

The Stony Brook

# PRESS

*The Community News and Features Paper*



*Ceci n'est pas  
une clown*

# Everybody Loves Hypnotoad

By Najib Aminy

What took fifteen years of excavation in Madagascar resulted in a great discovery for Stony Brook's own Professor David Krause, PhD. Dr. Krause, a renowned paleontologist, discovered what is believed to be the largest frog ever to exist, dwarfing the notoriety of both Kermit and Frogger combined. *Beelzebuffo ampinga*, or devil frog, is the name of the ten-pound, sixteen-inch long frog. Sixteen inches! That even dwarfs; well, you know. In 1993, Krause, along with his team of researchers, began discovering bits and pieces of what at first was an unknown frog. Fifteen years later, after finding sixty to seventy fossilized fragments, *Beelzebuffo* was discovered.

Krause mentioned numerous times how fortunate he was to find the fossils. The process of finding fossils, as Krause put it, "is basically knowing where to look, what rocks yield fossils. From there, it is just practice of the eye. The best bones are those that are barely exposed." With dinosaurs and various other animals Krause has discovered, he has found whole skulls and skeletons, whereas with *Beelzebuffo*, "we have never found any skulls or skeletons, we just keep finding fragments." Over 60 fragments have been found, but the lower part along with parts of the upper leg and skull are missing. Yet since crucial fragments such as the spine have been found, the size of the frog can be determined.

Krause went on to mention there were two things that made the discovery of this frog so important. To the general public, according to Krause, the mere size of the frog intrigues many, whereas to the science community, the interesting fact is that the closest living relatives to *Beelzebuffo* live in South America. "It is not a surprise to us that it has relatives in South America, because when we found the dinosaurs, mammals and crocodiles, we found out their closest relatives were also in South America. What is different is that frogs are intolerant of marine conditions." This leads many to believe there must have been a land connection between South America and Madagascar during the separation of Pangaea. Krause

adds that the latest Cretaceous period frogs found in Africa have no relation to *Beelzebuffo*. Thus, through much analysis, Krause and his team believe Antarctica, which a hundred million years ago was rather warm, was the channel between South America to the east and Madagascar to the west.

The closest relatives to these frogs are ceratophrys, Brazilian horned frogs otherwise known as pacman frogs. They are called this due to their ability to open their jaws and devour their prey, as in the video game *Pacman*. Judging by the ratio of spine size, these horned frogs are relatively one third the size of the *Beelzebuffo*. Considering its size, if *Beelzebuffo* had the same habits, it probably was able to take down bigger mammals and lizards, and potentially hatchling dinosaurs.

Madagascar is home to the many fossils Krause and his fellow colleagues have discovered. Krause has discovered dinosaurs, mammals, birds, and fish, all dating back to the Cretaceous period, roughly 65 to 70 million years ago. What led Krause to search in Madagascar were the findings of fossils by a French soldier in 1895, when France invaded Madagascar. Like many conquering nations at that time, for France it was procedure to record data of natural history of any occupied territory. The location of the fossils was, it is no secret amongst the scientific community. As Krause put it, "there is a gentleman's agreement not to go into other people's sites. However, some unscrupulous people have actually raided our sites." Despite such raids, Krause has discovered much.

When asked why he didn't name the frog after himself, Krause replied laughing, "that would be considered poor taste. It would be considered egotistical and I don't think it has ever been done before." Krause went on to say nonchalantly, "I have had colleagues name things after me." Krause has a dinosaur named after him, a massive plant-eating sauropod--specifically, the last of the so-called dinosaur titans. Its name, *Rapetosaurus krausei*.

Krause describes the naming process as part of long conversations and idling thoughts in the 95-degree heat and twelve-hour shifts in the quarries of Madagascar. An example of how random names can be, while discovering fossils, Krause and his fellow colleagues had listened to music to pass the time. It was whenever music composed by Mark Knopfler from Dire Straits would played that, coincidentally, fossils would be discovered. Krause decided to name the dinosaur after Mark Knopfler, and as a result, Krause received seven free tickets to a Dire Straits concert. Thus the scientific community welcomed *Masiakasaurus knopfleri*.

*Beelzebuffo* the name came from Krause's colleague Kathy Forester, who works at George Washington University. "When we first started finding this frog, we started calling it the frog from hell," says Krause. As time went on, Forester came up with the name *Beelzebuffo*, derived from *Beelzebub*, essentially a devil in sacrilegious texts, and *buffo*, the Latin word for toad. "We were having a conversation and she brought up the name and it was an immediate winner." *Beelzebuffo*.

Krause was surprised by the media feedback. Nearly 414 news agencies have covered *Beelzebuffo*. "Again I've been overwhelmed by the interest that this frog has generated. Everywhere from Pakistan, India, Iran and Kazakhstan--the list goes on and on." It is very nice. In fact, one could say such a great discovery was a great success.

Even government scientist Dr. Yemek is filled with jealousy and currently furthering his research proving that women's brain are size of a squirrel's, if not smaller.

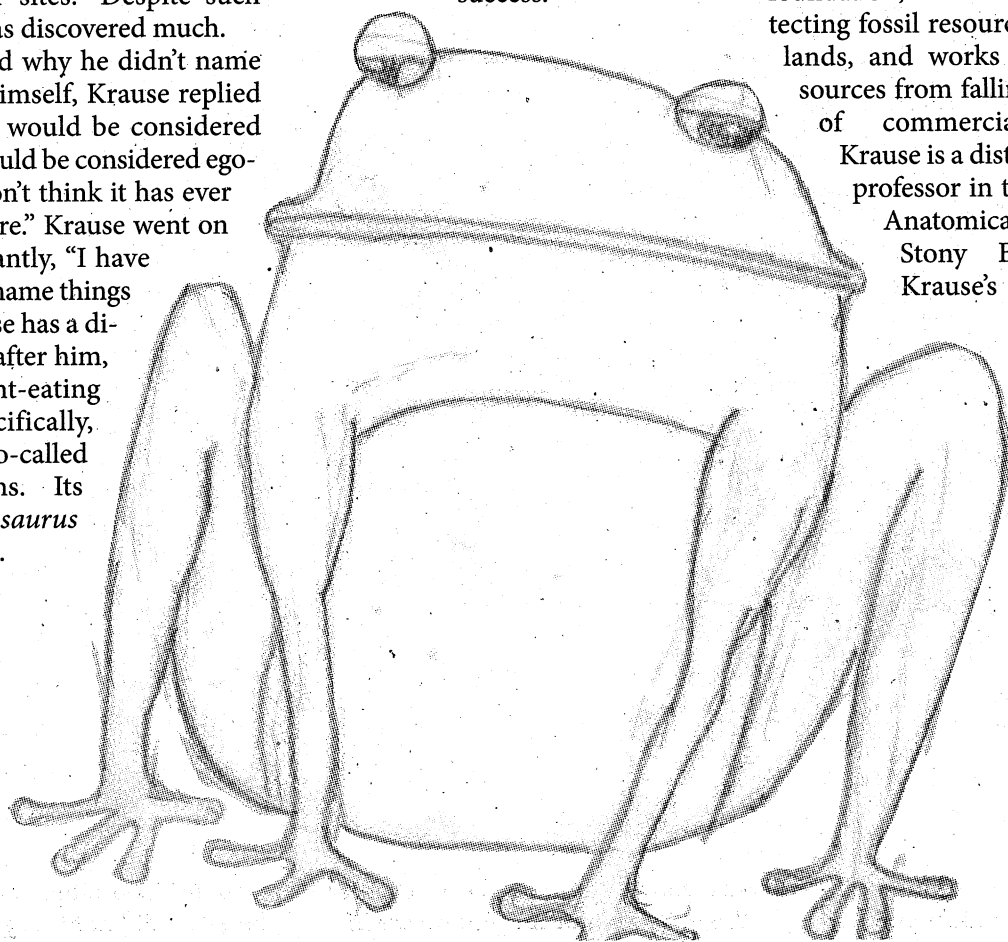
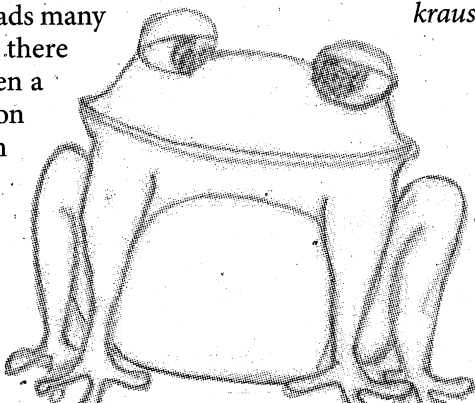
When asked whether *Beelzebuffo* deserves a five minute cameo in a possible Jurassic Park IV, Krause replied, laughing, "It should be much more than five minutes, it should be the star." In addition Krause said that the *Beelzebuffo* would eat any snakes on any plane.

As for the Budweiser frogs, well, he feels that Budweiser would do quite well if *Beelzebuffo* jumped on.

Dr. Krause was born in Alberta, Canada. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the University of Alberta in zoology, and worked for his PhD at the University of Michigan in geology. Krause discovered his first fossil when was ten years old, it happened to be the vertebrae of a duckbill dinosaur. Krause describes his career in paleontology as a phenomenal run and one that is very fortunate. He goes on to say that his work, "has allowed me to take many graduate students and, with the abundance of fossils we have been able to find, those students have done PhD dissertations--a lot of publications--a lot have gained tenure from what they did."

In addition to finding fossils, Krause has set up a foundation building schools in Madagascar. The goal of the Madagascar Ankizy Fund is to build schools and clinics in the remote areas of Madagascar. In addition to his foundation, Krause advocates for protecting fossil resources on US federal lands, and works to prevent such sources from falling into the hands of commercial exploitation.

Krause is a distinguished service professor in the department of Anatomical Sciences here at Stony Brook. One of Krause's discoveries can also be seen in the Administration building. That huge skeleton of a dinosaur? That was Krause



# Pepper-oh-no Pie!

By Lowdown, A-WAL and Knockout

What's for lunch at the Student Activity Center? How about pizza, with an unhealthy topping of crime. It all started innocently enough. The stalwart "greeter" at the food court was going about his day, selflessly greeting people as they entered the eatery. However, today would be the day that *danger* would greet him. As the ordinary lunch rush was bustling by, he was confronted by an armed maniac with a hunger for danger, and pizza, on his mind.

It was time for him to think quickly. The perp, an unidentified African-American, was trying to walk away without paying for his slice. This didn't bode well with our heroic greeter. As he went to stop this crook from going through with his dastardly deed, the perp

unsheathed a deadly weapon of destruction: a gun, loaded with desperation.

Acting quickly, and remembering his greeter training, he ducked out of the way so he could "deliver" this slice of crisis to the boys in blue. The police were on the scene in a scant three minutes, ensuring that this miscreant wouldn't be getting his money back. The hapless rascal now found himself on the run from a tenacious body of *justice*. He bolted across the Academic Mall, headed straight for Harriman Hall. He managed to elude authorities...for the time being.

Through Stony Brook's superior text message alert system, the campus was immediately turned into a lock down fortress – and a sanctuary to no criminal. The nosey news crews were quick to complicate matters, but police were ready to answer any questions to ensure public safety. The sky filled with droning helicopters. It was time for Assistant Police Chief Doug Little

to concentrate his squad on protecting the public, while he concentrated on recounting the day's events to newsroom full of eager media. Channel 11, and their bitter rival Channel 12, were joined by Fox News, ABC and campus media to get the scoop on this wayward slice of pepper-oh-no.

The pushy media was anxious to grill the Assistant Chief. A reporter from Channel 11, when asking about the text message alert system, called the system "silly". Well, Channel 11, if stopping crime is silly then consider this a silly nation, and the Assistant Police Chief, Commander-in-Chief. As it turns out, crime is. no. laughing. matter! Doug Little informed us that he was, in fact, "still looking for a bad guy," and the "search was still ongoing."

At least the perp will have something to eat while he waits the cops to pick him up and send him...to jail.



Artist's Rendering

## Campus Perps: Perps on Campus

One day Lou Little who was Doug Little's brother was sitting in his home watching the TV when his brother Doug Little called him on the telephone.

"Come quick Lou Little, there is problem on campus," said Doug Little to Lou Little.

"Oh no I will be right there," said Lou Little to his brother Doug Little. Lou Little got on his motorcycle and drove real fast until he reached The Campus. Lou Little looked around the Campuses and said "It is a good day for me to do what has to be done and help my brother to catch the enemys"

A cop car that was hidden in nearby bush drove up to Lou Little and said

"Hey there who are you you should not be here we are in lockdown"

And Lou Little said "Why can't I be here on the campus right now?"

And the cop said "BECAUSE WE ARE IN LOCKDOWN EMERGENCY!"

Lou Little said "I am here to help my brother who is Doug Little who is Assistant Police Chief of the Polce" and hit the officer real hard with his hands.

"Oh no I have waited to long where is my brother Doug Little because he needs me where he is"

Then Lou Little got call on telephone it was Doug Little who was his brother. "Lou Little where are you we are in

lockdown emergency!"

Lou Little said "I know Doug Little I am coming!" and then he got on motorcycle and ramped off of Academic Mall.

Doug Little said on telephone "There is bad guy who stole pizza and then ran fast with WEAPON" and then Lou Little dropped telephone and it crashed. Then BOOM happened and Lou Little drove real fast out to where his brother was fighting the bad guys.

And Doug Little said "Lou Little over here!" and Lou Little ramped his motorcycle onto the ground and he landed. "Where is bad guy with weapon?" Lou Little said and then remembered he did not bring weapon because

it was back at his house by the TV where he didn't remember it. "O no how do I fight bad guy without weapon?" Lou Little said to his brother Doug Little.

Just then the bad guy appeared and he was finished his pizza and he said to Lou Little and his brother Doug Little "You cannot stop me from running to where I have to go to get away from lockdown emergency" and then the bad guy grabbed Doug Little and ran real fast until he was gone and Lou Little could not see him anymore.

"Oh no my brother is kidnapped by pizza criminal boss I will save my brother Doug Little from the evil boss" Lou Little said. TO BE CONTINUED?

## Editorial Board

Executive Editor  
Bryan Hasho

Managing Editor  
James Laudano

Associate Editor  
Alex H. Nagler

Business Manager  
Adina Silverbush

Production Manager  
Jesse Schoepfer

News Editors  
Najib Aminy

Features Editor  
Jonathan Singer

Arts Editor  
Andrew Fraley

Photo Editors  
John 'Caboose' O'Dell  
Roman Sheydvasser

Copy Editors  
Nick Eaton  
Katie Knowlton

Webmaster  
Chris Williams

Audiomaster  
Vincent Michael Festa

Ombudsman  
Sam Goldman

Minister of Archives  
Alex Walsh

Distribution Manager  
David K. Ginn

Layout Design by  
Jowry Romano

## Staff

Kotei Aoki  
Ross Barkan  
Shaun Bennett  
Andrew Bernstein  
J.C.  
Doug Cion  
Whiskers T. Clown  
Jake Conarck  
Jessica Cordero  
Caroline D'Agati  
Joe Donato  
Michael Felder  
Joe Filippazzo  
Amelia Fischer  
Jamie Freiermuth  
Ilyssa Fuchs  
Rob Gilheany  
Joanna Goodman  
Stephanie Hayes  
Marta Gyvel  
Mo Ibrahim  
MC 900 Foot Jesus  
Elizabeth Kaplan  
Alexander Kahn  
Olga Kaplun  
Jack Katsman  
Rebecca Kleinhaut  
Emma Kobolakis  
Antony Lin  
Cindy Liu

Cat Lund  
Tia Mansouri  
Mariana Martins  
Leeza Menon  
James Messina  
Jamie Mignone  
Steve McLinden  
Dana Murray  
Chris Oliveri  
Ben van Overmeire  
Rob Pearsall  
Andrew Pernick  
Jon Pu  
Aamer Qureshi  
Nirmala Ramsaran  
Kirstine Renigen  
Berta Rezik  
Dave Robin  
Joe Safdia  
Natalie Schultz  
Scott Silsbe  
Rose Slupski  
Amberly Timperio  
Lena Tumasyan  
Marcel Votlueka  
Brian Wasser  
Matt Willemain  
Ed Zadorozny

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) 632-6451 Voice  
(631) 632-4137 Fax  
Email: sbpress@gmail.com

## EDITORIALS

## Hey USG, Censor This

It has recently come to our attention that the Undergraduate Student Government slipped a clause into their financial bylines giving them the ability to restrict funding to any and all clubs they feel are using the funding for printing, publishing, or broadcasting obscenity. To quote the new guidelines, § 104. RESTRICTIONS ON EXPENDITURES, Section A, Subsection Seven, which states in whole, "No monies appropriated by the Undergraduate Student Government shall be used to print, publish or broadcast obscene or libelous materials."

This clause is directly aimed at *The Press*. We are the sole media organization to deal with obscenity as we feel it to be part of the free expression the student body deserves. If the only way a student can properly express themselves in an opinion piece is by swearing profusely, so be it. We are not the ones to censor them, and neither is the USG. We are a free, open and public forum.

The fact that we are a public forum is of significance here. We ask you now to follow us on a twisted ride through the world of constitutional law and judicial precedent. Our first stop is *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District* 393 U.S. 503 (1969), where the Supreme Court held that the First Amendment, as applied through the Fourteenth, did not permit a public school to punish students for wearing black armbands as part of an anti-war protest. To quote Justice Fortas' majority opinion, "A prohibition against expression of opinion, without any evidence that the rule is necessary to avoid substantial interference with school discipline or the rights of others, is not permissible under the First and Fourteenth Amendments." In short, the First Amendment does not end when you enter school grounds. Unless it's about drugs, but *Morse v. Frederick* (Bong Hits 4 Jesus) is another story.

Next stop, *Cohen v. California* 403

U.S. 15 (1971), otherwise known as "Fuck the Draft." Here, the court, under the majority opinion of Justice Harlan, found that "absent a more particularized and compelling reason for its actions, the State may not, consistently with the First and Fourteenth Amendments, make the simple public display here involved of this single four-letter expletive a criminal offense." In short, swearing in public is constitutional.

We hit our first speedbump in *Hazlewood School District et al. v. Kuhlmeier et al.* 484 U.S. 260 (1988). Here, the court found that public school newspapers that have not been established as forums for student expression can be censored and, to cite Justice White's majority opinion, "school officials may impose reasonable restrictions on the speech of students, teachers, and other members of the school community." Let's pause here to take in what we've learned so far.

*Tinker* taught us that students "do not shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate." *Cohen* reaffirmed our right to display "four-letter expletive[s]." Then *Hazlewood* came in, only to tell us that school officials can impose restrictions. Well, guess what USG, you're not school officials. And the stream of precedent does not end here.

Enter *Dean v. Utica Community Schools* (345 F.Supp.2d 799 [E.D. Mich. 2004]), a lower court ruling, which restated the benefit of a public forum insofar as administrators (or in this case, inept legislators) cannot intervene to censor content. To quote Judge Arthur Tarnow's decision, "...the First Amendment undoubtedly protects the freedom of student journalists, under circumstances such as those presented in this case, to maintain their school-sponsored publications as limited public forums for the expression of viewpoints that question, endorse, or deviate from the official viewpoints of state authorities."

This did not overturn *Hazlewood*, however, as it is a lower court decision. It does, however, make a compelling point. Just because you don't like the way we write about you or anything else doesn't mean you can censor us.

We sadly have to end on a disturbing note. Once again, on a lower court ruling in *Hosty v. Carter*, 412 F.3d 731 (7th Cir. 2005) (*en banc*), the Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal from Governor's State University. Here, the Universities administration equated college students with high school students in terms of their rights, and the Judges writing the opinion declared that, "...The Innovator did not participate in a traditional public forum. Freedom of speech does not imply that someone else must pay. The University does not hand out money to everyone who asks."

But there's a bright side to this. A simple statement from the University can stop the USG right in its tracks and ensure the right to free speech for everyone on campus. Administrators, we're calling on you to agree to the following:

Stony Brook University recognizes and affirms the editorial independence and press freedom of all student-edited campus media. Student editors have the authority to make all content decisions free from censorship and advance approval and consequently they bear the responsibility for the decisions that they make.

We had the Secret Service shut us down for "Dear Jesus Christ, King of Kings, all I ask is that you smite George W. Bush" and we survived. The USG has tried to stop us in the past and failed. This subsection is unconstitutional and should not stand. We call on the student body to let the USG know how they feel about unnecessary interference with the media and *The Press*. Until then, we'll be down here, serving the will of the student body.

## As Days Go By

It's a rare condition, this day and age, to read any good news on the newspaper page. Love and tradition of the grand design... some people say it's even harder to find.

Well then there must be some

magic clue inside these tearful walls. 'Cause all I see is a tower of dreams; real love burstin' out of every seam.

As days go by, we're gonna fill our house with happiness. The moon may cry; we're gonna smother the blues with

tenderness. When days go by, there's room for you, room for me, for gentle hearts an opportunity.

As days go by, it's the bigger love of the family.

Hope this helps,  
The Stony Brook Press!!!!!!!!!!!!

# Black History Month

By Bryan Lew

Both inspiration and discord pulsed through the audience as CBS News correspondent Randall Pinkston delivered a Black History Month speech that channeled the horrors of racism into the minds of listeners.

Pinkston's speech, along with the ceremony that accompanied it, heralded the coming celebrations of February's Black History Month.

"Sometimes there are situations where your skin color takes a significance whether you like it or not," said Pinkston, a three-time Emmy Award winner. One of the awards was for outstanding investigative journalism.

"I'm glad to bring Black History Month in grand fashion," Pinkston added.

With "grand fashion," Pinkston's speech showed the audience the storm of racial struggles that he endured as a black man in America.

He told of his childhood in Jack-

son, Mississippi, where "strict racial segregation was law" and race "defined your place in society."

Pinkston said that as child, racism was rampant to the point of formal segregation. When he visited a zoo, he observed that blacks and whites had separate drinking fountains.

The drinking fountains relegated to blacks festered with disease, while the white fountains were "cleaner," Pinkston explained. This seemed to contradict the "separate but equal" de-

notation that had been upheld by the Supreme Court.

At the risk of arrest, Pinkston, along with his mother, drank from the forbidden "whites only" fountain.

With hindsight, Pinkston now calls modern society the "manifestation of a new America"

where "race will continue to take a much reduced role."

"My generation became the beginnings of change," he said in his speech.

Kellen Felmine, a senior Africana Studies major at SUNY Stony Brook,

does not agree with Pinkston. "It's not a 'New America,'" Felmine said. He calls modern racism the "same base, but different cover" from the past.

"Race is the elephant in the room," Pinkston declared. But Dr. Floris Cash, Chair of the SUNY Stony Brook Africana Studies Department, called racism "just a line under the surface."

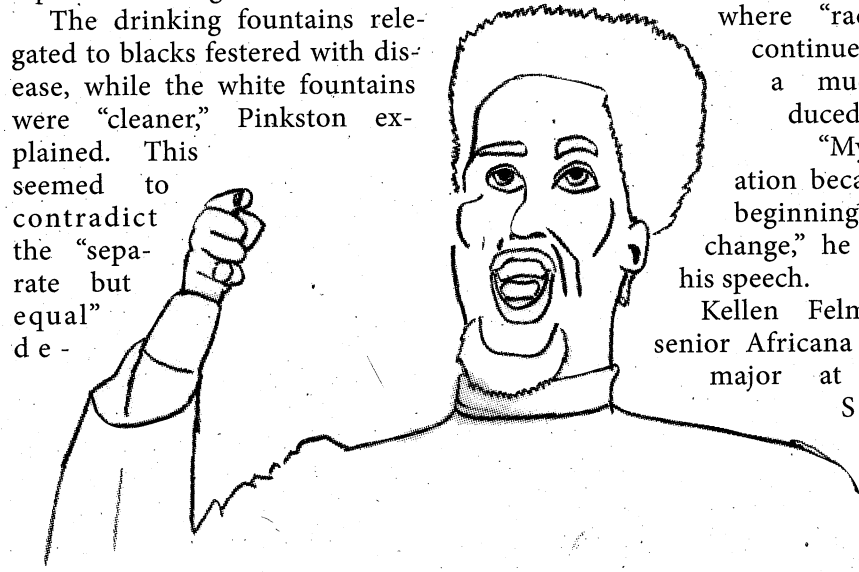
"The idea of race is much more covert now," she said in an interview.

Despite the discord, Pinkston seemed to find more support with his statements on the presidential primary race.

Albert Cover, a political science professor and the undergraduate director of political science at SUNY Stony Brook, agrees with Pinkston when he called the presidential race "a turning point in history."

"It's no longer bizarre to have a black candidate," Cover said.

Cover grew up during the 1960s. He saw "race riots" and a "civil rights revolution." In terms of racism, "there has been advancement," he said before pausing and then adding, "I think."



STOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOKELY STOOOOKELY

Billy Squier

# Death and Destruction at The Walt Handelsman Show!

By Jon Singer

Walt Handelsman hasn't grown up yet. At least, that's his opinion on his own life. As a Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist, Handelsman has a unique view of the world. To him, John McCain is the Planter's peanut guy, and Ronald Reagan was all about the hair.

But while Handelsman's more recent cartoons may bash the Republican administration, anything that Bill Clinton did was fair game for ridicule back in the 1990s. And thanks to Barack Obama's freakishly large ears, the Democratic presidential frontrunner could be the butt of future Handelsman cartoons.

Speaking in front of a barely-packed SAC ballroom, Handelsman delivered a laugh-tracked lecture, part of the School of Journalism's ongoing "My Life As" lecture series. Unlike other lectures in the series, Handelsman's presentation featured a journalist from the opinion side of the newsroom.

The cartoonist's latest Pulitzer Prize was awarded for his series of self-branded "Walt Toons," flash animations that feature Walt Handelsman starring as Hillary Clinton, Dick Cheney, and a

couple of aging baby boomers, among other public figures. After following a steady schedule of one cartoon per day for the past few years, Handelsman

taught himself how to use computer animation software. "The more I learned about it, the more I realized I was making a mistake," says Handelsman. Where Handelsman once had to draw one George Bush in a single-cell cartoon, now he must draw several George Bushes in an animated cartoon. Now Handelsman works at a rate of one cartoon per month, and his wife has taken over as the voice of Hillary Clinton.

Handelsman started his career piss-

ing off "racist pinheads," who in return called the cartoonist a "fucking Jew," after an exchange involving editorials spoofing the career of Louisiana politician David Duke. But

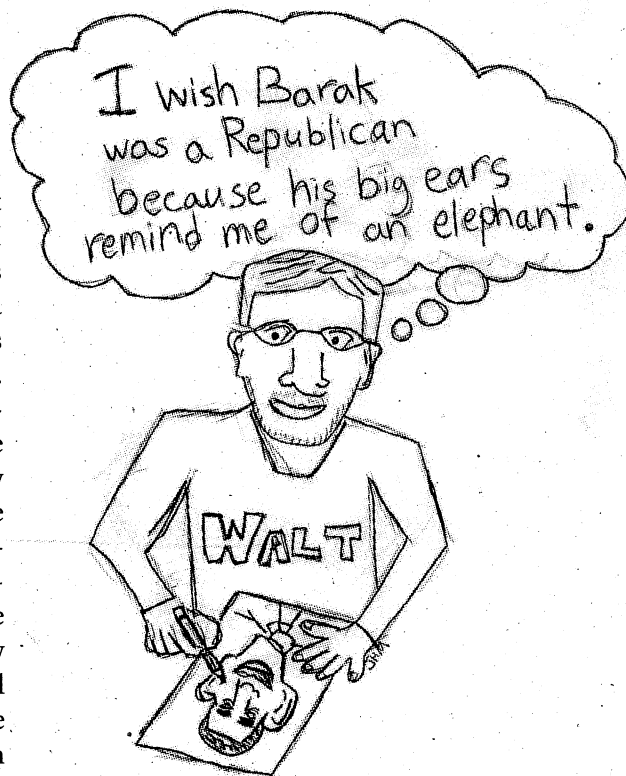
When Handelsman was drawing cartoons for the *Times Picayune* in New Orleans, he watched as over half a million people voted for Duke, a leading member of the Ku Klux Klan. "These guys have no power over me, and I could totally

piss them off," says Handelsman.

"A politician works for me," he says. "I'm paying their salary." Handelsman views this technicality as a 007 license to kill any public figure who ends up in

the newspaper. "Many times sarcasm brings issues to light," says SBU School of Journalism Associate Dean Marcy McGinnis. Handelsman's sarcasm has dealt with such issues as obesity in America (fat jokes are always funny), global warming, and the recent writers' strike (which resulted in a cartoon featuring David Letterman's "Top Two List").

The typical day of Walt Handelsman, according to the cartoonist himself, can begin as "early" as 10:30 a.m. But that's only when he enters the office. Cartooning, says Handelsman, "is a constant creative energy, and there's no off switch." And he insists that energy is party-agnostic. When Bill Clinton ran the nation, Handelsman produced goofy caricatures of that president on a daily basis. Now that the Bush administration is almost over, the butt of Handelsman jokes for the next four years is up for grabs. But those are only his cartoons about national politics. Wait until you see his cartoon about Elliot Spitzer. In the eyes of Walt Handelsman, the New York governor thinks of himself as Superman, but he is really just a guy in an inflated Superman suit. It's difficult to explain in words. Sometimes a picture is worth a thousand words.



# From The Desk of NYPIRG

By Jake Conarck

## Mercury Pollution Reduction

The Environmental Task Force is organizing students to send in postcards to lawmakers in order to establish restrictions on the amount of mercury that can be emitted by cement manufacturers. They are looking to not only inform the student body of the adverse effects of mercury pollution in the environment, but also to help concerned students make a difference by getting involved. Mercury is a neurotoxin, and exposure to even small amounts in utero or when very young inhibits the ability to walk, read, write and learn. Studies are also showing a relationship with mercury exposure and heart problems in adult men. Many people are put at risk by unknowingly coming into contact with fish that have been contaminated with mercury.

## Pens for Kenya

After the success of the "Pens for Kenya" drive last semester, collecting over 3,000 pens in just a few weeks, the Higher Education Project has decided to renew its plea for students to donate their extra pens to impoverished schoolchildren in Kenya. Children in Kenya need a working pen every day in order to go to class. Many times fami-

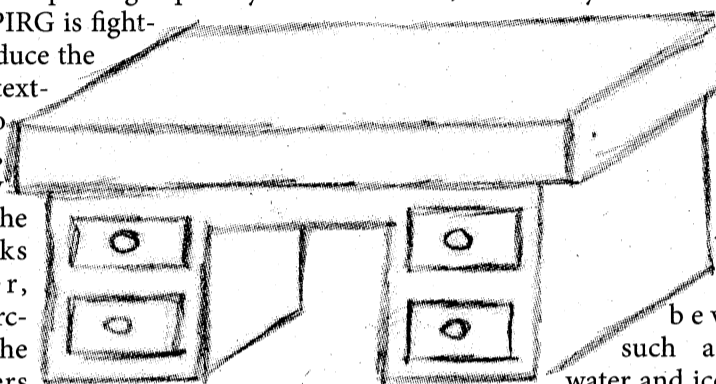
lies cannot afford a working pen so children lose the opportunity to go to school. There will be a faculty letter going out to every professor on campus asking for some time to talk in class about the issue and to collect spare pens from students. The drive started last Friday and will be continuing throughout the entire semester.

