer (they make it themselves), and a great variety of fresh food to satisfy any craving be it for pasta, quesadilla or a good ol' fashioned hamburger. Tel. (631) 979-2739.

Eastern Pavilion, Setauket - Located on Route 25A, just a little further down from Subway and Curry Club, Eastern Pavilion offers fine Chinese, Korean and Japanese fare and a very extensive menu from each cuisine, to boot. This is not a buffet establishment but a full-service restaurant, and as such is a bit on the pricey side, but it is a nice place to come and treat yourself to a good Asian meal every once in a while. The portions are also very large, and the service is excellent. We highly recommend the California Roll. Tel. (631) 751-1888.

Ralph's Italian Ices, Stony Brook - Closed only in the cold months of the year, Ralph's ices carries a huge variety of both cream and water ices and is very decently priced. The closest location to campus is located on the corner of Stony Brook Road and 347 across from the Hess station near JR's steakhouse. In the summer they're open rather late and often gather crowds of young'ns outside. Good if you have nothing better to do off campus and you've already had too much coffee to go to Starbucks next door. Call (631) 941-4750.

Ying Yang Chinese Buffet, Lake Grove and Golden Buffet, Centereach - Long Island is peppered with modern-day vomitoriums known as Chinese buffets, and the campus area is no exception. There are several located near the south side of campus, the closest being Ying Yang right on route 347 in the shopping center just east of Stony Brook Rd. If you're really really hungry and think you can eat your money's worth, this is the place for you. Call (631) 689-8585.

There is also Golden Buffet in Centereach in the Wal-Mart shopping center on Route 25, which is about 10 minutes from the campus area via Nicholls Road south and then west on 25. It is newer than Ying Yang and also has a larger sushi bar as well as a raw bar (clams, oysters, etc). They are similarly priced. Call (631) 588-5188.

Both are worth the money if you're hungry and are into specialty foods (paying a buffet price to eat as much fried rice and lo-mein as you can can never be worth it) and both have sushi, crab legs, and assorted desserts. They also have good service and free toothpicks on your way out.

Setauket Village Restaurant, Setauket - More like a diner, it is located in the same shopping center as Stop N' Shop and Eckerd, and offers sandwiches, burgers, breakfast, and entrees. The service is excellent but unfortunately, it closes at 9 p.m. Call (631) 981-3826.

Strawberry Fields, Stony Brook - Located on Route 25A next to 7-11, this place has a variety of gourmet sandwiches and wraps, soups, as well as salads, pies, cookies and baked goods. Prices slightly high but the selection is very wide. They also cater. Call (631) 246-5600.

Dunkin Donuts/Baskin Robbins, Stony Brook - Located just across the street from the Stony Brook LIRR station and next door to Cosmos. Open 24 hours a day, and has everything you could expect, from donuts to ice cream

cakes to dunkacchinos. Call (631) 689-0350.

Starbucks, Nesconset and two other locations - The closest Starbucks to campus is that in the shopping center on the corner of Stony Brook Road and Route 347, next to Duane Reade, with two other locations on Route 25A in Setauket (next to Eckerd in the Stop N' Shop shopping center) and in Port Jefferson Village.

Famous Dave's BBQ, Smithtown - A few miles away, on Route 347 west past the mall and several miles west of campus, near Carrabba's Italian Bistro and Boulder Creek Steakhouse. Famous Dave's has southern barbecue food you won't find anywhere else in the area, with a lively atmosphere and rustic decor to boot. They also have an impressive selection of barbecue sauces at each table, much like IHOP has assorted pancake syrup flavors. Dessert is also something worth calling famous; among the best are the bread pudding and the pecan pie, served in portions that I'm pretty sure no individual can finish, especially after eating a meal there (so share.) The prices are reasonable but by no means cheap college-level fare, so save this place for a special occasion like a birthday or skipping finals. They also have takeout and have free toothpicks as you leave. Call (631) 360-6490.

Salsa Salsa, Port Jefferson - A much better, but pricier, alternative to Taco Bell, Salsa Salsa features many excellent tacos, burritos, fajitas, many different varieties of nachos, chilis and quesadillas. They are located on Main Street in downtown Port Jefferson. Call (631) 473-9700. <http://www.salsasalsa.net>.

The Steamroom, Port Jefferson - Featuring outdoor seating right across the street from Port Jefferson harbor when the weather's nice, The Steamroom offers many moderately-priced fried and steamed seafood dishes, from fish and chips to red snapper. They also serve traditional fast-food fare such as burgers, fries and hot dogs, as well as popcorn shrimp and tasty clam chowder and seafood bisque. Call (631) 928-6690.

Z-Pita, Port Jefferson - A few miles from campus in the opposite direction, Z-Pita is situated on Main Street in the heart of Port Jeff. Z-Pita features Greek, Italian and American specialties such as souvlaki, gyro, falafel, stuffed grape leaves, various pasta dishes, an excellent egg-lemon soup and spinach pie, and their specialty, Chilean Striped Bass. On weekends, Z-Pita also serves an excellent brunch until the early afternoon hours. Call (631) 476-7510.

The nearest chain-fast food establishments to campus, but not on campus:

Applebee's - Middle Country Road, Centereach (west of Stony Brook Road)

Chili's - Nicolls Road and Route 347, in the Home Depot shopping center

Domino's - Route 25A, Setauket. They deliver (food review above) (631) 751-0330.

KFC - Middle Country Road, Ronkonkoma

McDonald's - Route 347 westbound, past Stony Brook Road, Nesconset (has a drive-thru)

Ruby Tuesday's - Smithhaven Mall

Subway - Route 25A and Nicolls Road, Setauket. They deliver (food review above) (631) 751-1444.

Taco Bell - Several on Middle Country Road

TGI Friday's - Smithhaven Mall

Wendy's - Middle Country Road, Centereach (west of Nicolls Road) (has a drive-thru)

Continued on page 21

All the Random Stuff You Need to Know All Clumped Together!

Nights Alone in Your Dorm Watching Television and Eating Chinese Food – Take advantage of these nights, dear freshman. This is what makes college great. When your friends say they want to go to J.M. Firefucks for Beer-goggle Thursdays and Sluts-Drink-Free Fridays, tell them no thanks. You have “I Love the Eighties” and some Moo-shoo Pork. You’re set for the night. Enjoy it.

Masturbation – The greatest thing about being a person under thirty and the worst thing about being someone over thirty. If you’re alone, and you mistakenly think that posters of bikini-clad women dripping beer over their breasts will draw in a crowd of actual bikini-clad women dripping beer over their breasts, do not despair. You can always masturbate. If you’re a girl, and you’re either one of the six percent that does masturbate or the ninety-four percent who won’t admit it, take advantage of this as well. Guys can be big fucking assholes at college. For the most part, you’re better off double-clicking your mouse than shacking with one of these pricks. Honestly. At least in your fantasies you can fuck the same guy twice. Also, if you have a boyfriend/girlfriend, don’t think you’re excluded from the masturbating population. You aren’t. Both you and your significant other should be masturbating regularly, and if it gets you off to masturbate side by side, then have a blast. On the eighth day God came back because he forgot to create masturbation. Because the world thought this creation was weak, since he’d initially forgotten it, he

disproved it to everyone by making it a rule: everyone must masturbate, no matter what. There are no excuses.

