

THE STONY BROOK
PRESS

VOL XXXII ISSUE 12

"I KNOW THAT FEEL, BRO."

APRIL 11, 2011

ASK NOT WHAT USG
CAN DO FOR YOU,
Vote Today!
BUT WHAT YOU CAN
DO FOR USG!

The Master Debators

By Alyssa Melillo

The state of the U.S. economy and the current issue on immigration were the topics of a debate between the Stony Brook College Democrats and Collegé Republicans on April 5.

Speakers Brian Lee and Adam Peck for the Collegé Democrats defended President Obama's economic policies, stressing that there is progress in the nation's recovery from the recession. "We've seen stability in home marketing and reduction in unemployment," Lee said. "There's considerable signs of growth in the economy."

Peck discussed the President's 2009 stimulus bill and said it did help many U.S. citizens, despite criticism from Republicans.

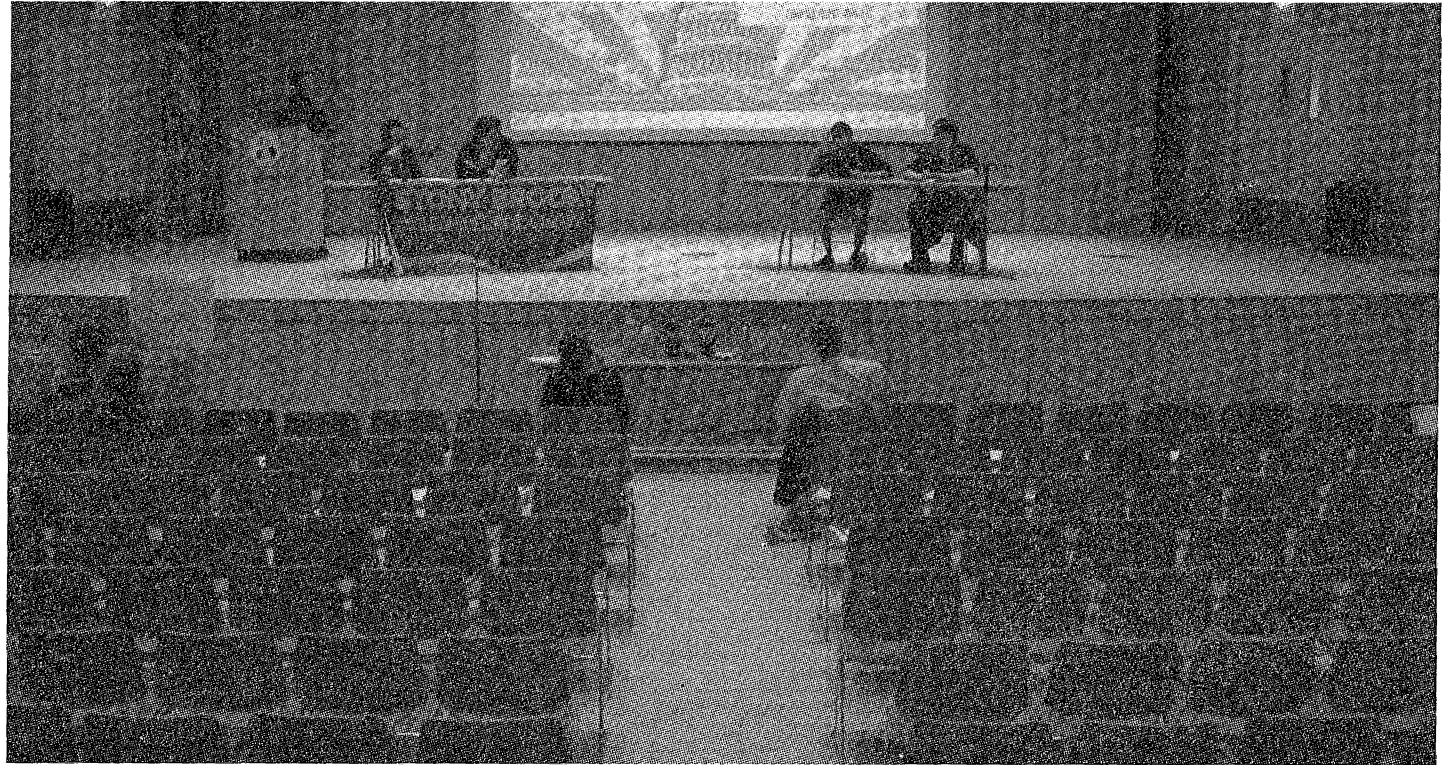
"The stimulus bill did create a lot of jobs for people who needed them," Peck said. "You can't deny the stimulus package...did have an incredible impact on the middle class."

"We're heading in the right direction," he said. "I don't think anyone expected Obama to resolve our economic problems in two years and three months."

Jonathan Pu, a speaker for the Collegé Republicans, pointed out the dramatic increase in national debt since President Obama took office. The jump from the \$9 trillion in debt when President Bush was in office to the current \$14 trillion under President Obama is not a sign of a true economic recovery, Pu said. However, he did agree with Peck on one thing:

"I absolutely would suggest we're heading in the right direction for the first time in a while," he said.

Aditya Ramanathan, the second speaker for the Collegé Republicans, argued that the increase in U.S. citizens' credit is a reason that the nation is not



really recovering from the recession yet.

"We've seen a giant jump in credit," he said. "People are taking more loans out than ever before. We're not looking at a true recovery."

"In fact, we're worse than we were in 2008," he added. Ramanathan said that at this rate, the nation could face a double-dip recession. "We've been trying to fill a hole, but we've run out of dirt to fill it," he said. Peck agreed on the possibility of a second recession, but suggested that President Obama should pass a second stimulus bill to prevent it.

Although both parties displayed different views on the nation's economy, they both agreed on what the government needs to do to prevent illegal immigration: crack down on employers hiring them.

"We have to enforce the laws we have on employers," Ramanathan said. "We [also] need to have a stable relationship with Mexico...so Mexicans can work for American [companies] in Mexico."

"If the police and FBI [enforce the

laws]...we will see less immigration," Pu said.

The Democrats agreed. "The crisis we have creates a tiered system where legal immigrants are competing with illegal immigrants [for jobs]," Lee said. He pointed out that most illegal immigrants come to the U.S. for jobs as part of a pathway to develop citizenship. Ultimately, though, both parties agreed that the government should create more ways for illegal immigrants to become legal citizens. They both referred to the DREAM Act, a bill that would provide permanent residency to alien students who graduated high school, which a Senate filibuster blocked in December. Both parties also agreed that amnesty, simply allowing illegal immigrants to remain in the country, is not a solution.

"Unfortunately, the immigration debate in our country is very different [from] the one in this room," Peck said, referring to the debate in Washington about excluding illegal immigrants from the education system and whether or not they should receive hospital care.

While the winner of the debate was not determined by the moderators, Kevin Sabella, founder and president of the Stony Brook Tea Party, said he believed the Collegé Democrats and Collegé Republicans fairly "covered what they're for." However, he believed that they didn't focus enough on the constitutionality of the laws and issues at hand. "The constitution should take precedent in those issues," he said.

The Stony Brook Speech and Debate Society, which hosted and moderated the debate, implemented a voting system that allowed audience members to vote for which party they felt won the debate by sending a text message to a provided number. Rachel Clark, a member of the Collegé Democrats, moderated the voting system for the first half of the debate but said no votes came in. Huma Ashraf, treasurer of the Collegé Democrats, moderated the votes for the remainder of the debate, but could not be reached for the results.

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UNION 060 WEDNESDAYS DURING CAMPUS LIFETIME



Students Remember Japan

By John Fischer

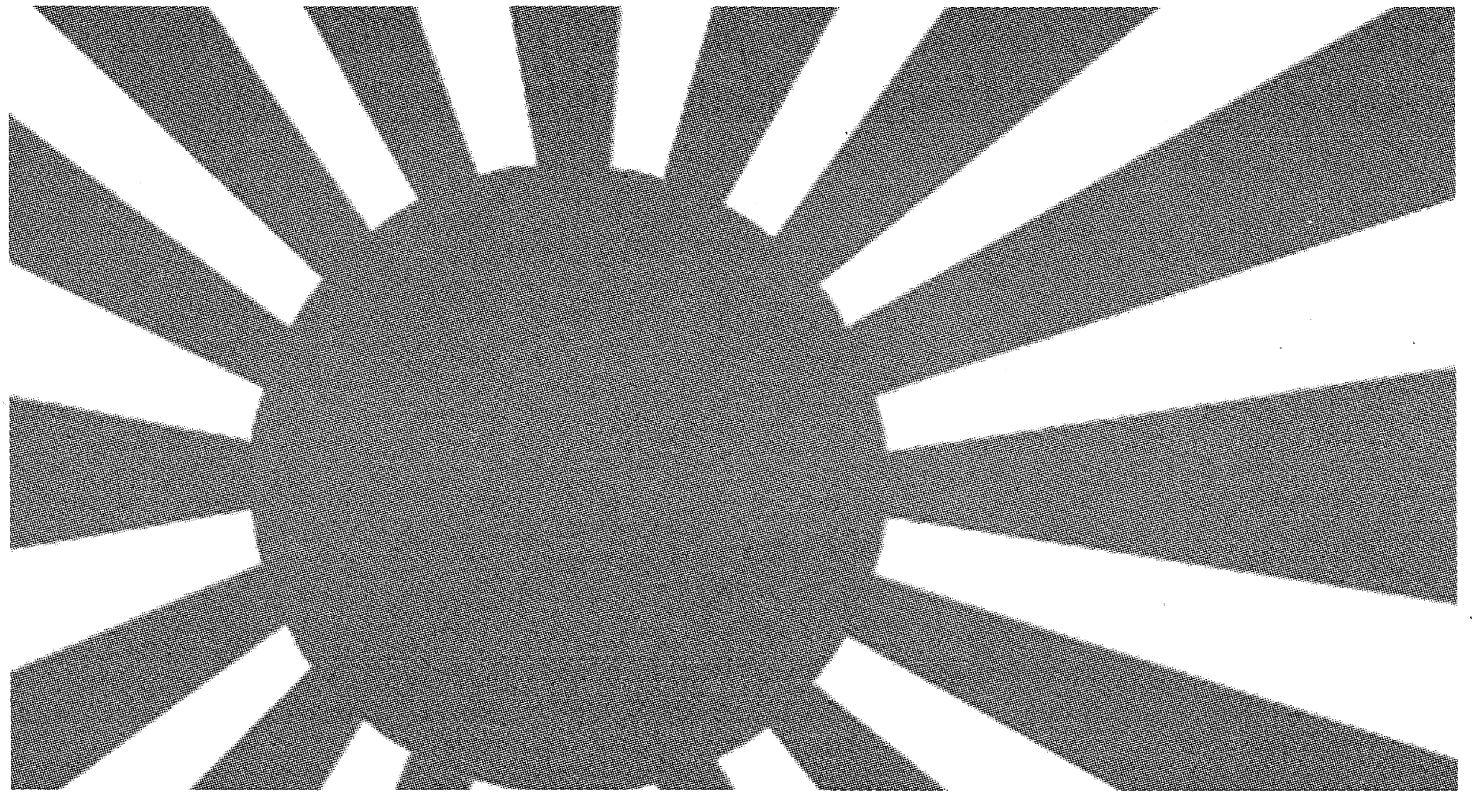
The Japanese Student Organization (JSO) of Stony Brook University held Japanese night on Friday in SAC ballroom A.

The night was about celebrating Japanese culture and raising donations for the earthquake victims in Japan. A donations box was set up and people made origami cranes that each participant donated for 50 cents to the relief effort through either the Red Cross or the Japanese Society.

"The purpose of Japanese night is expressing Japanese culture in America, and this year, to show our support for the earthquake victims in Japan," said JSO President Michael Petrucione.

Authentic Japanese food of inari sushi, yakisoba fried noodles, and tatsu-ata age fried chicken was served. Vegetable croquettes, chirashizushi, and oden made of fish cakes with dashi broth were also included.

Games included shooting ping-pong poke balls in to Pokémon pictured cups, throwing paper ninja stars, and catching falling origami paper with chop sticks. Popular activities were shooting rubber bands at paper cutouts of anime in shiteki, people fishing for balloons before the string on their hooks broke in Mizu yo-yo, and the Wii Smash Brothers video game challenge.



"All the different games made Japanese night very interesting. Some of the things I've never even heard of before," said Freshman Sarah Ha.

Each game awarded stamps that could be used to win prizes of erasers, bentos, Japanese trinkets and soda.

Singers and bands performed traditional and modern Japanese music. Daniel DiLauro and his band were the beginning act and were followed by the Chinese Association at Stony Brook performing dance routines. JSO dance team danced to "Love and Joy" and were followed by bands Petrucione and

XO. Taiko Tides, a club of traditional Japanese drumming, was the final performance.

"It was great working with JSO because we want to fundraise for the earthquake victims in Japan and are hoping to form a stronger bond with JSO. We love doing performances and bringing the Japanese culture to campus," said Daniel DiLauro, the treasurer of Taiko Tides.

JSO Event Coordinator Yumi Masuda described the setup of the night. "It was a lot of hard work and we put a lot of time and effort in. We got a lot of

support from our members and people of Japanese culture and we could definitely not have done it without our hardworking e-board."

Students and teachers described the night as a cultural and rewarding experience.

"Japanese night is all about sharing Japanese culture and including everyone and showing the spirit behind the Japanese culture," said SBU Biology professor Joan Miyazuki. "It shows support and awareness of how the Japanese culture resonates."

Janelle Monáe To Perform at SBU...and That Guy Bruno Mars

By Carol Moran

Grammy-winning pop singer Bruno Mars and soul-funk songstress Janelle Monáe will take the stage May 6 for the annual end-of-year concert previously known as Brookfest in the Stony Brook Arena.

Mars, famous for his hit singles "Just the Way You Are" and "Grenades," also co-wrote and produced such pop tunes as Travie McCoy's "Billionaire" and B.o.B.'s "Nothin' on You." He recently won a Grammy for "Best Male Pop Vocal Performance."

The 25-year-old Honolulu native is touring the country with Monáe as part of their "Hooligans in Wondaland"

North American tour. Co-headliner Monáe, born in Kansas City, is well known for the fashionable image she presents on stage in her signature tuxedos, as well as her captivating songwriting and performances. Her hit "Tightrope" was nominated for "Best Urban/Alternative Performance" at this past year's Grammys.

Though the contracts haven't been finalized, the performers are expected to cost USG somewhere in the range of \$100,000 to \$150,000. The concert, which has yet to be named, will be different from previous Brookfests, which have usually taken place on Saturdays. This year, the concert is scheduled to take place the same day as the Roth Regatta.



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editorials

Why We Are Bringing Daniel Ellsberg To Campus

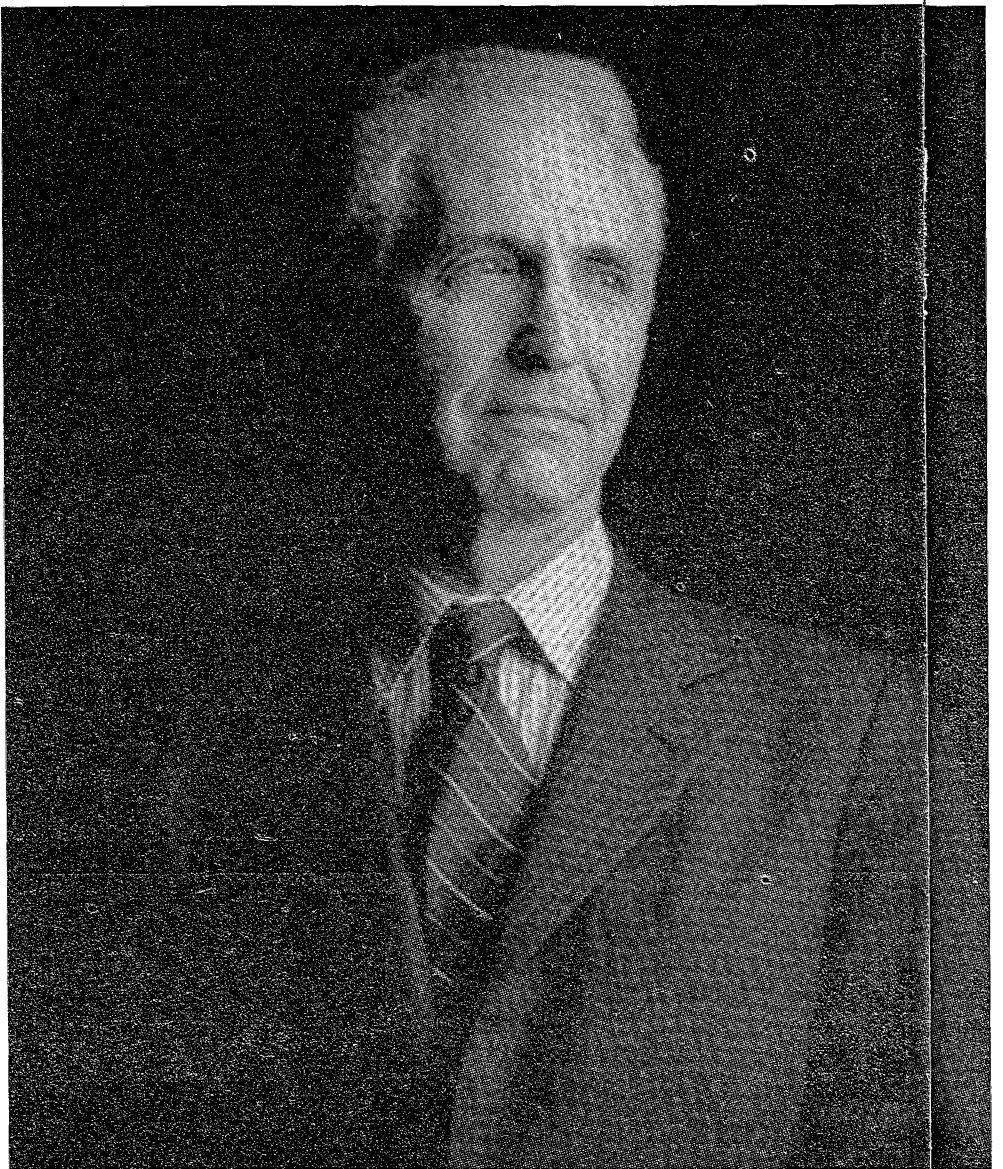
On Tuesday, April 26, 2011, "America's most dangerous man," Dr. Daniel Ellsberg, is scheduled to give a talk at 8 p.m. in the SAC Auditorium. His lecture will touch on the parallels between his big claim to fame and the recent work of WikiLeaks.

To many college-aged individuals, Daniel Ellsberg is a name in American history textbooks. And if you happened to stay awake during the one or two classes that discuss more recent history, you might know that Ellsberg was the man behind the release of the Pentagon Papers—a 7,000-page collection of top-secret and sensitive documents containing briefs and memos that outlined U.S. involvement in Vietnam from 1945 to 1967. Included was a candid internal assessment of the war's progress that varied drastically from the rosy picture presented to the American public.

On June 13, 1971, the *New York Times* published the first of many excerpts from the papers Ellsberg had leaked to it. But after the first three articles ran, the Nixon Administration pursued a federal injunction against the *Times*, hoping to block publication of more sensitive information.

As the suit worked its way through the legal system, other papers like *The Washington Post* filled in and began to publish the documents—a united act of public service and protest against a government trying to censor the information through prior restraint.

