

The Stony Brook

PRESS

The Community News and Features Paper

VOL. XXVIII, ISSUE 5

*"IT'S NOT TERRORISM... OK IT IS,
BUT IT'S FUN TERRORISM"*

NOVEMBER 13, 2006

Are vans a sufficient substitute for broken buses?

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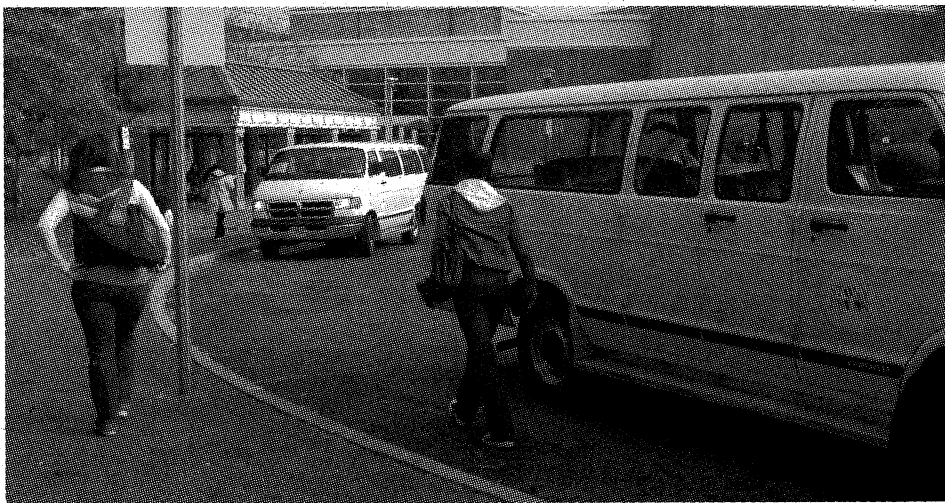


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Why Are Vans Substituting Broken-Down Buses?



Jowy Romano

Two vans in the SAC loop

By Jowy Romano

Stony Brook is a big place. Some of us who trek around campus everyday have no problem walking everywhere; others ride their bikes or use cars. The rest of us rely on the campus bus system to get around.

If you have taken advantage of the campus buses within the past month or so, you may have had a van or a paratransit bus pick you up instead of a full-size bus. This normally isn't a problem except when the vans, because of their much smaller size, fill up and start skipping stops.

As an especially busy resident of the West Apartments, known as being some of the furthest dorms from the main campus, I rely on the Inner Loop bus to get me where I am going on time. This past Wednesday the 8th, like most other days, I decided to take the Inner Loop on to campus. I left my room at 12:30 PM to get to the 1:00 Press meeting. As I walked out of my room I heard what I thought was the bus, so I ran to the third West Apartment bus stop through pouring rain to catch it. Soaking wet, I made it in time to see a van pass by all the people waiting at the bus stop. By the time the next bus came and

dropped me off in front of the union it was past 1:00.

The Inner Loop bus is supposed to come every ten minutes and I couldn't get where I was going on time even though I left a whole half hour to get there. On a number of other occasions, similar problems with the bus occurred when I was on my way to class. Many professors and TAs take points off your grade for lateness. So there is potential for students to get lower grades as a result of the inadequacies of the bus services.

So why are they substituting the buses with vans? James O'Connor, Director of Transportation and Parking Operations had this to say, "In the event of a bus breaking down, there are other buses utilized in place of the said broken-down bus. Additionally, in times of lower demand, the Department also utilizes shuttles on Campus Bus Service routes."

O'Connor's statement is obviously not entirely true because the photo with this article clearly show two 12-passenger vans waiting at the SAC loop. This photo was taken on Thursday, November 2nd at around 11:30 AM. If 11:30 AM on a Thursday during the fall semester is not a peak time, then what is?

Some of the bus drivers refused to comment on the matter. One, however, was

willing to provide some insight on the situation. Ben, one of the Inner Loop drivers, said, "[The] problem is that most of these buses are past their prime." As a result, they break down frequently. When asked if he thinks the problems will start becoming more frequent as winter comes, Ben said, "Unfortunately, [they] probably will."

Full time students pay \$65 every semester towards a Transportation Fee. Do you, our readers, think it is being spent wisely? The current situation seems to be one of insurmountable frustration. However, there are a number of ways you can complain about the bus service. Transportation Services has a customer feedback form on their website at <http://www.sunysb.edu/transportation/>. If you prefer to speak to someone directly try calling the Transportation Services office at (631) 632-2886.

When asked if there is anything students can do to find out about bus delays or other problems, O'Connor said, "Students are urged to call 631-632-FIND for up to date Campus Bus Service information. Moving forward, our Department has a few innovative ideas in order to get the message out to riders regarding Campus Bus Service in a live, real-time fashion."

NYPIRG Rocks the Vote with "Political Party"

By Alex H. Nagler

You say you want a revolution? Alright, it ain't easy. And throwing parties for said revolutions is a bitch. This Monday, NYPIRG held a "Political Party" in an effort to Rock the Vote, or as was obvious from the music choice, Singer/Songwriter the Vote. Over half a dozen bands and singers showed up to lend their support to getting the students of Stony Brook out to the polls for the Midterm Elections the next day.

NYPIRG, the organization responsible for helping students maintain their rights and keep tuition down, is also active in registering and mobilizing students to exercise their democratic right of voting. Earlier this fall, they dorm stormed and registered close to thirteen hundred students to vote, many singing up for the first time. They also reregistered many students to vote on campus, including this native Brooklynite. As election time approached, they manned the phone bank, calling students with the numbers they provided (and confusing many parents who were left wondering why their child's school was calling them to inform them about election day), reminding them to vote.

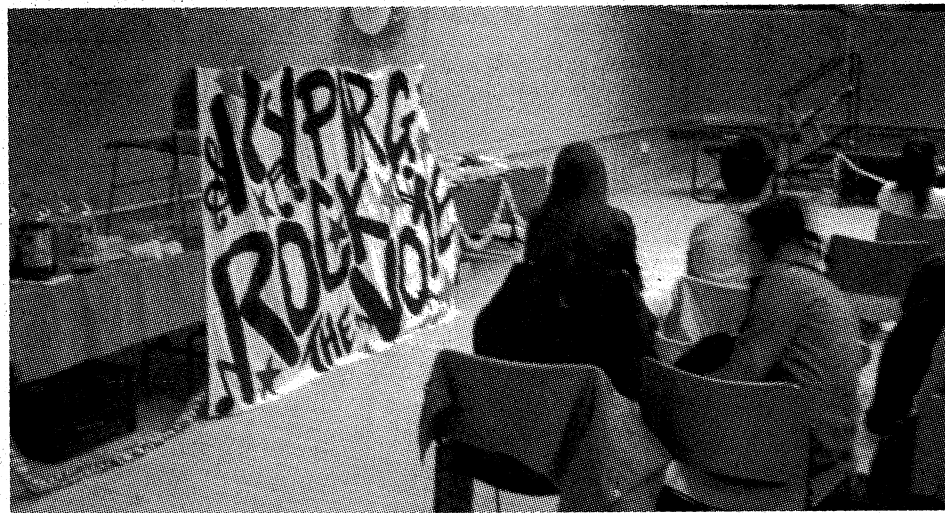
The event was held in SAC Ballroom B, which was transformed directly after

the event into the polling place for Election Day. Many of the sixty some-odd students who came were motivated by the promise of free food, in which NYPIRG did not disappoint. The event was catered by Subway and provided a welcome relief for those students growing tired of the food provided by the SAC.

Acoustic was the word of the evening (save for two poets, the step team, and the Pep Band) as all acts performed various acoustic numbers, both original and covers. Many Stony Brook students had their chance to shine, showing off their musical abilities and putting out the request for a bass player who could sing. In an unusual turn of events, this author turned down a chance to sing unaccompanied as he was merely working the event. The Pep Band, who served as a much-needed energy booster after an evening of downtempo acoustic numbers, closed the event.

The more serious and nonmusical side of the evening was punctuated with speeches about the importance of voting and requests for membership by clubs such as the Social Justice Alliance and many of their projects, such as their "Kick Out Coke" project. Also present were the Speedcubers, who managed to solve one of those damned Rubik's Cubes in under a minute, when it takes other people three months to get a side down.

When asked to comment on the event,



Dan Woullin

NYPIRG rockin' the vote

Scott Zotto, the On Campus NYPIRG representative had this to say: "This was an event designed by students, starring students to benefit students, and I couldn't be prouder."

All in all, NYPIRG's efforts were shown to be a success as approximately 560 students showed up to the polls to cast their votes in the 2006 Midterm Midtacular. Among the politicians who showed up on campus, Brooke Ellison came by to encourage students to vote. Sadly, the push to get people to vote did not apply to her as she lost in her challenge to take the Second Seat of the New York State Senate. NYPIRG was there with information on all candidates to help

last minute undecided voters come up with who to vote for. They also helped monitor the election, making sure that everyone who wanted to vote could and helping those who were having difficulties finding their polling place find it.

NYPIRG deserves a hand for making this one of the largest non-presidential election turnouts the University has seen in a very long time, beating 2005 by over 300 voters. It was truly a Midterm Midtacular here at Stony Brook University, and NYPIRG deserves a good deal of credit for making that happen. Just goes to show you what a desire for change, some good music, and Subway can do.

PASS Passed! Stony Brook Students Have One Less Excuse to do Badly in Class

By Scott E. Silsbe

It's now two months into the fall semester, and I'm sure that by now many of you are feeling like you're in over your heads in at least one or two classes. Unfortunately, many students find teaching assistants unhelpful and professors unapproachable. Given the large introductory classes at Stony Brook, it can be especially hard for freshman and others to get the help they need to do well in class. For those seeking some sort of one-on-one assistance, there is now an answer.

The USG Senate recently passed a landmark bill to help students who are struggling and would like assistance from their peers. The Providing Academic Support to Students Act, or PASS for short, will provide tutors for Stony Brook students. These tutors will themselves be recruited from the undergraduate student body. Before the passage of this bill, there was no comprehensive tutoring program in existence at Stony Brook. Besides trying to find and pay an individual tutor through personal ads, the other main option for students on campus seeking one-on-one help was going to the Residential Tutoring Centers run by Campus Residences. These centers, however, prove obviously unhelpful to the commuter population at Stony Brook, which makes up roughly half of the student body.

With PASS's passage, any student who finds that he or she is in need of academic support will be able to be quickly and easily matched with another Stony Brook student for tutoring.

PASS calls for the employment of fifteen tutors in the fall semester, rising to thirty in the spring. These individuals will be paid \$15.00 an hour by the USG (roughly \$20,000 has been allocated for the program as of November 3rd). There will be no charge to students who utilize the program. Students will work one-on-one with tutors, though two-on-one sessions may also occur if the program proves popular. To ensure the highest quality possible, the bill calls for prospective tutors to be interviewed and trained prior to employment; also, prospective tutors must have achieved an A- in the subject that they wish to teach. Additionally, students will be asked to fill out an evaluation form after each session to provide feedback on tutor performance. As a final check on potential tutor incompetence, sessions will be subject to "performance reviews" by a member of the PASS Board of Directors, which is currently populated by Amy Wisnoski, Mary Howley, Chinelo Onochie and Eunice Ro.

It should come as no surprise that mathe-

matics and the natural sciences have been found to be the subjects where students are in most dire need of tutoring. Thus, ten of the fifteen initial tutors will be teaching these subjects. There will be three available for the social sciences and one for business and engineering, respectively. Should it be found that more tutors are needed in one area and less in another, the bill has provisions for a swift change in the proportions, to be handled by the Senate.

The program itself is being implemented and run by the newly formed Academic Planning Committee; this new USG body is headed by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Chinelo Onochie. In addition to managing PASS, the APC will be in charge of conceiving and running academic events such as participatory student contests, as well as bringing public speakers to campus.

PASS, which was passed into law a couple of weeks ago, is now in the first stages of implementation. Amy Wisnoski happily reported that the APC has been inundated with applications from prospective tutors, as well as with students seeking to make use of the new program. If everything goes as planned, tutoring will begin by the middle of November.

PASS seems to be proving popular even before its full implementation. However, Wisnoski noted during my interview with her that there had indeed been some contention leading up to the bill's passage. The main issue seems to have been the amount of money being allocated for an as-yet-untested program. Senator Nathan Shapiro, who abstained from voting, expressed some apprehension about the size of the bill as it was passed. He expressed that a smaller program, roughly half the size of the bill that was passed, could have been implemented instead to test the waters; this way, in the event that the program was not wholly successful, fewer USG resources would be committed. Nonetheless, PASS enjoys broad support in the USG and was passed by the Senate unanimously.

PASS was conceived and written by Senator Amy Wisnoski. She sees the program as one of the USG's greatest achievements; she noted that the bill is "something for this administration to leave behind to future Stony Brook students." She went on to say, "We saw a problem that needed a solution, and we didn't sit back and let another department take care of it; we solved it! It's a meaningful change and the USG did it, not me, not the Senate; all of us are working to make it happen. And that makes me proud to be a part of USG." Sing it, sister!

Recent Sex Assaults "Under Investigation"

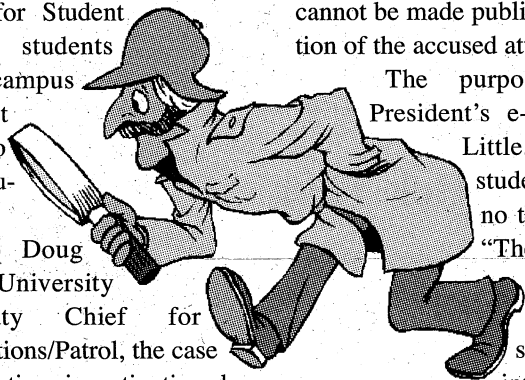
By Alex Walsh

At the end of October, a pair of female students who were visiting two men in their residence halls reported that the men had sexually harassed them. An e-mail sent shortly afterward by Peter Baigent, Vice President for Student Affairs, to all students assured the campus community that there was no threat to other students.

According to Doug Little, the University Police's Deputy Chief for Community Relations/Patrol, the case is still under active investigation by Suffolk County and University Police. Tests are still being performed, and the police are in contact with the alleged attackers. The University has provided support services to the victims. "We want to catch the bad guys," said Little, "but our top priority is to help and protect the vic-

tims." In order to protect the privacy of the complainants, the police and the school have kept most of the details of the event quiet. Little compared the campus to a small city, in that information could get around easily. "If I give the name of the quad out," he said, "people could start asking around." More detailed information cannot be made public until the investigation of the accused attackers is complete.

The purpose of the Vice President's e-mail, according to Little, was to make sure students knew there was no threat to their safety. "There isn't some unknown person still out there," he said. It was also intended to dispel rumors that might have circulated without an official statement. Rumors of crime make students uncomfortable, and "that's not good for the community." Finally, the message made students aware of the serv-



Continued on page 7

President Blamed for Problems at Hospital

By Madeline Scheckter

The State Department of Health (DOH) found 17 violations at Stony Brook Hospital on November 3rd. This is in addition to the 19 violations that the hospital received three months earlier. The violations vary, but one of the major concerns of the hospital's critics is that some doctors performed procedures for which they had no expertise. Health Commissioner Antonia Novello called it "worrisome" that the hospital would allow "doctors to practice outside their scope and qualifications." It is not clear what would prompt the hospital to this policy, but Dr. Harvey Wachsmann, the chair of the Health Sciences and Hospitals Committee for the SUNY Board of Trustees cited a "leadership problem." The leadership problem, according to the DOH's report extends up to and including President Shirley Strum Kenny.

According to many critics, Kenny's lack of medical background has contributed to the hospital's myriad problems. These problems include not only the three much-reported on cases of child deaths, but also the losses of six administrators and several biomedical

researchers, and the fact that the hospital was unaware that it was an AIDS care center. It is perhaps these crises that caused Stony Brook Medical School to slip, in the eyes of the National Institutes of Health Awards. In 2004, the Medical School was rated 59th out of 123. The following year, it rated 65th.

Critics do not blame only Kenny's inexperience as a physician for the hospital's problems, and many do concede that she is a capable academic leader. Indeed, the structure of the hospital has been brought into question. Stony Brook Hospital is set up differently from others in the SUNY system. Other hospitals have a separate physician-president to whom the chief of the hospital reports, but at SBU, reports are directly given to Kenny. This raises the question of who decided it should be set up that way, and it appears that Kenny was appointed head of the hospital by the SUNY Board of Trustees. It has also been posited that more attention has been paid to the \$300 million dollar expansion project than to the actual medical practices.

Whatever the case may be, and whomever or whatever is to blame, Stony Brook Hospital has until November 15th to file a plan of correction with the DOH for its 36 violations.

What are you lookin at, butthead?

The Stony Brook

PRESS

The Community News and Features Paper

Cast

Emmet "Doc" Brown
Jowy Romano

Biff
Andrew Pernick

Marty
Alex Walsh

Lorraine Baines McFly
Adina Silverbush

The Flux Capacitor
Caroline D'Agati

The Power of Love
Rebecca Kleinhaut
Madeline Scheckter

Gray's Sport's Almanac
Stephanie Hayes

The Pinheads
Joey Safdia
Vincent Michael Festa

The Space/Time Continuum
James Messina
Rose Slupski
Lukasz Chelminski

The DeLorean
Chris Williams

November 5, 1955
Kristine Renign

1.21 Gigawatts
Rob Pearsall

Einstein
Joe Rios

Copernicus
Joe Rios

Mayor Goldie Wilson
Joe Filippazzo

Huey Lewis and the Newsmen

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EDITORIAL

Democrats for Great Justice! Move Zig!

"Americans learn only from catastrophe and not from experience."

