

THE
STONY
BROOK

PRESS

"GOOD ENOUGH SINCE '79"



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDITORIALS

Media Decline

4

NEWS

USG

5

Northeastern earthquake

6

Super Gonorrhoea

6

On Campus Debate

7

EcoLeaders

7

Red Mango

8

Rainbow Prom

9

SAB

10

FEATURES

Sanders and Sugar

12

Quinceanera

13

Presidential Debate

14

Low Income

15

Halloween

16

Esam Al-Shareffi

18

CULTURE

CAMPUS/NATIONAL

Ra Ra Riot

23

Stadiums of Shit

21

MOVIES

Argo

20

Title only reviews

22

MUSIC

The Nutshell

19

COMICS

Boring Rocks

24

Sportz

24

OPINION

Privacy

25

Job Fairs

25

Debate

26

SPORTS

Jeter

27

Football

28

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CHAOS, SHOPPING AND THE CONSTANT NEWS CYCLE



As an editor of *The Stony Brook Press*, I understand more than anyone else that life is full of chaos. When I unlock the door each morning, there's a lot for me to wonder about. Will there be enough empty burrito boxes on my desk to build a small house? Will the staff actually meet deadlines this week? Will someone have eaten the iMac? Will the rift between *The Press* and the Nightmare Zone have opened, releasing a stream of demonic journalists into the Archives? It all could happen, and part of being an editor means understanding how to handle these situations.

But these days, I feel like the entire world has become a mess of chaos not unlike the constant state of our office. Have you read a newspaper lately? I mean, if you haven't, go ahead and read this issue. I'll be waiting here for you when you get back.

So what did you think of the issue? Do you see what I mean? Superstorms devastating our cities, bone cancer, floods, spies screwing their biographers, a new *Twilight* movie, mass extinctions... It's all downhill from here. And outside of *The Press*, the conflict in the Middle East gets worse every day. Even here at home, someone got stabbed on campus. And Spielberg just told me that Lincoln got assassinated.

When I set out to write this editorial, I thought about approaching any one of these issues, since there's a lot that can be said about any of them. Plus, considering the ever-increasing length of this introduction, I would definitely be able to fill this entire page with our publication's stances on the Middle East.

But it's never that easy. As we move through this churning downward spiral of chaos, things will change every day. Maybe today, vampire bats are going extinct in the Caribbean, but by tomorrow, for all

I know they'll all be alive again. It could happen. I've seen those *Twilight* movies; Victoria didn't stay dead either. And more importantly, I've seen enough Middle East conflicts to know that story won't stay the same for very long either.

Look at it this way. Based on when you're reading this, it's either almost Thanksgiving, or a week after Thanksgiving, or perhaps the year 2056, if my work is as enduring as I always suspected it was. But no matter what, I've written this editorial long ago, and whatever I say may no longer be relevant.

But rest assured that in this sea of endless chaos, there is one problem that I can assure will remain constant, and that's the one expressed in this installment of our smash-hit readerless comic series, *The Boring Rocks*: holiday shopping. Yes, buying gifts for people is literally the worst thing ever, and I am confident that will not change by the time we get our next issue on the stands. See, being an adult means I can't just sit around and wait for Santa to deliver Hanukkah presents to my friends for me. Instead, I have to get out and find things for myself, and I can say from experience that shopping is already as bad as I expected.

Just last weekend (or longer ago, depending on when we are), I went to Barnes and Noble to get a birthday gift for a friend of mine. It might have been fairly early in the morning, but the store was already flooded with customers, grabbing every paperback they could find and charging towards the checkout line. This wouldn't be an issue, but since it's not cost-effective to hire seasonal help yet, there were only two people on register, rendering the line essentially stationary. It's a good thing that I like my friend, because if I didn't, he would've gotten no more than a firm handshake for his birthday.