## Textbook Prices

Textbook prices go up every semester. NYPIRG is fighting to reduce the cost of textbooks to students, not by making the textbooks cheaper, but by forcing the publishers to give students more options. The Higher Education Project is looking into a la carte textbook-pricing, increased time between the release of new editions, soft cover textbooks and supplemental online and library collections. In an effort to do this, they will be raising awareness from faculty on campus with a textbook pricing survey. They are asking professors from around campus to tell us what they know about pricing, supplemental collections and textbook bundling.

## Bigger Better Bottle Bill

The Environmental Task Force held a press conference on Valentine's Day to pressure lawmakers to update New York's Bottle Bill, which requires a 5-cent refundable deposit on beer, soda and other carbonated beverage containers. They were joined at the event by the Regional Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner, Peter Scully. NYPIRG and other



advocates want the law updated to include non-carbonated beverages such as bottled water and iced tea. At

the press conference, they released a study that showed that beverage containers made up 35 percent (by volume) of litter collected and non-deposit containers outnumbered deposit containers by a margin of almost two to one. In addition to releasing the report, students presented a large Valentine for Senator Flanagan and the rest of the State Senate, urging them to include the Bigger Better Bottle Bill in the state budget.

## Community Food Drive

The Hunger and Homeless Outreach Campaign will begin collecting food for their May 5 food drive. Food banks have been hit with a double whammy this year. First, by an increase in demand on fuel prices, affecting household heating and transportation costs, which has a disproportionate effect on the working poor. Second, by a decrease in supply from recent droughts that has caused the surplus of produce to be nonexistent. This has led to a shortage of inventory in large supermarkets. By raising awareness in our communities and getting students involved in gathering donations, NYPIRG chapters are fighting to make a significant difference in helping regional food banks.

## The Prom Boutique

In order to help lower income families cope with the expenses that a senior prom entails, the Hunger and Homeless Outreach Campaign will begin collecting prom dresses, shoes, accessories and unopened make-up to donate to families in need. The event will be held on May 3 but collections will begin immediately.

For more information regarding any of these events or stories, contact NYPIRG at 631-632-6457. Their office is located in the Student Union basement, room 079.

# Masculinity Remains a Puzzling Cinnabon

By Katie Knowlton

The very important question of "what is masculinity?" was asked last week at a panel put on by the Wo/Men's Gender Resource Center. Unfortunately, that question wasn't even remotely answered and was barely touched upon by the panelists.

On this panel there were six people well versed in the topic. Most notably among them was Dr. Michael Kimmel, a professor in the sociology department, who has published quite a bit on gender and masculinity. The other panelists were Dr. Sarah Sternglanz of the Women's Studies department, Dr. David Kilmnick, the CEO of the Long Island GLBT Services Network, Donna Riley, Director of Long Island Transgender Experience, and Mark Layola, a graduate student from an imaginary department (EST?) who seemed very confused about why he was asked to participate.

The introductions provided the only real discussion of masculinity. Both Kimmel and Sternglanz briefly touched on how the changes in the lives of women in the last thirty to forty years have lead to the today's questions regarding what masculinity is and how society has and currently defines it.

Interesting perspectives came from Donna Riley and David Kilmnick. They are a transsexual woman and a gay man, respectively.

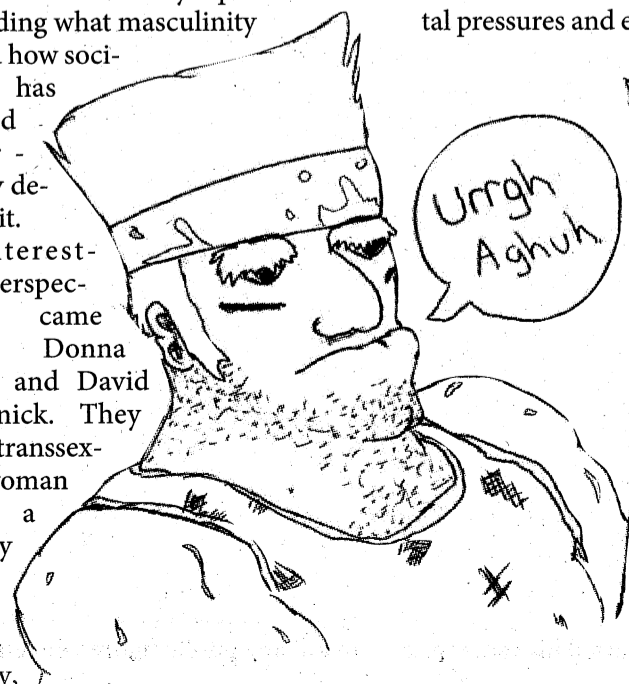
and their thoughts on the subject have been shaped by personal experiences distinct from the rest of the presumably heterosexual panel. Riley spoke of how "Donna" existed before puberty, but once she hit adolescence, due to societal pressures and expectations of males,

"Donna" went away until later in life when she began her transition. Kilmnick also felt the pressures of masculinity as a youth, and that these pressures still exist as a gay

man. There are men who only want to be with masculine men. They see effeminate men as more like women, even if they don't identify themselves that way.

These discussions showed promise for the rest of the panel, but unfortunately it dissolved into conversations about sexism, (mostly toward females), and politics. Questions and comments from the audience, while mostly intelligent, pushed the panel further and further off its intended course until it ended in a discussion of whether a white woman or a black man has a better chance of becoming President, which was just a conversation about sexism versus racism. Masculinity had very little to do with it.

This panel had the potential to be a very thought-provoking discussion of masculinity and males in general in our society. It is unfortunate that it became the same tired argument that has been discussed in almost every media outlet for years.



# Lady Seawolves Think Pink

By Najib Amini

On Wednesday, February 13, the Lady Sea Wolves tipped off to something more than an ordinary basketball game, they tipped off to a night of breast cancer awareness. With the lobby and gym of the Athletic Complex draped in pink; students, faculty and organization leaders alike came together to watch the Lady Sea Wolves give their best effort against the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. Though it turned out the women's basketball team came up short, they, along with many others, were victorious in their efforts of spreading breast cancer awareness.

The event was made possible by the efforts of Linda Billy from the Stony Brook Hospital. Billy, who works in the radiology department, worked on coordinating many groups and organizations encouraging people to attend, and providing brochures and pamphlets of information regarding breast cancer. Billy is a major patient advocate who emphasized the importance of awareness as it leads to "prevention, which saves lives."

Jeff Barnett, the Assistant Dean of Students, was extremely pleased to see many groups from around campus come together for such an important cause. Some of the groups involved were the Center for Prevention of Outreach, Chill and CHOICE Peer education programs, the Stony Brook Red Zone, Students Putting an End to Cancer, Health Science faculty such as members of the pediatric and oncology unit, a few sororities as well as many students and student athletes. "Think Pink night is just one example of how people or initiatives that may seem so very different from each other on the surface—an athletic game and public health issue—can be combined to join in the same mission as well as synergize the campus community to help instill and display spirit and pride in our university," said Barnett.

Among the groups presenting information were Chill and CHOICE peer educators, lead by Kate Valerio. Valerio, coordinator for both Chill and CHOICE, feels that education is the best way to save lives and fight cancer. Valerio made listeners aware of the fact that if they know what to check for, then they are implementing the tools of prevention. It is this prevention that Valerio says can lead to healthy lives. In an effort to spread knowledge, not only about breast cancer, rather both physical and mental issues, Valerio is proud to work with both Chill and CHOICE.

Chill is a student run group of peer educators with specific focuses on mental health and wellness. Chill covers the issues of depression, stress and suicide prevention. "We have conducted over fifteen campus depression screenings since the fall '07 semester began. To date we have screened over 900 students—each facilitated by peer educators and counseling professionals," said Valerio. Chill educators, who are re-

may increase the risk of cancer," Valerio said. The issues that CHOICE discuss range anywhere from safe sex to sexual assault prevention to alcohol abuse and recognizing the signs of abuse. It is quite often that the two groups are seen together covering the same event, such as the Think Pink night, where Chill would focus on those who have a loved one with breast cancer, and CHOICE focus on teaching how to check for

part of CHOICE, and tackles the many issues related to physical problems. She along with her fellow CHOICE educators, go from residence hall to residence hall and hold informative meetings regarding nutrition, cancer, sex and drugs. Pineda emphasized the point that "old habits die young," and that if a person chooses an unhealthy lifestyle, then there will be no question as to whether they will grow up healthy. Through educating and informing the masses, she feels change can happen—change that can save lives.

Another success of this event was the bridging of the gap between the West Campus student community and the Stony Brook Hospital. The hospital, represented by Linda Billy, worked on setting up the event, and asked if students could promote it. Students have previously gone to the hospital to seek information and resources; as Vicki Irwin, of the Advancement of Human Diseases Center, said, "If it had something to do with our side of campus, and they needed resources, we helped." This time the favor was returned, essentially strengthening ties between students and the hospital. Cynthia Lombardo, who works in the Cancer Center, noted that, "Although October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, this is College Breast Cancer month, and we felt it was important to contribute our efforts."

Though Coach Michele Cherry was unhappy with the loss, as any coach or competitor would be, Coach Cherry was happy to be a part of Think Pink. Coach Cherry spoke about how the Lady Sea Wolves played a whole week of Think Pink basketball, and to have it come home—it was just that much more important. Though Coach Cherry did say that once the ball was tipped off, it was just another game. Though it may have seemed so, she mentioned that it did have its special meaning, due to what it stood for. Senior Dana Ferraro, from Middlesex, New Jersey, recorded her twenty-fifth career double double, with a strong 13 points and 13 rebounds. Chantay Fraizer led the team with 26 points, a career high. Kirsten Jeter, a freshman from Elmont, NY, contributed with a significant thirteen points. The Lady Sea Wolves, who have recently been defeated by U Albany, are now 6-19.

Through knowledge and awareness and coming together at a basketball game, Think Pink night reminded many of the importance of fighting breast cancer—better yet any type of cancer. As Lombardo said, "awareness is our best weapon."

Olinda Pineda, also a senior, is a



quired to take two three-credit classes over the course of two semesters, can be seen in many campus events educating peers of mental health issues. Chill is largely supported by the Student Health Services, the University Counseling Center, and the Center for Prevention and Outreach, and is co-instructed by Michael Bombardier, Ph.D., the depression and suicide outreach program coordinator.

CHOICE, which is an acronym for Choosing Healthy Options in the College Environment, tackles the issue of physical health and awareness. Students of CHOICE must also take a two semester, three-credit course in order to teach peers how to check oneself for breast or testicular cancer. "CHOICE conducts campus workshops heightening awareness of lifestyle choice that

breast cancer.

Brooke Pesce, a senior from West Babylon and a member of Chill, realizes that a lot of people stigmatize cancer, and assume that it will not happen to them. She explained that a lot of health problems are a result of the lifestyles that we choose. Pesce feels that depression is the same way — one may not realize that they are depressed, but still experience the feelings of depression. Drugs and alcohol may seem to comfort these feelings, but lead to the downward spiral of mental and physical health destruction. Pesce feels being a part of Chill is great in that she not only gets to make a difference, rather she also gets to educate herself. "You realize that when you are helping others, you are helping yourself out, also," says Pesce.

# The Heart of Darkness

By Najib Amini

On Wednesday, February 19, Stony Brook University welcomed Ambassador M. Nathaniel Barnes to speak as part of the Provost Lecture series. Barnes serves as the ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations from the Republic of Liberia. In an optimistic tone, Barnes discussed his presentation in terms of the past, the present, and the vision for the future.

Barnes described Africa's past as one of imperialistic ideals and agendas. Artificial lines have been created and little progression has occurred since the formation of African countries in the fifties and sixties. Barnes' response to the lack of progression was "transition," a phrase he used many times during his presentation. In terms of the present, Barnes emphasized the importance of having specific agendas that are beneficial for everyone. Rather than have foreigners tell Africa what to do, Barnes felt that it is more important for African countries to start having their own agendas "for Africans and by Africans." The future, in the Ambassador's eyes, appears promising. According to Barnes, Africa is on the verge of a renaissance, despite the fact that genocide, civil unrest and poverty are rampant throughout the continent.

Barnes explains that justice toward women, the youth factor, the rise of civil society and the increase of democracy will result in replacing the Africa of today with the Africa of tomorrow, one that promises prosperity and opportunity. In terms of justice to women, Barnes relates back to an old African proverb, stating, "If you give an African man a loan, he will have wasted it on drink. Give an African woman a loan, and she would send her children to school and set up a business." Using this mentality, Barnes feels that the progress of Africa lies in grassroots campaigning, particularly with women.

In terms of the youth, a largely ignored group, Barnes feels they can bring significant change through education, employment, and future leadership. Together, the youth can work to better Africa through empowering the works of civil society. By increasing the civility of a village, people will converse about the direction of their country, and, as Barnes hopes, they will come to an agreement as to what needs to be done. With the increase in community, the village has the power to bring forth change.

Economy is another issue with which Africa has had trouble. Barnes mentions Nigeria, which exports a high amount of petroleum and imports only a greater amount of finished petroleum products. Barnes feels this is where the

working class can turn the imports into manufactured goods, and increase exports, thus somewhat stabilizing the economy.

In terms of democracy, Barnes describes the current situation in Kenya and how it is relevant to all of Africa. According to Barnes, Kenya was simmering as hostilities toward the government were swept under a rug. It was only until the recent elections that these feelings piled on top of each other and

mention former ambassador Harsh Bhasin of India, who is a visiting professor of Asian and Asian American Studies here at Stony Brook, asked the question. Bhasin has served eight years in Africa as the ambassador from India to countries such as South Africa and Botswana. Barnes replied that the AU was in a state of transition, and that many of the issues were being worked out. "It takes time for the transition of leadership."

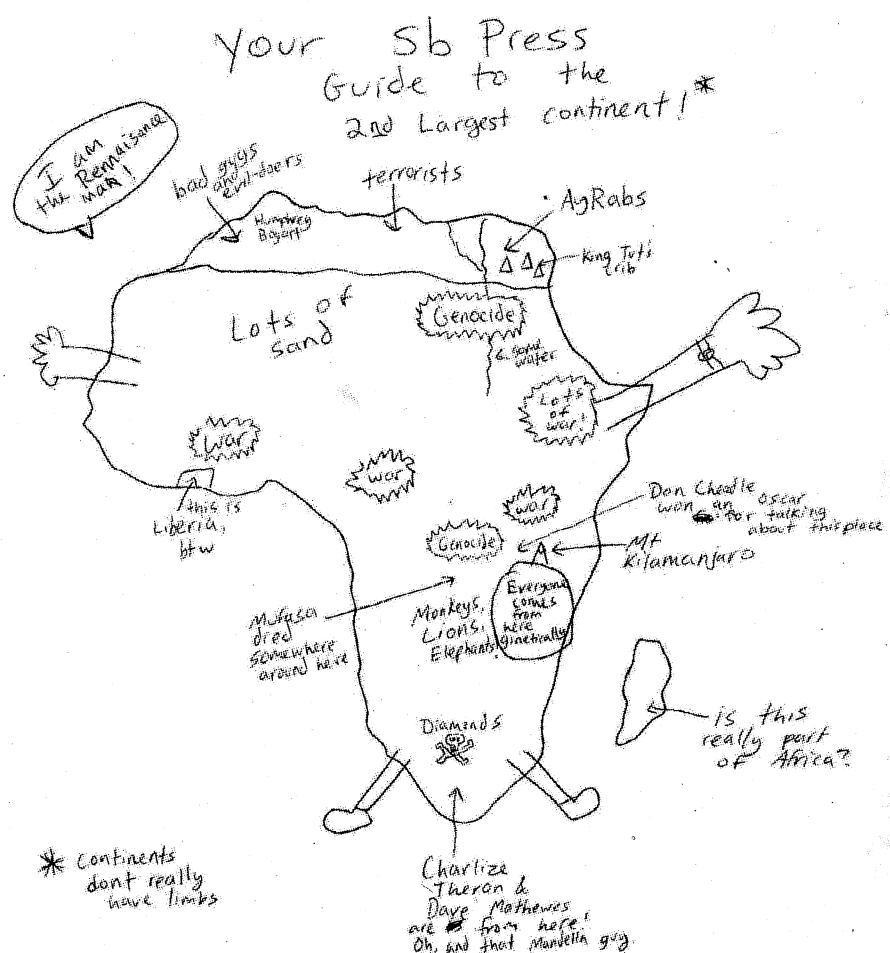
African nations need leaders that are willing to step down, such as Mandela, rather than opting to keep their power until death, such as Mugabe or tribal leaders. "Democracy happens in pockets of Africa, not in the whole of Africa," says Ambassador Bhasin. A solution to the African problem, according to Bhasin, is conforming to the genuine democratic norm rather than tribalism.

Bhasin also questions the term "transition," he asked, "How long is a transition? Is it five years, ten, fifteen, fifty, one hundred?" Many African nations gained their independence in the fifties and sixties, yet decades after, many are still fighting poverty and instability. Comparably, it took India three years to set up a formal democratic government, and it has since become a prosperous nation. The problem with African nations is that many of the occupying European nations simply left and took everything with them, leaving no institutions for education, health, or government. An example of this is Rwanda, in which tribes have been fighting for power and brutally suppressing one another. Bhasin feels that once a genuine democracy is created and Africans realize they have a voice, progress may occur and poverty may end.

Of the students that attended the Provost lecture was Alex McLean, a junior from Dix Hills. McLean felt the lecture provided a deeper insight into Africa. As a student in the International Affairs department, McLean was intrigued upon hearing the first-hand accounts of Africa. McLean, like Ambassador Bhasin, questioned the optimism of former ambassador Barnes, but realized the logistics of Barnes' solutions to Africa were possible answers to questions concerning Africa's problems. When asked why Africa is important to a student thousands of miles away, McLean replied, "It is important because they are a part of our global community. To neglect them is morally wrong, just as to say that they are not worth our concern."

Keith Tilley, a junior from Lake Ronkonkoma, felt that Barnes was too optimistic in his presentation, especially when it comes to the situation in Africa. Tilley felt that Barnes touched too little on what Americans can do to help the situation in Africa. "I feel all that I can do is donate money. I just want to know what I can do to help out," says Tilley.

Ambassador Barnes referred to Africa as a phoenix waiting for the day to rise from its ashes. The question left is when that day will become the present. The answer lies in time and action.



exploded, as Barnes put it.

The inability to succeed power is a rampant problem. In many African nations, there is either a dictator, a coup for the new leadership or rigged elections. An example can be found in Zimbabwe under the regime of President Robert Mugabe, who has been in power for 27 years. Under Mugabe's reign, the United States, along with European countries, have criticized Mugabe for suppressing political opposition, land reform and for ruining the economy. The root of the problems in Africa resides in corrupt leaders and governments, specifically in regards to transition of power and type of government.

As Barnes' presentation came to a close, the Ambassador was willing to spend some time answering questions. The issue of the Organization of African Unity changing to the African Union and the significance behind the change was mentioned. It is worth to

Reflecting upon his question, former ambassador Bhasin stated that change from the OAU to the AU is "putting old wine in a new bottle." Bhasin emphasized the issue of the AU's lack of control over the actions of Zimbabwe, Sudan or Kenya. "He didn't answer it satisfactorily, he skipped over it, but he is very optimistic," says Bhasin. In terms of mentioning the word "renaissance," Bhasin stated that it was the height of Barnes' optimism.

While spending eight years in Africa, Bhasin stated that his greatest experience as an ambassador was witnessing the transition of power at the end of apartheid in South Africa, when Nelson Mandela came to power. Conversely, Bhasin feels that Africa's biggest problem is the sense of tribalism; he feels that it diverges from the path of democratic leadership. Bhasin believes that without democracy, countries will fail to progress and will succumb to their woes. Bhasin feels that

# Touro! Touro! Touro!

By Bryan Hasho

Shirley Strum is starting to look like Donald Trump these days. With the funny hair, her stuffed-and-propped-up nature—our high-horse-riding President has taken the role of tycoon as of late.

Just in the past few years, Stony Brook University has purchased Long Island University's Southampton campus, bought up the 246-acre lot adjacent to the university (Flowerfield), built a wireless and alternative energy center off Stony Brook Road, fired up a brand new top-flight Journalism program, and made several expansions to its already renowned medical school.

Now, in the school's most recent thrust to live up to New York Governor Spitzer's label of flagship school, Stony Brook is allegedly in negotiations to purchase Touro College's Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. These aren't Stony Brook's first dealings with Touro; the Stony Brook School of Social Welfare currently offers a dual degree—a Master's in Social Welfare and Juris Doctorate from Touro, both achieved in four years.

As first reported by *Long Island Business News*, the law school could bring in upwards of \$70 million. Touro College's founder, Dr. Bernard Lander, only built the law school's principle Central Islip campus last year; it was constructed neighboring the federal courthouse, at a price of

\$35 million. Critics have poked at Lander's dealings, labeling the school's campus 'Central Iflip.'

But supporters of the purchase are suggesting that Touro's Law School is much in need of new management. Fuchsberg Law Center has forever been a fourth-tier law school—a sub-par standing at odds with the \$34,000 price tag for atten-

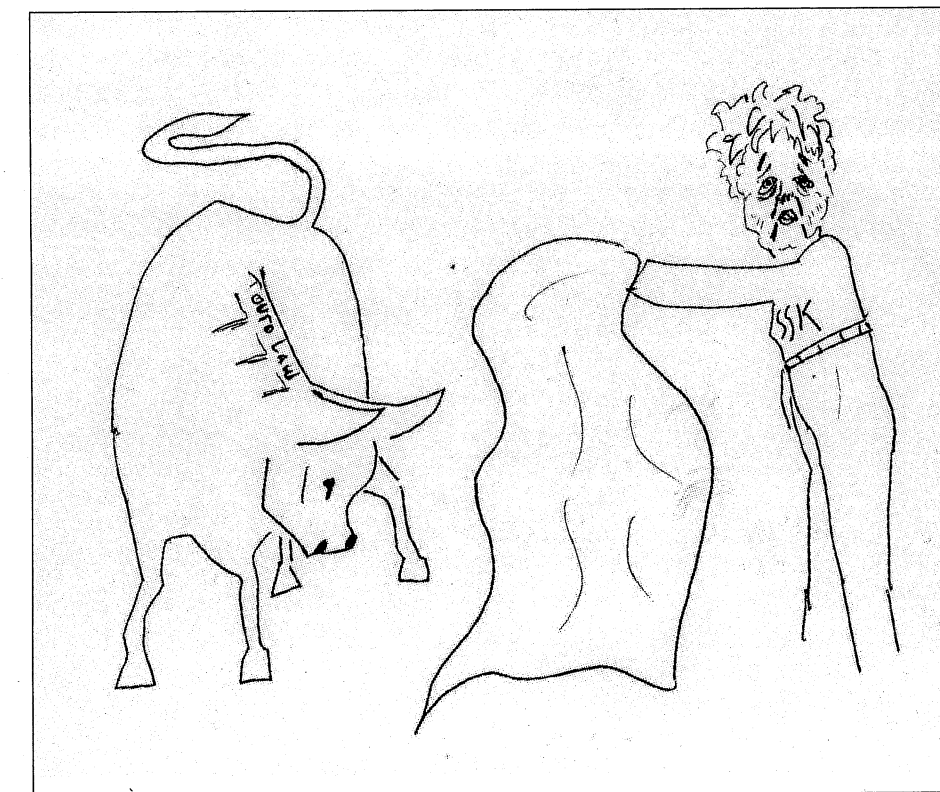
law school, the news of the potential buy out is making many of them think twice. "This purchase makes Touro a more credible institution and is really making me reconsider my law school plans," said Steven Goodstadt, a Senior at University of Maryland, and a Long Island-native, currently applying for law schools. A number of Touro faculty could also benefit from

number of students are attending Touro for its religious leanings, a facet of the university that could fade with Stony Brook's influence. A number of donors have paid for the law school to build an on-site synagogue and a Judaica room—just in the past few years.

Last November Binghamton University announced plans to build their own law school. They have acquired an American Bar Association consultant, but have not released any specific timeline. Binghamton President Lois B. DeFleur told *Binghamton Press & Sun Bulletin* of her hopes to give her undergraduates an attractive option to stay at Binghamton. She also said that the law school would bolster more of the school's interdisciplinary studies, such as political science and public administration.

The SUNY system does already have one formal law school: the up-state flagship University at Buffalo. Founded over 120 years ago, the law school is on the second tier, at spot 77 of the *U.S. News and World Report* rankings, putting it far above Touro's current rankings. Buffalo's tuition is \$13,200 for in-state students and \$20,000 otherwise, the level at which both Binghamton and Stony Brook's tuition would presumably be set.

A deal would likely require some imaginative financing, as Stony Brook has already milked the state for everything it can. A less speculative report on the negotiations could arise as early as in the next weeks.



dance. A Stony Brook overhaul would, at the very least, lower the tuition and attract a more established faculty.

So while Long Island's top students have long shied away from the

purchase—faculty now in line to receive the union benefits and systematic funding that come with a state university. That is, if they keep their jobs.

Then there is the opposition. A

## Administration Returns Fellowships

By Jake Conarck

All Presidential Fellowships have been reinstated at Stony Brook following an improper practice charge filed by the Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU) with New York State's Public Employees Relations Board on October 27, 2007. These graduate student fellowships were unilaterally decreased or eliminated following an unprecedented 15% raise for all teaching assistants and graduate assistants at Stony Brook for the 2007–2008 academic year.

"Our job as union reps is to protect, at all times, the terms and conditions of employment of our members," said Victor Rosado, Business Agent of the

GSEU at Stony Brook. "Without a doubt, the administration acted unilaterally, and we were there to hold the line and fight the cutbacks."

Presidential fellowships are granted for three years and play an important role in bringing the top students in the country to graduate school at Stony Brook, a crucial distinction for assuring a prestigious academic reputation.

Dean Lawrence Martin of Stony Brook University's Graduate School sent out a letter on January 30, 2008 to all graduate students whose presidential fellowship had been decreased or eliminated, saying that the situation was a "misunderstanding" between himself and Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny.

Dean Martin was unavailable for comment as of press time.

The union argued, to the labor board, that Stony Brook violated past practice when it pressured incumbent employees to accept a reduced or eliminated fellowship and insisted that new employees sign a "revised letter of funding."

"This is exactly why we have a union, and why all workers should have one," said Kristin Hole, a teaching assistant in Comparative Studies. "Not only did our union win back a lot of money for us, we also showed them they can't arbitrarily alter our working conditions without us fighting back."

*"...we also showed them they can't arbitrarily alter our working conditions without us fighting back."*

Kristin Hole

# Wake Up and Smell the Coffee

By Najib Aminy

For most students here at Stony Brook, there is one word synonymous with morning. Coffee. With the efforts of Sonia Kaczmarzyk, Lisa Milano, and Kai Lee Huang, that one synonymous word is working to be replaced by fair-trade coffee. The three freshman students have collaborated on a project where the Faculty Student Association will donate five cents for each cup of fair trade coffee sold from the week of February 25<sup>th</sup> to the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>. Together, the three students hope to bring awareness to the importance of fair trade coffee and goods.

The idea came about when Kaczmarzyk was asked in her Leadership and Services class by Professor Manny London to think of ways of spreading awareness of fair trade. "For every cup of coffee sold, we would get a certain percentage of the profit", says Kaczmarzyk. After bringing up the idea to Kevin Kelly, of the FSA, Kelly fell in love with the idea according to Kaczmarzyk.

After realizing how much work there would be needed to promote the idea, both Lisa Milano and Kai Lee Huang jumped aboard. Collectively, the group has spread the word through Facebook, posters, fliers, as well as informing the Resident Hall Directors of each building to spread the word dur-

According to Global Exchange, an international human rights organization, the price for fair trade coffee is \$1.26 per pound where as non fair trade coffee is \$.60 to \$.70 per pound. With the United States as the fifth leading consumer in the world, many Americans are unaware that the coffee they drink

FSA, is an international organization dedicated to both the long-term relief and development of countries with poor economic status. Oxfam works on disassembling trade agreements that threaten people's rights to livelihood, and work on setting up fair trade agreements that help many overcome poverty. One way to help is simply buying free trade coffee.

Of the coffee distributors, one can ask for free trade coffee when ordering from either Dunkin Donuts or Starbucks whereas Seattle's Best coffee distributes nothing but fair trade coffee. "We want people to continue buying fair trade coffee. These two weeks are for awareness, but after that we want them to continue", says Milano. Huang also emphasized the issue that if this problem is ignored, there will be less coffee farmers resulting in less coffee. Huang went on to add that many of these farmers live in poverty and have nowhere to work.

Thus, as an effort to help end poverty and spread awareness, Kaczmarzyk, Milano, and Huang are hoping that students wake up and smell the coffee, the fair trade coffee.



ing their Hall Counsel meetings.

Fair trade coffee is coffee that is priced a little higher to ensure that coffee farmers are being paid just wages.

come from "outdoor sweatshops", as described by Global Exchange.

Oxfam, the organization that will be receiving the donations from the

# Ralph Nader Launches 2008 Campaign

By Matt Willemain

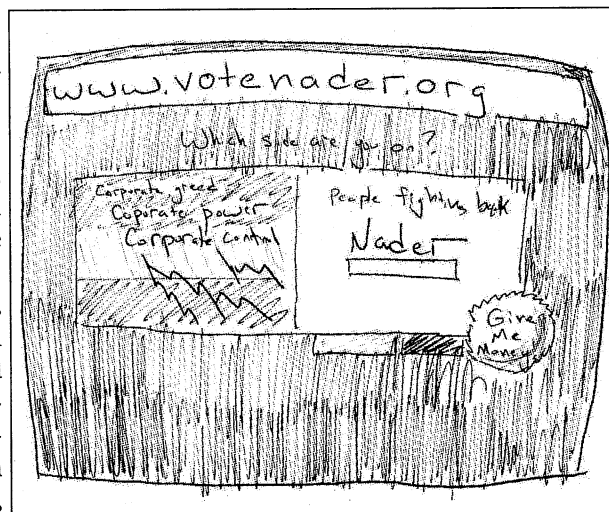
Ralph Nader, the citizen advocate and author formerly named to *Time Magazine's* list of the 100 most influential Americans of the twentieth century, announced his third serious bid for the US presidency on NBC's *Meet The Press* with Tim Russert this past Sunday, February 23. While most observers credit Nader for his four decades of public advocacy (during which he founded over one hundred advocacy organizations and was instrumental in the passage of a wide array of federal legislation including the Safe Drinking Water Act, the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration and the Freedom of Information Act) some political rivals accuse his political strategy of presidential campaigning as counterproductively hurting the causes he has famously championed.