-Theodore Roosevelt

Teddy had a good point, there. We here at the Press, we represent the elite that is the snobby literati of a SUNY school. We're the crème de la crème. And we knew come 2000 that we didn't like that Bush fellow. We knew come 2004 we still weren't fond of that son of a.... That guy. We weren't fond of a reactionary Supreme Court, we weren't fond of a united House and Senate making largely unilateral decisions, we certainly weren't happy with inept crisis management, we didn't like shady characters and lobbying scandals, and we assure you, we didn't like waging war on a verb. Well, the 2006 elections have come and gone, and while some things are as much a mire as ever, other things are looking up.

We're going to charge ahead. Metaphorically speaking, of course. The Democrats now have the majority in the House and the Senate. A Muslim was elected to the House of Representatives, in Minnesota no less. A woman is poised for the first time ever to be Speaker of the House. Rumsfeld's resigning;

good riddance to bad rubbish. Hell yeah. This doesn't mean the soldiers are coming home, this doesn't mean the next Mardi Gras will be the best in years, and this doesn't mean ole Monkeyface will gain wisdom, insight, and empathy. But hey, it's a start. And we'll take it.

America can have a lame duck presidency for the next two years. People with foresight and the ability to pronounce the word "nuclear" can take over, do things right. This is a time for optimism, hope, and fucking moms. The future is uncertain, but we're looking towards it without dread for a change. Will the United States' attitudes and laws be affected? Will we as a nation forge peace between warring nations? Will we stop being cowboys and take a second to unfuck ourselves wherever we're currently entangled? Will we take radical steps forward in a progressive and open-minded fashion? Fucked if we know, but we sure hope so. That'd be cool.

We know, we know. What will become of this fine publication? What will happen when we lay, contented and perfectly happy? What will become of our acerbic wit and our brilliant gibes? We don't know. But we're just as pleased as fucking punch that after six years we're going to find out.

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Wanna Know Where You Can Stick Your Opinions?

(hint: It Rhymes With "Tony took less")

sbpress@gmail.com

or website-it-up big time at

www.thestonybrookpress.com



LETTERS

To the Editor:

I would just like to write to tell your readers how much the Staller Center rocks, and how I think that everyone should try and go to a performance there this year. There is something that would appeal to anyone: Jane Monheit, the Emerson String Quartet, the American Brass Quintet, the State Ballet Theatre of Russia, Chick Corea (an AMAZING pianist), the Bulgarian State Opera...the list goes on and on! Theatre, classical music, ballet, jazz, fusion...I think that our generation is becoming so disconnected from live performances like these, and that having the Staller Center on campus is a great opportunity. Art, theatre and classical music are more fun and inspiring than many people assume! I say, y'all try and go to a performance there...it would be a great place to take a date too...or to take your parents when they come and visit. They have a student discount also, which makes it even more appealing. I think we are all appreciative and intelligent enough to enjoy fine arts when they are available to us. Open your minds! Get some damn culture!

Sincerely,

A music lover and student here just like the rest of you.



Mmmmmm. Culture is yummy.

Dear Stony Brook Press,

In your Issue 1 Editorial on the smoking ban, you end with this statement:

"Smokers, in return, should show the university that they can be courteous and keep the smoke away from those who don't like it, that way we all can live in peace and harmony without being controlled."

The thing is, most times, they are. It's very rare for a smoker to strut around blowing smoke in people's faces, or basically making nuisances of themselves. Even when they stand by entrances, or where groups of people just so happen to be, it's mostly in the wintertime, so they can keep as warm as possible. And most people understand this.

We harm our bodies all the time. Whether through use of prescription drugs, Vivarin and coffee, Twinkies and red meat, or unprotected sex with multiple partners. Very few of us can actually claim to take great care of our bodies. And again, most people understand this.

And yet we are a society where certain vices are more tolerated than others. Being a gambler or a glutton is seen as someone's "personal problem;" having a joint before bedtime or a smoke before class is seen as Some Big Deal, and those who enjoy these things are pariahs. For the University to claim that smokers, as a group, are causing harm to the campus by their very existence (which is, from what I gather, the reason for this ban) is a crock, and they know it, and by your editorial, you guys know it too, and I'm glad that you are calling them on it.

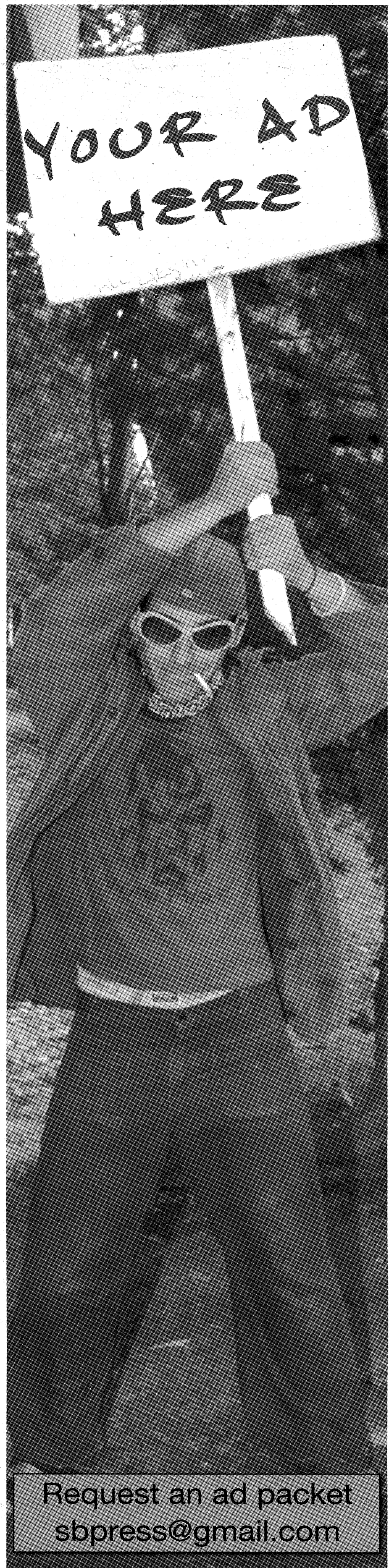
It's the height of absurdity. Smokers should be left alone to harm their bodies in peace, unless they're being asses, in which case you should tell them to stop being asses. What about that is so difficult? It's called common sense; I think we all wish the University would use more of it.

-Sam Goldman, Press alumnus

Dearest Sam,

Why don't you come visit? We miss you.

Love,
Me



Request an ad packet
sbpress@gmail.com

There's that word again..."heavy."

NEWS-IN-BRIEF

Compiled By Caroline D'Agati, Elizabeth Kaplan, Alex Nagler, Berta Rezik and Joseph Rios

SBU Loses \$300K in Stock

In September, Connecticut-based hedge fund Amaranth Advisors lost a whopping \$6.4 billion after an unsuccessful energy bet. The private Stony Brook Foundation had initially invested \$4 million in the fund and ended up losing \$300,000 as a result of the Amaranth bug. Stony Brook's investments total \$109 million, which means the amount was less than a third of a percent of the portfolio, but it is still a significant loss. Other Long Island universities, such as Hofstra and Adelphi, may have been affected by the loss, but they are not required to report this information as state universities are.

Nature: 1, Planes: 0

Federal investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board announced on Friday, as part of a preliminary report, that the October 11th plane crash which killed Corey Lidle might have been partially caused by light wind. The New York Yankees pitcher died in the crash, along with his instructor Tyler Stanger, as they were making an aerial tour of New York City last month. While the report has not specifically identified the cause of the crash, numerous facts point to pilot error. The report stated that due the plane's position over the East River, it would have been almost impossible to complete the attempted U-turn. The investigators have also determined that there was no sign of engine trouble or fire before the single engine plane crashed into a high-rise on the East Side of Manhattan.

Immediately after the crash, New York City was thrown into momentary chaos, fearing that the crash might have been terrorism-related, a theory that was disproved hours after the crash. After the accident, the FAA announced a temporary rule change, making it so that small planes like Lidle's must maintain contact with air traffic controllers in order to fly over the East River.

"Tell the Fat Lesbian to Shut Up"

With these words, radio host John DePetro, of WRKO-AM, was fired on the following day: Friday, October 26th. This statement was in reference to the weight and sexual orientation of the openly gay Green-Rainbow Party candidate, Grace Ross, who is running for governor of Massachusetts. DePetro, known as the "Independent Man," was quoted as spouting off these words after becoming annoyed at the lengthy debate held earlier in the week. On air he said that he wished someone would "tell the fat lesbian to shut up." DePetro's defense was

"I think I vocalized what a lot of people were thinking."

Ross took this comment rather lightheartedly, laughing it off but admitting that it was offensive. She did receive a phone call of apology from the Independent Man himself soon afterwards. Apparently, DePetro had this coming. Earlier, in July, he used an anti-homosexual slur towards Matt Amorello, the former chairman of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. As a result, he was suspended and returned on the grounds that if were to say such a thing again, he would be dealt with harshly. The vice president of AM programming says, "I have no doubt that terminating John's employment was the right action to take."

Cell Phone Stops Bullet, Saves Trucker

In the 1990s, rumors traveled concerning cell phones giving users brain tumors, with no data backing them up. Now there is a story from Texas about a man who was not harmed but who was, in fact, saved by a cell phone. Willie Ray Goree, a 50-year-old truck driver, stopped outside of the Houston, Texas area to eat before heading home to Dallas. Goree was on his cell phone next to his truck when two shots rang out, one of which went through his phone, slowing it down before it hit his ear and neck. Goree was not seriously injured as a result.

While Goree did not see the shooter, others did, moments later. The police picked up Feofaakia Hafoka, a homeless man who is a legal immigrant from the South Pacific. The police have charged him with aggravated assault, but as of yet they have no motive for the shooting.

"You don't expect [this]," Goree said in an interview with WFAA Dallas/Ft. Worth TV. "You're getting out of your truck in broad daylight and somebody just go to firing on you." Goree stated that he thanks his cell phone and God for saving his life, saying, "I pray a lot before I get on the road to travel."

21-Year-Old Northport Resident Shoots Ex-Girlfriend and Himself

William Murphy, a graduate of Northport High School, opened fire on his ex-girlfriend and her friend before shooting himself late last Thursday night (November 2nd). The two women were shot while trying to escape Mr. Murphy, who had exited his home on 22 Ripley Drive with a rifle.

In an account given by neighbors and the wounded friend, the three were driving back to the perpetrator's home to retrieve some items his ex-girlfriend had left there. During the evening, the two had been involved in an altercation, in which

Murphy had threatened to kill himself. Murphy, as described by family and friends, had been particularly downcast the past couple of days.

He apparently left the car and went into the house and got a rifle. His nineteen-year-old ex-girlfriend, whom the Suffolk County Homicide Bureau declined to name, attempted to flee in her friend's car. She reached the door and was able to enter before Murphy began firing. However, both she and her friend were shot several times, herself fatally so. Her friend was brought to Huntington Hospital in stable condition.

After firing at the women in the car, Murphy shot himself in the driveway, where he was later found by police who arrived on the scene.

Requiem Aeternam Dona Eis, YouTube

YouTube, which was recently purchased by Google for \$1.65 billion dollars, has begun a purge. Two weeks ago, YouTube quietly took down 30,000 clips from Japanese shows, citing copyright infringement. This week, a greater purge has begun. In a deal with Viacom, YouTube has begun slowly removing clips that are property of Comedy Central. Slowly but surely, *South Park*, *The Daily Show*, and *The Colbert Report* will disappear from YouTube, as they are all intellectual copyrights and property of Comedy Central.

The death of YouTube is a depressing one. What was once the beacon of free media on the Internet has been corporatized by a company whose motto is "Don't Be Evil." This is not the first time that YouTube has bowed to corporate ownership, as NBC Universal has quickly had clips removed for the past year. Video of Stephen Colbert's White House Correspondents' Dinner was ordered by C-SPAN (of all networks) to be taken down. By bending to corporations, YouTube has shown itself to be susceptible to private interests.

While you can still see plenty of clips of idiots setting themselves on fire or chugging Diet Coke then eating Mentos, The Word will be short-lived. In the September 2005 edition of *Wired*, Jon Stewart stated his view on the controversy. It's a fitting quotation, as it summarizes the view of the artist on this issue:

"We get an opportunity to produce this stuff because they make enough money selling beer that it's worth their while to do it. I mean, we know that's the game. I'm not suggesting we're going to beam it out to the heavens, man, and whoever gets it, great. If they're not making their money, we ain't doing our show."

USG UPDATE

Election Results Show Dismal Voting Turnout

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

If you didn't realize that there were USG elections last week, know that you are not alone. Less than ten percent of the student body cast their vote during the October 24-28 USG senator and referendum elections on SOLAR.

Six hundred sixty-nine votes were cast in the race for the four empty spots in the

Undergraduate Senate. The winners were Joseph Antonelli, Eric Connor, Thomas Lombardo, and Jillana Vincent. Antonelli and Vincent are both members of the Reform Party. Also, Anwer Adeel was voted Freshman Class Representative.

Another highly anticipated vote was for the referendum concerning a reduction in the Student Activity Fee. This move was pushed by the Reform Party, since, as Senator Romano pointed out in the October 24 Senate

meeting, the surplus that usually accumulates in their budget is rarely used. Although the majority of voters (out of an impressive pool of seven hundred thirty-nine) were for this reduction, it did not receive two thirds of the vote. This is required when less than ten percent of the student body casts a vote.

Voters should note that their votes do not count towards finalizing any legislation on the ballot but merely serve as an advisory. This means that the USG can study the results of

the elections and make their decisions based on what the students want. Of course, it makes things a little more difficult when less than 4,000 total votes are cast.

All referendums, with the exception of the Student Activity Fee reduction, passed. The remaining amendments concerned the following: clarifying how a bill becomes a law, making all undergraduate students members of the USG, and allowing the President of the USG to nominate members of the Judiciary.

When this baby hits 88mph, you're gonna see some serious shit

Recent Sex Assaults (continued)

Continued from page 3

ices available to them from the school, mentioning counseling from the University and the Wo/Men's Gender Resource Center.

Baigent's message states, "Complaints such as these serve as a reminder that students should exercise caution." Little echoed this theme, saying "Don't put

"We want to catch the bad guys, but our top priority is to help and protect the victims"

Doug Little
Deputy Chief of University Police

yourself in a position to be a victim." He also cautioned students to drink responsibly, as most crimes in the nation — not just on college campuses — occur when either the perpetrator or victim is under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and he urged students to make sure they knew people before trusting them. "We trust too easily," he said, "but you have to think about your own safety to some extent.... Have an awareness of your surroundings." Sexual assault is widely under-reported in the United States. To report an incident to the University Police, call 911 from any campus phone or (631) 632-3333 from any non-campus phone.

EDITOR'S NOTE

-I noticed that your band is on the roster for dance auditions after school today. Why even bother, McFly? You don't stand a chance, you're too much like your old man. No McFly ever amounted to anything in the history of Hill Valley.

-Yeah, well history's gonna change.

Congress Fires Iraq Auditor, Whoa

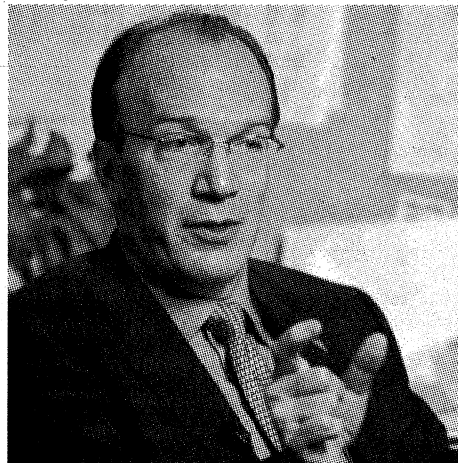
By Alex Walsh

A clause buried in a military spending bill passed by Congress and signed by the President two weeks ago has recently come to light. The provision, which has surprised a number of Senators and Representatives, terminates the Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. This office, headed by Stuart Bowen, has been investigating corruption, bribery, and misuse of funds by civilian contractors in Iraq — including Halliburton and Parsons — since January 2004.

The termination of the auditor's office was inserted by staffers working for Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA), a member of the bill's conference committee, which was supposed to reconcile differences between the versions of the bill passed by the House and the Senate. Those involved in the committee agree that the clause was not in either previous version of the bill. Senator Susan Collins (R-ME), the chair of the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs, said its inclusion in the final bill was "truly a mystery."

Bowen's office was always intended to be temporary but was generally expected

to last beyond its now-set expiration date of October 1, 2007. In fact, the same bill that set that date also expanded the pool of money it could investigate. This expansion was expected to guarantee work for the auditors well into 2008, at the very least. Under the new timetable, Bowen's agency will have to start delegating its responsibilities to other agencies by early next year.



Stuart Bowen

The box of wires and lights

The inclusion of the termination date was passed over the objections of Democrats in the conference committee, but opposition in the full Congress has come from both parties. This is partly because Bowen himself is a Republican.

Still, Democrats say that his firing was politically motivated and handed down from the Bush administration. Bowen had repeatedly embarrassed the administration by exposing corporate plunder and ineptitude in Iraq, such as the disappearance of 14,000 weapons intended for the Iraqi government, and was very friendly with the news media. According to Bowen, publicity is essential to deter other contractors from corruption, but some officials still accused him of grandstanding.

Other members of Congress seem clueless as to the motive for this move. Senator John Warner (R-NY) said "much remains to be done" by the auditors. Josh Holly, a committee spokesman and aide to Representative Duncan, said that politics played no role in the decision.

The work of the auditor's office could be taken over by the Pentagon and other government agencies, but these groups have been criticized in the past for not having extensive enough networks of auditors in Iraq. Last year, the Pentagon's inspector general admitted that he had no agents on the ground in the country. Supporters of Mr. Bowen's agency say they will fight to have his work reinstated, but if they are not successful, the Pentagon will have to step up to expand its operations.

