

The Stony Brook

# PRESS

*The Community News and Features Paper*

Vol. XXVIII. Issue 13

"I can't believe it's snowing in Virginia!"

April, 18 2007



Overcrowding:  
A Bloody Mess

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# Bob Woodward Speaks @Stony Brook

By Steve McLinden

Pulitzer-Prize winning journalist Bob Woodward visited Stony Brook on April 11th in a public lecture presented by the School of Journalism. Woodward emphasized the importance of investigative reporting and awareness while discussing his historic career at *The Washington Post*.

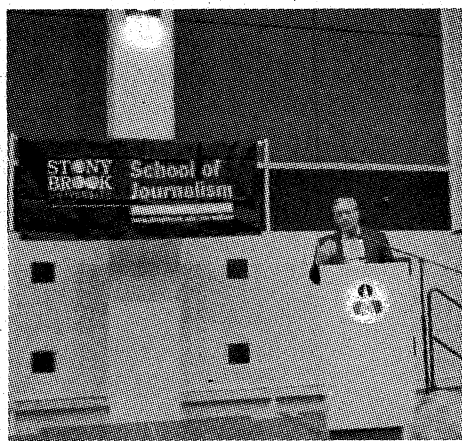
Woodward has since become one of the most respected people in journalism after becoming a household name in 1971 for breaking the Watergate Scandal. Before a capacity crowd of more than 600 people in the SAC Ballroom, he discussed this breakthrough in his career and other topics, mostly the Iraq War and the Bush Administration's major missteps in handling of it, as he wrote about in 2006's *State of Denial*, one of his eleven best-selling books.

After months of investigation and obtaining information about the preparations of the Iraq War for his 2004 book, titled *Plan of Attack*, Woodward orchestrated the sending of a memo to the White House that compelled Bush to grant him an interview about the Iraq War for the book. The hours and hours of interrogation that followed in the Oval Office would give Woodward the answers he needed to develop an insightful landscape of the mind of the President. Upon the suggestion that other countries may disagree with the United States' war efforts to create democracy abroad, Woodward spoke of the President "jumping in his seat" to call Woodward an elitist, suggesting that the United States has a duty and ought to have zeal for freeing other nations. The President's resistance to ideas different from his own — including the truth, Woodward told the crowd — is the predominant reason for many of our failures in the War in Iraq.

While then-Secretary of State Donald Rumsfeld was writing secret memos detailing the possibility that weapons of mass destruction would not be found, the White House was pushing an agenda in the public sphere that we were going in for these WMDs. General James Spider Marx wrote that the intelligence on WMDs was no good, but he feared pushing the issue would create conflicts with the White House, which wanted so badly to believe that the WMDs were there. When Jay Garner told the President before the invasion that he wouldn't be able to dismantle any WMDs and build democracy, he was quickly replaced with Paul Bremer. These pre-war mistakes would only set

the tone for the war to come, Woodward said of his findings. Current NSA Chief Stephen Hadley had reported in 2005 that the U.S. deserved a D- in foreign policy; "that's a really bad grade," Woodward quipped. Prior to his resignation in November of this year, Rumsfeld wrote in a memo obtained by Woodward that "the interagency process is so screwed up that competency is next to impossible."

What does this all mean for the current situation? Woodward argued that Bush continues telling himself and the American people that the war is taking an optimistic turn, but in fact, the war is already over. "The political will to fight is gone," Woodward said plainly, and that the only question now is how it will wind down. Bush's refusal to budge has created the stalemate between our Democratic Congress and the White House, and Woodward said that we owe it to the troops to come up with a working compromise and tell them why they are persisting in fighting.



Bob Woodward

Further, Woodward urged that the greatest threat to freedom is secrecy in government, advising that "democracies die in darkness." He said that the Bush administration's reputation of shutting out critical journalists from press conferences was not necessarily significant, as information can be obtained one way or another. When asked by a listener about the US attorneys firing situation, he said that, in the big picture, it's a matter where "you have to keep your hands off of the scales of justice" and the White House's refusal to cooperate "reflects a monumental level of insensitivity."

Though he was going to speak to a journalism class the following day more on the process of investigative journalism, Woodward also touched on his experience that night. He explained how his editor at the time of Watergate, Ben Bradley, was wise in that he would hold his reporters to a standard and urge them to dig deeper until he felt that they'd gotten a story right before publishing it.

# New Journalism Class Created, Will Send Students Across the Nation and the World

By Michael Kelly

Stony Brook recently announced its approval of a new journalism class entitled "Journalism Without Walls," possibly to start by the summer of 2008, which will allow students to do on-the-spot reporting from major news sites.

The course, which will only be offered initially in the summer and winter semesters, would send students to destinations such as New Orleans to report on life there since Hurricane Katrina, or to the sites of national political conventions.

"It will give students real world experience in landing at a news site and using the latest technology to write and produce, directly from the field, high-quality journalism," said Howard Schneider, the founding dean of the School of Journalism.

The class will consist of a few weeks on the Stony Brook campus doing background research on the news site students will be visiting, followed by one week on the scene at the news site. Following the on-site week, students will come back to campus to wrap up the abbreviated course.

While on location, students will set up an impromptu newsroom for reporting,

investigate into getting grants and discounted rates, but it could be possible students would have to pay some of their own way.

*"It will give students real world experience [...] to write and produce, directly from the field"*

Schneider also said that the destination for each trip would be known months in advance, so that all accommodations could be arranged, as well as any necessary paperwork for a class taught outside the United States. He also added that safety was a concern for the location of the class and that dangerous situations would be avoided.

"We're not going to drop them into Baghdad," Schneider said of the students.

The class aims to give students a hands-on, live news situation in which to practice their skills. This course, along with the construction of the newsroom (to be opened in the fall), are just two steps in the plan to give journalism students a "real world"



Journalism WITH Walls

Jesse Schoeffer

whether it is "on a beach" or "a hotel lobby," according to Schneider, using mobile technology to produce their stories. Students' work would then be published online through a special journalism website designed to showcase journalism work from Stony Brook.

The class could be taught by just one teacher, but it is possible that two teachers could be enlisted to conduct it together.

Currently, the procedure for funding is unclear. Schneider said that they would

experience.

"We hope to give a kind of experience... to give them [journalism students] an edge when they leave the school and look for a job," Schneider said of the course.

The course is the newest addition to the journalism major, which just began being offered this past fall. Already there are about 25 courses available to students, with several more in the works.

"We're always looking for new, innovative courses," said Schneider.

# The Iraq Debate: Similar Ideas, Different Solutions

News - April 18, 2007 - The Stony Brook Press

By Ilyssa Fuchs

With the US continuing its ongoing deployment of troops to Iraq, many questions have been raised concerning why we are still there in the first place. It should be obvious by now that the Iraqi people want us out of their country; we have extended our welcome and it is time for us to leave. The concern is that, if we leave too soon, we will end up quashing all efforts to maintain peace in a tumultuous place and time.

On Wednesday, March 28th, a debate was held in the SAC auditorium to discuss just that. The topic at hand was "Should We Pull Out of Iraq?" and the players were Professor Withers and Professor Young, both of the political science department. The professors deliberated back and forth for about an hour, but the debate never got very heated. It was apparent that both Professor Withers and Professor Young had the same main idea; it was time for us to get the hell out of there.

The debate started off with Professor Withers defining the war from a military perspective. He began by discussing that, at first (in 2003), the invasion of Iraq was a victory that was supported by the American people, Congress, and the electorate. He went on to say that since then there has only been failure, with the blame falling directly on the Bush Administration and former Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. In his eyes, this breakdown occurred because we did not understand the internal conflict between Shiite and Sunni Muslims, we had no idea how to secure the borders, we underestimated the amount of firepower and weapons of the Iraqi people, and we tried to win the war without adequate troops due to the fact that after the initial invasion, the amount of troops should have risen in order to secure the country, when in reality it declined. Withers went on to add, "To occupy a nation, you need many more troops because you don't know who the enemy is," and explain that the only way to win the war was to have a troop surge in order to fully secure the country.

After Professor Withers finished his introduction, Professor Young followed by agreeing with Withers that we definitely should have gone there in the first place; however, he did not agree that a troop surge as a way to get out. Instead, Young proposed that the House and Senate needed to actively draw up bills that would set an eighteen-month deadline for withdrawal from Iraq. He noted that there was great value in setting a deadline for pulling out because it would improve security in Iraq, since the Iraqi people would realize the presence of a deadline and would therefore have to make an effort to govern themselves. It would make the American people

more supportive of our commitment to Iraq because they would have a good idea of when the troops would be coming home.

Professor Withers countered this by arguing that setting a deadline was unrealistic. He believed that we must first set political, economic, and business benchmarks to see how the government was functioning, and he explained that this information could only be relayed to Congress by our own troops. Young disagreed by saying that benchmarks didn't work and that, unless the situation was dire, "the only way to convey we are leaving is, when the anti-war coalition passes a legislation, to say we are out of there; we are leaving." Withers, on the other hand, said that

setting a pullout date was giving the Iraqis an advantage, and that instead, we should only tell them that the clock is ticking. Although both professors disagreed on how we should go about leaving, they met each other halfway by agreeing that leaving too soon would be disastrous. Withers said, "If we leave before they are ready for self government, we will be back," and indicated that this would only lead to a bigger situation in the future. He suggested we "do it the right way so we don't have to go back." Professor Young also felt that if we left too early chaos would return to the country. He noted that although progress had been made, economic progress was only in Shiite neighborhoods and that the Sunni's were already in a bad situation which was only getting progressively worse due to the Shiite's being the majority in the country. Withers' concern was that if we left too prematurely, a civil war would escalate, which would lead to conflicts concerning Iran, terrorists, and the Kurds. In his opinion, we needed to send more troops in order to jumpstart the economy. Young felt that a gradual withdrawal with a deadline was a better idea because it would allow us to carry out efforts over time and improve

security while working to meet the deadline.

The debate started to heat up when the professors began getting into their strategies for a withdrawal, but it never really got too hot. Withers believed that we needed to give Iraq some breathing room and pacify the people to a degree that would allow us to properly train them. He mentioned that 30,000 troops were not enough to stabilize the country and that more troops were needed to create a garrison so that the Iraqi Army and police could do their job. This would, in turn, give

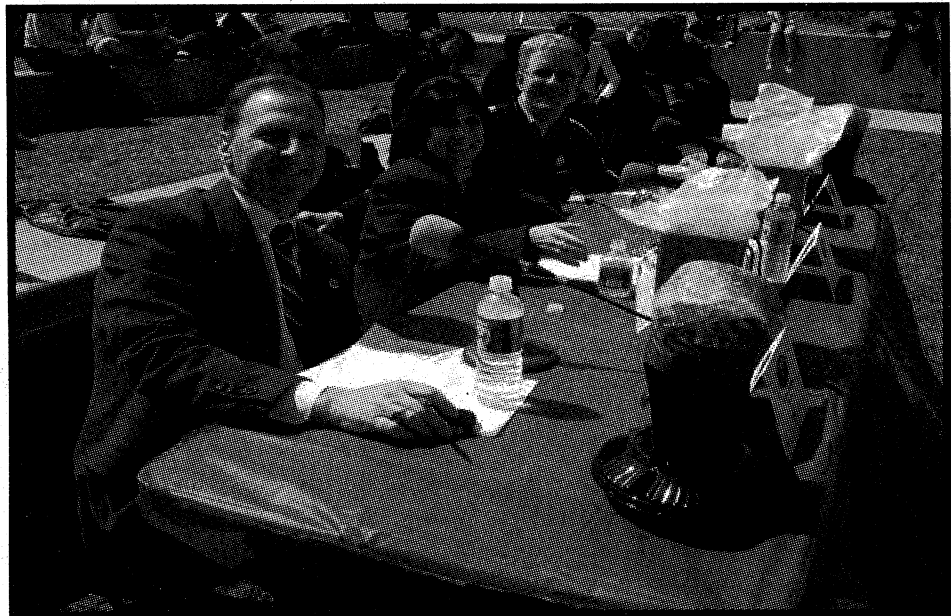
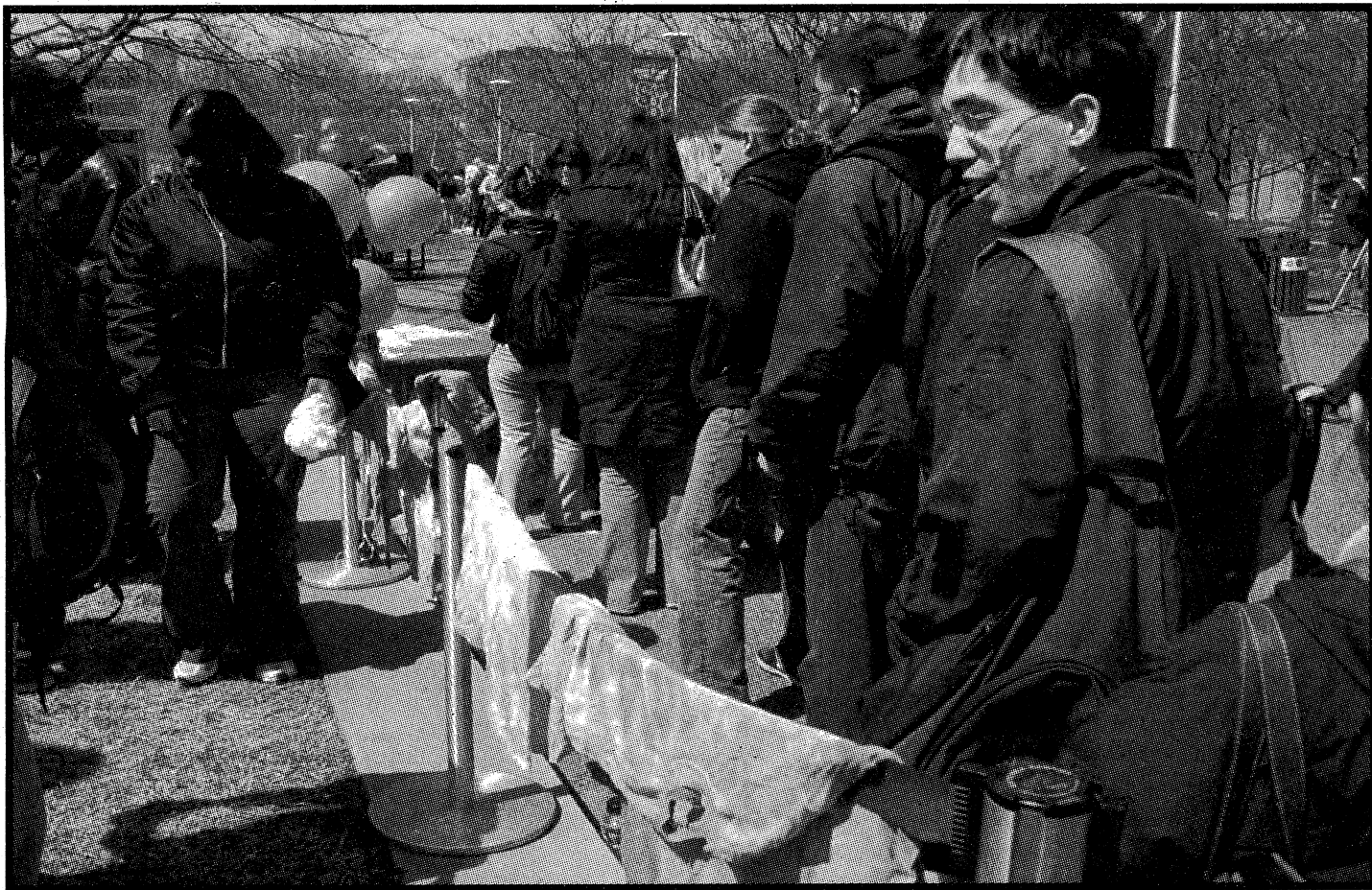
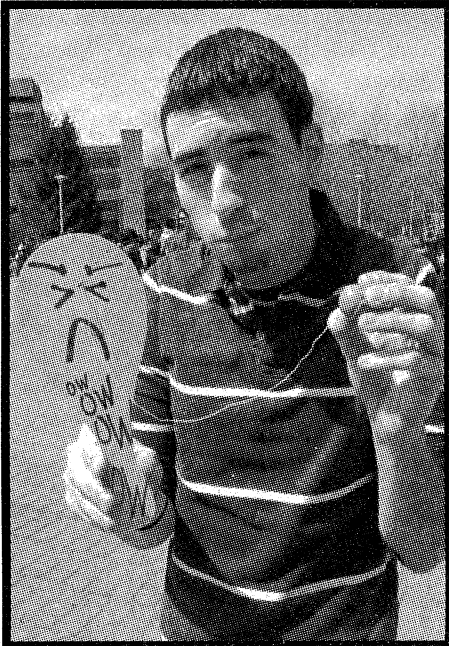
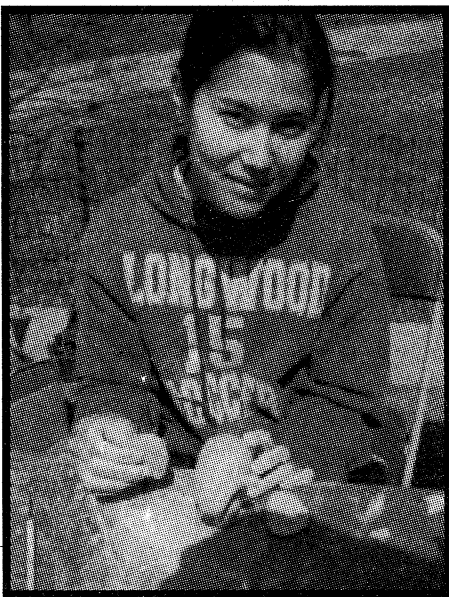
this assignment was already difficult enough and that the need for a strong American army was the reason we should withdraw; he explained that we were already seriously damaging our military and having recruitment problems because of our continued involvement in Iraq. He also mentioned that International Law prohibits our occupation and the rest of the world (which has already pulled out) views it as illegitimate and ill-advised. He added that it "negatively affects our role as a beacon of democracy." He proposed that, in an effort to democratize one nation, we have damaged our military and endangered our ability to influence democracy on a global level.

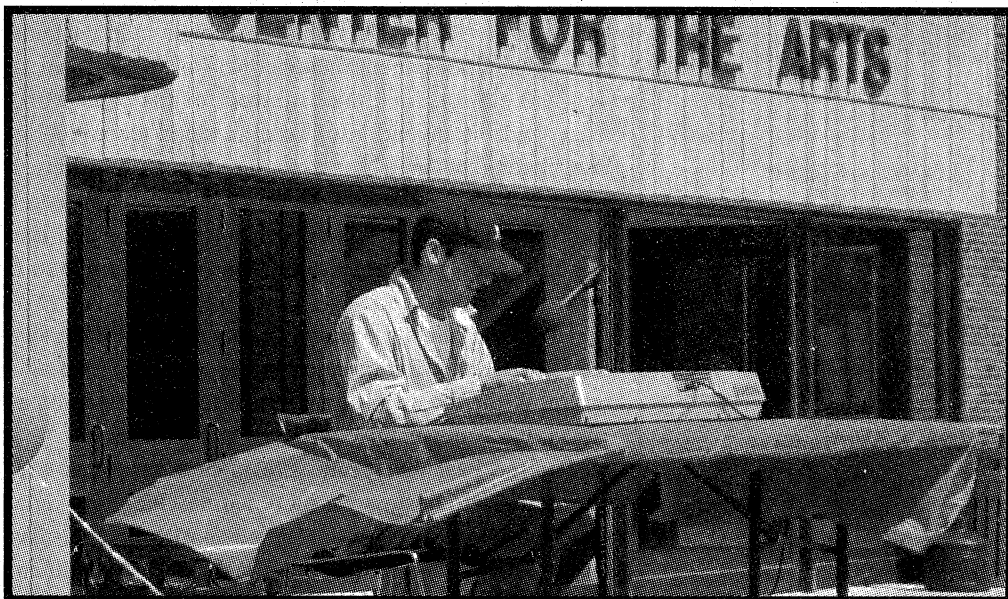
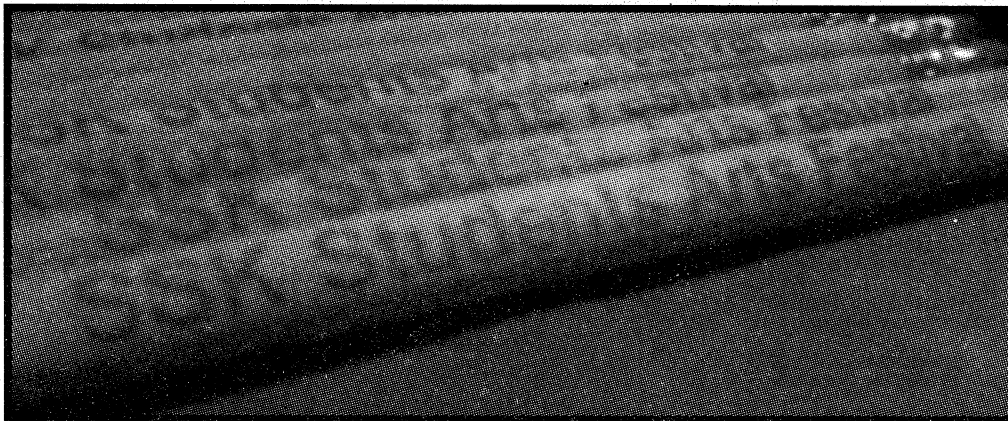
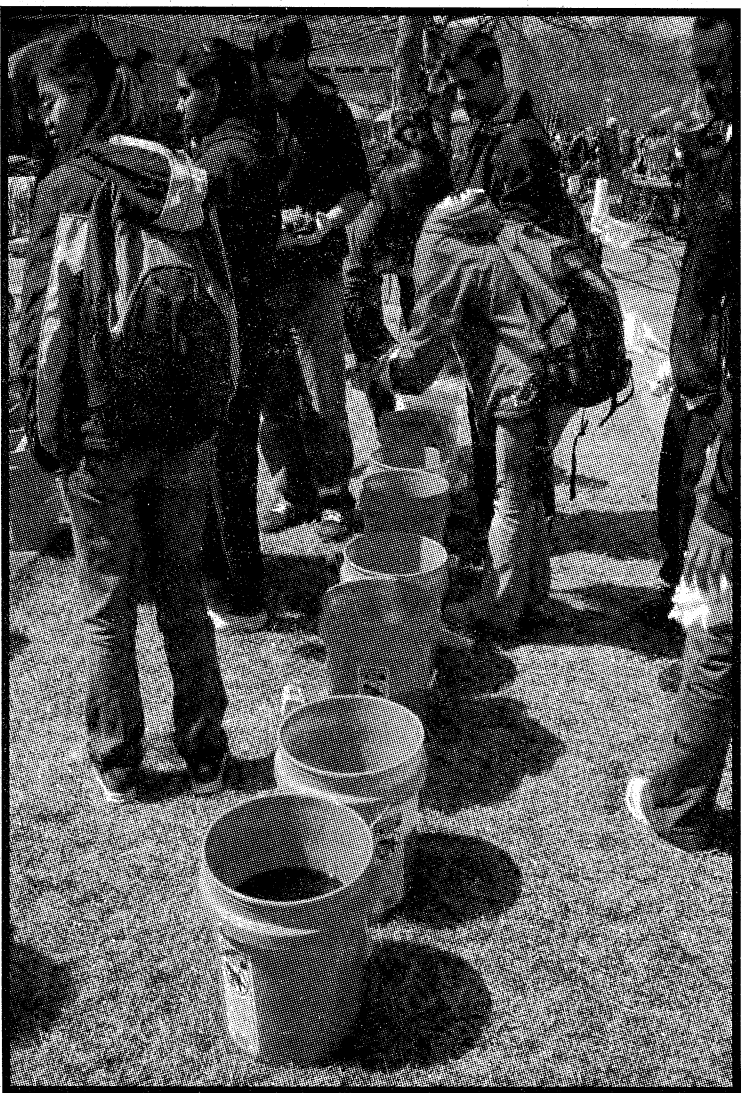
Withers continued by saying that five years was too long and that a surge would be the beginning of the end; he warned that setting a date wasn't a good strategy because we needed to have more flexibility. He urged that an intensive effort in the next few months would help us withdraw sooner without the potential for a greater war, stating "If we do it right now we won't have to go back and I believe a surge right now is the way to go." He also mentioned that more troops would allow economic progress to flourish. Young countered by asking whether or not we were morally obligated to see the effort through and added that, by staying, we were damaging only ourselves because the costs of war in money, lives, medical bills for veterans, and psychological distress were all higher than the morality of staying. He understood that leaving could result in a civil war, but, at the same time, he said that our continued occupation was hurting us as well as Iraq and that we were "not morally obligated to bankrupt ourselves." He added

that as long as we are still there stopping the violence, we are impeding on Iraqi's efforts to form their own coalitions.