In emails to supporters preceding the announcement, Nader hinted at his campaign's argument by listing causes he felt had no advocate among the current presidential contenders. Among those causes he cited universal single-payer health care, trimming the Cold

War era military budget, ending the occupation of Iraq, the full scale adoption of solar power over new nuclear infrastructure, supporting a peaceful and even-handed settlement of the Israeli/Palestinian dispute, holding the Bush administration accountable for their potentially impeachable crimes, cracking down on corporate crime and corporate welfare, reigning in pollution and destructive financial speculation with taxation, opening up the heavily managed, bipartisan-release-style presidential debates and repealing the anti-union Taft-Hartley law.

Representatives of the Democratic Party have argued that candidates within their party reflect Nader's values, and that his strategy of campaigning against Al Gore and John Kerry in general elections (which they presume

could only result in a Democrat or Republican victory) served only to divide what should be a coalition against President Bush. Some have gone farther, with the contentious argument that votes collected by Nader in the 2000



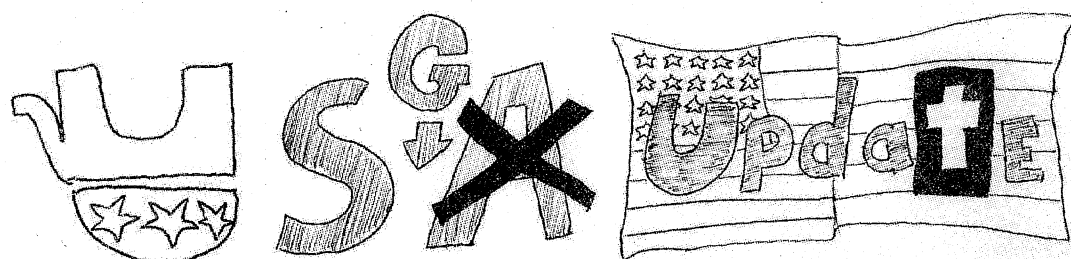
election were responsible for Bush's ascension to the presidency. Other critics point to the sharp decline in Nader's vote total from 2000 to 2004 to argue for his insignificance. In 2004, his name appeared on fewer state's ballots, largely as a result of lawsuits by the Democratic Party and allies which Nader claims were an abuse of the legal process.

According to Associated Press reports, leading Democratic and Republican candidates have reiterated the idea that Nader is an insignificant factor who can only serve to give a slight advantage

to the Republicans. Senator Barack Obama criticized Nader as an uncompromising purist, while characterizing his previous efforts as "heroic." Senator Hilary Clinton dismissed Nader as troublesome flash-in-the-pan, but conceded that he was free to run. Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee has welcomed Nader on the assumption that his impact will boost Republican chances.

Nader maintains that the candidates currently in the race are too close to big business, corporate lobbyists and special interests, and that his campaign will "shift the power from the few to the many." Pressed on the accusation that he will enable a Republican victory, Nader dismisses the chances of their openly pro-war party winning a vote among a population overwhelmingly opposed to the war—opinion polls now show opponents of the war outnumber supporters more than two to one. His campaign web site, at [www.vote-nader.org](http://www.vote-nader.org), appeals to potential supporters by inviting visitors to declare their allegiance in a dispute between "Corporate greed / Corporate power / Corporate control" and "People fighting back."

*The author is a member of the Green Party who supported Nader's previous presidential bids.*



## Death and Destruction at the USG Meeting!

By Jon Singer

The USG has passed a new appropriations act, giving clubs around campus grants for their activities. The act was not passed without debate.

Sport clubs like archery and men's crew applied for grants, the latter requesting a new boat that would cost more than \$13,000. USG senators debated the issue at February 21's senate meeting (no meeting was held the week before). The debate included calls for men's crew to purchase a used boat, the argument being that the team is not at the professional level. The team also does not have a boathouse, and boats are kept under a tarp outside.

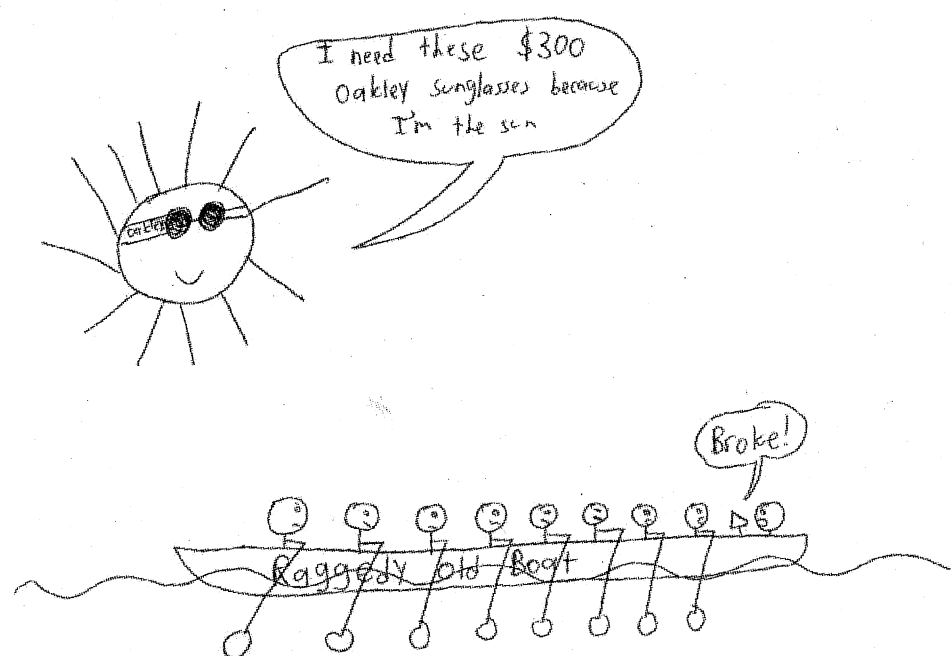
Other organizations that applied for grants included ballroom dance and WUSB. Arguments for the radio station included the age of their equipment,

some of which dates back to the 1980s. Once all grants are awarded, the USG will be left with \$4000 in grant funds. "A lot of these clubs have been waiting

for a while," said one senator at the February 21 meeting.

At the same meeting, the USG senate appointed Kyle Grogan chair of the elections board. Grogan's appointment comes after the past two elections showed very low turnout rates for students who were allowed to vote for their senators, as well as last semester's referendum to pass an amended constitution.

Members of USG are still interested in passing a further revised constitution, which will be debated at upcoming open town hall meetings. The proposed revisions mostly involve linguistic technicalities, some of which will reiterate students' right to free speech, according to USG Vice President Nathan Shapiro.



## Jamon y Queso: A Trip to Argentina

By Jack Katsman

This winter break I studied abroad through Stony Brook's International Academic Program (IAP). I traveled to Argentina, a beautiful country with a colorful (to put it nicely) history and a rich culture. We stayed in Buenos Aires, capital city of Argentina. For those lacking in the Spanish department, the city's name means "Good Air".

The first impressions I got from walking around the neighborhood of enclosing hotel was that it was a lot like New York City, though there were also many differences. The city was saturated in centuries of history, of other countries' citizens inhabiting the city, resulting in architecture from France, England, and Spain. The buildings have character, and just walking down the street is an adventure in its own right.

With the IAP program, the other fifteen members of the group and I spent nearly three weeks taking classes, living in a foreign country and learn-

ing and experiencing the culture and history of this magnificent place, Buenos Aires, and the ideologies surrounding it. A large part of the cultural study was done in class, where the professors (two from Stony Brook, and one from the South American school, Faculdade Latino-Americana de Ciências Sociais, or FLACSO, where we had our classes) taught us about the recent history and ideals that surrounded and permeated all aspects of Argentine culture. All the professors commanded an excellent knowledge of the topics covered and of the city, which they helped us navigate. With their help, I "conquered" the city. They told us where to eat, what to visit, and how to enjoy our trip to the fullest extent.

The planned activities were all

thought out very well and complemented the readings and the classes perfectly. After learning about tango, and about the history and culture of tango, we had a tango lesson; then, on another night, we went to a tango show at Café

Torttonni, the oldest café in Buenos Aires.

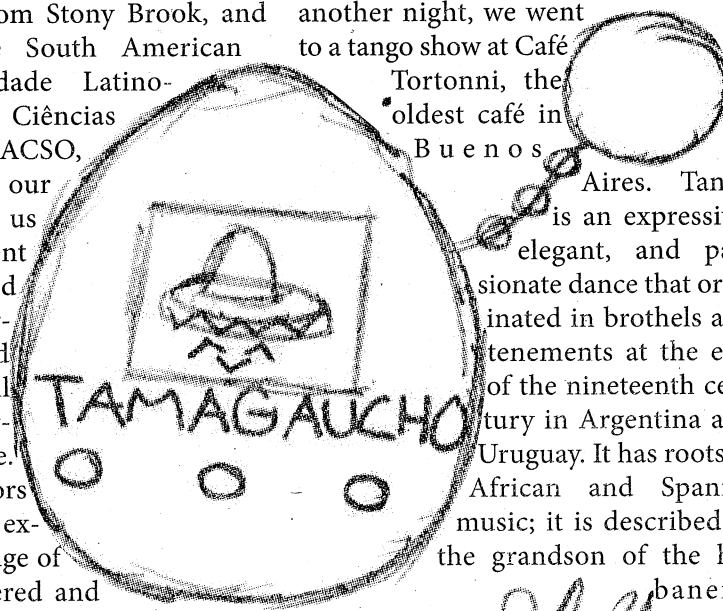
Tango is an expressive, elegant, and passionate dance that originated in brothels and tenements at the end of the nineteenth century in Argentina and Uruguay. It has roots in African and Spanish music; it is described as the grandson of the habanera, and the son of the Uruguayan milonga.

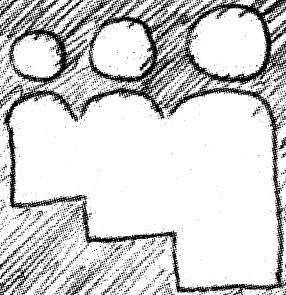
We also learned about the gaucho, the Argentine cowboy, and went to a hacienda (a ranch) where there was a traditional dance show with traditional

music. Afterwards, there was a horse show in which they played a game using rings. It was kind of like a jousting game, where the gaucho had to pierce a ring that was hanging on a string with a needle while on the horse. It was very interesting to watch and see how the gauchos lived during the colonization of Argentina.

I strongly recommend the program, both specifically the trip to Argentina, and also, more generally, any trip through the IAP- particularly if you've never been outside the country before. It's a great way to immerse yourself in another culture while still being productive in school (and for a fair price). I strongly recommend participating in one of these programs if you are able: there are amazing options available in many countries around the world where you might want to go.

Stony Brook's International Academic Programs Website can be found at [www.sunysb.edu/studyabroad](http://www.sunysb.edu/studyabroad)





# hisspace.vmx

by Vincent Michael Faria

## Dial "M" For Motor Mouth

Every other day of my God given life I have the tendency to take a Nokia and stick it.

As I was waiting in line for my Subway sandwich (which, by the way, is the foot-long Sweet Onion Chicken Teriyaki with melted cheddar cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and bell peppers sprinkled with salt and pepper in case you humanoids were really wondering), two teenage Juicy Couture-wearing clichés were standing in line before me. Get this: as both of their orders were being prepared, one of these over-priced beach-towel-wearing stereotypes gets a call from her friend on her cell-phone to tell her what she wants from Subway.

No way. Absentee ordering! Her friend is not even in the restaurant and now I have to wait an extra five minutes on line because the Crown Princess of Huntington is just too damn special to even break a sweat to drive and pick up her own Veggie Patty hero. I bet you six inches isn't enough to satisfy her.

Where I work I was behind the register ringing up some hag and her typical Long Island accent with her order of clothes. The moment was great until she answered her phone and shuts me out of actual human interaction. So what do I do? Stand there like a lantern boy and wait until she's done with her conversation? No. I do my job by asking her for her phone number for promotional

purposes as she's on the phone.

"Do I really have to? I'm on the phone," said Mrs. Rude and Inconsiderate.

Oh...no. This was where I had to turn around and smack her with the quickness and said "yes, you need to." Looks like I just gave her the business.

Also at work, I was helping a middle-aged blondie in the accessories counter. As usual she picked out her Swatch and was well on her way to Bill Haley 1-2-3 o'clock-4 o'clock rock happiness. I saw nothing wrong with that until my store manager told me that she hoped I didn't help my customer out.

Now, valued Press reader, I hope all of your criminal records are clean. For what I'm about to tell you will make you slap

your mom in disbelief: this customer called up our associates on her cell-phone, while she was in the store, and asked my co-workers at the register for someone to come over to help get the watch for her in the display.

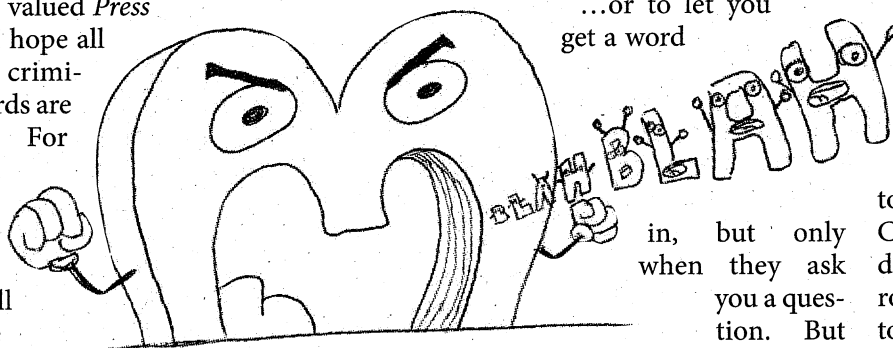
If this didn't start any riots in the middle of Rwanda, then I don't know

what will.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't you hate people who call you up in the middle of work, dinner, shopping, driving, or some great sex, only to go on and on about absolutely nothing important? There is nothing exciting going on in their lives except to waste ten, maybe twenty minutes of your life about the most meaningless, pointless, irrelevant time-wasting garbage. They just keep going, never letting up a breath and not even to collect their thoughts...

...or to let you get a word



in, but only when they ask you a question. But

when you finally

answer it, they continue on for another five minutes straight like a James Joyce's Ulysses stream of consciousness, as if your friend giving a dirty look to a total stranger was the greatest thing in their life that ever happened? And even if you try to step in to interrupt, they'll even crack the whip to "let them finish". And

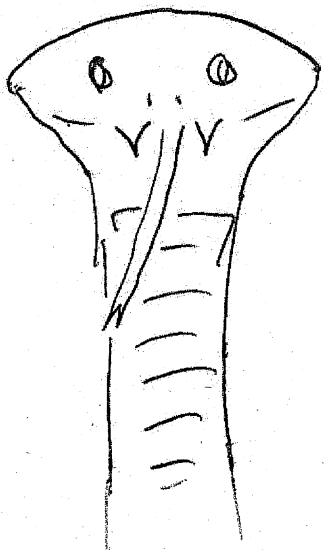
they still continue. They just talk and talk and talk...and talk.

Don't you love it when you're trying to talk to someone out in the open and some Uggs-wearing little Buffy decides to include you both in her conversation by being very close to you both as she's being very loud on her phone? Hey, Buffy, it's very nice that you try so hard to have us care about the 2009 Mitsubishi Forest Firestarter that Daddy blew out his retirement fund for you, yet you could care less about our meaningless conversation and privacy. Paris Hilton is waiting for you at an igloo in Alaska and she's serving weenie tots.

Go, now!

And Judas Iscariot on an upside-down cross, if I ever hear that "Hello, Moto?" ringtone again then I will be liable to curse you and your children with eternal despair. That ringtone forces me to break out into Alan Cumming with a faux European accent dancing around seductively all over Europe's art museums, and I do not want to be that.

Is it so hard to be the least bit considerate when dealing with cell-phones and people nowadays? It still seems that we need to out-priss each other when it comes down to our little voiceboxes, and for all the alignments and stars in the galaxy, I still have no idea why.



Story Brook Press

We got  
couches  
Bitches  
Yes  
Couches



# Just How Safe Are We?

By Najib Aminy

Over the past two semesters, incidents have occurred on campus leaving students questioning their own feelings of safety and security. The most recent was the alleged gunman stealing pizza from the Student Activity Center, as well as the Kelly incident where two suspects entered an unlocked suite turning off the lights and then demanding money. With the timing of these events and the Northern Illinois shooting, students all across campus have grown inquisitive about what measures are being currently taken to ensure the safety and security of Stony Brook, as well as what improvements are being made.

Student reaction to safety here on campus is mixed. Jeff Finkelstein, a sophomore from Binghamton, feels the Kelly incident and credit card robberies are "just a spur of individual events. I mean, I don't think there are that many things like that happening. But because there is a lack of security, [Stony Brook] is an open campus, and, well, RSP [Resident Security Program] really does nothing. I mean, they just have walkie-talkies, like that is going to keep us safe." Finkelstein's answer to such problems is to increase the presence of police and security here on campus although he feels this might challenge the rights to privacy or freedom. Tony Cai, a sophomore from Brooklyn also questions what can be done. "I think the police presence does help, but even at times I feel they don't really do anything. I don't know, it's hard to say. What else can they do?"

Jackie Esterman, a Resident Assistant from Brooklyn, seems content with the security measures in place. "I think security does a good job. There is RSP and a good amount of police presence. The open campus thing might have a role as to what happens. I think if Stony Brook became a closed campus, changes might occur. It is safe in the residence halls, I know that much. But it's the entrances, maybe if they could monitor that." Esterman feels that improvements need to be made but like Cai, does not really know what else can be done. Julia Mondello, a freshman from Westchester, feels that "information should be released to students more quickly. I feel that the less students know about

a particular incident, the more they are in danger." Mondello does feel safe on campus, but she feels that security could be improved with a stronger presence of authority, specifically in regards to checking the residence halls at night. In terms of the size of the campus, Mondello thinks it is hard to

*"I think the police presence does help, but even at times I feel they don't really do anything."*

Tony Cai  
Sophomore

watch over such a large campus, but specifies that measures, such as the main entrance at night, should definitely be improved. Mondello refers to the main entrance gate, which many students have criticized the fact that it is easy to gain entry into the university, even without an ID card, thus posing an imminent threat.

In response to the Kelly incident, Assistant Chief of Police Doug Little said, "We have to investigate and follow up on things. Sometimes we solve crimes that take a month or two. People think we should solve these things like in a half-hour sitcom, but it does not work that way." As a result of that event, Little has said that patrols have increased but did not say by how much. He went on to say, "we [Stony Brook University police] have an adequate force with four cars at night patrolling the University into sectors." In addition to these patrols, Little applauded the efforts of the Residence Hall Association in their efforts of posting up signs, the Resident Security Program which entails as a service as well as the "eyes and ears of the campus" and *Crime Stoppers*, a hotline which would allow students to anonymously report any information they have on a crime. In addition, numerous blue light phones have been installed all across campus along with the University Ride system which students may call for free rides from dusk

to dawn. The RSP is a service provided to students to have an escort walk them to any part of campus. The blue light phones are phones with a direct line to the Stony Brook University Police.

When asked about improvement, Little felt they would best be made through an increase in police, technology, education, as well as efforts of prevention. Little emphasizes that, "a lot of these burglaries happen because of unlocked doors. It's not like people are bashing down doors to get into rooms, it is simply because the rooms are unlocked." He advises students to not only lock doors, but to be aware of the situation and reminds them that if they see something, they should say something.

Other campuses across the nation have implemented their own share of security and safety solutions. Johns Hopkins University, which is located in the suburban area of Baltimore, was ranked as the most prepared school to deal with various safety and security issues in 2007, in a 135 university study conducted by Readers Digest. Stony Brook did not participate in the survey. The survey was based on certain security measures such as the percentage of students in dorms with cameras, percentage of students having rooms with self-locking doors and the number of full-time university police.

According to the head of public relations of Johns Hopkins University, Dennis O'Shea, JHU tackles the issue of security through a multi-layered approach. This multi-layered approach is consists of a strong relationship between security on campus, the police and the system of communication. O'Shea asserts that crime has significantly decreased due to this approach. Hopkins has also innovated a state of the art camera system, "Smart CCTV" which enables security to keep an eye on campus. O'Shea described the program as a system that quickly recognizes potential problems, such as a collision of two cars or even someone trying to break into a locked building. "If you have 150 cameras and two monitor operators, it is difficult to assess what is happening on your campus, but these cameras trigger an alert if something is going in the respected field of vision." This is where the layered part of the security comes forth, in which security officers are sent to

areas of interest to provide presence. "Therefore someone who would commit a crime would be less likely to if there was presence there", says O'Shea. In addition to the state-of-the-art "smart cameras", JHU has set up a text messaging system, the use of bullhorns, and an outdoor PA system. O'Shea concluded by reminding students, especially after the NIU incident, to be aware of their surroundings and to report seeing anything suspicious.

Virginia Tech Community Outreach Officer Geof Allen, who had a firsthand experience to the tragedy that occurred last April, stated that Virginia Tech has a very low history of crime. Allen went on to say that such events as NIU or the VT massacre are very hard, if not impossible, to detect. If anything, Allen says that all we can do is learn. Since April of 2007, Virginia Tech implemented changes in its safety measures. Prior to the shootings, access to buildings was granted without campus ID cards. Soon after, entry doors into main residence halls

*"People think we should solve these [crimes] like in a half-hour sitcom, but it does not work that way."*

Doug Little  
Assistant Chief of Police

was permitted based on ID cards. In addition, Allen went into great detail regarding what had happened the day of the shootings, and described how the doors of Norris Hall, in which the shootings of VT took place, were locked. "Cho had locked the doors not to keep us from coming in, but to keep the students from going out." He stated that because the campus is old in its infrastructure, that all doors have been renovated to today's standards and rules. One added precautionary measure are classrooms with a locking mechanism from the inside, which in the event of a shooting would protect the students and teachers in the room from any harm. Another measure taken by Virginia Tech is the

outdoor PA system, which informs students if an event like that of April 16 were to happen again. Allen closed the interview with a quote from Sir Robert Peele, the father of law enforcement as he put it, "Cops are the public, and the public are the police." Allen explained this quote to mean, "Our job [the police] is to warn you of any bad things that happen. Your [the public] job is to protect yourself, your family, and your work. The better we partner with the community, the more we can do both."

Stony Brook, Dean Jerrold Stein, who's had tenure for over thirty years at Stony Brook, feels the safety and security measures here on campus are good. One of the biggest improvements he has seen is "the RSP program, a student volunteer patrol, that employs 150 students to patrol the campus. It exemplifies students taking some responsibility of protecting their campus." Stein also commented on the larger number of uniformed officers as a progressive step taken to ensure a safer campus. "I think that our police force is well-trained compared to prior year. I see our police force more on campus than I do at home." However, when it comes to events on our own campus, Stein brought up the issue of communication and spreading the word. "Every time we have an incident

like this [Kelly Incident], we have to evaluate and re-evaluate when the right time is to make the communication. Sometimes...inaccurate information is communicated [more] quickly than accurate. Now you have to respond to miscommunications, also."

Stein sees improvements being made in the communication systems, technology, and an increase in the mental health services. The mental health services, according to Stein, may prevent something like a VT shooting from happening here. "Where as the NIU shooting seems more complex, there were many little red flags in the gunman of VT", says Stein. However, with the increase of security, a student's personal space may become limited. Stein sees security as becoming "a little bit more restrictive. Trying to find that balance between freedom and doing what you want to do. It's hard to say really."

During a recent press conference, Shirley Strum Kenny, President of Stony Brook University, spoke about the recent improvements that Stony Brook has undergone in the recent year. "We continue to go over everything all the time. There are a number of improvements we have done this year, for example, more blue light phones. They are very important. We

have the safe walk program, the safe ride program. Gary Kaczmarczyk has designed a series of emergency plans. I believe we are doing an excellent job [with] security." Kaczmarczyk played a major role in the text messaging system that was first used during the Roosevelt Gas leak last semester. The text message system was also used to alert students of the alleged gunman on campus just this past Monday. To register a phone, one must activate their phone using their Solar System account.

Kenny also advised students to be on guard and aware of what is going on. President Kenny feels that students are safe on campus and was very content with the police department here.

In response to the recent alleged gunman on campus, Kenny said "we will review [the incident]. I don't know if anything needs changes, to tell you the truth. We will review what happened, which we do when incidents happen not with only this campus, but other places. But we will review our plans."

Although President Kenny appears satisfied and feels change is unnecessary, the safety and security of students here at Stony Brook continues to be a hot bed topic with incidents such as the Kelly break-in and alleged gunman on campus.

Cool looking PS #4's  
↓ DOOR peephole awesome



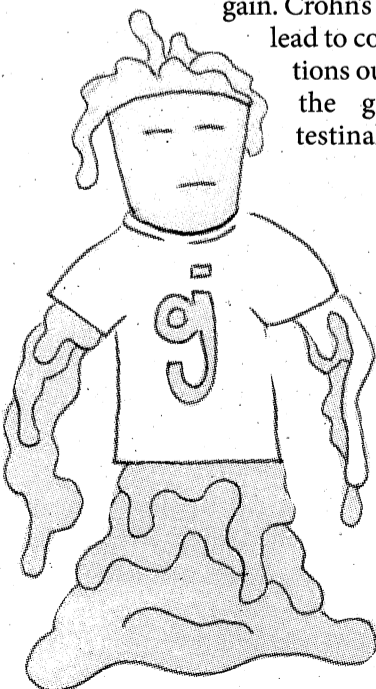
## Crohn's Disease And You

By Alex H. Nagler

How often are you experiencing symptoms such as cramps, bloating and diarrhea? How often in the past two weeks have you been afraid of not finding a restroom? Does abdominal pain or other symptoms force you to miss school, work, or events with friends and family? Is your current treatment as convenient as you'd like? Overall, how have you been feeling?

If you answered yes to any of the first three questions, no to the fourth, and any form of "bad" to the fifth, you could potentially have Crohn's disease. Crohn's is a chronic, episodic, inflammatory bowel disease that affects the entire wall of the bowel or intestines. Crohn's can affect any part of the gastrointestinal tract from the mouth to the anus, resulting in different symptoms for different individuals. The main symptoms are abdominal pain, diarrhea (which may be bloody, regardless of

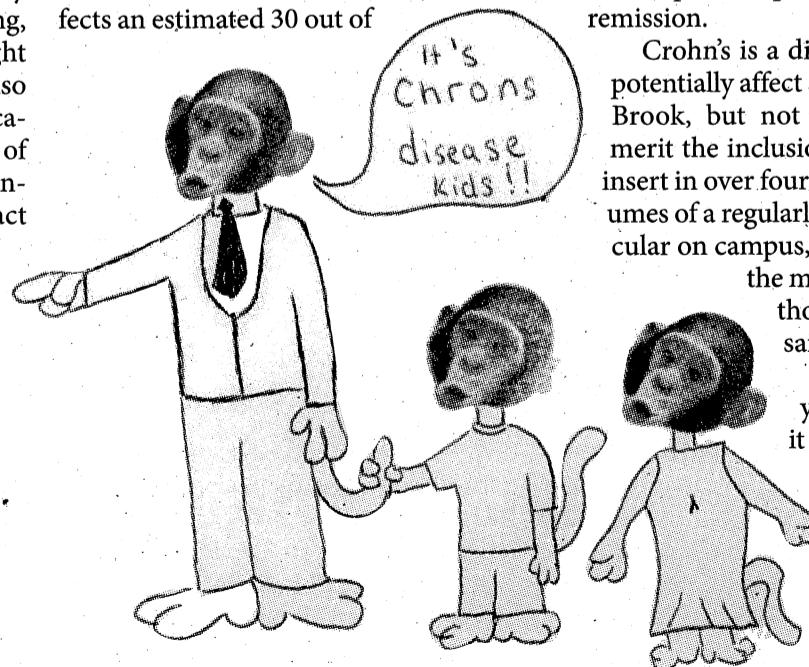
whether or not the blood can be seen by the naked eye), constipation, vomiting, weight loss, or weight gain. Crohn's can also lead to complications outside of the gastrointestinal tract



such as skin rashes, arthritis, and inflammation of the eye.

Discovered by Burrill Bernard

Crohn in 1932, the disease affects an estimated 30 out of



every 100,000 people. It presents itself in the teens and twenties, peaking again in between the fifties and seventies. There are no known cures for Crohn's disease, merely remedies to control the symp-

toms and plans to put the disease into remission.

Crohn's is a disease that could potentially affect students at Stony Brook, but not so much as to merit the inclusion of a two page insert in over four consecutive volumes of a regularly distributed circular on campus, especially when the money goes to pay those who put it in said circular.

If you think you have Crohn's, it is advised to see a doctor to get a diagnosis. A simple colonoscopy or blood test could diagnose and begin treatment before the disease gets out of hand. Barium enemas are no longer used after the advent of the colonoscopy. Talk to your doctor today before any potential Crohn's could negatively affect your life.

# ADVENTURE IN EURO LESBIAN LAND



## I Got Some on V-Day, Suck it, Bitches

In lieu of "Ask a Lesbian" I bring you my wonderful new column, "Adventure in Euro-Lesbian Land." This week's installment: Valentine's Day done right...

Before I get into the story, I find it important to mention that I hate Valentine's Day! I have always hated V-day, regardless of whether I was seeing someone or single. I think it's a pointless holiday that Hallmark made up just to make money (as if they needed to). I've never been fond of February 14 and this year started out no differently. When I awoke in the morning I was already nauseated by the mere fact that it was Valentine's Day. I just kept thinking, this day is going to suck, so don't think it's going to be any better or any different than last year just because you're in England. Boy oh boy, was I wrong. Before I can even get into all the good stuff, it's important for you to understand that the day was sucking for a great deal of time before anything good happened (you all know the whole "all good things are worth waiting for" line).

So, the day started off shitty. I had metaphysics at 10 am; I didn't want to get up but forced myself to. I actually like metaphysics when I come to think about it. Anything to get my mind off the fact that it was Valentine's Day was a plus. After class ended I headed back to my dorm only to find all the girls on my floor putting little pink hearts up everywhere. In the kitchen, the halls, on everyone's doors; "Great, just great" I thought to myself, "I need to be reminded." When I went into the kitchen, I found the girls cutting out more hearts. I tell them how much I hate Valentine's Day and how I think it is a fabricated holiday. They laugh, it's not very often you come across someone who hates V-day as much as I do. They tell me to cheer up and have a good time. I go back to my room, trying to heed their advice, but things just get worse from there. I spend the next

hour arguing with a friend back home and a half-hour after that bitching to my mother about how some of my friends in the States are trying to start drama. She tells me it's not worth getting upset over.