Free Food – How most commuters at the Press nourish themselves. There are always activities going on, and if you’re on the ball you’ll never have to spend a dime on food. Walk into the Business-Technology open house and say you’re considering changing your major. Take a couple pamphlets, a course listing, and then stack up three plates of catered heroes, cookies, and soda. Then bolt like there’s no tomorrow. This process can be transgressed into all types of free food conventions. You just gotta know where they are, and when to get to them.

Matt’s Mom – Nothing bad to say about Matt’s mom. I’ve never met her, but she sounds like an okay lady. (eight out of ten fingers)

Shifty Greg – You will see him, lurking about. He’s scary, has a moustache, and is abroad. He is the 1000-year graduate student, walking around the campus for reasons no one can quite figure out. But he’s not nice. Beware of this person, and if he asks you if you have any smokes, ignore him. He thinks you’re illegally smoking the mary-juwana.

The New Union Bathrooms – Cool beans, man. These bathrooms rock the socks. Well, kind of. I mean, there’s nothing special about them. They’re just new, and we had to go a long time without bathrooms by the Union Deli just

so these could be built. I guess they’re pretty cool. Fight back the temptation to turn the light off on your way out. The guy in the stall taking a shit will be very unhappy and scared.

The Union Basement Bathrooms – The only reason these, the worst bathrooms ever built by anybody, get a rating at all is because of the sentimental value they hold. There are some things that will never be fixed, and perhaps shouldn’t. This bathroom is so run down you’ll have to see it to believe it. This is the bathroom we, the Press staff and editors, use. And we can only take credit (assumably) for the two cartoon characters on the wall above the urinals. They are slowly being washed away, and it brings a tear to my eye.

The Canada Geese – Gaggles of Canada geese are an ubiquitous presence at Stony Brook. They never seem to leave; even in the dead of winter, you can still find geese eking out their existence on this glorified sandbar known as Long Island. Beware their repugnant and abhorrent droppings littering the paths and fields of the campus. They’re usually quite docile and unafraid of humans; you can easily walk right up to them and feed them. But whatever you do, leave their chicks alone, or you’ll get bitten.

Bible Study Lady – When you see a middle aged Korean lady sporting a blue windbreaker ambling towards you on your way to class, you know it’s the famous “Bible Study lady.” She’s very polite and very persistent in requesting your presence at Bible study groups on campus. Now, if you’re into that sort of thing I’m sure you’ll love it, and more power to you. But if you decline her invitation, she’ll become even more determined to save your soul from the clutches of Hell. Just hide out in the Press office until the area’s clear. Or show her your pentacle while flashing a friendly Wiccan grin. Whatever works for you. You can’t help but respect her commitment though.

Shopping *Continued...*

Continued from page 20

White Castle – Middle Country Road, Centereach (west of Nicolls Road)

GROCERIES AND CONVENIENCE STORES

7-11, Stony Brook Village – Conveniently located just across the street from the LIRR station, next door to Cosmos and Dunkin Donuts, this is your typical 7-11, open 24 hours, with the typical convenience food items normally found at such establishments. Call (631) 751-1759.

King Kullen Supermarket, Setauket – The latest addition to the area’s supermarket scene, this market has opened up in the same shopping center as Stop N’ Shop and Wild by Nature.

Stop N’ Shop Supermarkets, two locations – Not as convenient as Waldbaums, but two locations near campus, one by the intersection of Nicolls Road and Route 347 in the Home Depot shopping center, and the other on Route 25A in Setauket (in the same shopping center as King Kullen and Wild by Nature). Prices seem to be a bit better than Waldbaum’s, selection about the same, but you need a ride to get to these places from campus. Call (631) 751-1526.

Waldbaums, Lake Grove – The closest supermarket to the Stony Brook campus, and accessible by the free university bus which goes to the Smithhaven Mall on weekends. Very

wide selection of groceries, baked goods, toiletries and flowers, but rather overpriced, unless you’re comparing the prices to those on campus, in which case it’s a bargain. Call: (631) 751-9014.

Wild By Nature, East Setauket – Wild By Nature is the perfect grocery store for those watching what they eat. Offering organic and vegetarian/vegan-friendly items, Wild By Nature is mere minutes from campus on 25A and is a great place to get the best food for your at-home cooking needs! Call: (631) 246-5500.

Stony Brook Beverage, Setauket – On Route 25A, near Domino’s and Eastern Pavilion, Stony Brook Beverage offers a wide variety of sodas, water, beer, wine, spirits, available in large quantities and at discount prices. Call: (631) 941-4545.

PHARMACIES

CVS, Setauket – A short distance up Route 25A from campus. Probably the best prices of the three area chain drugstores. Call (631) 246-8731.

Duane Reade, Nesconset – The closest drugstore chain to campus, on the intersection of Stony Brook Road and Route 347, next to Starbucks. Call (631) 751-5743.

Eckerd, East Setauket – In the same large shopping center as Stop N’ Shop and Wild by Nature. Call (631) 751-8101.



Do you remember when radio wasn't scripted?
Do you remember when each station was unique?
Do you remember the glory days of radio?
It's still here, on WUSB.



...listen
on the air at 90.1FM and
on the web at www.wusb.fm

New Stuff On Campus

By Jowy Romano

Delancey Street:

The latest facility Campus Dining has come up with is called Delancey Street Deli. Don't expect to get cheese on your sandwich here though. Delancey Street is a Glatt Kosher restaurant taking the place of the former kosher dining center in Roth Quad. The restaurant/cafeteria, located on the first floor of the Union, will offer regular deli items, as well as a full course, daily menu of varied selections. You are encouraged to enjoy your favorite kosher food in the brand new dining room (which is also kosher, so don't bring any outside food.) Note-worthy menu items include warm pastrami sandwiches, warm corned beef sandwiches and matzo ball soup. But they do warn: Do not expect this food to be inexpensive. Kosher food must be produced in smaller quantities and prepared through specific and sometimes lengthier processes. In short, Delancey Street seems like it will provide expensive, but good food. And plus, the new location seems much more welcoming than the past location in Roth. By the way, those of you who were hoping campus dining put something new in the space of the old kosher cafeteria; don't get your hopes up. Management says it is being used for some much needed storage space.

Main Entrance Construction:

Many of you have probably already seen the mess that is the main entrance. Construction workers were still paving the roads the day before freshmen were scheduled to move in, rushing to make the work site once again an entrance. Once completed, the renovation is supposed to "beautify" the entrance, as well as improve traffic flow in the area. The roadway will be reconfigured to guide visitors to the main parking garage, Administration Building, and Fine Arts Loop more easily. There are also smaller construction projects and road changes designed to help the traffic flow on campus. Whether or not these changes will help much is still to be seen.