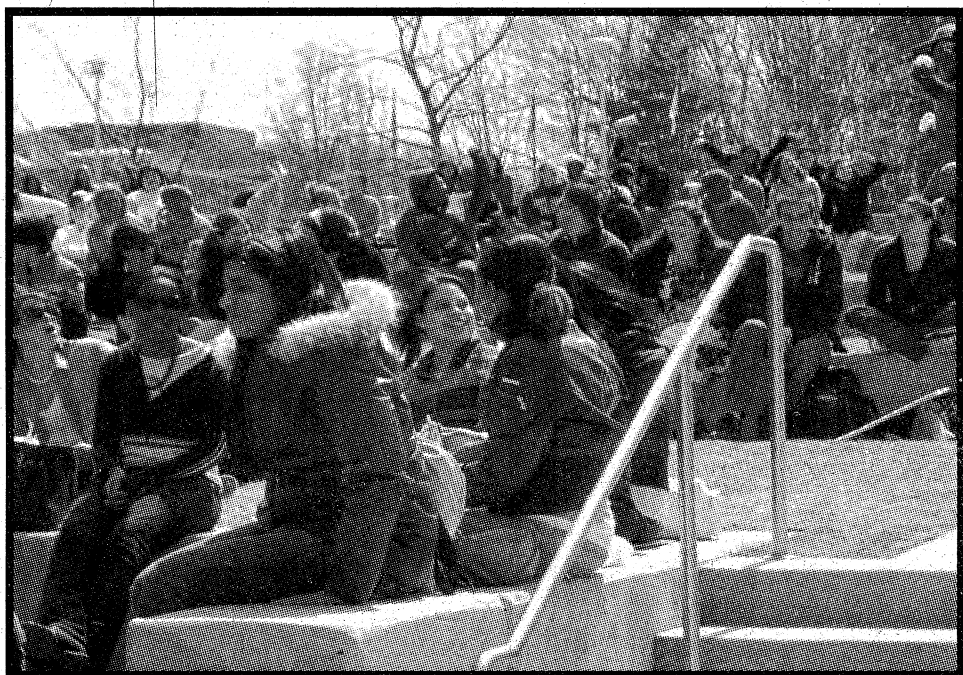
Parliament a chance to function in an effort to increase democracy in the country. Young argued that the problem with a surge was that it would still not bring us closer to a deadline. He also mentioned that there was already much corruption involving our US dollars and that a deadline was the only way to go because there was "no guarantee that they [the Iraqis] would ever stand up suitably." Withers attacked by asking about the future of Iran and Iraq after our departure, stating that Iraq must maintain its independence and that this should be done by pressure from the US, but not a set date. He added that Washington should rely on people on the ground to make the big decisions, that provisions should be set for advisors, and that special forces should remain in an effort to help Iraqi troops. Young pointed out that

As the debate drew to a close, both professors agreed that we needed the army in other places, such as Afghanistan and Korea, and that the threat of terror was not over. Professor Withers suggested we add troops to Afghanistan and find Bin Laden in order to "hang that SOB," while Professor Young raised issues about looking out for Iran. Withers concluded by saying that we should let the generals on the ground make decisions instead of Congress and that we should let it be a military effort instead of a political one. Young ended on an opposite note still insistent that this should be handled by Congress. Finally, both came to the agreement that had we not been hasty from the start, none of this would have happened; it did because "we didn't do it right to begin with."





SSK Art Festival — Photos by Tia Mansouri



# The Stony Brook Press

The Community News and Features Paper

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The Stony Brook Press  
Suites 060 & 061  
Student Union

SUNY at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200  
(631) 632-6451 Voice  
(631) 632-4137 Fax  
Email: sbpress@gmail.com

## EDITORIALS

# Paging Dr. Nathan, Stony Brook Needs You!

We here at Stony Brook University should be proud of our school's many accomplishments and merits. In only fifty short years Stony Brook University has made many scientific breakthroughs, among them the discovery of the link between smoking and emphysema, the discovery of the causes of Lyme disease, and the invention of an ultrasound technique to speed up the healing of bone fractures. Consequently, Stony Brook has ascended to the upper echelon of American research schools, and it seems that (despite the many problems and issues plaguing the school) our university's star will continue to rise higher over the years to come.

However, one dimension of Stony Brook University that does not garner attention or enjoy much prestige is the athletics program. While the department has flirted with fame on a few occasions, it has never truly achieved it—until now.

For the past few years, President Kenny has had a golden opportunity to bestow yet more nationwide glory on our school. And that glory rests on the right arm of Minnesota Twins pitcher Joe Nathan. For those who don't know, Joe Nathan is a graduate of Stony Brook University (finishing his degree in Business Management in 1997), and also happens to be one of the best pitchers in Major League Baseball, rivaling New York's own Mariano Rivera for best closer in the league. We here at the Stony Brook Press have a proposition for this administration.

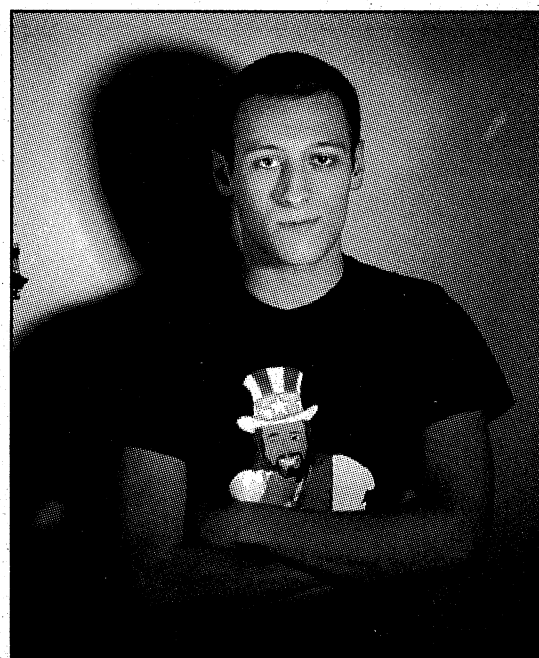
We believe that Joe Nathan should have an honorary doctorate granted him from Stony Brook University.

Just think about it. All of a sudden, Stony Brook's poor little athletics department becomes inextricably linked with a MLB all-star. You can't buy that kind of publicity. As a result, perhaps a few more high school baseball stars begin considering SBU for their school of choice. After all, who wouldn't want to be Joe Nathan? A blazing fastball, a changeup that keeps you honest, and a curveball that will buckle your knees so hard you'll wind up on the 15 day DL. Hell, we'd love having that sort of repertoire. Here is just a small sampling of his baffling stats: last season he pitched to a 7-0 record, with a 1.58 ERA, with 95 strikeouts to only 16 walks. He has over 100 career saves and has been lights out over the early part of this season. For those not familiar with baseball jargon, let me just put it this way: he simply kicks ass.

All our President needs to do is watch Baseball Tonight on ESPN (10 PM on weeknights, in case you are reading, Mrs. Kenny) to realize the potential of such a move. So, please, Stony Brook, bestow an honorary doctorate on Joe Nathan. You won't regret it. And perhaps, years from now, when Joe Nathan is celebrating on the field after closing out a World Series victory for the Minnesota Twins, he will thank our wonderful research university for giving him his athletic start.

Jowy Romano has been an outstanding leader of *The Stony Brook Press* for the last four years. He's been in the positions of Photo Editor, Managing Editor, and Executive Editor, and has always gone far beyond the call of duty. He has spent hundreds of hours, many of them alone, in the office making sure everything got done and was done to perfection. A creative genius, Jowy has given us over twenty covers and a whole new layout. He reorganized our archive, and started up our website and podcast. He was there to lead us through the rough times and fought for what was best for this paper. Jowy has consistently given all of his time and energy ensuring that the students of Stony Brook were well informed as well as entertained. You can thank him for some of our new columns, including USG Update and the Club Spotlights. Jowy is graduating this May and *The Press* is so happy for him, though we'll miss him dearly. We'll always wear our Jesus Uncle Sam shirts and think of you, Popeye! Thanks again for buying us the canned bread. Much love and success to you in all the wonderful things your future will hold.

Love,  
The Press



## Wanna Know Where You Can Stick Your Opinions?

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

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or website-it-up big time at

**www.thestonybrookpress.com**



## LETTERS

Dear Quad Stacker,

I know we haven't known each other for very long, but I feel that I've grown very close to you in the past several months. It's almost a year now, isn't it? You've been there for me whenever I needed you. That's what I appreciate about you – your reliability. That and your four 2.5 oz fire-grilled beef patties, American cheese, bacon, and Stacker sauce. It's hard to imagine what more I could ask for. Even harder when one realizes that, at 1000 calories, you comprise one half of my recommended daily energy intake.

It's true, my heart hurt a little bit whenever I ate you, but not nearly as much as it hurts now, knowing that soon you'll be gone. The empty shell of Roth Food Court will be a constant reminder of what once was, and may never be again. No other burger can replace you. I'm sure Wendy's is hoping I'll fall for their Cheddar Lover's Bacon Cheeseburger, but you and I know that nothing can come close to what we had. Do they expect me to salt their inferior sandwiches up to 1800 milligrams of sodium? Or maybe butter the bun to achieve that magical 68 grams of fat? Fat chance.

Well, happy trails, companion. I'll muddle on as best I can on this soon-to-be Stackerless campus. I... hell, I guess I can say it now. Now that we're at the end.

I love you. I really do. Goodbye, Quad Stacker, there will always be a Burger King-shaped void in the food court of my heart.

Yours forever,  
Alex Walsh

Dear Alex,

I understand your pain. Really, I do. After hearing they were discontinuing the Quad Stacker, I went to Burger King and ate one myself. I had a heart attack shortly there after, but it was still delicious. I think I'm going to need bypass surgery after eating that thing, but it will always live on in my memory as the burger that nearly killed me.

Yours as well,  
Alex H. Nagler

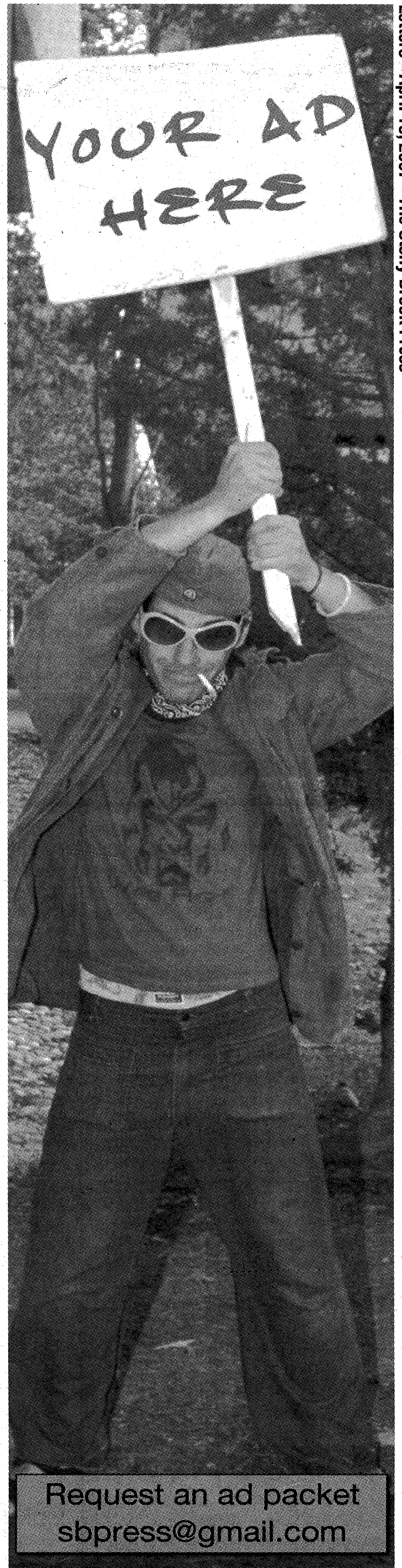
Dear editor,

Just wanting to express my opinion. I find it crazy that no one regulates the SINC sites. I mean some times you're trying to study or something and people are talking loudly on their cell-phones, or just having conversations as if they are in a rock concert. No one is considerate for others who are trying to study and the people who work at the SINC site don't ever regulate; all they do is tell you that you can't have your iced-tea by the computer. What is up w/ that?

-David Beckonstar



Joe Donato



Letters - April 18, 2007 - The Stony Brook Press

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# NEWS-IN-BRIEF

Compiled By James Laudano, Alex H. Nagler & Steve McLinden

## Deadly Suicide Bombing in Iraqi Parliament

A suicide bomber was able to penetrate into the normally calm and safe American "Green Zone" in central Baghdad on April 12th. The bomber targeted the Iraqi Parliament Café with the goal of killing Parliament MPs and was able to detonate the bomb shortly after lunch began, killing at least one Iraqi lawmaker and injuring many others. The Islamic State claimed responsibility for the attack. In a rare show of solidarity, the Iraqi Parliament opened the next day with a joint tribute to the victim, who was Sunni.



## Man Jumps from Empire State Building. Only Half of Him Makes it to Bottom.

A lawyer jumped from a 69th-floor office in the Empire State Building to his death on Friday, April 13th. According to reports, he primarily landed on the 30th-floor awning. However, parts of his body (mostly his legs and feet) landed on the street below. Ewwwww.

## Student Loan Scandals Being Investigated By Attorney General

An investigation by New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo has discovered disturbing ties between student loan companies and financial aid officers at certain New York universities. The main sticking point has been "preferred lender" lists. University financial officers are tasked with finding the best possible loan company for each individual student; however, with the "preferred lists," the Attorney General fears that students are possibly not receiving the information that suits them best.

## Paul Wolfowitz Has a Girlfriend!

And he actually gave her undue promotions and raises while they both worked at the World Bank. He actually gave her a higher salary than the Secretary of State, Condi Rice. This episode has led to calls for yet another Bush administration official's resignation. However, it all really just answers this age-old question: "How much money does Paul Wolfowitz have to dish out in order to actually get a girlfriend?"

## Guitar Hero Two Infiltrates Press Office: No Survivors

A dark wave swept over the humble *Stony Brook Press* office as *Guitar Hero Two* reared its ugly head and ensnared all those caught in its wake. The game seemed innocent enough: choose a song and play along. The office thought it had seen the worst in the 2004 pandemic of *Halo 2* that left three staffers comatose and one in an inoperable vegetative state, of which he remains to this day, but that was nothing compared to the mass casualties that would ensue once *Guitar Hero Two* broke for the XBOX:360.

Innocent staffers were trapped in its deadly grip the moment it was plugged in. A simple, "Hey guys! Let's play *Thunderhorse*!" would result in hours of finger-crushing doom.

Both the new Top Four, set to debut this issue, and the old Top Four were mercilessly killed in a *Freebird*-related incident that



took a total of ten lives and injured twelve more. Another dozen people were trampled to death in the mosh pit that followed a 100% five star performance of Buckethead's *Jordan* on Expert. The casualty count may continue to grow as the top score for *Trogdor* grows higher.

Neither Harmonix or RedOctane could be reached for comment concerning the devastation but is expected to give the office a free copy of the upcoming *Rock Band* when it eventually debuts for 360.

## Ethics Questions Raised On Kenny, CA

Stony Brook President Shirley Strum Kenny's friendship with former Computer Associates' CEO Charles Wang is causing an ethical controversy once again, as a report on CA's \$2.2 billion accounting fraud was released. Kenny's role as chairperson of CA's auditory committee in 2000 is criticized in the recently released independent report, which says that "it is far from a best practice to have the head of the Audit Committee have such an important and meaningful relationship with the CEO," according to *Newsday*.

The investigators did not lambast Kenny, but did say that they were troubled by her failure to ask key questions during the company's internal investigation. Particularly, the report pointed out, Kenny's own investigation ignored the fact that CA had inflated profits by considering "months" to be 35-day intervals.

Kenny has previously stated that she remained independent and unbiased in her roles. The Special Litigation Committee more or less agreed, and did not recommend that CA seek restitution for any part of the \$2.2 billion from Kenny. The report is also being pointed to by the current board of directors at CA, saying that Wang is responsible for the accounting fraud scandal, including a half-billion dollars of it on his own.

Wang and Kenny's friendship has been criticized in the past, including a *Newsday* investigation in February on the school's increase in purchases from CA after Kenny joined the board, and the millions of dollars that Wang has donated to the University.

## University Loses Power For a Smidge, Agitates Many

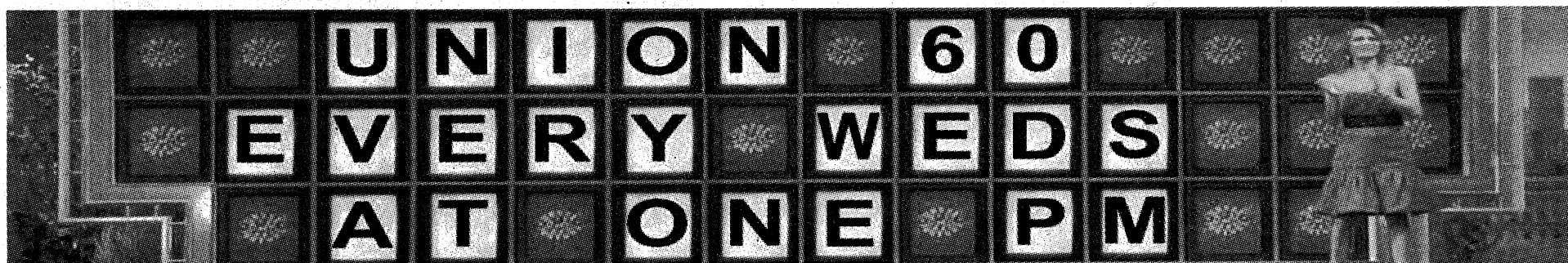
In an "Oops! Our bad!" a power outage affected West Apartments, Kelly, Roth, and Tabler Quads, leaving an unknown number of students without power for over 12 hours. The outage occurred at 9pm on Sunday, April 15th, and lasted until midmorning on the 16th. Power was reported back on before noon in West, Kelly, and Roth, but Tabler was still unaccounted for.

Many students had initially hoped that they would awaken to the sudden burst of brightness that came with all the lights being turned back on, but that never happened and students greeted the morning to find that none of their things worked and that classes were still in session, regardless of the outage and storm the day previous.

It is this very storm that could be to blame for the outage itself. Flooding is suspected of having caused a short in the electrical grid somewhere down the line, causing the south half of campus to be without power. It is still unknown how Roosevelt Quad managed to stay unaffected, but reports indicate that they had power all night.

When Campus Residence and Student Affairs were called, neither knew of an approximate number of how many students were affected by the blackout. This raises questions as to how competent and capable the administration is concerning issues that effect so many students at once.

There were also reports that all power in Kelly Quad was redirected to the dining hall to keep food from spoiling. Jon Singer, the Features Editor here at *The Press*, noted, "I came back after filming with Justin Meltzer [of SBU-TV] and it was around 2:30 and I hear this huge generator and I see that it's only powering the Kelly Food Court and the actual dorms in Kelly are completely dark, except for the exit signs and card readers."





# Why Robert Romano Wore a Muscle Shirt

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

USG aficionados will recall that our President is facing impeachment charges after he was accused of assisting in the posting of fake campaign flyers. The impending impeachment trial of President Romual Jean-Baptiste has left a bitter taste in the mouths of many USG senators. The Senate meeting on March 28 was packed with legislation that revolved around the punishment pertaining to corrupt officials.

Senator Nathan Shapiro introduced the “Insurance of Justice and Rights Act” (formerly known as the “Ensurance of Justice and Rights Act”), which sought to streamline the judicial process. Senator Shapiro prefaced his presentation with the statement that current procedures did not clearly state who would be responsible for the presentation of impeachment charges towards the president. The bill created the position of “Advocate General” (formerly serving under the title of “District Advocate”), who serves as the head of a new-and-improved Department of Justice.

The bill also created the Student Bureau of Investigations (which received its name due to Senator Shapiro’s affinity for “cutesy little names”). The SBI is comprised of student “agents” who police all members of USG, including all affiliated clubs and organizations. All agents are selected, and can also be removed, by the Advocate General. Agents can investigate the actions of members of USG at the Advocate General’s discretion, and they are also responsible for presenting their findings to the Senate.

The “Insurance of Justice and Rights Act” also included provisions for the prop-

*Senator Shapiro fought against this motion, claiming that defending the president was a “waste of USG resources”*

er separation of powers. The Advocate General must present the Senate with a rundown of any violations committed by members of USG or campaigning officials. Many of the senators agreed that a bill was needed to outline the powers of the Department of Justice and how they pertained to legal actions such as impeachment. Senator Jonathon Hirst brought up Alex Ovtcharenko, the current District

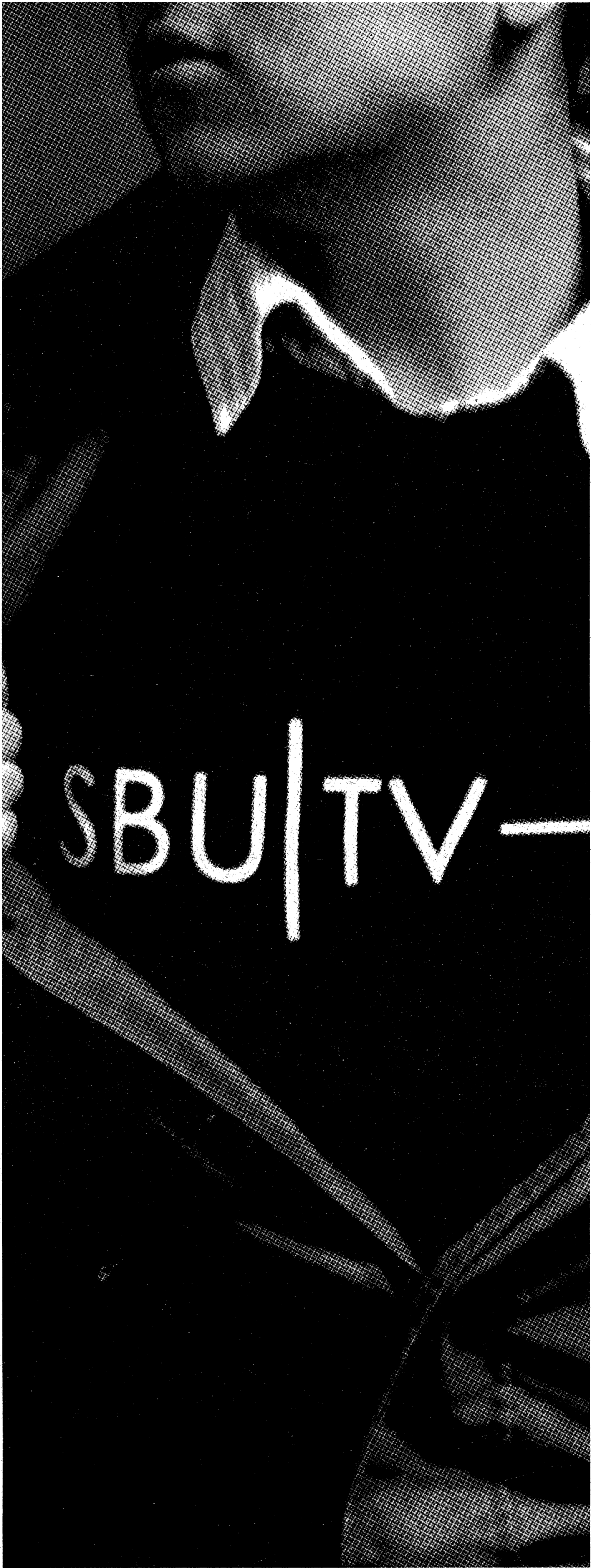
Advocate, who has expressed that he would like to defend President Jean-Baptiste during his impeachment trial but also wants to present the impeachment charges to Ralph Thomas, the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations.