The papers didn't put Nixon's administration in a bad light so much as they led to embarrassments for the Kennedy and Johnson administra-



tions by detailing their foreign policy strategies and actions in Southeast Asia. Revealed were a multitude of secret and illegal bombings in Cambodia and Laos, as well as raids on North Vietnam—all of which had gone unreported by the press.

In April 2010, beginning with a sensational video of U.S. soldiers gunning down a Reuters photographer from an Apache helicopter, WikiLeaks started to release selections from a massive trove of government cables and documents, including classified materials related

to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

It's not difficult, then, for one to draw a connection between Ellsberg and the newspapers that ran his story and WikiLeaks and its verified sources.

Of course, Ellsberg and WikiLeaks aren't analogous. WikiLeaks, the non-profit media organization, occupies some not-entirely-charted new-media position halfway between that of Ellsberg and the *New York Times*. A more clear parallel exists between Ellsberg and, allegedly, Pfc. Bradley Manning. Manning is sus-

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pected of being the lead source in the leak of thousands of classified documents to WikiLeaks.

But there are some differences. Although he faced fierce vitriolic attacks from the political establishment when he leaked the Pentagon Papers, Ellsberg was never criminally charged or arrested for the leak.

For Manning, it's a completely different story. For the past eight months, the 23-year-old Oklahoma native has been locked up in the Marine Corps Brig in Quantico, VA, where Ellsberg once trained many moons ago. In maximum security custody, Manning spends 23 hours a day in solitary confinement. Amnesty International has expressed concerns over the potentially brain damage-inducing conditions of Manning's detainment.

The torture of Bradley Manning, which Ellsberg has labeled a direct

violation of the Eight Amendment, is just one of the violations of the principles of democracy and freedom involved in his dubious incarceration. The Eighth Amendment states that "Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted."

"Here we have someone who has not yet been tried, not yet convicted, being held in isolation, solitary confinement, for something over nine months," said Ellsberg. "This is something that is likely to drive a person mad, and may be the intent of what's going on here."

When Assistant Secretary of State P.J. Crowley spoke out against the conditions of Manning's treatment, without even questioning the repression of his rights but rather the efficacy of the torturous tactics, it wasn't too much of a surprise that he resigned a day later.

"What is being done to Bradley

Manning is ridiculous and counter-productive and stupid on the part of the Department of Defense," Crowley said before a small audience at a Massachusetts Institute of Technology seminar in early March.

In addition, the strategic effort by both the government and the corporate sector to dismantle WikiLeaks' operations—so uniquely effective as a journalistic watchdog in a sea of sycophantic pro-war establishment news outlets—and censor its content is just another way that freedoms guaranteed in the Constitution have been threatened in the herculean efforts to manufacture popular acquiescence to America's overseas wars.

Companies like Amazon, Paypal, Mastercard and Visa caved quickly to pressure to withdraw their services from WikiLeaks, hindering the site's ability to receive the donations and funding necessary to stay afloat, while the private security

firm HB Gary Federal and others cooked up smear campaigns and plots to threaten the careers of journalists sympathetic to WikiLeaks.

It is in this context, and the tradition of our mission to fire a vital public debate on campus, that the *Press* is proud to bring Ellsberg to Stony Brook. Again, that appearance will be at 8 p.m. on April 26 in the SAC Auditorium.

Ellsberg has been vociferous on the question of the equivalence between Manning's actions and Ellsberg's, as well as a feisty participant in the larger debates around the WikiLeaks revelations and the efforts to stifle them. And these questions about WikiLeaks and the treatment of whistleblowers more generally, given the essential role of a meaningful and practical journalism as a check on government wrongdoing, are fundamental to America's democratic health.

The reader is referring to an article published in the Vol XXXII Issue 11 of The Stony Brook Press titled, "Uncle Ralph Can Still Light a Fire."

Stony Brook Political Science Department Chair Dr. Jeffrey Segal is conspicuously unscientific in asserting that Ralph Nader "is the reason why George W. Bush became president" (Najib Aminy, Uncle Ralph Can Still Light a Fire, March 31, 2011).

Among the facts that Segal's assertion fails to address, for example, are the following: 1) more than 250,000 Florida Democrats voted for Bush – not Democrat Al Gore – in 2000; 2) eight presidential candidates on the Florida ballot, other than Nader, won more votes than the margin of victory between Bush and Gore; 3) Gore failed to carry his home state of Tennessee, or Bill Clinton's home state of Arkansas.

Each of these facts is independently sufficient to have changed the outcome of the election. So why single out Nader for blame?

The reader is referring to multiple articles published in the Vol XXXII Issue 11 of The Stony Brook Press covering the Stony Brook Athletics program.

Hello Stony Brook Press

I have been a student at Stony Brook University for the past years and I been a regular reader of the Stony Brook Press for the last couple of semester. I would like to express my satisfaction with all the publications but specially the last one (April 1st, 2011) which dedicated a large chunk to Seawolves athletics.

I was waiting for the day in which the Press and the Statesman would finally dedicate some valuable time to Seawolves sports and I would like to say that I really enjoyed reading the articles, they

Such selectivity is not only unscientific – it is also anti-democratic. Holding an independent candidate responsible for a major party candidate's loss relegates anyone who is not a Republican or Democrat to the status of second class citizen, whose mere participation in an election is somehow illegitimate.

Similar claims were once made about women, and African-Americans. Why does Segal make them now, about minor party and independent candidates? Segal owes his students, and the Stony Brook community, an explanation.

Oliver Hall
Attorney for Ralph Nader

letters!

were very informative, and touched on many of the important topics of the future of our Seawolves including the ongoing renovations (Joe Nathan Field, Track Field) and the future renovations (SB Arena). It was great reading, and I hope the Press continues to keep their readers updated with Stony Brook Athletics and other events that go around campus. Keep up the good work

Thank you
Edwin C., Stony Brook Student

USG ELECTIONS!

Editors' Note: The Press reached out to all candidates running for USG elections this Spring via the emails made available by the USG Elections Board. The ensuing compilation of responses are of those candidates who responded. The Press has not edited or altered any of the responses and randomly chose which responses to publish in providing diversity in candidate responses. Additionally, you will find a varied number of responses from candidates, which was determined by the amount of space available and the length of a candidate's response.

It should also be noted that The Press is a USG funded organization that received \$40,000 for the 2010-11 academic year.

2011 USG ELECTIONS

Questions For The Candidates

1. Out of all the 16,000 students on campus, what makes you the most deserving student to influence the more than \$3.1 million budget funded by our student activity fee for the position you are running for?
2. What experience do you bring to the position you are running for, and how do you think this makes you a better candidate?
3. Do you believe that USG should have party lines for an election with a historic tradition of really low voter turnout? (If applicable, please indicate which party line you are in)
4. Is this your first time getting involved in USG, if so, why are you interested in getting involved? If you have been in USG and are running again, why are you still interested in being involved?
5. On a scale of 9-10* (10 being the highest) how successful were the past two semesters for USG?
6. What do you think is the best thing about USG and if elected, how do you plan to continue that?
7. What are the biggest flaws about USG and how do you plan to correct those? For those currently in USG, what have you done to try to correct these flaws?
8. Where will you place your USG experience on your resume?
9. What do you think of President Stanley and his stance on tuition in relation to Stony Brook's budget woes? Would you stand in support or against, why?
10. Sum up why you are the best person for the job in a sentence that contains no more than 10 words.

*Please note we intentionally asked for a scale from 9-10.

USG PRESIDENT



Mark Maloof
Biochemistry
United Students Party, Chair

Question 1.

It's about where I'm coming from. I'm not heavily involved in a club and trying to get more money for our budget. I'm not looking to start a career in politics, and I don't need this for my major (biochemistry) nor for any aspect of academics. I'm doing this for the collective student body and for selfless reasons.

I know RAs get a bad rap but we're trained to provide customer service to residents. Residents pay thousands of dollars to live on campus and RAs are expected to be there to answer to their needs. As an officer in USG, customer service should be top priority because we're civil servants. That's my primary goal for running; I want to give back to this campus.

I want to inspire leadership in others, make sure that more people are involved on campus, and open the doors for them to do so. In my major alone, there are people that always wish there was more they could have done to gain experience in Stony Brook. I would like to ensure that USG provides a great opportunity for those students through its clubs, services, and potential.

Question 5.

I would give the USG a 5. As stated earlier, I think that USG has done a fairly good job of putting on events but there is so much more that the organization can do such as building a community, increasing involvement in academics, and working closer with students.

I would like to see more work with the Administration FOR the students. I'm a firm believer that you catch more flies with honey and that compromise solves problems.

USG needs someone to sit down at a table and say "This is what the student body wants, how close can we get to this within reason?" We have to be tactile in making our demands. Voting for people that can build a good rapport both with the students and the Administration will increase success dramatically.

Question 7.

If you had asked me this question two months ago, I would have said that USG doesn't do a good job of communicating with the students. While that's still a critique, the farther I delve into this election and the more I began to learn about what happens internally, I become appalled.

Many students would not guess that the biggest flaw of USG is the competition within the office - the backstabbing that seems to happen. There exists amoral behavior that the people in that office seem to take on. You end up in a room where everyone wants to be a leader and it's hard to take a back seat and be a follower. You end up in a room full of people that are interested in politics and the line between politics and corruption is blurred. What's more upsetting is that it becomes an acceptable excuse for things that wouldn't fly in another group. To use examples would be considered mudslinging so I'll refrain, but having to hear these stories is disheartening. I know that's now the way my RA staff functions. If anything, we always try to work together to bring as much as we can to the building. We never fight to improve the building because less gets done that way. Really remembering why you're in the position you're in, why you ran for office in the first place, and sticking to an ethical way of doing things has to happen within the organization for it to improve.

Question 9.

Well, nobody wants to spend more money! Students can rally and protest but there's only so much USG can do. If the administration wants it to happen, it's not a discussion of "if" but of "when" and "how severe." As President it would be my job to bring the opinions of the students to the Administration and to the University. From what I see amongst freshmen and sophomores, the Administration doesn't have the money to keep classes open. The Administration isn't being given money by the State because the State has neglected public education when it formulated its budget.

The State is wrong for taking the money away and Dr. Stanley has no other choice. If we want to fight we need to take it to Albany not the Administration. That's something I am prepared to do if it seeks promise.

Students don't want to spend more money going to college and I don't either, but if we don't pay more than less classes become available. If there's a requirement that you need to graduate for your major and that fills up, you're looking at either another semester or another year spent at Stony Brook. The question that I need to ask the student body is, "Would you want to spend an extra semester or year here, and spend thousands of dollars just to finish up a class or two for your major? OR See the tuition increase by what might be a fraction of that price and then graduate on time?"

I want to find kids the cheapest form of coping with the budget cuts. If we don't raise tuition but students have to stay an extra semester or year to take classes they may be spending much more than a tuition increase. There seem to be more options to weigh than other candidates give credit to.

Question 10.

Students deserve positive, ethical leadership, honest advocacy, and fresh ideas.

Question 1.

I have spent the last two years in many different roles within USG. Each role has given me a different perspective on how USG should improve. For example, as Treasurer, I initiated the creation and oversaw the early development of AL-LOCATE. As President, I would have the ability to enact the necessary reforms as well as adopt the informed stances on important issues such as tuition and fees.

Question 3.

I am the Chair of the Student Polity party. Student Polity was the name of the former Student Government at Stony Brook University before the University Administration dismantled it. For me, Student Polity represents the high point of student activism (frequent occupation of building, marches, etc.) and also campus life in terms of entertainment (Zappa, Ramones, Blue Oyster Cult, etc.).

I think that party lines actually increases turnout. Political parties can be dangerous and also extremely helpful to the progress of USG. On the one hand, they can lead to party lines on votes and on the other hand they can lead to a diverse group of Executive Officers and Senators. Student Polity's mission is not to encourage its Senators to vote a certain way, but rather to encourage intelligent debate on every important issue.

Question 4.

From my experience, I have seen how the University Administration and the State treats student and it is clear that they are not acting in the interests of the students. The President is the one position that can change that. As the spokesman of the student body, the President can motivate students to leads to reform and change. Being informed on this extremely complex and important issues that face students is vital.

Question 5.

I, for incomplete. USG has a long road ahead of it before it can talk about success. The last two semesters have highlighted the potential of USG in truly representing the student body (the survey we conducted) and in large events (Aziz, Best Coast, Immortal Technique, Ralph Nader) but USG has to work a lot harder to involve more students in the process.

Question 6.

USG's potential. USG has the potential to be an organization that truly represents the 16,000-student body and also provides entertainment and other services that the student body actually wants. I want to work to open a better door for direct communication with USG's leadership and the student body.

Question 7.

USG's biggest problem is its inability to hold a dialogue about important issues with the student body. I want to sponsor weekly town halls with USG's leadership and University Administration so that stu-



Moiz Khan
History
Student Polity Party, Chair

dents can share their thoughts with them. But for the students who don't have the time to attend town halls, it is important to establish some sort of web based communication system (aside from email) so that students can publicly (and anonymously) share their criticism and suggestions for USG.

Question 8.

A line item on a resume is only as useful as the experience that you gained from it. USG on a resume doesn't mean any more to a potential employer than any other part time job. There are many reasons to be a part of USG, but in my experience, students who only want a line on a resume are often disappointed to find out that USG is only worth what you make of it.

Question 9.

On the issue of tuition and fees, I believe that students ought to strongly oppose any increase. No increase is a good increase, regardless of the short-term effects. The long-term effects of higher tuition and fees will only make it more and more difficult for economically disadvantaged students to attend Stony Brook University. If they raise tuition and fees every few years, then tuition and fees will have doubled before you know it. How is that fair?

The entire point of Public Higher Education is to provide a quality educational opportunity for people who would not be able to otherwise afford it. Stony Brook is not a private university, and I believe that our administration often loses sight of that. Stony Brook's tuition and fees are some of the lowest across the nation. My goal is to keep it that way.

Question 10.

I am against tuition hikes and will make SBU fun.

**ELECTIONS RUN
 FROM APRIL 11 to
 APRIL 15. SO VOTE
 OR DIE!!!!**



Debbie Machalow
Major
United Students Party
*Running for Executive Vice
President (Unopposed)*

Question 2.

I have served in USG since October 2009 and have had the pleasure of serving on all standing committees of the Senate, except Programming and Activities, and have been Chair or Vice Chair of every committee I sat on, except for Budget. I am the best candidate for the job as I know our laws and policies like the back of my hand, and

I always try to conduct myself in a positive and professional manner. Plus, I've been doing the job since March, without the normal transition that EVPs are generally awarded (i.e. the summer) and things have gone as smoothly as possible.

Question 4.

My interest in remaining involved in USG is the same as it was when I first ran for office: I want to serve the undergraduate student body to nurture the continued growth of a campus-wide community that promotes an ethos of camaraderie and an environment of school spirit. My parents both went to SBU (they actually met here) and therefore I feel a very close con-

nection to the University and want what's best for its students.

Question 6.

I think the best thing about USG is its potential for growth; I would like to see the organization grow and mature in a professional manner. As you may recall, my first legislative success was the Appropriate Office Behavior Enforcement Act, which was an attempt to improve the professionalism of the organization. I would like to see the professionalism in both conduct and action (of both the individuals and the organization) improve and mature. I would encourage my colleagues to take the job seriously, but to remember they are students, and remember that they represent more than just themselves, and should keep that thought in mind when legislating.

Question 7.

For those currently in USG, what have you done to try to correct these flaws? The biggest flaws in USG are definitely the mind games and the dirty politics. As Henry Kissinger once said "University politics are vicious precisely because the stakes are so small"; and this is true. A lot of officials walk around as if they're these big-shot politicians and they neglect to remember that we are

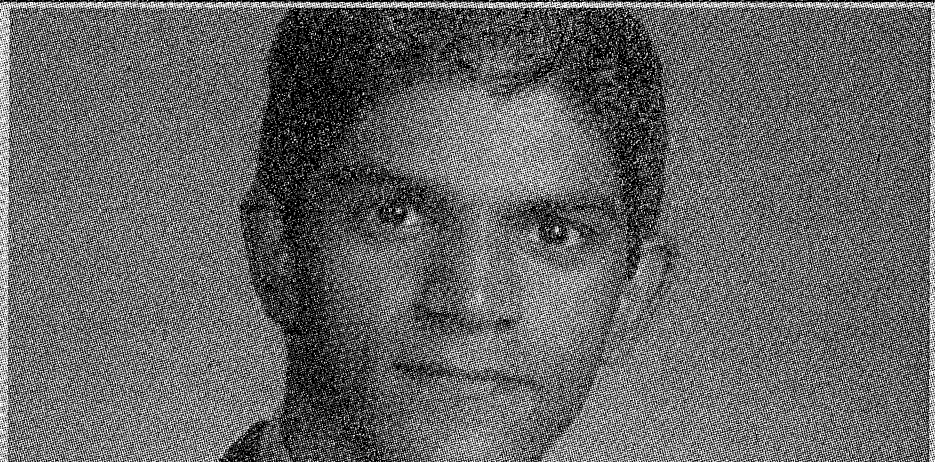
all students, and that we are there to serve our peers and not play mind-games with each other. After one foray into political maneuvering, I realized the harm it could do and that it wasn't worth it. As an official of the student body I have always tried to enforce the rules and make the government as accessible as possible to the students it serves. As EVP, during parliamentary training for the Senate, I will provide all of them the information and the means to know the laws and enforce them themselves.

Question 8.

Taking the question metaphorically, USG has really been an eye-opening experience for me. I've wanted to be a politician since I was 10 years old. I always brushed off statements about the corrupt nature of politics and the slimeiness of politicians. Being in USG has made me rethink my attitude and even my career goals. If real politics is like this, then there's no way I want to be a politician, even if I really want to help people. USG has given me a lot of experience to reflect upon in the coming months and years.

Question 10.

I'm running for EVP to continue serving the students.



Allen Abraham
Major
Student Polity Party
*Running for VP of Clubs and
Organizations**

Question 1.

As a current member of the USG I have been on the budget committee, programming and activities committee and the rules committee. I have the experience necessary to do the tasks required of the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations. I would ensure that all clubs and organizations recognized and funded by USG are fairly represented in USG. The Students of Stony

Brook University can trust me to be on their side.

Question 3.

I think party lines help candidates come together and work together to get elected. This is important because in USG you are required to work with people to get things done and having a party exemplifies this to a certain extent. The reason there has been a low voter turnout for elections in the past is because people aren't interested, but I think this year with the amount of advertising and with all the programs USG has put on this year, people have become interested in the Student Government. Hopefully voter turnout will be very high this year.

Question 5.

I think giving a 9 - 10 scale is not an effective way to measure success, because USG has not reached a level of a nine yet. However, if this scale is from 1-10 I would give USG a solid 6. The reason for this number is because there has been a lack of student life on campus in the past, even in my freshman year I saw this. This year was completely different, with the various artists that came to campus, the comedians, the lecture series and the other various events USG hosted; the campus life has improved to a point where people are excited to stay on campus over the weekend. When it comes to clubs USG still has a long way to go to improve their standing with clubs, which is something I would like to focus on.

Question 7.

I think the biggest flaw about USG is their communication with clubs. I think this year we have been relatively good about it but I have heard several clubs say they can't get in touch with certain people in USG no matter how hard they try. This should definitely not be the case, members of USG were elected to office to serve the people. We

should have better communication with all members of the student body. For myself I have this rule of 24 hours, where I try to respond to all emails within 24 hours so that the communication is constant.