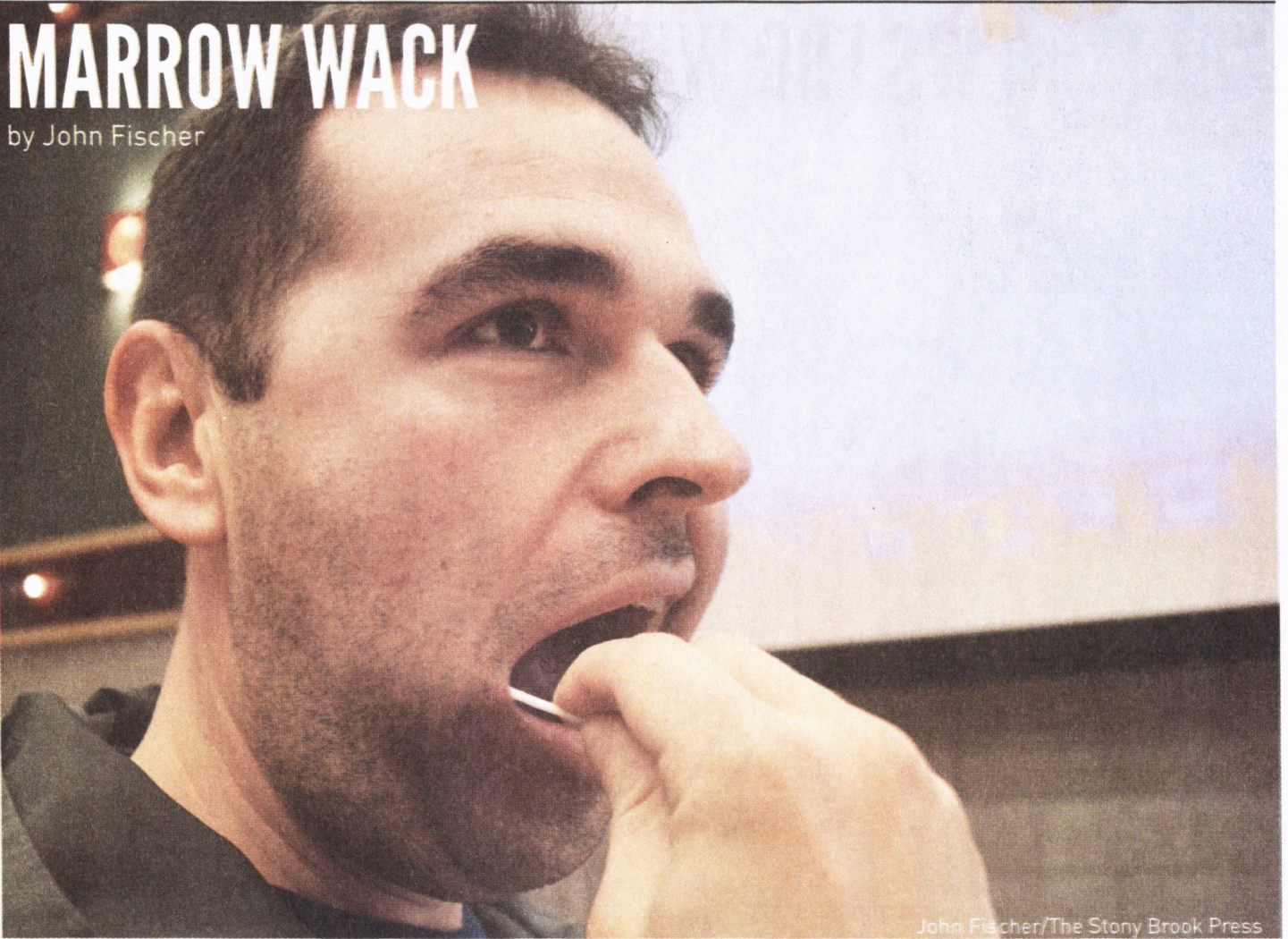
And things are just going to get worse from here. Brace yourself for icy roads, and people still driving to the other side of the island for the best deal on flatscreen televisions. Brace yourself for incessant holiday music that will only make your forty-minute line-waiting experience worse. Worst, of course, brace yourself for the brawls outside of Best Buy on Black Friday (unless you're reading this in December and those have already destroyed society). The one constant in life is that this bad situation is only going to get worse.

Sometimes I wonder if we should give up putting up with this holiday shopping nonsense altogether. Just give your friends whatever you can find, and don't let it stress you out anymore. I know I've got some perfectly serviceable albums I never listen to anymore that would make adequate gifts for friends everywhere. Isn't it time we put aside our capitalist urges and shared during the holiday season? Don't get me wrong: this isn't about fiscal responsibility or the benefits of communism. This is simply about escaping needless stress during the months of November and December. That's something even libertarians can get behind, right?