Jose Chopper  
You need muscles to wear a “muscle shirt”

Senator Robert Romano, who dressed aptly in a muscle shirt for the occasion, fought to amend the act so that the Advocate General “should have the opportunity to defend the president [during impeachment].” Senator Shapiro fought against this motion, claiming that defending the president in times of impeachment was a “waste of USG resources” and was ultimately an “inversion of [the Advocate General’s] duties.” Senator Shapiro’s bill allows the Advocate General to advise the president in legal matters, but he or she cannot represent the president in the case of impeachment. The motion failed to carry, and the bill passed unanimously without any changes.

Senator Alessandra Borodkin presented the “Election Law Penal Codes,” which spelled out a system of punishment for any violation of election laws by the Elections Board and other USG candidates. It also defined the categories of crimes, which included simple violations, misdemeanors, and felonies. Most of the debate regarding the motion to adopt the bill revolved around how it hypothetically related to President Jean-Baptiste’s impeachment. The debate became so hypothetical that it prompted Executive Vice President Amy Wisnoski to invoke the use of her gavel many times to keep the senators on track. Some senators, such as Senator Robert Romano, believed some of the punishments to be not severe enough, calling them simply “a slap on the wrist.” The bill was ultimately tabled for further review.



## Spoiler/Review

### Tae Guk Gi: The well-round mixture of themes

I have not had much chance to watch many Korean movies ever since I have been in this country. So every time I get an opportunity to watch one, I try to pick out those that have been acclaimed upon release. In that sense, Tae Guk Gi was one of those rare movies that I call great in almost every single aspect. The filming technique was superb, which definitely sets itself apart from previous Korean movies. If it was not for language, I would probably mistake it as one of the Hollywood war films. The movie was a nice mixture of drama and action along with more big-scale underlying themes.

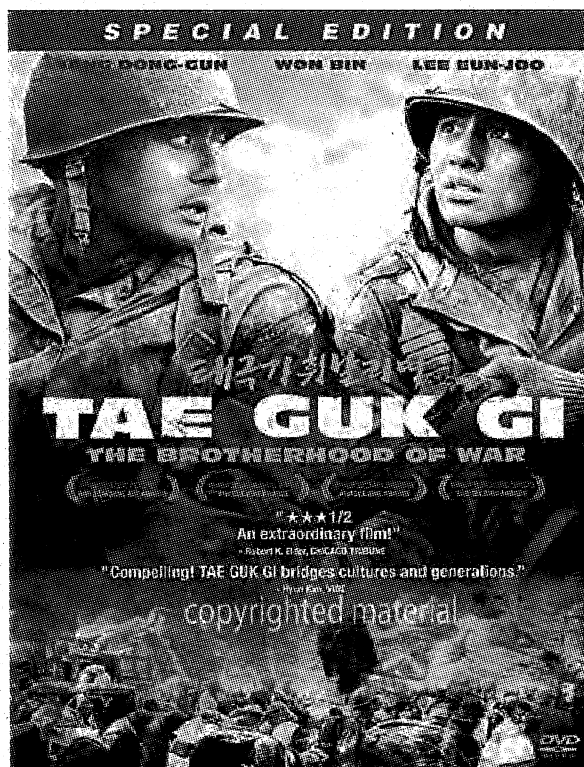
The scene takes place in Korea right before the start of the Korean War in June 1950, where two brothers live with their mother and elder brother's fiancé in Seoul, the capital of South Korea. The elder brother, Jin-tae, works as a shoe-maker so his younger brother Jin-seok can attend high school. When the war abruptly breaks out with the invasion of the North Korean army into South Korean territory, they run to the south to escape the war. The family is separated when both brothers are dragged into the army to fight against the North. It seemed to me that the plot line at this point was a bit cliché, as I am already familiar with countless stories about family tragedies during wars; nothing was particularly special yet. However, I was impressed by the accurate recreation of Korea during the 1950s. The language and writing were in the style of that time period without any confusion of details.

In order to release his brother from the army, Jin-tae went on dangerous missions after which Jin-seok accused him of being oblivious to morality. This was the part that differentiates Tae Guk Gi from traditional South Korean war movies, which usually

following the black-and-white logic of the North being the villains and the South being the good guys. The movie portrays the brutalities committed by the South Korean army, seen by Jin-tae's transformation from a mild-mannered young man to a cold-blooded killing machine. The movie skillfully delineates the

change of the protagonist, Jin-Tae, when he mercilessly kills their old friend just because he was part of the North Korean army and disregards the fact that he was forced to join against his will just like the brothers.

After the execution of Jin-tae's fiancé for allegedly cooperating for communists, Jin-seok was thrown into a make-shift prison with North Korean POWs. Later on, Jin-seok is believed to be dead because Jin-tae's hater, an army official who was jealous of Jin-tae's fame as war hero, set fire to the prison. Jin-tae turns to the North with deep hatred against the South Koreans. Jin-seok recovers later, only to discover that his



brother became a general in the North Korean army. Jin-seok looks for Jin-tae in the battlefield and they eventually meet in the midst of a ferocious battle. Jin-tae is changed so much by his hatred that he even fails to recognize Jin-seok and tries to kill him as if he were the enemy. However, Jin-tae eventually regains his sanity through his brother's persistent recollections of their past happy memories. He tells his younger brother to leave when he realizes that they cannot escape the battlefield after being severely wounded. He promises Jin-seok that he would meet him again later, dying as he looks at his brother running away. I am quite sure everyone has seen something like the cliché last rendezvous scene before, but I must say that it is still dramatic; the whole movie is well geared toward the kind of brotherhood in which the elder brother sacrifices everything to save his sibling from death.

Tae Guk Gi is a good movie indeed, and that is exactly why I felt uncomfortable at certain points during the movie. In the

underlying theme of the brotherhood, the movie portrays the clash of ideals that divides one nation of Korea, which eventually makes the two sides fight against each other brutally. I must confess that it was not pleasant watching Jin-seok trying to kill a young North Korean soldier because he was begging for his life. When he hesitates, the North Korean soldier quickly retaliates to kill Jin-seok, only to be gunned-down by a South Korean soldier. The North Korean soldier did not even seem to be 15 years old to me and he was probably was drafted against his wishes and forced to deceive and kill Jin-seok to save his own life. The same goes for the scene where the brothers witness the execution of Jin-tae's fiancé because she was allegedly cooperating with the North Koreans. Earlier in the movie she said to Jin-Tae that she went to rallies because she would receive food from a communist organization by signing her name. Thus, the fiancé joined just to get food, not even knowing what the organization was about. The fact that all of them are the same (Korean) and yet they killed each other because of the differences between their ideologies, made me question the meaning of ideology when it is used as justification to eliminate dissenters. Korea was merely a victim of the power struggle between the two new superpowers of the world and the Korean War was the first conflict between capitalism and communism, announcing the start of the Cold War. The legacy of the Korean War is that Korea is still divided into two countries. Summing up, Tae Guk Gi is a sad, self-portrait of the twisted fate of Korea.

This is available in any Blockbuster type store in Korean with English subtitles.

## Gamelan Sekar Jaya

As many of us who look at music as some form of entertainment, it is much more than that to many cultures around the world. What we know as hip-pop, rock, electronica, jazz, and even classical doesn't even start to define music, but merely a piece of a whole collection. What we know are mainly western genres, the eastern ones are seen as somewhat exotic and rare.

It was during the Music Peace Festival that I got a chance to experience the Balinese culture. It astounded me. In the Wang Center Chapel the Gamelan Sekar Jaya group staged a performance with all of their beautifully rich instruments both in look and in music. Male and female were equally decorative on stage; each garment is just as diverse in color and impressive in patterns. The impressionable first glance brings an immediate awareness of the richness of their culture.

Distinct from the West, the Balinese believe in a philosophy of good and evil, how when one tries to overpower, the other always surmises and brings tranquility back to the nature of things. Many of their

musical instruments include a complementary partner. When one is played alone, the sound is rather flat compared to when the two are played together, and then the sound vibrates loudly and true. Instruments from the metallophone, flute, gong, and the drum have similar principles. For the powerful influences music has, a large gong was constructed when a dictator from Bali was overthrown. The ring of the gong plays an end to a musical sentence, symbolizing the end to a cycle.

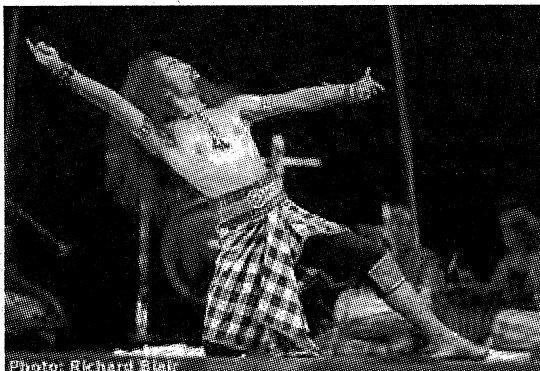


Photo: Richard Blair

As part of their demonstration, the dance group showed the audience Ka Cha, a ceremony done with music and dance, performed to chase away famines. It is done with everyone sitting in a circle. A man starts chanting as others follow his chants and movements. The designated pair then rises from the group to act as villager and demon. They perform and dance where the female character is disturbed by the male

with his power. As the circle goes wild, their chants grow louder and they dance to give the female spirit to be strong. The end brings both still standing on stage to be sure of the rivalry of good and evil. Their performances in Stony Brook titled Kali Yuga: the world of Chaos was a dramatic artistic piece to show the world recent conflicts in Bali.

The Gamelan Sekar Jaya group brings the Balinese Gamelan on tour, teaching workshops and giving performances, throughout America. For more information on them and when you might get the opportunity to see this fascinating group, visit their.

website: <http://www.gsj.org/gsj/index.cfm>



# Sports

## Seawolves Men's Soccer Captures Collegiate Soccer Series Title

By Antony Lin

In the first installment of the 2007 Collegiate Soccer Series organized by Stony Brook Seawolves assistant coach Dario Collazo, the Seawolves ended up as tournament champions with a 2-0 win over the Marist Redfoxes in the final. Also involved in the series were Nassau Community College and Molloy College in the all-day affair at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

"It was a small tournament but symbolic for us, to get back on winning track. The team looks well," said Seawolves head coach Cesar Markovic. Matt Avellino, who tore his ACL, made his first return for Stony Brook since the successful 2005 season as defensive midfielder.

"It was really tough to watch the team, especially after winning the championship the year before (2005) and it feels good to be back," stated Avellino.

With two halves of 30 minutes in each match, the Seawolves remained victorious in its first two matches, defeating Nassau Community College 2-1 and Marist 2-1, before tying Molloy 0-0.

In the championship match, Sebastian

Villa was able to put Stony Brook ahead 1-0, following a bad clearance by the Redfoxes backline. The match was put out of reach after Oscar Leis was able to connect from point blank on a cross by Michael Palacio.

Awarded the Most Valuable Player of the first Collegiate Soccer Series was Mahamadou Simpara. The Golden Boot trophy ended up being awarded to forwards Sebastian Villa and Oscar Leis.

"I thought it was a good start to the spring. We want to be here in November doing the same thing, winning the championship. We are working hard and looking to improve every day, but we got to keep working," said Markovic.

The Collegiate Soccer Series continued on April 15 with teams that include Villanova, Adelphi, Dowling and Southern Connecticut. UConn, who eliminated the Seawolves in the 2005 NCAA College Cup, will also make an appearance against the Seawolves on April 19 at 8 pm in Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

"We are going to have a bright future. The next tournament is going to be tough. It should be another challenge and hopefully we will do well," said Avellino.



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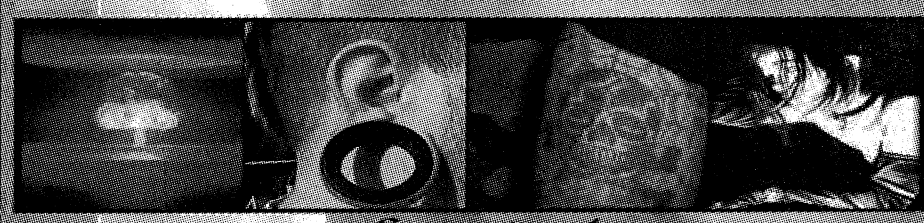
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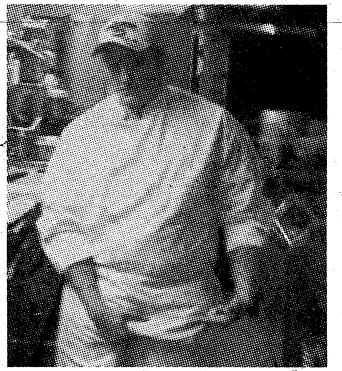


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# EAT THIS!

With Chef Heath

## SWEET TEA AND GRAVY: MY ADVENTURES IN SOUTHERN CUISINE



I have to admit that I am a privileged young man. I may not be from a wealthy family; I have not been given exclusive opportunities or indulged in decadent experiences. However, I have access to great food and wine whenever I want, simply by visiting my mother. My mother (or Momma, as I affectionately call her) works as a sales representative for a Westbend winery in Lewisville, North Carolina. Her job entails visiting the finest of restaurants across the state and selling them some of the best wine in the region. So, going along with her on sales calls means that I get to try samples of food while we present the wine and attempt to find appropriate food-wine combinations for the restaurant's menu. I love my Momma.

After five restaurants, everything begins to become a blur, however, not only due to the bottle of wine in me from tasting, but because most southern cuisine encompasses a base of classic American foods. However, some dishes and restaurants do stand out in my mind. After all, I visited 113 restaurants in four days and tasted wine in almost every one. I am surprised I remember anything at all.

The best thing about southern restaurants is the service. In New York, and in the city especially, we have grown accustomed to a certain type of service, a fast, concise, and no bullshit conversation, get the food out and then get out atmosphere. After all, time wasted talking is time you can never make up for with tips. However, south of the Mason-Dixon Line, and away from the coastal cities, there exists a concept called "hospitality." For those of you who have never been off the East Coast, you may want to read this twice, to make sure you can follow along.

The service in the South was amazing everywhere I went, without exaggeration. At first it caught me off guard that a conversation with a waiter or waitress would strike up about where we hail from and our reason for visiting, among other topics, all topped off with the offer of more sweet tea. For those who are not used to this, it may seem like they are nosey and rude. However, more often than not it comes from sincere curiosity and a desire to be friendly. I found myself revealing my life story to complete strangers and finding out more about them than I know about some of my closer friends. If the restaurant is slow, they may even pull up a chair and break bread with you at the table, something that would never fly on the Island. I have to say, as strange as it was, I rather enjoyed it and found it somewhat comforting.

In addition to the friendly atmosphere, the food surpassed my expectations. Fresh local meats and bread, generous portions, and rich creamy sauces will win my heart any day. However, the best meal I ate was a three course tasting at a small country kitchen called The Gamekeeper. The



Gamekeeper is a converted home high in the mountains surrounding Boone, NC. It seats about 50 and has a menu mostly based on fresh game from the local area. This includes boar, quail, pheasant, duck, goose, venison, and freshwater fish. The only way that I feel I can properly describe the décor is that if Charlton Heston and Liza Minnelli had a child, this is how they would decorate its room: fabulous and ferocious in the same breath.

The first course was entirely fish dishes, and included almond-crusted trout fried in walnut oil, poached bass with a teriyaki-herb glaze, and frogs' legs Cajun style. The trout was so good that I cried a little when I ate it, not because I was so happy, but because I was so sad to not have more. The second course was poultry, serving roast quail breast with a sweet-meats stuffing, served on a canapé, chicken, beer-battered and fried, served with a porcini mushroom and blackberry sauce, and the best foie gras I have ever had served with water chestnuts and a blood orange reduction. I almost wet myself when I had the foie gras. The third course arrived and I was beginning to swoon. I think I actually purred when the waitress placed it in front of me. Seared boar ribs, medium rare, stuffed with pureed leeks and bleu cheese, a venison loin so rare that I have seen sicker animals get better, stuffed with garlic and thyme, served au

jous, and a small bowl of beef and vegetable stew that would make a puppy pull a freight train. I think at that point, I blacked out a little from the excitement. But I have to admit, the best thing about the meal was that it was free! I tasted the food and made suggestions as to which of our wines would

complement the dishes best (The best combination was a 2003 barrel-fermented chardonnay with the almond-encrusted trout). Like I said, I love my Momma.

The worst meal I had in the South was from a small kitchen called the Black Cat Grille, located in downtown Boone, minutes from the campus of Appalachian State University. The Black Cat is a vegetarian/vegan restaurant, serving what they describe as "A wide variety of fresh alternatives to animal products." Basically, it was a wide variety of frozen, canned, and otherwise unfortunate foods without much substance. I am not just picking on this place because I don't like vegetarians and vegans. Veggies and I are tight, as they say in the streets. The food here was just poorly executed and created without much consideration to taste. Once again, we were presenting wines and trying to pair them with the Black Cat's menu, so, unfortunately (in retrospect), I had to taste them all. After all, I like trying new things; I enjoy exposing myself to new styles of food and such, so I thought I would give it a shot. The first course was an organic green salad (whoop-de-do) with a standard mix of carrots, cucumber, bell pepper and radish. The radish was actually so limp that I could bend it in half without breaking it. I am not sure that pairing a wine with a green salad (which tasted like it was a day old anyway)

would be pertinent, especially since that item was \$12 on their menu. The second dish they presented was a sticky couscous topped with a mixed organic vegetable sauté. Basically, the dish lacked any flavor, especially considering that the vegetables were from the freezer instead of fresh. Bad fundamentals, considering that there was a lack of any spice to the dish. The third meal I ate was the "Bello Burger" which consisted of a balsamic-marinated Portobello mushroom cap grilled and served on a whole wheat bun with organic lettuce, tomatoes, onions, and pickles, with a side of carrot sticks. I have eaten this dish before and, when executed properly, it is a fantastic addition to any menu. However, the Black Cat's version had an undercooked and under-seasoned mushroom, as well as limp lettuce and unripe tomatoes. I figured at this point that they must have a couple of inexperienced cooks in the kitchen, but I was proved wrong when the chef came out himself to deliver the fourth and thankfully final course: an organic fruit salad. The chef, Martin, was a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America, and had 20 years of cooking experience under his belt. At this point, I knew what was wrong - he must be an idiot. Sometimes, all the training in the world cannot fix a bad palate.

The unfortunate part of southern cuisine is that it is nearly nonexistent on the Island. I have searched long and hard but all I have found is a handful of BBQ restaurants, and a few country style diners, my personal favorite being The Farmer Bar in Cutchogue. However, it is understandable that seafood and ethnic restaurants would thrive more readily here, considering the availability of fresh seafood and the cultural mix of the Metropolitan area. Still, I feel that I would frequent a home style restaurant often if it were more available.

My trip south was filled with good food, bad food (airports and a Denny's), and some really amazing meals. I encourage everyone to go out and try southern style cooking if only to further diversify your palate. Who knows, you might even find something that you like. Until next time, Good Eats, everyone.

P.S. from the Author:

If anyone would like to suggest a restaurant for review, please send them to *The Press* at [sbpress@gmail.com](mailto:sbpress@gmail.com), and you can even come along to enjoy the meal. Don't worry, I am good company and do not bite, unless of course you try to steal my food.

# iRate

A Macintosh Column by Joe Rios

## The Apple TV, Keyboards & Desks



After a long intermission, due to lack of news, iRate now makes its triumphant return. New products, accessories, and product reviews are to follow, so buckle your seatbelts and hang on!

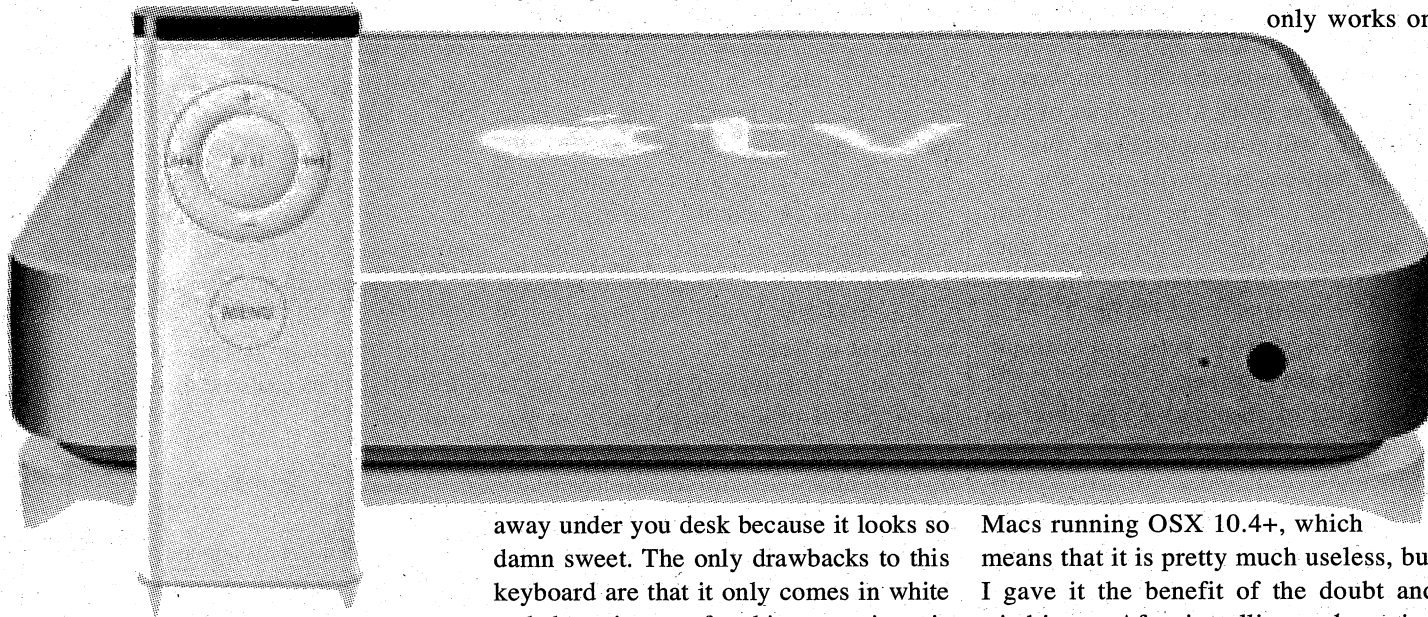
In the realm of Apple branded products, the Apple TV is now available for purchase online, with immediate shipping, and also available for purchase at your local Apple store. In the brief period that the Apple TV has been available, it has received lots of publicity, most notably because it has proven to be the single most thoroughly-hacked device Apple has ever produced. The operating system that comes with the Apple TV has been replaced with fully-functional OSX; people have run games such as Mario, upgraded the hard drive, and tweaked it to the point that the

companies offer accessories that are designed to match the simplistic styling of Apple products. When surfing the Web, I came across two of particular interest.

The first interesting item is the Razer ProType keyboard from Razer ProSolutions. The ProType keyboard is a standard layout keyboard, complete with numerical pad and extra features like volume control and hot-keys, media control buttons, and USB ports similar to the standard Apple keyboard. Where the ProType sets itself apart is the fact that it is the only keyboard that comes with a built in iPod dock. With this keyboard you can keep your desk cleaner than ever and sync your iPod without having to worry about cords. This is one of those keyboards that you don't have to hide

the manufacturer (which doesn't list the price on it's website, but you can fill out a form and it will contact you). To get a better look at the desk, and to find out about ordering, check out [www.milk.dk](http://www.milk.dk)

To wrap up this iRate, I want to talk for a moment about Google and the Google Desktop for Mac. Google desktop has been running on Windows for a very long time now, and has proven itself to be a good product for Windows users. Just two weeks ago, Google decided that it was going to bring it's lovely product to the Mac users of the world. Now my initial thoughts were, "Any Mac sold in the last 2 years comes with OSX 10.4, which comes with Spotlight, which has never failed to deliver in desktop searching." In addition to that, Google Desktop Search only works on



Apple TV appears to be nothing more than an underpowered Mac Mini, sans the DVD drive. It is my prediction that, in the next few years, the Apple TV and the Mac Mini will be combined into one device at roughly the same price as the current Mac Mini.