Around noon, things start to get a little better. I get a call from the two Americans in my history class. They ask me if I want to go to the pub before class and have a few drinks, because we are always bored out of our fucking

the kitchen. Everyone is surprised to see me wasted in the afternoon (they know I'm not a big drinker). "I hate this day," I say again and promptly stumble my way upstairs to my mate's room to smoke a spliff. After the spliff I am finally chilled out. I make food, I lay down. "Is the day over yet?" I ask myself. No, not yet...

At 8:00, Emily calls me. "Melissa and I want to go to the lesbian club with you," she says. "Awesome," I'm

most famous gay and lesbian club in all of Brighton. Every time I go there, I manage to hook up with at least one good-looking chick so, I was hoping that the night would be no different. When we get there, I start drinking again. I figure Red Bull and vodka will keep me loose all night. Everything is going well so far and I'm surprised at how much of a good time I'm having, even on a holiday that I hate. I spend the first hour or so just dancing with my friends and scoping out the scene. My game plan is to figure out who the good-looking single girls are, so I don't find myself in, the awkward position of trying to pick up someone else's girlfriend, especially on Valentine's Day.

I have another Red Bull and vodka, and by this point I have to piss like a racehorse. I make my way to the bathroom, not knowing that in just two minutes my night will change drastically for the better. I finish my call of nature and pull my pants up when I hear these two girls talking in the bathroom outside the stall. One girl is complaining to the other that it's Valentine's Day and there are no single lesbians around. This is my calling - this is my chance to be the suave pimp. I come out of the stall, check out the girls first to make sure they are good looking and then I make my move. "Hey ladies," I say, "my name is Ilyssa, I'm single. Do you want to dance?" Now, this could have turned out to be a bad move, and they honestly could have laughed at me, but tonight the stars were in my favor. The first girl looked at her friend, looked back at me, and excitedly grabbed my hand and started pulling me out of the bathroom and towards the dance floor.

So, I'm dancing with this one chick and we start hooking up. She throws me against the wall in the club and we start getting pretty hot and heavy. She runs her hands down my back and over



minds anyway. I agree and I tell them I will meet them at the pub at one. At one o'clock I head over to the pub. I'm thinking: "Shit I hate this day so much, I might as well start drinking." We have our first round and decide to skip the history class altogether. We order a second round. I haven't eaten anything all day so I start getting pretty tipsy pretty quickly. We have a few more drinks and at 3, I stumble back to my dorm. When I get back, I push my way into

thinking. Maybe this night will actually turn out to be good. I tell them I will meet them at 9:30 to pre-game and then we will head out to the lesbian bar. They are psyched, they're straight and not looking for anything so they figure a lesbian bar will be the perfect place to dance all night and not have to worry about guys trying to pick them up. I meet up with them and we have a few drinks before we head to the club.

The club is called Revenge. It's the

I GOT SOME continued from last page

my stomach. I put my hand up her shirt and caress her amazing breasts. We go at it while dancing for about a good fifteen minutes. I put my hands on her ass and we continue to make out as she lifts me up against the wall and runs her hands over my thighs. We continue to grind on each other while dancing and kissing for a good fifteen minutes before she pulls away. I start to think it's all over but I am so wrong. She looks over and sees her friend dancing all alone. She looks back at me and she tells me that I should hook up with her mate too (now this is my kind of woman). Her mate is just as cute as she is, but not as aggressive. Either way, I'm not going to pass up this opportunity, so I start kissing her friend. Her friend and I go at it for another ten minutes, then the first girl starts kissing me again. At this point I'm kissing her, I'm kissing her friend, the two of them have me sandwiched in between them and we are all bumping and grinding hardcore to the music. I don't feel bad that I'm hooking up with both of them, they are absolutely loving it, so I'm just like, whatever, going with the flow, kissing both of them. But it gets better.

I come back from having a cigarette and I lose them. At this point I'm like "ok, whatever, it was still a good night. Maybe I should just head home." I walk around looking for them for a few minutes but they are nowhere to be found. As I'm getting ready to leave, I run into the first girl. She tells me she was looking all over for me and she throws me up against the wall. At this point it starts getting really hot and heavy and we are pretty much fucking on the dance floor. My hands are up her shirt, hers are down my pants, my bandana is

falling off, the sweat is pouring down my back. We bump and grind and each others pants. We pleasure each

lost track of time and she has lost track of her mate. Apparently her friends had been looking for us and when I say they had perfect timing they really did, no sooner did we both cum than her friend was standing right there behind us. We try and get ourselves together but it's obvious what has been going on. I pull my bandana back on my head and try to fix my hair, which is now a complete mess and falling out all over the place.

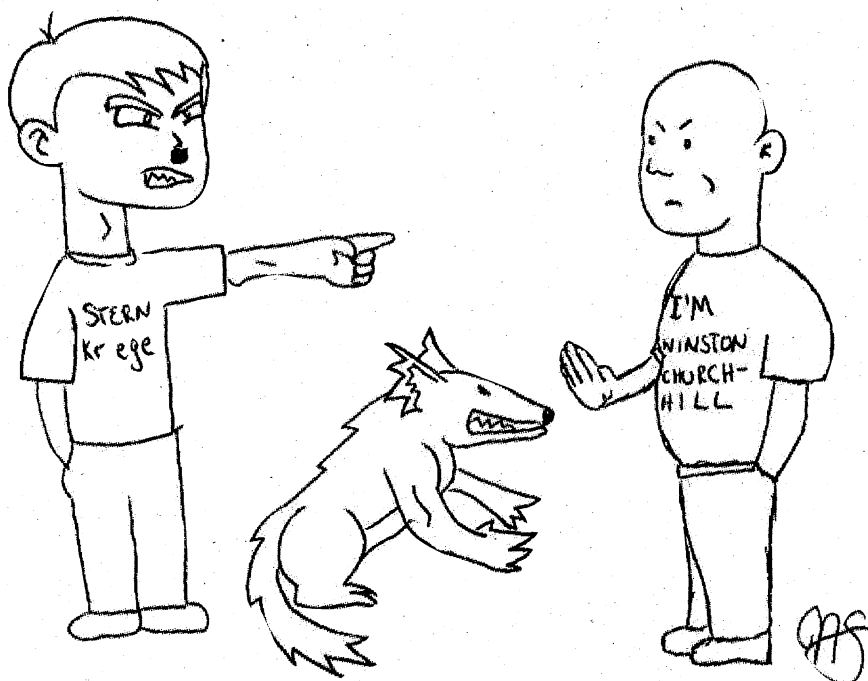
Like a typical guy, after I bust my nut I know it's time for me to plan my escape. Her friend is standing right in front of us and I know the fun is over. I chill for a few minutes and then I look at my watch. I look back at the girls and I'm like, "oh shit, I lost track of the time (totally believable) and my friends are waiting for me outside" (they weren't. They had left over an hour before). I take her phone out of her pocket and put my number in. I leave without taking her number, so she has to call me. I like the fact that she can't turn around and say, "why didn't you call me," because I don't have her number. If she wants me, she has to make the effort. As I leave the club and walk to the bus stop I'm thinking "hey, if she calls, I will sleep with her again. If she doesn't, oh well. I'm also thinking that her mate was cute too. I ponder in my head how I could get them both to come over, if in fact she does call me. I finally make it to the bus stop, wait about five minutes, and get on the bus home. As the bus drops me on campus, my final destination, I can't help but think that Valentine's Day turned out awesome. I also can't help but realize I never got their names...



Trust me.  
You don't wanna  
see the fireworks

bump and grind until I suggest we take it upstairs to the private (well, not-so-private, lounge). She grabs my hand and follows me upstairs. We are all over each other. The greatest thing about the lounge is that you can still hear the music playing so we continue to dance and grind on each other. We might be getting naughty, but to everyone else it looks like we are just danc-

other fast and slow to the rhythmic beat of the music. Chills run down my spine as she kisses my neck. I can feel her wetness all over my hand. We keep going at it, hot and heavy for a good half-hour before we both are to the point of no return. She's screaming at this point, I'm breathing heavily, I pull her in close to me and she starts to moan. At this point I have completely



Democracy?  
In My Stony Brook?

College  
Dems

Coming Soon.

Contact us @ Alex.Nayler@gmail.com

Contact us @ Alex.Nayler@gmail.com

# Pakist-any Way You Want It

By Aamer Qureshi

It seems the elections that just took place in Pakistan were indeed free-and-fair, and though I find that admirable – it's not exactly all that amazing. I really don't see why voters would bring back the same leaders who ripped the country off and ran it down to failed-state status back in the 90's. Either the common man in Pakistan is very forgiving, or just so sick of military "dictatorship" that he'd vote for anyone in the opposition who he's familiar with. I would just much rather have President Musharraf in power than, for instance, the man the Pakistanis call the "mafia-don" Asif Ali Zardari, assassinated opposition politician Benazir Bhutto's widower. There's so much evidence against him provided by national and international courts that the very fact that the Pakistani government doesn't just arrest him right now is testament enough to how powerful he has become in his wife's death (he's the chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party now) that the government won't mess with him in fear of huge backlash from PPP supporters. He has claimed that he won't run for prime minister, but he calls the shots now. The coalition between his and the opposition parties to form 2/3 of the total government is precarious for Musharraf's survival at the President. Future prospects on any US probes and attacks on militants and Al Qaeda in the western areas doesn't seem likely under this

new government—who staunchly opposed the previous one's support for the superpower.

I must wonder what you people think of the man. After all, he did rise to power in a coup and was the chief of the army staff till late last year when he was forced to give it up. Some person I know went so far to compare him to Saddam Hussein. The only thing the

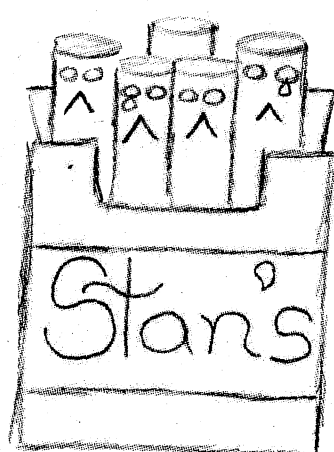
ling dictator. Musharraf, on the other hand, chose to join the war on terror--something which I can assure you doesn't sit well with Pakistanis--be they moderate, fanatical or just apathetic. When Iraq was invaded some people believed this was all another crusade against Islam, which would next include Syria, Iran and then Pakistan itself. It was only the anti-democratic tenden-

destabilize the Muslim world. Ironically, it wasn't until the Taliban started attacking us last year and the Red Mosque siege which saw 100 militants dead that public support for the president reached a dangerously low level, as low as Bush's over here.

I suppose Musharraf likens himself to his political idol, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the legendary Turkish general who seized power and then brought in a whole new era of secularism and a strong government in the country which got rid of all the old fundamentalist shackles on their society. Even now, Turkey is the most secular and democratic Islamic state on Earth. Musharraf himself is known to have a glass of the good stuff now and then, breaking Islam's strict forbidding of alcohol. Under his tenure there was a struggle against the old ways of the Sharia law imposed by Zia-ul-Haq, a man who was too once the US's man but then was killed in a mysterious plane crash in 1988--which some speculate the CIA was behind for some reason. I saw a huge influx of jobs and bigger grants to colleges and schools and improved infrastructure and development from 2002-2006. I saw the news channels go from just one state owned one to around 25 now, most of them independent. That being said, he did ban a few last year for a bit because according to him they were stirring up the people against the government in a careless and biased manner. This coincided with GEO TV's broadcast of the army's plan to enter the Red Mosque during the standoff with the militants, who saw it on their televisions inside and countered the attack – resulting in more security force deaths.

I find it interesting that all four of Pakistan's military rulers in its 60 year existence have supported the United States and cooperated with the foreign policy decisions the latter makes in that region, and have been rewarded for it. If the U.S. has ever opposed anything in Pakistan, it was usually during a democratically elected civilian politician's era, such as President Clinton's imposing of sanctions on Pakistan in 1998 for successfully developing and testing nuclear weapons during Nawaz Sharif's second term as prime minister--a move that crippled the Pakistani economy until it was lifted in 2002 after Musharraf joined the war on terror.

I hope a day comes along when we won't have to rely on military dictators for stability or an effective government which doesn't embezzle heavily from its own people. I also hope a day comes along when common Pakistanis will stop fighting amongst themselves and unite against their real enemy. The real enemy being not India, but the Al Qaeda sponsored Taliban rebels in the western lawless region who want to turn Pakistan into an Islamist state.



two would have in common would be that they both believed in a secular government, we all know Saddam did back in the day--infusing women into the mainstream education and government positions while he was still the US's dar-

cies of Musharraf rigging the polls till now that kept people under the rug over their hostility to Pakistan's support of Bush. They derided the Pakistani president for being nothing more than a lap-dog and a pawn in an evil plan to

## Listen...You Can Make A Difference!

Volunteer As A Crisis Counselor  
and Earn College Credit.

Our Free Training Program Begins  
February 16th!

See For Yourself How Rewarding an Experience It Can Be!

For More Information  
visit us at [www.ResponseHotline.org](http://www.ResponseHotline.org)

Bi-Lingual Volunteers Needed!

**Response**  
of Suffolk County Inc.

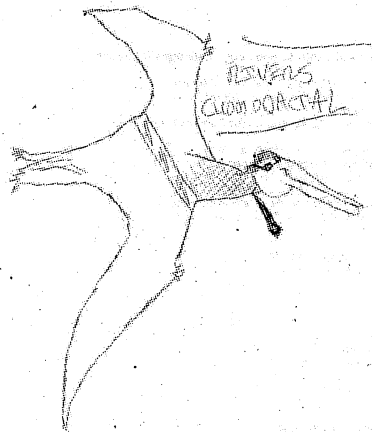
24-hour Crisis Intervention Hotline  
and ONLINE Crisis Counseling Service

Hotline 631-751-7500  
[www.ResponseHotline.org](http://www.ResponseHotline.org)

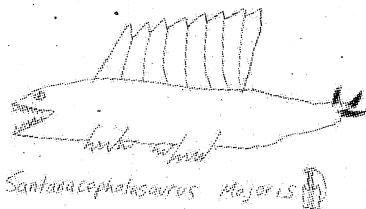


## Lesser Known Dinosaurs Named After Rock Stars

Attentive readers of *The Stony Brook Press* may recall page two of this very news-paper, from which we learned of *Masiakasaurus knopfleri*, the dinosaur named after Dire Straits front man Mark Knopfler. Assuming that your sensitive learning-palattes would be aroused, we have provided this dizzying and educational array of other dinosaurs named after rock musicians. Bon appetite. Tchau! Color them.



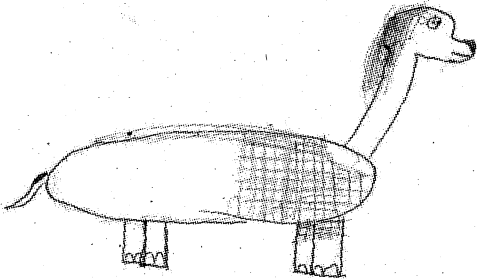
Archaeopteryxpringfield



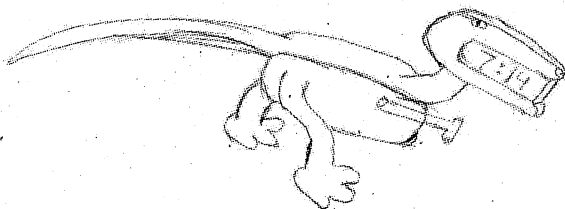
Ronnie James Dino



'I'm the Only One'asaurus



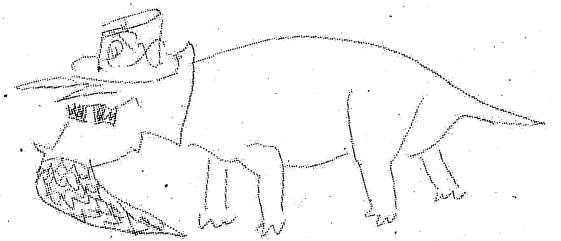
T.A.T.U. SAUR



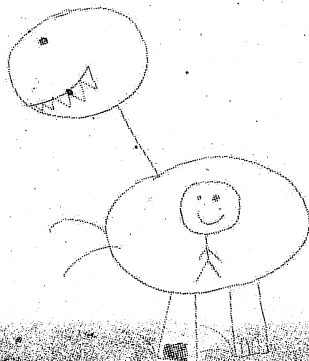
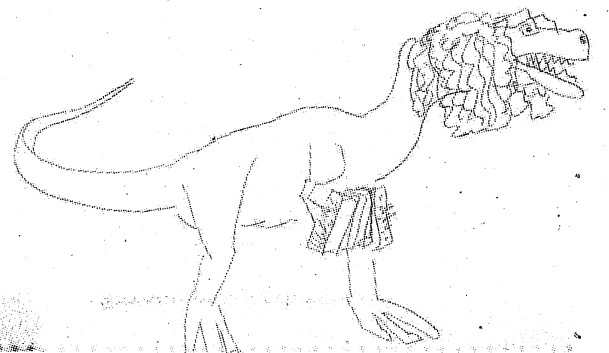
Tyrickasaurus James



Tricerazztops



Weird Allosaurus



# Fear & Loathing at Stony Brook: A Journey to the Center of the Human Mind

By A.J.

It was a rainy day in mid-March when my half-Korean companion and I set out to view the local art show at the residence quad known to the locals as "Tabler." What was expected to be a simple after-school art appreciation expedition quickly turned into a spiraling whirlpool down the drain known as the human psyche. We had purchased a small bag of the flowering buds from a plant known as *Cannabis sativa*. For those unfamiliar with this particular flora, the local people smoke the budding growths of the plant for its psychoactive effects which include: euphoria, tiredness, mild paranoia, and an unnatural love of donuts and cartoons.

My companion and I were parked nearby, safe within the metallic shell of an old minivan. I had constructed a makeshift water pipe out of a honey container one would find at a supermarket, a pen, and an absurd amount of hot glue (it would later be argued that hot glue fumes added to the effect immensely). As we lit the bud aflame, we deeply inhaled the resulting smoke into the deepest, darkest part of our lungs. The effects were almost immediate. Every rain droplet that hit the van echoed tenfold within the vehicle, as if to alarm us of the adventure we were about to embark upon. A crash of thunder shook the van ominously as a warning against the actions we were going to take. Still, despite all of these signs, my mind could only focus on the irony of the apparatus that

we were using. How could honey, one of the sweetest and best things to come out of the natural world be packaged in something which resembled one of Mother Nature's most ferocious children, the grizzly bear? I glanced over to my companion in hopes of waxing philosophical on the subject, yet he was lost within his own savage mind. At this point we decided not to consume any more of the plant matter and to venture inside the building.

Getting out of the van and dashing to the building was a wet adventure in itself, but the building was warm and inviting. As we entered, we soon saw signs directing people to the art exhibit. The signs pointed us to an upper level; only two flights of stairs separated us from our ultimate destination. Ascending these stairs could be compared to climbing a mountain while upside-down; it was one of the most challenging things that I have ever faced in my professional career. My companion faced some difficulty as well, but he mostly enjoyed laughing insanely at my struggle up the stairs.

After what seemed like an eternity, we were inside of the exhibition room. Almost immediately we were ambushed by a young woman who offered us cookies and other assorted desserts. We gladly accepted the offer but soon found that the treats were dry and pasty, which was highly displeasing to our enhanced palates. At this point we took a look around at the art pieces which were on display. Many of the pieces seemed other-worldly and

bizarre. They both confused and amused us for a short period of time, but we soon grew aware that the local moderators and other people around us seemed to grow impatient and leery of our presence.

We turned our backs on the place in search of a familiar face and some good vibes. Getting down the stairs proved to be a bit easier than climbing them was, but it was still an adventure. At this point we grew weary and searched for a place to sit and rest. Luckily, a jazz musician was playing near a café in the building, so we enjoyed the mellow and relaxed atmosphere for a short while. Soon enough

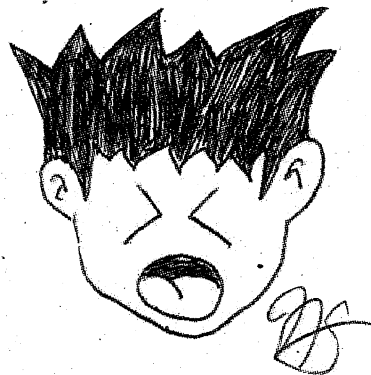
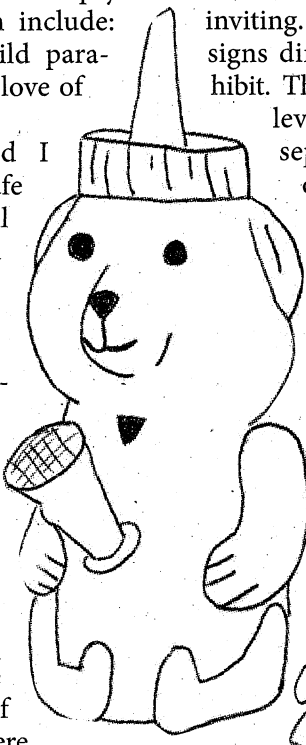
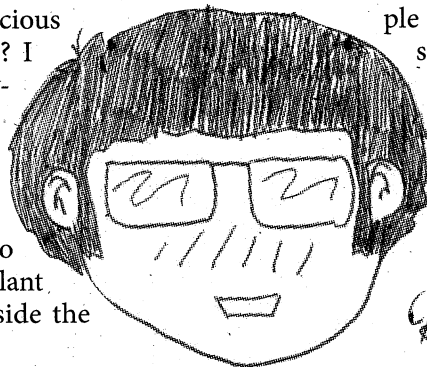
an acquaintance of ours stumbled onto the scene, also apparently under the influence of the psychoactive plant. Together we chilled in a somewhat awkward fashion. My companion decided to contact another friend of ours who lived near the building we were camped in.

After waiting for a while, our friend walked into the room with her roommate to whom I was introduced a few weeks earlier, but at this point and in

my mental state she seemed a stranger to me; a stranger with the most outlandish and peculiar hat that I have ever seen. The hat seemed like the bastard child of a mid-90's-esque winter beanie and a French beret. Needless to say, my companion and I were amused at the hat and used seemingly all of our mental and physical strength in stopping a tsunami of laughter from pouring forth from our mouths. Finally, I could no longer hold back my ecstasy with the situation and politely excused myself to the bathroom. As I walked from the couch to the lavatory, my mind seemingly left my body and I viewed my companion walking close in tow behind me. However, when I got to the bathroom and turned around, he was not there. This out-of-body pseudo-hallucination startled and frightened my already fragile mind.

After relieving myself, I voiced the option of getting food at a certain neighborhood bar and grill to my companion and friends. Fortunately, the girl in the crazy hat opted to stay behind with my other friend; I did not have to deal with that burden any longer. My companion, our mutual acquaintance and I braved the storm in the van and arrived at the eatery and enjoyed a hearty meal of chicken and mozzarella sticks as we felt the effects of the drug wear off. The hour grew late and I decided to part from my companion, opting to take a good, deep sleep at my house in my warm and comforting bed.

Truly this adventure was one that will stay with me for a lifetime. The lessons that I learned, experiences that I had shared, and obstacles that were overcome all brought me to a deeper understanding of human nature and the world around me. I can only hope that everyone should be so lucky as to have an introspective and mind-expanding adventure as this one proved to be.



Please, no more cartoons,  
Enough is Enough - AHN

# Laugh at the Silly Foreigners!

By Alex Walsh

A boy and his faithful monster companion journey from town to town in search of a multitude of strange and exciting creatures to train and pit against each other in battle. Does that sound like a familiar concept for a game? Maybe, but if you're a fan of the *Pokemon* series, prepare to have your expectations blown away when you enter the world of *Telefang*!

In 2000, the now-defunct game developer Smilesoft released *Keitai Denju Telefang*, or *Mobile Electric Beast Telefang*, for the Game Boy Color.

*Telefang*, in which the player collects and battles with a wide array of super-powered beasts controlled via a modified cell phone, was a moderate success, but was never officially released outside of Japan. But the universe had a different fate in mind for this plucky little RPG, and Mr. Adam Smith's much-hyped "Invisible Hand" has a way of making things happen. A crack team of Chinese bootleggers, observing the runaway success of the *Pokemon* games in America, saw in *Telefang*'s decidedly unoriginal premise the potential for great profit. Applying their Photoshop skills, a less-than-perfect command of the English language, and a healthy disregard for copyright laws to the task, they transformed *Telefang Power* and *Telefang Speed* into *Pokemon Diamond* and *Pokemon Jade*.

It seems unlikely that the pirates' team had even a passing familiarity with... well, just about anything. The monsters displayed on the games' packaging are neither *Pokemon* nor any of *Telefang*'s electric monsters (e-mon). One is actually a forest spirit from Miyazaki's classic anime *Princess Mononoke*. The other is presumably an original creation, but is surrounded by what appear to be Chaos Emeralds from *Sonic the Hedgehog*. The back of the box features scenes from *Pokemon* with pictures of e-mon edited in. Not in-game pictures, mind you. Actual drawn pictures. Masterful.

As for the game itself, it's sort of an odd take on the battling monsters genre. E-mon are not captured in the traditional way, but rather may choose

to give you their phone numbers after being defeated in battle. Before going into battle, you may call any of the monsters whose numbers you stored in your phone book to come help you. Of course, as with any party organized hastily by phone, often times people just don't show up. Punika, in par-

tions here, bafflingly, were "Win" and "Lose"). Punika, of course, never calls. Unfortunately, I can't delete the shiftless louse from my phone book because the bootleggers didn't think to transfer that function to their version.

Other features that didn't make the cut: manually dialing the cell

trainers sported the undeniably badass title of T-Fangers. Apparently their self-respect disappeared in the translation process, as they are now known as T-Mildews.

•Pirates don't enjoy a reputation for sensitivity to the virgin ears of children. The game is littered with profanity, most noticeably the cry of nearly every enemy you defeat: "Shit! Remember it!"

•Rather than come up with clever names incorporating English-language puns when naming the monsters, the translators instead chose random English words for some. As a result, with enough work, the dedicated T-Mildew can evolve his Kesi into a formidable Icecream, his Hat to a stalwart Beavermu, or his Fanbus to a high-flying Gameboy.

•Monster descriptions in the Pokedex-like Picture Book range from perversely humorous (Ikusora, "The position of face bend over" and Sarae "Firm incisor can eat out any") to seemingly random (Medter "What is in the egg?" and Dandel "Be found out! How to do? Too funny") to downright unsettling (Nigera "Make the enemy palsy by sticks" and Wamitera "It looks like skin..."). Then, of course, there's Warata, which fits in all three categories: "Face and ass are very hard."

•Battles are punctuated by lines such as "Some points of 130 lost!" "KESI grasped the skill of FLANGE!" "You got 80 ball!" and "For the clever opponent, injure increase!" "I'll take that over "Critical hit!" or "It's super effective!" any day.

phone, saving the damn game, and not crashing at the Game Over screen.

You know what, let's not kid ourselves anymore. Nobody's reading this for a real review of the game. You and I are in this for the same reason: hilarious Engrish. So let's cut to the chase, shall we?

•In the original *Telefang*, monster



particular, is a total flake. I called her so many times, and she was all like "I got lost, I'll be late," or "Sorry, I went somewhere else." All I ask for is a little dependability when I'm trying to level your sorry ass up. Honestly.

The cell phone idea is woven throughout the game. From time to time your e-mon will call you to advance the plot, or just to chat. The horrible translation quality makes these calls the true highlight of the game. One never knows what borderline-unintelligible question will come from these chatty monsters. One time Ikusora, the starfish monster, called to talk about golf. Osie asked me what I liked best about exploring (the options were "Talk" and "Look") and calling (the op-

So go play *Telefang*. It's not that bad. As mentioned above, the actual cartridges don't let you save the game, so you'll have to play with an emulator. But you'll find yourself puzzled and amused at the jumbled blocks of text the game occasionally hurls at you, and playing a game that wasn't released in America totally gives you indie cred. Like watching highbrow foreign films. I swear.

# THE GORILLA SALAD EXPRESS

## W/ DICK DELICIOUS



### It's A Daddy Thing 4

Studio: Elegant Angel  
 Director: Patrick Collins  
 Cast: Alexis Love, Nika, Evie Delatosso, Naomi Cruise, Nikki Flame  
 Genre(s): Blowjobs, Cumshots, Fantasy, Straight, Toys, Young Women  
 Condoms: No

It's A Daddy Thing 4 takes a stab at creativity for the sake of spicing up an otherwise mundane display of eroticism. The action in this film is rather bland and apart from a few convincing performances, there's very little oomph holding this production together. Each scene delves into the realm of teen naughtiness where seducing older men is boiled down to a science and where the use of toys becomes routine.

In the first vignette for example, Evie Delatosso is seen seducing a man who's well into his forties. She steals his drink and ends up lounging in the sun to work on her tan before instructing the old guy to rub lotion on her back. Before long, he botches the job

### Flawless

Studio: Teravision/ Vivid Entertainment

Director: Chi Chi La Rue

Cast: Cherokee, Felecia, Kimberly Kane, Mason Storm, Mick Blue, Peter Shaft, Seth Dickens, Spyder Jonez, Tera Patrick

Genre(s): All Girl (Lesbian), Feature, Plot, Straight

Condoms: Yes

Chi Chi La Rue's *Flawless* breaks away from conventional pornography and ventures into the realm of corny plotlines and poor story dialogue for the sake of a few cheap laughs. Apart from a small number of decent sex scenes, this film lacks direction and plays up to the fact that the inclusion of hokey acting does nothing more than draw attention from what's truly important in any adult movie: the sex.

*Flawless* revolves around the lovely Tera Patrick, who (despite her iconic status in the adult film industry) does

and Evie has no choice but to go indoors and shower off the excess sun-screen. After leaving the bathroom, Evie meets the older gentleman in the den and what ensues is a game of show-and-tell where he whips out his cock and she ditches her wet towel. As her partner feverishly masturbates, Evie decides to pleasure herself with a purple vibrator just before the two start fucking like bunnies.

As the DVD's title suggests, this film is rife with indiscretions and Evie's scene is no exception. As the story progresses to include more of the cast, we find Evie gabbing with Alexis Love about her sex life. Soon, it's revealed that Evie's partner in scene one is in fact her good ol' step-dad. During their conversation, Alexis giddily admits that she caught her own step dad jerking off to her pictures while he was in her room sniffing her panties one day. After ending their talk, the two girls decide to go to their friend Diana's house only to find that she's not home. Rather than cutting their

losses and retreating to the local mall, the two end up fucking their friend's dad instead. The action in this scene is sub-par and the use of sex toys really made things awkward.