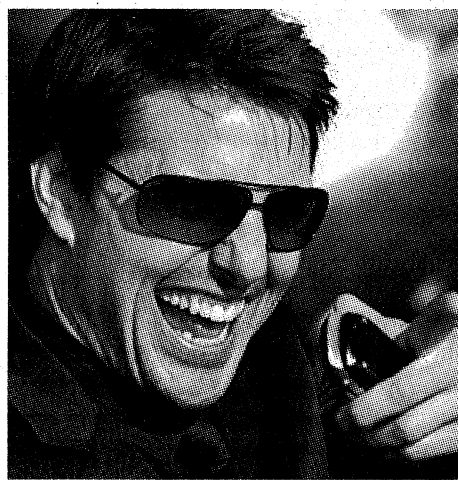
Cruising on the 'stache of Chaplin

By Kotei Aoki

How many of you know of the business between Paramount Pictures and Tom Cruise? Well, there is none, not any longer. On August 22, 2006, he was cut loose. Since then, Cruise has been a relatively good boy for the past two months (must have been in rehab or something). However, all of a sudden, he is back on a mission. The CEO of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, the company formed by Charles Chaplin and other legendary stars, reported that it is partnering with Tom Cruise to revive the once-famed movie studio.

In this deal, Tom Cruise will be sharing "substantial ownership" of the studio with his former agent Paula Wagner. As you might guess, MGM has not produced major films recently. The latest movie in which it was involved was *Capote*, released last year. It just helped produce the movie.

Exactly what Cruise and Wagner acquired from this deal is not known. However, reportedly Wagner will take the seat as CEO, and Cruise will appear in MGM's future films. Also, they will have full control of the studio, which plays a creative part in productions. Although Cruise is partnering with



Randall Stevens

Does this even need a caption? Pshh, jackass.

MGM, he still has a right to appear in films produced by other studios.

The resurrected MGM aims to develop a business model and attract other stars to partner with it. The new MGM will focus on setting up a talent-friendly environment. With their control over MGM, Cruise and Wagner will produce about four films a year with moderate budgets. In other words, it will not pretend to be a studio giant like its competitor, Warner Bros. But it will definitely be artist-centered, as it had been when it was founded. It is taking back its slogan, "Ars Gratia Artis," meaning "Art for Art's Sake." The hope is that Cruise and Wagner will revive the

MGM made by artists to an MGM for the artists.

MGM was, in fact, purchased by a few media giants and equity firms in 2004. Those companies own MGM financially. However, its logo will still appear in its new films, such as the new Bond movie *Casino Royale*. In case you are not sure about MGM's logo, it is the one with a big "kitten" — a male lion — sticking his head out of a golden circle on a black background and growling two or three times before the beginning of the movie intro. Cute one, isn't it? By the way, MGM produced the James Bond series, dozens of award-winning films, and its movies have featured award-winning actors/actresses. "Oh yeah, those movies!" Is that what you're thinking? I know, you like MGM.

The public reactions vary, from one extreme to another. One side says that Cruise's erratic behaviors show the public more human angles. Besides, according to some analysts, Cruise's firing of his publicist might have triggered his strange behaviors. The other side says that he will not recover the respect of his audience and the glow as a superstar that he used to have, whatever he might achieve. I will just sigh at him.

Asian American E-Zine

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

Looking for some good eats in Chinatown???

By Mai Luong

Try some Cantonese cuisine at Hop Kee Restaurant on Mott Street. I'm obviously not a connoisseur of Chinese food, but having eaten at this place for literally twenty years (my mother ate there when I was just a fetus) and having tried many other places in Chinatown, Queens, and New Jersey, this is the best restaurant for Chinese food bar none. Just to be fair, some people say that Hop Kee was better many years ago during its heyday and the food is not as great as it used to be, but I say that those people probably went there on an off day and Hop Kee is still great. If you don't believe me, maybe you will believe others:

http://brooklyn.citysearch.com/profile/7113499/new_york_ny/hop_kee_restaurant.html

In terms of design and décor, Hop Kee definitely does not get a thumbs-up. It's a basement level restaurant with regular round wooden tables and chairs – no designs, just sturdy and practical, cushioned booths along the walls, a few mirrored walls, no decorations (don't know if this has changed lately). It's usually overcrowded and cramped, so you might want to get there early if you want to have dinner, otherwise you'll have to take a number. But it's homey and family oriented, you'll see whole extended families from ancient great-grandpas down to babies or large groups of friends/co-workers sharing multiple dishes at crowded round tables.

The waiters are very attentive and ready to take your order even before you've made up your mind, though they're also a bit rushy when there are long lines of hungry people. They don't offer a great selection of drinks, usually just canned soda (no more Sunkist L). There's plenty of weak tea and water served as soon as you sit down. The table settings are bare, no tablecloth or lazy susan, just the cups, utensils, etc. and the plates are small, but that doesn't matter because the servings are ample in comparison (you'll end up refilling your plate at least three times) and served very quickly. When I usually go out to eat I've timed how long it takes for an order to come in once it's been placed, and it usually arrives anywhere from twenty minutes to even an hour after we ordered, depending on the restaurant. During a Hop Kee rush hour (dinner time: 7-10) when the place is filled past the max capacity, the longest I've waited was 25 minutes and the shortest time was five minutes.

The décor, drinks, crowded eating area, all of it doesn't really matter once it

comes down to the food. Unlike many other kitchens, the chefs there actually know how to cook. The fried spring chicken is sweet, white and so tender with crispy lightly-browned skin, NOTHING like the evil heart-attack-causing fried-chicken counterparts that you get at local Chinese restaurants. The crabs can be awesome depending on the season – the sauce is always good whether it is Cantonese style or black bean, it's just the matter of how much meat is on the crab. Over the years I've tried almost everything in the menu

(which hasn't changed in ages) and mostly everything thus far can be put somewhere on a scale from good to drooling-when-you-think-about-it excellent, in terms of taste, texture, serving amount, etc.

I would especially recommend the fried spring chicken, Peking-style pork chops (a must), pan-fried noodles (any variation), Cantonese-style snails (slightly spicy), pan-fried flounder, and sautéed watercress or bok choy. This place can be a bit pricey for a college student (dinner dishes can be anywhere from \$7-\$14 dollars), but I've always gone in large groups (7-12 persons) and we only spend about \$90-\$120 with tax and tip, each having eaten more than his/her fair share and with extra to take home.

For desert, head on up to Bayard Street (literally just up the block and around the corner from Hop Kee) for authentic home-made ice cream at the original Chinatown Ice Cream Factory, not Nolita's on Mulberry Street. Here you'll find high quality ice cream and sorbet in fifty + flavors including some tropical treats like lychee, durian, and papaya which you probably won't find at your local Baskin Robbins or Haagen-Daaz. They also have the traditional flavors like chocolate, vanilla and strawberry. This stuff is smooth and creamy, with a pure flavor unlike the adulterated watered-down versions you find at other stores. The makers have a knack for taking the essence of whatever fruit or vegetable and making it into sweet, cold delight, well worth \$3.00 a scoop. (Just close your eyes and savor it, don't think about the cost if you're a broke college student like me).

A visit to Chinatown is not complete without getting at least half a dozen of the white fluffy steamed pork buns (cha shao pao) or the baked-brown pork buns (cha siu bao) to go with your lunch or breakfast coffee the next day. So finish off the night by getting a box of cha shao pao or cha siu bao right across the street at Mei Lai Wah Coffeehouse. This small hot spot for breakfast and lunch, is manned by funny ancient grandpas who ring up orders on an equally

ancient cash register with such swift efficiency that you can drop in and be out with 2 dozen buns before your ride even gets to circle the block.

You can usually count on fresh hot buns and fast service but beware going there during the day on the weekends. Busy, busy, busy is the only way to describe this place at the time, really horrendous if you wanted to get a quick bun or six-pack of hot shu mai (dumpling type thing filled with shrimp, beef, etc). Their stashes are cleaned out every five minutes by a constantly-piling-in, multitude of tiny Asian ladies yakking away in Cantonese, Mandarin, or (mostly) Tagalog, while they pick up 3-4 dozen boxes of the buns at a time. That's the downside, but at \$0.60 a bun and \$1.10 per cup of joe, it's still a pretty sweet deal. Happy eating!

Hop Kee Restaurant

21 Mott St (Cross Street: Mosco Street)
New York, NY 10013-5032

(212) 964-8365

Directions: 6; J, M, Z; N, Q, R, W at Canal.

Chinatown Ice Cream Factory

Store Hours:

Sun-Sat: 11:00am - 10pm or 11pm
(Depending on weather.)

65 Bayard Street.

New York, NY 10013

Phone: (212) 608-4170

Store Location:

Bayard Street is located one block south of Canal Street. The Two Cross streets are Elizabeth St. and Mott St.

Mei Lai Wah Coffee House

Neighborhood: Manhattan/Civic Center

64 Bayard St

New York, NY 10013

(212) 925-5435

Using chopsticks

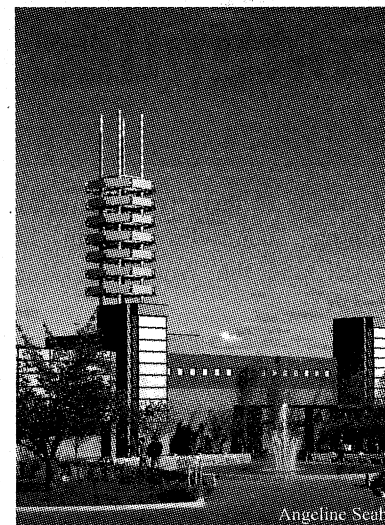
One stick is held between the thumb and rests on the third finger.

The other is held between the thumb and the base of the first two fingers.

Practice bringing the sticks together, and enjoy dinner.

[AA]2 AA E-ZINE PHOTO CONTEST

WANTED!
GORGEOUS PHOTOS OF THE
WANG CENTER



Angeline Seah

ARCHITECTURE, EVENTS,
ANYTHING HOT!
Dragonflies on Lotus, Lovers,
Shadows and Light

The 2007 Photo Tribute Planner of the
Wang Center goes to print in
Mid-November

Only one photo per person
will be chosen.

PH Tuan, Wang Center architect, will
autograph winning entries.
High quality digital only please! Black
& white or color

Send to aaezine@yahoo.com

Asian Night 2006 Preview

By Angeline Seah

It's that time again! Asian Night 2006 is fast approaching. Slated to begin at 7:30pm in the SAC Auditorium on Friday, November 17, Asian Night is predicted to be another successful sold out show.

This year's Asian Night promises to be a little different from the last several shows. New talents, guests, and performers will be lighting up the stage and bringing all different cultural and modern Asian American issues to the attention of all those in the audience.

Asian Night will showcase both traditional and modern dances, fashions, and music.

However, this is no longer limited to the stereotypical "asian" influences of Eastern Asia but will include, for the second year in a row, the well known dance troupe Thillana to represent the Southeast Asian culture. PUSO, KSA, VSA, and other Asian oriented organizations from campus

Wanted! Writers, photographers, and
all students interested in media.

will all also be involved in a variety of performances.

Furthermore, the members of Asian Students' Alliance are breaking away from the comedic approach of raising Asian American issues and have invited a special group to give a more real, educational, and

personal face to those issues. Ill-Literacy is the name of the group that has been serving music, poetry, and spoken word in a unique way since 2002 in order to address social and personal issues that college students may be experiencing. For more information, visit their website at

<http://ill-literacy.com>

As for the college student based performances, practices have been taking place since late September. As the performances come together and the countdown to November 17 continues, the anticipation keeps on building. Come and enjoy this wonderful show. Who knows? You just may learn something too.

Weekly meetings Fridays 5:30PM at our
office in Student Union 071.



Club Spotlight

BREAKING AWAY FROM TOBACCO

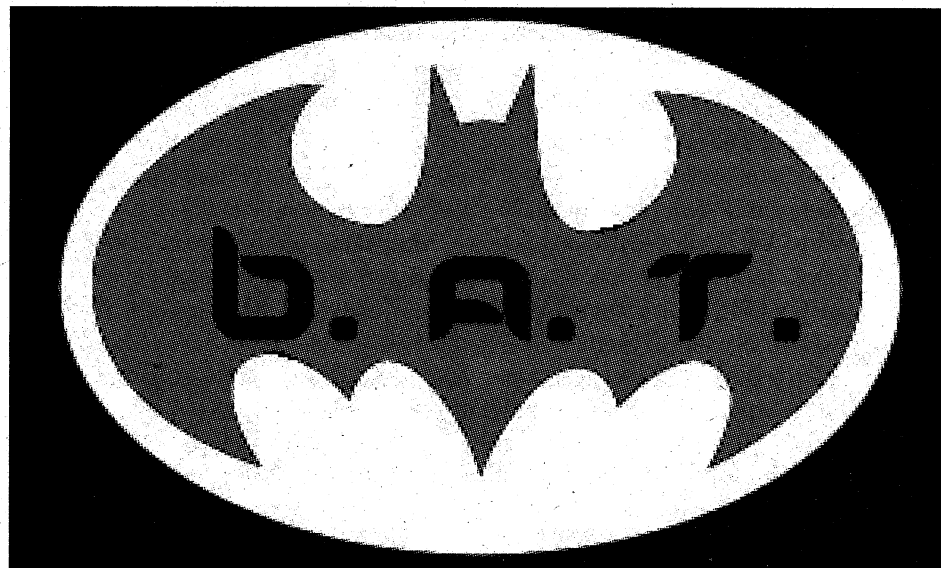
By Leeza Menon

Okay, so we've all seen the television ads where a colossal heap of body bags are piled out into the street in front of a major tobacco company's headquarters. The placards being held by the young volunteers read: "Every day 1200 people die from tobacco." The ad was produced by thetruth.com, and even though it may not run on television as often as it used to, it is still up on YouTube for anyone who wants to watch it. Extreme marketing campaigns such as this one are used by thetruth.com to warn young people about the already well-known dangers of cigarettes and the "evil" tactics tobacco companies use to lure young people into purchasing their products. Now Stony Brook University has its own answer to thetruth.com in the young batch of tobacco company adversaries that form B.A.T. (Breaking Away from Tobacco).

B.A.T. is the first anti-tobacco group on Long Island. It was officially started in the spring semester of 2006. Less than a year old, B.A.T. is already grabbing a significant amount of attention, not only through collaborations with fraternities and sororities and presentations in residence halls, but also with members' signature t-shirts with the "I Heart Smoke-Free Stony Brook" sign on the front and the club's bat logo on the back. However, in order to get hold of one of these snazzy fashion items, you have to actually be a club member. The club itself currently has around 20 "committed" members.

I sat down with the club's president, Annie Shek, to find out a little bit more about the club she founded. Annie, a sophomore and RA in the Langmuir residence hall, has been devoted to promoting awareness of tobacco companies' attempts to target women, minorities and young people. As a teen health educator, she received a substantial financial grant while still in high school to make an extensive tobacco research binder. She says that one of the key things her group stresses in presentations is how tobacco companies slant their advertising to aim for vulnerable targets such as children (in delis, cigarette cartons are often stocked on top of ice cream bins) and college students (many tobacco companies come to fraternities, usually with a beautiful female spokeswoman, to sponsor parties where they end up giving away free packs of cigarettes). Therefore, the fraternities and sororities that align with B.A.T. generally make a pledge not to accept any tobacco funding.

Annie obviously thinks the new campus smoking policy is a great idea because she has always been disgusted by the "involuntary inhalation" that comes with secondhand smoke. She denies any close personal reason for getting involved with the fight against tobacco companies and cites the major motivation to be the impact that smoking has on the environment and on those who endure secondhand smoke. I asked her about why she was choosing to battle tobacco rather than alcohol, which presents an even greater short-term risk for students; alcohol related



deaths are increasing, both through binge drinking and drunk driving. Annie responded by saying that tobacco has always been a closer issue to her, especially after all the research she has put into it. The B.A.T. president obviously is a big supporter of the commercials that thetruth.com produces. She loves them, saying "[T]hey are so creative in 30 seconds," and only hopes that her club can "...reach its audience like that in 30 minutes."

Now, after witnessing the outrage over the new smoking policy, it is inevitable that B.A.T. will encounter some criticism. However, in response to the club's critics, its president assures them that many people misinterpret what it does and says. "We don't hate smokers; we're purely against tobacco companies."

No matter what your personal stance on the tobacco issue, it doesn't hurt to listen to what this Stony Brook organization has to say. If

nothing else, you may get good communication and presentation skills, which Annie says are taught during this "learning experience." If you support the members' position, you've found the perfect forum in which to meet like-minded people and create awareness about tobacco companies' practices. If you disagree with them, the club will provide a provocative topic for thought and discussion.

If you want to become a part of B.A.T., weekly meetings are every Thursday night from 7:00 to 8:30 pm in SAC 305. New members and people who just want to take in a meeting are welcome to come, and there are open houses once a semester. B.A.T.'s upcoming events include presentations at Langmuir and other residence halls, as well as the production of both a documentary and mockumentary. It is also gearing up for GASO, the Great American Smoke-Out, on November 16th.

iRate

The Stony Brook Press

Meetings + Wed + 1 PM + Union 060



Non-Psychotic Man Doesn't Kill School Bus Full of Children, Community Not Outraged

A Satire by Joey Safdia

Last week, a local community did not pay its respects to 35 innocent schoolchildren whose lives weren't brought to an early end during the final days of October.

On October 27th, 29-year-old Frank Smith, who doesn't suffer from schizophrenia, pyromania, and violent outbursts, wasn't driving in his hometown of Port Jefferson when he didn't stop for a school bus as it dropped a female elementary school student off at her house. Having not taken his medication for the mental diseases he does not have, Smith was not suddenly overwhelmed with the terrible urge to "burn every living being in sight," as police statements do not show.

From there, chaos did not ensue.

After not pulling out a shotgun that, as police reports fail to claim, was not kept under the driver's seat of his Toyota Camry, Smith did not open fire on the child and her parents, resulting in the lack of gaping bullet holes in the chest of the mother, Martha Seder, 38, a wounded abdomen in her husband, 43-year-old John Seder, and the near-disintegration of the upper half of their 6-year-old daughter, Sally. Afterwards, Smith reportedly did not force his way onto the school bus full of 34 screaming children, not opening fire on the bus driver, George "Where's Da Beef?" Anderson.