Also, in the new products division, Apple released a new Mac Pro. The only change in the new version is the processor. Apple has gone to Clovertown! Not to be confused with the song "FunkyTown," the Clovertown is a quad-core Intel processor. Since the Mac Pro is equipped with two processor slots, the high-end configuration gives you a total of eight processor cores, making it one of the fastest home computers your money can buy. If you want one however, be prepared to pay for it big time, because a decently equipped 8-core Mac Pro can easily run you over five thousand dollars.

Outside the realm of items offered in the Apple store, a number of third party

companies offer accessories that are designed to match the simplistic styling of Apple products. When surfing the Web, I came across two of particular interest. The first interesting item is the Razer ProType keyboard from Razer ProSolutions. The ProType keyboard is a standard layout keyboard, complete with numerical pad and extra features like volume control and hot-keys, media control buttons, and USB ports similar to the standard Apple keyboard. Where the ProType sets itself apart is the fact that it is the only keyboard that comes with a built in iPod dock. With this keyboard you can keep your desk cleaner than ever and sync your iPod without having to worry about cords. This is one of those keyboards that you don't have to hide

away under your desk because it looks so damn sweet. The only drawbacks to this keyboard are that it only comes in white and the price tag for this sweet item is \$130 dollars. Drawing a contrast, an Apple Keyboard and separate iPod dock is just under \$70 dollars, which means for the same price you pay for just this keyboard, you can get a Keyboard, dock, and mighty mouse. (Prices for those items are \$30, \$40, and \$50 respectively.) Another worth noteworthy item found while surfing the various Apple blogs is the "Milk" desk from IN2MEDIA. The brainchild of designer Søren Kjær, the "Milk" desk is one of the few desks whose design reflects the design of Apple computers and monitors. With an easy on the eyes design and features not found in many desks (such as electronically adjustable height, cable trays in the rear, and a storage system that is customizable to your needs and taste), the "Milk" desk is truly innovative. Don't own a Mac? No problem. The "Milk" will go tastefully with any computer with a flat panel monitor. If you are interested in owning a "Milk" desk, you will have to order it directly from

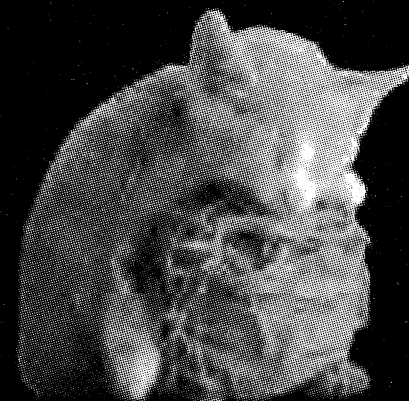
Macs running OSX 10.4+, which means that it is pretty much useless, but I gave it the benefit of the doubt and tried it out. After installing and running it through the demanding and long indexing project, I noticed a significant decrease in computer performance and a spike in processor temperature. Looking at the statistics per program, Google Desktop Search was eating away at my RAM, consuming over 70 MB sitting idle. I thought that this might be only with my computer, so I tried the application on a Mac with a core 2-duo processor and the same amount of RAM. The results were typical. While Google Desktop Search could very easily improve if they can get it to use less resources, the only way it can truly be useful to Mac users is to make it compatible with older versions of OSX, for users whose Macs do not already have Spotlight. In the meantime, stay away from Google Desktop Search as if it were the plague.

That's all for this iRate. Check in the next issue when I take a look at some good open source software for Mac users, because sometimes you just need free software!

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

Play America's Greatest Pastime

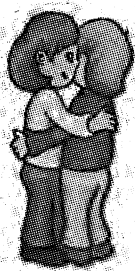
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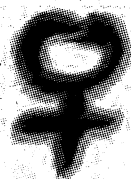
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Where dead things and sleeping  
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# Ask a Lesbian

By Ilyssa Fuchs



Hello again Stony Brook. I hope you are in enjoying my column as much as I'm enjoying writing it. I am still looking for submissions as always. Anyone interested in asking me a question is welcome to e-mail me at AskALesbian.SBPress@gmail.com.

Dear Ilyssa,

Is being a lesbian as hot as porn makes it out to be?

Sincerely,  
Typical Male

Dear Typical Male,

In response to your question I would have to say yes and no.

Yes -

First, you have to ask yourself how many lesbians get off using Jenna Jameson's toys. Then, you have to ask yourself the difference between lesbian and heterosexual sex, meaning lesbians have more orgasms while heteros just do more work.

Getting off of jokes for a second and onto more serious answers, I think it's a little ignorant to think that just because we're lesbians we are always "making porn" rather than "making love." When lesbians make love there are more emotional interactions then purely physical connections. Due to the fact that most lesbians are very in touch with their bodies the emotional bond that forms between them during love making leads to uncontrollable passion. Every touch, every kiss, every rub is sensational. As your bodies touch, you experience a softness and pure pleasure that is completely welcome. You can feel soft skin and it's the softest thing you have ever felt and it feels so loving. As she lays there on top of you, you laying underneath her with your arms and wrapped tightly around her body. You lie completely still, not saying a word but staring deeply into each other eyes and you can feel her heart beating against your heart. Suddenly, she repositions her left leg and places it on the outside of your legs, so that now one of your legs is between her legs and one of her legs is between your legs. Then she places her arms under your shoulder, tilts her face, then moves in and lip locks with you, she even uses some tongue and you girls exchange saliva. Since one of her legs is now repositioned between your legs, her upper thigh begins to slowly grind deep into your body. As she grinds, you feel a sense of total intensity, softness, warmth and love that you have never felt before in your life. This can go on for hours, eventually progressing to the point where you are both lying completely naked in a sea of passion exhausted and dripping with sweat. But being a lesbian isn't just about

the sex. Being in a relationship with a women is just as, if not more, fulfilling and fun as being in a relationship with a man.

No -

As I was saying, being a lesbian isn't always about sex. Along with the intense emotions comes the Lesbian Drama. This is drama unlike any other drama because women are much more emotional and crazy. Have you ever seen a lesbian five minutes after her girlfriend breaks up with her? Best advice: get the hell out of her way because she's more insane then Saddam and now she's on a war path to destroy anyone and anything that gets in her way. If she's on the rag you'd better find the nearest escape route, even if it means jumping out a second story window to get away.

Second, when two women are dating, if they are not fucking they are probably fighting. Just remember that your current fling is always going to be jealous of your ex and this will be the most likely cause of fighting between the two of you. She will always find a way to be mad when you make even the slightest mention of your ex. If she's really jealous she will find it necessary to check your phone and your myspace every five minutes just to ensure that you're not cheating.

Speaking of cheating, if you cheat on her see above, if you get cheated refer back to the first part of above. No one likes to be cheated on but lesbians take this to the max. It only gets worse if she's been cheating on you with a guy because then you're always left wondering whose dick has been in her last or whose dick you just sucked, and this is all just the tip of the iceberg.

So to answer your question, at times being a lesbian is definitely as hot as porn makes it out to be, but sometimes the drama makes you feel like driving your pickup off a cliff.

-Ilyssa

Please Note: The views and opinions expressed in this column are solely the views and opinion of one member of the LGBT community and are not necessarily the views and opinions of the Stony Brook LGBT group and/or the LGBT community.



# Kotei's Korner



## Parking Ticket

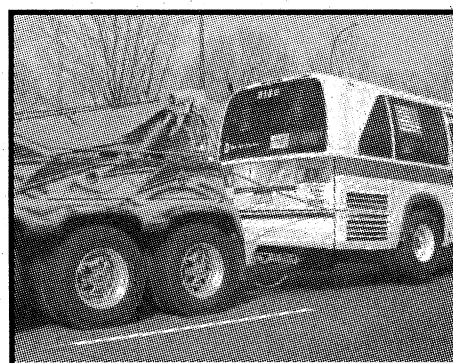
Hey, I have heard numerous times about this. New York State drivers should pay extra caution about getting parking tickets, especially near the end of month. The story goes that angry NY patrol mobs tend to procrastinate writing parking tickets. When their tickets pile up, mobs pick on every possible opportunity with every small violation.

NY police officers get a certain amount of tickets to write every month. By the end of every month, they are required to spend all the tickets, not for memos or shopping lists, not for placing orders in restaurants, not for giving out their numbers in nightclubs, not for clean up in bathrooms (oh, excuse me), but for parking violations. However, many of them give the violators some slack in the beginning of months. So near the end of each month, they rush to meet the requirement.

For example, one angry NY patrol mob takes out a ruler to measure a car parking 2 inches closer to a fountain. The other picks on a car parallel parked 5 inches into the road. Another writes a ticket against a car parked at the moment the time expired - a second after the meter runs out.

So to prove their unbalanced ticketing, I will show you the scene I encountered on my way home on March 30.

It was such an unusual sight. I just had to take a picture of it. Also, of course, as you imagine, I joked. Anywho. In this photo, the bus is being towed. So you can imagine how angry that patrol mob, who called the parking of the public bus a "violation" for some reason, wrote the parking ticket, and who summoned the tow truck. Not even a public bus is safe around the end of month in NY. Other states? Why not?



## Another Increase

Peter M. Baigent announced "fortunate" news to the campus on March 17. The Vice President of Student Affairs notified us that SUNY Stony Brook would maintain tuition costs at SUNY standard for the 2007-08 year. Our administrators make the news sound "fortunate", but the hidden meaning is that they will raise the tuition level if SUNY raises the tuition level. Moreover, Stony Brook

will increase the mandatory student fees. I get the feeling that Stony Brook intends to compensate the tuition hikes by increasing the "mandatory" student fees.

Quite frankly, I am overly annoyed with the upsurge of higher education costs every year, and every semester. Still, SUNY schools generally claim themselves to be affordable institutions. Stony Brook claims that they charge us "less than the other SUNY University Centers" in total fees of education. I am sure the hike is severe at many private institutions. But to me, the elite in our society exaggerate the importance of higher education. I understand that we need higher education to acquire multiple skills to be hired. By turning the logic, the employers want to pay less than hiring one person for one skill. Their ideals are that one of us should have a number of skills at once. People should realize that it is not an issue of raising the price of education because it gives us motivation to gain skills. Raising skilful adults is possible but money does not matter the most. The current elites must be so desperate to improve our economy or to win the technology competition in the world... GDP growth has a limit, you know?

Our administrators emphasize, "Every Stony Brook student receives quality services and benefits from these fees." I highly doubt it. Let us examine them one by one, shall we?

## Athletic Fee

The Athletic Fee is applied for the maintenance of our sporting facilities (Sports Complex, Gyms, and others), equipment, and the financial support for (intercollegiate) Seawolves teams. The fee will increase by \$9.50. Oh, by the way, congratulations to the Men's Lacrosse team and Women's Soccer team for their achievement. But for the other Intercollegiate teams, they need to work harder. See, VCU and Winthrop upset top seeded NCAA basketball teams. If our teams could do that, I would gratefully support you all the way! Especially after seeing the Stony Brook Men's Basketball team play in MSG and lose the game while the school was only interested in marketing the Stony Brook brand, I was disappointed at how the school showed its spirit. During every timeout, a commercial was aired to market Stony Brook University. Since I know that it costs money to put segments on TV programs, I was sure Stony Brook invested much money to the TV station. If they are using our money for such purposes, I would rather not pay at all. Furthermore, if our school is charging more for athletic fees and want more students on campus to show school spirits, the intercollegiate office should consider giving away freebies, like t-shirts and Red Hot hat. We'll

# Kotei's Korner

see what they decide to do. Or once again, the administrators achieve to disappoint us.

## Student Health Fee

Next in the list says "Student Health Fee." I go, "What in the world?" This hike is \$6.50. So, basically, Student Health Advisory Committee needs money to buy medications and to hire mental health service staff. I am quite unsure as to why they would need money. Many students have their own insurance and waiver the one school offers. I thought some insurance companies do free refills of medication. The Student Health Center may be convenient, but I do not see why students will not be able to utilize the free refill option with their insurance. The Student Health Center can provide us the medication from their stock while we can fill out form to receive free refill of medication, which goes to the Center's stock. While the school mandates us to have insurance, it is too bad the school's insurance does not offer free refills. For mental health service staffs, they might as well use students as intern, unpaid or low-paid.

## Technology Fee

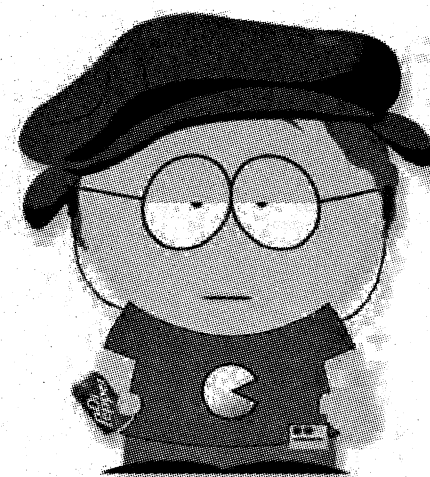
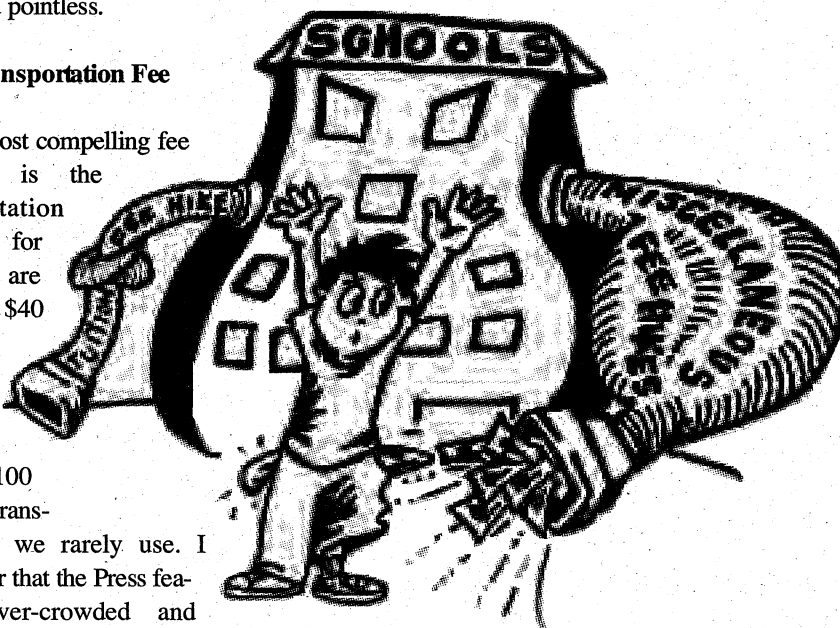
Sadly, the world is computerized. Stony Brook campus also tries to follow the latest technology. SINC sites get their computers renewed (except most of library computers). University purchased Supercomputer that is probably the fastest of its kind, wireless network is now available on campus, and classes become more depended on electronics than ever. I remember when the Chemistry department implemented remotes to get students to participate in lectures and to get attendance. The technology fee will go up by \$8.50. I rarely use SINC sites. Occasionally I print out. On that note, congratulations to the Environmental Club for the first step to lower paper consumption. Every time I print out at SINC site, I get this one extra sheet stating the balance. It takes the whole page, really. I probably glance at it for a second, while I observe people just feeding the paper to garbage. Before the school implemented the printing quota, we used to check from where to where the bundle of printed material belonged to each of us. Nothing has changed since then, except that one extra sheet is wasted for every print job at each SINC site. Also, I heard that the old computers at SINC sites usually go to some departments or offices on campus when they are replaced. But the performance of these computers in SINC sites now is pretty good. For working on assignments, writing up paper, and other basic stuff, they should be sufficient. While I can't imagine the cost of switching the configurations of entire SINC site computers

(i.e. personalize them using Net ID), I am hopeful that, once the project is done (without the increased fee), Instructional Computing will have a large budget left over for next year unless they are doing something crazy and pointless.

## Transportation Fee

The most compelling fee increase is the Transportation Fee. Just for this, we are charged \$40 more and will be charged more than \$100 for the transportation we rarely use. I remember that the Press featured over-crowded and under-efficient school buses. I took three round bus trips (6 trips in total). The buses in service were #43, #34, and #23. In addition to bus services, I hear no good news from parking services. South P-lot is often full, as well as any of the other parking lots on campus. In residential parking lot, there are cars that never leave the parking spots. The Stadium parking lot ultimately forces commuters to park so far away from the Union that they must go for picnic. The school certainly needs to consider improving the bussing service and parking service. But more importantly, they are too stubborn to stop accepting excessive incoming students. Residential halls are inadequate, now the parking lot is not enough for serving the students on campus. We get "quality services and benefits from these fees" – hardly.

I'm getting the feeling that the extra money collected will be used to renovate the campus again. West Apartment is adding the Apt I and Apt J. Pipes are bursting due to excessive construction all year long, and showers stop working in the Quads. Well I suppose the school wants to mooch off money from us to compete with the "beautiful campuses" on Princeton Review and to try and accomodate the student body that it cannot handle. The Biology department is expanding even more. The Math Tower has non-functioning elevator. The Melville Library is sinking like Columbia University's former library – Low Memorial Library – used to sink. With all that, university is slashing down trees. Well, people, cutting down trees is a serious matter. It will cause a serious natural disaster on campus since nothing will hold on to the soil while the campus is sitting right next to ocean. Watch out!



## Senate Meetings

It's a madhouse! It's a madhouse!



## USG Senate Meetings

It's a madhouse! It's a madhouse!

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If You Listen  
Carefully.

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A

GINN / MELTZER

DOUBLE FEATURE

REVIEWS

DAVID K. GINN'S

# WHY GRINDHOUSE ROCKED THE SOCK RIGHT OFF MY BLOCK

It's not very often that movies like *Grindhouse* come along. When I heard Quentin Tarrantino and Robert Rodriguez were teaming up to do a double-feature homage/spoof of 70s exploitation films, I was both excited and wary. Tarrantino has, in recent years, achieved fame by taking his talent- recreating old, nearly-forgotten media and presenting it to a new audience- and chased it almost to the point of unoriginality. The *Kill Bill* movies were amazing, but they dangerously treaded the line between homaging and copy-cattin'. Yes, homaging is now a word. Deal with it.

This movie incorporates much more of his own style and creativity with its latter segment, *Death Proof*. Kurt Russell is eerily awesome as charismatic stalker Stuntman Mike, giving his best performance since *Escape from LA*. Rosario Dawson, Zoe Bell (Uma Thurman's *Kill Bill* stuntwoman, playing herself) and Tracie Thoms play his misjudged targets with energy and amiability that, unlike most stalker movies, makes you root for them. That's a hard thing when you consider how awesome

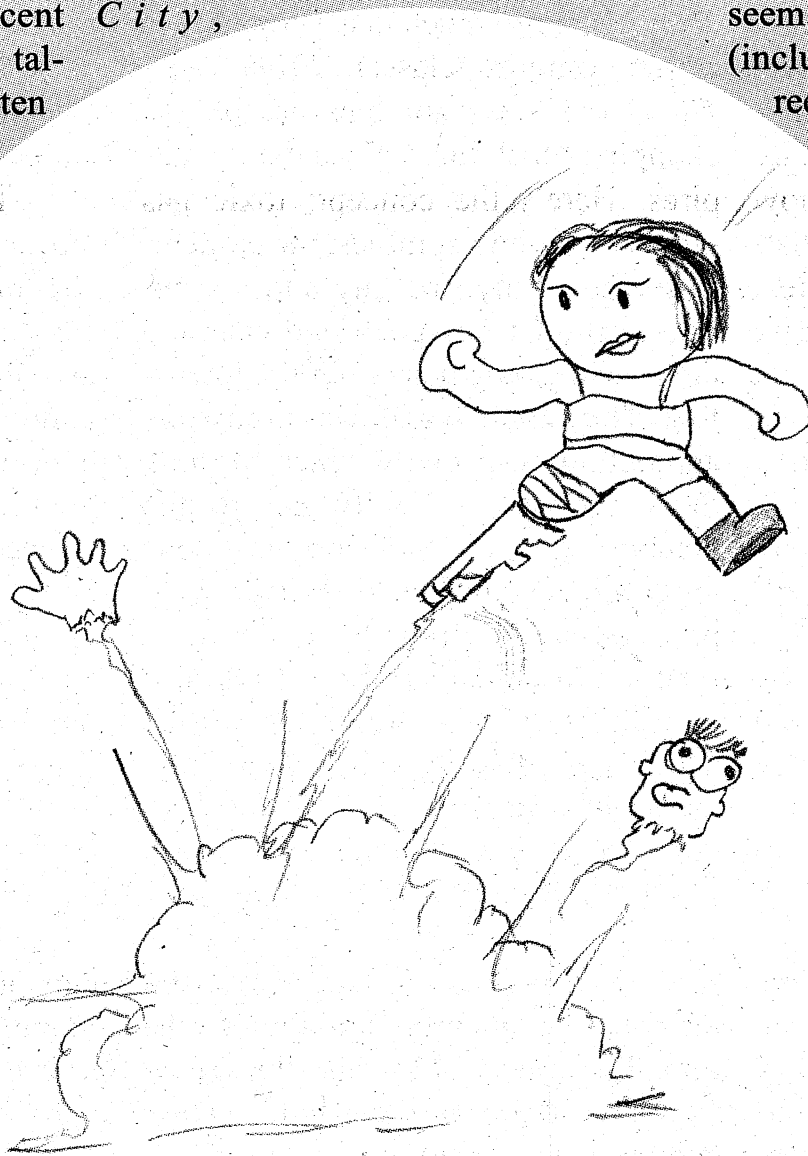
Stuntman Mike is.

Now onto the first segment, my favorite: *Planet Terror*. Robert Rodriguez, fresh from Hollywood after the *Spy Kids* series and the arguably mainstream (but amazingly stylized) *Sin City*,

ever stops being awesome. It is fucking relentless. From the opening titles straight to the end of the movie, you will be entertained. If you aren't, you are lame. I'm sorry.

Both movies, edited together to seem like a genuine 70s double-feature (including damaged film and missing reels), work remarkably well together. I'll admit that part of the dynamic's success is due to juxtaposition, but still there's a common, brutal element that makes the entire experience flow.

Also, before I go, I should praise the fake previews. Rodriguez's trailer for the non-existent Danny Trejo exploitation vehicle *Machete* is brilliance in every way that brilliance can be described. Edgar Wright's (*Shaun of the Dead*, *Spaced*) contribution to the mock trailer park is easily the best out of that trio, with Rob Zombie's and Eli Roth's being no less amazing. *Grindhouse* rocked my socks, motherfucker. The most fun I've had at the movies since *Snakes on a Plane*. Or *Deep Blue Sea*.



returns to his indie roots with a film that never,

A

GINN / MELTZER

DOUBLE FEATURE

## GRINDHOUSE

REVIEWS

# IF GRINDHOUSE WERE MY SISTER, YES, I WOULD HAVE SEX WITH HER

A JUSTIN MELTZER  
REVIEW

There once was a time in American history where movies were able to gross you out, show lots of sex and nudity, and show kids shooting themselves in the head as much as they wanted to. No I'm not talking about 1870's reconstruction, I'm talking about the exploitation, or "grindhouse," films of the 1970s. While those films were actually able to show all of the aforementioned material listed, the new Robert Rodriguez, Quentin Tarantino double feature aptly titled *Grindhouse*, was only able to get away with everything *but* the sex and nudity. For you see, boys and girls, killing others and physically maiming people with machine guns and machetes is OK, just as long as no one gets it on. Should the directors have had their sex scenes included in the film, that would have bought them an NC-17 rating, but ironically cost them ticket sales (not that that would have mattered anyway, considering the dismal opening weekend).