Hey! Remember Alexis' pervert step dad from before? Well, don't think that he gets left out. When he's not admiring the scent of his step-daughter's underwear, you can rest assured that he's fucking her girlfriends. Following a long night of partying, Alexis leaves her house to go to work but her friend Naomi Cruise isn't as lucky. Naomi wakes up with a nasty hangover and a newly instilled limitation of not being able to unglue herself from her friend's living room couch. When Alexis' step dad first finds Naomi catching Z's he quickly wakes her up and she mutters something about taking a shower and then leaves the room. After playing with herself in the bathroom for a while, she goes back to speak with her friend's step dad and moments later she stuffs her panties down his throat. Not the most

subtle of approaches, but then again, it's a porno.

While the story lines put in place were entertaining, they did little to help push the film forward. Most of the sex scenes on the DVD lacked real energy and enthusiasm. *It's A Daddy Thing 4* wasn't necessarily a horrible film, but it certainly wasn't the best that the "teen" genre has to offer.



little to save this film from finding a future home in bargain bins across the country. Patrick plays a supermodel whose recent engagement to some billionaire tycoon sparks massive media attention. The opening scene finds Patrick appearing on a morning talk show to discuss her modeling career and announce her engagement on live television. While on the air she gleefully shows off her very expensive rock, much to the amazement of the show's host and the viewers watching at home. Unfortunately for our sexy supermodel, a certain jewelry-obsessed diva observing the talk program wants the ring for herself and will go to any length to ensure its immediate acquisition.

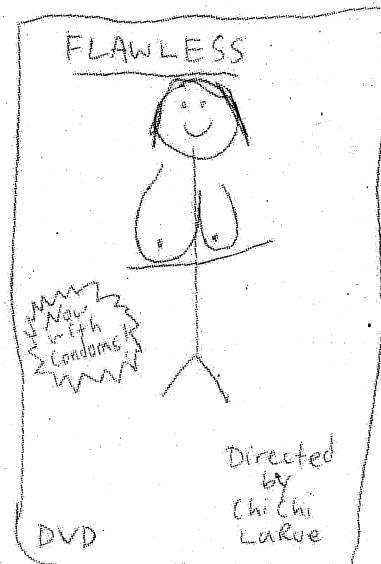
Before long, the villainous diva hires Evan (Spyder Jonez) to snag Patrick's ring. Evan decides to pose as a photographer who, after snapping several photos and fucking Patrick,

swaps her ring with a fake. The movie trudges on and includes some exploration of the sex lives experienced by just about every character introduced in the flick. There's an all-girl scene, some two-on-one and a little one-on-one fantasy fucking, but there's really nothing exceptional here.

Somewhere down the line, Evan has an attack of morality and professes his love for Tera who in the midst of her constant fucking decides that she's not ready to wed. Who knew? The story winds down with Evan whisking Patrick away to Buenos Aires and severely pissing off his diva employer by stealing the ring away from her and giving it back to his beloved.

In addition to the featured stinker film, this DVD offers a few bonus scenes, a photo gallery and an assortment of previews for other films to be released by Vivid in the near future. In the end, *Flawless* proved to be a very

disappointing venture. Its featured roster of talent should stick to their usual bedroom antics instead of aiming for legitimate film role success.



# Los Campesinos!

By Laura Cooper

Los Campesinos! is a band with a unique sound and energy evidently their own. Despite being compared to such indie pop bands as Architecture in Helsinki and Art Brut, Los Campesinos! whose name comes from a Spanish word translating roughly to "the peasants," brings a bubblegum-twee pop sound that is truly individual.

Recently signed to Canadian-based Arts and Crafts Records, the group will soon be releasing their first full-length album, *Hold On Now, Youngster!*, in spring of this year. They are notable for their cutesy, funky sound including random shouts, heavy horns and ever-present violins that characterize their music and give them the power-pop sound that brings listeners back for more.

Despite the ending of their contract due to Wichita Records' closing, Los Campesinos! managed to release the well-received EP, *Sticking Fingers into Sockets*, on Wichita, spotlighting songs that mimic the feeling of actually being electrocuted; they are driven and fast, yet almost unnervingly

happy pop.

Songs such as *We Throw Parties*, *You Throw Knives*, pokes fun at the band You Say Party, We Say Die, recounting a nonsense story about Los Campesinos! playing "hot potato" with detached body parts during blood-stained knife-induced party.

"Frontwards," the most driven of all the songs on the EP features almost an almost-conversation between both vocalists and is the most energetic song

on the debut. This cheerful, quirky collection of songs set the stage for 2008's anticipated full-length release.

The seven piece band, who cites Pavement as a major influence, is from Cardiff University in Wales and is almost a family, as all of the members

changed their surnames to Campesinos! and shows no sign of losing momentum.

Performing at the Bowery Ballroom in New York City this past November, the group brought in a crowd that included respected artists such as Bright Eyes' Conor Oberst, and fans who came with the sole intention to dance to the rousing songs that could bring a crowd of Williamsburg hipsters to their feet.

Though only forming less than two years ago, the band's stage presence was strong, yet guarded, as the main singer, Gareth Campesinos! would often nervously scan the crowd, as if looking for a seal of approval one he got from the thrilled, yet not so sold-out, crowd.

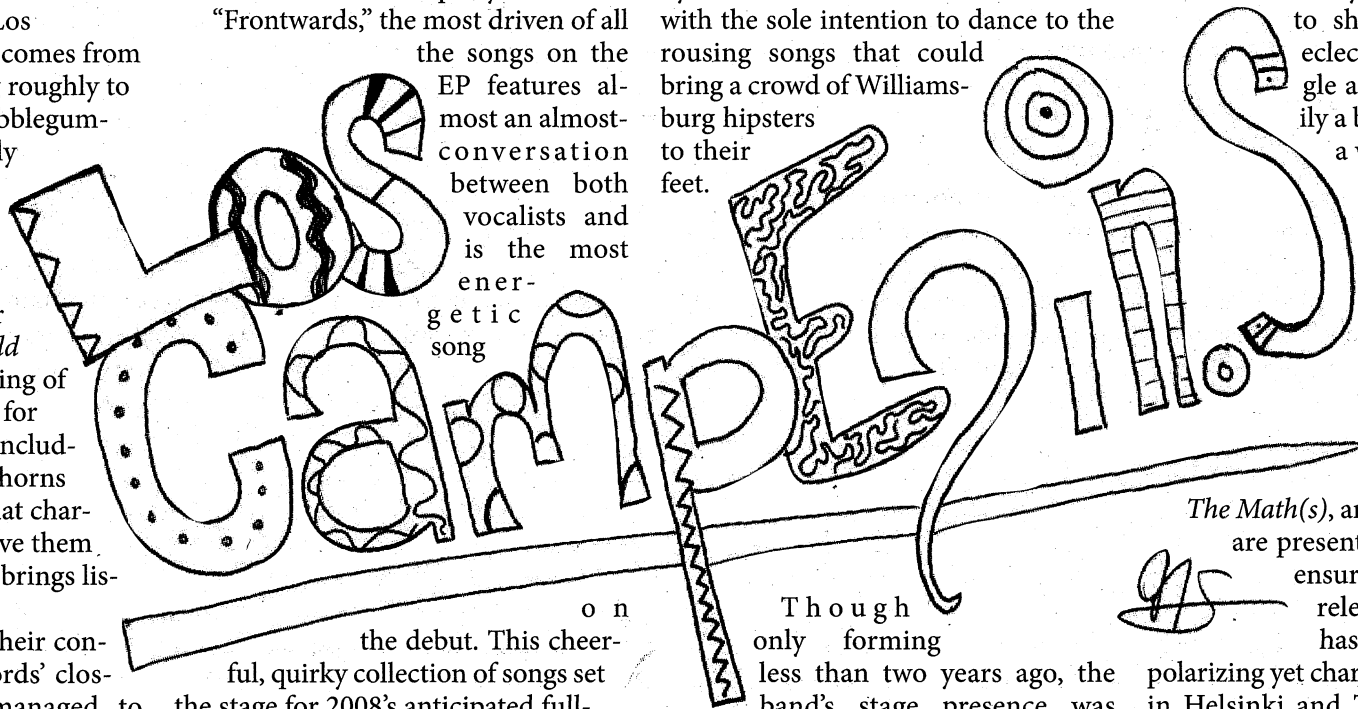
*Hold on now, Youngster*, is slated for release in the United States on April 1st.

United Kingdom based music magazine, *NME*, gave the album a rating of six out of a possible ten points, citing its deductions for "incohesiveness as a whole." This could be evident because of the young band's attempt to showcase all of their eclectic work on one single album; isn't necessarily a bad decision, just not a wise one.

Though the release is still a couple of months away, a track list revealed almost all of the songs from their EP, such as *Please Don't Tell Me To Do*

*The Math(s)*, and *You! Me! Dancing!* are present on the album. This ensures a strong freshman release for a band that has the potential to be as polarizing yet charming as Architecture in Helsinki and The New Pornographers.

Los Campesinos! has heart. That is what will gain them the respect of their peers and guarantee them success in the music community.



# Revitalizing the American Music Festival

By Laura Cooper

Music festivals are a cultural cornerstone around the world. Here, many bands, regardless of their home country, perform to huge crowds of fans, often in an outdoor setting. The United States unfortunately doesn't have many long-standing permanent music festivals, especially on the East coast.

Indio, California plays host to the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival every May where tent-dwelling concertgoers essentially squat for three days in 100+ degree heat to see bands ranging from the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Daft Punk.

Other festivals exist in the United States. Bonnaroo takes place in Georgia, while the Pitchfork Music Festival finds its home in Chicago, Ill. And South-by-South-West highlights the emerging music scene and showcases it in Austin, Texas, to name a few.

However, aside from traveling festivals, which besides Warped Tour have become few and far between, the Northeast has not hosted a festival of its own. This is regardless of New York City and its reputation as the birthplace of a good deal of independent and alternative music today.

That's all about to change.

One festival, the All Points West Music and Arts Festival, is coming to Liberty State Park in New Jersey this summer and hopes to harness the same passion of Coachella, though on the East coast, minus the tents and camping out.

Though two festivals were planned, All Points West and The Vineland Music Festival, in Southern New Jersey, Vineland pulled out for virtually unexplained, yet assumed reasons. This is because it is rumored that since All Points West is the same weekend, Vineland postponed its

debut due to competition.

Vineland organizers insist that isn't the case, stating to the *New Jersey Star-Ledger* that "It's a different market (anyway), it's the Philadelphia market."

Whether or not Vineyard attempts to premiere in 2009, All Points West, - named for the train station signs on platforms in New Jersey that immi-

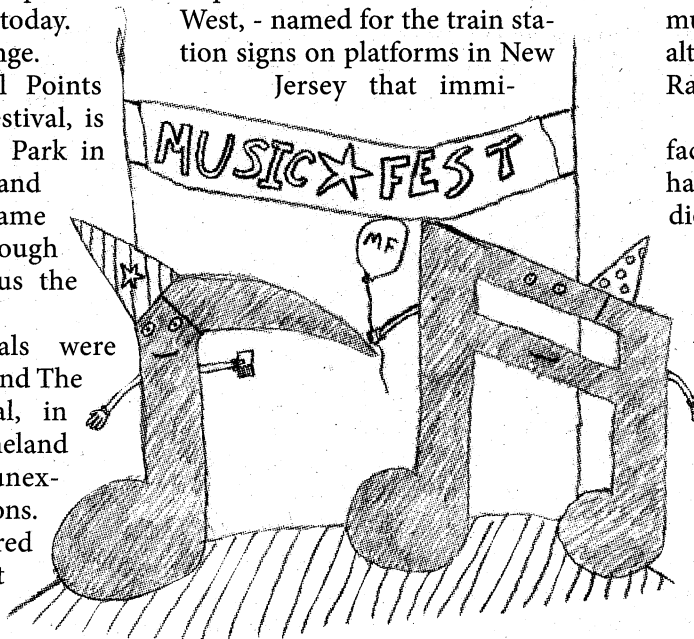
grants saw on the way from Ellis Island that would send them all points west to build their lives, is happening, and garnering a lot of attention in the indie-rock community.

While Bamboozle and Warped Tour often cater to punk/rock-pop music fans, All Points West could offer alternatives rumored to be acts such as Radiohead and Bjork.

The location, Liberty State Park, faces the New York City skyline, and hasn't held a major concert since Radiohead last played there years ago.

Though an official artist list has yet to be released, music fans have reason to be excited and to start saving up to purchase tickets for what is sure to be a monumental concert for the East coast.

For updates on the festival, including ticket information, visit: <http://www.apwfestival.com/>



# Review of Julie Tavmor's *Across the Universe*

By Ben Van Overmeire

I wish I could say that I loved the Beatles from the day I was born. An opening sentence like that would probably establish some kind of mystic kinship between me and them, between the reviewer and the topic he's about to discuss. But truth, however rare it may be in the age of representation, demands that I admit to the opposite: until a couple of years ago, I thought they were total crap. Their music seemed superficial and bland from another age one that did not have any cynicism or darkness to it. Ken and Barbieland something like that.

Then I heard "The Night Before" after a disastrous evening, and I became an instant fan. Have been ever since. Because, although their songs often seem cliché (barring their late period, obviously), they somehow manage to move me. Maybe their themes only seem commonplace because everyone has to deal with them. I'm not sure. But the fact is, I'm a fan in the most down-to-earth sense of the term.

So you can see why I was so enthusiastic about *Across the Universe*, a musical consisting of only Beatles covers. Expectations about the plot cannot be too high in such a case, but this movie goes one further step down and makes the concept of "story" a complete joke. A surmise can be short: A Liverpool boy named Jude (yeah) wants to flee his working-class environment for a better life in the US of A. Once he gets there, he meets up with a whole cast of colourful characters. There is Max, a Princeton student whose life is the party; Lucy, the blonde sister of said Max and the love-interest in the movie; and Sadie, a soulful singer in beaten-down clubs. Together, they move through the political and cultural panorama that is the sixties in America: Vietnam, demonstrations, pot, free love, experimenting, and Richard Nixon. The main plot revolves around Lucy and Jude: will these lovers overcome the problems that stand in the way of a mutually satisfactory relationship, and (eventually) holy matrimony?

Of course they do. There is hardly any doubt during the whole movie that, despite some nasty incidents (Max gets shell-shocked in 'Nam, Jude gets sent back to Liverpool), it'll all

turn out fine. Luckily, this movie hardly tries to tell this story, it seems more of an excuse to mount a long series of songs, often sung by the characters themselves.

At their best,

these are inventive interpretations of classics, beautifully choreographed pieces that splash colour and dimension across the white screen. Many of the best possess a distinct element of surrealism and absurdity that lifts

them above the status of mere video-clips. Take "I Want You (She's So Heavy)," one of the more psychedelic Beatles

songs featured here. Instead of the overwhelming expression of sexual

lust that it was

originally, the movie associates it with Uncle Sam's imperative ("I want YOU / for the US army"): In a recruitment center that seems drawn straight out of Kafka, the fresh cannon fodder submits and dances with anonymous men masked as the Uncle himself. As the song climaxes, the

semi-nude recruits carry a fallen Lady Liberty across the wastes of Vietnam. Mindblowing. In the same vein is "Strawberry Fields Forever," which becomes a dejected love-elegy, and "I Am

The Walrus," a psychedelic trip (VW van included) led by an utterly energetic Bono.

Although there are more great surprises in the movie (you'll see Joe Cocker appearing at some point), they never manage to reverse the

general trend. Not surprisingly, most of the crappy renditions are sung by the actors themselves. A love story obviously implies love songs, of which the Beatles

have plenty. But the totally uncharismatic protagonists manage to suck all the lifeblood out of such pieces as "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" (the original takes a little more than two minutes to play, the movie version at least four) and "If I Fell." These are best characterised by a comparison between Clapton's original version of "Layla"

and his acoustic, tired-man rendition of it. The problem with this emo-stuff is that it just keeps on going, turning ordinary problems into world-wide disasters the way adolescents do. The climax of this distaste is the cover of

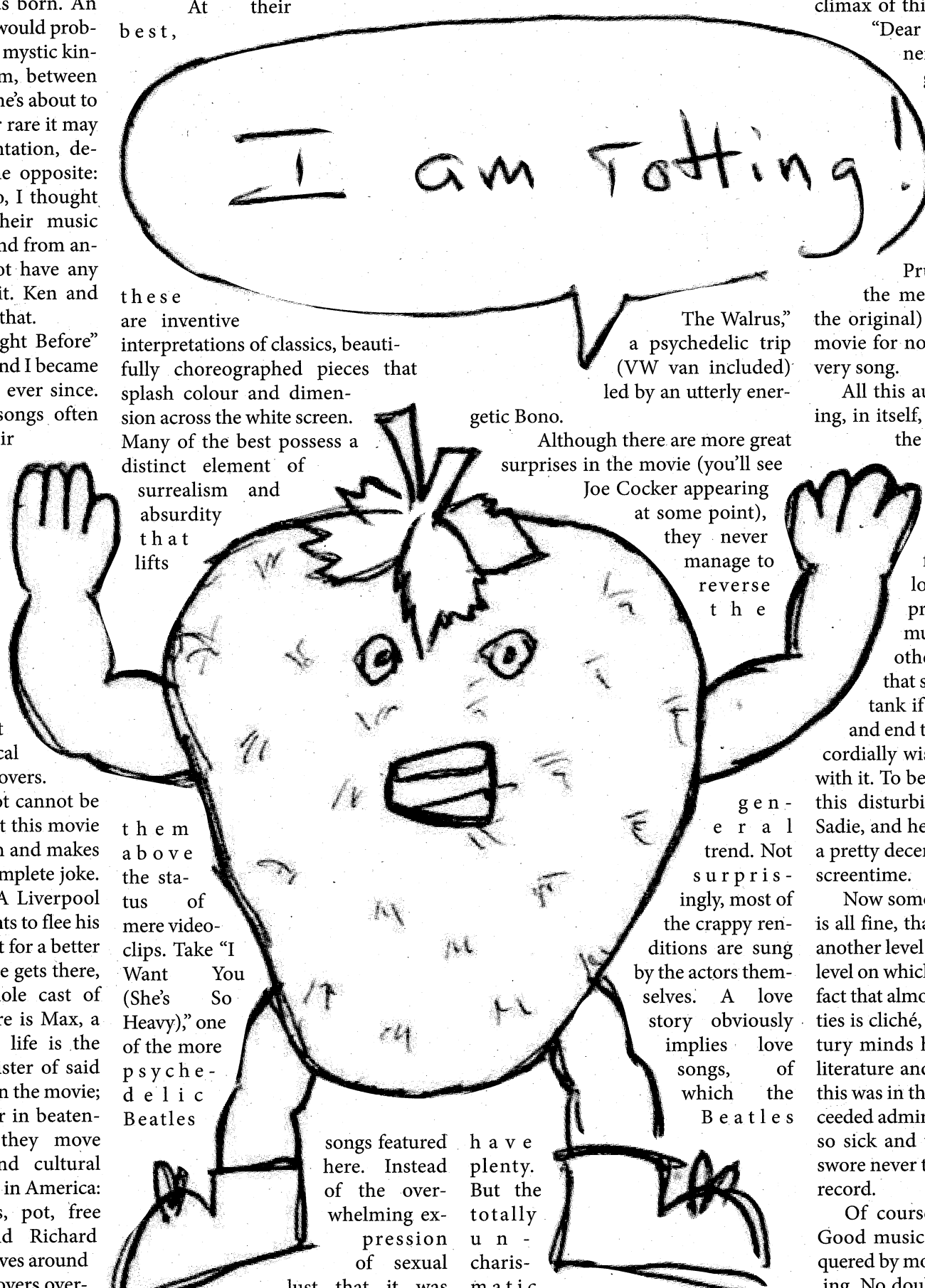
"Dear Prudence." Lennon's vulnerable ditty to a shy girl gets raped by every protagonist, one at a time as the walls of the house fall away and we're in a do-goody, sterile heaven. The song in the film, of course, is addressed to a girl named Prudence (taking away all the metaphorical suggestion of the original) who seems to be in the movie for no reason at all except this very song.

All this auditive and visual suffering, in itself, would not be that bad if the actors weren't also untalented hacks. One often thinks that one is watching a third-rate amateur theatre performance as the two lovers (really the main problem of the movie) mumble inane words to each other. As Lucy says to Jude that she "would lay in front of a tank if it would bring Max back and end this war," one finds oneself cordially wishing that she'd go ahead with it. To be fair, not all the actors are this disturbingly incompetent: Max, Sadie, and her guitar player JoJo all do a pretty decent job. But they hardly get screentime.

Now someone could argue that this is all fine, that the movie functions on another level of reality. This would be a level on which one wishes to convey the fact that almost any portrayal of the sixties is cliché, that our twenty-first century minds have been warped by the literature and movies of the period. If this was in the director's mind, she succeeded admirably: after two hours, I got so sick and tired of the sixties that I swore never to listen to another Beatles record.

Of course, I broke that promise. Good music is too strong to be conquered by moving pictures and bad acting. No doubt some people will adore this picture, an MTV-rendering of a long-gone period. For my part, I prefer *A Hard Day's Night*.

*Across the Universe* played last Friday at Staller. The rest of the season at our very own harbour of culture looks very promising though.



# Burnout Paradise: No Girls or Green Grass in This City

By Joe Donato

The *Burnout* racing game series has, until this point, been about driving fast, crashing, and repeatedly pressing "A" to advance through about a million confirmation, warning, and congratulatory screens. Allow me to give you an example of the kind of punishment one had to endure for the act of finishing a race in first place:

"CONGRATULATIONS!" Press "A."  
 "YOU UNLOCKED A NEW CAR!"  
 Press "A."  
 "Would you like to save?" Select "Yes."  
 "Are you sure?" Press "A."  
 "WARNING! Do not remove your memory card during the saving process." Press "A."  
 "Game Saved." Press "A."  
 "Dave, will I dream? Daaaaaaave."  
 And then you power down the system.

Occasionally, you got to play a racing game, but mostly this was what I recall spending my time doing. Thankfully, this element has been mostly stricken from the latest entry, *Burnout Paradise*, and replaced with a huge concrete playground in which to speed excessively. Fans disappointed by the lack of interruptions will be happy to know that by merely unlocking a few cars, they'll be treated to two to three minutes of scrolling text and the obligatory jamming of the "A" button next time they visit the garage. For the rest of us, this is an unwelcome distraction, but ultimately nowhere near as intolerable as it was in *Burnout 3: Takedown*.

Since (more often than not) I actually got to play *Paradise*, I should probably say something about the game itself. You're thrust into an open world environment where events are activated at any street intersections, cars

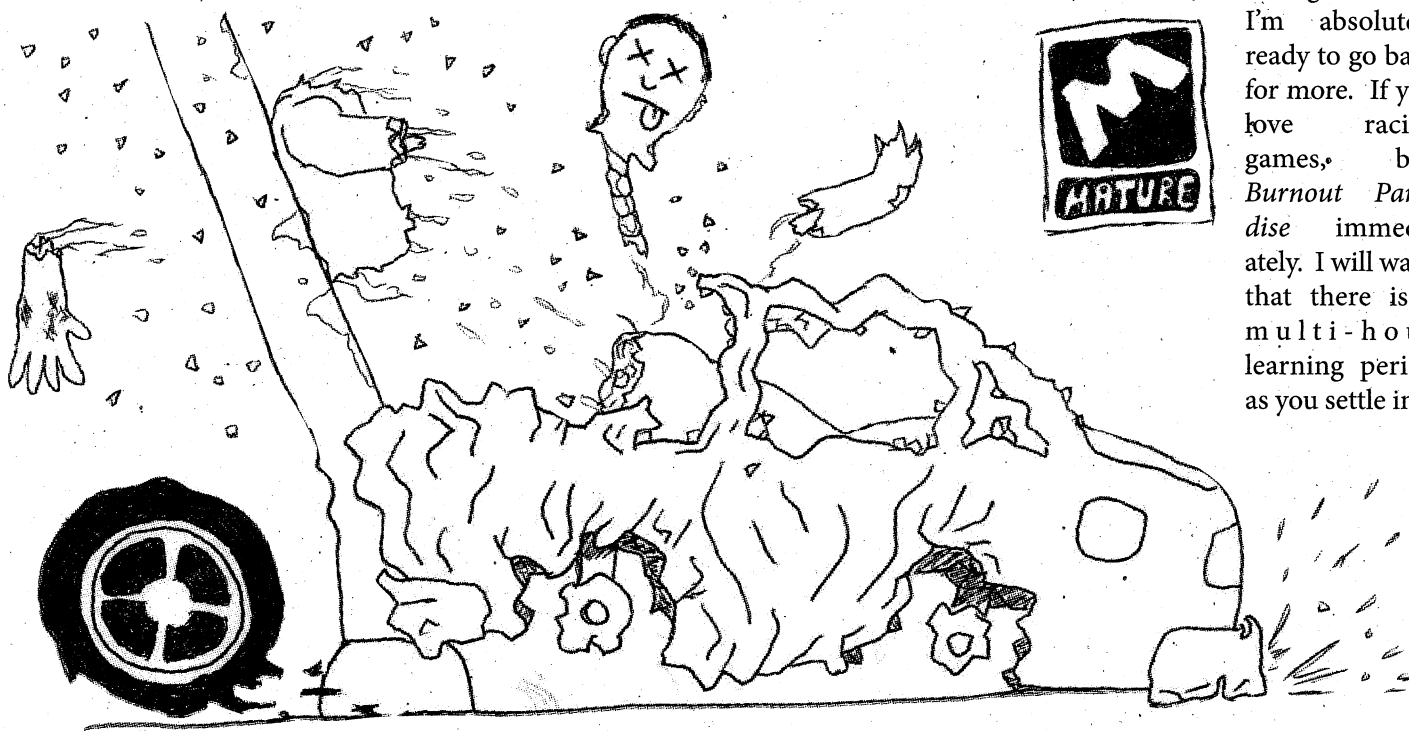
are earned by tracking down and crashing into them, and every single car inexplicably lacks a driver. The vehicles handle so well you'll feel like you're channeling The Stig. The graphics are so smooth my eyes came. The game is so much pure fun that I don't really see any point in touching something like *Gran Turismo* or *Forza* ever again. Sorry, gearheads, but adjusting camber is never going to be as fun as weaving through traffic at 200 mph, smashing

you when to turn if you don't want to take any shortcuts, but the moment you go off the beaten path, it is critical that you ignore it completely. In fact, just ignore it anyway; be a man, don't stop for directions, and just learn the city. It's the Steve McQueen way. Eventually, you'll start to know major roads by name, the best shortcuts, and the craziest stunt jumps. Once it all clicks, the game becomes a completely different beast, so give it some time.

the race starts, you have a general idea of where to go. There are few gaming experiences as adrenaline-pumping as a close eight-player race in *Burnout Paradise*.

There's a lot more to say about this game, but it's really not necessary for me to go on for pages about the hundreds of single player events, 350 co-op challenges, user-created races, webcam support, and wide variety of vehicles. All told, I've spent over 25 hours playing

this game, and I'm absolutely ready to go back for more. If you love racing games, buy *Burnout Paradise* immediately. I will warn that there is a multi-hour learning period as you settle into



into an opponent, and turning the car into a fiberglass accordion.

The open world is initially awe-inspiring; then unfortunately, for a period, controller-throwing-ly frustrating. The mini-map is zoomed in way too close for the speeds you travel at. You'll regularly find yourself taking an entirely wrong turn, thinking you took a shortcut, and then finishing at a solid, respectable 8th place. There are turn signals at the top of the screen that tell

One feature I must hit on is the amazing online play. Everything is so seamless, you can literally do a double barrel roll off a cliff while inviting your friends to your game. The only time there's a break in the action is when you gather everyone for a race. Races always end at one of the eight major landmarks in the city but can start from any intersection in Paradise. This is especially brilliant because, once you learn all of the finish lines, no matter where

Paradise City, but ultimately it pays off. Casual gamers will have fun tooling around the city, while the hardcore will aim for every shortcut. If you're in between, it's possible you'll end up overwhelmed and bored; but just stick with it, learn with some friends, and it will eventually gel. If you're on the fence, you owe it to yourself to at least rent it, as it's easily the best entry in the series and one of the best arcade racing games ever.

FREE SAC PIZZA  
 with Gun!

# Colors to Set the Mood

By Olga Kaplun

Pablo Picasso said, "Colors, like features, follow the changes of the emotions."

Color has a profound impact on your life on a day-to-day basis. While you might not be able to choose the somber grays of winter or the warm greens and blues of summer, you can do something as simple as selecting the color scheme of your room, or at least how you choose to decorate it, to make it appear more inviting. It has the ability to affect your health, personality, friendships, relationships, working environment, and your private life at home. What you wear attracts certain energy to you, and radiates energy from you as well. Each color screams a different meaning and invokes particular emotions.

Your eyes absorb light energy of different wavelengths that allow you to see in color. Undoubtedly, this energy stimulates the pituitary system, signaling for a production of hormones that affect your mood, temperature, the amount of energy you have, your sex drive, appetite, and other physical and psychological systems.

**Red.** Physically, it increases heart rate and breathing. It's the color of emotion and rage. Wearing red makes one appear heavier, and not recommended for interviews or when negotiating a deal. Red cars are more likely to get stolen. When decorating a room, this color would work for furniture because it attracts attention, but it is a poor choice for the color of your walls, increasing blood pressure and hypertension. However, it could work if the room is used only for an intimate setting. Red stimulates appetite, and therefore it could prove to be a good color scheme for restaurants. Watch for the background color in food advertising ads.

**Pink.** A soothing color, this is the color of love and romance, but also popular for energy depletion from over-relaxation.

**Orange.** It makes people livelier by balancing their energy, but also influ-

lates productivity and is often used in a classroom setting. Studies show that a person can lift heavier weights in a gym that's painted blue. However, paint it the wrong hue, and it triggers feelings of depression making the room feel cold. If

cool enough to be relaxing, yet warm enough to bring hope and new beginnings. It is a good color to relieve stress and to promote a higher level of communication and closeness in that environment. Dark green is the color of wealth and masculinity. Ironically, due to its ability to initiate self-discipline, it's an excellent color to encourage dieting and healthy eating.

**Yellow.** This is a popular color for communication and optimism, which also contributes to openness and bravery. It encourages the flow of ideas, memory, and attentiveness to that subject. This is the reason why they make legal pads yellow, according to David Johnson. Yellow promotes excitement similar to that provoked by red, but usually with a more positive vibe. It can stimulate an argument, as well as create waterworks and tantrums. It is a very agitating color for a bedroom, as it often leads to a nervous response. It's also a color that increases the rate of digestion.