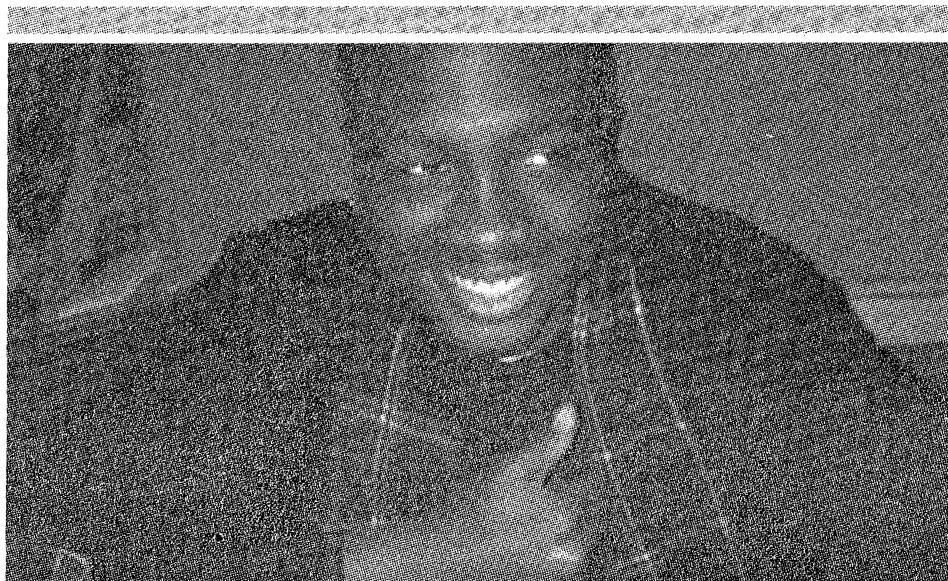
Question 9.

I wouldn't completely support President Stanley's proposal to raise tuition and all the fees. I think a committee constituting of students, faculty and administration should be brought together to decide how the fees should be impacted. Yes Stony Brook has its budget woes but before you raise tuition ask Albany to return the money they are giving to private schools and instead reallocate it to SUNY schools. We are a public school for a reason, Students come here for the low price of tuition.

Question 10.

Experience is needed for this job and I have it.

***Abraham is running against Kekelly Ketemepi. The Press reached out to Ketemepi but he did not respond and could not be reached for comment.**



Deron Hill

USG host.

Major

United Students Party

*Running for Vice President of Student Life, Programming and Activities**

Question 1.

I feel I am most deserving for this position mainly because i have a passion for planning events and facilitating events, I feel as if I know what would bring greater numbers to these events that Stony Brook

Question 2.

I have experience in planning, being that I was a part of the previous Student Activities Board. I served as weekend life chair, my events were very successful I helped plan 2009 Brookfest also I've planned off campus trips, on campus events like banquets which featured artist. I would like to say I do have experience in this field it isn't something that is new to me. I feel as if this makes me the better candidate because i would come in al-

ready knowing what to do.

Question 4.

I am interested in running because I simply just want to see change, I am a student here so I know first-hand how stony brook campus life is lacking, I have fresh ideas that would bring a very diverse and large crowd out to all events planned. I'm interested in getting involved with USG because USG is the only place where students can come and change things that they see aren't working efficiently. My involvement with USG has been under the previous SAB and also I am an Audio Visual Tech for USG.

Question 5.

5.5

Question 6.

The best thing to me about USG is how every student is given an equal chance to be a part of USG.

Question 7.

I feel the biggest flaw is not being able to actually connect with the undergrad students, a lot of people

don't know what the USG is. I plan to correct this by making our presence known on campus. USG should have the most presence on campus.

Question 8.

I would place it under accomplishments.

Question 9.

I am in support of him because I know at the end of the day he is making decisions that are for our schools best interest.

Question 10.

Dedicated to getting the job done with my experience.

**Hill is running against Joseph Garlow. The Press reached out to Garlow but he did not respond and could not be reached for comment.*

List of Candidates Who Did Not Respond

Treasurer

Thomas Kirnbauer (running unopposed)

Vice President of Clubs and Organizations

Kekelly Ketemepi

Vice President of Academic Affairs

No candidates

Vice President of Student Life, Programming and Activities

Joseph Garlow

Vice President of Communications and Public Relations

Farjad Fazli (was travelling and did not get back in time)

Yadria Espinal

Senators

Health Science Center

Alicia Kanauer

Eric Soto

Paris Tyson ("respectfully declined")

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

James Ging

Kyle Desmond

Max Gunther

Yarden Segal

Zhou Zhou

Class Representatives

Senior Rep

Emilisa Trotman (running unopposed)

Junior Rep

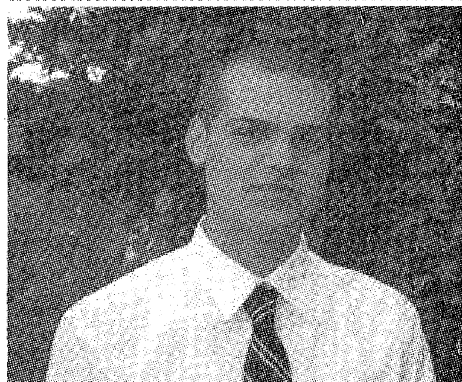
Cyril Kottuppalli

Dennis Nmecha

Sophomore Rep

Adil Hussain

Christopher Priore



Raymond AlQaisi
Major
Student Polity Party
*Running for Senator; Health
Science Center*

Question 1.

Well I believe everyone can make an influence on the use of the budget, just by involvement in an club or organization. As far as holding a position in USG, I believe I am deserving of being elected senator, because of my maturity, wisdom, and organization of life priorities. Also over the course of the past semester, I have also become more involved in USG, as I work for the event promotion team, I have learned to network, and have seen the current president and VP of Communications, in action. I have grown to understand the process of USG's decisions and action taking. I am equipped and prepared to handle the responsibility I am undertaking.

Question 5.

I do not believe I am able to "rate" the success of the USG over the course of the past year, because I cannot compare it to previous years. I do believe

that I need to give immense credit to the organization and efficiency of this year's USG because they have sparked an interest in me personally, and campus wide recognition. Events of the past year, have drawn attention to USG, but what is most important is that students, like me, who were once unaware are now seeking to be informed and involved. That to me, is a success in what USG was meant to accomplish.

Question 7.

Well, I believe the connection between USG and the student body is growing, along with the overall awareness of USG's mission statement. Campus life is the best it has been during my entire academic career, and only has room to improve. I have high hopes for this upcoming Fall semester and expect initiatives and tasks brought to Senate to be resolved in an efficient and resolute manner.

Question 9.

I think money concerns are felt everywhere in today's economy. I have come from a humble upbringing, and financial aid has allowed me to attend a higher university. I am extremely grateful for this, however tuition hikes would tense my family, as I'm sure many on scholarship and federal loans, can agree. I hope this matter can resolved in manner that is best for the University, along with those in attendance.

Question 10.

I am an informed, concerned, involved member of the campus populace.

Question 1.

I have been involved on our campus through many student organizations as an active member. I have volunteered my time to help better communities through numerous service projects. I have shown leadership and dedication by holding the positions of Philanthropy Chair of South Asian Student Alliance and President of Distressed Children & Infants International. Through these organizations, I have made philanthropy as an important aspect in a student's career by working towards sponsoring children or benefiting numerous charities. With my qualities and experience, Stony Brook University would invest in the best USG Senator to help create a better student & campus life.

Question 3.

I do believe that USG should have party lines for an election with an historic tradition of really low voter turnout. Right now, I am part of the United Students Party (USP).

Question 4.

I want to represent voices that aren't heard everyday on our campus. To be an example in getting involved to create a better student life. It is my first time running. I am interested in getting involved to create more opportunities for students and organizations to get involved on campus.

Question 5.
9.

Question 6.

USG is great at giving power to the students to speak their voice. With this power, I will use it wisely to influence



Shon Augustine
Major
United Students Party
*Running for Senator; Health
Science Center*

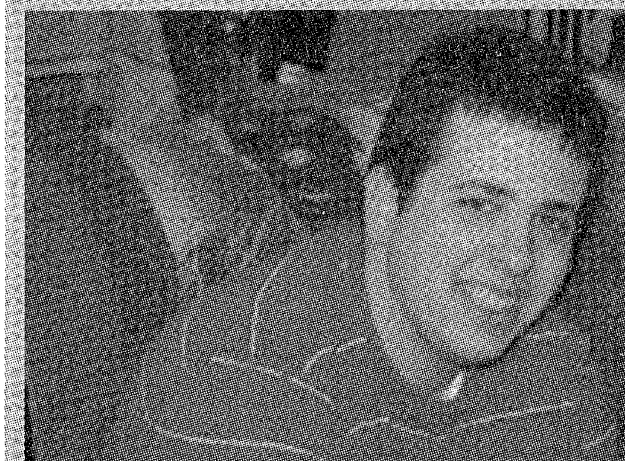
students to speak for their rights. If I am representing USG, I use my position to listen to what our students and organizations need to making this campus for the better. Getting involved on our campus is the first initiative.

Question 7.

USG could be better by improving at allocating funds for organizations on campus that work to accomplish philanthropy and better our society with education. If elected, my plans are to work hard at allocating better funding for student organizations and student activities on campus. This would construct more student opportunities to better the school community.

Question 10.

"With my vision and determination, achievements are endless."



Corey Platt
Major
United Students Party
Running for Senator; College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Question 1.

For the past year, I have served as Treasurer for Toscanini Hall Council. In this position, I have been involved in controlling a budget of more than \$1000. While this is nowhere near the amount of money USG controls, it has given me some insight as to what clubs need to spend their money on, how much things cost, and how clubs spend their money.

Question 2.

While I do not have any experience in student government, my time as Treasurer has allowed me to have some interaction with USG, and I have observed the way different aspects of the organization function.

Question 4.

This is my first time running for USG. I am interested in running mainly to make USG a more welcoming organization for clubs and individuals.

Many of the processes clubs have to go through (especially new clubs) are either needlessly complicated, or else not very well documented. As someone who has dealt with USG as a member of an Executive Board, it is my goal to make the system more transparent.

Question 6.

I think the best thing about USG is that they provide many excellent opportunities for students to get involved on campus. They fund a large number of clubs and events, and I hope to encourage students to form even more clubs to suit their interests.

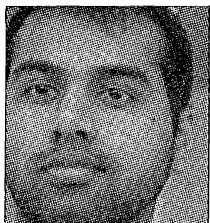
Question 8.

My USG experience will be grouped with my other job experiences on my resume.

Question 10.

I know what USG is like from a club's perspective.

Some Real Talk About the United Students Party

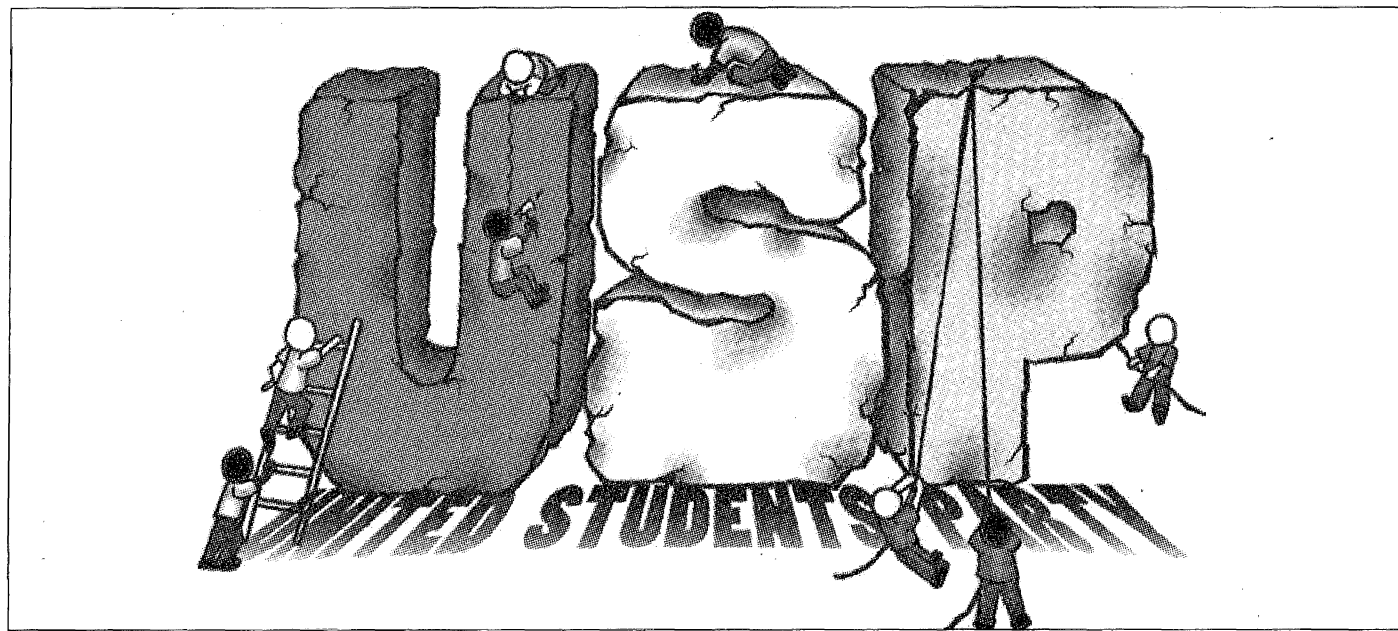


By Tahir
Ahmad

This Monday marks the start of the 2011-2012 USG Election season, which will prove to be one of the most crucial elections Stony Brook's undergraduates have en-

countered in the past ten years. The USG is business as usual, right? So why should undergraduates care this time around? Several things will be decided by this election. The student body will decide who will represent them on issues such as tuition hikes and their effects. They will decide who will be there to make changes to the USG with the best interest of the student body and for the best interest of the organization. When making your decision, ask yourself, who are the innovators? Who have proven to you that they have brought change in the past? Who has the drive that you are convinced will make change? Who can you trust? Who will bring you better campus life? USG controls \$ 3.1 million in Student Activity Fee money that is allocated to clubs and for events on campus. With the onset of the new SAB, who will innovate and deliver the quality of events like those of this year? Who do you trust the most to spend that money properly? Who will represent your interests? Honesty and integrity are important too. Two parties have been declared in this election: Student Polity and United Students Party, and already United Students Party has begun to mislead the student body and misrepresent those running on the United Students Party ticket.

I am not writing to bad-mouth anyone in the United Students Party. I have nothing against the party and I have nothing against two of my fellow Senators, Senator Fanizza and Senator Simmons, running with the party. They both show initiative and integrity and are well-respected people in the USG, and so I would be happy if they were re-elected. Due to the poor leadership of the United Student's Party, Senator Simmons, Fanizza and others on the ticket have become misrepresented by being associated with the party's deceptive platform and by the party's leadership: current Executive Vice-President and 2011-2012 candidate Deborah Machalow and Presidential candidate Mark Maloof. Their platform is merely a blanket statement of false presump-



tions that slanders the current Undergraduate Student Government, and it fails to represent the ideals of people like Senator Simmons, Senator Fanizza and others in the party.

Fifteen out of twenty-five of the students running on the Student Polity ticket have not yet been elected. Remember this when you read the United Students Party's platform statement. "Increasing the productivity by decreasing office confrontation and corruption, while encouraging students to engage their elected officials," read one statement from their Facebook event page. The leadership of the United Students Party states this as a goal by sandwiching the middle with a few cunning words, but it is misleading. No office confrontation has taken place in the USG this year that has affected the outcome of any decision made by the Senate and members of the Executive Council. Even further, the leadership wrongfully projects that the current elected officials are corrupt by stating the words "decreasing corruption." Ten members of Student Polity are currently elected and non-elected officials in the Undergraduate Student Government. Naturally, any uninformed voter reading this statement then characterizes the entirety of the Student Polity party as corrupt. Where is the corruption? What were the corrupt actions that were taken those student leaders have been convicted of? The United Students Party leadership fails to cite this. This year, every action taken by the USG Senate was within the confines of the USG Constitution, the USG Code, and their associated bylaws. There may be some disagreements with some of the actions

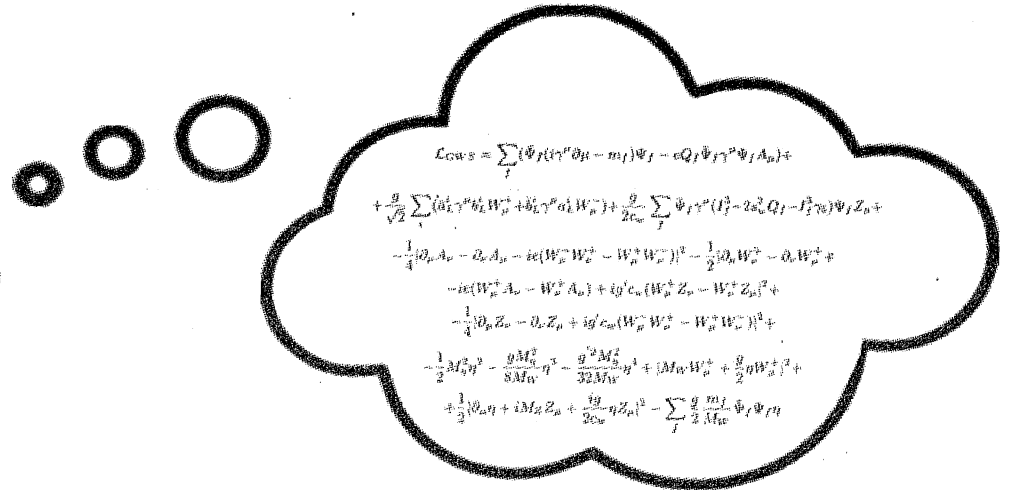
taken, such as the way that SBU-TV had been closed down, sentiments that I also share, but that too was done lawfully as ruled by the Judiciary. SPA Director Khan is the leader of the opposing party, Student Polity, and is running for President. What about the actions of SPA Director Khan himself? There are strict rules governing the abilities of the SPA Director. The SAB's membership decides collectively all of the decisions of the SAB—the SAB meeting minutes are posted online on the USG website (stonybrookusg.org), and you can read them for yourself. Has he done anything wrong? Has he been convicted of any wrongdoing? The answer is no for both, and nothing has been shown otherwise.

"Basically, we want the Undergraduate Student Government to serve the students and not its officials!!!" is the last statement on the United Students Party's Facebook event page. It's more false characterization just to rally students. It is a slap to the faces of the elected officials, Machalow's own colleagues, mind you, and to the student body by making false statements about current student leaders just so the leadership of United Students Party can convince the public not to vote for Student Polity. I am disturbed by this. False finger pointing is not what students should be using as reasons to get elected. Is this the kind of leadership that the student body wants and deserves? Absolutely not. Students should be hearing about a party's ideas and innovations, what they have to bring to the Undergraduate Student Government, and what kind of changes they plan on making. Leave the politics to

the politicians. We are no different than the students who we attend class with, and the students who will walk with us when we graduate. We should cut the blame-game nonsense and work hard to represent students, be their voice for the problems they are currently facing, and band together to make Stony Brook University a wonderfully enjoyable place.

Running with a party is the easiest way for a group of people with a common goal to get elected. That can be both good and bad. The bad is that you may get a group of people who become complacent and you may elect individuals who don't care for their position. You may get people who are doing it for the resume. Joining a party may mask these types of individuals, and it prevents the general public from discerning who's who among the tide of office runners. There is some good also—you may also elect a group of experienced officials back into office along with those who they deem to be determined and innovative individuals with the drive to cause change. The United Students Party needs to get its act together by showing their interest for the student body, and by better representing their candidates. The only thing they are showing is that they are interested in badmouthing the other party. Stop using the tired, misused statement "End Corruption!" and start shouting the ideas you support. Demand from the leadership of the United Students Party why they should earn your vote. Don't be fooled by slogans. Make an informed decision.