THE IMPROVEMENTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BEAUTIFY THE MAIN ENTRANCE AND IMPROVE SAFETY AND TRAFFIC FLOW ON CAMPUS.



UNTIL THEN...COURAGE.
Courtesy of Jowy Romano

Expanded Bus Service:

One of the reasons for the roadway changes/improvements is to make possible new bus services on campus. Yes, just when everyone figured out the bus system, they changed it again. Forget everything you know about the old system. All the routes now have new names and

even a corresponding letter and color, similar to the New York City subway system. The on-campus routes include H/Purple Hospital, O/Green Outer Loop, I/Orange Inner Loop, E/Red Express, A/Blue Alternate. Some of these



STALLER PLAZA: BEWARE OF SPRINKLERS,
Courtesy of Jowy Romano

routes even have brand new bus stops in Mendelsohn Quad, Roosevelt Quad, and the West Apartments. Unfortunately these stops aren't labeled yet so, until then, you'll just have to wave your're hands in the air when you see a bus and cross your fingers. There will also be additional shopping choices included the off-campus bus routes. The new system should theoretically get people where they are going quicker. Hopefully it will live up to its promises.

Staller Plaza:

The area between the Staller center and the Melville Library or 'Staller Plaza' has recently opened again after about a year of construction. The construction here was also meant to "beautify" the area. The improvements include flower gardens, lot of grass and an amphitheater for possible outdoor performances. This would be a perfect place to relax and eat lunch with your friends, except that the sprinklers go on during the day sometimes. If they fix the sprinkler problem, I'd gladly give these improvements my thumbs up.

Humanities Building:

Have you ever wondered what the building between Administration and Social and Behavioral Science was? After three long years of construction, the improvements on the

Humanities building are finally complete. The project included a complete renovation for the inside of the building and even a facelift for the outside. The volume of the inside of the building was doubled with these additions, which include an enclosed courtyard and a main lobby with skylights. The building will now become the home of six academic departments, including English, Humanities Institute, European Studies, Comparative Studies, Asian and American Studies, and Writing, which should mean the lobbies of the Life Science library will be cleared of hundreds of temporary offices.

Printing:

Instructional Computing has recently announced a new set of printing policies. These policies are supposed to "improve the process" of printing documents at the SINC sites. From now on, every student is to have a daily quota of 40 sheets (single sided) or 25 sheets (double sided), per day. Next, students will be able to print from any workstation after they enter their Campus Net ID and their SOLAR ID num-



THE HUMANITIES BUILDING MAIN ENTRANCE,
Courtesy of Jowy Romano

ber. Lastly, to increase efficiency, there will be more and faster printers. Instructional Computing realizes this will cause problems for many students. If you have problems with the new system you are advised to visit Blackboard and click on Community, a forum to voice complaints.

Important Dates

Too many dates to remember? Can't recall administrative or academic deadlines? Unsure of when all the big events are happening on campus? Here's a listing of some dates you might want to keep in mind...

FALL 2005:

Classes Begin – 8/29
Late Registration – 8/29
Welcome Reception for Commuter Students – 9/1
Waitlist Deadline – 9/2
Campus-Wide Poster Sale – 9/2
Saturday Classes Begin – 9/3
Last Drop/Withdraw Day – 9/4
SAB Comedy Show – 9/9
Last Drop/Withdraw Day (without “W”) – 9/12
Last Day to Add Classes – 9/12
Student Media Open House – 9/12
Homecoming Parade – 9/23
Homecoming Game – 9/24 (vs. Georgetown)
Homecoming Concert – 9/25
Fall Pride Patrol – 10/6
Special Olympics – 10/23
Last Pass/No Credit Option Day – 10/28
Last Day to Drop Courses – 10/28
Correction Day – 12/13
Last Day of Classes -12/13
Reading Days – 12/14-12/15
Finals – 12/16-12/22
Saturday Finals – 12/17
Fall Graduation – 12/18

Classes DO NOT meet on:

Labor Day – 9/5
Rosh Hashanah – 10/3-10/5
Yom Kippur – 10/12-10/13
Thanksgiving – 11/24-11/26

SPRING 2005:

Classes Begin – 1/16
I-CON Festival – 3/24-3/26
Earthstock/Spring Pride Patrol – 4/21
Strawberry Festival – 5/3
Last Day of Classes – 5/5
Reading Days – 5/8 – 5/9
Stony Brook World Environmental Forum – 5/10-5/12
Finals – 5/10 – 5/16
Saturday Finals – 5/13
Graduation – 5/19

Classes DO NOT meet on:

Spring Break – 4/10 – 4/15

For a continuously updated listing of campus events, visit: www.sbindependent.org

Contributors to the best damn insert of the year. A glorius collaboration of talents from the *Stony Brook Press* and the *SB Independent*. These awesome men and women are:
Joan Leong, Melanie Donovan, Mike Nevradakis, Ian Rice, Marcel Votlucka, David K. Ginn, Melissa Lobel, Emily Rothenberg, George Agathos, Jeff Licitra, Anthony Lin, Matt Willemain, and Jowy Romano.
Live Long and Kick Ass. Amen. Word.

Peter Jennings, Journalist of the World

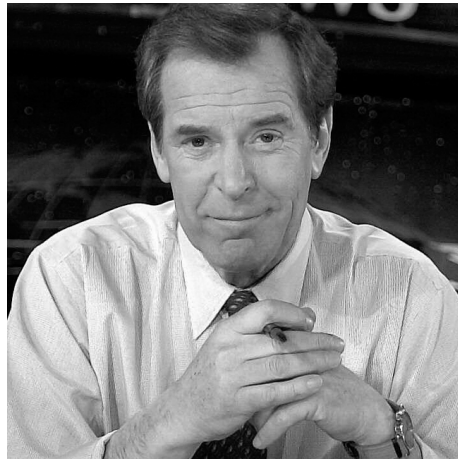
By Laura Positano

Peter Jennings really was the journalist of the world. He understood the problems of the troubled Middle East better than many other broadcast journalists, according to colleagues. Though he never went to college, and did not even graduate high school, he brought erudite aplomb to his reporting. Jennings was a Canadian native, and this engendered less distrust on the part of viewers because he did not have the same American-slanted bias that American journalists tend to have.

Peter Jennings was a member of the mainstream press, and yet he was able to criticize the policies of the US government and its allies. Jennings amassed enough expertise that as a journalist (since the 1960s) by being an anchor and a foreign correspondent. His astute reporting skills earned him an anchor position as early as when he was in his twenties, but his heart was into being on the field as a world correspondent. Jennings was also honest enough with himself to know that he was not ready to be an anchor. Interacting with different cultures, experiencing history first hand, and forging an understanding between societies separated by mere oceans...that was his passion.