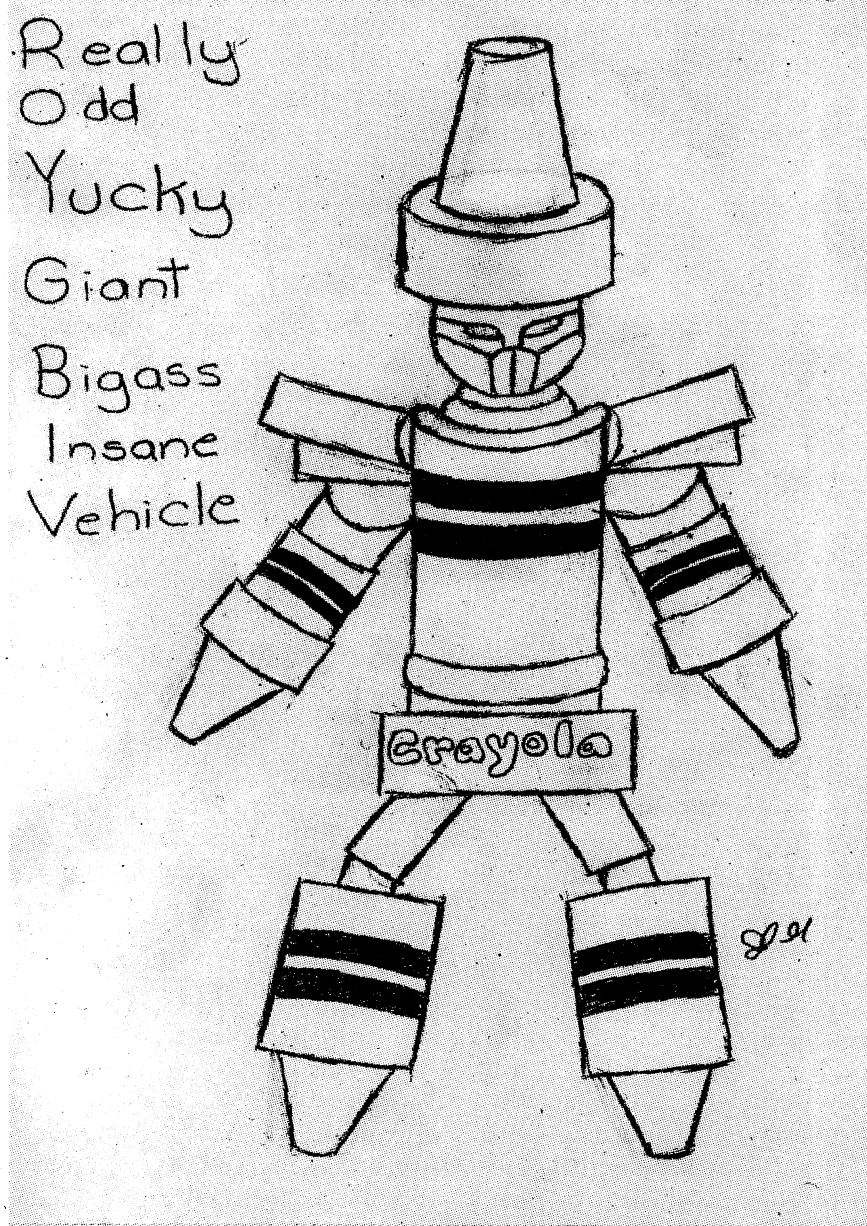
**Purple Violet.** They radiate complexity, depth, self-awareness, and spirituality. A lighter purple provides a certain calm, without the cooling feeling of blue. However, to make this color a central theme in your wardrobe might make you appear artificial. It's a feminine color, also often associated with homosexuality in today's culture.

**Browns and Neutrals.** They give off a sense of consistency and a solid foundation. They're both simple and authentic. Addition of these neutral tones allow other more dominant colors not to overpower the eye. Unfortunately, when these colors stand alone, they are plain and may appear gloomy.

**Black.** It expresses power. It supersedes all trends, and, for the most part, all seasons. Depending on how it's worn, it can also make one seem overpowering, detached, unfriendly or devious. It may deflect negativity, and work as a barrier for any influence.

chosen as the color of a room, the furniture should then be a warm color to avoid negative feelings. Blue is a great color to wear for an interview, because it indicates reliability.

**Green.** It is a color that illuminates the room with freshness and fertility. It's



ences a good, hearty appetite. It is an excellent color for inspiring motivation.

**Blue.** Unlike red, it is calming and will decrease heart rate. It can be associated with feelings of going to the beach or a place where the water and the sky meet at the horizon. It stimu-

# Be Kind, But Don't Rewind

By Justin Meltzer

The videotape format is dead, and for good reason. The quality sucks, you have to rewind them, you can't jump to a scene, they are big and bulky and they can get erased with big enough magnets. When Jerry (Jack Black) becomes magnetized, he's the biggest magnet in town (yeah, it's partly a fat joke).

The story begins with him erasing all the tapes in the shop where Mike (Mos Def) works, while Mike's boss Mr. Fletcher (Danny Glover) is out of town on a research assignment (he's researching why DVD's are better than VHS). In order to keep people from knowing that all the tapes have been erased, Jerry and Mike go out and re-film the movies that the people want to see—the first of which is *Ghost Busters*.

As the film progresses, they re-

film more and more movies, which they say are 'Sweded'—as in, the verb form of the country Sweden. (They tell the town that these movies are sent out to that country for processing.) It's a bit complicated, but the town of Passaic, New Jersey, goes along with it and they eventually have the residents star in the films with them. They do lots and lots of "Sweded" movies throughout the film, including *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Rush Hour 2*

and the fan favorite, *Boyz In Da Hood*.

Some of the movies Jerry and Mike redo involve a white guy and a black guy, in order to accommodate their specific racial situation (you know, because Jack Black is white and Mos Def is black). So they do movies like *Men in Black* and even *Driving Miss Daisy*. All are done cheaply and with limited resources, much like this movie itself. But, also like this movie, they all have

## Be Kind, But Don't Rewind (continued)

heart...but little substance. *Be Kind Rewind* falls just short, which is especially disappointing considering that it was directed by Michel Gondry, the genius behind such other films as *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* and *The Science of Sleep*—both of which were fantastic. All the excitement and wonder displayed in the trailer for this movie was lost in the final product.

The film didn't deliver on many accounts. The spontaneity and pure weirdness of Gondry was there but not in full force. Jack Black was funny, but as a toned-down version of himself. I just didn't get that same Jack Blackness that I'm used to. And the most disappointing was Mos Def, for whom I had really



high expectations, but who was very mellow. Low intensity and energy made his character seem almost drugged up—but not on the drugs

you're thinking of—more like tranquilizers. Finally, the comedy of the film was good but not great. There was some silliness from Jack Black,

especially when he was magnetized, but little elsewhere.

While the overall goal of this film seemed to be that community was important and so are the friends we have, blah blah blah, who cares. The theme I got was that VHS sucks, Passaic New Jersey sucks and everyone should go out and film their own Sweded movies. Just make sure Sigourney Weaver doesn't come by and destroy all of your Bootlegged films, 'cause she did that and doubtless that she will do it again. So go ahead and be creative with your nasty self.

## Stackcats is a Palindrome, but Hookah Isn't

By David Robin

One of the many problems on the Stony Brook campus is finding things to do on a Friday night. Fortunately, the Student Activities Board held a Battle of the Bands last Friday in the SAC Ballroom, which cured my boredom for at least one Friday night. A number of interesting bands rocked the face off of the SAC Ballroom, in a crazy musical extravaganza. The judging process was unique, as instead of a panel of judges, bands were judged by the amount of noise the crowd made during the performance. This caused many people to scream way too loud and caused the battle to be more of a popularity contest than a musical showcase. The eventual winners of the contest were Epic Giraffe Syndrome, who were a pre-scenepunk metal popera band. The vocalist also played cowbell, and there was a bassist, a drummer, and a French horn. According to the drummer, who had a microphone for some reason, their self-published album is due February 31, 2008 and is titled *Stackcats is a palindrome but hookah isn't*.

Another band who showed off its talents was The Wandering Portuguese, which had a catchy song called "To Feel as Low as a Buffalo." A few questions were raised by the audience during their performance including why buffalos were so depressed and why there were no Portuguese people in the band. These unanswered enigmas may have caused their downfall, although they did make it to the finals in a good showing. Other bands were not as lucky, like The Muztoba Experience. To be completely honest, it wasn't a very

good experience. They were a really cheesy death metal band with songs that had names no one could understand. There were also really random guitar solos in the middle of the songs, and they really didn't fit in and were

cleanest person in the world.

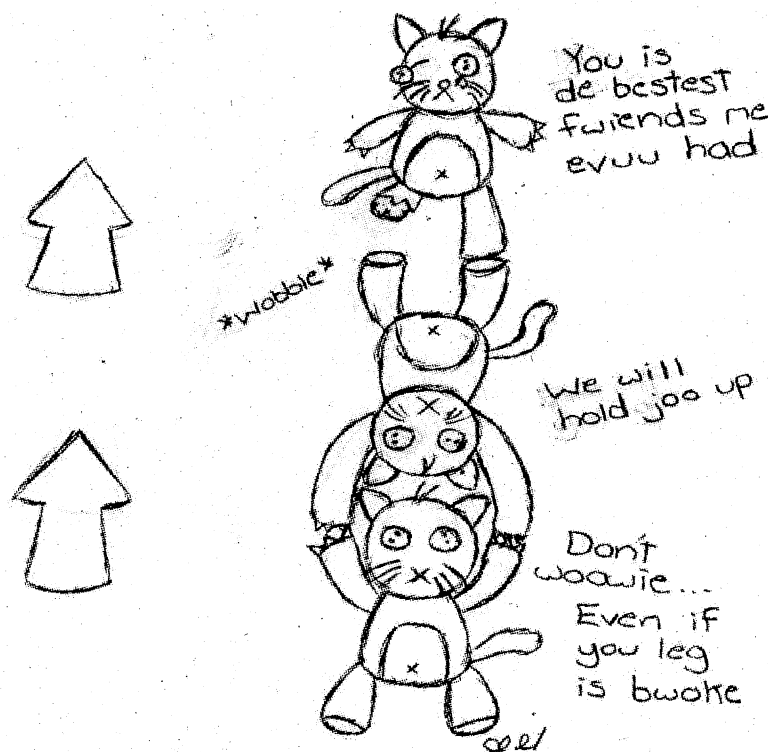
On a much more hilarious note, one of the other semifinalists was a Styx cover band. A few of the older people in the crowd (probably parents of the band members) were rocking out to the

fects of a cocktail of powerful narcotics.

Halfway through the show, there was actually a power outage. At first, people joked that Shirley Strum Kenny forgot to pay the electric bill, but, believe it or not, it was not SSK's fault but rather, it was the fault of the tech crew in the SAC. They plugged in too many amps, and the SAC couldn't handle the power usage. Eventually, two police cars sped to the scene. Well, they were taking more of an afternoon stroll, but they made it eventually and soon realized that their services were not needed. They departed quickly after receiving a call that someone stole a piece of lettuce from the SAC salad bar.

It took over an hour to get the show moving again, and many people left, since they didn't actually have to pay to watch the battle. During the outage, the audience started doing the wave— but was quickly stopped by event security. I suddenly had flashbacks to that Gym Class Heroes concert that happened last year in the Athletic Complex. I guess doing the wave is one of those serious things that should never be done at a Stony Brook event. According to security, crowd participation is dangerous. The security should be satisfied that people actually came, given the track record of this campus.

The people who stayed were treated to a great show and when the dust settled, audience members were chanting the eminently chantable "Epic Giraffe Syndrome" and calling for an encore. While their name may make no sense, their music made up for the confusion and transformed the night from a disaster into a moderate success. The night proved that people should actually go to events on campus, since they always take place when they are scheduled.



very sloppy. After singing "The Jew I Hate," the crowd booed them off the stage and actually threw garbage. Security almost had to get involved, but the lead singer, a large Indian man with greasy hair, left as soon as the garbage was thrown. The drummer left right behind him and they were disqualified from the battle. This man was obviously insane and, on a side note, not the

music, but no one else was really interested. Due to their outdated taste in music, they made the choices for the finalists much easier. Another noteworthy band was Aörtic Wülf, which sounded strangely familiar. I couldn't figure out why, but they played a good show. Chains of Extinction had been scheduled to appear, but were unable to operate their hovercraft due to the ef-

# Girl Power!

By Laura Cooper

"New York City, do you love girl power?!" Geri Halliwell, or "Ginger", of the Spice Girls, questioned a sold out Madison Square Garden this past President's Day. The crowd cheered in approval. The Garden was packed by girls and women aged 13-40, all hoping to get a glimpse of 1996 in 2008.

The Spice Girls, a five-piece from the United Kingdom, were at the height of their popularity in the mid-nineties, when their hits "Wannabe" and "Spice Up Your Life," ruled the airwaves—and when "Wannabe" entered the Billboard Hot 100 chart at 11. This broke the record for a British-based group's first week's sales, previously held by the Beatles' "I Want To Hold Your Hand."

The all girl group spawned a huge commercial boom full of merchandise, including but not limited to dolls, lollipops, stickers and ultimately the blockbuster hit *Spice World: The Movie*, which took in 100 million dollars at the box office. Though the film definitely wasn't one to inspire thought, it blended sugarcoated pop hits with a huge Union Jack-clad double-decker bus to outlandish adventures, encountered by the Spice Girls

as they traveled around the U.K.

The Spice Girls, it seemed, had every eight-year-old girl's dream. Everyone wanted to be them, and the Spice Girls themselves promoted "girl-power, equalization between the sexes," to a group of adolescents who clearly had no clue what they were actually advocating. Their songs, including "2 Become 1" and "Wannabe", included suggestive lyrics that were unknowingly mimicked by the young girls of America, the U.K. and elsewhere. Lyrics such as "If you wannabe my lover / You've gotta get with my friends," clouded the airwaves, not to mention elementary school playgrounds.

The group blew up faster than anyone could have expected, and ultimately imploded. That fall was sparked by Geri Halliwell's departure during the beginning of the Spice Girls's first North American tour.

After Halliwell's departure, the four remaining Spice Girls (Melanie Chisholm, Emma Bunton, Victoria Adams and Melanie Brown) attempted to continue the group's success. They released the single, "Goodbye," in tribute to Halliwell, and the full-length album, "Forever," which would fail to gain success tantamount to that of their previous albums. One single, "Holler" was well received, yet only on

the dance charts.

As a result, the remaining girls went their separate ways, all four attempting solo careers—though only Melanie C. seemed to find moderate success in her dance hit "I Turn to You." The other girls didn't have notable releases and went on with their lives out of the spotlight—with the exception of Victoria, who married British soccer star David Beckham.

*The concert itself was...full of energy, bubble gum pop and all the gimmicks.*

The Spice Girls Reunion tour was a rumor in the music industry for years, but finally became a reality on December 2, 2007. The tour would go on to visit five continents and bring together all five of the band's original members. The Spice Girls found their biggest audience in New York, where they had two shows at Nassau Coliseum, and one at Madison Square Garden.

"It's so amazing to finally play here

as a five-piece," said Melanie B., or "Scary Spice," turning to Halliwell, who apologized to the fans both in writing and in person for leaving the Spice Girls before they had a chance to invade New York City together.

The concertgoers really didn't seem to care. Kicking off a show that spotlighted both the group's hits such as "Stop", "Viva Forever" and "Spice Up Your Life", and hits from their solo careers, such as Melanie C.'s "I Turn to You." The crowd wholeheartedly embraced the group who, for their song "Mama", went as far as to bring their own children on stage. This is when Victoria Beckham's son, Brooklyn, proceeded to break dance for the audience. "He's the next Justin Timberlake," Beckham said, in response to her son's continuous dance throughout the entire song.

The concert itself was seemingly exactly the experience the group delivered in 1996—full of energy, bubble gum pop and all the gimmicks. Madison Square Garden, the home of the Knicks and the Rangers, will never be the same now that girl power has reigned again. If not Madison Square Garden, then their scarred security guards will definitely not see such a display again.

# I May Be A Bit Emo, But So Is Juno

By Kelly Yu

If I ever got pregnant when I was in high school, I'd be glad to thank Hollywood for providing me with such great role models. Like so many Lifetime movies before it, *Juno* takes up the issue of teen pregnancy, but with a new and refreshing twist. Our knocked up heroine, Juno MacGuff, played by Ellen Page (you know...Kitty Pryde? No? All right then), is everything a teenaged girl could ever want to be. She's witty, smart-mouthed, can produce a one liner for an audience to repeat over and over again in different contexts, and deals with pregnancy in a less conventional way than most teenagers. Showing maturity of character, Juno decides to give the baby to a yuppie couple she found in the *Penny Saver*.

When I first heard about this movie, I was ready to grab as much money as I could and yell incoherently for a ticket. Unfortunately, it didn't open in theaters for another two weeks. When I finally saw the movie, I was in awe of every facet of it. The casting of

Jennifer Garner as the adoptive mom-to-be, Vanessa, was spot-on with her wholesome girl-next-door qualities (even though she could literally eat our faces off as Sydney Bristow). I had just seen *Superbad* not long before I saw *Juno*, so I still saw Michael Cera as the awkward teenager who didn't know how to verbalize his feelings. This wasn't a problem because in *Juno*, he was still the awkward teenager who didn't know how to verbalize his feelings, except this time, he actually *did* have sex and had the consciousness to enjoy it. Cera played Paulie Bleeker, nerdy track star and Juno's baby's daddy. At one point, I thought, he couldn't have any more nerdy charm. Then he broke out his acoustic guitar. The chemistry between Page and Cera made me believe that maybe teenage pregnancy doesn't have to end with embarrassment and estrangement. Maybe high school pregnancy is exactly what a couple needs to have to finally realize they belong together. That's the Hollywood talking, sorry.

If the crazy amount of stars in the film doesn't make you want to watch it,

then maybe the actual script will. I feel the dialogue couldn't have been written by anyone else other than former stripper, Diablo Cody. She started her career in an ad agency as a copy editor when she realized that her life needed a change. She started stripping at an amateur strip night and decided to quit her day job. After stripping lost its luster, she tried phone sex for a while, which she says is the best possible practice for a new screenwriter. In an interview with David Letterman on *The Late Show*, she said, "You have to take on all these characters. Like one day you're a submissive redhead, the next day a German amputee." She started writing scripts after encouragement from a friend. Cody actually admits that *Juno* was first written in a Starbucks inside a Target. "...[It's like] two layers of corporate filth...I was surrounded by suburban misery, I thought 'I gotta get the hell out of here, I've got to finish this.'" After months of writing, *Juno* was created. It seems that almost every line in the movie could be used in normal dialogue, like "he's the cheese to my macaroni," "all babies want to get borned,"

and my favorite, "don't think it's yours just because you marked it with your urine!" Not only did the general public take note, but so did the Academy acknowledging Cody's talent with an Oscar for Best Original Screenplay. She received the only award for *Juno*.

If snappy dialogue, a Hollywood-packed cast, and an Oscar-winning screenplay aren't enough for you to want to put down this paper and find a bootleg movie dealer, I suggest you download the soundtrack. It's very rare to have a soundtrack of music that fits perfectly into movie scenes, but this one does. Bands like Belle and Sebastian and The Moldy Peaches, who sing the central song to the movie "Anyone Else But You," fill the soundtrack with indie flavored goodness.

So, teenaged moms-to-be, stop watching Zoey 101 for maternity advice or reading *Us Weekly* to see what maternity clothes Jennifer Lopez is wearing. Even if you aren't pregnant or a woman, watch *Juno* and you'll get some perspective on life, love and child birth because all seem to hurt like hell. Drugs can help with all that.



# Asian American E-Zine

<http://www.aa2sbu.org/aaezine>

## Five Years of Asian/ Asian American Programming

by Yina Chun

**S**tony Brook University's Charles B. Wang Center celebrating Asian and Asian American culture is now in its fifth year of bringing programming to Long Island. The Wang Center has brought international and American artists, musicians, dancers, thinkers and scholars to campus to expand awareness of the complexity and beauty of Asian and Asian American cultures as well as to elucidate issues of how Asian culture transforms and is transformed by engaging with other cultures.

Designed by P.H. Tuan, a renowned international architect and advocate for contemporary Chinese architecture, the center was funded by philanthropist also owner of the Islanders, Charles B. Wang in one of the most generous donations by a private individual to the SUNY system valued at \$52 million on October 22, 2002. Beyond the popular food court lies state of the art theater, lecture halls, classrooms and even a chapel.

"Whether it be Southeast Asia, Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Central Asia, the Middle East or anywhere that Asians have lived and thrived, we're dedicated to bringing the best and most creative artists, social and cultural innovators, we can for the benefit of the public to learn from, be inspired by, be enthralled with," asserts Sunita S. Mukhi, Ph.D., Director of Asian/Asian American Programming at the Wang Center. "We're very proud of our programs, especially because we bring out the multiple dimensions of people of Asian descent, living in both the East and West."

Dr. Mukhi, along with her staff of undergraduate and graduate students, volunteers, and other program coordinators, have put their efforts together to bring us another semester full of events. Wang Center has been in collaboration with many local and international organizations that have brought us all sorts of Asian and Asian American cultural

performances. (Remove from all over the world - it doesn't make sense - they are not from Europe and Africa.) Student performances have also been held in the Center. Recently during Asian Awareness Week, CASB, the Chinese student organization, held their Mah Jong tournament in the Center's lobby with a great turn out.

But some of the best is yet to come. Here are some events scheduled:

**\*To celebrate the Central Asian Spring Festival of Nauryz, Roksonaki, Kazakhstan's most talented musicians integrate ancient nomadic Eurasian traditions- reed flutes and throat-singing-with contemporary rock and jazz. March 7, 8pm**

**\*The 2nd Asian American Festival of LI will feature arts and crafts, an Asian Market, Kung fu and performances from China, India, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand. March 29, 1-9pm**

**\*Kristina Wong probes the issue of depression and suicide among Asian American Women using performance, humor and pop culture. April 10, 7pm**

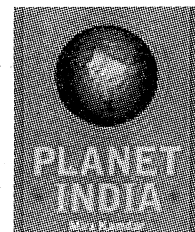
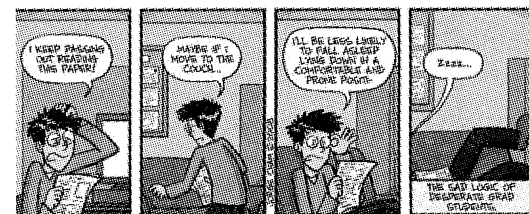
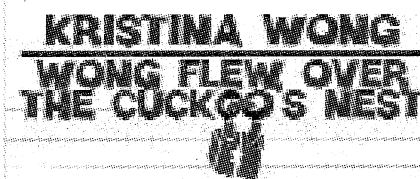
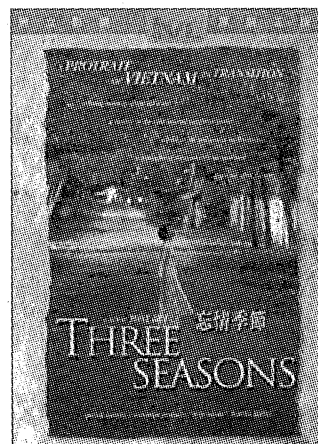
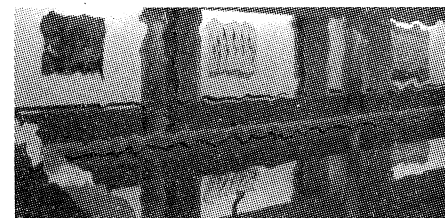
**\*Breathtaking Nrityagram Dance Ensemble performs Odissi, India's most oldest and most sensuous classical dance form. April 13, 6pm**

**\*Wang Center's esteemed architect, P.H. Tuan speaks about his artistic vision and his experiences as an immigrant. Followed by the first dance party with Asian American DJ**

These are only a few highlights, to visit the full calendar visit:

<http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/sb/wang/or>

write to them at wangcenter @stonybrook.edu  
You can also be added to AA E-zine mailing list to get future updates by visiting our website at [aa2sbu.org/aaezine](http://aa2sbu.org/aaezine)



## Joyce Yang Plays at Staller

by Jin Woo Cho

**J**oyce Yang is a gifted pianist who is gaining international fame as a rising star in classical music. Starting to play piano at age four, she has won numerous prestigious competitions including the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, in which she won a silver medal as the youngest participant ever to perform. Ever since her debut, she has been touring around the world giving concerts, performing with major orchestras such as the Philadelphia Orchestra and the New York Philharmonic. As a native of Stony Brook, the recital at the Staller Center Recital Hall on February 8th was her first time to perform back home.



Brahms, playing a collection of Intermezzos collectively referred to as Kalvierstuke Op. 119. Ms. Yang effectively conveyed the romantic expressions of the pieces by successfully yet gracefully executing the difficult chords and arpeggios, which adorned the melody.

After the applause from the audience, Ms.

Yang took time to explain the following piece she was about to perform due to the non-conventional style of the piece. She briefly introduced the composer Carl Vine, who is well known for his contemporary approach to classical music. She humorously warned the audience that Vine's Sonata would

sound very mechanical and non-musical, which is contrary to the general notion. She explained that Vine attempted to express various sounds we hear everyday in his 1990 Sonata, joking that it felt like like thousands of ants were crawling all over her body as she was playing this piece.

Ms. Yang's performance of the Vine Sonata was indeed very different from the Brahms; the emphasis of extreme low bass and the sharp contrast of almost-robotic broken chords and low octaves stood out prominently. Despite the different taste of style, the audience nonetheless showed enthusiastic support for her tremendous effort in performing this difficult and interesting piece.

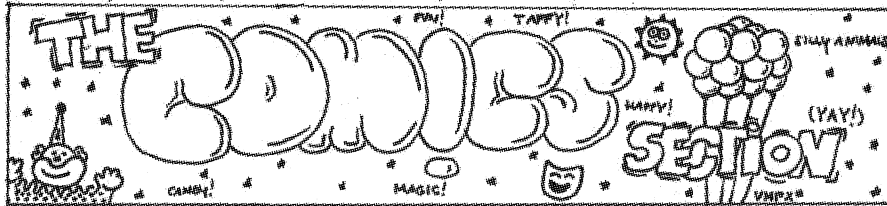
After the intermission, Ms. Yang played a couple of sonatas by Domenico Scarlatti, who was active in the 18th century. Scarlatti's pieces sounded quite similar to those of Mozart in terms of their bright textures and perky touches, which was a relief from the tense and heavy overall feeling that prevailed in the previous

piece.

Her last performance on the repertoire was Robert Schumann's Carnival Op. 9, which is also a collection of smaller pieces named separately according to their themes. Each piece featured somewhat different motives and structures, but they all converged to the general theme of a carnival as the title says.

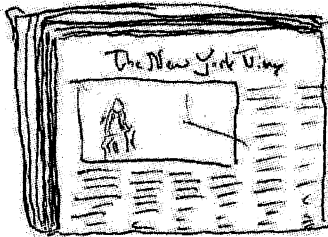
Ms. Yang's encore encore was Franz Liszt's Hungarian Rhapsody No. 6, which was an excellent choice to close the recital due to its fleshy characteristics. She poured everything she still had on the piece, which resulted in a brilliant execution of virtuosity that is difficult to express in words. The recital ended with a standing ovation from the audience, which proved to be a big success.

Clips from some of Ms. Yang's performances, including her Van Cliburn performance, are available at her my-space website. Check it out! [www.myspace.com/joyceyang](http://www.myspace.com/joyceyang)



# Oh Yeah, Except For That One Time

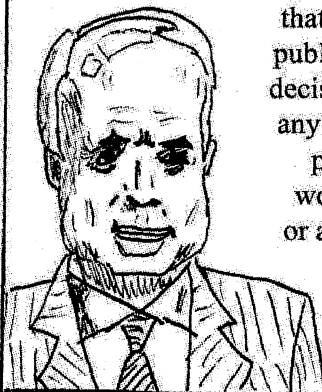
A comic by Matt Willemain



After the *New York Times* published an article about John McCain's relationship with a telecommunications lobbyist, both calling into question the reputation for independence he earned by promoting campaign finance reform, and implying through reference to the suspicions of his staff that McCain may have had an affair with the lobbyist, the Arizona Senator responded angrily with bold words.

"I am disappointed in the article, it's not true, as has been pointed out I've served this nation honourably for more than half a century. When I was seventeen I raised my hand and said I would support and defend this nation and I've had the honor of defending it ever since. At no time have

I ever done anything that would betray the public trust or make a decision that would in any way not be in the public interest that would favor anyone or any organisation."



After an obscene lie like this, of course, a responsible press might point out that he pursued that whole campaign finance reform thing to refurbish his image after he was personally implicated in one of the worst corruption scandals of the latter half of the twentieth century, taking money from and performing favors for crooks who fleeced the American public—who got screwed out of over one hundred billion dollars (that's more than \$100,000,000,000).

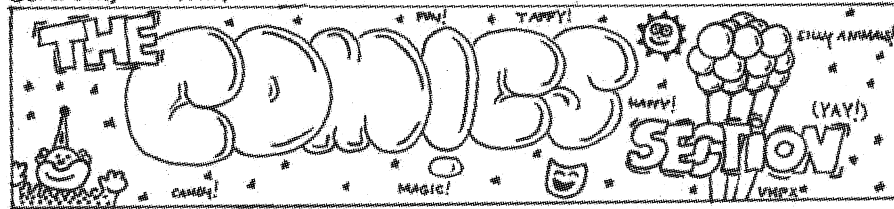
(One of the so-called 'Keating Six', McCain was found guilty of wrongdoing by the Senate ethics committee for exchanging legislative services for large donations from Charles Keating, the principal culprit in the Savings and Loan scandal of the '80s.)