Tahir Ahmad is a CAS Senator of the USG and will graduate this Spring.



A Different Perspective on Science

By Nick Statt

It was the February of 1985, and Robert Crease sat across the table from the Nobel Prize winning physicist Richard Feynman in his Caltech office. The subject was unification—the idea that there lies in wait a universal theory of everything. It was Einstein’s dream, and in 2011 is still an unachieved goal.

“So we aren’t any closer to unification than we were in Einstein’s time?” Crease asked. He and Feynman had been discussing the Standard Model, a cornerstone of modern particle physics that is considered to be almost a theory of everything, but still quite there because it leaves out principle subjects like general relativity.

“It’s a crazy question!” Feynman said in anger. “We’re certainly closer. We know more. And if there’s a finite amount to be known, we obviously must be closer to having the knowledge, okay? I don’t know how to make this into a sensible question...it’s all so stupid. All these interviews are so damned useless.”

It was at that point that Feynman got up from his desk and cut the interview off. Crease heard Feynman yell from the corridor, “The history of these things is nonsense! You’re trying to make something difficult and complicated out of something that’s simple and beautiful.”

It was Crease’s line of questioning, and his mindset, that made Feynman so mad, despite Crease not being a physicist. He is in fact a science journalist, but more importantly, Crease is a

philosopher.

Robert Crease received his B.A. in philosophy from Amherst College in 1976. But science wouldn’t begin to play a large role in his life until he attended graduate school in the 1980s at Columbia University, where he would later receive his Ph.D in 1987.

It was during those grad school years that Crease found his love of science journalism, and it was then that the foundations of his knowledge as a science historian and later Brookhaven National Lab’s historian were born.

“I was really into philosophy, but also I avoided science courses. I think if I had a really good science teacher, I would have become a scientist,” Crease explains. “I didn’t. I had a really good philosophy teacher so I wound up as a philosopher.”

Even at the age of 57, Crease has a remarkably youthful face marked by cleanly cropped facial hair and a shaved head, with a pair of expensive frames resting on the brim of his nose. His short stature is absolutely dwarfed by the encyclopedic knowledge that has made him both an expert in subjects like philosophical performance theory and able to discuss and understand heavy-ion physics with particle accelerator researchers.

It was with his old Amherst roommate Charles Mann that the science journalism path ignited while Crease was still in grad school.

“This friend of ours had some kind

of publishing company, where she would take Italian references books and she would publish them in English,” explains Mann, who is now an accomplished writer of non-fiction, such as the *New York Times* bestseller *1471: New Revelations of the Americas Before Columbus*. “She came up with the scheme to make an illustrated science dictionary. She hired a bunch of freelancers and Bob and myself were two of them.”

At one point, Crease and Mann needed to write up something on a particle accelerator and happened to know that Brookhaven National Lab housed their very own in the depths of the Upton, N.Y. facility.

“We were really intrigued, and then they told us that this huge particle accelerator, called ISABELLE, was in deep trouble,” Mann says. ISABELLE was Brookhaven’s proton-proton colliding beam accelerator, partially built by the government before the project was cancelled in 1983. “We looked in the *New York Times*, which hadn’t covered it. So we wrote to the *New York Times Magazine* and said you guys are missing out on a huge story, the most important physics story in the country.” Crease and Mann were given the green light to write it up.

The article got some attention, but most importantly was a springboard for both Crease and Mann into the realm of science journalism. “On Bob’s part, I think, it was really just because he was interested in the subject. It wasn’t with

the idea that he was going to be a science journalist,” Mann says.

“It was just something on the outside, something that was fun to do,” Crease says. “I would do science journalism to basically support myself as a grad student.”

Since then, Crease has continuously expanded into the published field of philosophy and science. He has authored or co-authored twelve books, and is working on his thirteenth, titled *World in the Balance: The Historic Quest for an Absolute System of Measurement*, due out this October.

The interview with Richard Feynman in which Crease was kicked out of his office was for his first book, *The Second Creation: Makers of the Revolution in Twentieth-Century Physics*, which he co-wrote with Mann in 1986. It was left out from *The Second Creation*, but was included in James Gleick’s *Genius: The Life and Science of Richard Feynman* after the author found the conversation in Feynman’s correspondence files and got Crease’s permission to use it (Feynman died four years before *Genius* was published in 1992).

Crease has written a monthly column, called “Critical Point,” in the international physics magazine *Physics Now* since May of 2000, but has written for a multitude of science publications throughout his academic and journalistic career, including *The Scientist*, *Smithsonian* and *Atlantic Monthly*.

After receiving his degree from Columbia in 1987, Crease joined Stony

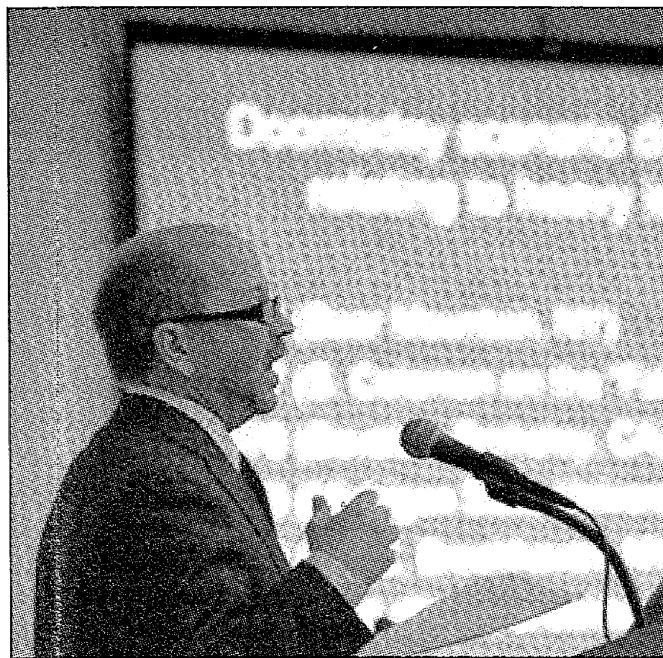


Photo Credit: Brookhaven National Lab

Crease speaking at the "Doomsday Versus Discovery" symposium in Feb. 21, 2010 as part of the annual AAAS meeting.

Brook University's philosophy department and is now chairman. In 1989, he joined Brookhaven as a part-time historian. He now has an ID card, an office and can interview anyone he likes.

"The proximity to Brookhaven made me realize that it was a much more interesting place than I had even thought about," he says. "So I began to work more seriously on the history of Brookhaven and looked into its research."

"He has an intimate knowledge of Brookhaven Lab, having developed relationships with many of the influential individuals through the years, both on the science side and in management," says Mona Rowe, the communications manager at BNL who has worked with Crease for many years.

"The laboratory has had a colorful history, and sometimes I think Bob is even gleeful that he is lucky to have such interesting subject matter," she says. "Yet the story is in the telling. He's a gifted storyteller."

Crease's storytelling expertise is showcased in *Making Science: A Biography of Brookhaven National Laboratory*, as well as seven published articles on the laboratory. He co-founded the Laboratory History conferences, which have been held bi-annually since 1999, and in 2007 he was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society in the United States, and the Institute of Physics in England.

Understanding science journalism means understanding the unique relationship between the public, who know almost nothing about any given field, and the scientific community. Crease has come to know this relationship very well and has aimed to be what he calls an "articulate spokesman for science."

"The problem is not transparency; it's not like politicians," Crease says. "The problem is something different. Almost all scientists I've talked to are more than happy to talk to reporters." The problem Crease is talking about lies in understanding and clarity. It's the largest hurdle a science journalist faces, and the largest barrier between the scientific community and the public.

"The average person has an extremely confused idea about

how science works. If you look at things like the debate over climate change, on all sides there are extraordinarily mistaken ideas about how science works," explains Mann, who, after working on his and Crease's first book and penning a multitude of his own non-fiction pieces, understands the intricacies of communicating science.

Mann explains that in both cases, a distinct lack of understanding of the scientific process clouds the public's idea of certainty and probability. "If people had a better handle on that, you would see a lot of these public policy disputes that would make people not want to bang their head on the floor," he adds.

One of the principle examples Crease uses to explain the complexity of communication is the supposed "Doomsday" scenarios posed by critics of particle accelerators. The theory is that particle accelerators, which amass enormous amounts of energy as they whip particles around near the speed of light, could possibly create a black hole by creating a new form of matter that eats all other forms of matter.

"That's the fiction that RHIC will create a black hole to destroy the universe. It's absurd," Crease says, referring to Brookhaven's RHIC particle accelerator.

"Scientists look into that, and they can't find any credible way, but they always say that they can rule it out only with a certain amount of error," Crease says. "Now there's the problem. Theoretically you can disprove it, but the only people who can understand the argument are nuclear scientists," he adds.

"Why should the public trust an argument that they can't understand?"

Crease, being a science journalist, swiftly and concisely sums up the

debunking argument, citing the lottery fallacy. "In the lottery there is a winning ticket. So even if it's a million to one, there's going to be a winning ticket. But here you don't know, and there's no reason to suspect one (a winning ticket). So it's an interesting philosophical issue."

In this analogy, the lottery ticket is the chance that a particle accelerator will create a black hole, meaning the possibility of a black hole being created is as probable as any other science fiction or fantasy occurrence. Because scientists can rule out the probability only to a certain degree does not mean that the probability exists.

Given these problems of miscommunication and the barriers of understanding, Crease doesn't see an easy solution. "In principle, there should be a lot more coverage because the issues that scientists are researching are important, but there isn't," Crease says. "It's because there's not that much of a readership for it, and there'd be more if there were more articulate spokesman for science, but you can't blame the newspapers. It's partly the public, and it's partly the lack of good writers about science."

"A good journalist can make anything seem interesting."

The connections between philosophy and science run deep, all the way back to the Greeks in fact, and these connections continue to drive the overlapping of the fields today. From Copernicus and Galileo's scientific bouts with the Catholic Church to the "doomsday scenarios" of particle accelerators like Brookhaven's RHIC, philosophical implications can be found everywhere in the umbrella field of science that many people consider to be solely fact-driven.

Another byproduct of these connections is both the creation of and increasing need for the insight of thinkers like Crease who have dedicated their lives to understanding this enmeshing of focuses.

"I think anyone interested in philosophy ought to know what science is all about because science is a method of inquiry that has proved hugely successful," Crease says. "But is it the only method of inquiry? How is it different from ordinary methods of inquiry? What has made it so successful? So questions like that are deep philosophical questions."

Here at Stony Brook, Crease gets to take this ideology to the front lines of higher education with a class he co-teaches with physicist Alfred Goldhaber, a man as outstandingly

encyclopedic in his understanding of highly advanced physics as Crease is with philosophy and science history. It's titled *The Quantum Moment*, and it explores the beginnings and later implications of quantum mechanics, in not only a scientific and philosophical sense, but also through a literary and popular culture lens.

"Basically, I get to ask him questions and he gets to ask me questions," Crease says on the overall structure of the co-taught class. "He starts to explain something, and I don't get it, so I ask him to explain and other people in the class ask him to explain, and then it's my turn."

Goldhaber found that working with a philosopher like Crease didn't involve a dramatic bridging of gaps. "In the class, almost always we are on the same wavelength," Goldhaber says. "I think our overall views are sufficiently similar that there has been rather little 'instilling' of different general perspectives," he adds.

While Goldhaber and Crease may be able to tune to the same general perspective, it's the specific perspectives that make their co-teaching such an insightful and valuable tool to students.

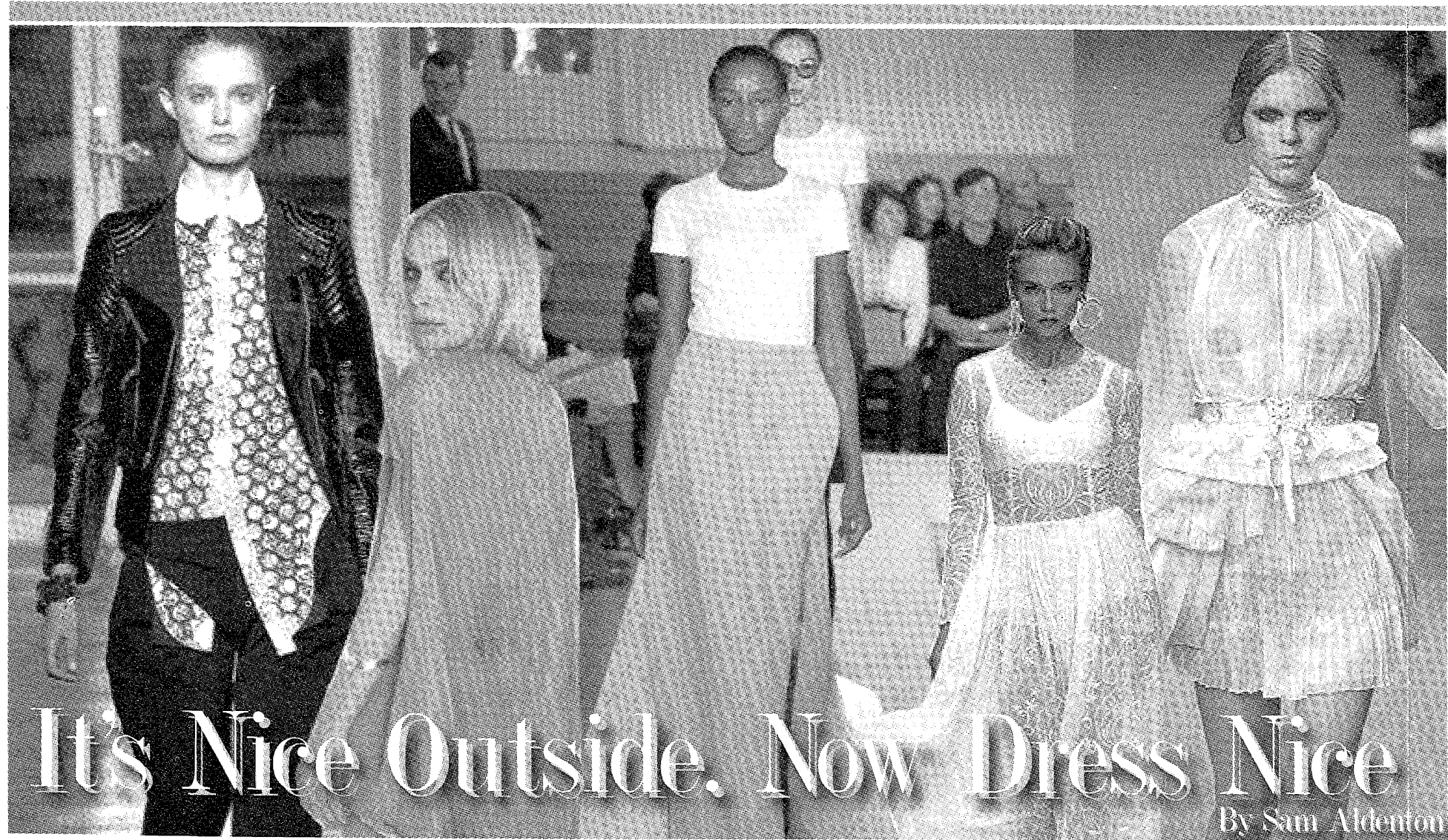
Can you grasp both the full philosophical side of an issue while simultaneously understanding the scientific perspective? "Ideally," Crease says, "but it never works that way because you can't fit it all into one brain," he says.

Crease points to a model piranha sitting in the center of his table in the spacious office on the second floor of Harriman Hall. Its teeth glow with a yellow rust and its eyes bulge out like ballooning beach balls.

"You're looking at it sort of head on and I'm looking at it from the side," Crease observes, pointing at the lifeless model. "There is no right way to look at it. Because of who you are and where you're sitting, you have one perspective and I have the other. It is not like one perspective is better than the other and we certainly couldn't merge the two perspectives into one...It's just the nature of perception."

For Crease, understanding unique perspectives is his specialty. It's what has allowed the philosopher to acrobatically break down complex scientific concepts, and delve as deep as into those fields as any traditional philosopher does into the works of Kant or Nietzsche. When he was kicked out of Richard Feynman's office back in 1985, Crease was simply upholding a multi-disciplinary mantra that any journalist, philosopher or scientist should strive for – asking the right questions, no matter what the consequences.

features



It's Nice Outside. Now Dress Nice

By Sam Alderton

It finally seems like nature has caught on over the last week and decided to give us some much needed sun. But, some students are starting to look at the remnants of last years frayed-to-the-point-of-indecency denim cut off short shorts and faded flip flops with no idea how to pick up where they left off last Spring. Which is why I've picked the top spring fashion trends from all over the runways this season, that you can incorporate into your wardrobe for next to nothing.

The Do's and Don'ts of Women's Fashion

First of all, girls, florals are dead. Florals in springtime, it's been done, so move over sister, because fashion has found something much more sophisticated and easy to manage; nude...as in the shade. It all comes from fashion's new minimalism trend. Beige, cream, tan, soft pink, apricot and all of those sexy pale tones that were seen late last year and at this year's Golden Globes can be found on the cheap at somewhere like Forever 21, which at the moment has some chic A-line skirts online. Even your grandma probably has some amazing treasure in the back of her wardrobe that's a perfect shade of apricot. Otherwise, just stick to nude accessories such as a subtle peach headband with a bow.

The next piece of advice also comes from fashion's minimalist trend, and that is color blocking. We're talking loud and obnoxious undiluted color on color.



Take our word for it, this skirt is bright yellow.

The minimalist aspect of this is that you must stick to primary colors and simple cuts for maximum impact. If you were worried about being washed out by all that nude talk then fear not because color blocking is for you. The best example of this came down the runway at Jil Sander, where models stormed down the catwalk in bright bursts of orange, rich blue, pink, royal purple, coral and red.

The stand out pieces were the maxi skirts, another big hit this spring, all solid chunks of raw color styled with simple, white cotton t-shirts. This is definitely the simplest of the trends to copy straight from the runway because

you can pick up these potentially colored skirts in-store right now at American Apparel in short and long varieties. The emerald green long accordion-pleat skirt is a sure-fire hit; however, it's a rip off at \$85. But you could have a go at making one yourself for a fraction of the cost, and then team it with a plain white tee for that "va-va vroom" effect.

Continuing with the theme of maxi skirts is the uber-feminine sheer trend. Floaty transparent skirts have been making a viral hit across the fashion blogs over the last couple of seasons and especially over the last few months. Dolce & Gabbana, Nina Ricci and Alberta Ferretti all featured strong chiffon heavy collections and Balenciaga showed us how to wear sheer with the attitude of a rock and roll vixen. Now that it's here however, we can embrace the not exactly innocent qualities of these floaty see-through tulle, gauze and silk materials. But if the thought of a transparent skirt scares the living day lights out of you, then you can try out a sheer black button down shirt with either a camisole or for a daring evening look, a matching lace bralette underneath.

Victoria's Secret is also pretty good spot for sheer tops, which you can find at Smith Haven Mall or even in their online store. But that definitely doesn't mean that you can go around wearing your underwear as outerwear. This look

is all about the understated allure of layering and Free People.com also seem to have a good grasp on the right way to

But that definitely doesn't mean that you can go around wearing your underwear as outerwear.

wear this trend. The glimpse of a sheer blouse underneath a cropped knit sweater is much more alluring than an over-the-top tight black lace singlet. Think Kirsten Dunst in *The Virgin Suicides*, not Evan Rachel Wood in *Thirteen*.



This is what you should be thinking.