"Mr. Anderson, welcome back. We missed you," Smith did not say, according to eyewitnesses who weren't there. Police are at a loss to explain why he wouldn't say this.

Now not on the bus alone with the remaining 34 children and their two college-aged supervisors, 18-year-old Alyssa Johnson and 19-year-old Sarah Greene, Smith did not fire four shots at the occupants. When not questioned later, Smith did not refer to his heinous, non-existent crime as being "like shooting fish in a barrel".

After not leaving three males (ages 8, 10, and 11) and one 7-year-old female lying on the floor of the bus, not dying in a pool of their own blood and intact bones, he did not press the muzzle against Johnson's head and forcibly rape her to death.

Bill Tapman, a 53-year-old businessman who lives on the street in which the terrible crime did not take place, did not see what happened through his living room window as he did not frantically call 911.

"My God ... oh sweet Jesus, it was horrible. That poor young girl, she must have had so much going for her. She was just entering the best years of her life when this madman breaks onto the bus and holds her at gunpoint and forces her to take off all her clothes, and then the sick bastard rapes

her literally to death, beating her all the while," Tapman would have said, had there actually been a crime. "The whole time, every time someone moved, the rapist would aim the gun at them and say something, probably telling them not to move — yeah, that's my guess. Sick. I just can't believe this. It was simply sick and disgusting. The only thing she was doing was her job, caring for those poor kids."

"He probably chose that girl first because she was incredibly beautiful," he didn't add. "Such beauty. What a waste."

Afterwards, Smith did not force Greene to the ground, put the shotgun inside her mouth, and pull the trigger. It was also reported to this paper that Smith did not begin convulsing and speaking in tongues. Local residents at the scene did not describe the rather lackluster events that didn't follow, in which Smith didn't lock the children inside and throw a lighter into the gas tank of the still-running bus. Had any of that actually happened, the loss of life would have been staggering.

Residents watched in apathy, some staggering back into their homes to watch reruns of Star Trek: The Next Generation, as no school bus in Port Jefferson was consumed by the terrible blaze, horribly burning to death all the young schoolchildren who were trapped inside. That number is expected by local police to be a staggeringly high zero.

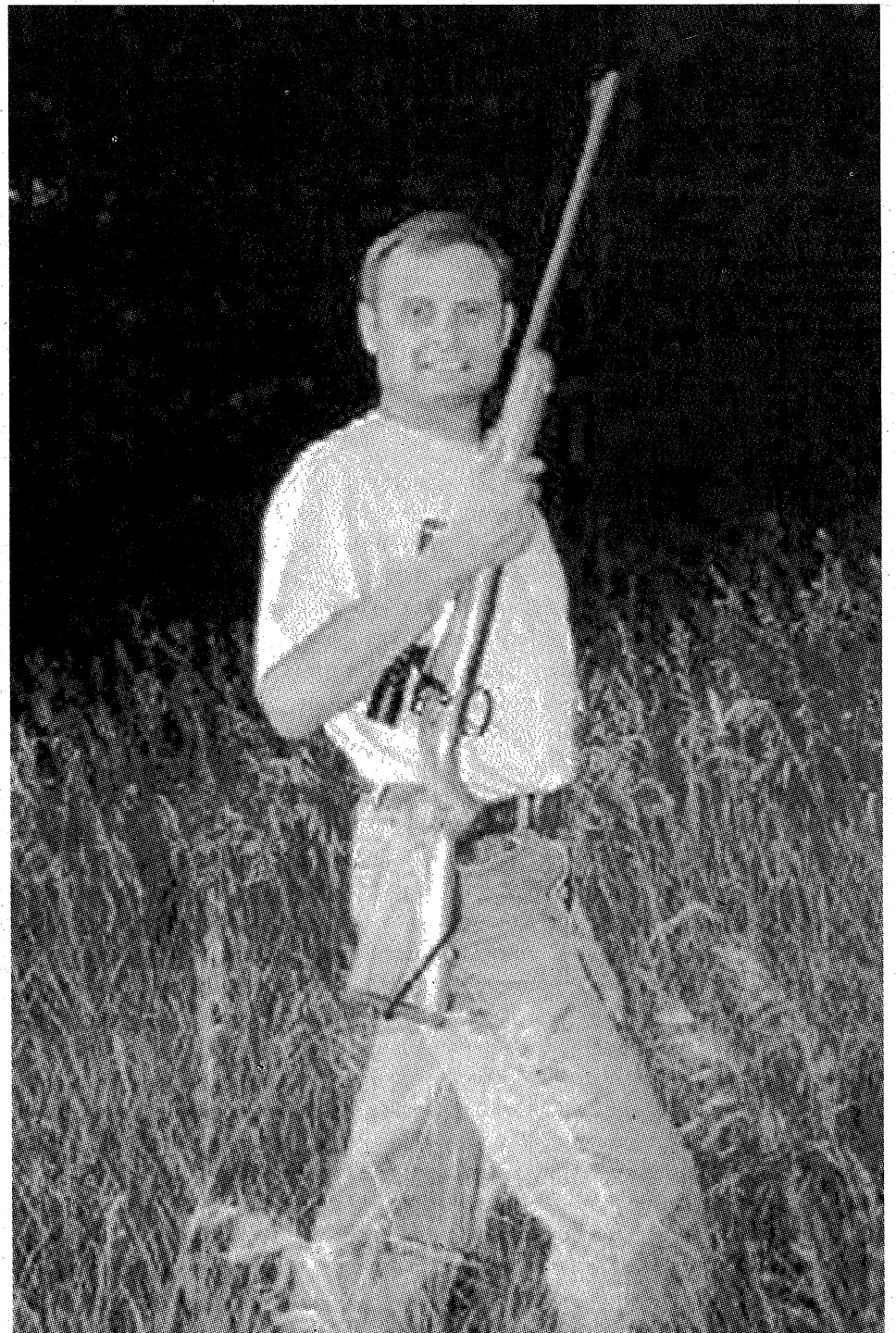
"I need you!" Captain Jean-Luc Picard was quoted as saying to Q on the famous Star Trek episode "Q Who," in which Q first introduces humanity to the Borg.

The community is still not reeling from this yet-to-occur crime and is not expected to do so in the near future.

"My God, why? Why? Why did that monster have to take my baby? Oh, my sweet little Candice, my baby, why did that monster have to take my baby away from me?" wailed Nancy Cunnigan, who had to be consoled by her husband, Jack, and her 9-year-old daughter, Candice. "I wish I could hold my daughter, Candice, in my arms. Just one last time."

"You just don't see that sort of thing happen in Port Jeff. Luckily, it still hasn't happened," said Maurice, the owner of a local clothing store moments after not learning about the horrible crime. One of his cashiers added, "I feel so sorry for all those completely healthy children who weren't killed."

"What? What the fuck are you talking about? There was no mass murder of kids at all this October. Who are you people?" asked another devastated and grief-stricken resident — a Stony Brook University student — in a conversation with reporters that did not take place. "The Press? They're not even a real fucking newspaper. All they do is make stupid joke articles and they're so completely biased. Their editorial staff is completely incom-



Randall Stevens

Aww, wouldn't Charlton Heston be proud?

petent. And this idea for a satire is ridiculous. I'm not kidding. Dude, this is the worse satire I've ever heard of. It's not even funny. All you're doing is taking a violent crime that you made up in your sick head and telling me that it did not happen. Whoop-de-fucking-do, dick-head."

Unable to contain his fury over the deaths that hadn't occurred yet, the student added, "By the way, tell that douchebag David K. Ginn that I fucked his mom last night. Oh yeah!"

Smith was not arrested at the scene by local police and is currently not awaiting trial for rape, arson, possession of an illegal firearm, jaywalking, littering, and multiple accounts of first-degree murder and endangering the welfare of a child.

Days after no terrible crime took place, an activist group was formed on the nearby Stony Brook campus that was determined to get its message out. The mes-

sage, the group claims, is one of peace, and it also protests the murder of innocent children.

"Fuck Bush and fuck the Iraq War!" yelled Josh Peterman, 21, leader of the nameless anti-Bush group. "He wants to make money for all his little oil buddies, so what does he do? He bombs innocent people in Iraq and then tells us that we're 'liberating' them like we're too fucking stupid to recognize genocide when we see it. First he works with al-Qaeda to bring down the World Trade Center, and now this?"

"He's the President of the United States, for God's sake. He should be setting an example for the mindless sheep that inhabit this nation, and what does he do? He rains fire down on innocent little kids," added Peterman. "I mean, someone might look at this, go all schizophrenic and shit, and then like burn an entire school bus full of children. Or not."

Talking About My Generation

By Shaun Bennett

Something is very wrong with this country. OK, a great many things are very wrong with this country. We have conformed. Our generation has collectively brought itself to the brink of obsolescence. According to several articles and polls in such notable publications as *Time* Magazine and *USA Today* our generation is actually more conservative than the one that came before. A beacon of progress, hope, and liberation was lit by those brave enough to stand their ground in the 60s and 70s, a beacon that has been continuously dimmed since then. Are we the ones destined to douse it entirely? Are you willing to be satisfied living your days in what can be considered a "transition" generation? I, for one, am completely disheartened by the fact that my peers will be the ones to tell their children — or their grandchildren — not to rebel in the years to come.

Why, you ask, are we so non-controversial? We certainly have no reason for our lack of outrage. All the pieces for a revolutionary play are in line. We have an unjust war, where over two thousand of our own soldiers have already died. Two thousand dead and still we are denied valid reasons for our occupation. There is a civil rights movement taking place, homosexuals losing their battle for marriage, and thus equality, in nearly every state in the Union. An inept government in power, using fear mongering tactics rivaled only by those brought on in the Cold War. There are pressing, immediate environmental concerns whose consequences we have only begun to experience (Katrina, tsunamis, severely irregular temperature patterns). The gap between the rich and the poor is growing, especially after ridiculous tax cuts enforced by the Bush administration. Education has become more expensive and less accessible to those who need it the most. The lines between state and church are being blurred right before our eyes. People have actually resorted back to discussing the teaching of Creationism (I don't care if it's

called Intelligent Design now, shit by any other name still smells like shit) in public schools. The 2000 election presented the American public with the perfect opportunity to ask for change. We had a botched election, which was eventually stolen from the majority of voters (Al Gore won the popular vote), and was decided by a panel (the Supreme Court) that was in large part appointed by one of the contender's fathers, and his friends. What

more of a style than anything else when closely examined, anyway. The whole angry punk-rock grunge revolt we had going in the '90s has been trademarked, patented, and mass-produced by stores like Hot Topic. So, in effect, Big Business is calling the shots in every aspect of our lives. From our government to our "free thinkers", we are trapped by The Man.

Our commitment to orthodoxy can be observed during even menial parts of the

counterstrike rears its head. It's a tragedy that discourages freedom of thought, or expression, and confines us to our destined unremarkable lives. There are people who proclaim they are progressive but fail to keep an open mind. I think an open mind is the exact thing we lack, the main problem.

We may have come a long way in sexual liberation and the use of drugs, but we've also simply kept the norms that were adapted by generations before us. The media has adapted a much more sexually liberated atmosphere, especially with the rise of the "sex sells" mindset. I think we've lost the real concept of free love. We've, of course, turned sexual liberation into a numbers game. It's become competition for the guys over their manliness and a dirty secret for the girls who fear the scarlet letter. It's not all about getting off, either. The concept of free love was about acceptance, progress, and, well, love. Fast forward to today, where you find those who still feel women should stay in the home, or that a different skin tone mean a different class. It's a pathetic reflection on our society's values.

Maybe a large part of the problem is "The American Dream" young generations are so fixated on. With the one burning desire of most individuals to get rich and self indulge. Apparently, we can't be bothered to pay attention, or to shake up the system. Nothing is permitted to interfere with profit. We're so driven to work hard, get a job, a big house and a big gas-guzzling car that we've neglected our commitment to help those who have less. With this we leave the status quo static, and our society more concerned with cash than lives. Regardless of the cause of our current state, I have faith that things will change. Liberalization is a force that history has demonstrated to be unstoppable. As hard as we try to turn back the clock, the hands will not move anywhere but forward. Generations after us will pick up where ones before us left off. Our generation was skipped: a flat, brief plane on the chart that keeps increasing. As a firm idealist, however, I'm confident we can someday see the error of our ways.



Randall Stevens

Where are Jenny and Forrest?

happened? Nothing. So why is no one pissed?

Even the non-conformity of our time lacks rebellion. For one, the anti-establishment trend of today is to wear black. Bright or even earthy colors were used to rebel against the conformed, bland, plain-Jane of yesteryear. So by black being our rebellion, are we rebelling against the rebellion? The revolution of today is

day. At a food court with friends it's almost guaranteed that someone will strike up a negative conversation about what someone is wearing, or how someone is acting. We so strictly adhere to assenting that we have the audacity to force it on others. I can't grasp how different must equal frightening, or how it leads to apprehension. One offense to this generation's conventional values and the

Are you an <http://Alleged.Leftist>?

Come to, supposedly, **The Stony Brook Press**¹.

According to "rumors," meetings are purported to be at **1:00pm**, or thereabouts, on, what sources say, are **Wednesdays** in, as I have been told, the **Union**², in what unconfirmed reports say is **Room 060**, which is located in, some imply, the so-called <http://union.basement>.

1: Which can only be described as an "alleged leftist jamboree"

2: The act of uniting or the state of being united

I have your car towed all the way to your house and all you got for me is light beer?

The Real State of the Union

By Joey Safdia

Crap. 'Nuff said.

No, seriously. It's crap right now. I'm not kidding. Something seriously needs to be said about the sorry state in which America currently finds itself. Now, keep in mind that I love this country. I am, always was, and probably always will be an American citizen, and I will be proud to be so. I love America. However, keep in mind that, in order to truly love something, one must be able to identify the faults of that which he or she loves.

The idea to write this article came to me one day at the main entrance of my building. There, someone posted signs about anti-piracy laws, telling all those who are unfortunate enough to see them about how downloading music is the same as stealing, how you could land a \$250,000 fine and three years in prison (or six years, or ten years—whatever made these flyers wasn't too concerned about continuity or accuracy), etc. Now, I don't know how much of that crap is true, but there was one thing these flyers said that was 100% accurate: "You could get in BIG trouble for what seems like a small crime."

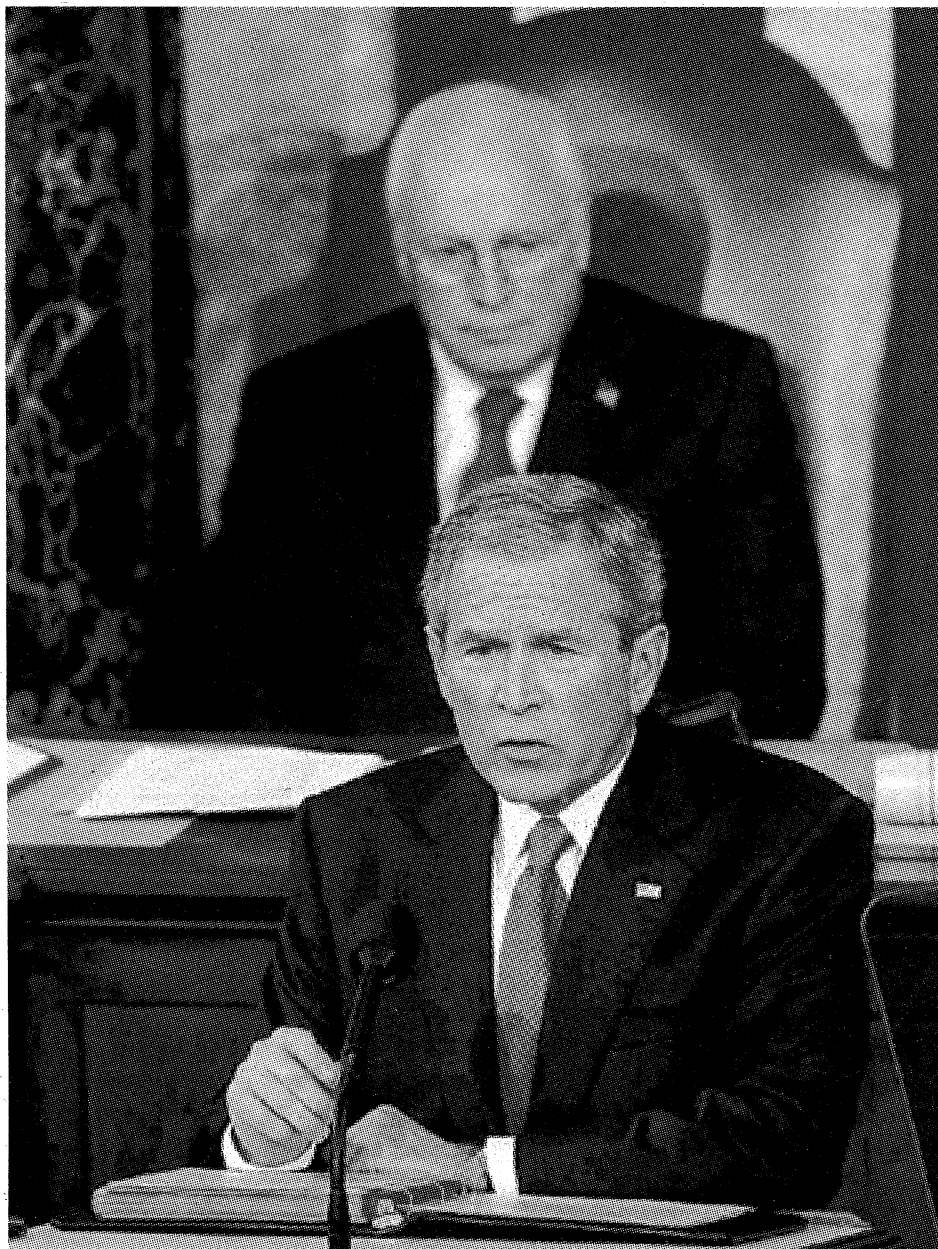
I wondered to myself why, if it is such a small crime, you can get into "BIG" trouble for it. Whatever the case, it is true. The RIAA exists seemingly to harass otherwise decent, innocent people for the sole purpose of plunging them into financial ruin. I heard a story about a college student whom the RIAA attempted to sue for millions of dollars, prompting the student to settle the case for about \$10,000, or something like that, just for downloading music. He lost his entire life savings, but earned it back through charitable donations from other students who felt sympathy for his plight. I don't know where the RIAA gets off with such a frivolous lawsuit, suing a college student for amounts of money that are absurdly high for a "crime" that shouldn't warrant anything more than a small fine, if even that.