## ESKIMO JIM

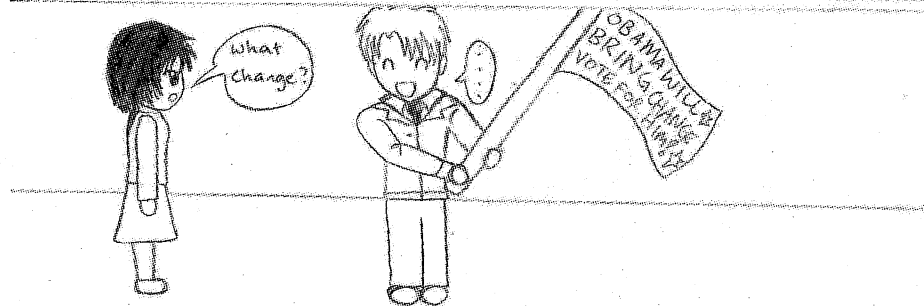
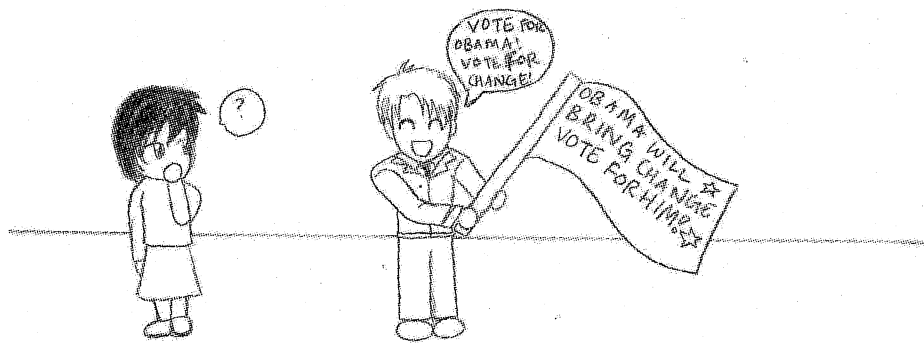
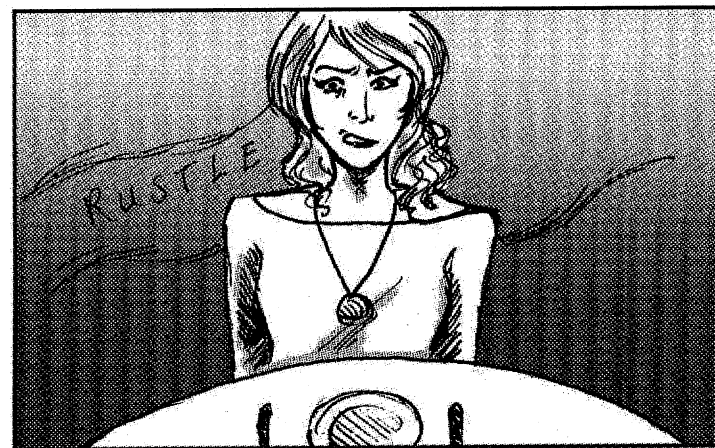
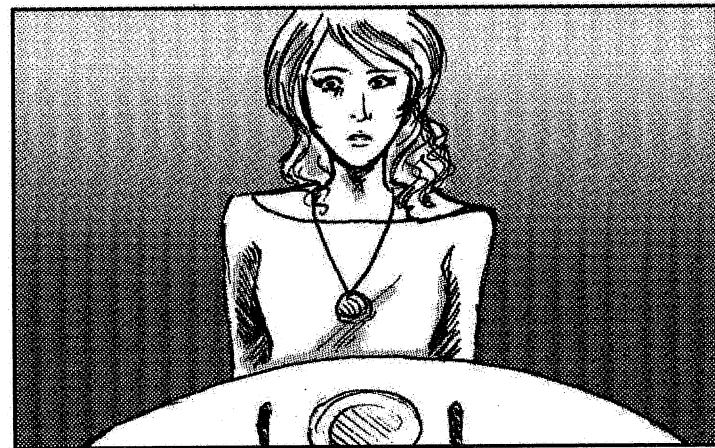
BY DAVID K. GINN



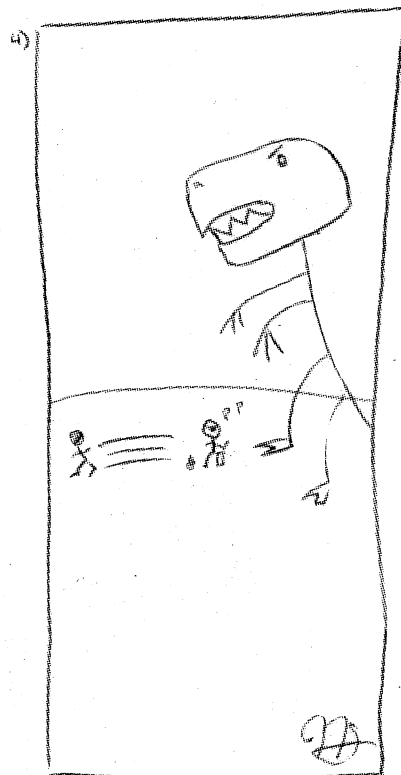
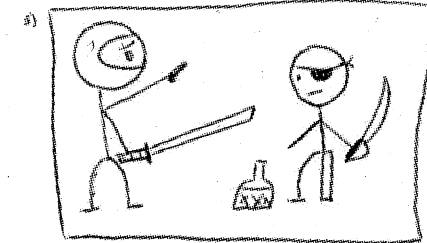
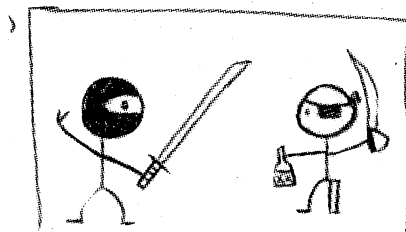
COME ONE, COME ALL (COME WITH YOUR MOM!), IT'S... ITS... ITS...



(Super) SPEED DATING by Tia Mansouri

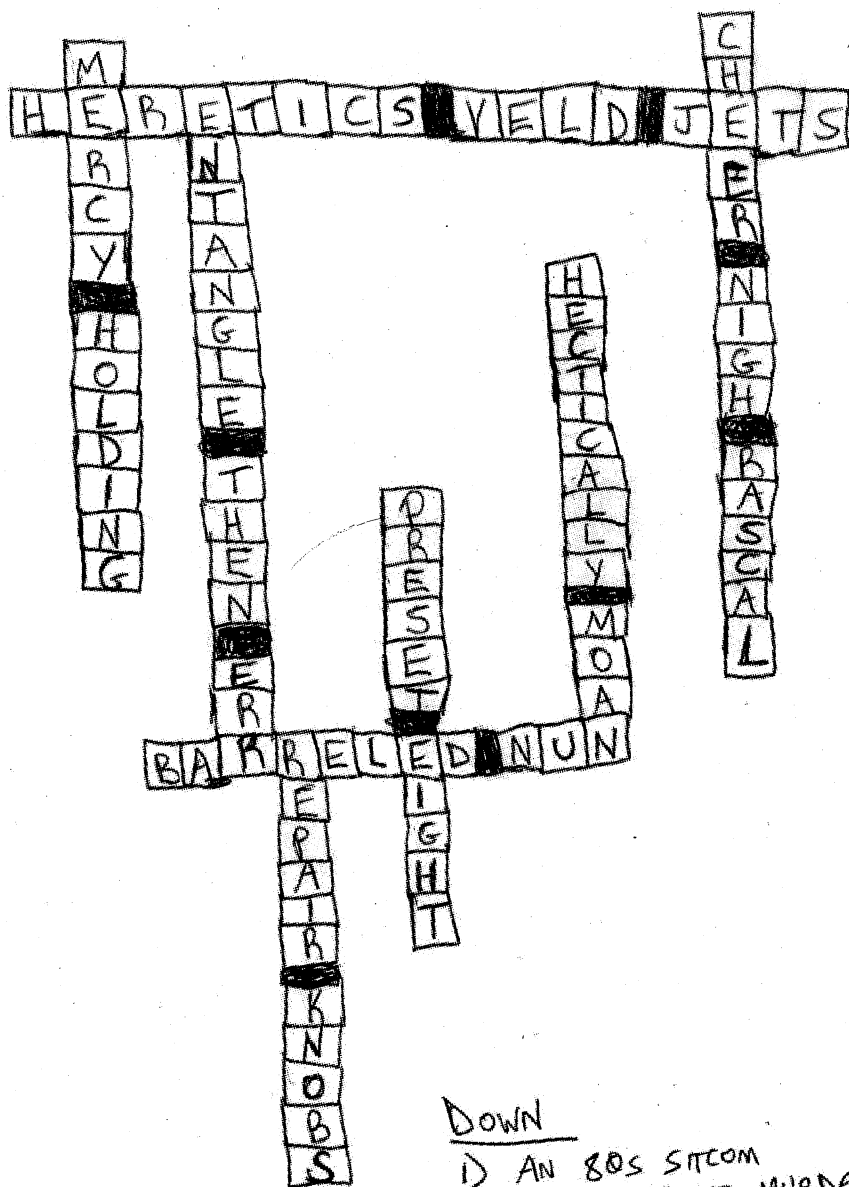


Grace Pak



# Anagramous Attaxxx!!!

By Knockout



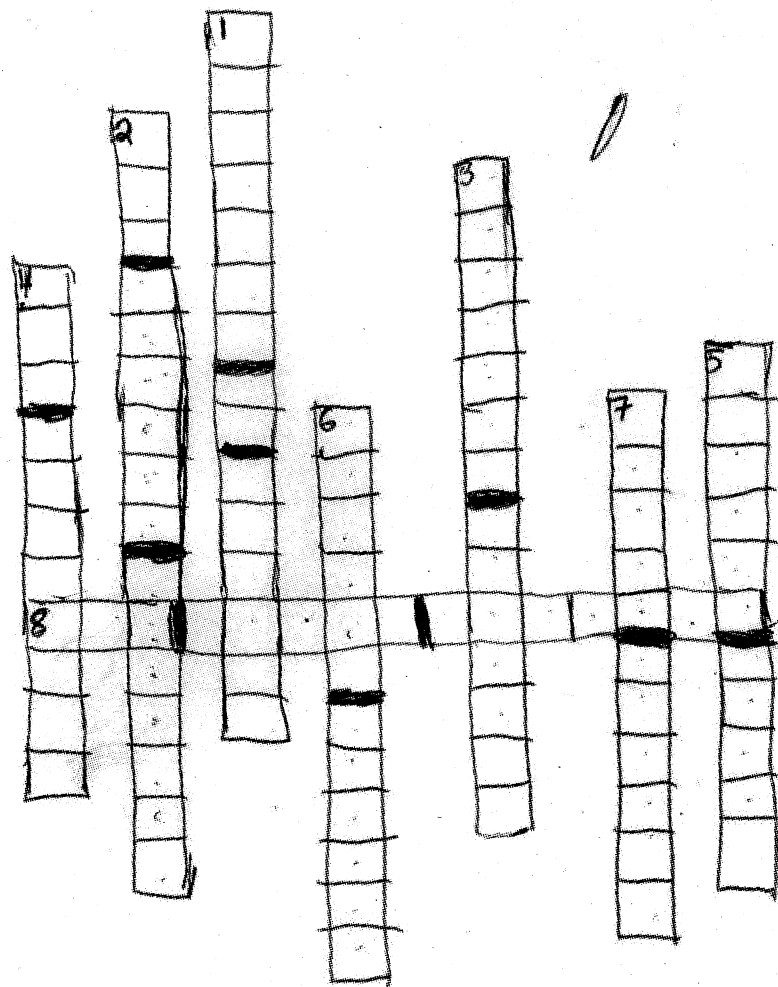
ACROSS

8) A SUPERHERO

DOWN

- 1) AN 80s SITCOM
- 2) A FILM ABOUT MURDEROUS REDNECKS
- 3) A 2008 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE
- 4) A CHRISTOPHER NOLAN FILM

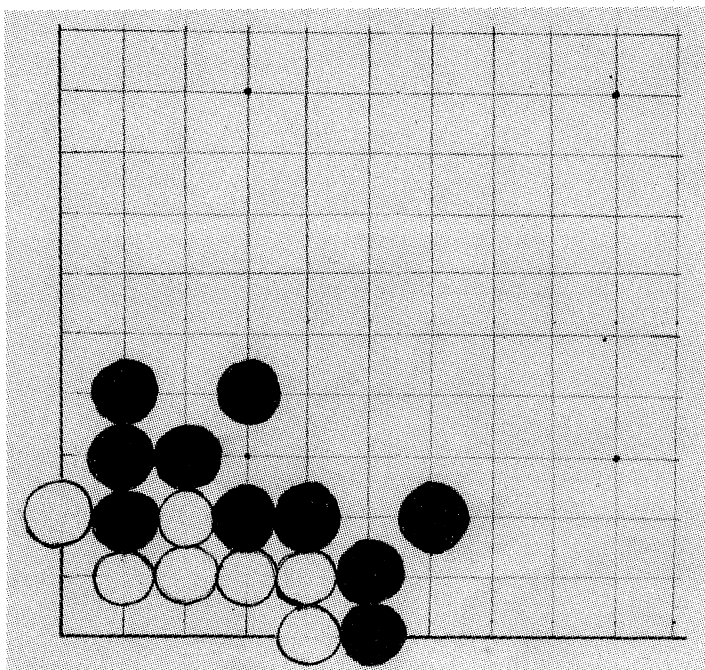
That mischievous devil Anagramous has taken the answers to your crossword puzzle, made ordinary phrases out of them, and created a new puzzle! You must find the answers from his puzzle on the left and, using the clues, unscramble them and plug them into your puzzle on the right! Hurry!



- 5) A TV DRAMA ON FOX
- 6) AN ARTSY FILM DIRECTOR
- 7) A RIDLEY SCOTT FILM

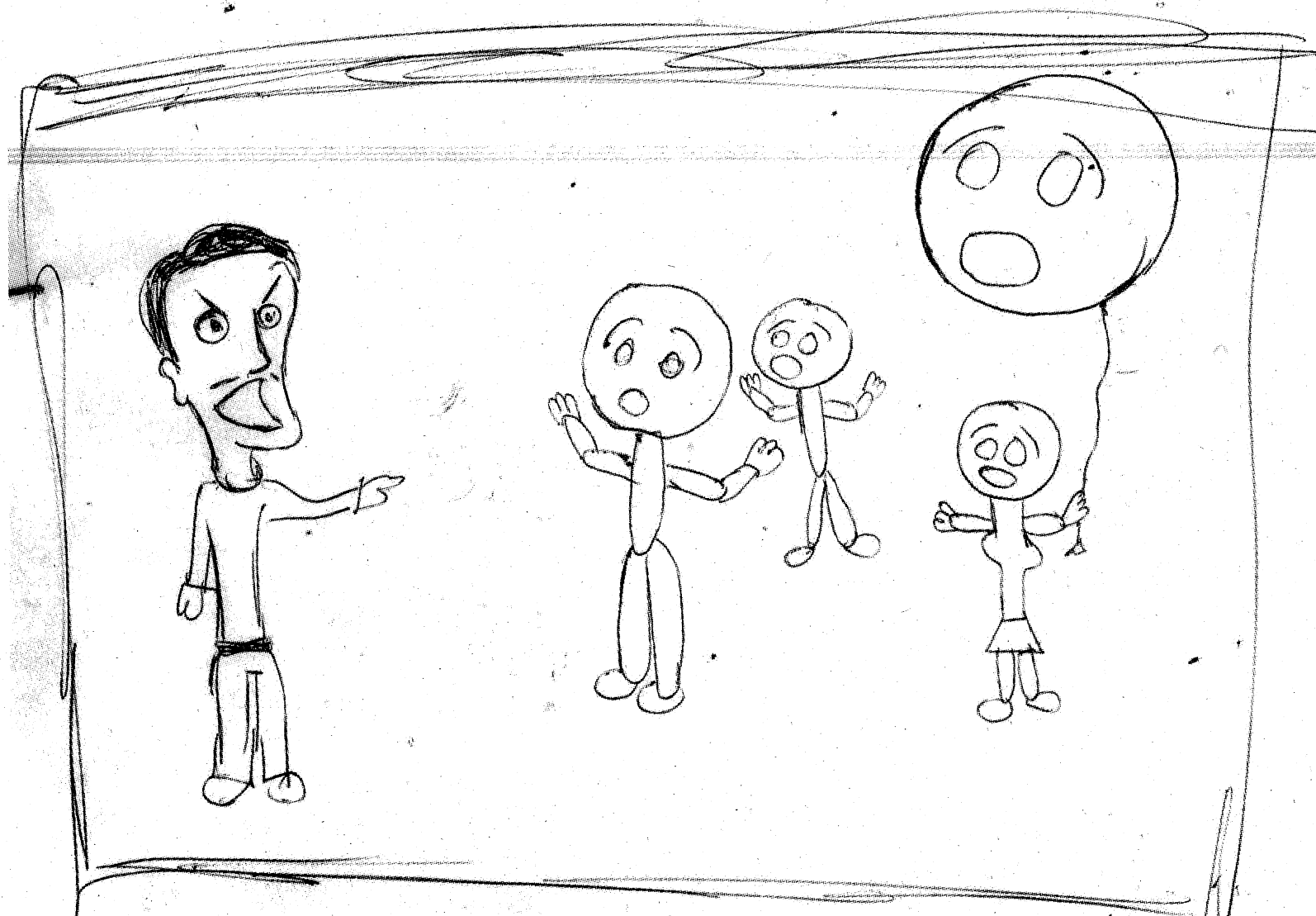
I'm so depressed, I don't know what to do...

## Go For It, Man!

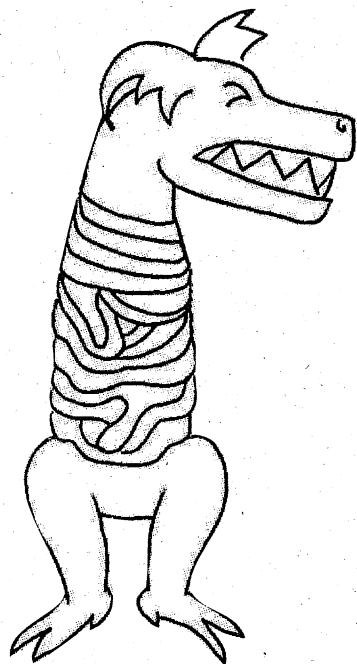


Black to move, kill Whitey

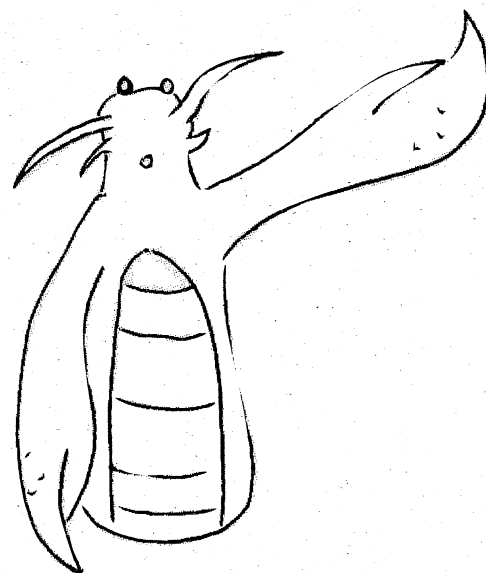
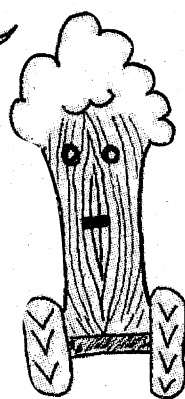
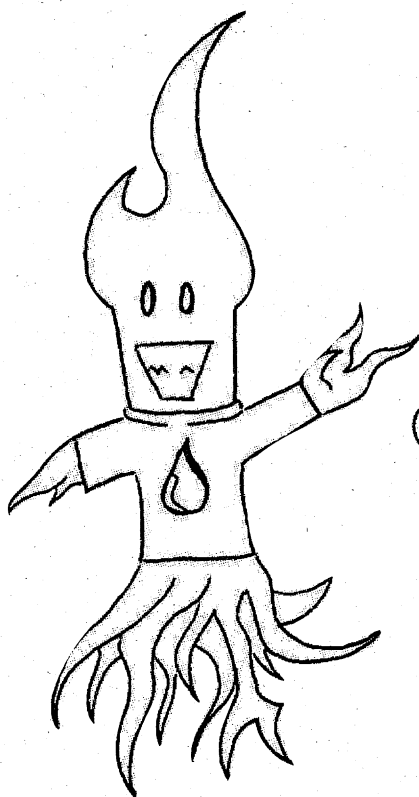




DISCRIMINATION IN CHILE



spaghetti dragon



## Point: The Lunar Eclipse Sucked

By Justin Meltzer

The lunar eclipse was crap. The mere fact that the "scientists" who predicted that this "phenomenon" would happen when it happened, and actually had to tell the world about it as well is the greatest insult to the American public. We are America for Christ's sake and the good lord Jesus Christ wouldn't want his chosen nation to follow in the ways of science. Because if there is one thing that is fact, it is that the Bible is fact and a science book is not the Bible.

Besides the obvious reasons for why this eclipse sucked, allow me to cover the rest. The entire thing took way too long. The next time I have to sit and watch a boring, slow moving, massive object, I'll just watch Stony Brook construction and renovation on campus.

The entire eclipse took a couple of hours and by the time it was over we were right back where we started with the same old moon we had before. If anything, the moon could have at least blown up or something. But no, instead it just had the shadow of the Earth cover the moon for a crappy suck-fest of disappointment.

Many friends and relatives were all involved in the promotion of this event. Personally, I blame Facebook. The social networking site did

it again, and some kid somewhere (I'm sure) made the group telling others to watch this "spectacular" event. Well, they had it half right; this event was a spectacle. The damned people at Facebook

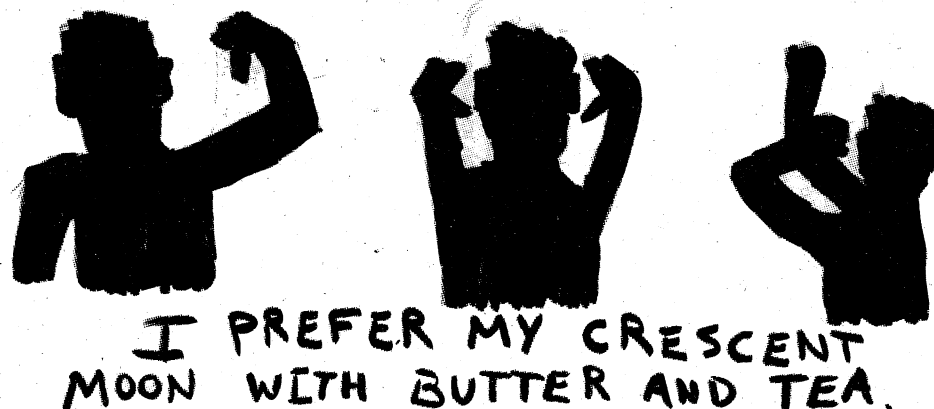
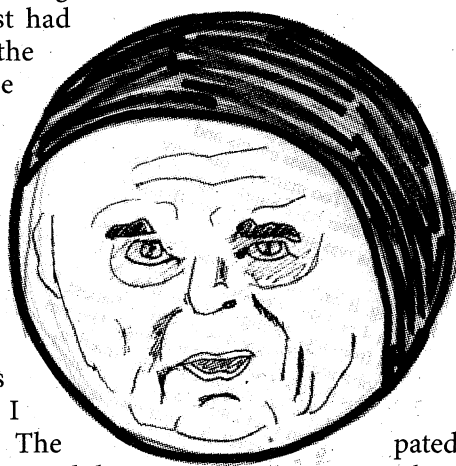
keep spamming innocent bystanders to join their pointless events and eventually something this harmful can get out... and it did! Too many people were affected by this tragic event and nothing like this should ever have happened again. The boredom inflicted on the people who participated in this was substantial,

the effects of which cannot

be reversed.

Furthermore, this eclipse was highly insulting. It isn't like this is the first eclipse the world has ever seen. This has happened at least four or five times before, maybe more. I mean seriously, what more can we expect to learn from these things that we don't already know? The earth is round, yeah I know. Columbus already discovered that about 400 years ago. The moon is made of cheese; that has been known for about ever. The sun revolves around the earth. Well, actually that is wrong, the sun revolves around America, which is better than earth for many reasons which I won't get into now.

Well there you have it. Never watch a lunar eclipse again, for your own safety.



## Counterpoint: The Lunar Eclipse Was Awesome

By Alex H. Nagler

The lunar eclipse was awesome. The fact that science can accurately predict these phenomena not only an exact date, but time as well, and that they've been able to do this for nearly a thousand years, is a great testament to the will of human achievement. Human beings are rational creatures, governed by the rules of logic and science, and always reaching to add to their limitless potential. Theories change, facts remain, but our trust in the marvelous spark of science and what it can do is breath taking. It's truly a testament to man's power.

So besides the obvious reasons for why this eclipse was awesome, allow me to cover the rest. Sadly, it was far too short, only lasting between 8pm and 1am. This brief window only gave us a limited opportunity to enjoy it with those we surrounded ourselves with and to let them know that we were thankful for their com-

pany. The moon, waxing and waning, has always been a source of human inspiration, serving as the muse to many a great artist, musician, poet, and scientist. Galileo saw it through his primitive telescope and marveled at what man and God could create. I will admit there are no pyrotechnics or special effects, but who needs those when you have a disappearing moon to marvel at? It certainly served as all the flash that ancients needed in the past.

The history of people being bamboozled by those with knowledge of lunar eclipses is a funny and fascinating one. Christopher Columbus successfully used it to save both himself and his crew from certain starvation in 1504. Having exhausted his food supply and favor with the local Haitians he and his crew were residing with, Columbus consulted an hourglass and an almanac, only to realize there was a lunar eclipse imminent that night. He called a council with the chiefs and told them that God was angry at how they had been

treating him, and as revenge, He was going to steal the moon from the sky. The Haitians scoffed, thinking no one could steal the moon, but, their laughter soon turned to fear as the full moon rose and began to disappear, turning blood red. Needless to say, they gave him anything and everything he wanted if he simply returned the moon. The eclipse ended and Columbus and his men had all the food they could want in Haiti from then on.

This time around, people knew that it wasn't a vengeful God, but a miracle of science, mathematics, and orbital rotation that made the moon turn red and disappear for a few hours. Facebook served as an amazing advertising service, alerting people to the time of the eclipse and how to properly watch it. There were many, many people who were alerted this way and it resulted in a chorus of people simply looking up, bonded in the simple fact that they were human and sharing this event together. Politics, wars, religious strife, relation-

ships, all come and go, things like this are eternal.

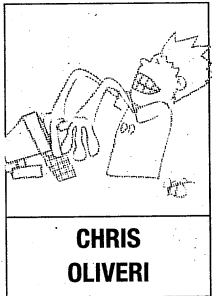
This eclipse will be the last one that we see on this continent until 2010, when we will all be two years older. Some of us won't be here anymore, some of us will. But come 2010, we'll all be looking up again, waiting to see the event that reminds us that we're all human, all surviving on this blue ball we call home, and, to quote the annotated version of Ford Prefect's "Hitchhikers Guide" article, we are mostly harmless.

As I stood there with my friends, watching the eclipse, I couldn't help but remark that we're all insignificant and that we should just be happy to have the time that we do. Who knows. We could get blown up tomorrow, or wake up a creature in our beds. Let's just be happy we're here, now.

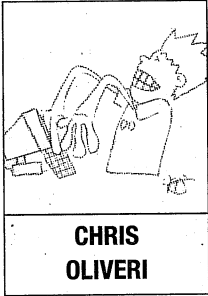
And that's why the lunar eclipse was awesome.

*Alex H. Nagler loves the Moon. 'Cause it is good to us.*

# Doppelganger Danger



CHRIS  
OLIVERI



CHRIS  
OLIVERI

The darkest recesses of narcissism often are concealed by a self-confident nature that is rarely broken. It is something we all possess to differing extents, or else we would have no goals for ourselves. But what if it came to the point where we feared nothing, no other person? Surely then we would compete against only our own selves. Like when running a marathon or even studying for an exam, even though we're often with other people we're really only competing against the abilities of our own person.

The word "Doppelgänger" is a German loanword which literally means "double-walker." They often provide advice and guidance - though it is of malicious intent.

In short, they're posers.

And posing is a problem that occurs

easily in the online community. All manner of hackers, stalkers and others of their ilk now have more access to the online networking site Facebook than ever before. No longer do you need to be a student with a valid e-mail to sign up. Even though the community remains effectively organized, what's to keep a malicious individual from tinkering

with your account than imitating you in the

process? It happened to me. A drawback of being even somewhat well

known is that there are a lot of wise-guys out there who might think of going into your

profile, changing things around, then creating a sister profile with your info. Their talents are endless. Even though people will be confused at first, they will figure out who you really are. The fact that they're getting into my "account" tab and are two steps away from deactivating my profile completely is, frankly, still quite scary.

The good side to having a Doppelgänger is the fact that somebody cares to impersonate you. It sounds naïve, especially with the multitude of dangers possible, but you must be pretty cool if there are people out there who are trying to play your part to the hilt if it's for no monetary gain. It's the subtle difference between mockery and accuracy, the difference between being an Elvis Presley and a Britney Spears.

Would they succeed in claiming me as an identity thief? Probably not. But remember folks, never

post anything truly personal, like important account numbers, online. Thankfully, I don't. They can fail in accusing you, but not before using something important of your own. Even AIM conversations can be hacked into and monitored. Maybe you can trust your friends but you never know who else is watching you as well. You can only hope they're on the right side of the law.

It is said that Doppelgängers lack shadows, reflections and conscience. Though initially a myth, today's technology allows them to be a reality - without ever needing a twin. They are out there and we'd best watch out.

# Where are all The Sex Clubs?

Picture  
Censored  
by  
USG

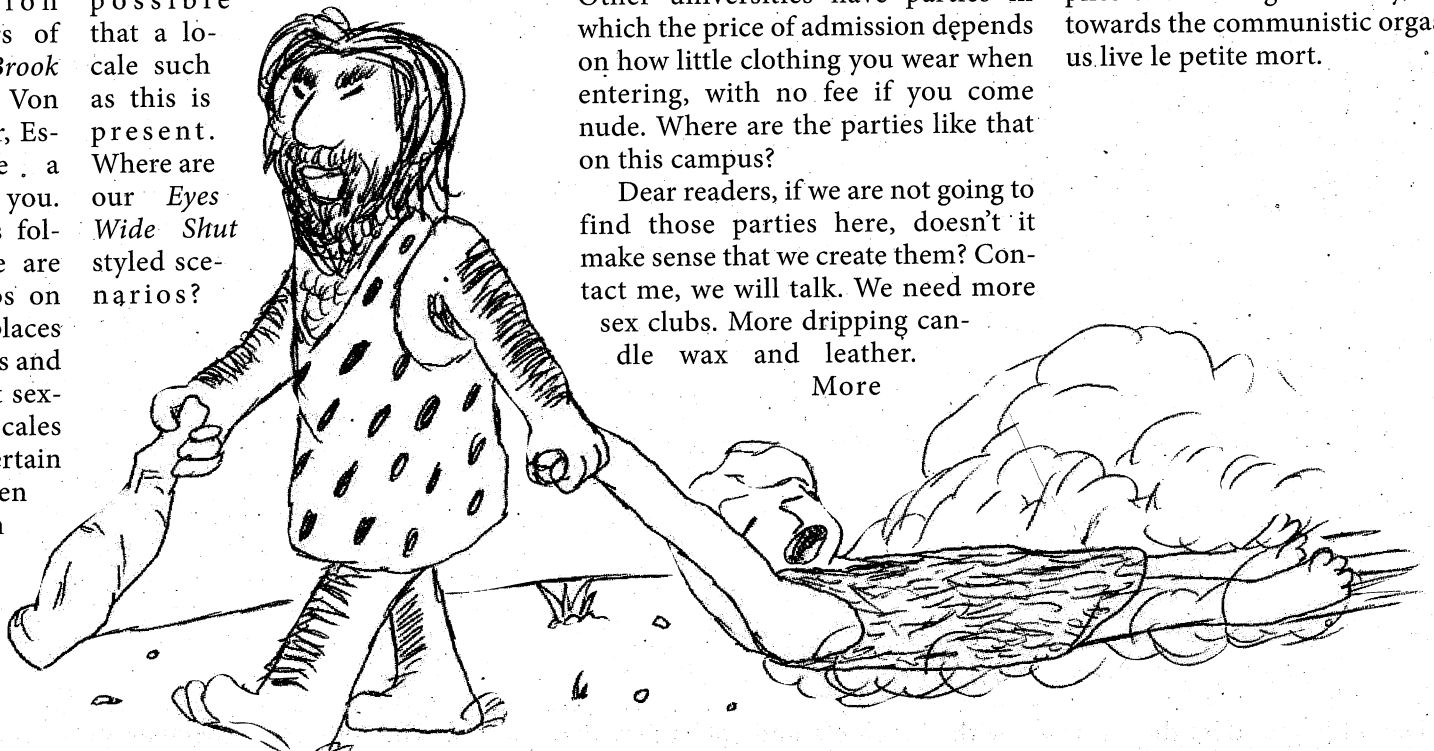
KARL VON  
LEMONFUCKER ESQ

Attention loyal readers of the *Stony Brook Press*! I, Karl Von Lemonfucker, Esquire, have a question for you. And it is as follows: Where are the sex clubs on

campus? Where are the hidden places where students go by code names and delight in their deepest, darkest sexual fantasies? Where are the locales that require you to knock in a certain way, speak a passphrase, then enter, don a mask, and begin making an act that cannot be considered love to a random person?