But more importantly, of course, is that I think we journalists need to stop assuming this story is tired and old, and give it the journalistic attention it deserves. Oh, believe me, there's nothing to say about holiday shopping that hasn't been said millions of times before. But in this maelstrom of chaotic news events, sometimes it's nice to editorialize on the same old problems. We could all use a little stability now and then, even if it's anchored solely by our hatred for regular inconveniences. So please excuse me, but I have a lot of thoughts on airline food to go write down.

MARROW WACK

by John Fischer



John Fischer/The Stony Brook Press

Stony Brook University held its first ever bone marrow drive Wednesday, Nov. 17 in an effort to find eligible donors for people in need of a transplant due to blood disorders and cancer-related diseases.

Students were asked to swab their cheeks with cotton swabs, which were then sealed in envelopes and sent out to a laboratory for DNA testing. The event was sponsored by the German Bone Marrow Donor Center, which contacts anyone who is found to be a match and then coordinates with his or her local hospital to set up a time for him or her to come in and donate.

"I think it's an incredible amount of time, leadership and effort in part of our student leaders which may save a life one day," said Dean of Students Dr. Jerrold L. Stein, a registered donor since 1992.

Bone marrow is a flexible and fatty tissue that fills the cavities of the bones and produces red and white blood cells to help the body with natural functions and fight off diseases. Transplants are used to treat people suffering from diseases such as aplastic anemia, leukemia and lymphoma.

"I think cancer in itself is a really difficult condition to deal with," said volunteer and sophomore Kevin Su, a Spanish major on the pre-med track. "But every step that we take is important, and I think this is one of those steps."

According to coordinator and USG Vice President of

Academic Affairs Derek Cope, the chances of finding a match are low with only two percent of the population on the bone marrow registry. He says that the main problem is the lack of education and misconceptions about the topic.

"I'm really passionate about this because I'm an aplastic anemia survivor," said Cope, a senior health science and sociology major. "So, it's a bone marrow failure disease. I've been treated in a cancer prevention center before, and I really understand the vulnerability the patients are going through."

Cope says that people can donate marrow either through a process which involves inserting a needle directly into the bone while under anesthesia or through intravenous therapy, in which a machine collects the bone marrow while circulating the blood through a person's body. Cope maintains that both processes are harmless and that the pain is minimal and will cease after a day or two.

"A lot of my friends have done it," said freshman Talia Abreu, a psychology major. "And I just feel a little bit of pain is worth saving someone's life, especially a kid. That would be great. Any life is worth the pain of this."

The event was spread out among the Student Activities Center, the Campus Recreation Center, the Health Sciences Center, the hospital and the Cancer Center adjacent to it.

“BAT” NEWS FOR WILDLIFE

by John Fischer



Rising sea levels have contributed to the extinction of bats and other species in the Caribbean islands, according to a study published by Stony Brook assistant professor Lilliana Davalos in the journal *Ecology and Evolution*.

Davalos who works in the Ecology and Evolution Department at Stony Brook University, said in this study that over 20,000 years ago, during the last ice age, water from melting glaciers caused sea levels to rise and flood the land, shrinking the area of the islands in the Caribbean.

“I don’t think we can say, ‘Well, the Cuban vampire bat went extinct because of climate change,’” said Amy Russell, an assistant professor at Grand Valley State University in Michigan who was Davalos’s colleague and partner in the study. “But we can say we see this overall change in species and overall change in the island area. That really explains about 80-90 percent of the loss of species.”

Davalos was not available to comment.

She and Russell believe that the shrinking area contributed to the extinction of different species of bats, including the Cuban vampire bat and the Puerto Rican flower bat, in addition to some other mammals.

According to the article, the evidence of this is that a high rate of extinction took place during deglaciation, an agreement that scientists have accepted for decades. Fragments of fossils

found in the Bahamas and the Great Antilles hint at now-extinct fauna, indicating that the region was once inhabited by different species.

“We’ve been working on some specific species in this region,” said Russell. “We were interested in what explains these patterns of extinction that occurred over this time period.”

Using deep-sea bathymetry to measure underwater depth and a geographic information system, Russell and Davalos mapped out the amount of land that existed above the surface during the height of the last ice age, when sea levels were reported to be 125 meters less than they are now. Recording the number of extinct and current bat species, they then formed a mathematical relationship that compared the species to the area of each island to determine the number of local occurrences of extinction related to the change in area.