Now, you might argue, "But he stole copyrighted material without permission! He stole private property!" Believe me, I am a huge supporter of private property rights, but the discussion of whether downloading music is really theft goes way, way deeper than that statement. Either way, that's another discussion for another article. The point is that, very often in America, the punishment for something trivial is something that should be a punishment for something much, much bigger. \$250,000 and three years of jail? Let's say that's true for a second. I wonder how that compares to the penalty for, say, armed robbery? Or a simple case of vandalism and destruction of private property, or a mugging, or an assault case? I know you don't get this sort of penalty for drunk driving, something that directly puts innocent lives at risk.

One question I've always had is this: how does the RIAA find out that you've downloaded music onto your hard drive, which is only found physically inside your computer? Are they hacking your computer or breaking into your room and accessing it while you're

not looking (the latter is quite a stretch, but you get my point)? I don't know much about computers, so I could very well be wrong, but with my limited knowledge, I wonder how in the world they can know that you've downloaded a thousand songs on your computer without either hacking into it or tracking your Internet activities. I would imagine (meaning I know) that both of these activities require a search warrant, which can only be given by a judge should there be probable cause to hack your computer. How could there possibly be probable cause to search your computer? Then

feel safe. We have come to believe that we can either live in an America that's safe from terrorism or an America where we enjoy our full range of constitutional rights. Freedom or safety. One or the other. Yet, freedom and safety aren't mutually exclusive; they go hand-in-hand. You cannot have liberty without security, and you cannot have security without liberty. How safe is a country where the government can declare anyone an "enemy combatant," deny them a trial in open criminal court, and interrogate them under the United States' new warped version of the Geneva



The Dynamic Duo

Randall Stevens

I remembered that, whether or not RIAA agents are illegally hacking their way into your computer, warrants allowing for governmental searches and seizures seem to have faded away with the yo-yo and Pokemon crazes.

We live in a United States that is different from that which our forefathers created. Today, things like warrantless wiretaps are not only tolerated by the general public, they are encouraged and often demanded. While Bush's anti-terrorist eavesdropping program was recently declared unconstitutional by U.S. District Judge Anna Diggs Taylor, the fact that it still has such enormous support from many Americans shows how far down the slippery slope we've slid. Whereas Americans in the late 18th century placed the highest value on liberty, people today just don't care how many of their civil rights are violated as long as they

Conventions?

The philosophical debates of our forefathers' time are gone, replaced by partisan bickering of the most simpleminded nature. Just look at campaign ads. "He voted against the PATRIOT Act three times, which gives the government the tools it needs to fight terror. He supports weakening America. He's out of touch with Ohio values." That is more or less an excerpt from an actual political campaign ad for an Ohio Republican running for a Senate seat in the 2006 congressional elections (it would be better if I actually remembered what the commercial said). So Ohio values are, what, launching vicious and unwarranted attacks against your opponent? Slander? Is that what Ohio values are? This is what the people who are supposed to be representing and protecting us spend all their time doing. Rather than holding deep debates about

the nature of liberty and the necessity for a balance between freedom and security, rather than holding a discussion on what must be done to stop terrorism while repairing our relations with the Middle East in a peaceful yet effective manner, our elected officials constantly spew out mindless political rhetoric aimed at destroying their political opponents and scaring the crap out of the American people. They always achieve the latter goal, mainly because Americans are jittery as all hell and as dumb as a rock.

We are pseudo-racists with a major superiority complex, collectively speaking. For the "leader of the free world," the most technologically advanced nation in the world in the 21st century, we still hold stereotypes of all types that, while funny in the hands of stand-up comics, really defy all forms of common sense. Blacks are all poor, Hispanics loot everything they see, Muslims are all terrorists. Too many people believe that Islam is an anti-American death cult that has done nothing but convert people by force. They either forget or don't know that during the Middle Ages, the Islamic world was responsible for many advances in medicine, mathematics, and other forms of science (progress that had not been seen since the Roman Empire and that would not be seen again until the Renaissance in the West). At that time, Western Europe, under the influence of the Roman Catholic Church, was a savage and barbaric land controlled by ruthless secular monarchs who used Christianity as justification for all sorts of deranged acts. Wait, that sounds a lot like the Middle East today, except their ruthless secular dictators use Islam as their justification.

As I said, we also have a collective superiority complex. We are extremely ethnocentric and believe that our way is not only the best way and the right way, but also the only way. We spread democracy throughout the Middle East just as missionaries spread Christianity to the African tribes: against their will. Look, I believe that a constitutional republic is the greatest form of government known to man, and I honestly do believe that our form of republican government is the best in the world today, but what's best for the United States isn't necessarily best for other countries. If some people want to live in a totalitarian regime or a communist state, then let them. It's not about whether they deserve democracy, it's about whether they want it. I'm sure if the oppressed people of the Middle East want our form of government, they'll let us know. We are obsessed with bringing our government and our culture to other lands that just simply don't want to assimilate our culture into their own. They want to enjoy their way of life, so why don't we just let them? Our culture and way of life may not be the best in the world.

Theft is quite legal in America. It's called taxes. Now, I understand that taxation is necessary for the government to maintain vital services such as police, schools, sanitation, road maintenance, and national defense. Still, what we have today isn't simply taxation — it's extortion. If the founding fathers knew

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State of the Union (continued)

Continued from previous page

how bad things would degenerate, they would never have rebelled against Britain. Whereas America once took up arms against the British crown over a progressive income tax of, I believe, 5% of each citizen's income, today we sit here and ignore the fact that the government takes about 43% of our yearly income, including the money we pay in state and city taxes. It would be nice if the money at least went back to us in the form of necessary government services, but instead it goes to fund wars and other people's welfare checks. The government takes half of my hard-earned money and uses part of it to kill people in the Middle East before giving the rest to someone that didn't do anything to deserve it? Bullshit, dude. Of course, it seems we need the higher taxes today. Whereas the two functions of a properly run government are providing a national defense against foreign powers and ensuring protection of the civil liberties and private property of its citizens, our government today seems to have a knack for sticking its nose into places it doesn't belong. Government intrusion into our daily lives costs money, and, of course, we have to pay for it. Ironic, isn't it?

Well, at least we won't let little things like that ruin our day. No, instead we'll let gay marriage do it. This never ceases to amaze me. People in this country get more mad about gays marrying each other, actual science (evolution, for example) being taught in science classrooms, and Hispanic people speaking Spanish than about the government's constant constitutional violations and the nearly complete failure to respect and recognize our civil liberties. We are so afraid and angry about Mexicans cutting our grass that we are actually building a giant fence to keep them out. We should be ashamed for highlighting our xenophobia for all the world to see. I understand that people either approve or disapprove of something like two guys marrying each other, but how did that become a bigger issue in America today than the Iraq War, the U.S. government's human rights violations in Guantanamo Bay prison, and all the blatant constitutional violations?

Actually, there is an answer for that. People in this country are fucking dumb. They're good people, they really are, but they are as dumb as a rock (and that's not giving the rock the credit it deserves). 70% of Americans cannot identify the New Deal, explain the basics

of affirmative action, name the three branches of government, or remember two First Amendment rights. Holy crap, these are the people that choose our elected officials! This is from an actual study, and it didn't ask people obscure questions like, "What does it mean when a congressional committee 'orders a bill reported'?" No, it had simple tasks, like naming the three branches of government (legislative, executive, and judicial, but hopefully you already know that). I learned this in elementary school! So of course people will take more of an interest in gay marriage than in something that's actually important.

...then all you are going to get is a "D" or an "R". A dunce or a retard.

Thinking isn't a requirement for homophobia.

We are so opposed to thinking that we don't even do research on a candidate when we vote. We just look for that one little letter next to their names: "D" or "R". Democrat or Republican. If you vote for a candidate because he/she is part of your political party,

maybe you should seriously consider not voting. We don't need Democrats or Republicans in office; we need competent officials (and they usually aren't found in the two major parties). I don't know what makes people think that one party will save America while the other one will destroy it, but it is a simple-minded belief that is absolutely silly. These candidates, once elected into office, don't have your best interests in mind. They have their own party's best interests in mind, as well as those of the politically-connected lobbyists and corporations. If you only vote for a candidate because they have a "D" or an "R" next to their name, then all you are going to get is a "D" or an "R". A dunce or a retard.

I think this is about all I can say about the state of our union right now. We have so many great things going for this country, but our arrogance and pride blinds us to the problems that we as a nation have. I don't think that all is lost, though. We have to wake up and realize that this country is not perfect just because it's America, and then we have to strive to make it perfect. To quote former President Bill Clinton, "There is nothing wrong with America that cannot be solved with what is right with America."

Special Olympics...Whaaaaaat?

By Kotei Aoki

Oh yes, I meant "Special Olympics." They were held on the third Sunday of October, on the same Sunday the Breast Cancer Walk was held (if you heard of that). People with special needs gathered at Pritchard Gym to play adapted games designed just for them. I had almost forgotten about the event until the Vice President of the Hillel Foundation for Jewish Life jogged my memory after their meeting discussing Creationism on that Friday. Thinking back on it, an ironic combination of incidents made that Sunday important to me.

Doubting that the directors of the Special Olympics would accept on-site volunteers who had not signed up prior to the event, I walked down the west half of Circle Road on the chilling morning. On the way, in front of Cardozo College, I bumped into my friend who had organized the Breast Cancer Walk. I felt bad about not attending the Walk, but I still only have one body, even if I seem to be ubiquitous on campus (according to my friends). At the sign-in table in the Sports Complex, I explained that I had not signed up to volunteer, but they still gave me a bag with a t-shirt (luckily, they had my size left) and a "VOLUNTEER" tag, along with the day's schedule.

So I was signed in with surprising smoothness.

While sitting on the top row of bleachers, I was glancing left and right at the rest of the volunteers. I was hoping to find some familiar faces. As I started to observe the fifteen or so athletic girls sitting to my left and thinking they might be on a Seawolves team, twenty volunteers were called. I ran down the bleachers (and almost missed a step) to get into the

group. We were led outside to meet the "athletes" of the day. There were already a few vans in which their agency had brought them to the event. All the "athletes" were ecstatic to play the games prepared for them. Within the group I accompanied, Christopher was so happy to see everyone that he kept giving high fives and handshakes. Michelle could not hide her excitement and kept rubbing her face. The group had a few more "athletes" led by two group leaders, Laura and Joe. For the first half of the day, I accompanied Michelle.

I was a chaperone for the day.

The event was delayed by an hour. While awaiting the opening of the ceremony, four of our "athletes" were chosen to relay the torch for the ceremony. Thinking back to it, I am surprised I had the chance to accompany the group that would represent the entire 200 to 300 or so "athletes." After being

handed the torch, both Michelle and I held it and started running. Of course, for the sake of security, the torch was not lit. But the feeling of having everyone cheering and of representing her friends must have been the reason for her ecstasy throughout the day. Certainly her participation in the relay with the torch distinguished her because everyone was congratu-

lating her for the rest of the day.

Oh, I forgot to mention this. There were six games: the Bean Bag Throw, Kick Soccer, Bowling, the Tennis Ball Throw, the Frisbee Throw, and the 10M/25M Walk. In the Bean Bag Throw, "athletes" received three bags filled with beans, like Hacky Sack bags, and aimed to throw them within circles drawn on the ground a few meters away. In Kick Soccer, "athletes" aimed to kick the ball within the goals drawn on the wall. The circles and goals had three sizes each, and the points were given with respect to their sizes. Bowling was everyone's favorite sport. They used a ramp to nudge a bowling ball (softer and lighter, of course!), and then let it roll. The scores were based on the number of pins they knocked down. Well, you know about bowling, don't you?

The Tennis Ball Throw and the Frisbee Throw had similar objectives. "Athletes" were given three chances or so to throw through hoops when given tennis balls or Frisbees. Last but not least, the Walk also had competitive component. It was just like a marathon but was strictly a walk for ten meters or twenty-five meters. All of "athletes" in the group tried the 25M Walk, and I walked with them.

After playing all of the adapted games, we

headed to the area between the Student Union and the Sports Complex. There was a DJ, and there were also tables with other fun games. A few "athletes" danced for a while. Well, technically, I was trying to lead them in dancing. I was never raised with any influence of dancing, so I only dance for social reasons. After dancing for a few songs, other volunteers in our group took Michelle, and I took Lori to the game tables. They had a variety of games, like coloring, and many free giveaways. I was deeply moved that there are still many people who care about individuals with special needs.

After going through all the tables, Lori told me she wanted to go to bathroom, so I led her to the restroom. Although she kept asking if I would stay with her the whole time, I was totally unprepared when she asked me if I would accompany her into restroom. I was perplexed, but the code of conduct for a chaperone says to never abandon the "athlete." I was relieved when I found no one else was in there as we walked in. While waiting, a bunch of people came in. I was half-embarrassed, but everyone was nice to me. Well, how likely is it that a man stands in the women's restroom and women basically do not mind the man's presence? So, all in all, it was an interesting experience. On the way out of the restroom, I took a deep breath.

Since I had promised it to Lori before heading to restroom, I took her to dance again. Lori could not follow the steps others were making. However, I just let her swing along to the music. When I saw how happy she looked, I was convinced that motivating their happiness is a blessing to all the volunteers. Have you ever met a person who becomes exuberant just with a little thing like being led in swing-

Continued on next page

The hell is a gigawatt?

October Sees Death Tolls Rise in Iraq

By Mia Fisher

October of this year proved to be one of the most deadly months for American troops in Iraq, with at least 103 brave soldiers dead. The violence has kept escalating, despite W's declaration of victory more than three years ago. This horrifying statistic comes at a time when Americans are increasingly apathetic about the divisive state of politics in our country. We have become so accustomed to hearing about more troops and civilians murdered every day, that we are now numb to it. This outrageous indifference is pathetic, preventable and just what the neo-conservatives want from us. They want their false war to be as distant as possible from the general public. They hide photos of returning caskets, presenting us with a sanitized version of war that is dishonest, conducive to indifference, disgusting, and insulting to our intelligence.

The majority of the public is not involved with the war effort at all, financially or personally. In previous wars, the entire population made sacrifices to help the troops and secure needed resources. People bought war bonds, planted gardens, women worked in factories and became nurses; everyone loved someone who went to Europe to fight the Nazis. Households in the Confederacy during the Civil War took care of injured Union soldiers. It is dramatically different with this war, as only 130,000 troops out of a population of 300 million Americans are fighting. The same people keep going back, voluntarily or not, and they keep getting permanently injured, killed, maimed, and psychologically scarred for life. They leave their families to support our country in a war it never should have gotten into. The troops were deceived, the public was deceived, and still they do their duty, sacrificing themselves for the hope of stability, democracy and peace; and, 103 of them are dead, just this month. That is three soldiers per day murdered, three kids per day who will never see their parent alive again, three mothers per day who will never see their son or daughter again. If you are not outraged and saddened by this, you need a serious reality check.

Not only are our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan getting killed, many troop divisions do not have appropriate armor and other supplies to protect themselves. Furthermore, they return to a country which continuously whittles away Veterans' benefits and lets many slip through the cracks without psychological counseling, appropriate financial support, or healthcare. We do not take care of our active troops or our veterans like we should, and this is despicable. Dubya must be truly un-patriotic to neglect the basic safety of the troops.

Despite all of the overwhelming evidence that the sectarian violence is escalating in Iraq, Dubya's disgusting rhetoric would have us think otherwise. His generals say we are approaching chaos in Iraq, and yet he claims that things are getting better. Look at the numbers, Mr. President. Listen to your generals.

They know much more about war than you do, as you have never participated in one. Don't try and fool us again, because we are not as ignorant as you and your advisors assume we are. In a last-minute desperate attempt to scare us into voting Republican this Tuesday, Dubya has begun to compare Democrats with terrorist-coddlers, repeating the rhetoric of 2004 that we will endanger the country if we put the Democrats in power. Mr. President, we are not idiots. Your arrogance has caused the deaths of thousands of brave soldiers, countless thousands of innocent civilians, and you have not come any closer to protecting the United States from terrorism. In fact, analysts concur that the U.S. is at an even greater risk for a terrorist attack than before, because the American wars in the Middle East have created so much fury amongst previously non-violent Muslims. Dubya has spent billions upon billions in Iraq, but barely anything has been spent to protect vital resources: the food supply, the water supply, seaports, even the airports have lacked sufficient funding to truly protect their facilities. Asking an elderly woman with a canvas flower bag, blue hair and a Florida tan to take her shoes off for security is not making us any safer. Restricting liquids to be brought as carry-on luggage is not making us any safer. They only create the illusion that we are safer, and the illusion that the government is doing all it can to protect us. In fact, it's not. The food supply and the water supply are dangerously vulnerable to attack by biological weapons, and cargo ships go un-inspected into ports like San Francisco and New York all the time. This is alarming, especially because Dubya's administration is focusing all of its resources on non-issues, like gay marriage and online gambling.