He interviewed leaders deemed by many political historians as dictators, such as Ayatollah Khomeini, who allowed Jennings a rare interview as a Western journalist to speak with an Islamic fundamentalist leader. Fidel Castro, one of today's remaining totalitarian leaders, was also one of the controversial interviews that enlightened and possibly enraged audiences. Jennings' refusal to cower to the fear that these dictators inspired or to what was politically correct in broadcast news made his reports unique.

Peter Jennings was not just a tough and objective newsman, he was a compassionate one too.



PETER JENNINGS,
Courtesy of ABC

In war-ridden Bosnia, where children were orphaned and traumatized by the carnage that surrounded them, Jennings was a comforting figure. He did not just get the typical man-on-the-street voice of the people sound-bites typically used to demonstrate the drama of the situation. He instead chose to augment the audiences' understanding of the situation discussed by talking as an equal with children, giving them a chance to represent all shades of human

reaction. A little boy whose life was personally affected by the Bosnian war was able to move to America after an American couple saw the boy talking about his heartbreaking experiences. Now he's a successful young man, and on a recent *Good Morning America* tribute to Peter Jennings, he told of how he owes his success, in part, to Jennings.

Jennings had the curiosity and sensitivity that many children possess. This is why, according to those who knew him, having news specials for children to understand was important to him. During the first Iraq conflict, this writer recalls how he calmly told us what was going on in a way that was not condescending.

While Jennings had multiple skills as a journalist and many good qualities as a person, he was flawed. His perfectionism raised the standard for journalists but while it earned him respect, it also gave him a reputation as a tough boss. Jennings had his vices, like everyone else, and his was, according to those close to him, smoking. Though he stopped smoking in 1988 as a new father, all those decades of smoking lead to lung cancer. The still incurable disease progressed rapidly, leading to his death earlier this month. In his last broadcast, in April, the now gaunt senior anchor (who once was known for movie star looks) told the world he had lung cancer. His voice once reassuring, had become very hoarse and disquieting. Though he promised that "there would be days when [he'd] be able to do the news," the fact that his condition was at that point made clear that might never happen. Peter Jennings was what every journalist should aspire to, and learn from. It's just a shame he died.

AA E-Zine

632-1395. Union 071

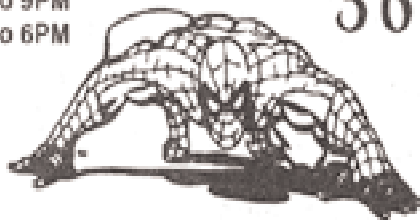
FREE 80-page Wang Center Calendar Journal to first 500 NEW students who visit the AA E-Zine Table at the Wang Center and sign up for FREE weekly emails to get new issues of www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine, online news & events geared to SBU Asian Am community. See website for details. Raffles for FREE bubble tea. Meet reps from Asian Am clubs & organizations. **Tuesday, September 6th, 7:30pm**



HOURS:

Every Day 10AM to 9PM
Sunday 10AM to 6PM

366-4440



FOURTH WORLD COMICS

33 Route 111, Smithtown, NY 11787
(Hillside Shopping Center)

NEW AND BACK ISSUES

STAR TREK • DR WHO • TOYS • STAR WARS
SCIENCE FICTION • POSTERS • T-SHIRTS
JAPANIMATION • VIDEOTAPES • MODEL KITS
MAGIC: THE GATHERING

**10% DISCOUNT W/VALID
STONY BROOK ID CARD**

The Life and Times of Honey Bear

Shortly before his abduction by kidnapers bent on boosting participating in the Stony Brook Press, the Honey Bear was looking in all the wrong places for action and excitement! There's no fun to be had in *there*, Honey Bear!



The Honey Bear's meandering tour takes him to a quiet bench. Sitting for a spell, the bear's memories drift back to that traumatic autumn, and the unfortunate bear little league tryouts.



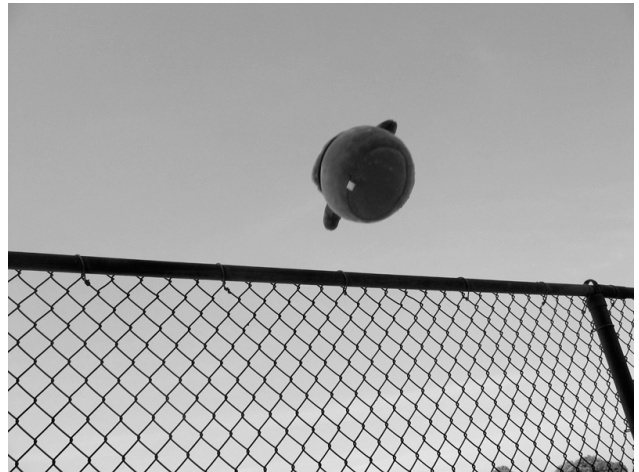
Game winning steal!
Ah, the fields of the imagination...



Oh, Honey Bear, the things you'll do for thrills on a lazy summer day.



"Damn you, coach, I *will* play ball!"



Getting cut from the team wasn't the only ignominy.
These kinds of things wouldn't happen to one of them richies.
If only the Honey Bear had someone like Michael Jackson for a father.



And the Slow, Downward Spiral...

Don't get too lost in those crazy dreams of yours, Honey Bear. You wander too far in those dreams. you might not come out.



Some people wait a lifetime for a moment like this.

Well, where's Honey Bear gone now. There's a paw...



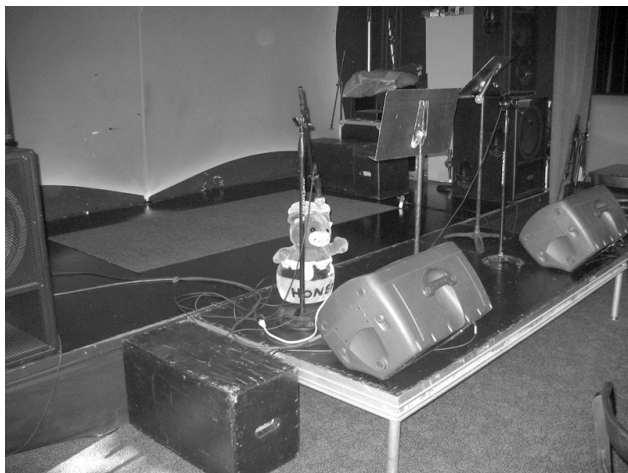
Curse those paparazzi!
Can't a Honey Bear get a moment of privacy in a public restroom?



Rocking the crap out of that University Cafe!



Take a break, Honey Bear.
It's the end of a long day and you're stoned out of your mind.



Be-In Beautiful

By Rob Gilheany

A counter-culture extravaganza. The Be-In, last July 16th, was a blast and a major success. For the past 14 years, the Be-In has been an outdoor event with poetry, acoustic music and good lefty politics. The Be-In has for most of its existence, took place at Wild Wood State Park, east of Wading River. This year's Be-In took place on the grounds of the Yaphank Presbyterian Church. "I guess I won't be walking around nude this year," Robby Quartz said.