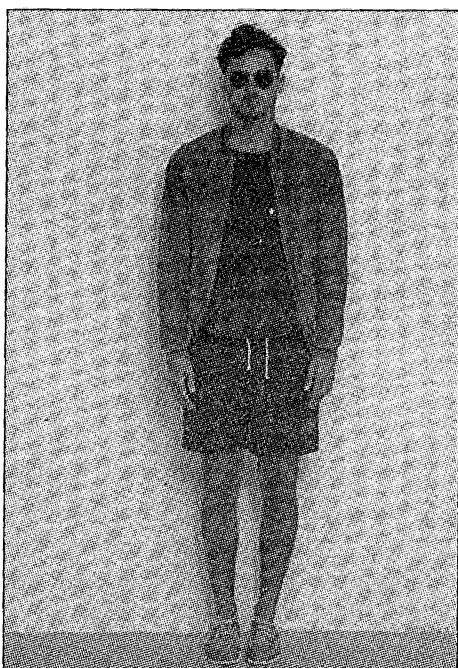
Those denim cut-off short shorts mulling at the bottom of your wardrobe can also receive an update by mixing them up (read: make them more descent) by teaming them with either an oversized button up shirt with the sleeves rolled up and just the front half tucked into your pants, or with a seriously stylish tail t-shirt. NastyGal.com has an incredible mocha-colored shredded tail t-shirt (which means it's short in the front and long in the back) that you can also achieve yourself through one of the numerous DIY t-shirt shredding tutorials online.

If none of this minimalism talk is your thing, then fear not, because fashion at the moment is all about trying out lots of different styles and becoming an assortment of different women. No one trend is overpowering fashion so much that you can't find a style to suit you and what you already have in your (too small) dorm room wardrobe. The best way to add to what you already have working in your wardrobe is to choose accessories from this seasons extensive list of trends that suits both your personal style and, of course, what gets you the most bang for your buck.

But, no matter what style or trend you choose to go for, always remember to use the season's trends to complement what's already in your closet and what is flattering to your body type.

The Do's and Don'ts of Men's Fashion

For the guys, it's all about the accessories this spring. Or, for those guys who don't do fashion speak, it's the details. Details are what are going to take your everyday style and transform it into something that makes heads turn, which is easy enough to achieve with the help of a few key additions to your



This guy is hip.

wardrobe. This seasons catwalk trends for the guys have mirrored the girls in a way. No one trend is really dominating in such a way that you can't find something that is true to the style that you love. Or, you can pick and choose from the best pieces from the preppy Tommy Hilfiger aesthetic, and mix it up with something that is a little bit more rock 'n' roll, like Rick Owens.

But in saying that, the overall consensus amongst fashion's top menswear designers and stylists is that whatever you choose, it must be the right fit and tailored for you. Streamlined dressing is where it's at right now, and with these trends you too can be as sophisticated as the ladies are this season.

First up is the Tennis Short. It's

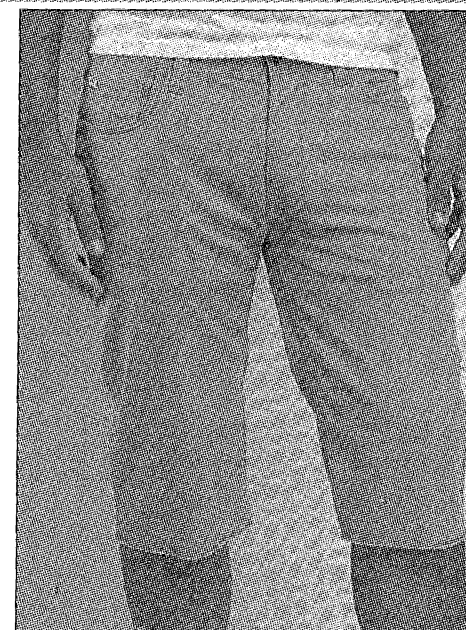


Smelly feet are no treat for these men working this trendy beat.

short, it's sharp and it lends its style credibility from those suave olive skinned Italians whipping around on their scooters in the Mediterranean sun. And also, of course, this trend is an extension of the basic American prep wardrobe. The hemlines of men's shorts have been rising over the last few seasons, but many guys have been hesitant to pick up on the trend for fear of showing those knees that have laid dormant under loose baggier styles for too long. The ladies want to see some knee action already. But all jokes aside, this trend was best demonstrated at popular urban streetwear company, Band of Outsiders, in a decadent red, royal faded blue and olive. Marc by Marc Jacobs also enjoyed the merits of a loose fitting khaki and school boy grey tennis short, and you can pick up something similar at most skate shops or at Abercrombie & Fitch located at the Smith Haven Mall.

However if you already happen to have a pair of Bermuda shorts lying

around (usually a light tan color and made from a durable cotton fabric) then just roll up the hem until it sits about two inches above the knee. This creates a similar look to the shorter tennis short without having to buy a new pair. Another option (because we're all about options in fashion) is to take a look at the "Anthony Van Engelen AV Covina III Shorts" made by Vans, which give you the choice of wearing another popular trend – the slim fit below the knee short. But, with the added versatility of being able to roll up the hem until it sits above the knee. At \$45 that's value for money and it comes in beach sand or black, online or at the Vans store, also at the Smith Haven Mall.



Roll em up to show off some knee cleavage.

clean your feet with anti-bacterial soap. I know that sounds like a lot of work, but there is nothing worse than smelly feet.

I once had a guy come into a clothing store that I was working at, who I had recognized before and thought was pretty cute, but the second he took his navy boat shoes off (yes, they really were boat shoes), all previous thoughts of attraction flew right out the window as that stench creeping out of his shoes did. Gentlemen, you have been warned; there are no excuses. You can get boat shoes at a number of good shoe stores where they can also advise you on the best products for keeping your shoes clean.

If you do enjoy a good sock, however, then boy are you in for a treat. Remember how details are key this season? Well, pops of color have been making waves amongst the sock-loving crowd at fashion week and this trend looks set to sail right on into spring. As a general rule, a man's socks should always match the color of his trousers, but if you choose to rock this seasons other trend, chinos, then you should roll them up or create a nice neat cuff at the hem which you can then use to exploit the sly pop of color in an otherwise simple outfit. GQ.com recommends going for a muted pastel to accentuate a good pair of leather lace-ups, but other stylish men have been seen rocking bright hues such as red underneath a pair of chic tan desert boots; another hot shoe this season.

In the end, if all of this sounds too confusing for you then just try sticking to clothing and accessories in the season's key colors; burgundy, bright red, muted navy, camel and olive green. T-shirts, button down shirts, chinos, scarves and jeans all look great in these colors, so go ahead and have fun with it this season.

The Do's and Don'ts of Footwear

In terms of footwear for the lads, the boat shoe is making a triumphant return this spring (did it ever go away after last summer?) in a multitude of this season's popular colors; burgundy, red and navy blue. The appropriate way to wear these is without socks. But beware gentlemen; this is no excuse for smelly feet. If you do choose to go sans socks then make sure you don't wear the same pair of shoes everyday, they need time to 'breathe' and cedar shoe trees are helpful in getting rid of the moisture in between wears. Also sprinkle foot powder in your boat shoes before you wear them, (or the poor college students' version is talcum powder) but I wouldn't recommend this as it can get a bit clumpy by the end of the day. There is also an assortment of no-show loafer socks on the market. 'Mocc Sock' is a brand that has been getting a lot of publicity lately, and they work a treat. But before all of this, make sure you

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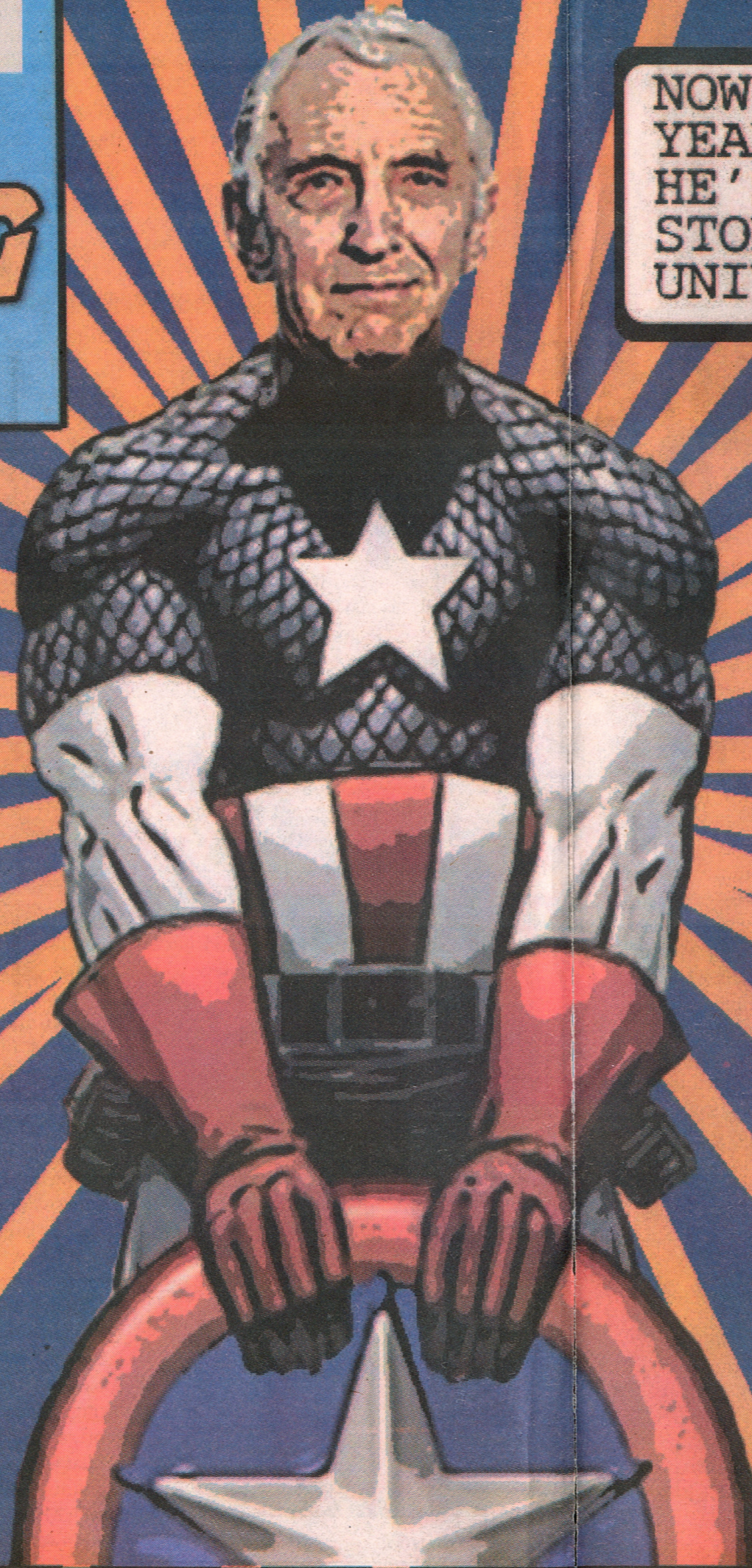
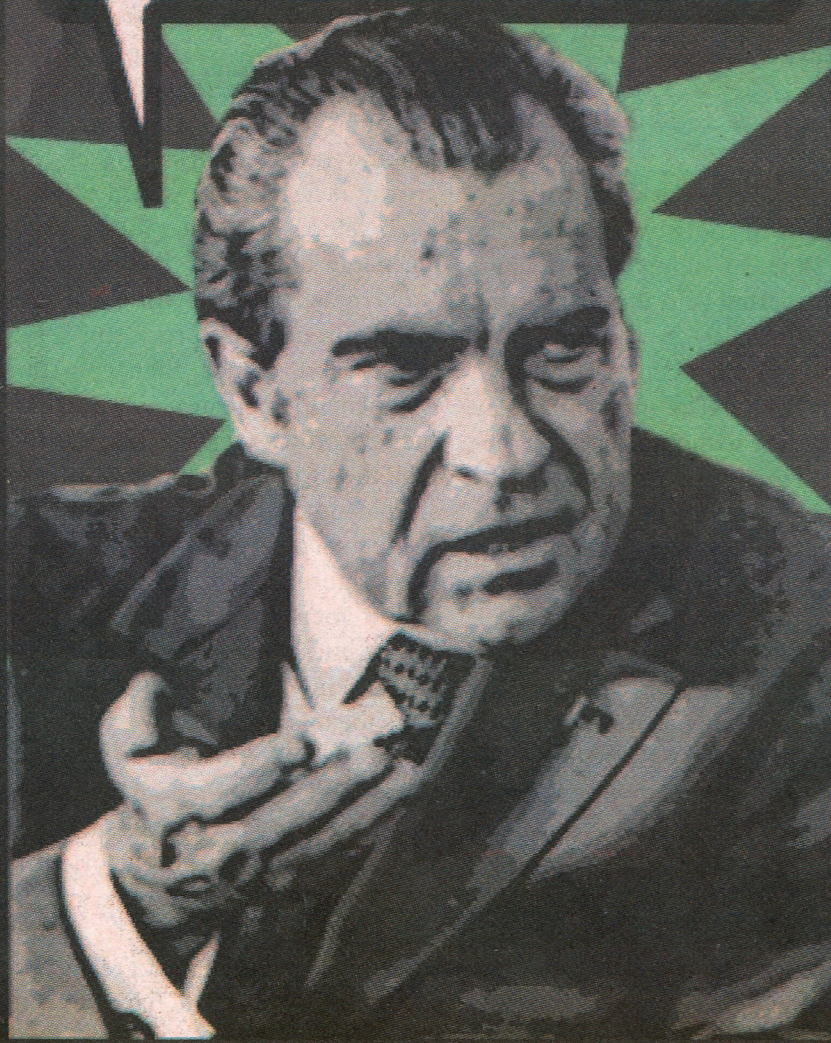
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Math Means Millions for Milnor

By Carol Moran

John Milnor awoke to a 6 a.m. phone call the morning of March 23. A voice informed him that he was chosen by a committee of five mathematicians as the winner of the prestigious Abel Prize—and one million dollars—for his outstanding scientific work in the field of mathematics.

Milnor, co-director of the Institute for Mathematical Sciences and distinguished professor at Stony Brook, tried to take it in.

“I knew that many people were possible candidates,” he says. “I certainly had no reason to expect the award.”

Milnor’s bedroom-sized office is a maze of papers and notes stacked feet high atop his desk and the neighboring couch.

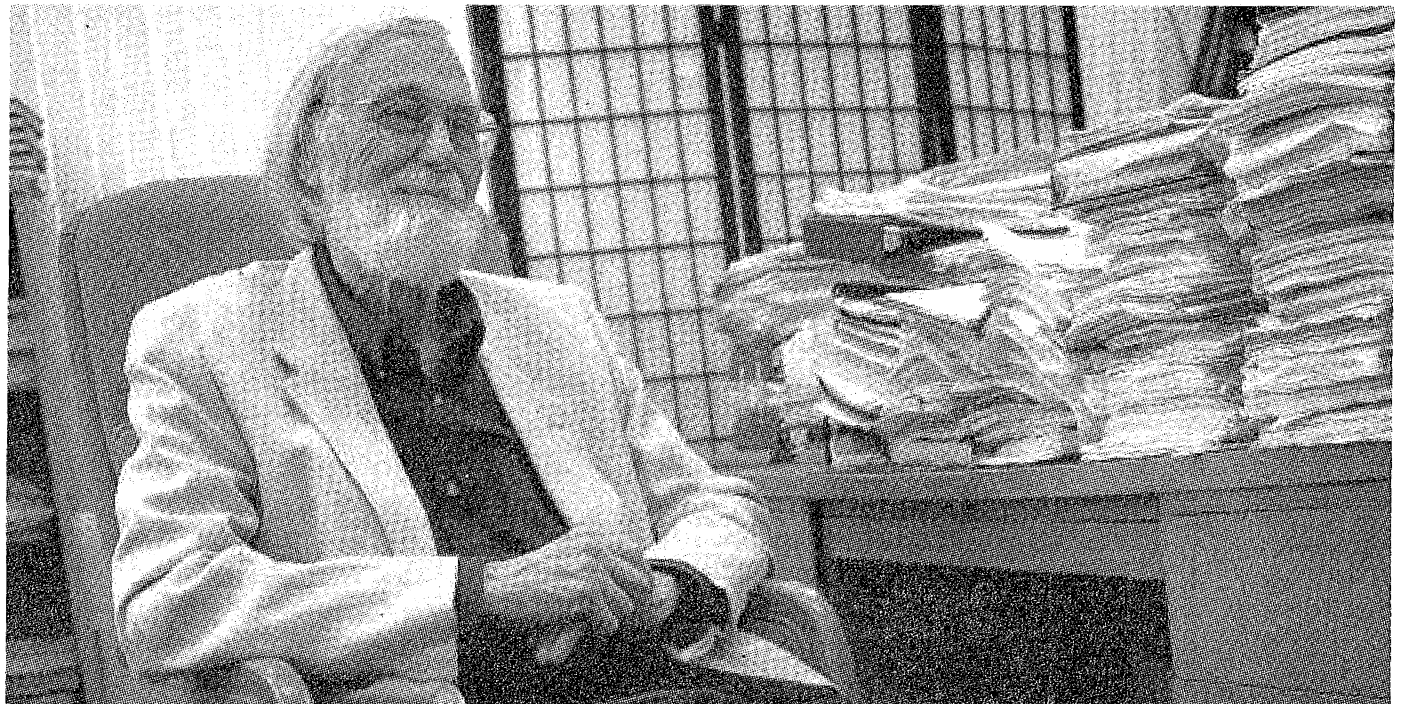
A cluttered desk is a sign of genius, the saying goes, though Milnor humbly smiles at the remark and questions its truth. “Mathematicians are a very varied crew,” he says. “Some of us are very neat.”

The Abel Committee citation on their decision to award Milnor the prize applauds his profoundly impacting discoveries.

“He has often tackled difficult, cutting-edge subjects, where no account in book form existed,” it says. “Adding novel insights, [Milnor] produced a stream of timely yet lasting works of masterly lucidity.”

At 80 years of age, Milnor says he has no significant plans for the money in the quiet tone with which he answers every question.

“My ambition is to lead a quiet life and keep on doing what I’ve been doing—which has been very difficult during the last few weeks.”



His first work was in the field of topology, or the study of the properties of a shape that remain the same after an object is deformed or twisted in some way. He came across a problem that no one had known existed—that of taking a bumpy surface and smoothing it out without changing the basic topology, or which points are close to which points—which is not always possible, Milnor found.

Topological problems gave way to problems in algebra, in which Milnor worked for a few years until he developed an interest for dynamical problems, or problems in systems that change with time, he said.

“He is truly one of the greats, a mathematician who has hugely enhanced the subject and inspired many others,” William Timothy Gowers, a professor at Cambridge University, wrote at the end of his essay outlining Milnor’s work.

But his discoveries have implications that stretch far beyond the field of

mathematics.

“In the area of dynamical systems in which I’ve been working lately, the problems have usually arose in understanding the real world, in understanding why fluids flow the way they do, why planets move the way they do,” Milnor said. “The ideas of geometry smooth manifold, which were developed in the 19th century just purely for mathematical reasons, became very important when Einstein had to use them to develop his theory of relativity.”

Milnor graduated from Princeton University in 1951 and soon after was appointed to the faculty there. He received his doctorate in 1954, and was promoted to professor in 1960. Milnor joined the faculty of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton in 1970, where he remained before becoming the first Director of the Institute for Mathematical Sciences at Stony Brook.

“We were perfectly happy commuting back and forth between Princeton and Stony Brook until our child grew

old enough to talk, and he objected very much to being back and forth,” he said. “At that point I got a very nice offer from Stony Brook, and it seemed to make life much simpler.”