Really, all of this is just an illusion. Everything that has happened after and including the election of Dubya to office in 2000 is not real. We are in The Matrix! Really! Primarily, he was not elected fairly: he was appointed by the Supreme Court. We had the illusion of a fair election. Secondly, he plunged us into a war in the Middle East because Saddam had "weapons of mass destruction," which also turned out to be illusions! Thirdly, the rhetoric surrounding the war and despicable, Constitution-revoking laws (the Patriot Act, the Torture Bill) enacted to "protect" us are actually making us more vulnerable to terrorists and a tyrannical regime in the White House. Now, Dubya is refuting mathematical statistics telling him that his strategy of "stay the course" was gravely wrong, saying instead on the campaign trail that things are getting better in Iraq. Furthermore, Dubya even admits that his war is an illusion! Dubya is telling us that those 103 caskets that came home in October are illusions, that those brave men and women aren't actually dead, and that we are actually making progress in Iraq. It's really an incredible job they have done of sanitizing a depressing reality. Dubya's Administration and the neo-cons in Congress have created a fake world for us, where everything is actual-



Steve Bell

ly the opposite of what they say it is! It's disturbingly backwards and arrogant. It's a false war with false pretenses, false caskets and false reasoning behind an impotent excuse for strategy.

We can only hope that Dubya can have the humility and charisma of a true leader to accept the obvious reality: it's time for a dramatic strategic change and an apology to the global community. Preferably, this apology will be in the form of positive action worthy of a superpower: stopping the genocide in Darfur, ending nuclear proliferation, finding a cure for Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis, curing AIDS, restricting population growth, and developing sustainable technologies. We can only hope that a new Congress can begin to accomplish these things. But by then, it will be too late for many victims of these injustices.

In a recent photo of a war protest in New York, there was a gentleman carrying sign: one side said "Bush's Arrogance = Death," and the

other side said "Osama Bin Laden's Arrogance = Death." This is an accurate analysis of the situation: Dubya's power-crazed arrogance is just as dangerous as Bin Laden's power-crazed arrogance.

The most important thing that any of us can do is decide to care. Deciding to care will automatically motivate a person to vote, to be informed, to pay respect to fallen soldiers, to have empathy for impoverished Iraqi civilians, to talk to one's friends and family. All of these things are necessary to move forward from this stagnating disaster. We need an informed public for positive change: a move towards unity and away from divisiveness. Inform yourself! Decide to care! An informed public is the best defense against tyranny. And, when you have a moment out of your busy lives, take a moment to think about the 103 soldiers that have died, just in this past month, and about the thousands of family members who will be grieving for the rest of their lives.

Olympics (continued)

Continued from previous page

ing left and right to music? If you have, you know how blessed their smiles make you feel. Right?

I would have said the lunch was not fabulous. However, some "athletes," like Lori, cannot consume carbohydrates, according to Laura. There were restrictions to determine what everyone could consume. Burger King, one of the sponsors of the event, provided burgers and some snacks. Even the pickles were served separately. By the way, the chocolate pie was fabulous, though I should admit I am not a fan of chocolate. In it were chocolate mousse, chocolate cream, and chocolate sauce. I saw a few people taking two pieces of the pie. Lori finished her pie and wanted more, too. She would have taken her friend's pie if Joe hadn't stopped her. I gave her half of my piece because I had enough chocolate after just half. Still, whatever the excuse, if you spend time with people with special needs, I know you would prefer sharing your pie to enjoying the pie all by yourself.

The award ceremony followed the lunch. Many "athletes" received awards.

Their faces were filled with smiles. We applauded those receiving medals. We congratulated them for their sports(wo)manship. We even accompanied some of them to receive their medals if they were too shy to go up alone. Some athletes received four or five medals. I am sincerely proud of them. Though I was not with Christopher for very long, his spirit was memorable to all of us. Every time his name was called, he ran up with great enthusiasm. His joy must also be what encourages people to lend a helping hand. Our athletes' joy actually overwhelmed us.

Everything was carried out successfully, thanks to the directors of the event, the group leaders, and all the volunteers who helped with the event. Do you think they changed the athletes' lives? Probably. Also, I met a bunch of people with good personalities but talked to them only briefly. As I felt that I should give as much attention as possible to the "athletes" in my group, I did not talk to many others. I am sure you would like to share your experiences as well. Respond to this article.

Lastly, let us all applaud those who have great volunteer spirit.

That's your name isn't it? Calvin Klein? It's written all over your underwear.

Bush, Rumsfeld Invite Gitmo Critics to "Try it Out"

A Satire by Joey Safdia

After a recent hailstorm of criticism stemming from President George W. Bush's signing of the Military Commissions Act of 2006, the president gave skeptics of the conditions and legality of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility a chance to "try it out."

"I understand the concerns of the American people in this delicate matter," Bush remarked to a national audience the other night. "We want to show the world the compassion and mercy that the terrorists deny to innocent people everyday. We do not torture detainees when utilizing our aggressive interrogation techniques, and we feel that it is time for those who believe otherwise to see the truth for themselves."

This unprecedented decision came after numerous allegations of torture taking place in the Guantanamo Bay detention facility, or "Gitmo". The release of some of the CIA interrogation techniques, including sensory deprivation and waterboarding, has sparked much controversy throughout the global community.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld stood by the president in his decision.

"For far too long, critics of our wartime policies have hampered our ability to detain and interrogate terrorists," Rumsfeld told reporters. "They go on television and tell how we brutally torture innocent people. Come on, people, this isn't the Dark Ages. We don't own a torture rack. There's no Iron Maiden in our possession. There's none of that taking place. Before you go saying that this or that technique that the CIA uses to interrogate prisoners is inhumane and constitutes torture, why don't you experience it for yourself?"

"I guarantee, it would almost be a pleasant experience. You'd completely forget you were in a prison," he added.

Bush and Rumsfeld stated that the program would start next month, in which journalists and politicians who claim that the government tortures Gitmo detainees can sign up to spend one month in Gitmo as a mock prisoner. There, they will have the opportunity to experience life in the detention facility just as detainees picked up in Iraq and Afghanistan experience, including all of the CIA's infamous "torture" techniques. For extra realism, as the White House put it, participants will lose all legal rights during their stay, nor will the government make any attempt to notify the family members of the participants. To add to the effect, the government will randomly select 10% of volunteers to have their stay at Gitmo indefinitely extended against their will and without their knowledge.

"All this stuff we add, like the extended trips and that stuff, is to make people feel like they're real detainees," asserted Bush. "That way, when they see that it really isn't so bad, they won't be able to complain that it was an unfair simulation or that they were treated better because they were reporters or anything like that. They'll understand once and for all that the United States is a freedom-loving angel of mercy."

Rumsfeld also went on to state that this is only the beginning. In order to increase the credibility of the government in the mind of the average American citizen, the program will expand so that, within three years, any American citizen who doubts the compassion and humanity, as well as efficiency and legality, of the treatment and interrogations of detainees will be able to sign up and experience firsthand what it's like to be deemed an "enemy combatant" by the United States Government. Due to the necessity of the program, a quota will be implemented so that, if the government fails to attract a certain number of participants in any given month, adults of legal voting age will be required by law to partic-



Wow...kinky

Randall Stevens

ipate that month in order to fill up the difference. This requirement, and the expansion of the program itself to include ordinary American citizens, is necessary to show all of America the legality and humanity of the CIA interrogations rather than just untrustworthy liberal media moguls and corrupt politicians, according to Rumsfeld.

Vice President Dick Cheney said the program was a "step in the right direction" that would disprove the myth that the Bush Administration "has something to hide from the American people, or that it is holding some secret political agenda". Cheney was unable to answer any more questions from reporters because the batteries that powered his heart were dying and he had to rush to replace his AA's.

During the announcement, Rumsfeld predicted the program would be a "great success". He told reporters that not only will America stop comparing the Administration to "medieval inquisitors", but people will realize that the detainees experience less hardships than the average American.

"We told prisoners to stand on their feet for extended periods of time, and people see that and yell, 'What a horrible method of torture!' But I stand on my feet for hours a day myself, giving speeches, talking to other officials, looking over reports and signing papers, and so on. I would never classify that as torture, no way," explained the Secretary of Defense. "Why just last week I was at the local Wal-Mart, believe it or not I do my own shopping, and I was forced to stand on line for ten full minutes because the cashier had to go price check an item. You'd think that these kids would be more motivated working for minimum wage, but whatever the case, I stand on my feet hours on end doing what America needs me to do. Is it too much to ask for the random Afghani civilians we pick up to endure a couple of necessary hardships as they do their civic duty for America?"

The new program drew fire from Democrats, saying it was just another tactic to divert attention away from the Iraq War.

"Support for the war is falling with each passing moment," said Senator Hillary Clinton, D-NY. "The program to get

Americans to experience what it is like to be a detainee is just a diversion away from Bush's failing war. It is also a diversion away from the issue of how we treat the detainees themselves. If you're too busy thinking about your own experiences being interrogated, you won't even stop and think how the detainees feel."

"The problem with this program is that it doesn't deal with the issue of how we are going to try participants in this program," said House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi. "Will made up evidence be allowed in military tribunals for anyone who still believes that the government tortures detainees? And what about the legal status of the participants? Are they American citizens, Participants of War (POW), or will the president deem them as 'enemy simulations'?"

"Remember to do your homework and study hard, or else you'll find yourself stuck in Guantanamo Bay," Senator John Kerry, D-MA, told a college audience. The remark, which drew immediate fire from Republicans, was later classified by Kerry as a "botched joke" and a "failed to attempt to show the American people that while I may be a politician, I'm also a person".

Despite the fact that public opinion polls for the Guantanamo Bay participation program show a 3% approval rating, Bush had nothing but good things to say. "The resolve of the American people to see what we've done to the Geneva Conventions will not be broken by evil men who seek to impose their own perverted view of Islam on the world through terror. And the American people will no longer underestimate our intentions and policies when it comes to abducting random Afghani civilians without notifying their families and denying them fair trials in open court. They will know that our goal is, first and foremost, to win the war on terror, and to make the world a safer place for freedom."

Added Bush, "Maybe if people see for themselves what's going on with these prisons, which Article II of the U.S. Constitution gives explicit authority to the president as Commander-in-Chief to set up, they will understand that since we aren't actually killing, raping, mutilating, or performing biological experiments on them, it doesn't actually count as torture."

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THE ULTIMATE BATTLE

THE LIRR GAPS VS. THE GRAND CANYON

By Larry Lamb

Stats:

The LIRR gaps:

Length: 11-15 inches.
Depth: 4-8 feet
Kill Count: 1
Injuries: 131
Signature Move: Minnesota Drop
Motto: "Watch the Gap"
Weakness: Lawyers

The Grand Canyon:

Length: 5 miles to 18 miles
Depth: 1 mile to 1.5 miles
Kill Count: 1,205
Injuries: 10,204
Signature Move: The Eye Gorge
Weakness: Tourists and Pollution

Battle Report:

"Hello, this is Jim Jacob Jones reporting, and here we are at a Colorado state park, ready to see the battle for the National Gap Champion. Our champion the Grand Canyon will be challenged by the up-and-coming LIRR gaps. It looks like the battle has started. Oh no, it looks like the Grand Canyon is going for its signature move, the Eye Gorge. It looks like the LIRR gaps took the hit hard: they lost a Queens and a Brooklyn gap.

"It looks like the LIRR gaps are going in for a strike, but it fails. The Grand Canyon is just too big. It looks like the LIRR gaps have to form a new strategy, or it's lights-out for them.

"Oh no, the Grand Canyon is striking again, and this time it's a really bad hit — the LIRR gaps have lost three gaps. What is this? What is the Syosset gap doing? It is tickling an unidentified part of the Grand Canyon — it appears the Grand Canyon is distracted and seems to be twitching a little bit.

"What are the rest of the LIRR gaps doing? They are assembling into something — assembling into a penis, a large penis. It appears the Grand Canyon is still distracted.

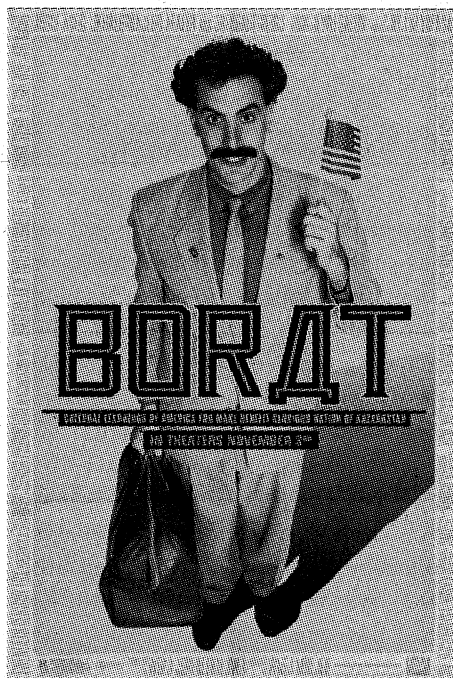
"What are the LIRR gaps doing now? It seems they are inserting themselves into the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon is trying to stop the LIRR penis, but it seems the Syosset gap has found, well, the clitoris of the Grand Canyon, our nation's vagina. The LIRR penis is going balls-deep here, it's going all the way. The LIRR penis is moving side to side in the Grand Canyon and is thrusting quite fast now. Also, the single Syosset gap is increasing its speed on the clitoris of the Grand Canyon.

"What is this? The Grand Canyon is turning bright red and is shivering. Now what is this? The Grand Canyon is shooting a stream of rocks and water into the crowd — it seems we have a squirter. The Grand Canyon has fallen to the ground, the LIRR penis removes itself, and it looks like the Grand Canyon is down for the count.

"The LIRR gaps are the new champions: they now hold the title of National Gap Champions. Who would have thought a giant chasm could have an orgasm? This is the end of this battle, see you next time."

Writings of Review for Movie

Borat



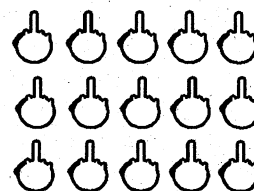
By Irv Novoa

Jagshemash! My name a Irv. The Ministry of Information for Brook in Stony send me to movie film, *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*. Very nice! I think it great success. Borat begin success on show of moron Ali G. In movie film, Borat Sagdiyev, journalist for Kazakhstan, leave village of Kusek when government want to make for glorious nation. He film documentary and visit many peoples and shares cultural learnings when he see goddess, Pamela. Borat fall in love and drive across US&A for hope to gain entry to her vazhin. He like to make sexy time with ladies. Yes!

When we first meets Borat, we see Kazakhstan is glorious nation with superior potassium. Borat home town fulfilled with diverse peoples, like farmer, prostitute sister, retard brother, asshole neighbor, and village rapist. Kusek also have sand, goat, kindergarten, rocks, cassette-player, Running of the Jew Festival, sand, plow, potassium, and rocks, making it greatest country in all of world.

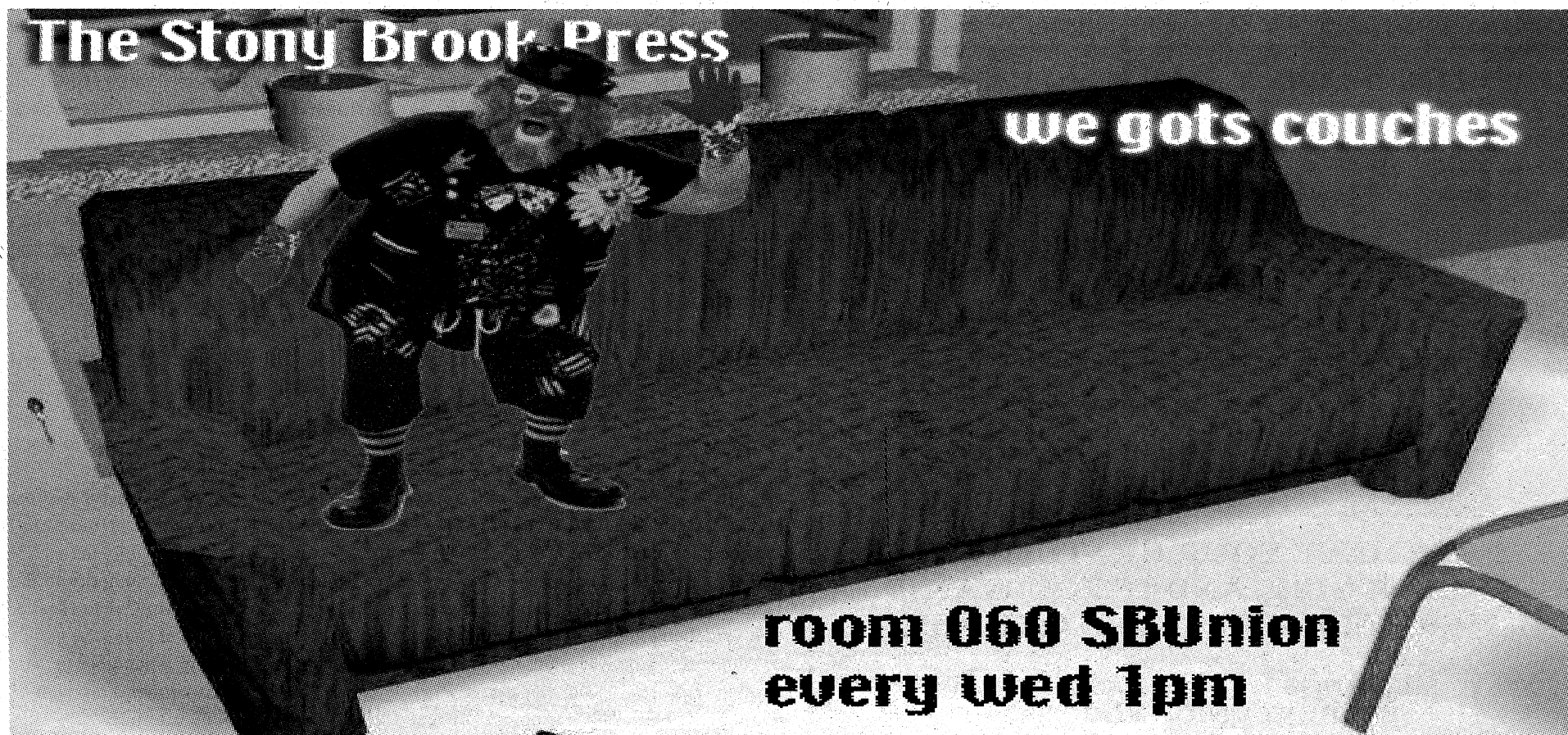
When Borat leave on journey to find golden-haired Pamela, Borat make many interview and get learnings from all America. Some of peoples Borat meet is genuine chocolate faces, feminists, rodeo peoples, and Jew. But, some peoples are too serious and don't like Borat. They say he is man who say bad things about peoples with different race, and he not create positive image of Kazakh. I believe Sacha Baron Cohen, who make actings for Borat, is man with many brain. He catch lots of idiot say bad things about Gypsy, female, the gay, and Jew. Making great commentaries of dumb vanilla faces. This movie film has balance of funniness, dramas, good actings and stereophonic listenings. I give Borat fifteen vazhin ups.