The Gathering started around 1pm. People started to come into the site; greetings and pleasantries were exchanged as the afternoon progressed.

Veggie burgers and regular burgers were cooked, as the stage area was set up. In the past, at Wildwood the performers would get up and do their thing. It was open air and no P.A. This year at the church grounds there was a stage and a P.A. The Be-In was plugged in this year. Sixty people congregated to the stage area. The Mother and Daughter team of Jessica Forman and Shara Fernow opened the show. It has been a Be-In tradition that Shara open the be-in. She has been opening the Be-In since she was 10, six years ago. She would do a song or read a poem. This year Shara and Jessica did songs; Jessica played the guitar and sang as Shara played the cello. The finished up with the Grateful Dead number, "Box of Rain."

Brian Askamit took the stage and did his thing. Brian is an old Stony Brook Alumnus. Brian played harmonica in the Tent City Orchestra, back in the late 80's. Tent City was a permanent protest site with tents on campus, and drew attention to, what was standard housing for foreign students at the Chapin complex. Tent City attracted several activist and musicians. A Tent City Orchestra was formed. Brian played the blues harp. Brian is a scientist and works as a chemist. Brian took the stage, shirtless and in cut off jeans. He took his acoustic guitar, attacked those chords and belted out several songs. Then Brian did what he does best. He got up and grabbed his harmonica. He dedicated his next number to Mike "Mikey" Layne is the former front man for Mikey and the Merry Pranksters and current front man for Mikey and the Angels. Brian then did his blues harp thing. Everybody cheered.

Mikey has commented on the Be-In as predominantly white. "Why am I the only black guy here?" That is a good question. A theory is that the Be-In is a hippy festival, and black people are not very interested in hippies. Black people did not embrace Jimi Hendrix back in the day, so they are not going to run out to a Be-In, unfortunately. Mikey and the Angels were invited to play at the Be-In after-party. They declined the invitation. The Be-in has had Mikey and the Merry Pranksters, Reconstruction and Jorge Renderos play at the event.

The Stage had a tarp to protect the equipment and keep the performers dry if it rained. It rained some during the afternoon, but not a bad rain. Rorie Kelly, from the East Enders coffee

house got up and played. She did a very nice set. It is good to get East Enders involved in the Be-In. This guy named John Flor took the stage. He is a tall Asian dude. He did a number of clever songs. He had two songs that had something to do with "Star Wars." I liked the love song he played about Natalie Portman.

A poet/comedian who goes by the name "Testica Filch Milktoast." He took the stage in a pink girdle and a pink bra. He had balloons under his bra. He started to read crazy and outrageous, alternative lifestyle limericks and hurrahs. He got lots of laughs. Robby Quartz said to him, "John, you keep pushing the envelope."

David Brown came to play. After a two year absence from the Be-In David Brown came back. It was great to see him. David is my favorite radical, gay folksinger. He is a smallish dark cute little guy with an angelic voice. He writes amazing lyrics. He did songs of love like "Water Color Hart" and a cover song about bigotry and racism and their effects on everyone, "Its a hard life." David did his song about the Christian Right, "Embraced by the Mob." He first talked about the "loud voice" they have. "They work on denying me my birth rights" is one of the profound lyrics within this song. This is one of the best

political songs I know. I know hundreds of political songs. David opened with a song from his college days. He said that he lived with friends in a house share set up. "I did too much marijuana and Prozac. I was very happy." He did a song about that time called "Annie doesn't live here anymore." He has a song about a woman trying to function in the leadership of an orthodox church, "Athena." He did a song about the human rights of gay people to be affectionate in public, "Every Kiss is a Revolution," and he finished with a wonderful love song called "Magic."

A political panel was set up featuring five speakers. They were Mitch Cohen, the founder of the Red Balloon, and Green Party mayor for NYC, Julius Margolin, a long time labor and peace activist, Karin Sackett, who does anti-military recruitment for high schools, Bill McNulty a WUSB 90.1 FM personality and anti-war activist, and Jay Mankita, a folksinger and environmental activist. Jay drove to the Be-In in a car that runs on biodiesel fuel.

Julius Margolin, who is in his late 80s, talked about his life as an activist. "I was a mid-shipman, I did labor work. I took part in marches all over the world. I was in Argentina in the 70s during the crackdown. I saw a march of labor and justice people. I joined the march. The police started to attack the marchers with tear gas and clubs. I realized that I was not a citizen of the country, so I better get out of there."

Karen Sackett talked about the military and

how it recruits in the schools. She said that in the *No Child Left Behind* legislation, the military is given the names of every high school kid who is graduating. Karen works to inform parents that they have the right to take their kids' names off the list. She also said the recruiters call at bad hours in the night time to get to the kids.

Jay Mankita said "My mom said that if the media was not controlled by the wealthy corporations who control the news, she would of heard about it on the TV." Jay went on to say that she now subscribed to *The Nation*.

Mitch got up and spoke he said lots of interesting things. He said that 9/11 is being used by the administration to build up fascism in the USA. He got everyone to use makeshift percussion instruments and keep a beat and he read a poem on keeping us liberated, as the system keeps making encroachments on us.

Jay Mankita took the stage. Jay has been called one of the 5 or 6 best song writers around by Pete Seger. Jay is a veteran performer, he does funny songs and songs of the environment. Songs about the eternal hunger of dogs too! Jay Makita is the best acoustic guitarist I know. He can really pick it. Jay opened with a hunting song called "Shadow" and then a light-hearted song about dying called "When Death Comes Calling." He then did his hit, a song that has been downloaded by over 3,000 people. The song called "They Lied" is about

how we ended up in Iraq. Jay did a very clever song called "Tough Guy" that he sang in a Humphrey Bogart voice, "I ain't such a tough guy, at after counting my loot, a relax at the piano, or practice my flute...don't tell guys, I appreciate ballet." Jay was ready to wrap up his set. He asked for requests. Tim Restivo, the main organizer of the Be-In, said, "play illegal aliens from outer space!" Jay did this funny song about a space ship that comes down to arrest the

Bush Administration for their crimes. In the recorded version of this song there is a clarinet accompaniment. Jay asked the audience to whistle along.

For as long as Be-In people can remember, George and Julius wrapped up the daytime Be-In. They did a mix of their original songs and some old folk songs, songs from the IWW songbook, some old Woody Guthrie numbers. They also did their original songs. They opened with a parody of the *Wizard of Oz* song "If I Only Had a Brain" and made it about Bush. Julius did his Enron song, "Enron, WorldCom, Bush corporate thieves. What other swindle are up your sleeves." George did a great song that came from a tragedy. George knew a fellow named Percy McGrey. He was a baritone who sang in a church choir, and the New York City Labor houses. One day, Percy McRey got up to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and died of a heart attack as he finished the song. "The crowd was still cheering, as he lay there dying."