The Abel Prize is only the latest of Milnor’s various awards and honors, which include the Fields Medal he received in 1962, three Steele Prizes and the Wolf Prize awarded in 1989.

“The Abel Prize is an extraordinary honor and wonderful recognition for Jack Milnor,” Stony Brook President Samuel Stanley said in a press release. “It is also a wonderful confirmation of the strength of Stony Brook’s mathematics group, which continues to generate scholarly output of the highest order. We are very proud of Dr. Milnor.”

As to what is left to discover and where his work will take him next, Milnor says it’s hard to know.

“I’ve never had much of a record as to predicting what will happen next. I just tend to sit back and try to learn what’s happening and enjoy it.”

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Journal of Survivor

Kenny Mahoney

Like allergy season on crack, the semester-long zombie outbreak arrived at Stony Brook University for the third consecutive semester on Thursday, March 31st 2011. However, due to budget cuts, more Undergraduate Student Government mishandlings, and the fact that all of the University officials were busy doing blow with your tuition dollars, students were once again forced to fend for themselves during the course of the deadly outbreak.

When the first whispers of a zombie virus first approached the Stony Brook University campus in the Spring of 2010, it was met with apprehension. Students were unsure of the possible effects it could have on their educations; "If my professor is infected, do I still have to go to class?", "If my girlfriend is infected and I don't use a condom, can I get infected?", and "Is that a Nerf gun in your pants, or are you just happy to see me?" were just a few of the burning questions on the minds of many of Stony Brook's brightest. Questions that, unfortunately, led to inaction as opposed to action.

Statistically speaking, only 600 out of Stony Brook's almost 20,000 students took up arms against the invasion. And, un-statistically speaking, most of those students were nerds. Although it's my job as a reporter to remain impartial, at a time when our home needs to be defended, does it not seem that the job would be better suited for the Hockey Team as opposed to the Anime Club?

To help answer that question, I interviewed a number of students involved with the Resistance movement. "I've played a lot of *Left 4 Dead* and *Left 4 Dead 2*, so I'm pretty sure I can handle this," replied one resistance fighter. "Yeah, and don't forget about *Dead Rising*, that game ruled!" seconded another. When I asked them if anything other than prior video-game experience played a factor in their qualifications, one student shrugged and replied "Well, I jerk off a lot, that's like cardio, right?"

When trying to question mem-

bers of the athletic community on campus, I found it difficult to even get them to talk to me about the subject of the zombie virus. One member of the basketball team, who wishes to remain anonymous, answered only with "HvZ? Fuck no. That shit's for nerds."

So, it was up to a rag-tag band of Trekkies and chronic masturbators to take up arms for the good of the campus community. Unfortunately, due to strict codes enforced by University Police, the only "arms" that could be taken up were clean socks and Nerf guns. "Are you fucking kidding me?" said one campus police officer. "I can't even carry a gun! What makes you think I'm going to let Poindexter and the rest of the Tri-Lambs pack heat?!"

Despite the obvious ineffectiveness of resistance ordinance, it didn't stop students from trying their best to quell the invasion. "We all know how tough zombies are to take down with regular bullets" once resistance fighter told me. "But we're hoping the zombies will be distracted by bright orange foam and the fresh scent of Tide."

Throughout the course of the ever-growing invasion, resistance members rallied under the guide of a man known only as Commander Shepard. In an anonymous letter recovered by the Press, it appears that Shepard arrived on campus spreading a message of hope, saying that he would "bring back the Union and restore the States to their former glory." I have interpreted this as meaning that he hopes to bring the Student

Union Building, a notorious zombie headquarters, back under the control of the students. His second message about restoring the States, which I take to mean the campus newspaper *The Statesman*, appears to be a lost cause.

Unfortunately, Shepard's missives appear to have been in vain, as on Wednesday April 6th at roughly 6:30 PM, Shepard and his forces were massacred by the overwhelming zombie population. Shepard and his group were executing a "final stand" effort to set off a zombie-killing bomb and escape via that weird spaceship looking thing on the Engineering lawn.

After their victory, the cries of hundreds of zombies could be heard throughout campus, echoing a simple, solemn message:

"BRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
NS."

With the last of the resistance slaughtered, this leaves our campus with a steadily rising zombie population. Most students are not worried, however.

"They smell kind of funny, and all they ever want to talk about are brains, but they're really not that bad" said one student. "Yeah, my roommate is a zombie. He's an okay dude,

"HvZ? Fuck
no. That shit's
for nerds."

but sometimes I see him salivating while looking at my skull," said another.

"Honestly, I can't even tell the difference between my zombie students and my regular students" answered a University professor. "When I see a kid with his eyes half-closed and his mouth hanging open in a daze, I'm unsure if he's bored, tired, confused, or if he's imagining what it would be like to scoop out the insides of my head with a melon-baller."

But a chat with a doctor at the Stony Brook Medical Center revealed much grimmer figures, however. "At this rate, most students should expect to become a zombie some time during their tenure at the University. We've found that the longer you're at SBU, the greater the chance that you'll end up a soul-deprived member of the walking dead."

When I asked her what she thought would be the fate of other college campuses currently afflicted with similar zombie viruses, she raised an eyebrow and asked "what virus?"



arts&entertainment

This Show is a Drag!

By Alexa Rubinstein

The black walls in the Blackbox Theatre at the Tabler Center for the Arts, Culture and Humanities were the only things that weren't colorful at the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transsexual Alliance's 4th Annual Drag Show last week. Small pink and purple lights lined the stage and were strung across the ceiling, and metallic silver fringe hung down from the small opening where some of the performers emerged onto the stage. When students walked into the TAC, Stony Brook Live, a music ensemble consisting of mostly male students donned in colorful, sparkly boas was playing music.

After Stony Brook Live's performance, students crowded closer to the low stage in the packed theater for the performances, beginning with "Spice Up Your Life" by the Spice Girls, with one performer dressing up as each one of the five "spices." Scary Spice, performed by Jonathan Millard, got the crowd excited with fierce dance moves, heavy blue-green eye shadow and a short leopard dress. The show continued its '90s theme with an intense battle between Destiny's Child and *NSYNC, with the two bands performing together at the end of the Destiny's Child song "Survivor." No one seemed to care that the animal-print dress was riding up a little too high on "Sasha Fierce," the drag queen impersonating Beyonce. Mariah "Mimi" Carey, a drag queen not associated with Stony Brook, performed a slow song in a metallic turquoise dress and sky high heels, the likes of which most women probably couldn't wear without falling over.

The LGBTA had a couple of sure-to-be crowd pleasers, who got a lot of positive feedback when they performed



at the show last year. Frank Trombetta ended the show just for that reason. The senior chemistry major had the crowd captivated during his entire performance of Rihanna's "Who's That Chick?" complete with a bright red mohawk, a short, tight blue dress and four-inch high heels. Trombetta flailed his limbs around the stage, lip-syncing to the song and leaving the audience wanting more.

Another popular act was Shirley Bangor, who performed a mash-up of Rihanna's "Disturbia" and Bette Midler's "I'll Put a Spell on You." Bangor came dressed for that performance, complete with long, dark wig, dark lipstick, witch's hat and black and red costume dress. One of the more popular performances, Shirley Bangor was the-

atrical, interacted with the audience and did not miss a step in choreography. The audience seemed to love interaction with the drag performers, who sung right to them, looked into their eyes, and sometimes caressed their faces.

The hosts, Colleen O'Connor and Brian Garrett, however, were not so popular. After a couple of very brief yet humorous skits at the beginning of the show and in between the first few acts, they turned awkward and confused, seeming as though every word they were saying was an attempt to kill time before some of the acts that weren't quite ready. They had a running bit of the characters "Grandma" and "Georgie," adopting strained Brooklyn accents, with "Grandma" commenting

about "Georgie's" behavior and style of dress. They also had a running joke (something about a wooden spoon) that quickly grew tired.

Aside from the entertainment aspect of the show, the LGBTA had a philanthropic motive. All guests were asked to donate money to the Ali Forney Center, a shelter for homeless LGBTQ youth in New York City. The LGBTA raised over \$720 after both nights of the show.

The drag show has a positive reputation among Stony Brook students because of the fun and humorous atmosphere, which certainly helps the LGBTA get more publicity, and also raise more awareness about the queer community on campus.



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Beach Fossils Are Waving Bros

By Nick Statt

Following their performances at the SXSW festival in mid-March and a slew of other shows all throughout last week, Brooklyn-based indie four-piece Beach Fossils took the time to come out to Stony Brook on Thursday for part of the on-going Stony Brooklyn series. Despite an absolutely horrendous crowd and a number of apparent sound problems that University Cafe employees didn't seem to address quickly enough, Beach Fossils played with an astounding intensity that displayed how able they are to morph their sound to their liking when it comes to live sets.

Opening for front man Dustin Payseur and his crew of reverb-loving musicians was a rather interesting band called Robbers that almost no one in the crowd had heard of. Headed by the lanky, mustached Andrew Accardi, who donned an impressive afro and equally impressive sea-foam green guitar, Robbers treaded the line between an early 2000s jam band and the explosive, swirling sounds of experimental rock.

It was an odd mix, but they pulled it off well. Their set was made even better by Accardi's hilarious stage presence, which involved absolutely absurd facial expressions and admirable body wiggling while he thrashed on with the rhythm guitar parts. Interesting side note, Accardi is the brother of guitarist Vince Accardi of fellow LI band Brand New that I guess some people have probably heard of.

Beach Fossils hit the stage shortly after ten, which was refreshing considering how much bullshit waiting people had to do for Das Racist's 30 minute set at the last Stony Brooklyn. Immediately, Payseur noticed some problems with the sound, and after opening with the



namesake song from their new EP, *What A Pleasure*, he called for every instrument to be turned up and the reverb to be dialed all the way up.

Throughout the next few tracks, core members Payseur and bassist John Pena, who are listed as the only members of the band while drummer and guitarist Zachary Cole Smith and Tom Gardner are simply touring members, complained further about the lack of reverb and volume. At one point, a crowd member jokingly told them to ask for reverb on the reverb, and Payseur repeated that into the mic with a smile. So it seemed that they weren't necessarily having a bad time for the first half of the show; they were just a little pissed off about the sound quality.

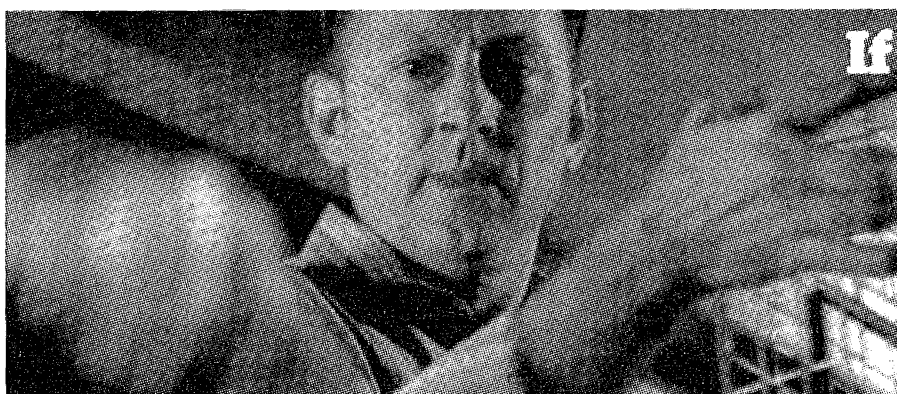
After they got everything in order more or less, the show really picked up.

They got to the standout track of the new EP, "Cayler," and guitarist Smith and Payseur began literally dancing up and down the stage at each guitar break while Pena and Gardner threw everything into the bass and drums. The track is normally played relatively slowly as heard on the EP, but Beach Fossils sped it up for the live version and Gardner's drumming was far more explosive and upbeat, adding to the overall intensity of the performance.

The strangest thing to happen throughout the night was the fact that people actually started leaving during Beach Fossils' set. For a band that just played SXSW and is set up to play SUNY Purchase's Culture Shock on April 15, it made no sense. My best guess is that people simply didn't care, and those who really wanted to see the

guys play had to deal with cigarette-smoking assholes who kept coming in and out the front door in their hopeless attempts to turn the concert exclusively into a social scene.

Despite the shortcomings, Beach Fossils rounded out their roughly hour-long performance with some hits from their debut full length, like "Daydream" and "Golden Age," and only got more and more into the performance as the night went on. Finally, by the last three or four songs the crowd was moving along with them. So it's great that we got a band that is just now exploding in popularity, but it sucks we had to greet them with a shitty crowd that couldn't have cared less and sub-par sound guys who didn't like to listen.



If you get too anxious or frightened...

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When Friends Review Other Friends' Boners

By Andi Liao

Since the Spring of 2010, a small but tight-knit musical family has birthed from a small seedling, a shining bastion of a DIY venue hosting regular shows featuring some of the best up-and-coming bands like Shattered Darlings and Liquid Kisses (or SDLK for short), Slothbear, Spirit People (formerly known as Magnificent Beast), Anna Bradley and the beloved Double Wonderful.

Affectionately known as American Boner, Boner Jam or Bonerfest, this showcase has carved out a small but growing niche within the stale, boring inspired-by-Brand-New Long Island music scene. Pioneered by the enigmatic Krissy Rubbles, American Boner was birthed from a desire to showcase unheard but great bands, to host an amazing event but most importantly, to have a good time with great friends.

Part of me is writing this article because everyone involved with this project is a close friend of mine, but the most important point of this article is that people on this campus need to be exposed not just to better music, but to a better music scene.

Like at the last show, featuring SDLK and Incorporated Village of GHOST, there were so many new faces that showed up. And despite everyone not really knowing each other, it felt very much like an extended family. And once the show ended, we sat around for



about two hours talking about shit; like Paul McCartney being dead; or the moon landing being staged. It's stuff like that that keeps you sane.

For a long time I, along with many of my closest friends here, have been growing tired of the sorry attempts at building a solid independent music scene. For instance, I love Patrice Zapiti to death, but so many of the bands that have played RockYoFace, save for a couple, are just plain terrible. The Brook-Fest organizers also seem to perpetually up their asses. Janelle Monae is an amazingly talented musician who deserves all of the praise she gets, but Bruno Mars? Really? That dude fucking sucks. Best Coast was a worthy but fu-

tile effort. It was nice to see the general public of Stony Brook so accepting of a non-lamestream musician, but the execution of the event was just plain horrible. First, the venue was too big and having nobody open for the band just made it feel like we wasted a lot of money on a mediocre band.

The best thing to happen to the on-campus music scene is, without a doubt, Stony Brooklyn. Big cheese Bill Wenzel has found the perfect way for established and up-and-coming indie bands to come and play at a college. He's enlisted such great bands as Small Black, Das Racist, Grooms, Savoir Adore, O'Death, the Drums and Beach Fossils just to name a few. Also great is that

Stony Brooklyn is 21+ which means that I won't have to deal with stupid shithead kids dancing like idiots ruining my vibe. The only downside to these shows is that they don't happen very often—although that may just make them all the more enjoyable.

So without Stony Brooklyn, what's a music-loving asshole like me to do? Well children, fear not, for tucked away in Centereach house dwells a slowly rising beast. You might call it a slowly rising beast of a boner! Oh! Like Medusa or the dreaded sirens, has this beautiful-yet-vicious creature reared its wretched face! Oh! How wondrous the music is that emanates from its core! So stunning...so, so stunning...*American Boner*, cries the followers! Oh! Great behemoth, shelter us with your warmth and girth. Protect us from the onslaught of the mindless song and dance of the masses. Guide us to the holy land of milk, honey and good vibes. *Show us the way!*

To be blunt, if you even remotely give a shit about supporting a legitimate and completely DIY independent music scene, you should consider it imperative to get your asses to each and every American Boner show. We're very friendly people, and we won't judge you for having shitty taste in music like those trustafarians living in Williamsburg. So keep your eyes peeled on the book of faces for the murmurings of the great beast's name: *Bo-ner Bo-ner*, and come over. You'll feel right at home.

Thank me later.

**Are you an "artist?"
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Chris Brown is Still Not Talented

By Vincent Barone

Murals only ever vaguely resemble the subject, so why should Mr. Christopher Brown's album art be any different? Seriously though, the gum chewing R&B sensation, turned post-wifey-beating, tattooed pseudo thug looks like he went on a Big Mac binge on the cover of his latest album, *F.A.M.E.*, which stands for "Fans Are My Everything" (good one, dog).

But let's not talk about the album art, or Christopher's hypothetical eating habits, or his past exploits, or even his recent exploits. (It's 2011, who *hasn't* exploded on a morning talk show?) Let's just talk about the straight beast mode, pimpquest tracks that I may or may have not listened to yet.

Okay, since that last paragraph I've listened to the album a bunch of times. I assure you. And despite Brown's dulcet tones, *F.A.M.E.* lacks any real creative edge. It'll most likely serve up two or three largely forgettable tracks that will surface on the radio for a bit and fizzle out.

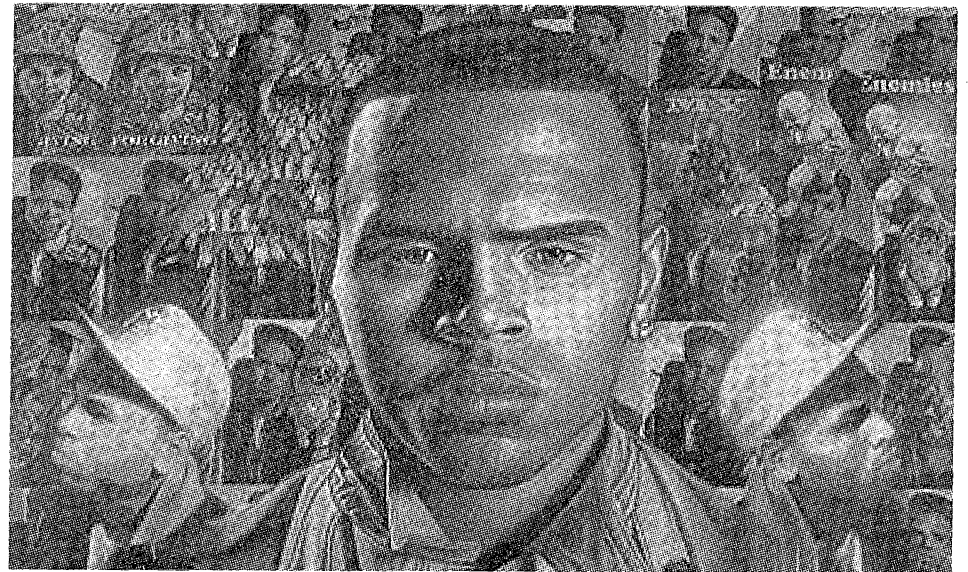
From the top down, the opener "Deuces" (featuring Tyga and Kevin MC) is a pretty okay song. Mr. Christopher Brown croons about leaving your girl who has been "nothing but a vulture" and "chuckin' up them deuces" on

the way out. I'm glad that Mr. Brown is trying to make the deuces popular again. I've always fancied throwing deuces on my way out of gatherings and the like, but ever since 2005 I've just looked so lame doing it. Clearly, this hot track will make it acceptable once again. I'm so ready to President Nixon my way out of a party to this jam.

Hitting skip a couple of times, I got to "Look at Me Now" (featuring Lil Wayne and Busta Rhymes), which the neat-as-hell Diplo produced. Brown dabbled in rapping for this song, and, while he probably should never try that again, Diplo's hands in the beat and the superb verses from Wayne and Busta makes "Look at Me Now" the highlight track of the album.