Jinqui!



"Borat"

The Director Man



Hey you, get your damn hands off her!

Music Reviews

Anousha Shankar

By Mia Fisher

Last Friday, world-renowned sitarist Anoushka Shankar (daughter of Indian classical music pioneer and sitarist Ravi Shankar) performed at the Staller Center. The performers came from a wide range of musical and ethnic backgrounds and played traditional South Asian instruments like the sitar and tabla, as well as traditional Western instruments, such as piano, drums, and bass. Shankar and her talented ensemble fused these many seemingly divergent sounds to create a beautifully harmonious union. Creativity and originality permeated the entire performance, with various talented performers swaying in perfect rhythm with Shankar. She was positioned in the center, guiding the development of each unique piece with poise, flexibility, and an intimate perception of the shape she wanted it to take. The reverence with which she and her ensemble members play was evident in this performance and inspiring; the communication among the musicians onstage was also profoundly moving.

The sitar is an eighteen- to twenty-stringed traditional South Asian instrument with movable frets and a distinctively lush, resonant sound. It is held somewhat like a guitar, except with a much longer neck and rounder body. It was popularized in the West in the 1960s by George Harrison, a protégé of Ravi Shankar and a member of the Beatles. Anoushka Shankar has utilized the instrument traditionally and has also expanded its creative range and global influence dramatically, performing with artists such as Nina Simone, Elton John, James Taylor, Sting, and Madonna.

The concert here at Stony Brook was part of the tour celebrating Shankar's latest album, *Rise*, released in September of 2004. The album features numerous compositions by Shankar herself and continues with the theme of fusion among



Anousha Shankar

Colston Julian

multiple musical traditions, highlighting the didgeridoo, cello, violin, piano, and electronica. Shankar was joined onstage by Tanmoy Bose on tabla, a man whose passion for music was evident from his continuous smile and boundless energy. Also performing were Leo Dombecki on piano, Ravichandra Kulur on flute, Aditya Prakash on vocals, Clarence Gonsalves on bass, Jesse Charnow, and Kenji Ota. Prakash's voice was amazingly cavernous, and he permeated the entire recital hall with his vibrato.

Less and less frequently are we so blessed as to encounter a musician who does not adhere to a pre-exacted formula of a cookie-cutter song (further disguised by false bodies and false faces) and present that song to the world; less and less often do we hear innovative, truly artistic pieces that are evolving and growing even while being performed live onstage. The young Shankar is the epitome of originality and creativity when it comes to forging new paths in world music. Her flexible musical talent is essential to an ever-changing, increasingly diverse global community and offers a wonderful opportunity for connection among various musical disciplines. Belonging to this incredibly diverse university community, we can all learn and benefit from Shankar's desire for connection and innovation among different cultures.

The Hold Steady

By Steve McLinden

Have you recently asked yourself, "How come people don't get wasted while listening to rock music anymore?" Simply put, it's because bands haven't been putting out music like Brooklyn-based indie rock band The Hold Steady. With their third album, *Boys and Girls in America* (their first on Vagrant Records), Craig Finn and the boys show that they just wanna rock, and they do it quite well.

While many music fans have rejected every New York City band as, well, "one of those New York City bands," The Hold Steady's sound might seem better placed on the Jersey Shore. Frontman Craig Finn admits that among his biggest influences in songwriting is Bruce Springsteen. On tracks like the depressing piano-driven ballad "First Night," about a lost girlfriend, the influence of The Boss' legendary storytelling is unmistakable. The overall mood of the album



Vagrant Records

The Hold Steady: Boys and Girls in America

paints a downhearted picture that is nonetheless filled with hope (particularly in "Southtown Girls"), resonating with Springsteen's introspective style.

Finn has said that the concept of Boys and Girls in America is based in beatnik Jack Kerouac's 1957 novel, *On The Road*. Then again, it seems that the title of the album tells you exactly what the songs are about: real

people who you feel like you know — or you know someone who knows them.

On the band's sophomore 2005 album *Separation Sunday*, which was released on niche indie NYC label Frenchkiss Records, Finn told the overlapping stories of a drug addict, a pimp, and a hard partier. This time around, the band has a much more accessible and less erratic sound that shouldn't scare even the most apprehensive of classic rock fans. The high-energy grit that hits your ears on the definite party tune "Same Kooks," complete with synthesized organ and a rabid Southern Rock-like guitar solo, sounds more like the classic progressive rock band Boston. Meanwhile, first single "Chips Ahoy!" exhibits a few more roots in post-punk and sounds sort of like early Weezer (punk rock scholars might recognize keyboardist Franz Nicolay from Brooklyn's own The World/Inferno Friendship Society). Transitions from song to song are smooth, like that from the confessional "Citrus" to the brooding but harder-rocking "Chillout Tent," a tale about a girl who took the wrong stuff at a music festival.

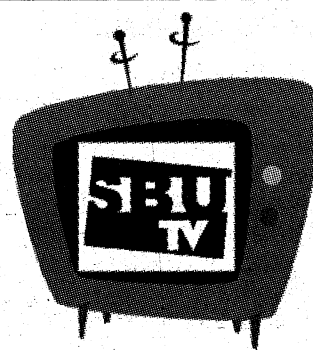
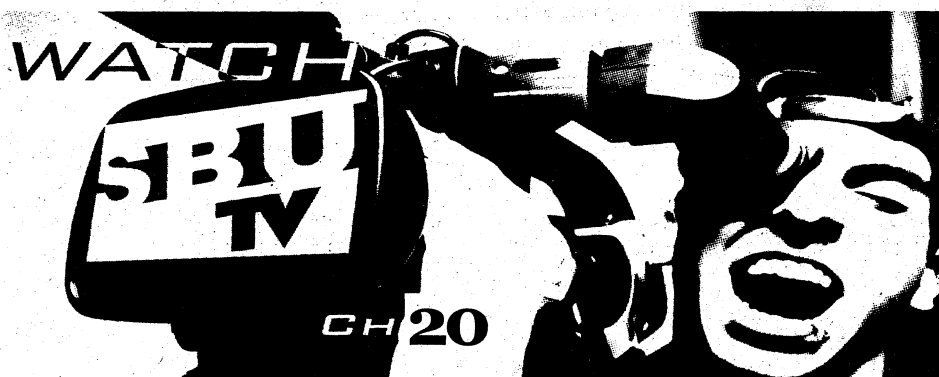
If I have any complaints about the album, it's that with eleven tracks just breaking forty minutes, it's too damn short. Some listeners might be turned off by the distinctively nerdy-sounding talking/singing voice of Finn, but, then again, people have said the same things about Springsteen or Bob Dylan.

The band is currently touring the country to support the album, and their Black Friday show in Hoboken is already sold out. The Hold Steady is the up-and-coming bar rock band, and if you like rock music, period, I highly recommend picking up *Boys And Girls in America* before all of your friends do.



"Boys and Girls in America"

The Hold Steady



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Starfox Command

By Jowy Romano

Star Fox Command is the latest addition to Nintendo's *Star Fox* franchise. This time around, Fox McCloud and the gang will be defending the Lylat System on the Nintendo DS. *Command* is the first *Star Fox* game on a handheld system. Q-Games, the developer Nintendo entrusted with the title, actually did a great job taking the series portable.

The storyline starts after the events of *Star Fox Assault*, with a disbanded *Star Fox* team. As the game progresses,

one of the goals is to recruit your former teammates. The first time through the game the story is linear. However, after the game is beaten once, multiple story choices open up that ultimately lead to nine different endings.

The story is a bit simple, but it is strangely heartwarming to see the *Star Fox* characters further develop. Fox is emo after a messy break up with Krystal, Peppy is now general of the Cornerian fleet (taking the place of a sickly General Pepper), Slippy now has a fiancée, Falco is the same old Falco (off being a loner), and Krystal has joined up with Fox's rival Star Wolf.

The gameplay is very similar to that of the original *Star Fox* and *Star Fox 64*, but with a handful of new strategy elements. Each mission has a unique map on which you draw the flight path of Fox and his wingmen, turn after turn. On this map screen you attempt to intercept enemies and missiles before they get to your mothership, the Great Fox, and you launch attacks on enemy bases as well. At the end of each turn, if any of your allies encounter enemies, you will have to play out a battle scene with traditional *Star Fox* ship-combat gameplay. This alone, for me, makes the game worth the thirty-five bucks.

Of course, the control scheme has been updated to utilize the DS's touch screen. For

the most part, the control is great. The only problems are as follows: number one, barrel rolls become a problem because you have to rub the touch screen left and right to perform one. Not only is this annoying to execute during flight, it sometimes happens accidentally. Second is a problem common in many DS games: your hands will get cramped quickly playing in this control style.

Another unique aspect of this *Star Fox* game is that all the characters' ships have different strengths and weaknesses. Some

of the ships can carry more bombs, some can lock onto multiple targets, and others can fly further with each turn on the map screen. These are just some of the many quirks the different ships have.

Overall, Q-Games did a wonderful job incorporating strategy elements into the existing *Star Fox* gameplay system that we all know and love. My only real complaint is that certain elements of the game feel a bit repetitive after a while. If they put more variations into the ship battles, this game would easily get five out of five middle fingers. There are four different types of ship battles: missile chases, enemy ship encounters, enemy bases, and boss battles. Save for boss battles, you will get into battles of these types multiple times in every mission. None of them have enough variation to keep each battle as interesting as it could be. Even then, as I said before, the game still holds up and is well worth the \$35.



"Star Fox Command"

Nintendo

Okami

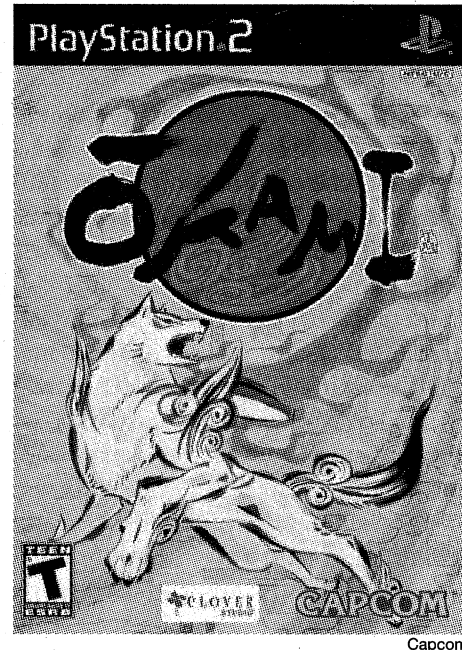
By Steve McLinden

The next-generation gaming console war is upon us this month, but with masterpiece action/adventure title *Okami*, the PlayStation2 shows in a big way that it's still alive and kickin'. Call it "*Zelda* with a wolf" if you choose, this cel-shaded Japanese-watercolor-inspired game is a work of both visual and gaming art.

Okami, which is apparently a Japanese pun meaning both wolf and deity, was released on September 19th in the U.S. and became a surprise hit when gaming publications across the board praised the game with near-perfect scores. Then again, gamers should have expected an unconventional title, as it was developed by Clover Studios (the people who brought us cel-shaded cult platformer *Viewtiful Joe*) and published by Capcom. Arriving in an end-of-the-generation depression that seems swamped with repetitive RPGs, Metal Gear wannabes, and GTA rehashes, *Okami* is a fresh breath of fun and creativity.

I'm not usually one to jump for the Japanese mythology kind of story, but *Okami* is intriguing; mesmerizing, even. As the legend goes, a wolf goddess named Amaretsu — the player — saved the quaint Japanese village of Kamiki from the torment of an eight-headed dragon who lives just outside of town. About a hundred years later, this beast's spirit is freed and he roams about, tormenting the world again, at which point a goddess beckons Amaretsu's statue to return to life and do battle once again to save the world from the evil spirits haunting it. Yeah, so it sounds kinda weird, but that's when it gets good.

The gameplay is pretty intuitive and is, in fact, a lot like Nintendo's *Zelda* franchise. Where *Okami* differs is in its "celestial paintbrush" feature, the wolf's divine powers to create a brushstroke during play to change the dynamics of your environment. For example, a straight line through an object will slash it, or if you draw a circle on water, a lily pad will appear, allowing Amaretsu to cross rivers. With fifteen distinct abilities, each granted by a different animal of the Chinese zodiac, I found myself really thinking about what power to use and when to use it, with strong elements of the puzzle genre shin-



Wolfenstein 8D

Capcom

ing through at times.

Okami's true forte as a game is in its epic storytelling. While it's not very difficult (which may disappoint if you're looking for a challenge to your gaming skills), the number of missions and the length of the game make it worth your money and your effort. Scrolling through walls of text (as much as an RPG; there's no voice acting to read to you) can get annoying at times, but it makes for great character and plot development, and I have a poor attention span anyway. The music really fits perfectly with the classical Japanese style of *Okami*, but characters talk with an individual gibberish that can get sort of disruptive. The greatness of the graphics is not measured (as with most games today) by their proximity to virtual reality; they're just flat-out aesthetically impressive. As enjoyable to watch as it is to play, *Okami* can best be described as interacting with a world inside of a painting.

I don't care if you have next-gen holiday fever, if you've gotten your 360 already, or if you're looking forward to a PS3 or a Wii this month: don't put away your PS2 just yet. If you're an adventure fan or an aficionado who considers video games to be an art form, you really must own this game. I would rarely use "perfection" when describing a game, but *Okami* is a shining work of brilliance.



"Okami"

PlayStation 2

WHY WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN, SIR? I DO DECLARE
THAT THIS IS IN NO WAY BLANK SPACE.

Art Gallery Reviews

Athena LaTocha - *Sturm and Drang*

One of LaTocha's landscapes

Jowy Romano

By Jowy Romano

Of the many campus art exhibits, the Graduate Art Gallery is often overlooked. You can find it on the

first floor of Melville Library. The current show is called *Sturm and Drang* by Athena LaTocha. *Sturm and Drang*, meaning "storm and stress" in German, is a collection of emotional landscape paintings.

An effective aspect of the paintings is their rough and gritty textures. To accomplish this look, LaTocha used tools such as rocks, concrete bricks, sheet metal and large planks of wood. "There's this overwhelming sense of conflict and tension within the physical and psychological struggle of making these paintings," explains LaTocha.

The truly remarkable aspect of the works is that when you take a few extra steps back from the paintings; the rough strokes come together and form beautiful and minutely detailed landscape scenes.

LaTocha grew up in Alaska, where she was surrounded by mountains, glaciers, tundra and the ocean. This is where the content of the paintings comes from. "There's a kind of rugged texture to this landscape and sense of power that makes you feel powerless."

The emotion behind LaTocha's paintings, on the other hand, is related

to her heritage. She is from a Native American background (Ojibwe and Latoka) to which she says, "Being aware of your cultural background and its history is difficult, at times,

"There's this overwhelming sense of conflict and tension within the physical and psychological struggle of making these paintings"

Athena LaTocha
MFA Student

because you learn things that are... not taught in the history books as we grow up." "The paintings look at colonization and political injustices or confrontation with conflict might ask," she continued.

Sturm and Drang will be up in the Library art gallery through November 11th, everyday from 5:00-7:00 PM.