So you may be wondering what this whole *Grindhouse* thing is and why they did it in the first place. Well, the simple answer is because they wanted to, and Hollywood is smart enough and stupid enough to let them do it. The directors (both of them) enjoyed the B-movies of the 1970s so much that they honor them by making modern adaptations of similar concepts. They also each made their own

movies and booked the whole monstrosity as a double feature, over three hours long, with fake movie trailers in between.

Rodriguez' zombie flick *Planet Terror* is pretty much just a copy of his earlier vampire classic, *From Dusk Till Dawn*, only zombies are on the chopping block this time and not vampires. Here's the concept: toxic gas turns people into zombies, the epidemic spreads, only one guy and his on-again-off-again ex-girlfriend can stop them, with some help from the townsfolk. The movie overall was pretty disappointing, especially since it took them forever to finally get to the machine gun on the stub of a one legged Rose McGowan. With a brief part given to Bruce Willis, and a retarded plot and script by Rodriguez himself (leave the writing to Frank Miller; OK, Robert), this movie is by far the lesser of the two. If you love gory, bloody gore that makes no sense, you'll love this film; if you enjoy good movies, you won't.

But there is a saving grace, and his name be Quentin Tarantino. In the time Tarantino has for his film *Death Proof*, he redeems the whole feature and allows you to get some cheap thrills, chills, and cheers before the movie lets out. Here's the lowdown on Tarantino's flick: a psychopathic stunt driver who calls himself (what else) Stuntman Mike (Kurt Russell) tracks

down hot unsuspecting ladies and then brutally murders them with his car. While this concept may seem simple it is the intricacies Tarantino adds to the film that make it great. His dialogue and style make all his stuff worthwhile. And if you didn't appreciate the film as a whole, you have to appreciate the way *he* does it.

The movie also features something you don't see in this age of digital filmmaking and high def cameras, and that is grain, and lots of it. The directors both deliberately added a grainy look to their films to make them more seventies-esque. If you don't know what I mean by "grain," it is pieces of dust that accumulate on the film and projector, over time making the movies appear to have gunk on the screen during the film. Not only that but they also cleverly cut out pieces of footage and sometimes whole "reels" of film to give it that certain extra B-movie feel. These are the sex scenes I mentioned before whose removal allowed them to get their precious R-rating. It made parts funnier having not seen what happens prior to a major plot point, but was it really worth it?

Well, if you haven't seen the movie yet, please do, as it really could use your money. And don't forget to stay for the faux trailers in the movie. My favorite was *Don't*, but they were all pretty clever. 'Til next time...Fuck!

# The Stony Brook Press Presents Overcrowding @ STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

## Stony Brook University and Overcrowding

Sometimes I Feel Like a Damned Sardine Here

By James Laudano

Perhaps you have heard the whispers around campus of the impending housing crisis for the upcoming semester. The word is that most, if not all, incoming residing freshmen will be placed in triples, with many sophomores actually being forced to do the same as well. While this news has come as a cause for alarm for thousands of students here, some aren't looking at why exactly this is happening.

So why, exactly, do we need to cram students into these tight little fire-hazards?

Overcrowding. Yes, Stony Brook University is following the trend inherent throughout the rest of the world and is overpopulating our campus with swarms of new incoming students every semester. Personally, I enjoy being in an area with a lot of people. I love city type settings, and one of my favorite things about Stony Brook is the large scope of diversity in the undergraduate body which only results from large numbers of students. However, this administration has surpassed even my comfort level with the number of students here. It has simply gone too far. University President Shirley Strum Kenny told us in an interview not long ago that this university is like a "billion and a half dollar business." Well, she certainly is correct in one aspect of that statement. This University, much like most corporations, is very skilled at maximizing profit with



Quite literally

Jowy Romano

what space it has at the expense of the comfort of its "customers."

And, lo, let me count the ways it has discomforted us! I'm sure many of you have tried to grab some lunch at the SAC between the hours of 11 AM and 1 PM. Yeah, you had to wait on a line that was 25-40 people long for twenty minutes, right? We're students! We don't have all the time in the world. We have work to do! So, after seeing this horribly long line, maybe you thought to yourself, "Oh, never mind food. Since I have to wait forever, I'll just go over to the SINC site to do some homework." Think again, my friends. You amble on over to the library SINC site only to find that there are a total of zero available computers, with five

or ten students frantically running around the room trying to grab the next one that opens up. Damn! So where to next? I guess after being dealt the twin defeats of no food and no computers, you decide to head on back to your dorm room and relax. But wait! You'll soon find it's very hard to relax when you are crammed in with two other people into an already impossibly small room! Or... if you are a commuter, you decide to head back to your car to get some off-campus food. Only then you remember that you had to park all the way on Route 25A because every other commuter parking lot was filled to capacity. Now you're asking, "What the hell?! They filled South P-Lot?" Yes, it's happened a few times this semester already.

Obviously, all of these situations are major hassles for any university student. However, they don't even take into consideration the health problems and dangers that arise from this wave of overcrowding. Be prepared to be routinely placed in a fire hazard situation each time you visit the dining halls. Be prepared to stock up on extra vitamin tablets so you can prevent yourself from catching some sort of flu or virus that spreads like wildfire throughout the tightly packed dorms. Be prepared to have to wait for a little longer when you want to go to the SAC Wellness Center and get in some exercise. Basically be prepared to be inconvenienced in countless ways.

There are currently over 20,000 students enrolled here at

Stony Brook University. And while the campus is one of the larger ones (at over 1100 acres) in the region, there still remains an incredible overpopulation problem everywhere one goes. For the upcoming fall semester the administration plans to enroll at a 108% clip, with an estimated 75% of incoming freshmen residing on campus, so this problem isn't going to be getting any better.

If you are the least bit involved here on campus, you have noticed all of the above mentioned issues before. You've waited twenty minutes to be served in the SAC, you've run around the library SINC site for five minutes trying desperately to find an available computer. You may, in fact, be one of the unfortunate souls who are being forced to triple up in your dorm room due to the incoming deluge of freshmen. Either way, you need only open your eyes everyday on campus to know that things need to change. If the University continues to enroll at such a high rate, while more and more upperclassmen stay on for extra semesters, this problem will explode into a veritable crisis in the years to come. It's time to stomp on over to President Kenny (bring a bunch of people, you sure as hell won't have any trouble finding some here) and let her know that this University is not a "billion and a half dollar business." Let her know that we came here for an education, NOT to be another gear in the ever-expanding SUNY Stony Brook machine.

# Triple Threat Match



What's next? Quadruples?

Rob Pearsall

By Jonathan Singer

With student enrollment at SBU increasing to 108% next semester, the university is being forced to take new measures in residence hall logistics in order to accommodate the high influx of resident students, 75% of whom are freshmen. The fact that first year students are guaranteed housing further compli-

cates the issue at hand.

That's why The Division of Student Affairs has decided to put a triple room, with three students crammed into a current double size room, in each suite in the residence halls. There will only be one tripled room per suite, and only freshmen will be forced to live in these rooms.

Stephanie Brumsey, an RA in Hamilton College, says that there are currently 217 students living

in her building. Next semester, because of the triples, that number will increase to 300. Health regulations limit the amount of students who can live in the building, but the 300 mark is under that limit.

"It's not hard for me, I'm [currently] a freshman," says a Division of Campus Residences student employee who lives in Hamilton College who wish to remain nameless. But she says she will be uncomfortable with one extra person taking up her suite's communal living space, especially the bathroom.

Brumsey says that the triple room project is meant to be temporary; it is set to end sometime around December 2007 or January 2008. The logic is that, as people move out of the dorms during the year, freshmen who are placed in triples will move into those empty spaces, thus alleviating the overcrowding. "Between graduating students and people moving off campus,

spaces will open up and rooms will become de-tripled," she says.

The project may seem to only affect incoming freshmen, but that is not the case. Upperclassmen who are living in a dorm room could be forced out of their room so that the room can be converted into a triple. "If you actually wanted to stay in your room next year and it's going to be a triple, you're going to have to leave," says the Quad office employee.

Students who are forced to leave standard dorms have the option of moving into the West Apartments, as long as there is room for students in those facilities, which are reserved for upperclassmen. The Hamilton freshman is sure that there will be a huge overflow of students who apply to live in the apartments and that the waitlist will be very long, making chances of actually getting into West very low, if not impossible.

The University is building a new apartment building, West Apartments I. The Campus Residences rep. says that there will be a parking lot built adjacent to the new building, as the current parking lots around each quad and the cluster of apartments are usually filled to capacity during the week.

Brumsey also encourages contacting the University's off-campus housing office if students wish to leave the residence hall system altogether. With more students moving off-campus, RA's hope this will alleviate the need for cramming three beds into a room designed for two.

Measures are also being taken to accommodate the new student population's need for food service. The line at the SAC food court commonly extends out the door, so the University is renovating the SB Union to include new eateries, including a Cajun bar and a Caribbean food outlet that promises to feature oxtail.

## Food, Not Exactly Glorious Food

By Alex H. Nagler

Well, the rumors were true. Roth really is closing for the '07-'08 academic year to undergo renovations that will lead to new facilities, first and foremost among them Wendy's. This isn't the only change in cuisine happening on campus. Over the summer break, the Bleacher Club will be renovated to become the Union Commons. This will be home to Coyote Jack's (which was busy giving out samples of their new Southwest-style burgers last Wednesday), Bamboo, Calypso, Halal New York, and the NYC Gyro Cart. The hours will also be extended to 11am to 6pm, allowing denizens of the Union Basement like myself to grab an early dinner/late lunch on Friday nights.

Among other changes happening in the Union involve the University Café and The End of the Bridge. EoB will become Wolfie's Wings & Things and (say it with me) Starbucks. This new twosome will be open Monday through Friday, noon to 2 pm and 6 pm to 10 pm. The University Café will add Fuzions Cuisine, a panini grill and salad

concept that will *finally* accept the meal plan during lunch hours. Nothing has been said yet about the possible interference with the performance space.

Now, as for Roth, the rest of the university dining halls are being forced to pick up the slack that will result in displacing the dinner rush. The SAC will now be

me that I live in Toscana, out in the boondocks of Tabler. If you hadn't heard of late, the Tabler Café recently gained a Dunkin Donuts and a Freschetta Pizza. The majority of the time, I put on my blue slippers and walk to the Café for a pizza, soda, and chocolate donut. Starting next year, the residents of Tabler and I will be

and handles a good deal of traffic. I doubt that people in Roth will want to walk to Kelly for food, and even if they do, as anyone who's dropped by that food court at two in the morning (in any state of consciousness) can tell you, there isn't exactly much there. And Tabler, well, Tabler has one register and four employees working behind the counter. Unless a second register is opened, there will be a bottleneck stretching outside the doors just to get food. And does the university honestly expect commuters to schlep all the way up those steps to get lunch like they could when Roth was open? And is it fair that even now I have to wait on line for ten minutes for a cup of soup and a bottle of Vitamin Water?

The new food-related plan also raises the following issue: What about that negotiation that's supposed to be taking place over the summer regarding who'll provide our food, anyway? Remember that? The whole Chartwells issue? Remember? We wrote a spread about it, then got pissed when *The Statesman* stole our ideas without crediting us, and we ended up sticking a dildo on the plaque next to their door? Well, everyone was wrong when they thought the

Chartwells' contract was up this summer; it's not. It's up next summer. I spoke with President Antonelli about the issue and he gave me a brief synopsis of how things were going. When I met with him at the Enduring Freedom Alliance's Alexander Hamilton Banquet, he had only been elected a mere two weeks ago. In that time, he had met with the FSA twice and has a third upcoming meeting.

A committee is being established to do fact-finding concerning the needs of Stony Brook and how a company could best serve to feed the community. Only companies that the FSA feels can fulfill the requirements will be allowed to place a bid. As with all contracts in the state bureaucracy, the bids will be secret and the lowest bidder *should* win. Unfortunately, until then, prices will go up. And we'll still kvetch about them. Until then, all we can do is hope that, come next summer, we'll have a new supplier who will treat the students more fairly.

*Alex H. Nagler had a lovely London broil before he left home at the end of Spring Break. It was nice.*



open until 10pm, and Kelly will now be open 24 hours a day. These changes are nice, but they won't be any comfort to the residents of Roth Quad who are used to the ability to shuffle out of their dorms in slippers and get their dinner.

Speaking of the ability to walk to a dining hall in slippers, some of the biggest and most important changes (says me and my bias) are coming to the Tabler Café. It's no secret to anyone who knows

able to also purchase Outtakes (they're the premade sandwiches you can buy at ridiculous markups in the Union and the SAC) and Panini Fresca, though paninis are already available at the Café as of now.

The university's plan to alleviate the pain caused by the lack of Roth is all good and well, but will it work? Roth, though Deng Lee's is disgusting and Burger King gives me a stomach ache, is still a major food court for this campus

# Effective Answers to Overcrowding Not Just a Campaign Slogan?

By Rebecca Kleinhaut

Every year during the campaigning season, every USG candidate has a different version of the same promise. Long lines and lack of parking are always the first issues on the list of student grievances, and they are the last things that any USG representative tries to deal with. With next year's record-setting enrollment, the incoming governing body will have quite a task on their hands as they try to balance effective policies with their own sanity.

Joseph Antonelli, the President elect and current Senator, has already begun speaking to administrators about what is being done to accommodate the slew of incoming students. Senator Antonelli is also a resident, and like many other students, he has had to surrender his room next year. "[M]any students (includ-

ing myself) have been displaced from their current room due to the tripling," Antonelli explained in an e-mail conversation. Senator Antonelli explained that he has met with Dallas Bauman, the head of campus residences, in order to speak about their current plans for new buildings. Campus Residences is planning to build one new residence hall every year "for the next few years that will add approximately 1,200 new beds." Senator Antonelli is also planning on speaking to Transportation Services in order to talk about their plans of improvement for the campus bus service.

Although Senator Antonelli understands that there are many

miles to go before real progress is accomplished, he is opti-



Incoming USG VP of Student Life, Jonathan Hirst

mistic about the new accommodations and their impact on the overcrowded campus.

"Congestion will definitely be increased," said Senator Antonelli, "but with the renovations of the Union dining areas I personally think the congestion will be somewhat relieved."

Senator Antonelli is not the only member of USG who is looking ahead to the congestion problems of next semester. Senator Jonathan Hirst, who is set to serve as the Vice President of Student Life, has drafted legislation that will create a new student liaison program. Senator Hirst created the Student Life Council after witnessing the apparent lack of student and administration interaction. "The basic outline of the council will be to gather input from the students," said Senator Hirst in an e-mail conversation. "For example, the student body is not

visible at any FSA [Faculty Student Administration] finance committee meetings. My goal is to change that."

The Student Life Council would recruit any undergraduate students who would like to try to solve any problems that affect the university community. "Any member of the council is free to speak on behalf of all students," said Senator Hirst. "Additionally, any member that attends those [FSA] meetings will be required to report back to the council his/her findings and recommendations." Any student will be able to join the Student Life Council. Senator Hirst also included a section about a peer mentor program for incoming students. The legislation that is necessary to implement the plan will head before the USG Senate on April 17. "My hope is that the Council will be flexible enough to adapt to the changing environments on our campus."

## South-P Lot: Because You're Not Allowed to Park on Campus

By Madeline Scheckter

Unless you are a commuter student, you are probably unfamiliar with the South-P parking lot. Located on South Drive off of Stony Brook Road, the lot is basically off campus. It would be neither convenient nor safe to attempt to walk to main campus from South-P, so one is left to rely on the Hospital/Chapin or Express bus. Of course, this is completely tolerable, especially considering that the majority of the bus drivers are well-liked by students. What bothers many commuters is that they have to allow for the time it will take to wait for and take a bus, usually an extra half hour.

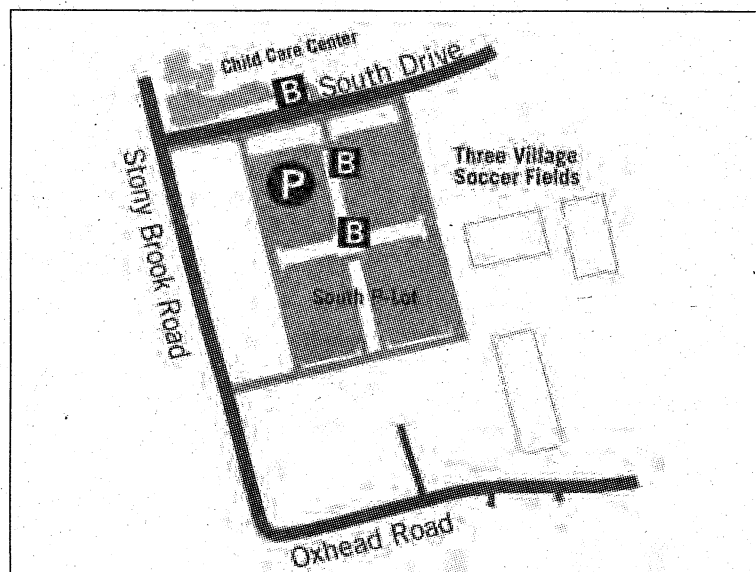
The buses come approximately every ten or fifteen minutes, though they leave from the SAC slightly more frequently after popular class times such as 5:10pm. Crowding has always been a problem when trying to board a bus between 5pm and

6pm, but that problem increased this past fall. One would often not be able to board the first bus which came due to the huge crowd of people waiting, and when one did manage to get on a bus, it would be overcrowded. The overcrowding on buses is a problem which makes many students uncomfortable because the amount of students standing makes the bus feel unsafe.

The buses begin running at 5:30am (for Chapin; the Express starts later) and the last bus leaves from the SAC at 11:45pm. This presents a problem for students who wish to attend late night activities on campus, though after 4pm most of the on-campus parking is legal for use by students who do not possess special passes. Of course, if one were to leave one's car in the South-P lot, one would have to get a ride off of the main campus and re-enter at the north entrance, because the gate onto South Drive from Marburger Drive is locked.

There is a waiting area located in the center of the parking lot. It has a bike rack, a bulletin board, a few trash cans, and no heat. While it does not have bathrooms either, this is understandable because it would probably be very difficult to install bathrooms that far off campus in an area which is already paved and being used. Not that commuter students would not really, really appreciate it. The fact that it is not heated, however, can make the experience of commuting incredibly unpleasant in the winter or when it is raining heavily – which causes much of the parking lot to flood with about 3 inches of water.

With the green passes issued by parking services, the only alternative to South-P is North-P, a small parking lot near the train station which is nearly always full. Where, then, can commuter students park? Either they can pay to park in one of the metered lots, which are usually full, pay to park in the garage at administra-



The Lost Island

stonybrook.edu

tion, pay for a stadium or ESS pass, or take their chances and park illegally.

Only three years ago, South-P lot seemed enormous. Now, if one arrives at the lot in the early afternoon it is difficult to find a parking space. This problem seems to have alleviated itself since Spring Break, but that probably has more to do with attrition

than it does to do with carpooling, or the magical appearance of more spaces. South P no longer fulfills the needs of the ever-growing commuter student population, and the buses, though driven by capable and kind people, are too few and far between at the times when the campus is most busy. South-P needs more parking spaces and more buses.

# Why Do I Have to Park in Guam?

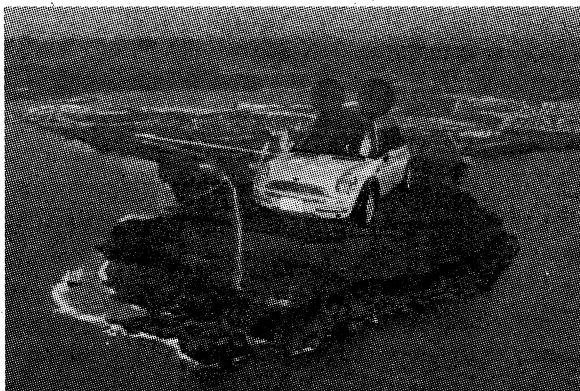
By Ilyssa Fuchs

As I pull onto campus late for my first class, I arrive at the same dilemma I am faced with almost every morning. If I park in the South-P lot, wait for the bus, and then walk to class, I am going to be even later to the point where it isn't even worth going. If I don't, I have to shell out money for the metered lot, or, worse, try to dig quarters out of my back seat to park at an actual meter. To make matters even worse, as I speed by the faculty lot in my frantic search for a spot I can't help but notice three empty spots in a row just begging me to park illegally and take my chances on a parking ticket. As I circle the metered lot for the third time I finally see someone pulling out and rush to put my blinker in an attempt to prove that I have claimed the spot with my all powerful turn signal. Finally, about ten to fifteen minutes later, I pull into a spot, put my

car in park, and wipe the sweat from my forehead. The search is over, but I still have pay the meter; and on the days I can't get a spot in a metered lot I must drive all the way back to South-P and follow the routine I was hoping to avoid. *I hate it!*

Anyone who commutes to Stony Brook knows that the parking situation is a little less than a luxury. Yes, you can always park in South-P, but parking there is a bitch, especially if you don't budget your time well enough or you get stuck in bumper to bumper traffic on Nicolls Road, or any other route to the school for that matter. North-P and the railroad lot are no better - finding an open spot is like trying to win the war in Iraq: *not going to happen*. The secret commuter lot (which I hope to keep a secret) is like Vegas; sometimes

you get lucky and sometimes you don't. On the days that I have



Quite literally?

Jowy Romano

extra time, I'll wait in the secret lot for an unsuspecting person to come back to their car and then stalk them to find out where they're parked in order to steal their spot, but sometimes I'm not the only one waiting and then it becomes a game to see who can find someone pulling out and then pull in the fastest. I can't even count the number of times I've asked, "Hey are you pulling out?"

to someone walking through the lot. As a last resort I will try and find a spot in metered lot only to have to pay even more to the university than I already pay. What irks me the most about the situation is that we (the students) pay lots of money every year and yet we are the ones who must park about five miles from civilization, while the faculty (the people being paid) can park minutes from everything without breaking a sweat. It's almost as if the university is catering more to its faculty than its students, the people whose money keeps them employed. If you have a little extra dough you can always buy a stadium permit, but these are first come, first served and once they are gone for the semester they are gone for good, not to mention their astronomical price. What's funny is that the stadium lot is

almost always half empty but it is the first place you will get a ticket if you're parked there without a brown permit. Wouldn't it be a good idea to have some kind of lottery system for this? The administration should listen to their students and take care of the problem. A possible solution, which might make life a little easier, could be something as simple as changing some faculty spots into commuter spots or lowering the price for a stadium permit so that more people could afford one.

As we all know, the university is overcrowded and the situation is not going to get any better. With enrollment increasing next year by thousands, the parking is only going to get worse: there are going to be even more students fighting over an already small number of convenient spots. The rest of us will have no choice but to park in Guam and deal with the Express bus, but that's another issue in itself.

## Press to School:

Be Cool and Give us a Carpool, Fool!

By Steve McLinden

Earth Day is around the corner, and Stony Brook's Earthstock will be a celebration as big as it ever has been. The Earthstock website features a pledge for individuals to reduce their ecological impact by improving their everyday actions. While "carpooling" is one of these actions, this seems awfully contradictory to Stony Brook's current parking policy. A serious effort to organize carpooling would not only relieve overcrowded parking lots, but it would also help Stony Brook students reduce their overall gasoline usage.

The policy on Stony Brook's Parking Services website reads that permits "... may be transferred to any vehicle being driven by the original permit holder. Parking permits are for the exclusive use of the original permit holder and may not be transferred, given or sold to another individual."

As commuters know, permits to the conveniently-located stadium lot will cost you \$150 per year. And as students who park there (or the 400 students currently waitlisted for stadium passes) know, it's always

crowded and difficult to find a spot to park on any school day. Considering that almost every vehicle parked in the stadium lot is used by only the driver, a system promoting carpooling would at least greatly reduce the waiting list. But even if someone with a stadium pass wanted to take turns driving with a friend, the rules would forbid it.