We are a large campus, Stony Brook, so it is certainly

possible that a locale such as this is present. Where are our *Eyes Wide Shut* styled scenarios?



Other universities have parties in which the price of admission depends on how little clothing you wear when entering, with no fee if you come nude. Where are the parties like that on this campus?

Dear readers, if we are not going to find those parties here, doesn't it make sense that we create them? Contact me, we will talk. We need more sex clubs. More dripping candle wax and leather.

More

piles of thrusting humanity, working towards the communistic orgasm. Let us live le petite mort.

# Fox and Friends Are Not So Friendly

## The Firing of Montel Williams

By Taurean Dyer

If you haven't heard, let me be the first to tell you: Montel Williams' talk show was cancelled by CBS on January 28. To most of us who don't watch his show, this is not really a big deal. Hell, I didn't even watch his show. So why am I spending my time telling you this? It was *why* he got fired. Was it ratings? No, Montel's show was broadcast to five other major countries besides our own. Besides, only six years ago he got his *second* set of nominations for "Outstanding Talk Show Host" and "Outstanding Talk Show" from the Daytime Emmy Awards. So what got Montel Williams fired from a hit show when he was doing so well? The cold hard truth and an angry Fox.

Since January 4, you could not turn on the TV without hearing something about Heath Ledger's tragic death. On that day, when I read about it in an AP press article on MSN, even I was stunned—especially because I was looking forward to seeing his sadistic portrayal of the Joker in the next Batman movie. I shared the news with people who I knew who were fans of his work. However, on the fifth, other than curiosity about if they figured out the exact cause of death, it had fading impact on my life, as sad as it was, and I can only assume that it had on a large portion of the public and press, as there were more important things to report about...or so I thought. Shockingly, the next week, the following weeks, even yesterday, it made headline news. It became so obtrusive that it pushed me from caring to the verge of callousness. The highly suspect assassination and the flip-flopping official cause of death by the medical examiner of ex-Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto just after her return from exile received *worlds* less press than poor Heath. Yet another thing was absent from the

news—the mortality figures from Iraq.

As a 22-year veteran, the highly decorated Naval Lieutenant Commander Montel Williams was sickened by this void in coverage of the lost lives of those whom our votes sent overseas in what has become a very unpopular war. What sickened him more was that press coverage was so bad that he couldn't even find the name of the latest victim, who I believe happened to be Staff Sgt. Robert J. Wilson, 28 of Boynton Beach, Florida, killed by an IED during a dismounted patrol, nor would he have known that Staff Sgt Wilson had died if he didn't conduct special research. Therefore, when he was asked to appear on Fox News' *Fox and*

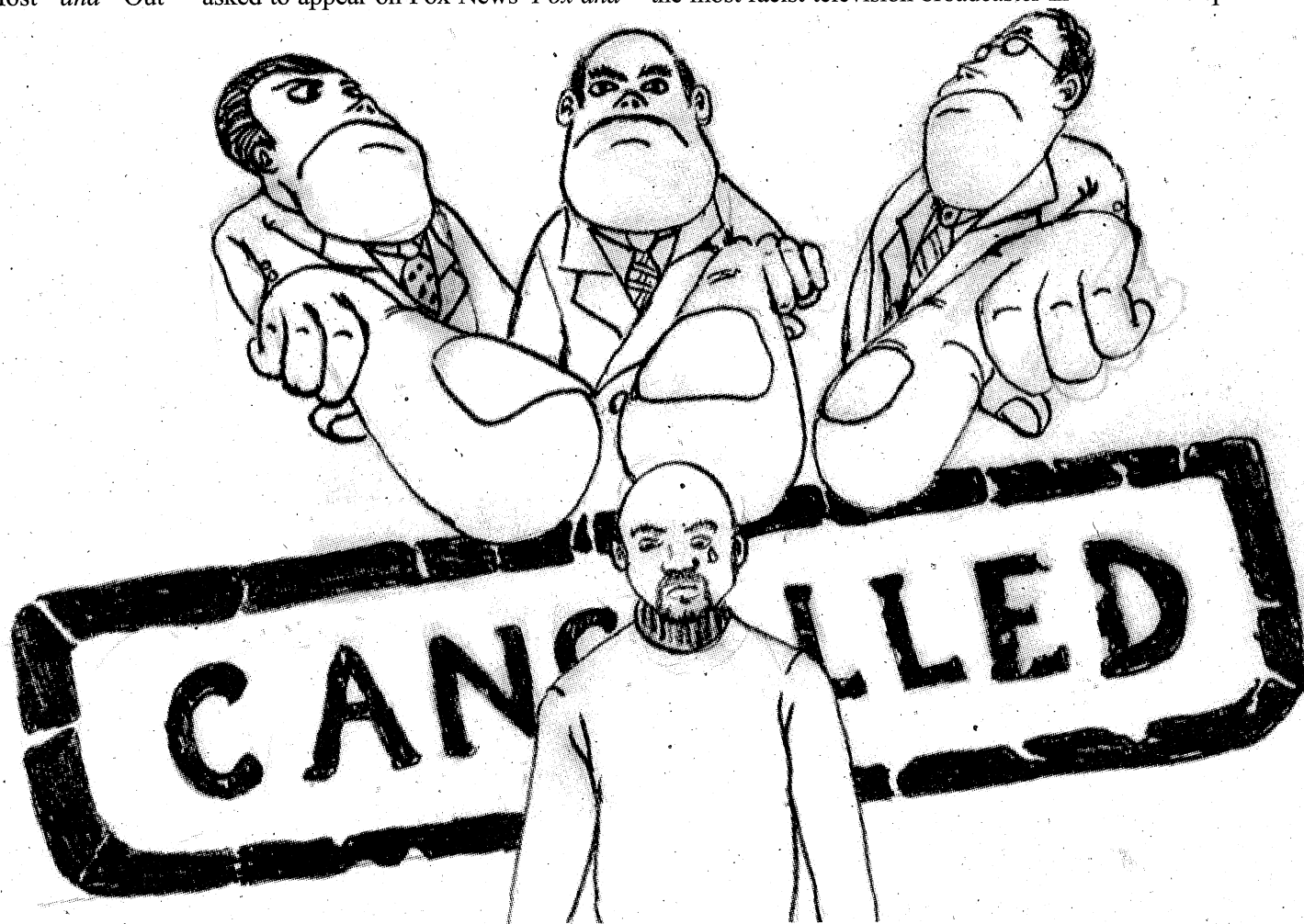
sation back to Heath Ledger. When Fox came back from commercial break, Montel was nowhere to be found and did not return to the show. This act of support and honor for the fallen was Montel's crime.

Fox sought revenge on Mr. Williams by deciding not to renew the broadcast for the 2008-2009 season of his show. Due to this, and possibly other, causes CBS TV Distribution decided, after seventeen years of successful and award winning programming, to terminate his show, thus effectively firing Montel Williams.

It is no secret that Fox is considered the most racist television broadcaster in

time Gibson has been caught saying extremely racist things, and minority groups have called out for his termination. May 2006, on his show, he told white people to have more babies in order to combat the immigration of Hispanics and maintain majority. He, currently, still has a job. However, while racism may have a factor in this counter attack by Fox, the message that Mr. Williams brought on air should have been praised and his implied recommendations followed, *not* attacked and stifled, an attack followed by stiff repercussions for him—for doing the right thing.

In the spirit of doing the right thing, and given the fact that it is black history month and we brothers and sisters should stand united, I will try to finish, to the best of my ability, what Montel Williams started. No, I will not protest, nor will I argue, as that was not the goal of his mission. I will inform. I will cut and paste the 56 names from [http://www.icasualties.org/oif/BY\\_DOD.aspx](http://www.icasualties.org/oif/BY_DOD.aspx), the official casualty list from the government, so that at least the people at Stony Brook will know who has perished in Iraq since Jan-



*Friends* live broadcast covering Heath Ledger's death, he made it a point to talk about this fact and chastise the media for playing the ratings game versus playing the morality/ethics game.

I invite you to watch the video of this broadcast, so that you will appreciate and understand how disgusting this situation is. Just type "Montel Williams Video" (don't type in the quotes) in a Google search box and it should appear as the third down the list.

Please notice him, all through the clip, respectfully trying to make such a noble and valid point, only once did the host or guests not try to steer the conver-

the US. You don't have to believe me, just watch it and see for yourself. That, or, you can Google "Fox racism" and see a few examples where Fox has repeatedly insulted and mocked, or unjustly perpetuated stereotypes of, a wide range of minority groups. Here's one lovely example of Fox fairness that is on topic: White Fox News anchor John Gibson mocked Heath Ledger's death openly on the air, calling him a "weirdo", saying that he had a "serious drug problem", and, referring to Ledger's line in *Brokeback Mountain*, "I wish I knew how to quit you," jeered "Well he found out how to quit you." Worse, this isn't the first

January 1. If you want to know more about these brave men and women who gave their lives serving their country—our country—whose sacrifice was not recognized, remembered or honored by the majority or the media (which continually chooses to air the accidental death of a celebrated actor over a month after it occurred) type in the above html link. Their names will be mentioned below, and if there is no known name when I copied this information, I will honor those nameless fallen with a position on the list. It is the least that I can do.

02/24/08	NAME NOT RELEASED YET	Pending	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Baghdad
02/24/08	NAME NOT RELEASED YET	Pending	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
02/21/08	NAME NOT RELEASED YET	Pending	Non-hostile - illness	Baghdad
02/21/08	NAME NOT RELEASED YET	Pending	Hostile - hostile fire	Anbar Province
02/20/08	Raudenbush, Nathan R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Busayefi
02/20/08	Mackey, Bryant W.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - RPG attack	Mosul
02/20/08	Alvarez, Conrad	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
02/20/08	Bitton, Albert	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
02/20/08	Matlock, Jr., Micheal B.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
02/17/08	Runyan, Luke S.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Diyala Province
02/17/08	Groepper, Chad D.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Diyala Province
02/14/08	Washington, Javares J.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile - vehicle accident	Kuwait City (Camp Buehring)
02/10/08	Spates, Corey E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Diyala Province
02/08/08	Sweet, Jack T.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - explosion	Jalawlah
02/08/08	Manibog, Michael T.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Taji
02/08/08	Martin, Timothy P.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Taji
02/08/08	Whisenhunt, Jerald A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Taji
02/08/08	Willett, Gary D.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Taji
02/07/08	Souffront, Luis A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Iraq
02/06/08	Skelton, Bradley J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad (western part)
02/05/08	Van Orman, Timothy R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Muqdadiyah (died in Balad)
02/05/08	Osmolski, John C.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Muqdadiyah (died in Balad)
02/05/08	Baez, Miguel A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Muqdadiyah (died in Balad)
02/05/08	Alicearivera, Rafael	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile - drowning	Tallil
02/04/08	West, Christopher J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Muqdadiyah (Died in Balad)
02/04/08	Hardy, Nathan H.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Not reported yet
02/04/08	Koch, Michael E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Not reported yet
02/02/08	Barrett, Chad A.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile	Mosul
01/31/08	Straughter, Matthew F.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - RPG attack	Baghdad
01/31/08	Schultz, David E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - indirect fire	Scania
01/31/08	Norman, Michael A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
01/28/08	Craig, James E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/28/08	Jeffries, Gary W.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/28/08	Marshall, Evan A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/28/08	Meyer, Brandon A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/28/08	Young, Joshua A. R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/27/08	Miller, Mikeal W.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda
01/27/08	Rogers, Alan G.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad (northeastern part)
01/26/08	Wilson, Robert J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad
01/25/08	Crookston, Duncan Charles	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Brooke Army Med Center, TX
01/25/08	Birkman, Tracy Renee	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile - injury	Owaset
01/22/08	Sturdivant, Michael R.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile - vehicle accident	Kirkuk
01/19/08	Whiting, Justin R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Mosul
01/19/08	Gluff, James M.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire	Al Anbar Province
01/19/08	Burress, Richard B.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Arab Jabour
01/19/08	Schoolcraft III, Jon M.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Taji
01/16/08	Kimme, Danny L.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire, grenade	Balad
01/16/08	Sharrett II, David H.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire, grenade	Balad
01/16/08	Sigsbee, John P.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire, grenade	Balad (died in Pallouata)
01/12/08	Lloyd, Keith E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED	Tall Afar
01/11/08	Christensen Jr., Curtis A.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile	Al Anbar Province
01/09/08	Davis, Todd E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	Gaul, Sean M.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	Sanders, Christopher A.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	Pionk, Matthew I.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	Dozier, Jonathan Kilian	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	McBride, Zachary W.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack (house borne)	Sinsil
01/09/08	Hart, David J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Samarra (died in Balad)
01/09/08	Merlo, Ivan E.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Samarra
01/09/08	Pannier, Phillip J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Samarra
01/07/08	Hanson, Timothy R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Salman Pak
01/06/08	Gudridge, James D.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Baghdad (southern part)
01/05/08	Lemke, Jason F.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Ibrahim Al Adham
01/04/08	Brown, Menelek M.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile - drowning	Arabian Gulf
01/03/08	Olmsted, Andrew J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Sadiyah
01/03/08	Casey, Thomas J.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - small arms fire	Sadiyah
01/02/08	Maseth, Ryan D.	DoD Confirmation	Non-hostile	Baghdad
01/02/08	Anderson, Joshua R.	DoD Confirmation	Hostile - hostile fire - IED attack	Kamasia

# An Apology

By Cindy Liu

As I fondly reminisce about the countless mistakes I made last semester, I had an epiphany - "Yes, twenty thousand people can and will kick my ass for the things I said, wrote and thought," and these days I feel this awful compulsion to apologize to everyone I see on campus. Nobody will have the slightest idea who I am, but I'll smother them with apologies.

First of all, I'd like to offer my profoundest apologies to the entire overpopulated amount of Asians at Stony Brook University whom I have deeply offended with previous articles, such as the first paragraph of "Stony Brook? More like Phoney Brook!" and the entirety of "Lost in Translation". I had previously said that this place is so Asian. It is still unbearably, undeniably Asian, and I'm sorry for that. I'm also sorry that you still eat candy koalas and Chapaghetti and chocolate-covered sticks, because all that stuff's pretty freaking weird-looking.

Sorry to my Secret Asian-Hating

Admirer. The girl you love is no longer.

Ironically, this semester I am taking a freshman seminar called Misunderstanding China. It involves sitting in a hidden dungeon in the Melville Library watching old Hollywood movies starring aesthetically-contrived white people who act like farmers and speak like gay retarded people. Needless to say, whenever I sit there I want to dump acid on my face.

I'm sorry that pineapple Fanta still tastes like diarrhea.

And I know that this never got out into the open, otherwise I wouldn't be alive here today, but I'm sorry for proposing an opinion piece in which maybe global warming and the climate crisis could be solved through the genocide and enslavement of an entire race of people (let's not name names, now). I pictured them feverishly pedaling stationary bikes and crunching numbers and getting flogged every time someone flicks on the light switch. After finding that the polar bears were still drowning to death up in the Arctic, I had a sudden panic attack and thought, oh my god, the polar

bears? The polar bears are dying? What are we going to do without them? They have made such great contributions to our society! They're our Coca-Cola mascots, for godssake. We can't let them disappear! Polar bears! Coca-cola! Shit!

And then I went to get a tan as another furry friend up north pawed

*A big sorry to all those Chemistry majors out there...How could I be so ignorant in thinking their geek love was limited to isotopes? I'm sorry, dorks!*

at the melting ice caps and took his last gasp of breath as he sank under the water. Sorry buddy, we'll save the world later, it's my time to shine!

A big sorry to all those Chemistry majors out there whom I shallowly depicted as isotope-loving

squares. They love ionic bonds, too. And mole to mass ratio. How could I be so ignorant in thinking their geek-love was limited to isotopes? I'm sorry, dorks!

A thousand apologies to *The Press* (yes, you, hi guys!) for submitting two articles and then freaking out and then disappearing for three months. During this disappearance I accomplished and learned a lot. For example, I learned what happens when I stand in the hallway in the basement of the Union and a lady invites me into *The Asian-American E-Zine* office and there's no time to explain that I wrote one nasty article contrary to their interests. Needless to say again, it was a long, ironic story.

With that said, sorry to *The Asian-American E-Zine*. Embracing my roots will just have to wait.

So, yes, as one can see, I am very sorry to everyone, and even sorrier to see that nothing on this campus is any different from the way I saw it last semester.

# Inequities and Ineptitude: The Lockdown

By John "Caboose" O'Dell

An assailant was reported to have brandished a handgun in the Student Activities Center on February 20, 2008 at around 2:00 PM, as it is probably now well known amongst most campus denizens and faculty. According to reports by students and authorities, the man was an African-American male around 25-years-old, wearing a black coat and a black wool cap. The man apparently attempted to pay for a slice of pizza and fries at the SAC registers, but only had enough money for the latter. After making an effort to receive both for the same price, the man was approached by security. It was then that he revealed a handgun, and fled with the slice towards Harriman Hall. Of course, not everyone knew this at the time of the occurrence.

This brings me to the heart of the story: who was privy to timely information regarding this situation? To some it may be a surprise, but Stony Brook students received notice before the faculty. According to Paula Bardales, she first received an initial voice message at 2:05

PM from the phone alert system. One has to register to receive both emergency text and voice alerts from campus police—so, in this case, some managed to obtain the first snippets of information prior to others.

This became a problem, as faculty members were forced to depend on nearby students for updates. On the fourth floor of the Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) building, those students who were about to leave for the 2:10 PM recess were jarred by the news that the building was on "Lockdown". Apparently, the generally accepted definition of this on campus is "Being able to exit a building freely, but being forbidden from entering it freely". I was able to experience this firsthand, as the lecture room I was in at the time was locked from within to prevent entry. It was not until around 3:10 that the professor permitted those who wished to exit to do so—but with caution. There remains one problem with this: the perpetrator was not caught.

Between the initial notification of a classmate of mine, at 2:05 PM, and my subsequent exit at 3:10 PM, the few dozen students in my classroom were on the edge of their seats. I cannot ever

remember seeing so many people using their cell phones simultaneously before, attempting to contact those who may have been able to provide some information as to what really happened. All the while, rumors flooded about the room. One rumor suggested that the perpetrator was being detained in the basement of Harriman Hall. After making a personal call to a connection on the scene in Harriman at 2:30 PM, I discovered this to be false.

After discussing the situation amongst one another in the classroom, we came to a general consensus that we were left wanting in the knowledge of how to react to this situation. What was the correct procedure to follow in the event of an emergency like this? How long should we wait until it would be safe to exit the building? Most importantly, where were the people supposedly "locking down" the doors? From what I could see, there was absolutely no enforcement of this lock down. There were no police at the doors of SBS when I exited the building, when it was still supposedly "locked down". Nor was there any at Harriman Hall, the building that seemed the focus of much of the report regarding the assailant.

Another facet, of the notification of students, which disturbed me, was the repetition of messages. Essentially, the text and voice messages both included the same information. Also, these same messages were repeatedly sent to students without the inclusion of any updates. Students who remained in the room were left wondering if they were going to be permitted to miss an exam, or if they should leave to take it. Catherine Marrone, a lecturer in the Sociology Department, mentioned that this was the first time she had experienced an emergency like this. Following the incidents in Virginia Tech and Illinois, one is left to wonder exactly why there wasn't a greater level of preparation for a "lock down"?

There was also a disparity between the methods with which information was delivered. It was not until 3:00 PM that the Stony Brook website was updated with the same information that was delivered via the phone notification system. Apparently, many seemed to feel as Marrone did regarding the whole debacle—a feeling she expressed with the simple statement, "What a flawed system."

# The Future of America

By Jon Pu

A serious article? In *The Press*? But where else could I go to get this published? Surely not *The Statesman*.

Seriously though, if you didn't previously care about politics, you should. This coming November will decide, for perhaps eight years, how fucked-up your life will be. Yes, I'm talking about the clusterfuck known as the presidential election. On the right, you've got good ol' Mac Attack who's knocked out our favorite Mormon for the Republican nomination. (Shut up, I know he's not officially the nominee, but he's going to be, so suck on it.) Then you've got the half-black Obama and the half-woman Clinton still battling for the official nod from the Democrats. To say the least, it's going to be a rough race whoever ends up in front.

What I'm here to point out, though, which is more obvious than not, is that the future of America is going to depend on bipartisanship. You heard me: working together. I

know the last time most of you did anything together was sharing your toys in the first grade, but history tends to repeat itself. Just don't wet yourself over the idea of Democrats and Republicans working in tandem.

*...There are going to be liberals in the American political scene...[and] it's about time the conservatives started trying to work with them...*

Here's the deal: both McCain and Obama are willing to reach across the aisle to quell some of the hatred between the two major parties and perhaps unite Washington. Hillary, on the other hand, is still pissed at Bill and is simply propagating her anger at the Republicans. Not sure why, but nothing that comes out her of mouth makes much sense, anyway.

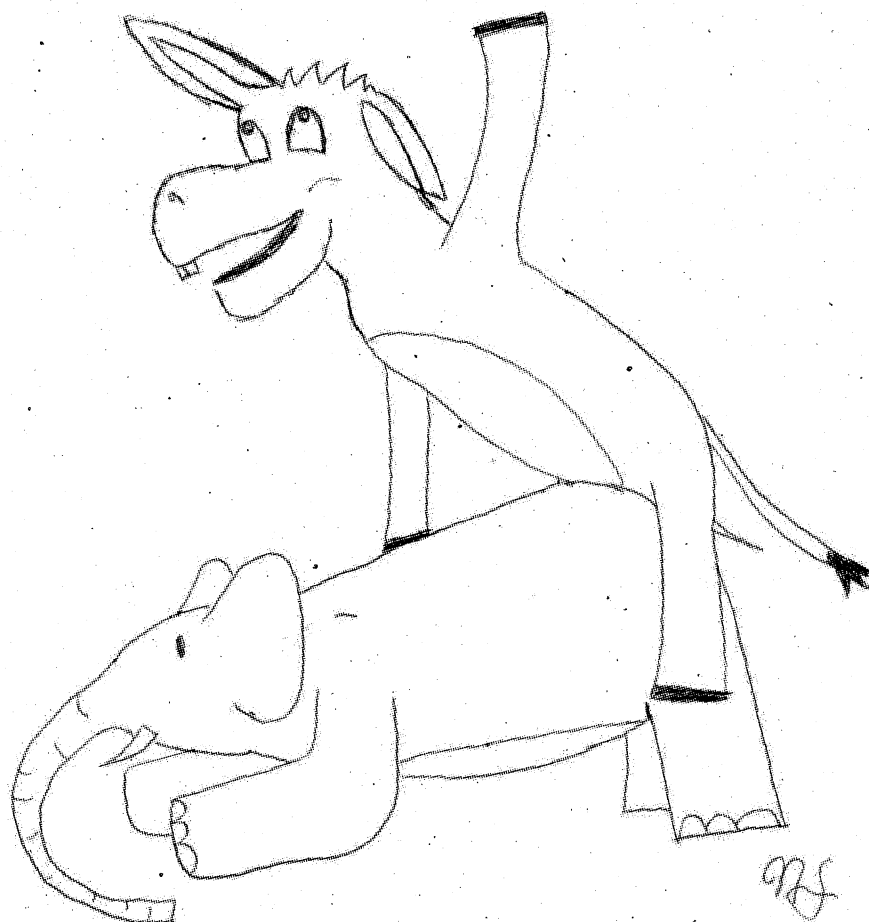
Two out of three candidates are for

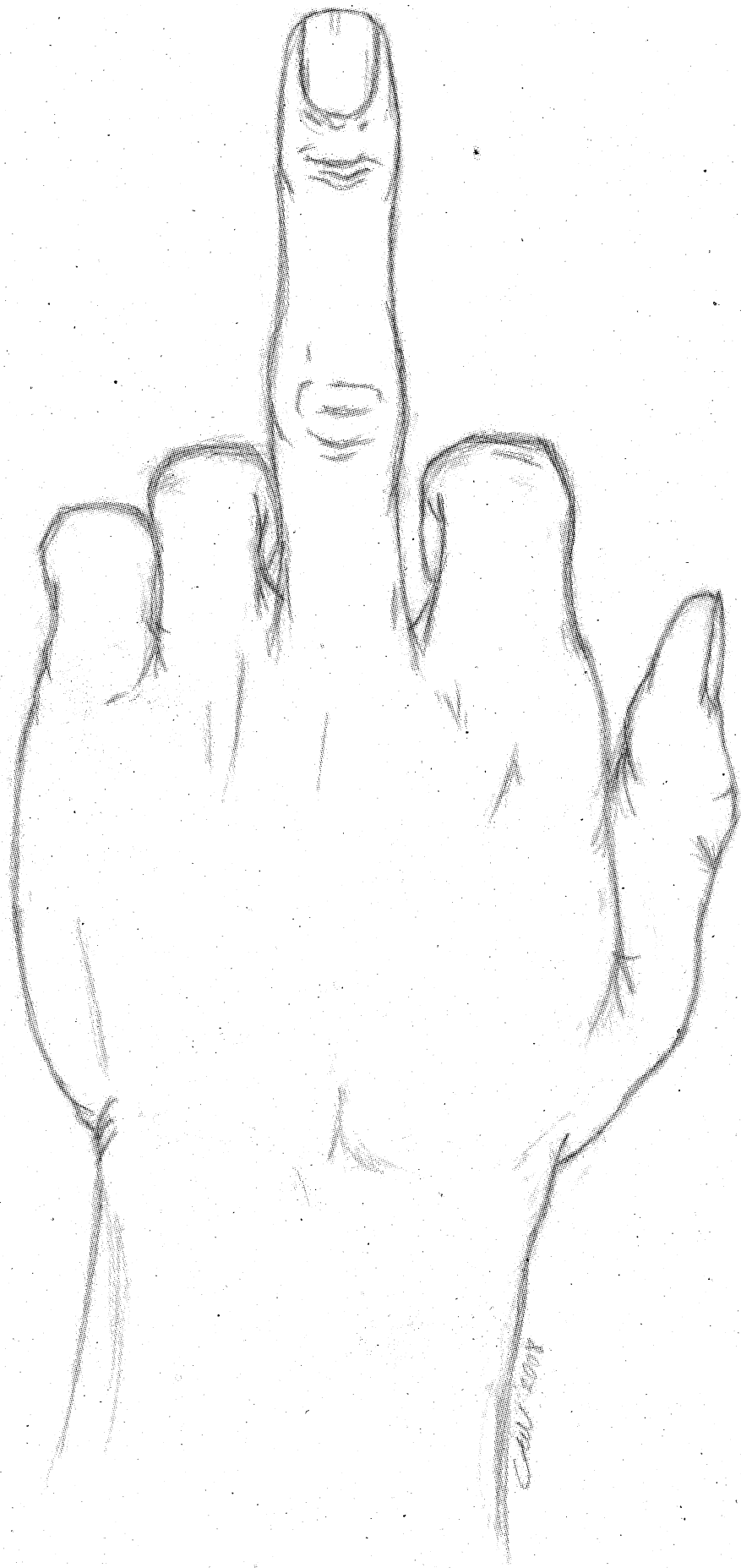
bipartisanship. This should be some indicator as to where America stands these days. Yes, divided. And as the wise Abraham Lincoln once said, "A house divided cannot stand." Seeing as the man freed the slaves, I think he deserves some credit, and we should at least take those words to heart. As much as I'd personally (being a registered Republican) love to see the White House remain red, a conservative-dominated Congress, and a few more Republicans in the Supreme Court, I'm acknowledging an "inconvenient truth." Not global warming, you assholes. Democrats are here to stay, and they're coming back pretty strong. Maybe Clinton will win a few key victories in two weeks and eventually sever the Democratic Party in two, but that's unlikely. And if that doesn't happen, there are going to be liberals in the American political scene. Since we can't get rid of them, it's about damn time the conservatives started trying to work with them because let's face it: we're in a hell of a situation in Iraq. There's a time bomb ticking in the US known as a recession, and God knows when it'll go off. And with that

logic, we should really ask him so we can know, too. And yes, God is a he.

Conversely, of course, I want to hear less bitching from angry Democrats. I realize you hate me because I don't subscribe to global warming, I support a flat tax, I'm a fan of an offensive war against terror, and that I eat babies. Actually, I don't, and it's merely a myth that we Republicans eat babies. Abortion kills babies, though—chew on that for a bit. I realize that I may not agree on many things with liberals, but I'm sure both sides of the political spectrum here in the United States do want to help the country, and true patriots, like Mitt Romney, are willing to cede sometimes in order for the nation, as a whole, to achieve. It's not about being blue or red these days, an elephant or an ass; it's about America being in the biggest shithole since the Articles of Confederation and the necessity to band together or suffer the dire consequences. Think about it. And if you're still unwilling to even consider the idea of bipartisanship after this article, you can go suck on Hillary's tit. Yum.

YEEEE-HAWWW





Love,  
*The SB Press*