George and Julius did their mix of serious songs and parody. They were accompanied by multi-talented musician Al Podber, who plays the mandolin, banjo and guitar. Al played a set early, and did old blues and folk songs; he liked to play the leadbelly standards.

As the sun went down, the Be-In wrapped up. The people packed their cars and cleaned up the site. Some headed for an after party and some headed out. A strong consensus felt that the daytime Be-In this year was a smash.



AFTER PARTY HOST CHRIS KUGLEAR,
Courtesy of Rob Gilheany



ORGANIZER TIM RESTIVO,
Courtesy of Rob Gilheany



CELLIST SARAH FERNOW AND GUITARIST JESSICA FOREMAN,
Courtesy of Rob Gilheany

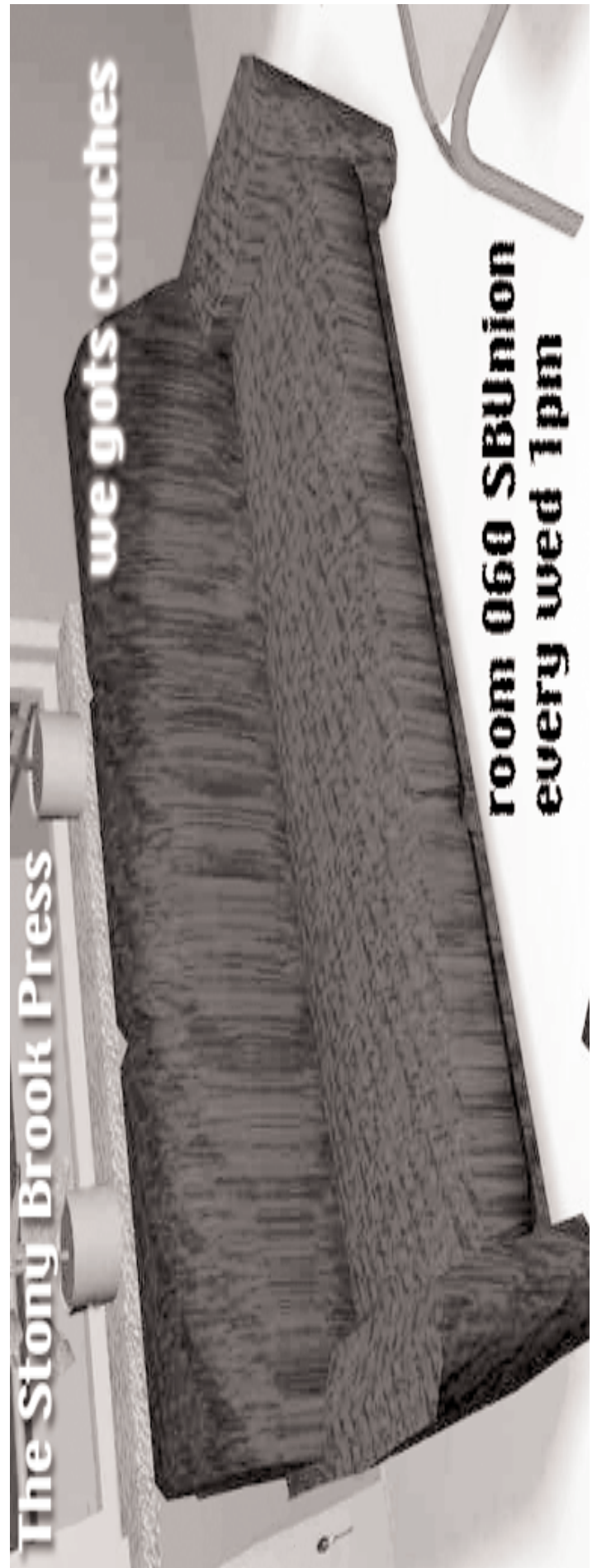
TOP TEN

Top Ten Reasons

to ♥ The

Stony Brook Press

- 10 Wierd cult-like ceremonies. Such as; eating the flesh of your diety and imbibing his blood as wine... oh and anal rape. pedarasty and anal rape
- 9 Robs, Joes and Mikes aplenty. Go Ahead... Kill one... We don't even give a fuck we have like ten more.
- 8 Drunken Nipple Effigies
- 7 We Make Great Pets
- 6 We will disarm you with our rohypnol...er, we mean our engaging wit! Our engaging wit!
- 5 More palindromes than you can "go hang a salami, I'm a lasagna hog" at.
- 4 Un-a-fucking-bashed touting of the...Fuck you GWB couch couch, ahem first amendment...fucker.
- 3 So damn smooove spizzeeking the Jizz-ive.
- 2 We have ninjas watching you, you have no choice.
- 1 Joan's excessively large penis.



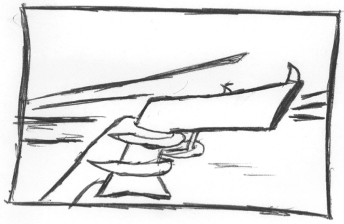
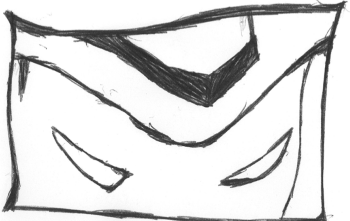
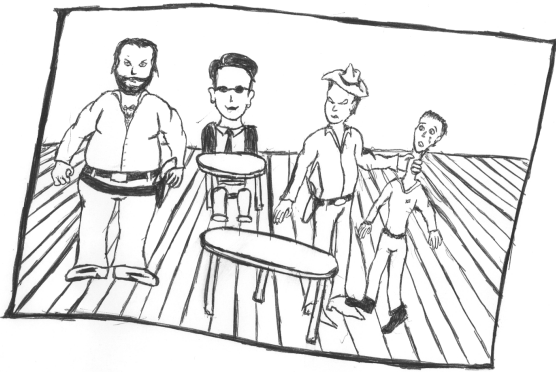
MY SUMMER VACATION: A PHOTO RETROSPECTIVE BY VINCENT FESTA





The Comics Section

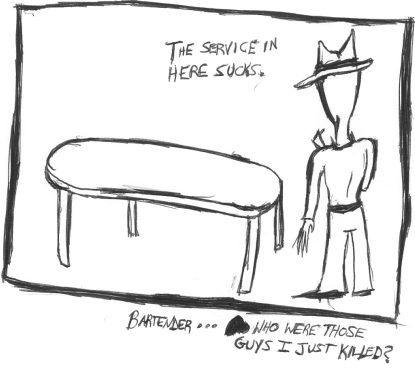
A FISTFUL OF ZURONIAN CREDITS



Wow. You fucked them up.



He sure did.



HEY, WHO ORDERED THE REVIEWS?

Coldplay - X & Y

By Brian Wasser

There are those bands you discover too late, the ones you regret overlooking when they were at their peak. Then there are the bands you discover early on, the ones you continue to, often unsuccessfully, hope will realize the potential in their early songs. I haven't listened to *Coldplay* in what seems like years, and haven't been excited by anything they've come out with in longer than that. With their third album, *X&Y*, I find myself giving them a good listen once again. Too bad that means only rediscovering their old songs...once again. That's right, the new release from what can hardly be called a band anymore, is c r a p .