Fortunately, the premium parking hasn't taken over everywhere; there are a couple of on-campus lots available to those with free passes. The bad news is that they're all full at 8 am on most days. Meanwhile, even South-P fills up around mid-day, at least during midterm weeks. Where are we supposed to park, at the movie theatre on 347? For those of us who'd rather not ride the Express bus, it's already a mile-and-a-half walk to campus. While the school has focused on arrangements for increased enrollment in the dorms, I haven't heard of any plans for alleviating the parking situation that is only going to get worse.

If this school can manage to process thousands of class registrations online in a semi-operational fashion, one would think that set-

ting up a carpooling website would be easy. Put up a form for students put in their zip codes and their class schedules for this semester and let them contact any nearby matches. Give them a discounted rate on stadium parking or priority on the waitlist.

Of course, carpooling isn't going to work for everyone in every situation. Yes, some of us go to work after school and there are disadvantages. But to not offer any semblance of a carpooling program at a university of this size is weak. Give us an incentive to do so, and plenty of students will. One more carpool is at least one less car in a lot somewhere. It may even spark new friendships and make commuters feel like a part of the community (not that anyone would want to see that happen). Gas prices are pushing three dollars a gallon on Long Island, and who can argue with saving some money a few days a week? Plus, if you're a passenger, the ride will give you some last-minute cram time before a test, or enable your procrastination.

So what is it, Stony Brook? Are you committed to reducing our environmental impact, or are you just blowing hot air?

## The Numbers!

By Alex H. Nagler

Overcrowding sucks. There's no doubt about that. Verbal descriptions may be one thing, but sometimes, you just want cold hard numbers to give you the straight dope. Cold hard numbers won't lie, and like that girl you met at the party, they won't call you back. Here are some basic numbers to start us off:

- 14,851: The number of undergraduate students enrolled at Stony Brook University.
- 2,708: The number of freshmen who enrolled for the 2006 year (myself included).
- 2,925: The number of freshmen expected to enroll for the 2007 year, if the 108% capacity number cited by the administration holds true.
- Approximately 75% of incoming freshmen will be residing.
- 15,338: In-State Residential Tuition, based on the Fall 2006 figures. Mind you, these figures are (to quote the university's own website) "subject to change without notice."

Now that we have these basic numbers, let's do some quick math. Let us assume for a moment that all students pay the full tuition cost. We are given a grand honking total of \$227,784,638, or over 200 Million dollars. This is what President Strum-Kenney means when she says she's the "head of a multimillion dollar corporation"

Now that we have our 200 million dollars, we can get down to another level. This 200 million from us isn't the universities primary source of income. We are a research university. A good chunk of Stony Brook's funding comes from the state and federal level. We're a SUNY, don't forget. We get a good deal of money from the State of New York. But we also get cash from grants for research that we do. That's why some science professors are so hard to deal with; you, the student, have dragged them out of their laboratory and forced them to teach. There are professors who love to teach, but there are also ones who are in it just for the research. There's nothing wrong with that, it's just two different types of professors.

# Champagne

By Jonathan Singer

Here is a satirical piece that I wrote in light of recent events at *The Stony Brook Press*:

Volume 28, Issue 11 of *The Stony Brook Press* featured picture in this article

I was present in *The Press* office as the simulated, satirical cutting was being photographed. I started twitching a little bit during the photo shoot. If it were a few weeks ago, I wouldn't have told you why.

In response to the photo, an emotional *Press* reader sent this letter to the editor:

Hello Children of *The Press*,

So, in your last issue you made fun of *The Statesman*, kudos, really - show 'em that you're the bigger more rubbery delicious man! ?

Was it a slow news week or are you kids just assholes? Don't get me wrong, I'm sure that *the Statesman* pokes fun at you as well but in a more behind closed doors, tactful sort of way. Dildo on their door that becomes your cover photo - priceless - and then repeated.

Warhol style on the back of your latest edition - excellent, seemingly the perfect way to make fun of a rival paper. Did I mention the back cover, the uses for *The Statesman*? I was in stitches. Cut yourself with *The Statesman* because you're trying to conform to a melodramatic Dashboard Confessional listener stereotype - excellent - bring on the emotion, bring on the tears, bring on the painful truth.

I'm not a displaced emo child upset over a stereotype. I'm a girl who upon seeing your covers almost had a nervous breakdown. As a victim of sexual assault, the hard to swallow variety, I once cut to relieve the pain. The goal is to make your bruised, violated soul visible on the outside. Every cut is a little release from the daunting world inside your head.

Seeing the cover coupled with the image on the back cover sent me into a tailspin. I understand that your intent wasn't to offend, then again, I suppose that no one ever thinks of the girl with finger prints on the back of her neck that turn into bruises who managed to get her jaw dislocated because she valiantly fought for her dignity, who about a year and a half later sees her assailant often because they share a class as he snickers in her direction filled with the memory of conquest.

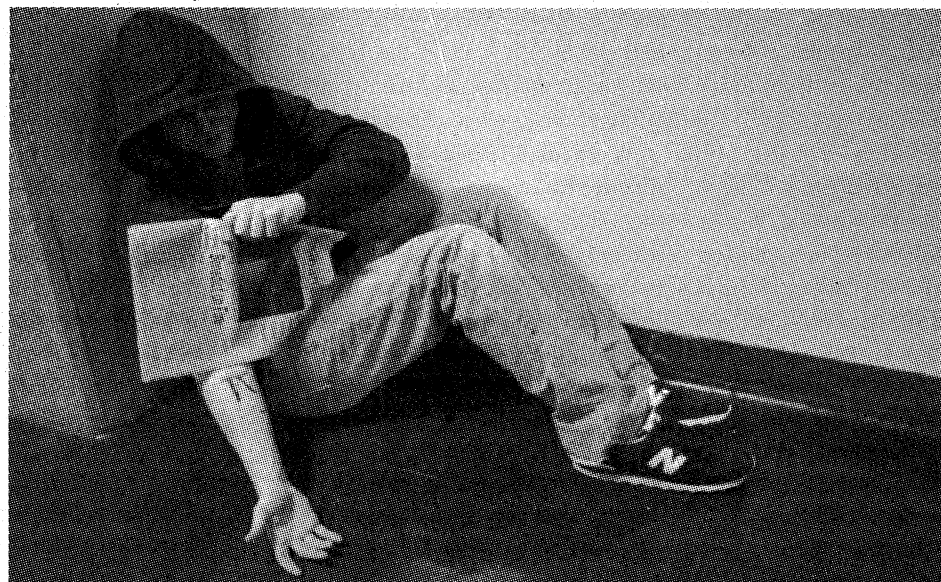
Why didn't she think to report him? What if she did and it was shrugged off as some college girl's naive mistake? Oops, at least she learnt now that she should trust her instincts and not be alone in a dorm with a boy of questionable character. Didn't anyone teach you to think before you do? I suppose not.

Maybe I should thank you, I thought my current relationship with my therapist was lacking but now my therapist and I are

going to have a field day. So thank you boys and girls of the *Press* for the panic attack from the bottom of my heart to the tips of my toes on my self mutilated body. Yeah, I wish it was because I conformed to the emo stereotype too...

no hard feelings,  
X,  
jess

*Press* staffers thought that perhaps the letter was a hoax, submitted by *The Statesman*'s Will James. Two responses were written, which can be found on page 11 of Volume 28 Issue 12. The replies



Cheer Up Emo Kid

sparked a multi day argument among *Press* editors, as nobody knew how to properly deal with such heavy topics as cutting and rape while defending the paper from a sick joker.

A late production of the issue only gave them more time for intense verbal quarrelling. People at *The Statesman* would be happy to know that at one instance, punches were almost thrown.

They were arguing last week as I was in the office. I just sat in the corner, making wisecracks to myself, saying things like "that's fucked up," and "yeah, word up." No one heard what I was saying.

After everyone left for the night for the night, it was just me another staffer in the room. "Cutting is a sensitive issue, "I said to her, "My cousin did that kind of shit."?

For anyone who has ever had an in depth conversation with me, you would know that I lived in Australia for a year after high school. My friend in Melbourne owned a video store, and that's where I worked while experiencing Eurocentric life on the other side of the world.

You would also notice that I knew a lot about the city of Buffalo. I knew about neighborhoods like the Elmwood Village (dying due to gentrification), and buildings like the art-deco masterpiece that is Buffalo's city hall.

Until now, you wouldn't know that my cousin is actually myself.

After I graduated from high school in the spring of 2004, I went to SUNY

Buffalo (UB) that fall. I knew so much about journalism when I first showed up to the *Press* office because I had written for *Generation*, UB's alternative newsweekly, for two years.

If you don't believe me, then go to <http://generation.buffalo.edu> and check out the archives. You'll find a good amount of articles written by me from the fall of 2004 to the spring of 2006. Some of those articles were written by Aron Singer, which was my pseudonym under an anti-depressant induced delusional high.

I'm surprised that no one at *The Press* has called my bluff by finding out I wrote

for *Generation*. Or maybe they did, which I wouldn't mind. I actually like it when people talk about me when I'm not around. It lets me know that people care about me. One of the reasons I am writing this is because I've become so paranoid wondering whether or not my "secret past" at *Generation* has been discovered.

I suffer from severe social anxiety. I hardly left my room during my freshman year of college. I really wanted to, but at times I felt as if I physically couldn't. When I did go out, there was no way I was going to talk to any one, let alone even look them in the eyes (I still have trouble doing that).

I went to a few Students Against Sweatshops film screenings, but I would leave right after the movie ended. There was a girl that I had a crush on, a crush like I was still in high school, who went to the meetings. But I never got around to talking to her (later I was almost accused of stalking her).

One time I also went out, by myself, to see *Der Untergang*, an award winning German film that chronicles the last few days of the third Reich. From a film critic's perspective, *Der Untergang* is ascetically a masterpiece. You should take note of Bruno Ganz's amazing performance as Adolph Hitler. I was very impressed with the movie, but was still depressed after seeing it, because I didn't have any friends to go to the movies with.

So I went to the Walgreen's down the

road and brought straight razor blades. Then I did what cutters do. I did it while listening to Sonic Youth.

I initially felt a small bit of sexual pleasure in the cutting. It relived some of the stress that I was facing. Sure, I would go running a few times a week, but the cutting relieved emotional stress that was deep inside my mind.

When spring came around, I would walk around campus in a t-shirt, my arms fully exposed to the world. No one around me seemed to notice.

My GPA was a 3.9 that year.

Then one night I ran out of razor blades. I went down the Walgreen's only to discover that it had closed for the night. I decided then to go to the coffee bar across the street. When I walked in I saw *Generation*'s editor in chief sitting at a table with a cup of coffee. I obviously didn't plan on talking to her, but she invited me over.

She was writing an edit note for the last issue of the semester. She said that I had contributed excellent writing for that year. I couldn't believe that only eight months before I knew next to nothing about journalism. Now I was being praised for my work.

I guess I'm a pretty talented journalist. I got an A in my first Journalism class, EGL 399, taught by Professor Andrew Galarneau, a reporter for The Buffalo News. Prof. Galarneau is also *Generation*'s staff advisor, as well as a former editor of the magazine.

For the past few months I have claimed that Prof. Galarneau was my uncle, the family member who taught me everything I know about print journalism thus far.

As a freshman at *Generation*, I had two of my articles published as cover stories. The magazine has a circulation of 8,000 copies. Not only is it distributed around the UB campus, it's also available at coffee bars, restaurants, and independent shops throughout the city. That means that at any moment, some homeless person can be reading your article. But I was always under the impression that no one read the magazine, because I received no credit beyond my name under the title.

So I cut myself while listening to Radiohead. Nobody found out until the last day of the spring semester.

I was prescribed a popular brand of anti-depressant medication and was happily sent back to Buffalo for the fall 2005 semester.

My mother suggested that I go to the "welcome back barbeque" as the first event of my new life. It was supposed to get me out of my room and lead me to attending other activities. (Sorry mom, but no one "cool" ever goes to those events.) Walking down to a barbeque sounds like a pretty easy task. You just walk to the grill and get a hamburger

Continued on next page

# Champagne (continued...)

Continued from previous page

and/or a veggie burger.

But for me, going to that barbeque and talking to people was a big deal. I was literally thinking in my head, "holy crap, this is awesome," as I talked to people about hamburgers, politics, and skateboards.

I was also interested in finding things to do on the weekend. I had gone to one or two college parties during my freshman year, but that was it. I met a pretty friendly guy who invited me to his fraternity house that weekend. Within three weeks I was actually pledging that fraternity.

I'm not going to tell you the name of the fraternity, nor am I going to tell you what they do. I am currently in the process of being officially excommunicated from the frat, but I'm forever under the obligation to keep their operations a secret.

Part of my sickness is that I have a great deal of trouble talking to people who share my own interests. SUNY Buffalo certainly has a thriving art house crowd. Many of them wrote for *Generation*. (For better or worse, *Generation* is essentially run by Beatniks, and I am a self professed Beatnik.) I desperately wanted to be part of their social clique, a social clique like we were still in high school (see a trend?).

I thought the whole frat thing would make a good *Generation* feature story. The draft that I wrote was the first time I had admitted my cutting to anyone. I sent to the features editor, and she read it. I thought she would at least ask me if I was feeling any better. Instead she pointed out the article's poor grammar. I guess it was because she's a self professed Beatnik.

So I hid in a world of fraternity madness, drinking heavily and smoking a substantial amount of marijuana (I still listened to Sonic Youth). Ironically, I don't think I left the fraternity house very often. And I kept on saying how much the brotherhood had saved me from depression.

After four months I realized that fraternity life was not for me. I remember going to my friend's mother's funeral under the influence of street drugs. Then someone borrowed my car for the day. He took it to Cleveland, and when he brought it back there was cigar tobacco all over the interior.

I awoke one day in the frat house, for some reason feeling refreshed and alert. It was like I had just experienced a long, strange dream. I looked around my room. I was listening to Talking Heads

"Well, how did I get here?"

I saw that the only way out was a "fail safe" measure of cutting myself. I cut myself more profusely than before, and it worked. Within a few days I was back on Long Island, inside the psychiatric ward of North Shore Hospital.

In the hospital I was prescribed a not so popular brand of ant-psychotic medication. I'm still taking it today. Being in the hospital was not as bad as it sounds. I learned L'Hospital's rule, an important theorem in calculus that has changed my outlook on life. The psyc ward was also where I drew my infamous "Pizza Company" cartoons. I should also tell you that North Shore Hospital has a secret food menu. If you ever have to stay there, be sure to ask for an animal style hamburger.

After being in there for ten days, I realized that I have no reason to ever return to Buffalo. So I enrolled in Stony Brook University, the SUNY public research university that was only 40 miles from my house.

I knew that I wanted to continue writing for a "cool, alternative" newspaper with "cool, alternative" kids. Although I didn't really know what "cool" meant anymore. So I found out about *The Stony Brook Press*, SBU's award winning alt. paper dedicated to being anti-establishment. (*Generation's* website doesn't say anything about awards or Pulitzer Prize winning alumni.)

After a semester at Nassau Community College, I arrived at Stony Brook for the spring 2007 semester. I was in so much shock from the past two and a half years that I decided to forget everything that had happened.

I thought I was doing a pretty good job up until last week. My Australia story was going pretty well, but I couldn't make up a good name for the video store. I was also trying to figure out what I would say if people showed me old *Generation* articles. I was drafting an elaborate story to explain how my suicidal cousin had the same name as me.

But I couldn't stand watching the editors at *The Press* fight with each other. My parents argued all the time, and I turned out to be a pretty good creative writer. But the people at *The Press* aren't my parents. They're my friends. Even though my name isn't in the staff box yet (I don't mind that much), I am proud to contribute to our newspaper.

So I figured that the best response to Jess's/Will's letter would be for me to tell my personal story. I had nothing to do last night so I thought I'd sit down and do some writing. It's more therapeutic than cutting myself.

*If you're ever in Buffalo, be sure to contact the Nickel City Co-Op (<http://nick-elcitycoop.com>). The run as awesome communal living project, and they always have room for guests in their Queen Ann style mansion. The Beatniks who live there are very nice.*

# You Pay For What You Get

By Pizda Huyova

Some months ago, a fellow *Press* staffer and I went to see *What Is It?*, a film by well-known creepy bastard Crispin Glover. One of the most memorable scenes from that movie features Glover, in a full-length full coat, looking bored as all hell watching a 60-something-year-old man get jerked off by a woman wearing a rubber mask (and nothing else) while the most racist song I've ever heard played on an old record player.

The point of the scene, and it can be said, the whole movie's point was to shock; to elicit some sort of reaction from the audience. And the audience expected that. They knew who Crispin Glover was, and they knew exactly what they were paying for.

This, among other things, came to mind watching Don Imus' fall from grace this past week.

Among the myriad articles castigating Imus for his depiction of the Rutgers women's basketball team as "nappy headed hoes" was the common thread that Imus got too many chances and burned through them. Here's my question: from who? From MSNBC and CBS Radio. Okay, and why did they keep him on the air? Because he brought in advertisers. And why did he keep bringing in advertisers? *Because we still listened to his show.*

*The biggest lesson to learn is simply that we need to take a good look at ourselves and our hypocrisy.*

It wasn't corporate America who kept Imus on the radio. It was those people who still listened to him. We gave him the power every time we turned on WFAN. And it's not just Imus: why do you think Opie and Anthony still have a career? It's democracy in action: you can get away with almost anything as long as you have a following. And just like with the Crispin Glover movie, people who tune in to those (and other "shock jocks") listen because they want to be shocked. They want to hear something that makes them gasp and nervously laugh, looking around to make sure it's okay for them to laugh. They know exactly what they want.

So everyone involved makes a Faustian bargain: a shock jock goes on the air and tries to toe the line between comedy and tastelessness, knowing every second that a wrong move could be their downfall. The radio station puts them on the air knowing

that if their jock makes the wrong move, they have a PR fiasco on their hands. The advertiser pays for airtime knowing that they are underwriting something that could backfire on them.

*So everyone involved makes a Faustian bargain: a shock jock goes on the air and tries to toe the line between comedy and tastelessness, knowing every second that a wrong move could be their downfall.*

And the listener turns on the radio with the understanding that what they listen to could well be offensive if not to them than to someone else. Think about this: how many people heard Imus' remarks and laughed? It's probably more than you think. They would never admit it, though.

That's not to say that doing something for shock value is necessarily unfunny or incorrect, or without value. *The Press* has done many things over its history designed to shock, and more often than not the response is positive, and that perhaps most of all is why the *Press* still exists. And so has Imus, and Howard Stern, and Chris Rock, and Bill Maher and Lenny Bruce. And this again, speaks to the power of the people: we choose who gets to break the rules and who doesn't.

We had the ability to turn Imus off for years, for decades. We could have turned him off when his then-sportsreader, Sid Rosenberg, basically referred to Venus and Serena Williams as animals. We could have turned him off when he referred to New York Times writer William Rhoden (who is black) as a "quota hire." We could have turned him off when *60 Minutes'* Mike Wallace revealed that he hired someone specifically to do "n----r jokes." But we didn't. We decided that Imus got to break the rules without consequence, until all of a sudden we revoked his privileges, and sank his career.

Perhaps the biggest lesson to learn from the whole Imus thing is not about Imus himself, or racism, or sexism. The biggest lesson to learn is simply that we need to take a good look at ourselves and our hypocrisy. Either everything goes on the radio, or nothing goes and everyone has to march like good Christian soldiers. But for us to cry foul now when we've given Imus a free pass for decades is ridiculous.

We turned on the radio knowing exactly what we were getting. Why, all of a sudden, are we so surprised to be getting what we asked for?

# “Yes!” (or Just How Random is Random?)

By Vincent Michael Festa

Over the years I’ve written poetry, painted pictures, shot photography, written articles, and made graphic designs, but never did an installation. I never thought of even doing one until I signed up for ARS 425 this semester with Professor Christa Erickson.

I learned that in this class we will all have our works of art in an exhibition space in Tabler. This is especially what I wanted to have since fellow *Press* staffer and scenester Jowy Romano had a couple of them already (Remember *Ups and Downs*? Yes, you do. Don’t lie.)

Sitting in Erickson’s class she told us at the start that we could create our works in any medium and we even took a trip in the Staller Arts building to look at her own *Prosthetic Memory: Bodies, Bits, & Devices* exhibition earlier this semester. I was already overwhelmed and nervous because I couldn’t figure out just how in high heaven I can create a functional piece of art on her level.

A see-saw connected to a video screen where the video shows two sides trying to win a game? Video hop-scotch with live surveillance around the world as squares? A pinwheel wired to an old-box turntable that when you huffed on it both the record and the video would play according to how hard you blew into it? No way. I couldn’t.

Then weeks came by and an idea stuck in my head. I had the idea of making an interactive video game, and the idea was so persistent that it had to be done. Work was underway. The idea was this: build a program that acted like a full-screen video slot machine.

The concept was this: you would have numbers from 0-9 that flash randomly on the screen. When the screen stops on a triple (meaning three of the same number), a video prize would come up. You would have devils inside the game that when stopped on, you automatically lost, but you also would have stars that are wild and could count as any number you needed to match all three. When three stars line up, you would hit a grand prize and would play the game’s built-in video.

All of the slides were done on Photoshop. The numbers were all different fonts such as Comptyle, Peignot, Mumbo SSK, Davida, and Pricedown, special effects, and color theory were applied to give the game that’s 70’s pop-art esthetic. The idea came from some of my interests such as classic game shows and 70’s video-gaming.

After weeks of scrounging up whatever free time I had outside of other projects, the slides were done and it was off to gather the shelves and boxes to set up and hide

all of the equipment that was needed to run the work. Appointments were made with Pr. Erickson to meet and assemble the images through a code that would help run the game.

I’ll never forget the two times I was in the LTA room at Staller where Professor Erickson and I sat down and discussed how the game would work in Director. “Poor Christa,” I said as I shook my head. She had to balance interviews, dinnertime, phone calls, exhibition set-up and other student’s requests. We tried to figure out how to shuffle the values, how to stop them and start again, how to code it so the winning combinations register and show the prizes, and we discussed just how random is random.

We also set up three floor tiles to a USB reader so that when someone played the game it would stop and show a combination. Stand up, step on the tiles 15 times, sit back down, and repeat the process 50 times over. It’s called play-testing your product. It was intentionally to have three tiles with each tile stopping their respective “reels”. We got the three working but stepping on them stopped the entire board!

The code was accurate enough so that when it hit a winning combination it would go to a prize, but as with any video game, there were bugs such as erratic behavior, missing slides, and the devil appearing almost every time. Then again, it was written well enough for it to work, and I was grateful that this project was going to go live.



The Monday before the exhibit at Tabler we set up most of the students’ pieces. Some had the last-minute rush to re-burn their movies on DVD or come up with the missing pieces. I’ll also remember Christa and myself setting my project up in the gallery, with the monitor screwed to the wall and all of the wires were strewn like a poor Atari video-game hook-up in someone’s basement in 1980 and getting it ready to go. By Tuesday, the show was on.

ARS 425 had the E-Scapes reception Thursday and a lot of free food and people showed up as with any art show on campus. (Want to attract students to an already popular concept such as Tabler art shows? Use free food.) There was a video wall

setup with short films such as a Dragon-Ball Z doll fight using stop-animation as well as basic cartoon and computer animation. There were altered photos, a *Mah-Jhong* themed piece (thank you, Fanny. You should ascend to heaven immediately), a lucid liquid ink video table, a pulsating cartoon and audio setup, and my project to the far side. I think we, as a class, pulled 110% to assemble our works and, in

*I’ll never forget the two times I was in the LTA room at Staller where Prof. Erickson and I sat down and discussed how the game would work in Director*

the end, they all came out great.