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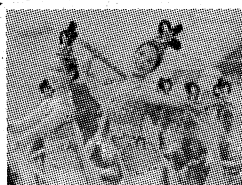
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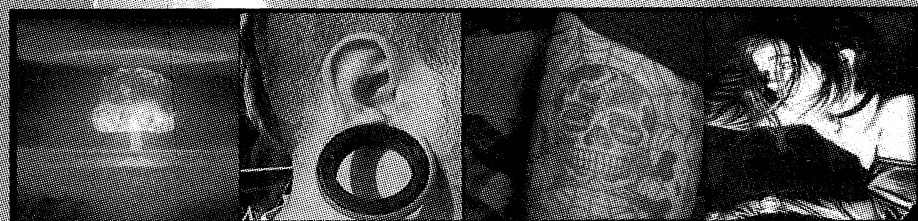
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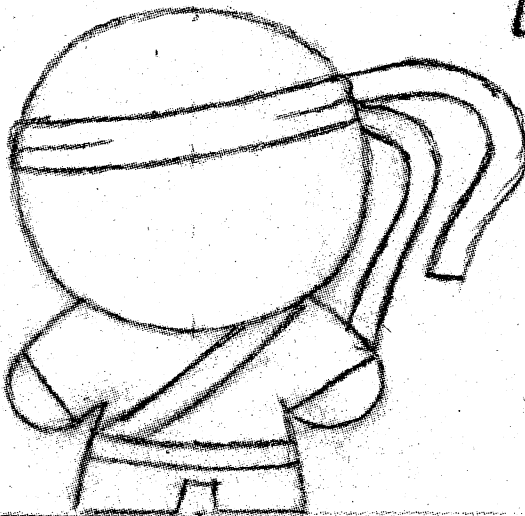
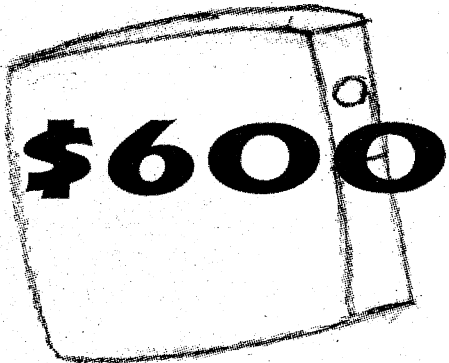
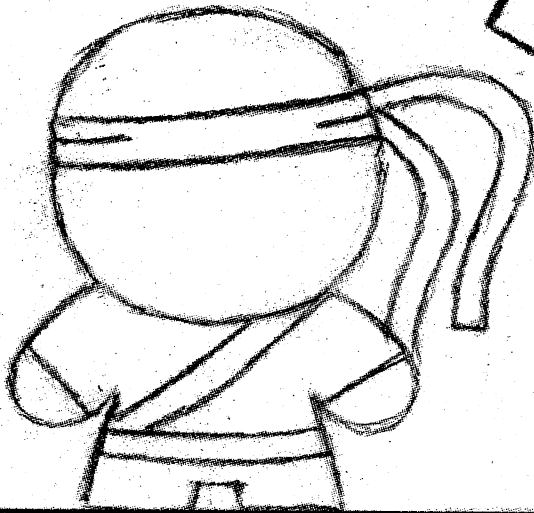
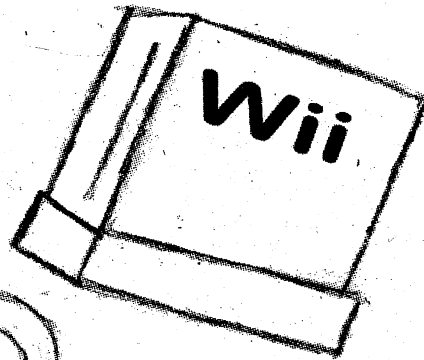
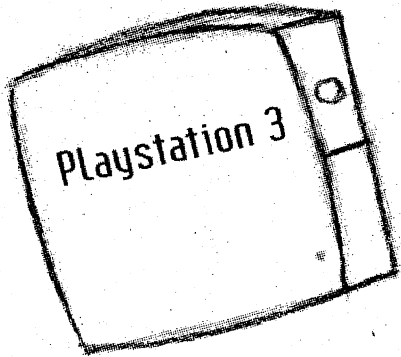
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Body Jewelry
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What was it, George, birdwatching?

THE FANTASTIC ADVENTURES OF FES: "Piece of S*** 3"



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By: John O'Dell

iRate

A Macintosh Column by Joe Rios



Since the last iRate, Apple has released a number of new items for Mac lovers to play with, so here's a brief summary of what we have this week: new iPods released, new processors, iPods celebrate five years of music, Mac users raise money for computers in underprivileged schools and a new generation of iPod in the works.

On November 1st, customers who pre-ordered the new iPod Shuffles began receiving them in the mail. The new Shuffle is smaller, lighter, and tougher than ever before. Like the previous model, the new Shuffle is without a screen and is minimalistic on controls, but it will get the job done. The significant changes have been largely cosmetic, shifting from the old design, which looked like a pack of gum, to the new design, which is the shape and size of a book of matches. In this model you will also see a belt clip to attach this snazzy device to your shirt, pants, backpack etc.... In addition, the shuffle is now more affordable than ever: a one-gig model will run you a mere \$79.00.

Continuing with iPod news, this past month marked five years since the initial

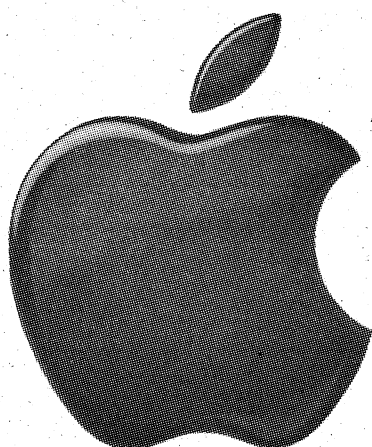
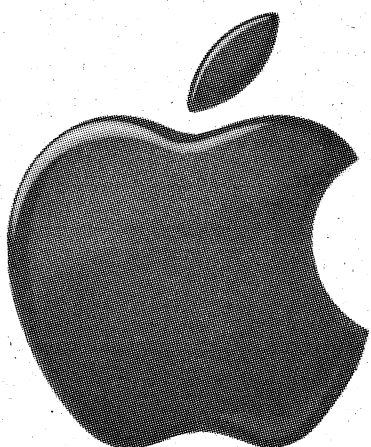
introduction of the first generation iPod. Looking back, it seems amazing that Apple has come so far from that plastic/metal brick of an MP3 player; (sniff) my babies have come so far in such a short time....

In other iPod news, now available in both four- and eight-gig models, a special edition RED iPod Nano has been released as part of Apple's campaign to fight AIDS. The price is the same as the other colored iPods, the difference being that \$10 of each one purchased goes toward fighting AIDS in Africa. Also, the US Patent and Trademark Office has granted Apple a patent for a new type of iPod display. While the patent isn't too detailed, it does indicate that the all-too-famous click wheel is going away. This will be the single most drastic change for the iPod in its history, and it is speculated to have a 2007 release.

Also released in the past month: new processors for the MacBookPro and iMac. After a considerable delay, Apple finally got around to putting the faster Intel Core2Duo Processors into their top-of-the-

line laptop, the MacBookPro. In addition, the entire iMac line also features the Core2Duo, making them the most powerful Macs in the lineup — with the exception of the MacPro, which truly is in a category of its own.

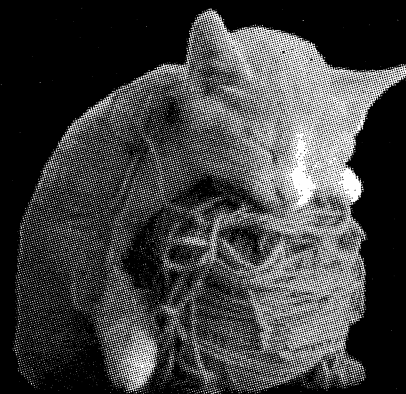
As they say, "on the lighter side of news": roughly a month ago, *Wired* magazine's Cult of Mac Blog announced its help with The Claire Danes/Apple/Cult of Mac Back to School Computer Challenge. The fundraiser is aimed at providing funding for a number of Mac/education proposals. Included in this is an initiative to provide computers for special education students in Harlem, and there is another to provide iPods for audio books for struggling readers. Both of these initiatives have reached their funding goals, but there is still more money that needs to be raised. At this moment, they have managed to raise 84% of their \$15,000 goal. If you have a few bucks to spare, the information on how to donate is available on the Cult of Mac Blog, which is highly recommended for any Mac lover, at <http://blog.wired.com/cultofmac>.



Play America's Greatest Pastime

"Dead or Sleeping"

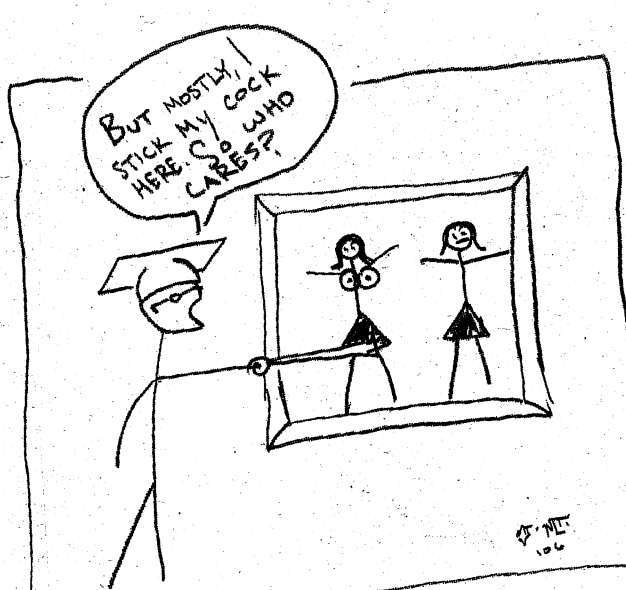
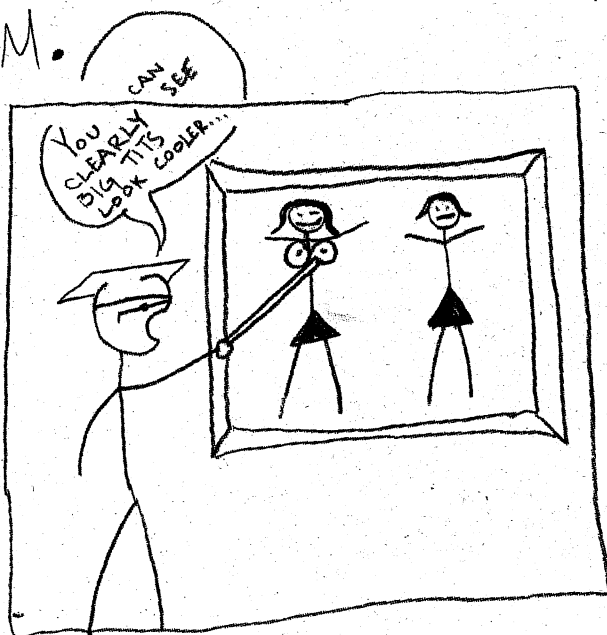
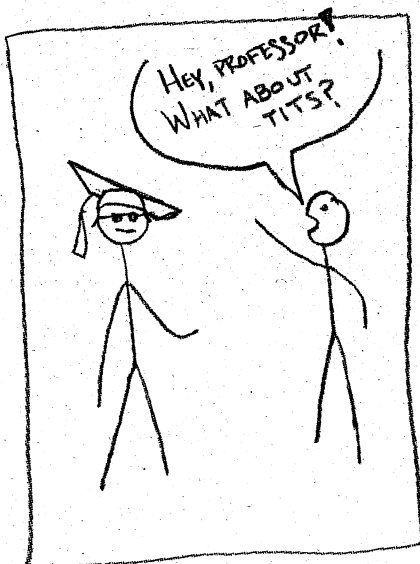
Every Wednesday at 1pm
060 Student Union



The Stony Brook Press:

Where dead things and sleeping things can peacefully co-exist... and then we guess which is which

STICKLOVE by JAMES M.



Press Staffer Data Sheet

Name: Joseph "Jowzy" Romano

Neck: Skinny

Chest: Smallish

Cock Length: Enormous

Cock Girth: Like whoa

Height: 5' 10"

Weight: 138 lbs

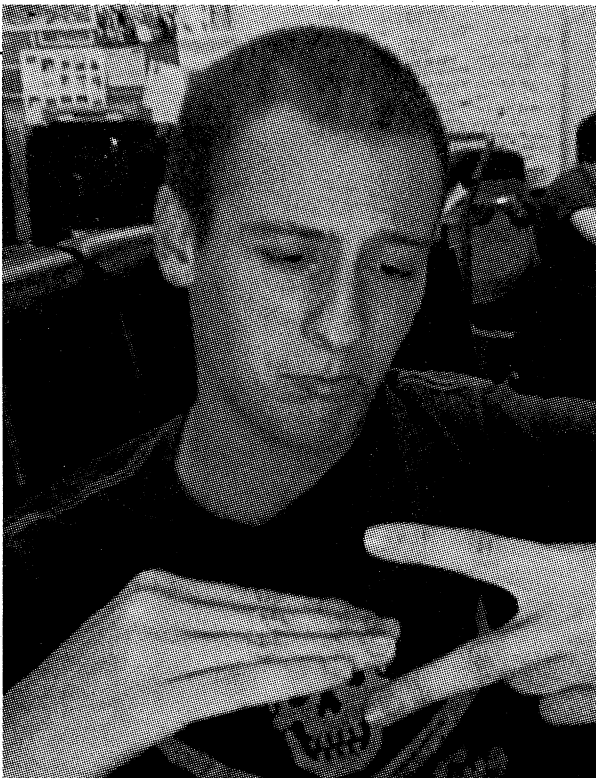
Birth Date: 5~29~84

Birthplace: Brooklyn

Ambitions: World domination, inventing a more chocolatey chocolate, using orphans to synthesize super, chocolatey chocolate

Turn-ons: Black girls with English accents (seriously!), tofu on the nipples, cling wrap, pirates

Turn-offs: Re-using socks, puking into a cup of beer only to finish it in the subsequent gulp, aluminum foil, ninjas



The one thing I can't live without: Baby meat

Areas for improvement: Foreign languages, sports, not killing the homeless

He's proud of: His legs, Seriously, rub them, And his iron control of his minions.

If he could have one wish: He would ask for the ability to not lose Rock-Paper-Scissors battles to see who has to be featured Men of the Press this first.

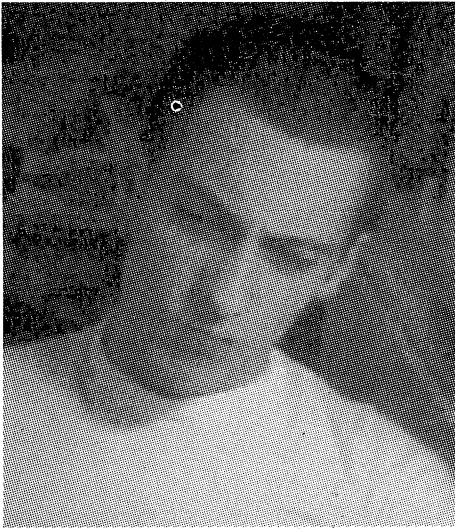
Embarassing Photos:



The three phases of Jowzy
Phase 1: Emo



Phase 2: Robot Chickens!



Phase 3: The Furlong



Lessons in life are free-
 cars, cribs, and fake imagery-
 mean nothing to me-
 sometimes we dine on mental swine-
 and after some whine-
 instead i prepare for next time-
 a bird in a hand beats two in a bush-
 i'll kill two birds with one stone without a push-
 and paint vividly without a brush-
 the intuition flashes beaconing-
 the negativity gently speaking-
 no wonder my dam is leaking-
 my vision jitter steps-
 my ego keeps up with rep-
 time comes and like a thief in the night while i slept-
 in a creation of change what is constant-
 reality and perspective the balance is relevant-
 why do i feel like nothing is heaven sent-
 my goals so close behind a 15 foot wall-
 the metrosex complex lies about a justification call-
 if i'm to tall they, chop me if i'm short i'm small-
 what is the sum of sign and symbol-
 having to sew roughness cuts flesh without a thimble-
 how do we live high intelligence in world that is so simple-
 is this an accident or orchestrated-
 wait a minute.....why is this life on earth so frustrated-
 why the weak are put on a pedestal and the strong are castrated-
 why every child in ancient greece was raped and or molested-
 why guns, bombs and politicism are invested-
 it gets worse and worse no matter how much protested-
 can it be changed or rectified-
 can we really be content with what's on our inside-
 is anything we think is really here, truth or just a lie ?

a.k.a. if you don't stand for something you'll fall for any thing.

-al miskin-

he's born of a naturally strong creed-
 strong yet gentle in every action and deed-
 she gets my attention without make up to succeed-
 i fantasize much interacting sharing needs-
 our bond...wicked brothers envy, strong brothers take heed-
 in time of desperation i move with speed-
 when i think of myself i think of her first, never falling to greed-
 he mere body,mind,soul sparks the emotion to breed-
 i till my land and plant my seed-
 i'd like to think it was us, but really this was decreed-
 ALMIGHTY CREATOR please bless my seeds-
 make my daughters the spitting image of their mother's breed-
 may she teach them right and wrong, sharing with each other conquering greed-
 nurturing their confidence and trust, patiently without speed-
 the lessons she taught from childhood they observe and take heed-
 by adolescense they mimic her respect and take care of the other's needs-
 her blatant love insures their future families will succeed-
 grand children will be raised in grandmama's righteous deeds-
 by the WOMB of a Virtuous WOMAN we maintain a naturally strong creed-

-al miskin-

The new world
 I ran out to the big fig tree
 And watched its white leaves fall
 Held by hegemonies, they flew up away
 Its branches; elaborate and tortured
 Ranches up and down Babylon
 It is rooted down seven seals and scrolls
 Hereafter, the tree will be no more
 It will be of no use to his hegemonies
 Its stem will be been clustered with rubbish
 Its branches will fall on an elegant sunrise
 So is the tree of life, I beg the differ

Ishmael Amu

What is breeding behind those eyes
 Scanning mine so intently?
 What thoughts float in his mind?
 What words are sitting behind those lips,
 On the verge of being uttered?
 What motivates the affectionate touch of his hand
 On my bare skin?

Dark slivers stare incessantly at me,
 Slim fingers trace facial features,
 Lips linger on mine.

Why?


In those deep, round eyes
 He holds emotions
 I am not aware of.
 So silent,
 In the dim light of dawn
 I can only gaze into his face,
 Dying to know how he feels in this
 One moment.
 Just in this second,
 In this minute,
 As he clutches me closely,
 Why is his heartbeat racing?

THE COWS OF SAMS VALLEY

They stand in the grass
 nearby, in long and silent lines,
 seemingly half-dead,
 no anger or courage
 to cloud the empty air,
 the pasture grows to them.
 Their heaviness serves them
 well, this well-fed herd
 sinking down in the valley,
 thickset and swollen with pride.
 I watch them go, and I go,
 relaxed in a drunken slumber-
 they hew a broad path for me...

They low as they move away
 bellowing and slow,
 rolling their eyes up and down
 with silent gaze, hidden
 among their hidden ways.
 A mutual love seems theirs,
 their quiet sleep of death
 no different than their peaceful
 days...but would they come to me
 if I called? Perhaps if the need be,
 but theirs is a patient willingness
 that passes, passing without haste,
 a stand in the grass.

Another poem by Jon Plaisted



**THESE
ARE YOUR
WORDS,
SIR, AND
THEY WILL
BURY
YOU!**