It's crap, not just because Chris Martin's limited repertoire of trite metaphors (bones, bubbles, lights and puzzles) has been recycled one too many times. It's crap, not just because Kraftwerk referencing shouldn't be this obvious. It's crap not just because of the wild overproduction that has taken them miles away from the hints of authenticity latent in the early

music. It's crap, not just because, knowing the psychology of celebrity-obsession, managers, producers and record label representatives have ensured that the flavor, timbre, and landscape of each track maximizes intimations of Gwyneth while indications of a once hauntingly evocative band fade into oblivion. No. It's crap because I can't, whenever the first chord of any of these new songs hits, get out of my head the assault of ads that has come with this new album, reminding us that any and all even remotely accessible music has gone so far away from anything resembling art for art's sake, anything genuine or spontaneous, that there's really no point anymore. Catchy pop *can* be good music too. Sadly, this isn't both, and it's almost n e i t h e r .



X & Y, The Brand New Freaking Album, Courtesy of Coldplay

Maybe if they didn't try so hard to be U2-II, the scraps of creativity once heard would have come together into something entirely worthwhile. They were better when they wanted to be *Radiohead*.

Broken Flowers

By Melanie Donovan

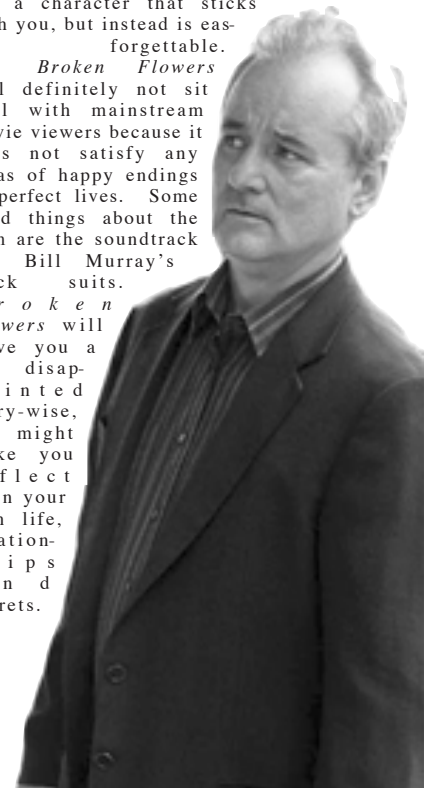
Broken Flowers is not your ordinary mainstream movie, nor is it your ordinary Sundance-winning independent film. Director Jim Jarmusch mixes comedy and drama to help us along the journey of the main character. The main character, Don Johnston, played by Bill Murray, is reaching into his past to explain his present life. Don is a very wealthy, most likely retired middle-aged man that receives an anonymous letter in the mail revealing that he has a son. Don must then think of his former Don-Juan-esque life and remember his past loves to think who could have sent the letter.

This extremely slow-paced movie can become frustrating at times. As seen before in Sofia Coppola's *Lost in Translation*, Bill Murray's silent yet powerful scenes are not as powerful in *Broken Flowers*. Some of these still scenes become tedious and unnecessary as the film progresses. If you need closure in every film you see, you will not find that in this film. It leaves you with a feeling of an unsolved mystery, but makes you wonder if it was suppose to be solved. The point of this movie was not to make discoveries but to reflect back on the life of an older man who has past his peak in life.

As Don goes on his search all across the country, he encounters his past loves, some he sees in a whole new light and some have not changed. The women of the movie are all talented and beautiful, but get very little lines and scenes. Don's friend Winston, played by Jeffrey Wright, brings some lighter comedy to the film, but once again his scenes are few. Bill Murray does a good job at the role he is given, but he is not a character that sticks with you, but instead is easily forgettable.

Broken Flowers will definitely not sit well with mainstream movie viewers because it does not satisfy any ideas of happy endings or perfect lives. Some good things about the film are the soundtrack and Bill Murray's track suits.

Broken Flowers will leave you a bit disappointed story-wise, but might make you reflect upon your own life, relationships and regrets.



The Emerald Down - *Scream The Sound*

By Brian Wasser

Shoegaze (or dreampop). The elusive early 90's British indie scene that never really made it to the U.S. Slowdive, Ride, Lush, My Bloody Valentine, Chapterhouse, the Boo Radleys, and Cocteau Twins come to mind. Each has some great albums. Each epitomizes, in their own way, this genre named after the image, on stage, of a band obsessed with the excessive use of pedals. But if you want the quintessential shoegaze album, something that captures the essence of the genre, you'll find it in a band

that formed, and disappeared, a decade too late. The Emerald Down's *Scream The Sound* is almost too archetypal and at the same time, completely anomalous. Draw the line where you like, this 2001 release should be the introduction, polished as it may be. Swirling waves of distortion, reverb and feedback, vague, airy vocals, driving bass, drawn-out guitar drones, and the characteristic wall-of-sound that has influenced so many bands, from Oasis to Mogwai, are well exemplified even in the title itself. And even as it becomes obvious that this album isn't giving us anything new, there is something in the nostalgia that adds to the crisp hypnosis.

And with the first dense layering of watery, synth melody, only seconds into the first track, the dream begins. For some, this might be the perfect cure for insomnia, and its only fair to give the caveat of repetition. But for those who enjoy music for contemplation, sober or not, "Caught A Wave" is a good indication of the rest of the album; other blissed-out highlights include "Red Shift" and "7am." And some songs sound just as much influenced by Joy Division and The Cure as they do MBV. Either way, the drive to sound retro somehow works, at a time when so many other bands so often fail. The desire to push forward, creatively, is lacking, especially on the surface, but I like it too much to care. Besides, rediscovery can be a wonderful thing, and can hold freshness in and by itself.



The Emerald Down, Courtesy of Amazon.com

HEY, WHO ORDERED THE REVIEWS?

The Devil's Rejects

By Eddie Zadorozny

Here in the midst of a mostly-disappointing summer movie season for audiences, Hollywood and box office, comes a film that I am maybe ashamed to admit is truly one of the standout films of the summer season. I am not a prude to film violence as I have seen an exorbitant amount of massacre and bloodshed committed on celluloid over the years – believe me (if not rent *Bad Taste*)! Yet something about liking this film may seem odd. Instead of approving of such a film, I should feel compelled to visit a church or priest and confess my sins for having such a fun time while viewing, not to mention the film title in itself, which makes me feel as if I am a bad catholic! You know what, I decided the church has its own problems for now, so let's express why I found the film so strangely entertaining!