Russell says that the rising sea levels caused a shift in the environment from dry to wet land, ushering in natural selection in which some species were able to adapt while others were not. She believes that sea levels will continue to rise and may contribute to the extinction of bats and other mammals.

“And so, the island continues to decline. And so to the extent that this continues in to the future, we think we may see it continue extensively,” Russell said.

ON-CAMPUS HILTON TAKES THE LEED

by Priscila Korb



Photo Courtesy of Aurora Contractors Incorporated

Students walking around the Stony Brook campus recently have undoubtedly noticed the many construction projects around campus. One of the most talked about projects is the still in progress Hilton Inn located near the Administration Building parking garage on Circle Road.

The hotel, which was announced in a press release in 2009, was a project that had been under consideration for over 20 years. Now, it will finally completed on Feb. 1, according to Jeannine Lang, the director of sales for the Hilton Garden Inn.

In addition to a 5,000 square foot meeting space, restaurant, indoor pool, exercise room and sundry shop the new hotel on the campus of Stony Brook University will have something else that should make its guests happy—a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certificate.

In order to become LEED certified, a building must satisfy a set of prerequisites and earn at least a 40 on a 110-point rating system according to U.S. Green Building Council website.

Robert Frey, a Stony Brook alumnus and owner of SBHC Private Equity IV, LLC—the company who is developing and funding the construction and operating costs of the hotel—is confident that the hotel will be LEED certified.

“There is a whole big checklist,” Frey said. “The design was drawn up with that in mind. We have designed the hotel to have maximum efficiency. Right now, the

design meets the certification.”

The hotel will have many different environmentally-friendly features that will help it get LEED certified in addition to helping the environment.

According to Frey, one of the major environmentally-friendly features that the hotel will have is a temperature monitoring system set up in each individual room rather than having one system that controls the entire hotel so the hotel can better control the amount of energy being used.

“This way, we can check the rooms and check the thermostat from a computer-controlled system,” Frey said. “We have the advantage of actively heating or cooling rooms that need it and use less energy.”

The idea is to heat or cool the rooms just enough so it’s cool in the summer and warm in the winter without wasting too much energy, according to Frey. Once the guest leaves, the room can be reset to the specific temperature in order to use the right amount of energy and if a room remains unoccupied, it will remain that temperature so it will not be wasting energy.

This will satisfy the “thermal control” item of the U.S. Green Building council LEED new construction checklist, which is the list that helps determine which buildings are LEED certified.

In addition, there will be increased levels of insulation and the glass will have tinting that to stop UV rays, according to

Frey.

After the construction, new trees will be planted to comply with the LEED requirement to “protect or restore habitat.” About 3.8 acres were disrupted during the construction process.

“I’m not worried, the area is surrounded by trees,” Frey said. “It helps to keep [the area] cooler.”

Another feature the hotel will have in order to be more sustainable and fulfill the “bicycle storage” item on the LEED new construction checklist, are bike racks so guests can leave their bikes at the hotel.

“We are encouraging biking by using things like bike racks,” Frey said.

All of these features cost more to construct, but will not affect the price of staying at the hotel for guests, according to Lang.

“You can always not do something,” said Frey. “It’s surprising when you look at home many people don’t do it. But it’s a good idea to be sensitive to the issues. In the long run, it will probably be more cost effective.”

Although all of the construction will be finished in February, it will take more time for different aspects of the hotel to be approved. However, guests should be able to stay about 30 days after the completion of the construction, according to Frey.

“We lost a little time because of Sandy, but fortunately we were ahead of schedule,” Frey said. “I’m optimistic we will remain on schedule.”

STUDENTS TO THE RESCUE

by Alyssa Melillo



Photo: Courtesy of the Career Center

Long Beach, Long Island's own surf city, is now battered and beaten because of Superstorm Sandy.

It is the home of Stony Brook senior Nate Epstein. For the past three weeks, the philosophy major has been living in his flooded house with no heat or clean water. He returned to school over a week after classes resumed because he was finally allowed to leave the barrier island for the first time since the storm hit. His car was totaled and the furniture on the first floor of his house completely ruined. Epstein watched his hometown transform from a city with a West Coast atmosphere to one that looks like it belongs in a warzone.

"We were overwhelmed with students who wanted to help," she says. "It was amazing to see how many wanted to go out to the community."

"It literally looks like Baghdad," he says, referring to huge sand piles washed onto the streets from the beach. "It's crazy."