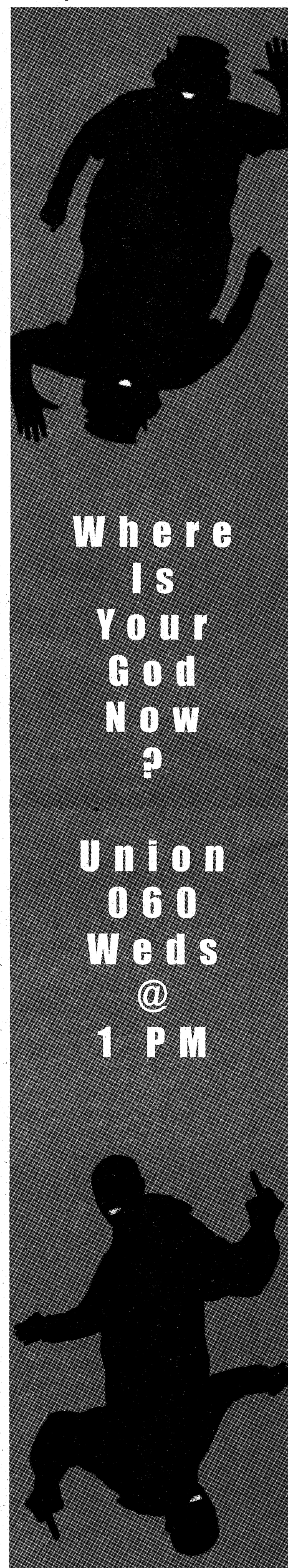
Earlier in the day there was a URECA art exhibit, and two of our classmates received prizes; Jowy Romano won all with his *Aspirations* video and Heather Miller took home an honorable mention with her digital photography. Both were on the way to Tabler to represent their works, and along with the rest of ARS 425, they enjoyed some very welcome fanfare. Of course, the elite *Press* “scene,” as I like to call it, all showed up to hang out as well as a few other passers-by curious to see what the excitement was.

While they were there, patrons stepped on the floor tiles and played “YES!”, the game that I created. There was not one single piece of bad criticism. In fact, all of the reactions were good. It was really nice to see people check it out and be amazed at all of the fun facts they won while playing “YES!”. Mariana from the Fine Arts Organization tried it out and thought that it was creepy to see the devil pop up. And she was right: it also could have caused epileptic seizures (I must be doing something right if it did). Even R2D2 agreed to be part of the game. No joke!

The one idea behind the creation of “YES!” was to kill two birds with one stone. Don’t just create the piece, but also make it *work*. Have people get involved and take part in it. Make it look colorful, fun, attractive, exciting, and enjoyable. I’m happy to say that it was a success.

All of us made our way to an E-Frames screening full of short videos made of different stocks and themes. From sickening murderous passions of “Die,” the silliness of “Monodexterous” and Dan Richardson’s videos of cartoons mixed with live action, the screening was also a success.

It was great to be associated with the few whose works that were displayed that night at E-Scapes and E-Frames (and URECA). And thanks to Professor Erickson for helping to make it happen.



# Bob Barr and The Alexander Hamilton Banquet of Azkaban

By Alex H. Nagler

The Enduring Freedom Alliance held its Second Annual Alexander Hamilton Banquet on April 9th with former Congressman Bob Barr as its keynote speaker. While advertising for the event was only visible on Facebook the weekend before the event, and posters weren't seen until the day before, it turns out there had been an ad for the event in *The Patriot* since their fifth (most recent) issue. So, I went, with admiration for Congressman Barr's work with the ACLU, and distaste for his work in the President Clinton

*Not all of Congressman Barr's lecture was on firearms. He also discussed his admiration of former US Ambassador John Bolton*

impeachment trial, but most of all, with the promise of free food. But none of these topics were why the EFA brought Congressman Barr to Stony Brook. The Congressman was to speak on the UN and why the US should have left it yesterday.

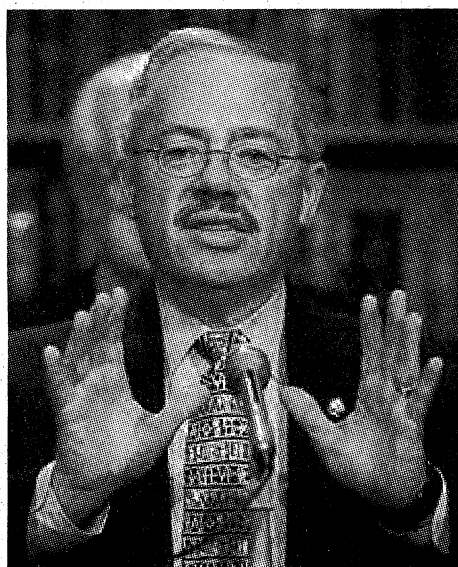
When asked what inspired the EFA to bring the Congressman to campus, EFA President and USG Executive Vice President Nathan Shapiro stated, "One of the main reasons for bringing Congressman Barr is the EFA's libertarian traditions, as encoded in our constitution. To pick Congressman Barr falls right under the philosophy of the groups history."

The topic of Congressman Barr's lecture was essentially the United States and the United Nations, with the crux of the argument based on the fact that the United States has a constitution and the UN charter infringes on this. Many points in the argument were based off of the UN's attempts to regulate international gun ownership and control US interests. It should be noted, as the Congressman freely admitted, that he is on the Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association. He feels the UN believes that the existence of assault weapons in the US and the existence of the Second Amendment is cause for concern, and therefore things like genocide in Rwanda and Darfur happen. Faulty logic, yes, but he admitted it wasn't his, but the UN's. Congressman Barr went on to talk about the Frey Report, which stated that should a state fail to issue gun control laws, that itself was a violation of human rights.

There was also the issue of the UN asserting its authority over local jurisdictions. I live in the city, and it's always a story when this or that ambassador gets so many tickets and then refuses to pay them over the terms of diplomatic immunity. There is also the fact that your average NYPD officer carries a standard 9-millimeter firearm, while UN security officers carry fully automatic weapons, as per the UN's decree.

Not all of Congressman Barr's lecture was on firearms. He also discussed his admiration of former US Ambassador to the UN John Bolton. Bolton, according to Barr, should be admired by all camps, regardless of their like or dislike for the President, for his frank speech and his willingness to raise questions concerning the validity of the UN. Congressman Barr had a less shining opinion of the former Ambassador, Madeline Albright, claiming she didn't "raise any of the crucial issues during her tenure."

Congressman Barr isn't a fan of international organizations. To him, "giving an



Google

I Swear to God, It was THIS BIG!

organization the power to dictate to a company or concern a government on how it must operate is always problematic." The UN has problems, yes, but scrapping it isn't the answer. Unfortunately, nothing else seems to be the answer either.

*Alex H. Nagler's middle name isn't Hamilton, it's Harrison. Do you know how many times he has heard the Alexander Hamilton Nagler thing? He's not named after the feisty founding father that could never be president, dammit. It's been used since the fourth grade, so stop already. Oh, and have a nice day.*

# Supreme Court to EPA: Start Caring About Global Warming

By Laura Positano

The Supreme Court has ruled that the EPA, the Environmental Protection Agency, has jurisdiction over global warming. No longer can the EPA refuse to regulate greenhouse gases which cause a depletion of the ozone and a warming of Earth's atmosphere. In the case in which the Supreme Court made the ruling, *Massachusetts vs. EPA*, the Court ruled that under the Federal Clean Air Act the EPA has the capability to regulate greenhouse emissions.

The EPA previously had concluded that the regulation of carbon dioxide emissions was not within its jurisdiction. According to this latest Supreme Court ruling, the EPA has an obligation to enforce the Clean Air Act legislation. The Bush administration had, for a while, averted enforcement of emissions legislation. The conservative-dominated

Supreme Court, with this ruling, has delivered an unanticipated shock to the Bush administration's long-standing environmental policy of denying global warming. The administration had been operating under the conviction that a conservative Court would agree

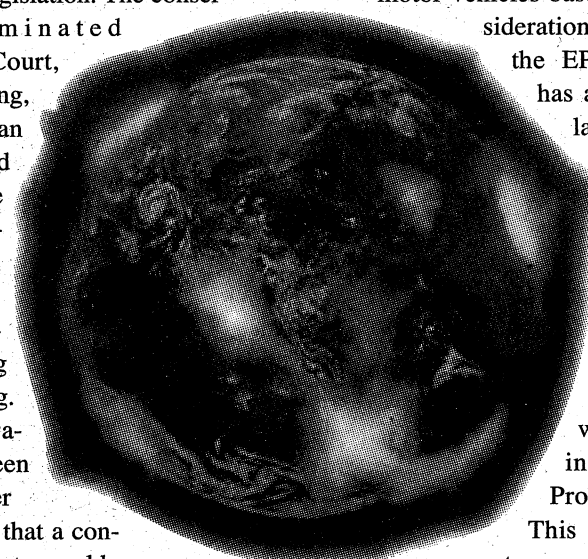
with their policies and never differ. This ruling shows that it is possible for it to be otherwise. Carbon dioxide emissions have a palpable effect on the global atmosphere and, consequently, the environment. With the recent scientific reports of humankind's impact on the world climate, this ruling has all the more significance.

Respected scientists united in Brussels for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to confer on their research, which affirmed that humanity has dealt a hard blow to the environment and as a result has altered climate patterns. The amassed findings from this United Nations conference are astounding. Greenhouse gases formed from car emissions and factory smokestacks in wealthy, developed nations, such as the United

States, heavily impact the lesser developed, financially impoverished areas of the world, such as Africa. Millions of people world-wide would have to move if flooding occurs concurrent with droughts, which would stop farming and starve countless numbers of people. The scientific reports have predicted floods and droughts in poverty-stricken regions of the world. This would lead to food shortages in many developing nations. In addition, the United States is predicted to have heavier and more frequent storms and beach erosion. The convergence of the conference and the Supreme Court's ruling on the court case *Massachusetts vs EPA* is monumental. Now ecologists and others concerned about global warming have more of an impact on federal environmental policy. And it's about time. The question as to "Whether the EPA Administrator may decline to issue emission standards for motor vehicles based on policy considerations ... and whether the EPA Administrator has authority to regulate carbon dioxide and other air pollutants associated with climate change" (findlaw.com) is a ludicrous one. There is a reason why there is the word 'protection' in Environmental Protection Agency. This federal government agency was created to

protect the environment, not kowtow before polluting special interests, such as the oil industry. Many of the Bush administration's scientific advisors have vested interest in oil, which is used for the gas that pollutes the air and contributes to global warming. This dirty partnership with polluting special interests negates the whole purpose of the Environmental Protection Agency, an agency that had been founded in 1970 to reduce the nation's negative impact on the natural environment.

So ends the head-in-the-sand approach of the last holdover against the theory of global warming. This is because that holdover, the Bush administration, no longer has the support of the very Court it largely helped appoint.



# sound is worth money.

(music news and reviews) by Steve McLinden

## R.I.P. RadioX

Fans of "Long Island's only alternative radio station" were hit with a rude awakening on April 1st, and it was no prank. The Ridge-based rock station had occupied three frequencies on the FM dial since 2005 covering most of Nassau-Suffolk. Unlike the vast majority of New York's radio stations, RadioX was owned and operated by local individuals. On Easter Sunday, the station converted to WLIX, Long Island's community Christian radio.

The founder of RadioX, Scott Hartill, told *Newsday* that his dream of a community-based radio station just couldn't financially support itself. Of his arrangement to go religious with the Reverend Richard Anderson, he relented, "OK, so it's not the punk rockers and the alternative crowd. But it still serves a purpose." The alternative rock format will be continued on the station's website [www.radiox.fm](http://www.radiox.fm)

Unfortunately, with no more "radio for the rest of us," the FM band becomes even more monolithic with the vast majority of stations owned by the likes of billion-dollar conglomerates ClearChannel, Infinity, or Cumulus. Weekly shows like those that featured the music of local and unsigned bands will be no longer, and I don't expect to hear the likes of Veruca Salt elsewhere on terrestrial radio again. Last month, after a Congressional investigation into record labels' "pay-for-play" scandals, the major radio conglomerates struck a compromise with Congress in which they would play a specified number of independent and local artists.

Of course, it remains to be seen if these will be crammed into the wee hours of the morning (like the FCC-required public service announcements), or if the rules will be skirted by playing the same old popular artists on non-major labels (for example, The Diplomats are on Koch Records, Evanescence is on the Sony BMG-distributed Wind-Up Records, Panic! At The Disco is on Fall Out Boy-owned Decaydance). Until we see real change, I'll be skeptical.



## Bright Eyes - *Cassadaga* (Saddle Creek, 4/10/07)

Yes, like it or not, Conor Oberst is back again. As the founder of Saddle Creek

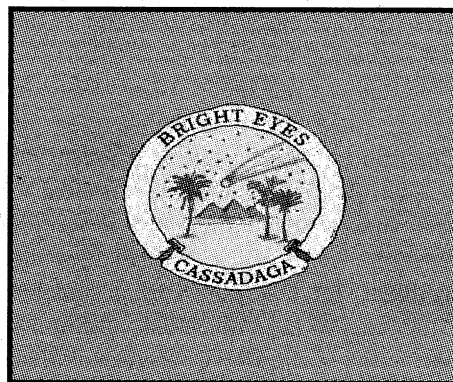
Records and one of the biggest names in indie music, Oberst has been a rather polarizing figure. Sure, teenage girls quote his lyrics on MySpace, and Saddle Creek is the perfect example of self-made independent label success in the age of the Internet. Then again, his recognizable, whiny vocals have been the target of "emo" hate in recent years, misdirected or not. On *Cassadaga*, the fiddles and folk guitars sound more like polished-up Bob Dylan's Nashville sessions than Sunny Day Real Estate. Personally, I love to see more country influence in intelligent rock music; far too often people say they listen to "anything but country," and there's so much that the country sound has to offer. On the other hand, that's what makes for a bit of disappointment in *Cassadaga*; some of Bright Eyes' old style just seems sacrificed for the shift to clean-sounding country-folk.

Growing up and gaining experience, at least for Conor, seems to have come at a cost to other aspects of his personality, as maturity and relative complacency have overcome the epic anxiety that drove previous work. Personally, I love the low-fidelity mutilation of Conor's shaky voice screaming in rage, lyrics that made *I'm Wide Awake, It's Morning* a classic. There was something picturesque about Bright Eyes in lo-fi, sort of a "look what I did" statement. Oberst's political passion is once again a central theme this time around, but it's kind of blander in comparison, ("get your revolution at a lower price") while what we really want is the likes of the infuriated anti-war "When The President Talks To God" narrative on 2005's *Motion Sickness*.

Conor's peculiar mind gives us an inconsistent assortment of songs that includes some gems and bombs. After your typical Bright Eyes social-commentary-in-a-phone-conversation, the album kicks off with the rousing "Four Winds," which was the title track off of the preview EP. It's arguably the best song on the album, with impressive fiddles and acoustic strumming. The we're-already-dead, self-degrading lyrics of my favorite folk-misanthrope. "But when great Satan's gone, the whore of Babylon/She just can't sustain the pressure where it's placed/She caves." What anticipation for the classic Bright Eyes sound. Similarly, on "Cleanse Song," he remarks, "From the roof of a friend, I watched an empire ending/Heard it loud and long, the river's song/Time marching on, to a madman's drum," showing that Conor hasn't given up on the unabashed Bush-bashing. Unfortunately, the kind of everything-loathing exemplified in these two just don't show up in the other songs. "No One Would Riot For Less" sounds like it should be exciting, but it's, well, not at all. Channeling Springsteen has been a noted trend followed by a few artists recently, and "If The Brakeman Turns My Way" is reminiscent of The Boss' tragic Nebraska-era works,

but it feels forcefully restrained from what could've/should've been a much grander composition for the sake of that "roots" sound.

*Cassadaga* feels a lot like - not to take away from Oberst's intellect - The Beverly Hillbillies, in that it's just a clash of two things that sometimes don't want to mix. I think with a little more tweaking (or maybe a lot more) it will be hit-or-miss, but Bright Eyes fans will find its bright spots.



## Kings of Leon - *Because Of The Times* (RCA, 4/3/07)

Some people might try to tell you that Southern Rock died when Lynyrd Skynyrd's plane went down. Quite to the contrary, four kids from the middle of Tennessee have been proving those people wrong this decade. Kings Of Leon is a family band (the Followills), consisting of three brothers who are sons of a minister and their cousin; the band name is also something of a tribute to their grandfather. While battling red-state/blue-state prejudices and being called "a southern-fried version" of The Strokes, Kings Of Leon have done pretty well for themselves and jumped to a major label with success.

*Because Of The Times* is a move to become more art-rock (a Pitchfork review called it an attempt at being a "Southern U2"), and while it's far from a failure, it lacks the traditional hard-edged guitar that they do best and yet still holds on to the simplistic lyrics that sound kind of stupid in contrast to the more varied musical efforts. Opening with the seven-minute "Knocked Up," clean-plucked guitars a-buzzing, I had to double-check that I wasn't listening to Bloc Party by accident. Once Caleb's gritty vocals kicked in, there was an obvious conflict in that the voice just didn't fit like it did on the first two albums. After that, pretty much everything is a four-minute slow-guitar-driven song about relationship problems; yeah, so the theme worked with the down-home hard-rockin' style of *Youth and Young Manhood*, but as the music expands on *Because Of The Times*, I just found myself lamenting the situation and wondering how much longer rock songs were going to be stuck in this look-what-that-woman-did-to-me topic. "Camaro" and "Fans" are the closest we get to the old Outlaws-style rock, and even those are teases mostly marked by feed-

back and funky basslines.

If you don't find the mix of Brian Eno and .38 Special as disgusting as burrito-flavored ice cream, *Because Of The Times* may be your thing. Otherwise, we can only hope for a return to their earlier style the next time around.

## Cloud Cult - *The Meaning of 8* (Earthology, 4/10/07)

Move over, Wayne Coyne, because Cloud Cult has usurped your weirdo-psychedelic-folk-rock title with *The Meaning of 8*. The Minnesota indie rock band is a little bit further off the deep end, but it all comes together quite organically.

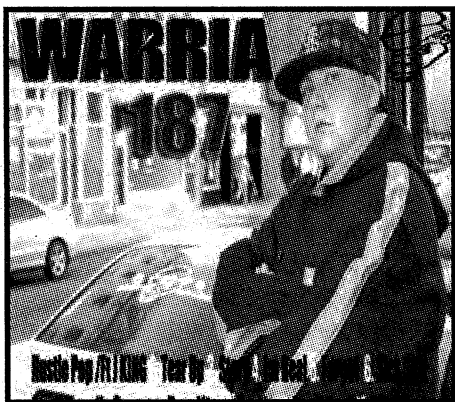
Since their 2004 breakthrough *Aurora Borealis*, the group has received plenty of attention not only for their music, but for their politics. Songwriter Craig Minowa, also an environmental activist who lives on his own organic farm in Minnesota, created Earthology Records to ensure that his band would be as environmentally friendly as possible. While many bands have been purchasing carbon credits to supplement their tours, Earthology also uses more environmentally-friendly plastics in producing its CDs and uses a corn-based shrink-wrap, and the band records in a wind-powered studio built of recycled materials from the farm.

The philosophical-minded weirdness spurred by the death of his infant son in 2003 became a sensation on college radio stations, especially around Minnesota, and the followup *Advice from the Happy Hippopotamus* was more of the same. *The Meaning of 8* takes an even more unstructured approach and is centered on multiple ambiguous concepts like collective consciousness. Ultimately, though, the album's weaker point is that all of the oddity that flowed in the past seems to be restrained exclusively to "serious" and deep weirdness. I found that after the first time, I just kind of expected what would happen, and it wasn't all that interesting after that. If you're into strange artsy neo-psychedelic stuff like The Flaming Lips, give Cloud Cult a chance, it's worth it.



# Movie & Book Reviews

## CD Review – 187 – Warria



By Alex Walsh

187 just might be the most fun I've had listening to a CD in a very long time. This is largely due to the abysmally low quality of the music it contains. Warria – a 20 year-old white semiliterate from Poughkeepsie – combines poor timing, an unusual voice, poorly written lyrics, and occasionally stolen beats to produce content that manages to be hilariously bad without being depressing or, for the most part, annoying.

An example: the best track on this CD is 'BenJi Beef,' a tirade about the eponymous BenJi, a rival hippity-hop artist with whom Warria had some kind of fight on MySpace. In the song's intro, our protagonist seems to forget what site he's talking about mid-sentence. "Yo, check out this shit on the MySpace with BenJi," he begins, "Check it out on..." Pause. "You know, you're gonna see it." But he doesn't let that initial mix-up stop him. No, like the little engine that could, Warria jumps straight into his impassioned rant. It would seem, however, that his rage has reduced his vocabulary somewhat. "Come on man, you ain't even that good," he says, "Talkin' bout you got rap skills, but you ain't good." There's a delicious irony there, dissing BenJi's emcee qualifications while rhyming 'good' with 'good.' This is the level of hip hop horror one encounters throughout the CD.

In 'Tear Up,' a 2 minute 13 second ode to his own penis, Warria once again brings his recursive rhyming skills to the table. "I'm a white dude but I'm hung/like a horse with a tongue/hell yeah, you're gonna do that thing with your tongue." Genius! He also teaches us that words we thought didn't rhyme actually do. Words like 'long' and 'time.' "This shit is so hard/this shit is so long / I'll bust a nut and I will do it

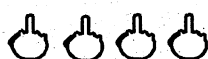
for a long time." Later in the song, he's kind enough to remind us what exactly is going on, in case his verbal acrobatics lost anyone: "Yeah girl/what, you want a ride?/you know this shit, that's the size of my nine / But I'm not talking 'bout my gun, I'm talking 'bout my dick!" I don't know about you, but I was confused. I'm really glad he cleared that up.

Although he's still not good, Warria has improved significantly from his earlier work. Between June and November of 2006, Warria released no fewer than six albums. The first four – *Revolutions*, *Samurai in Gangsta's Clothing*, *Untitled* (the only known copy of which is currently in Jounieh, Lebanon.), and *Confessions of a Real OS (Original Samurai)* – were released under the name Young Warria. The highlight of this period was, by far, '\$5 Rebate With A Gun' off the July release *Samurai in Gangsta's Clothing*. In the fall, however, something must have changed. For September's *Streetz Art*, the 'Young' modifier was dropped, and the Warria we see today in 187 was born. While he still occasionally slips into over-repetition, it's not nearly as bad as it was. About three quarters of the lyrical content of the *Revolutions* track '21st Century Sid and Nancy' is the phrase "It was a booty call." It gets old fast.

Regardless of the actual quality, the only real reason to listen to Warria is his lyrics, which are often so bad they almost seem inspired. If he was aware of what he was doing, he might be a genius. As it stands, he really seems to think he's great, even going so far as to declare himself "the white Biggie Smalls." Here's one more gem for the road.

"Oh yeah, Warriaaaaa is the best/BenJi you better wear more than a bulletproof vest/ain't gonna protect you/against my fists and my fury when I'm gonna fuck you/up in your shit/don't you know this?/Warria busts shit."

Ratings - I want two finger displays, one labeled "Fo Real Real" with one finger, preferably a really small one, the other "Fo Play Play" with as many fingers as you can fit in there.



"187"

Warria

## Book – The Starlet Integration

By Robert V. Gilheany

David Ginn wrote his first book. It is kool. *The Starlet Integration* is a science fiction and fantasy novel. It is about Brian Anderson and his quest to find out where he is and save himself and his new friends from dangers.

Our friend Anderson wakes up, recovering from a mysterious car accident and lost in the "Forest of Moisture." He trugs along and reserves his water and cookies. He gets hunted by evil creatures call sevarians. He escapes. This book jumps from scene to scene. When our friend Anderson wakes up he is always in a different place. It gives the book an *Alice in Wonderland* feel. Anderson never changes his size, but he wakes up in strange places. He needs to figure out how to get back to New York City.

David Ginn gives us several very compelling creatures that our friend Anderson meets in his travels: the hunters of the Servarian Desert, and the people in the Village of the Loren.

The people of the Loren were way kool. They tried to help. They were cute and had pointed ears. Bethany DeDominicci became close to Anderson

after the Loren decided that she should put him up. They became close and attracted to each other. They fuck, but he is a human and she is a Loren. There is suspicion of Anderson, the stranger in the village.