The seventh track, "Yeah 3x" is the typical, cookie-cutter club song. There's the pulsing bass, the pre-chorus buildup, the gang vocals and, of course, how could we forget, that obligatory Ke\$ha synth. You can't get white boy wasted and "hit da flo" without a synth blasting. I imagine that so many under-aged girls are working it to this at that club on 25A right next to the Meat Farms. Good times.

I guess you could measure the success of this song by how many drunk floozies and desperate rugby players are grinding to it, but still, there is not an ounce of creativity in it. You could tell my boy Mr. Christopher just mailed it



in. You're better than that, dog. You're better than that.

"Beautiful People," the thirteenth song, is another premiere number, or at least one of the more bearable ones. It's kind of ambient, with a soft piano synth and Benassi vocals put through an echo. Nothing much more to say about that.

I'll give a ho-hum pass to the fourteenth song, "Bomb," just because my boy Wiz Khalifa makes an appearance. But, overall, *F.A.M.E.* is completely unremarkable. "Up 2 You" sounds like it would be the song that Cuba Gooding Jr. would bump while he finally gets with Nia Long in *Boyz n the Hood*...in the worst way possible. (I was pulling for you, Cuba. What a touching scene.)

It's just cheesy, 90's sounding R&B slow jam.

"Wet the Bed" (featuring Ludacris) is unlistenable. Luda, the king of horribly raunchy rhymes, just needs to stop. It's not 1999, man. That stuff doesn't fly anymore. I don't even see the Justin Bieber song "Next 2 You" getting on the radio. And that's saying something.

Really though, this album could have come out in 2003, judging by the styling. There is nothing new here and nothing of merit, besides "Look at Me Now." Just do what most Chris Brown fans do and download the three singles on iTunes or find them on Napster or whatever they do.

Soul Surfer Rides a Radical Wave

By Nicole Kohn

Can a movie be persuasive without getting preachy?

That's been a problem addressed by a lot of films made by, or marketed to, faith-based communities. They have a point they want to make, and more often than not they have a scene that yells, "Here's our point!"

It's a danger that *Soul Surfer* mostly avoids. But, like trying to stay up on that surfboard, it's a balancing act.

Beautifully filmed on location in Hawaii, this family movie is the story of Bethany Hamilton, a young surfer who lost her arm to a shark, but fought her way back onto her board. Eight years ago, anyone who was watching the news remembers this story, but what people may have forgotten is that Bethany thanked her Christian faith for helping

here endure.

The filmmakers haven't forgotten, nor should they, that religion is a big part of this story because it's a big part in Bethany's life. Making sure religion had the right amount of on-screen time takes work, and the going gets a little rough at times.

Still, the setting of the film and the stunning surf photography that goes with it really puts its viewers inside the curling waves, showing these sun-burned teens practically doing the impossible: defying gravity.

Helping, too, is a substantial cast. Dennis Quaid, the go-to guy for playing dads in family films, does it again, and does a worthy job playing Bethany's father. Helen Hunt, who seemed a bit more laid-back, works well with Quaid, playing the mother role, and shows off some surprising surf moves herself.

But the one who brought the movie



together was AnnaSophia Robb, who plays Bethany. Robb does a clever job of capturing anxiety and vulnerability with natural charisma. And the combination of prosthetics and special effects used to portray her wound is fascinating and convincing to say the least.

Soul Surfer emphasizes another cast member: country music star Carrie Underwood, who plays Bethany's church youth group leader and mentor, Sarah Hill. As Underwood's feature film debut, *Soul Surfer* was a bit of a chal-

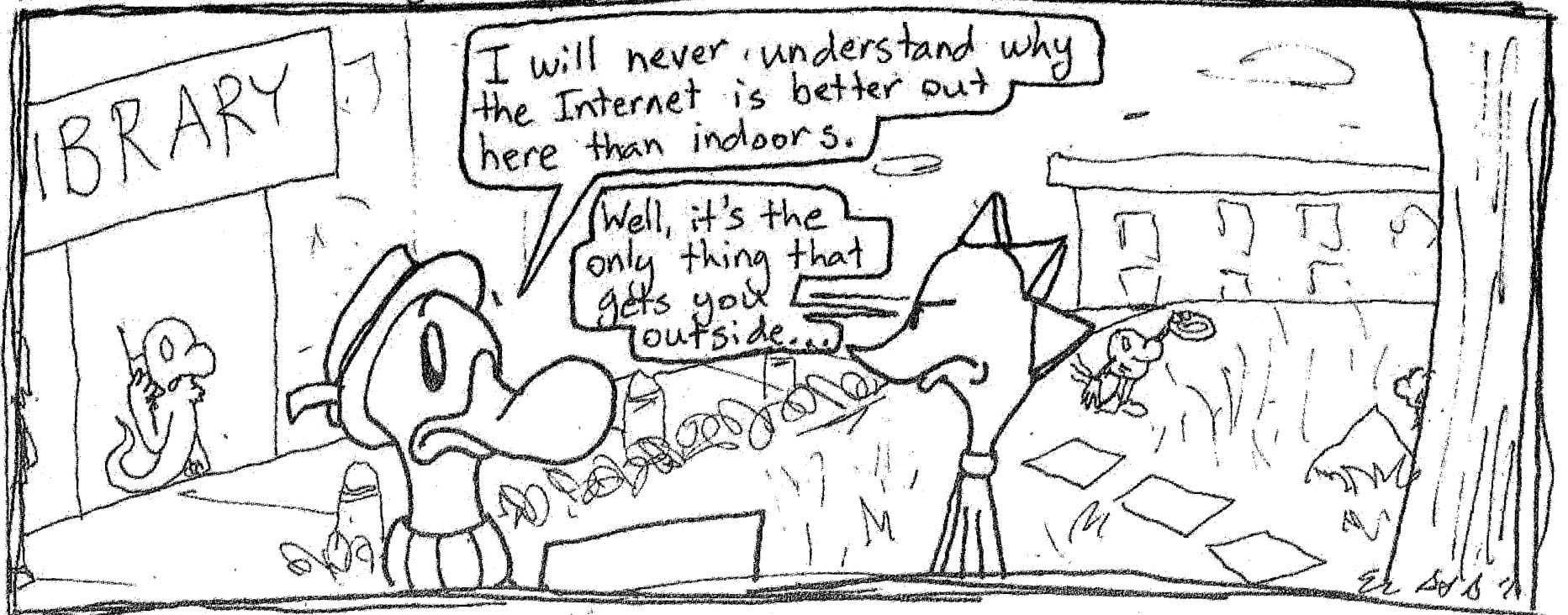
lenge, and she fails to equal the cast around her, with her lack of acting experience shown clearly on screen. In all fairness, the film asked a lot of Underwood, being the fact that the screenplay counts on Sarah to be the voice of the Christian faith that is essential to Bethany's story.

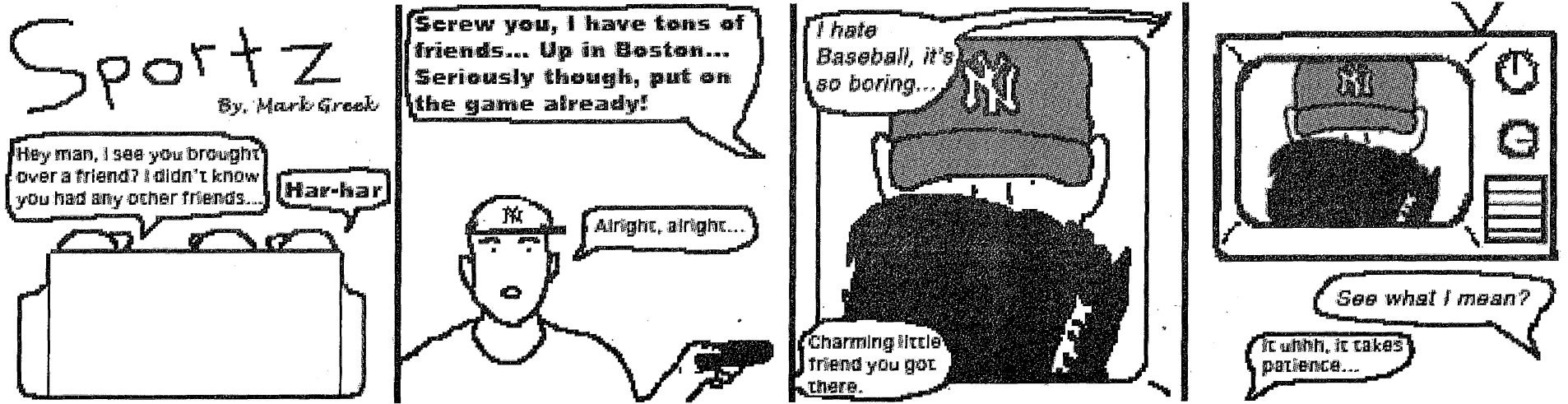
The movie wipes out hard in handling faith. Big question of the film—why does God allow bad things to happen?—is handled a bit clumsily, but always approached sincerely and respectfully. The real-life events of Hamilton's life ultimately point clearly to the difference faith can make.

Still, the film's best pleasure comes from the relationship between Bethany and her best friend, fellow surfer Alana Blanchard (Lorraine Nicholson). It's their friendship, with its sturdiness, laughs, and sincere apologies that catches the biggest wave of all.



THE BORING ROCKS by Eran "SG" Goldaper





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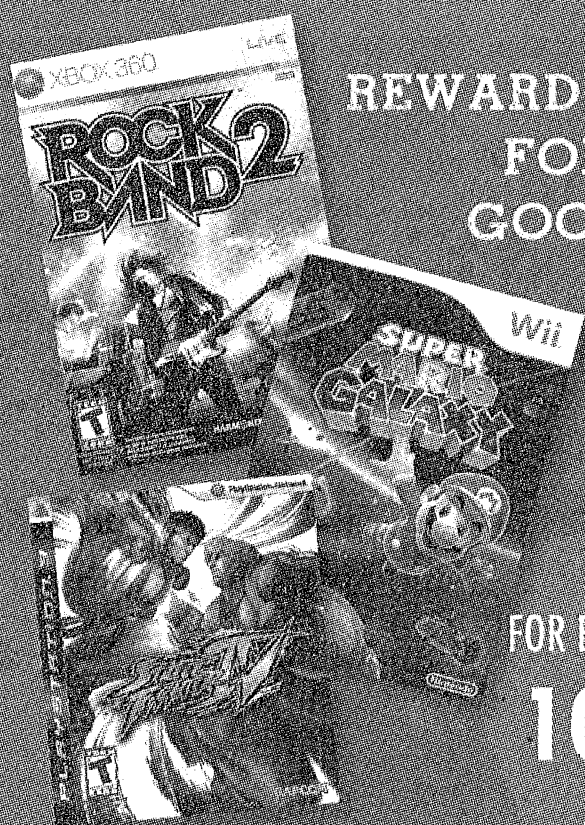
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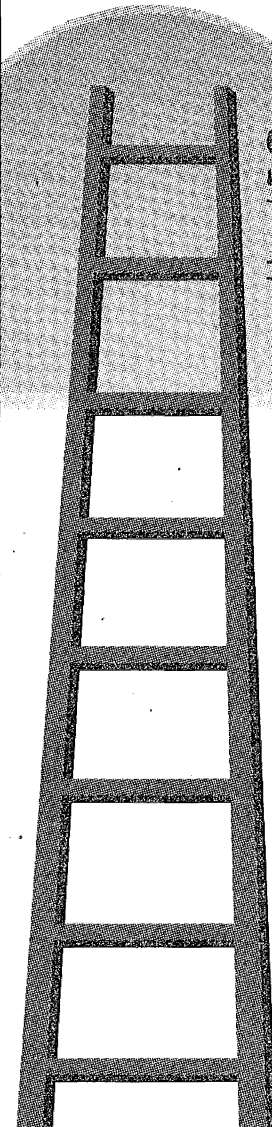
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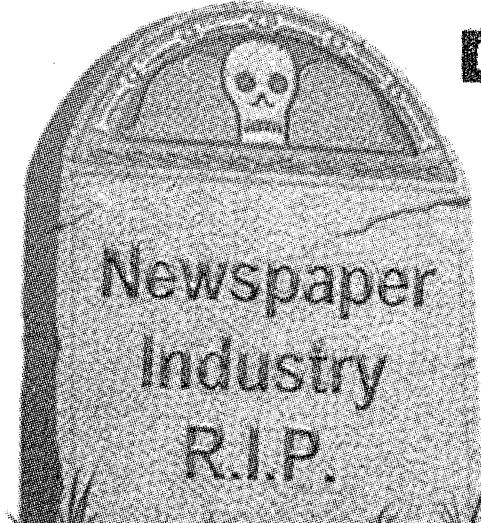
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Opinion

They Put OMG In the Dictionary, LOL!



By Nicole Kohn

Yes. It has happened. The *Oxford English Dictionary* will now include the online “initialisms,” “LOL” and “OMG” as real words. You probably just said “OMG” right now right?! Well, now that is an acceptable way of using the English language, go figure.

Words like these are greatly associated with the language of electronic communication, and have entered communication in the verbal mainstream because of how easy they are to use. Its difficult to avoid letting OMG and LOL slip into our text messages, but now we can use the excuse by pointing out that those are in fact terms acknowledged by the authorities of the English language. But has it really come down to this; that we can't even have a conversation without using acronyms? Now don't get me wrong, using LOL and OMG during a text message conversation makes it easier, and has become a habit. But these all-caps acronyms have impacted the non-electric world, and the OED notes “there often seems to be a bit more than simple abbreviation going on.”

When your LOL-ing in real life, ap-

parently it's the intention to “signal an informal, gossipy mode of expression,” or even going so far as to “parody the level of unreflective enthusiasm or overstatement that can sometimes appear in online discourse, while at the same time marking oneself as an ‘inside’ au fait with the forms of expression associated with the latest technology.” Only the OED could bring such levels of meaning to a simple OMG.

Though they found that such words are usually associated with a “younger generation,” the dictionary's research revealed a few earlier uses. OMG first appeared in a 1917 personal letter and LOL dates to 1960, used as the meaning of “little old lady” and not “laugh out loud.”

What does this mean for generations to come? When you have kids will you be teaching them how to say LOL and OMG before first words like “bye-bye,” or “yes” and “no.” Being a part of the “younger generation,” I am among the people who use LOL and OMG on a regular basis when



texting, and yes I admit occasionally I use OMG in a sentence, but for it to be in the dictionary is a little much. Since OED included these two “initialisms,” it's just a matter of time until more “initialisms” will be added, making this the start of mixing texting slang with the

English language.

So where do things go from here? Does this mean using LOL and OMG in an essay is acceptable? They're in the dictionary and are now referred to as words, so why not right?

WHEEL in Dallas

PLACES YOU SHOULD GO

Really Cheesed Off



By Nick Statt

When I was about ten years old, my dad instilled in me some of the most important knowledge known to mankind—how to make a grilled cheese.

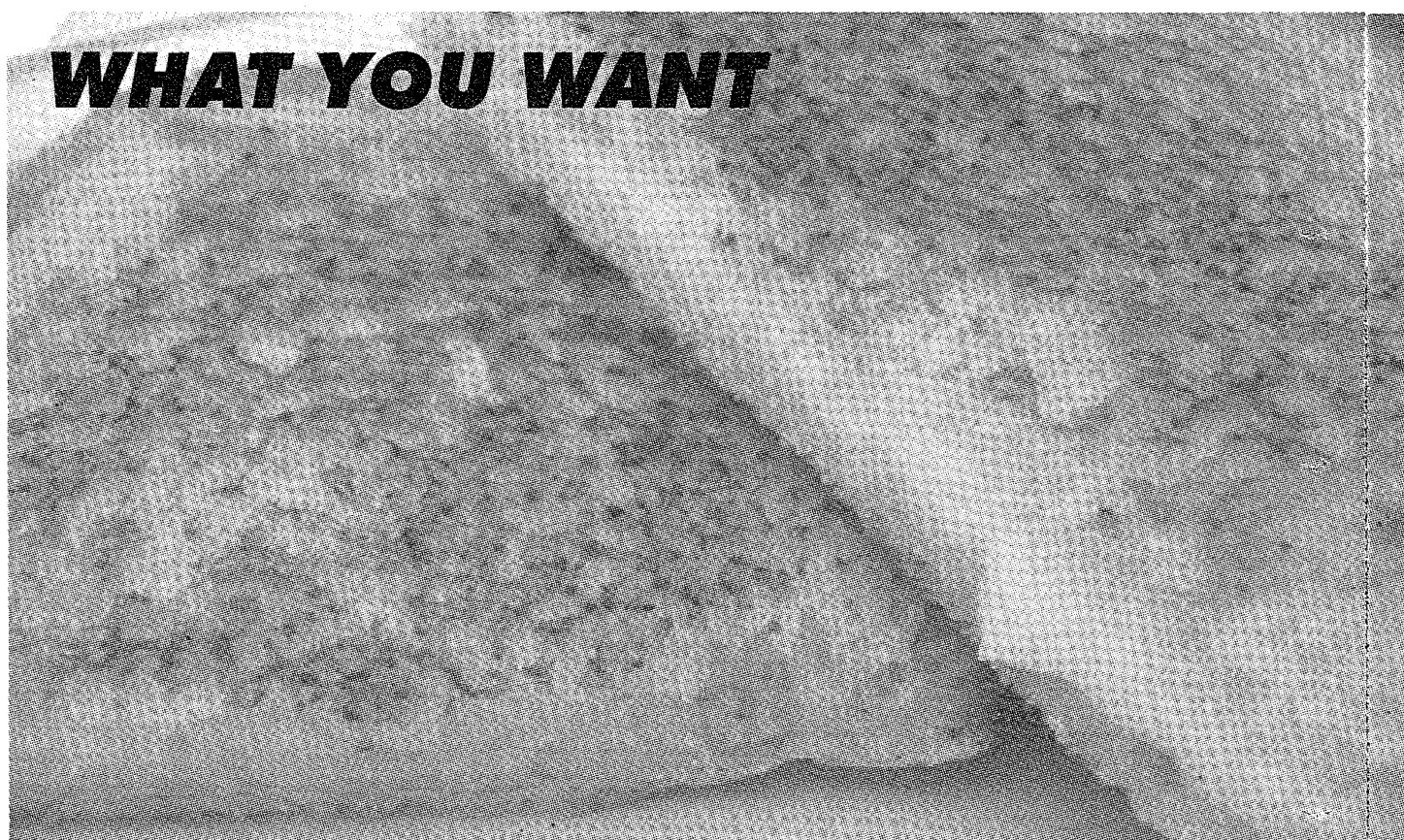
It was simplicity and beauty in the form of a sandwich, for all you needed was butter, bread and cheese. It was also near impossible to mess up if you had two working eyes and consistent motor skills. The bottom line is that the grilled cheese offers an invaluable reward for very little risk, making it one of the best sandwiches out there. That being said, can someone please tell me why every single employee at the Charcoals grill in the SAC cannot make a grilled cheese without first burning the shit out of it?

Employees stand for multiple hours in suffocating, greasy air with sweat pouring down their faces, all while obese assholes stuff their triple turkey burger with bacon order slips down their throats and Asians repeatedly forget to mention what they want on their Philly cheese steaks. It doesn't look too easy-going, so I can understand why that one guy with thin moustache forcibly stuffs cardboard burger boxes with buns while wearing the most profound scowl imaginable, or why every employee seems to get immense joy out of not taking people's orders for as long as possible.