But relief efforts in Long Beach have been extensive, as they've been throughout Long Island and New York City. Organizations such as FEMA, the National Guard and the Red Cross have been providing clothing, food and other services to thousands of victims in some of the hardest hit cities in the tri-

state area. Here at Stony Brook, students have taken the initiative of starting their own relief efforts and participating in others. Over the last three weeks, clubs, Greek organizations and other student-run groups have been gathering the campus together for donations, some raising over \$700 and obtaining several boxes of supplies in the process. "We are the best people to give back," says junior Summer Broeckx-Smith, the philanthropy chair for Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Spearheading one particular relief effort is Staten Island resident and Stony Brook senior Rob Wranovics. Although his house was not damaged, the borough as a whole saw some of the worst devastation in New York City, including the highest death toll. Wranovics, the student sports director at WUSB and host of the station's show "Hectic Electric," rallied a large group of students together for a Nov. 6 fundraiser with his "Seawolves for Sandy Relief" Facebook page. He says that experiencing such tragedy so close to home inspired him to reach out and help his neighbors, along with the rest of the hurricane victims. "You got to remember who you are and where you come from," he says. "It can happen to any of us at any time. It's a very moving situation." Wranovics says the relief on campus went off to a promising start—donations poured in at his event. Laptops set up at tables allowed for immediate contributions to the Red Cross, and physical monetary donations were sent out shortly after. The students set up charging stations for those who still did not have power restored back to their homes. And in addition to money, the fundraiser brought in donations of toiletries, batteries, cell phones and even a comforter, all of which Wranovics personally drove out to Staten Island.

Actually going to Staten Island opened Wranovics' eyes to how much people there are struggling to get back on their feet.

As he took in the damage, he handed out supplies: the comforter went to a family he saw on the streets; he gave garbage bags to a woman living out of her car; and an elderly couple with no power in their home received flashlights.

"They were so thankful," Wranovics says. "It was really touching." But the relief efforts on campus didn't stop after that fundraiser. Broeckx-Smith, who says she felt obligated to help out after seeing the damage done to Stony Brook the day after the hurricane, has been tabling in the Student Activities Center and leading "dorm storms" with her Alpha Sigma Alpha sisters. The sorority is focusing on raising money for Save the Children's Sandy relief fund, as its philanthropy aims towards helping out youth, she says. Other parts of the campus such as health sciences, campus residences and the Career Center have taken part in the relief effort as well. Urszula Zalewski, project director for Stony Brook AmeriCorps and assistant director of experiential programs at the Career Center, says the center collaborated with Long Island Volunteer Center, Long Island Cares and other organizations by providing them with student volunteers. On Nov. 3, students worked in the food distribution center at Island Harvest in Mineola. And over 50 participated in relief efforts at Mastic Beach Nov. 10. In total, about 600 students expressed interest in aiding Sandy victims through the Career Center, Zalewski says.

"We were overwhelmed with students who wanted to help," she says. "It was amazing to see how many wanted to go out to the community. It was very impressive."

Superstorm Sandy battered the East Coast: it brought on unprecedented storm surges, millions of dollars in damages and left a massive mess for New Yorkers to clean up. According to CBS, a total of 48 deaths were reported in the state. About 2.2 million were left without power. Thousands of people lost homes in Rockaway, Staten Island, Long Beach and elsewhere.

And because of that, students heading relief efforts predict that they will continue for weeks.

"This isn't going to go away for a little while," Wranovics says. "It may disappear from the news, but it's not going away."

For students such as Nate Epstein who experienced the wrath of Sandy firsthand, the support from his fellow Seawolves is appreciated, especially because many students were fortunate not to see damage to their homes.

"It's really cool when you see someone who hasn't been affected lend a helping hand to their neighbors," he says.

But Epstein says that even though Sandy has probably left a permanent mark on Long Beach, the city will eventually rebuild itself and move on, as he and his family have begun to do.

"Life goes on. Everyone's okay."



Low-lying areas in Southern New York state, including Staten Island and the Rockaways, are still in the process of restoration efforts in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. Volunteer organizations like the Mormon Helping Hands have been assisting residents in Belle Harbor, New York.

Jodie Mann/The Stony Brook Press

THE ART OF HENNA by Caitlin Peña

Two young girls, one in a black leather jacket and the other in an army-green hoodie, sit on a bench in the Student Activities Center lobby. The girl in the hoodie has her hand on the other girl's lap. The latter is squeezing henna ink out from a cone atop her companion's hand, her motions similar to that of a baker putting icing on a wedding cake.