The Leader of the Loren, Biege, is the teacher and wise figure in the village of the Loren. He goes missing, and Brian Anderson and two of the Loren go searching for him. The Loren need him back, and Biege may be the only one who can get Anderson back home. He fights evil demonic night riders and Tricorns and ends up in a prison camp run by Nazi-type creatures call the Augrens who act like pigs. I would have enjoyed the book more if Anderson had eaten one of them. The Augrens kept several different intelligent races and creatures. They used them in Roman Coliseum-like death matches. Brain Anderson makes allies and they need to escape. He meets up with a bird-type creature. There are plans to escape and the tension of uncertainties about whether the schemes will work. If they don't, they are dead.

*The Starlet Integration* is part one of Book One in a series. David Ginn gives us vivid imagery and very compelling races and alien creatures.

## I know; It was Supposed to Be Legitimate Event Coverage, But ...

By Stephanie Hayes

Dear Stephen Spector,

A year ago, I grudgingly signed up for the required EGL 380. I expected the worst, having no interest in bettering my poor grammar or learning about the history of the language. Miraculously, I found myself more invested in that course than any other. Seriously. I don't know what happened, but I found myself regularly attending class, not spacing out, and studying like I'd never studied before. Who knew I'd dig mispronouncing Old English and putting words through Grimm's Law so much? I don't think I'm being *too* ridiculous when I say that my re-spark of academic interest started and ended with your class.

So, rather than feign a solid knowledge of international affairs, I'll confess that on March 28th, I attended your reading from *Operation Solomon: The Daring Rescue of the Ethiopian Jews* for the sole purpose of

listening once more to your wonderful reading voice. I was supposed to cover it in the paper but I kinda didn't take notes, lest I miss out on any Spector-coolness. I mean, the story is absolutely incredible and I'm very glad to have learned so much, but, honestly, I would have attended if you'd been slated to read excerpts from *Moby Dick*... and lemme tell you, I consider *Moby Dick* to be among the lamest books ever written. You're not lame though; you rock. Please do the world a favor and look into doing audio books. You're the best!

Love,  
Stephanie Hayes

PS: I hope the actual professor never has to read this... it's undoubtedly peppered with grammatical errors.

PPS: And, um...I'm genuinely sorry I was unable to write a real review of *Operation Solomon*. In no way do I mean to cheapen such a unique historical event or book.

# Movie Reviews

## Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Review Article for Paper

By Justin Meltzer

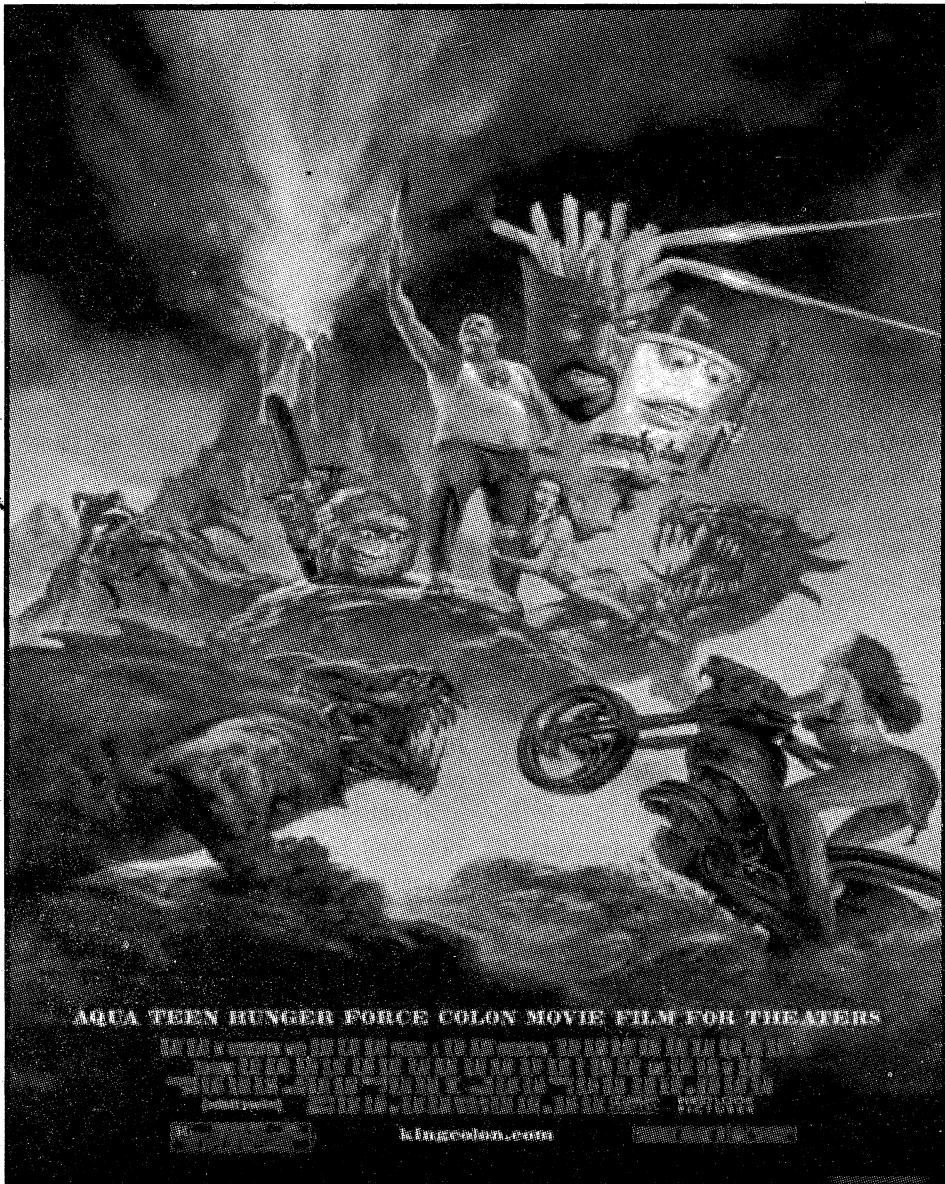
French Fries, Milkshake, Meatball colon three names that inspire fear in the hearts of criminals and bystanders alike. If you see the movie based on the Adult Swim flash animated cartoon, be prepared to see the same thing you were getting for free, only now it's a little longer and it costs a whole lot more. A lot more sex comma bitch!

With a movie as simple yet complex as the Aqua Teens themselves you should expect some... OMG a rocket missile is headed straight for us! BOOM! Everyone is dead. The characters of Frylock, Master Shake, and Meatwad have to finish building an exercise machine called the Insane-O-Flex to save and/or destroy the world. Can their neighbor Carl get his pants back? Who cares, there is sex to be had... with Dr. Weird! Or is there?

Like the show, the movie makes no sense, but if I'm the first to tell you this then you need to see the movie; or the show; or both at the same time one eye on each. There is a disclaimer sung by some very disgruntled and angry concessions telling the audience to not ask about the

plot, or videotape the movie, lest they rip your wife in half. I was particularly fond of the box of snowcaps playing the guitar but the nachos on drums were also pretty talented. They finally started to explain the origin of the Aqua Teens, in a land in a time many years and miles in the past future of New York Egypt. We find out that the Mooinites are not good at Roller Coasters, but make decent future thieves of the past. The plutonians are let in on the secret of the Insane-O-Flex by the Robotic Ghost of Christmas past from the future.

As we get closer and closer to the origin of the Aqua Teens we find Carl is the owner of the most Insane exercise machine ever created. So he is the first to use it, resulting in him gaining some major muscles. There are some nice cameos by Tina Fey, Bruce Cambell, Chris Kattan, and the drummer from Rush, Neil Peart. Aside from that, all I can say is that the movie, like the show, was crazy as hell. If you haven't see the show or don't like it, I'd give the movie one and a half stars because the opening sequence was still very funny. If you are familiar with the show and like it, then the movie gets an unprecedented six out of seven stars. Great Job!



## Movie – Norbit

By Eddie Zadorozny

Life in an orphanage must be hard as well as difficult. You enter dejected, dumped, and, in some cases, as a discarded subject. Life moves forward, yet for the life of an orphan, that life is an onward process, and the past is nothing but a recollection. Such is the case in Norbit, a screwball, comedy filled with sarcasm, political incorrectness, and racist, sophomoric humor, the kind we expect when viewing an Eddie Murphy comedy. These are the elements that surround that character and are what Eddie Murphy works with as he brings the character of Norbit to life. Norbit is simply looking to build a meaningful, loving relationship and to construct the home life he envisions in a naïve way.

Norbit, a sweet boy with a charming, simplistic view of life, lives at the orphanage where he was placed as an infant. He is rather aloof in appearance, and, for that matter, has a matching personality. He is often left to his own devices, as the other children see him as an outsider. Kate, another orphan, is the only kid who bothers with Norbit, and their bond grows into a sweet and childlike companionship, going so far as staging a mock marriage. The two are inseparable until the day comes when Kate is adopted and taken from the orphanage. Norbit is completely heartbroken, but years go by and Norbit relinquishes his thoughts of Kate and reverts to his outcast self at the orphanage where he has remained. His path crosses that of an extremely overweight, tough, overbearing, dominant woman named Rasputia, who, after fighting off bullies who were beating up Norbit, proclaims that they will be girlfriend and boyfriend. It is into this union that they eventually marry and live the life of matrimony from such opposite perspectives, he from his naïve perception of the perfect union, and she from an overbearing and cheating perspective.

With a film of such physical humor, there is always the risk of the trailer showing all the good parts (and this movie's trailer does highlight that aspect), but don't let it fool you into thinking that you have seen the best parts. The film has humor scattered throughout. I will say this; the film though funny seems to grow just a bit tired by the end. I actually thought the beginning was its apex. This is not to say that the film towards the end falters, not at all. It just loses just a bit of the charm that the first third so prominently displayed.

Eddie Murphy does here what he has done before, as in The Nutty Professor, and displays the knack, flair, and aptitude for playing multiple characters in an over the top, obviously stereotypical manner. The character of Rasputia is a demanding diva,

and when she is on screen, it is such a firestorm that you can't help but laugh. Yet it is within the character of Norbit that the charm of the film lies. Yes, the comedy is also built upon the character of Rasputia, as the trailer so prominently displays, and it is very whimsical, yet a bit one-dimensional. The scenes set in the orphanage are actually where a larger story can be told, with much more magnitude.

The film is not at all flawed as that of a useless comedy would be. It is laugh-out-loud funny, and at times, Rasputia is a hoot. The owner of the orphanage, Mr. Wein (otherwise known as a Chinese man played by Eddie Murphy) has some comical moments too. Even Kate, played by Thandie Newton (who is gorgeous) is given such a sweet demeanor that you long to see she and Norbit have more screen time together.

What really impressed me about the film was the make-believe town where Norbit and Rasputia eventually live. The town is right out of the 1950s June Cleaver housewife mentality. It is picturesque, quaint, and charming, with houses that have picket fences and large porches. At the center of town there is a large gazebo, a symbol of town harmony. There is also merriment in the form of town galas such as street fairs and festivals! Yet its inhabitants are such rude, crude, and crass people, such as Rasputia and her three crime-lord brothers - the sarcasm of it all is hilarious!

I am a bit shocked at its PG-13 label, which is saying a lot. This film, I am sure, definitely flirted with an R rating, since the film is laden with racist humor, stereotypes, and sexual innuendo. Yet the film, were it not PG-13, would minimize its box office potential, I am sure! Yet, I could imagine the potential this film would possess if it were R-rated. I do know for certain, no matter what rating or how sophomoric, a laugh is guaranteed!

Norbit- PG13, for crude and sexual humor, nudity, language. Director- Brian Robbins  
Released by DreamWorks

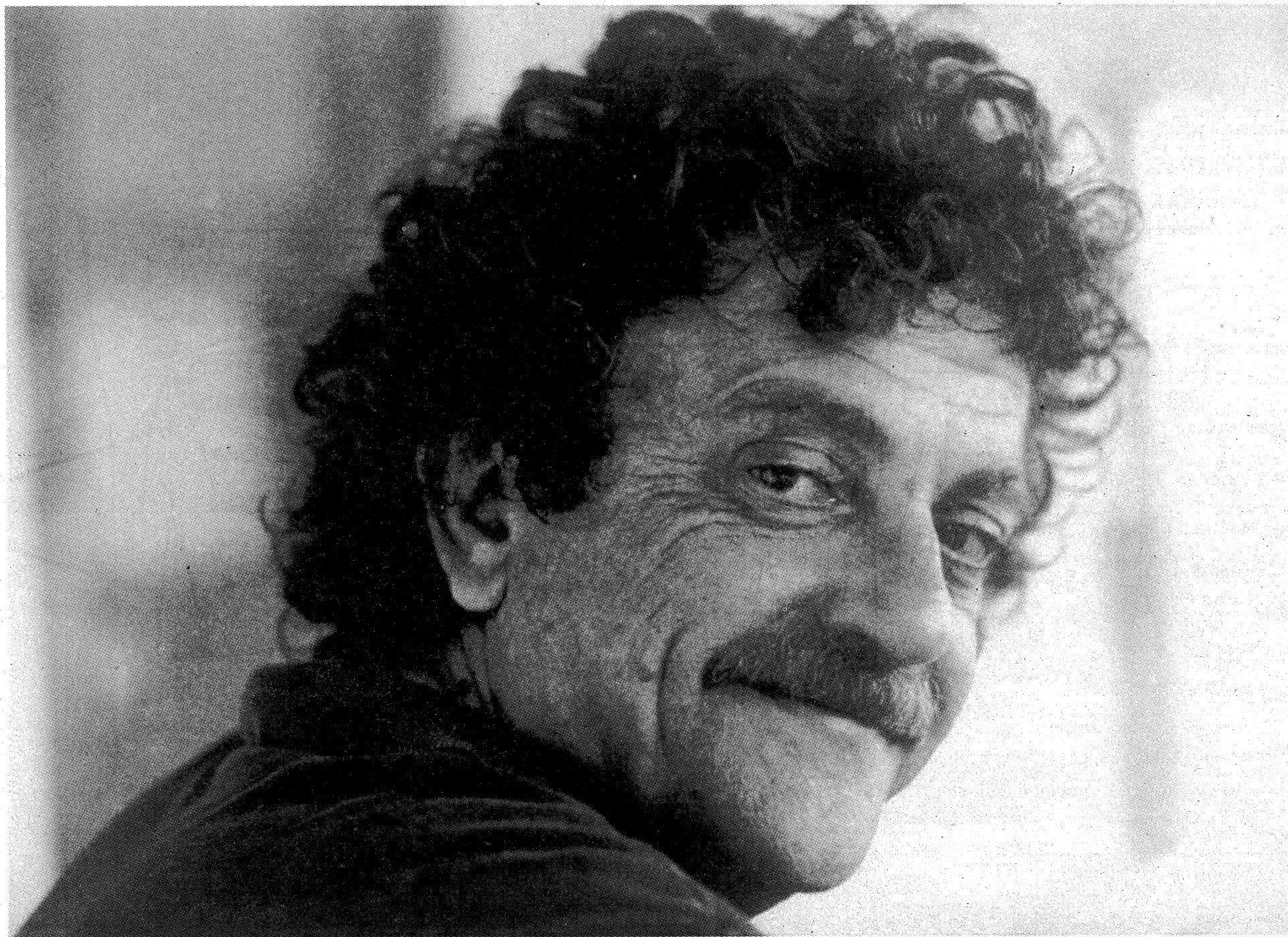


WE HAD A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ISAAC [ASIMOV] A FEW YEARS BACK, AND I SPOKE AND SAID AT ONE POINT, 'ISAAC IS UP IN HEAVEN NOW.' IT WAS THE FUNNIEST THING I COULD HAVE SAID TO AN AUDIENCE OF HUMANISTS.

I ROLLED THEM IN THE AISLES.

IT WAS SEVERAL MINUTES BEFORE ORDER COULD BE RESTORED.

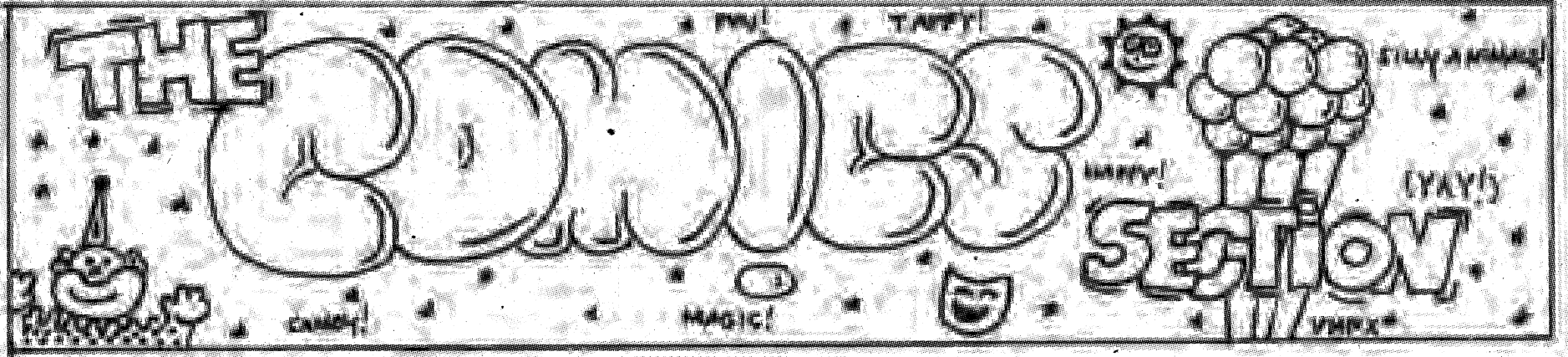
AND IF I SHOULD EVER DIE, GOD FORBID,  
I HOPE YOU WILL SAY, 'KURT IS UP IN HEAVEN NOW.'  
THAT'S MY FAVORITE JOKE.



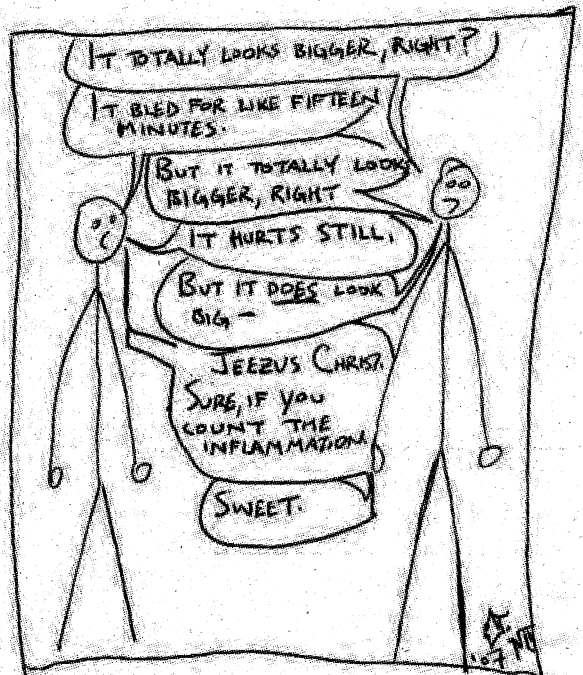
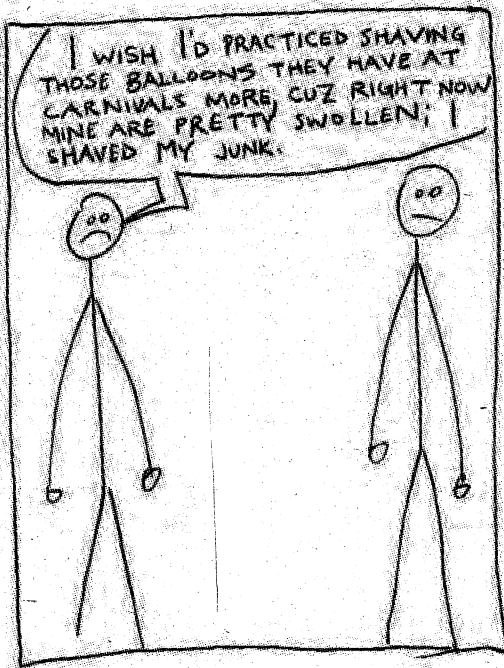
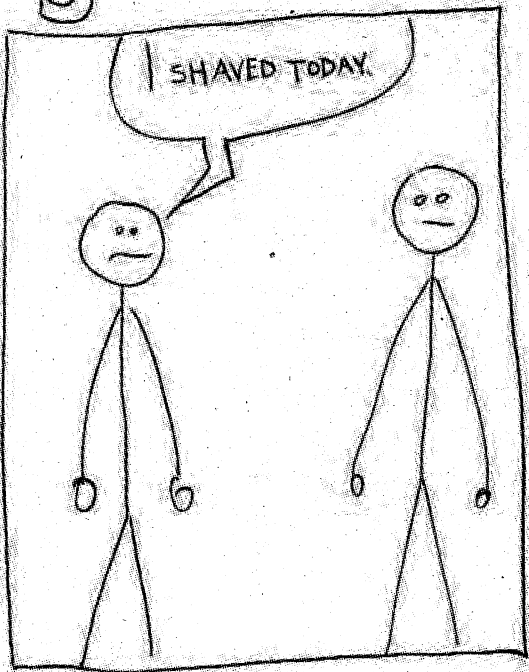
kurt is up in heaven now.

November 11, 1922 - April 11, 2007

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



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# POEMS

conversation vs fashion  
by Sankalp Kallakuri

a social tool,  
to confess.  
should be more,  
pertinent than dress.

verbal repertoire,  
to me is.  
a talent more impressive,  
than proper attire.

my tatters may never,  
speak my mind.  
my tongue however,  
could rescue the blind.

so world speak out,  
and listen well.  
judge me by my looks,  
and you can go to hell.

Seeing may be believing,  
in skin.  
but listening is an art,  
to reach a heart.

Happy Hour

From where I sit,  
my glass reflects  
an odd horizon—  
a flock of bluebirds  
flash across  
rooftops and turn to  
cardinals; all seem  
to stop in this red  
dusk.

With frigid  
brilliance the  
fireflies spark.  
From Cobalt space  
the early moon  
pulls clean white  
sheets across the  
street and stars  
poke out in silent  
bolts.

The old cat, her  
sapphires flashing,  
watches and  
wonders. Soon  
she will drift off,  
free for a moment  
in violet space  
--her dreaming and  
dreaming  
cradled in a  
crescent moon.

--Jon Plaisted

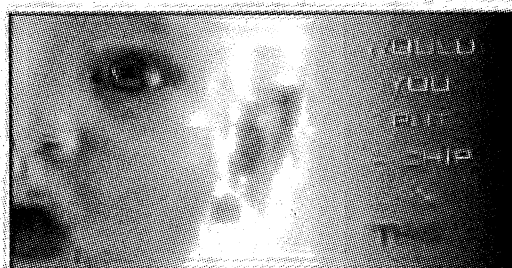


★★★★★  
Makes (Michael Moore's) 'Fahrenheit 9/11' look like 'Bambi.'  
-Todd David Schwartz, CBS

## WAKE UP!

AARON RUSSO'S

AMERICA  
FREEDOM TO FASCISM



Nick Rockefeller told mainstream filmmaker Aaron Russo during their friendship, about the plan to microchip the population, warned him about 'an event that would allow us to invade Afghanistan and Iraq' some eleven months before 9/11 and foretold the fact that the 'War on Terror' would be a hoax wherein soldiers would be looking in caves for nonexistent enemies. Learn about the agenda behind the microchip, National ID cards, RFID chips, and the illegal federal income tax. This is one movie anyone who wants to be truly informed MUST see.

**Film Screening at 2pm and again at 5pm!**

Wednesday  
April 18th, 2007

Harriman Hall Room 214  
Stony Brook University

"Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it." -George Bernard Shaw  
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# Next issue is our Lit Supp!

A black and white photograph of two young women. The woman on the left is smiling and looking upwards, with her right arm raised. She has dark hair and is wearing a light-colored patterned shirt. The woman on the right is also smiling, wearing glasses and a dark zip-up sweater over a blue shirt. Both women have fake blood smeared on their faces, particularly around the mouth and chin, giving them a zombie-like appearance. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

...so send us  
your cool poems,  
short stories, photos,  
art, etc. or our zombies  
will eat your brains  
[sbpress@gmail.com](mailto:sbpress@gmail.com)