The film is a vast improvement from director Rob Zombie's first, the awful and badly-acted *House of 1,000 Corpses*. Though this film is not a sequel (thank someone, I would say God but I feel shame for liking the film with a title that has a satanic reference, so I think I will leave God out of this ... plus I need to go to confession). Though it has borrowed the characters from that film and placed them in this new film. The story is simple – we have a family, the Firefly's, who as the film opens is having their farmhouse raided and surrounded by police as they sleep. For at this particular house there have been 75 murders committed as told by newscasters and newsreel, by the likes of the malevolent Firefly clan who have been killing and butchering passerby for years. Wouldn't you know one of the Firefly's 75 victims of car-

nage happens to be Sheriff Wylie's brother, the man who has organized this sting? This sets in motion the whole driving point of the film, Sheriff Wylie's escalating anger, vengeance, and reckoning at the hands of the Firefly's, (the devils' rejects). He in some sense may have been born from the same gene pool as the Firefly's, because his vengeance is so sadistic and that I would hate to see what he might do to a motorist who is driving without a seatbelt! As the raid proceeds, all does not go well – some of the clan is caught, cops die, and two family members escape and take to the road to meet up with their father. From here on it's a seek and destroy mission.



FAMILY REUNIONS GET... INTERESTING.
Courtesy of Manson Inspiration

It is the sequence of the siblings as they take to the road with their father where they seek concealment and shelter from a belligerent sheriff, that we see the true nature of their sadistic ways. Most disturbing is a scene in a hotel where they deceive two married couples from a touring banjo band. The violence that takes place in that room is not to be believed, as one of the unsuspecting woman Gloria (Priscilla Barnes) is humiliated, and violated in such a way that I am sure this film flirted with the NC-17 rating, it's that disturbing! Another fate is met by the husbands of this traveling banjo quartet, as they are led to an unsuspecting demise by the older brother reject, Charlie. The scene that plays out is equally disturbing due to the combination of death and religious disavowal spewed by Charlie.

The violence that plays out during this film shouldn't be taken as over-the-top – it is

just plain disturbing. These rejects kill for no reason or explanation, it's in their nature, it's fun to them and it's portrayed in such an appalling way and manner that it's not so much sickening, but it seeks to make the audience so involved that you want to see these rejects pay and suffer. It's like we the audience feel for and become the sheriff. Yet when you see that the sheriff is just as sick and sadistic as the people he is pursuing you wonder who is going to out-smart whom. This is what makes the film great to watch, because this film does what most films should strive to achieve and that's involvement. The film is never boring, the pacing is ever forward, never let's up and we the audience are involved, we want to see this play out, we want justice served on all sides, served despite who you're rooting for, and in that sense the ending, nicely executed, suits all.

As much as I liked the film, there are some other points to praise! One would be the look of the film, which possesses a very grainy, dirty, sweaty look, which might be done on purpose to heighten the fact that you feel dirty watching it. Also the soundtrack plays out nicely with its use of 1970's songs, most memorably 'Freebird', and it feels like the 70's as you watch. Also the cinematography is done rather well; there are scenes that take place on a desert road that not only look hot, but feel hot. After viewing this hot film and enjoying it I shouldn't feel so guilty, and I don't, but I need to take a shower. Lastly I must give credit to director Rob Zombie for bringing cohesiveness to this film that was most lacking in his debut! Did he go back to film school between the two films? There is some great camera work in the style of angles that play out nicely, as well as the pacing and continuity of scenes, which are executed brilliantly. As you leave the theater don't feel taken back by what you saw, but instead vindicated, that you have actually just seen one of the best films of the summer.

Play America's Greatest Pastime

"Dead or Sleeping"

Every Wednesday at 1pm
060 Student Union

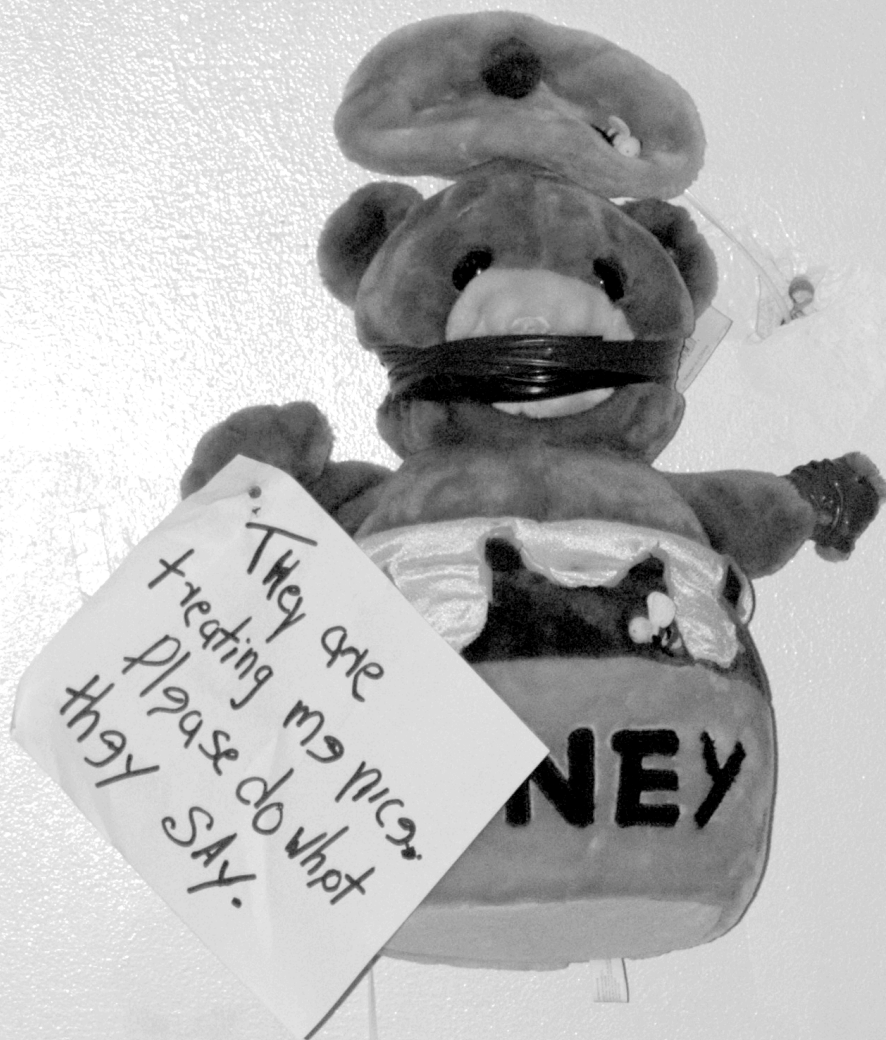


The Stony Brook Press:

THE PRESS

**THEY STOLE OUR PRESS-IOUS...
AND WE WANT IT BACK!**

MEETINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 1PM. STUDENT UNION 060



**COME TO THE STONY BROOK
PRESS OPEN HOUSE IF YOU
WANT TO SEE THIS BEAR
ALIVE.**

UNION RM. 060. SEPTEMBER 7. 1PM. NO COPS.