After about ten minutes of careful tattooing, the process is done. The girl in the hoodie's hand now sports a lovely flower surrounded by different symbols of her choosing, little delicate spikes surrounding the spots around her fingernails.

Sidra Khalid, a business management major at Stony Brook University, offers henna tattooing on and off of the campus. Her flyers are posted all over Stony Brook, showing her own favorite designs.

"I have loved art ever since I was born," she said. "And henna's like my craze."

Henna tattoos originate from South Asia, specifically Indian, Pakistani and Arabian cultures. It is common for women to get them during special occasions. For Hindu festivals, like Diwali, the Festival of Lights, henna is usually applied. They are also necessary for weddings. Brides, in particular, are tattooed for their ceremonies.

The ink for henna comes from the leaves of the henna plant. When collected, the leaves are ground into fine powder and mixed with water, oil or lemon juice. The ink may irritate sensitive skin when first applied, but is otherwise skin-friendly. Flowers, leaves and vines are the common patterns preferred by those who get henna. There are also more complex options like the peacock. These intricate designs don't specifically stand for anything, but they are general symbols of beauty.

When Khalid was 10 years old, her older sister would tattoo for brides and other women during parties and special occasions, and she "wanted to do it too."

Since she was just a child, she couldn't tattoo on brides. Henna tattoos on brides were too intricate and complex for a 10-year old to create. So she practiced. She practiced on the younger children during festivals and parties.

She practiced on herself.

It's been 13 years since henna first sparked her interest, and she can see a huge difference in the quality of her work. Now, she tries to be up to date with the latest fashions, which she uses to inspire her designs.

"As time changes," she says, "Designs change."

But of course, fashion isn't the most

important part of her designs.

"It's all about different people and what they want," she says. Khalid enjoys



creating flowers, which have become her signature design. Every tattoo she has done for her customers revolve around a flower design of her creation, and it has become the design that most of her customers frequently request.

"Everyone loves it," she says. Because henna is so significant to their culture, Khalid's customers mainly consist of Indian and Pakistani people, especially during holidays. She also occasionally gets calls from brides. However, she does get the occasional customer, usually a Stony Brook student who has been her flyer, whose ethnicity is not Indian or Pakistani.

Unlike typical tattoos, henna is not permanent. In Indian and Pakistani culture, permanent tattoos are not allowed. This is why henna tattoos are preferred: they fade within a certain time, so people can experiment with different designs on different parts of the body without making a commitment. "Rather than getting a permanent tattoo first," Khalid says, "If you're really not sure about it, get a henna tattoo and see how that one looks." Tattoos may last forever. But henna is not just a tattoo. It is a symbol of a culture, one that many others can appreciate and enjoy.



USG DONE GET PAID

by Jodie Mann

The Undergraduate Student Government office on the second floor of the Student Activities Center is always bustling with activity. Though the senators are only required to spend two hours a week in the office—plus time in committee and Senate meetings—it seems like most of them are always around.

What many students, both at Stony Brook and across the country fail to realize is that being in student government is an actual job, one with a paycheck and everything.

More than 71 percent of elected student officials are compensated in some way, whether through hourly wages, tuition assistance, class credit or stipends, according to the American Student Government Agency, which boasts over 1,000 member institutions (Stony Brook is not among them). Among public universities about 85 percent of officials receive a salary.

At Stony Brook, senators receive a biweekly stipend of \$100. Last year's senate voted to decrease their weekly payment of \$75 in order to have more money to give back to student clubs. To receive their pay, senators are required to complete their office hours, go to at least one committee meeting per month and attend weekly senate body meetings on Thursday nights. Members of the Executive Council, made up of the president, treasurer, and the five vice presidents, are paid \$180 each week and are required to work 15 hours and attend meetings.

Treasurer Allen Abraham, who says he usually spends more than 20 hours a week at work, thinks his salary is well-earned.

Abraham, a nonvoting member of the senate, is responsible for overseeing the USG budget, communicating with club treasurers about budget concerns, chairing the senate Budget Committee and determining the budget for clubs each year.

"The compensation is justified for my position and the amount of work that comes with it," Abraham said.

However, Jordan Hummel, a 2010 graduate of Fairfield University who served as vice president of the Fairfield University Student Association did not receive any compensation for her services. Hummel feels paying students would not have really had an effect on who chooses to be involved in FUSA, or student government in general.