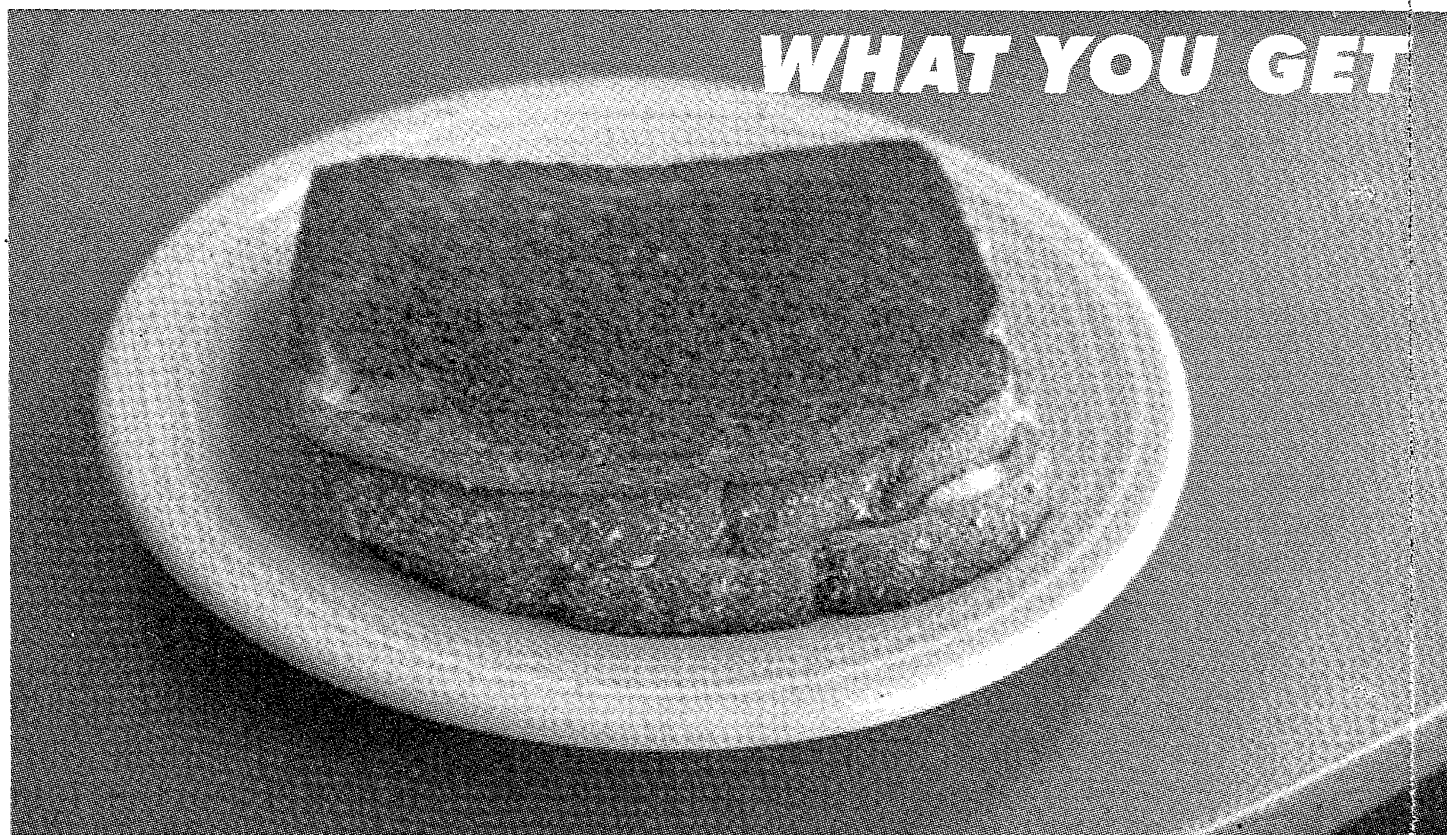
But listen, the grilled cheese is literally dumb-proof...I made it as a ten-year-old and it came out fine, so it really doesn't make much sense that nine out of ten times, they absolutely fuck up my and many others' sandwiches.

Let me paint you the picture of a typical grilled cheese-ordering scenario at the SAC. You get in line with maybe 40 minutes until your class, which should be more than enough time to get something relatively small from the grill, eat it and be on your way. Well, guess again. First, you wait until they decide to stop ignoring you while they fill those 10,000 turkey burger boxes that nobody will take because they get cold after 10 minutes of sitting on the pre-made shelf.

Once they actually look at your order, they do get it rolling relatively quickly. They spray the sandwich presser down, lay the bread and put on the cheese and then they are done.



WHAT YOU WANT



WHAT YOU GET

That's it...that's all the work it requires. Except for the fact that they just don't give a shit and forget the sandwich is there almost every single time.

So you get to sit there and watch while they fill about three to four other orders and your grilled cheese starts to visibly bubble. You start to contemplate saying something to them like "Hey...I think that's ready," or "Please stop fucking up my day with your negligence." But you don't want to be too rude because well, let's face it, if you're ordering a grilled cheese you're probably a meek

person.

Then comes the climax of the exchange where one of the employees actually decides to look at their surroundings instead of mechanically cutting buns or emptying french fry baskets, and sees that they are on the verge of a kitchen fire. So they stroll over, open the tray and very clearly mutter some expletive as they gaze at the now mostly black slab of a sandwich. So what do they do? Instead of make a new one, which wouldn't take more than another 5 minutes if they

don't forget about it again, they just take it off the press and hand it to you with no apology or anything.

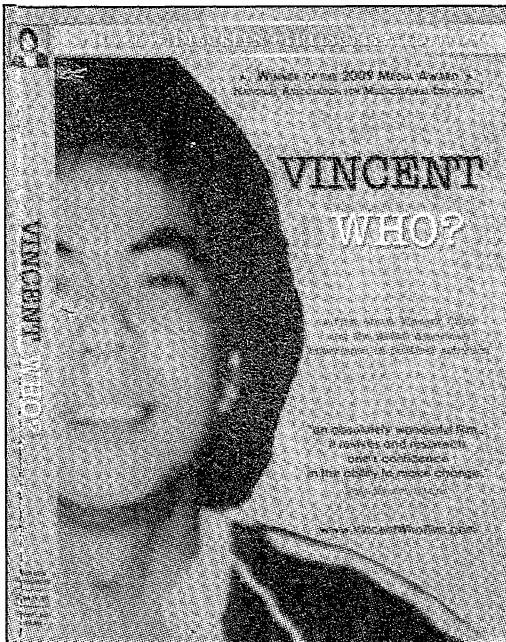
Now your day sucks. You're sitting in the SAC, now almost late to your class, and peeling off pieces of burnt cheese off quite possibly the worst grilled cheese ever brought into existence. Please, Charcoals workers, just stop being lazy and forgetful and destroying everything I love about the best sandwich on the planet.



ASIAN AMERICAN E-ZINE

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VINCENT WHO? "A poignant discussion on identity and race in the Asian American Diaspora"



by Brian Lee

Helen Zia, a prominent Asian American activist, proclaims in the stirring 'Vincent Who?' film, "The Vincent Chin case was a watershed moment – not only for Asian Americans, but all Americans. Never before had the federal government used civil rights law to protect the rights of an immigrant and Asian American."

Vincent Chin was a 27-year-old Chinese American industrial draftsman whose racially motivated murder sparked the impetus for the first pan-Asian political movement. An economically stagnant 1980s Detroit auto industry and the increased market share of foreign

espouses critical commentary in tracking the ascendancy of the Asian American Civil Rights Movement and the current challenges facing it. Curtis Chin, among other individuals in the film, tackles the common misperception of Asians as the perennial 'other' and the lack of a homogenous



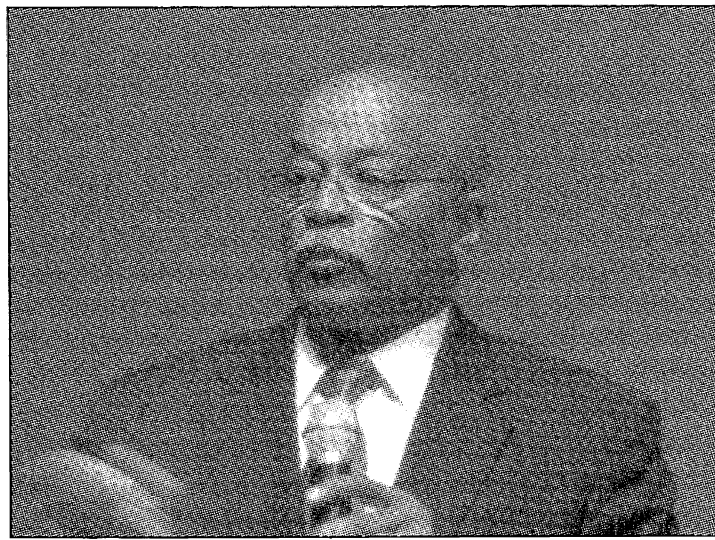
Vincent Who? Producer Curtis Chin

Japanese competitors provides context for the Chin case. Unemployed Chrysler plant superintendent Ronald Ebens and his stepson Michael Nitz, who both bore anti-Asian sentiments, tried to instigate a fight with Vincent Chin at his bachelor party. After he left they searched for him and outside a McDonalds viciously beat him with a baseball bat.

The harrowing words of "It's not fair" whispered by Chin as he lay dying encapsulates the intricate legal and political fallout of his death. The Wang Center, in conjunction with Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, screened the documentary, 'Vincent Who?', with the hope of raising awareness about this little known Civil Rights case that created the first time Asians viewed themselves as Asian Americans and not only by their native country, for example, Chinese Americans or Indian Americans. The film was accompanied by a talk with the producer, Curtis Chin, and a subsequent discussion on race relations in the United States and locally in Suffolk.

Sunita Mukhi, the Director of the Wang Center's Asian /American Programming at Stony Brook, began the evening by stating: "The intention of screening this film is to raise the political consciousness of Asian Americans." 'Vincent Who?' serves as a timely follow-up to the gritty 1987 'Who Killed Vincent Chin?' by providing recent developments on the case and relevant interviews with leading AAPI individuals. The eponymous title of the film refers to an instance in which the Director roams the USC campus and interviews students with regards to Vincent Chin. A small sample of 60 students was unable to identify Chin.

The film utilizes archival footage and



Detective Sgt. Robert Reecks, Suffolk County Police Hate Crimes Unit



Three former AA E-Zine Editors - Brian Lee and Jon Hu on each end, both graduating seniors; next to Brian is alumnus Huy Huynh, visiting campus; next to Huy is Vincent Who? film producer Curtis Chin

Asian alliance across the United States.

The latter portion of the event was a panel discussion moderated by Director Mukhi in which Curtis Chin, Det Sgt Robert Reecks of the Suffolk County Police Hate Crimes Unit, and Associate Philosophy Professor Gary Mar participated.

Shortly before the panel Reecks conducted a succinct presentation on 'Hate Crimes 2010: Suffolk County.' Reecks, speaking frankly on the notion of hate, stated: "Hate isn't something that you are born with. No one is 20% hate. It is something that is taught." The sensitivity of the issue is further complicated by the fact that hate is complex. "This isn't a Black or White thing, but a social thing," said Reecks.

The themes of the panel discussion resonated with the ideas of empowerment in the AAPI community, literacy in race relations, and meditative reflections on personal experiences. Producer Curtis Chin brought optimism to the panel by stating: "Everyone can get involved. One must acknowledge the fact that he/she is a political being. Recognize the skills that you possess to give back to your community. It's that simple."

For anyone who missed the film, it is available in the University Library.

"Vincent Who?" website: www.vincentwhofilm.com

AA E-Zine article: Have You Heard About Vincent Chin by Kai Huang: www.aaezine.org/articles/vol21/21N4AAWeekVincentChin.shtml

More photos from the event: www.aasquared.org/Gallery/VincentWhoCurtisChin2011

Additional info on Suffolk County: Sgt. Reecks resigns from Hate Crimes Task Force citing whitewashing by the County Executive, Southern Poverty Law Center

Climate of Fear, Southern Poverty Law Center: www.splcenter.org/publications/climate-of-fear-latino-immigrants-in-suffolk-county-ny/climate-of-fear

Suffolk County Hate Crimes Unit: www.co.suffolk.ny.us/police/hatecrimes.htm

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Kickin' It With the Men's Soccer Coach

By Vincent Barone

Nearly six months away from kick-off, newly-appointed men's soccer Head Coach Ryan Anatol has the Seawolves well into their preseason grind. Though he is not participating in lunges or sprints, Anatol himself is working hard, too, at establishing rapport with his new players.

"I believe in building relationships with your team on and off the field and to show your players that they're important to you as people" said Anatol, who signed on as the head coach earlier this March. "Once we form those relationships, it helps what we do on the field."

Last September, while serving as the assistant coach at the University of South Florida, Anatol, 32, had a chance to play against Stony Brook. The Seawolves lost, but Anatol was impressed with what he saw. "Scouting them and playing against them, I knew that it was a team with young, talented players." Six months later, he was named the Stony Brook head coach.

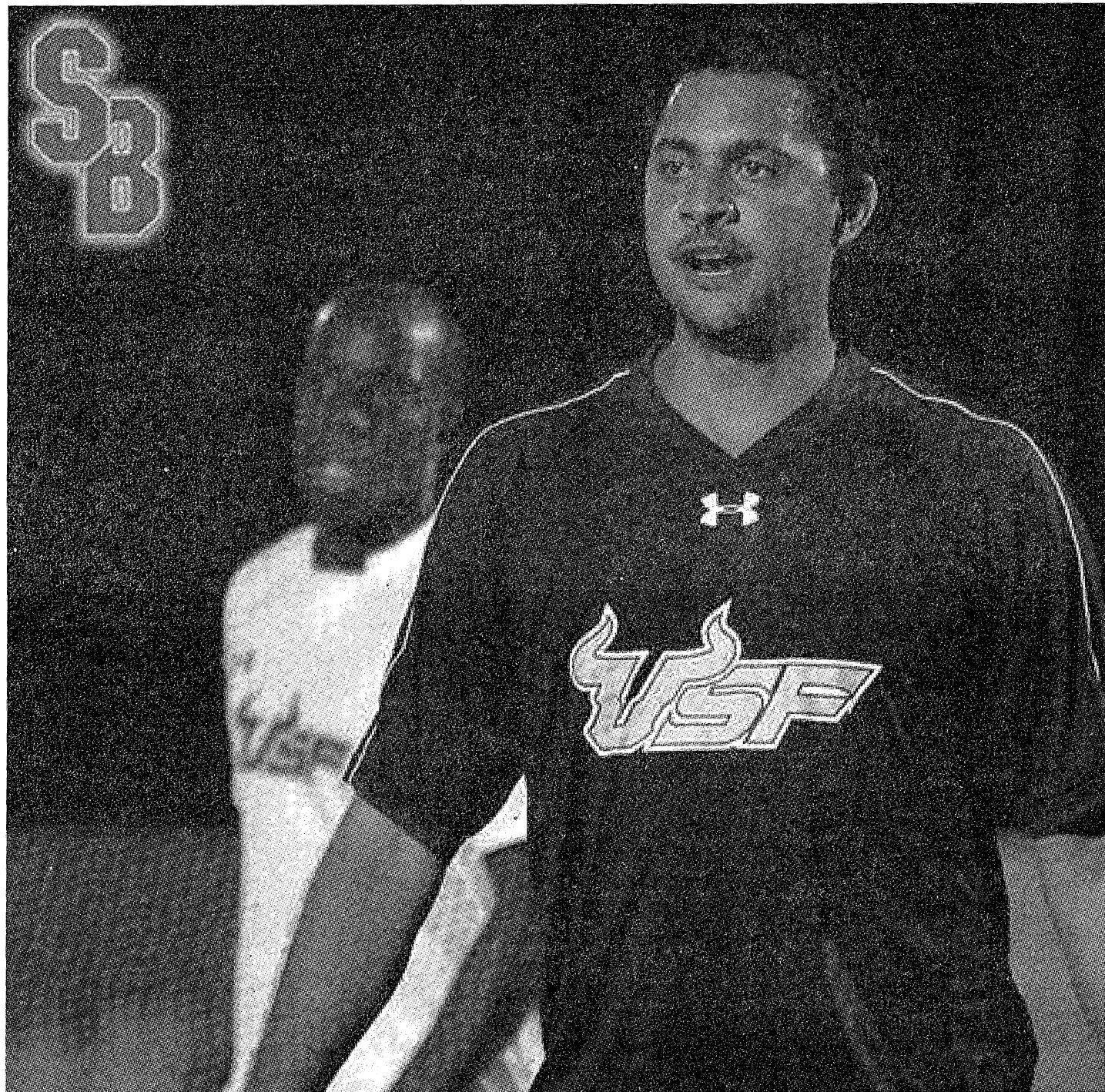
"I was actually blown away by Ryan at his interview," said Stony Brook Athletic Director Jim Fiore to a small crowd during the reception to welcome Anatol. Fiore had spent 24 hours with him during the interviewing process weeks earlier. "Most importantly, what really struck me with Ryan is what a quality human being he is."

Born in Trinidad, Anatol grew up in a soccer-centric environment. He started playing when he was five years old. "Like every other kid, I wanted to do what my big brother was doing," Anatol said, smiling, "and my brother was a soccer player." His English mother, who "had soccer in her blood," nudged him on as well.

Anatol later moved to the United States to play soccer at the University of Southern Florida, where he was a part of the school's back-to-back Conference USA Championship teams in 1997 and 1998.

When his playing days wound down, he realized that he didn't want to quit soccer. Upon graduating South Florida in 2002, Anatol landed an assistant coaching job at the University of Akron. In two years, he helped the Zips notch a 28-10-5 record and land two trips to the NCAA Tournament.

He then returned to his alma mater and spent six years there as the assistant



coach and recruiting coordinator. When Stony Brook's erstwhile head coach, Cesar Markovic, resigned in January, Anatol saw an opportunity.

"The more that I looked into it, when I saw the academic reputation; when I saw what was going on in the athletic department and the staff, I realized that there were a lot of positives to [Stony Brook]," said Anatol.

Anatol's keen eye for talent also played a role in his signing, according to Fiore, who considers Anatol a prime recruiter. "My job is to bring in the best talent. We are going to set the bar high," said Anatol, who looks to take advantage of his southeast and international ties to recruit out-of-state prospects.

After signing, Anatol went right to work. He met with all of his players individually and promptly began a training regimen.

Every weekday morning, on the track midfield, Anatol is amid the scuffle of blue and yellow practice vests, barking out instructions that can be heard all the way from the Lavelle Stadium parking lot. Dressed in an all black tracksuit with closed cropped curly hair and an exuberant smile, he's young enough to be confused as a player.

Just two weeks into training midfielder Kyle McTurk has already acknowledged his new coach's fervor. "He's an intense person. I was scared at first, but he knows his stuff," said McTurk after a morning of practice.

Anatol has been training McTurk and the rest of the Seawolves to polish their habits early in the preseason, focusing practices on fine-tuning player reactions to move more quickly on and off the ball. If a scrimmage squad com-

mits a faux pas, Anatol reprimands them the old-fashioned way: ten push-ups.

"I have an intense personality," said Anatol, unknowingly echoing McTurk. "But once training is over, my door is open. The guys come in and we joke around and spend time with each other so I get to know them more as people."

As Anatol eases up at the end of practice, players josh him for his odd whistling propensity. "He kind of whistles at us like dogs," McTurk laughed. "Now it's become a joke. He whistles at us to try get our attention."

And Anatol has managed to whistle his way into the hearts of his players just a month after meeting them.

"He means what he says," said McTurk, a junior. "If he tells you something, he's going to do it. He's just a straight up kind of guy."

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