"It was discussed while I was at Fairfield but I think the idea got shut down pretty quickly," she said. "It definitely would have attracted more students to run for positions, but I'm not sure it would change the type of students who run for these positions."

Amanda Cohen, vice president of clubs and organizations said it's not the pay that draws people to USG.

"I know many people who ran and didn't even know they were getting paid if they won," she said. "I ran for the position because I wanted to make a difference and be involved. The paycheck is just a perk."

Cohen is trusted to oversee that all clubs and organizations abide by USG rules and acts as a liaison between clubs and USG. Cohen also helps Special Services Council determine whether newly forming or defunded clubs should be given a budget, and works with club officers to facilitate that process.

Cohen does recognize that the salary may "draw in a select few," but thinks the majority are in it for the right reasons.

Senator Brian McIlvain, from the College of Arts and

Sciences, was surprised to learn that he would be compensated.

"Most senators, including myself, did not even know senators were paid positions until after winning the elections," he said. "The people in USG are hard working and truly want to do what is best for the student body."

So far during his term McIlvain has been chairing the Programming and Activities Committee, which mainly helps Cohen look over Special Services Council budget applicants before the applications are sent to the senate body for review.

Mallory Rothstien is another College of Arts and Sciences senator. She represents USG on both the sustainability task force and EcoLeaders Committee disagrees.

"I definitely think payment can attract someone to run for office who might not have otherwise," she said. "I'm not one of those people though."

As a senator, Rothstien has also reached out to underclassmen to promote involvement in USG, assisted at the Involvement Fair and with homecoming. She also is an active member of the Budget Committee, which helped revise both the SSC bylaws and the financial bylaws.

"It's a lot more work and responsibility than students outside of USG think," Rothstien said.

Rothstien's dedication to USG and the students is clear through her choice to donate her stipends to clubs in need.

"I had decided last semester when I ran that I would give the money back to Stony Brook clubs and organizations that I have felt needed a small boost in their budget for an event or other desires they express," she said. So far this semester, Rothstien has given money to four on-campus organizations, and her most recent paycheck went to the Superstorm Sandy relief effort.

Like Rothstien, all the senators and executive council seem to be interested in more than just the money. Rebecca Safeer, a CAS senator, feels the work that she and others do benefits the student body as a whole, rather than her wallet.

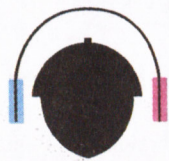
"I do it to ensure that the student activities fee is spent wisely and that the student body gets the best out of their money," Safeer, a member of the Legislative Review Committee, said. "I do my best to represent the student body every day."

College of Engineering and Sciences Senator Kathryn Michaud thinks the compensation for senators is fair, because it levels the field for students with financial needs to run for office.

"I think that senators should have the option of being paid because the amount of time they are required to spend for USG takes away from the time they could be working at another job," she said.

Michaud has found that a lot of the senators, including herself, go above and beyond the minimum requirements. Michaud said she frequently spends more than 10 hours a week in the USG office. Michaud is a member of two committees that meet weekly, including the Programming and Activities Committee.

"Many, if not most, of us are in the office a lot more than [required]," Michaud said. "The amount of time we spend in USG does not affect how much we are paid, meaning that the extra time we spend is not reflected in anyone's paycheck."

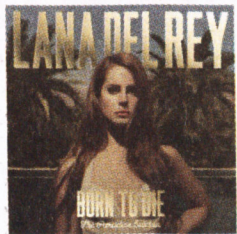


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BORN TO DIE: THE PARADISE EDITION LANA DEL RAY



Many people don't know this, the critically-acclaimed *Born to Die* is not Lana del Rey's first album.

She first came onto the music scene in her teenage years under her birth name Lizzy Grant. She was blonde, she wore flowers in her hair and girly white dresses she wouldn't be caught dead in now.

In 2011, she was reborn. She released *Born to Die* and made a complete transition to a sort of retro hipster who crooned about misery over a sparse beat. Gone were the days singing about college outside her Fordham dorm. Lizzy became Lana, and her music was never the same.

Which is why it comes as no surprise to anyone who knows del Rey's music that this album is as monotonous and dark as *Born to Die*. *The Paradise Edition*, released in the US on Nov. 12, is *Born to Die* with eight new tracks added to it. All eight tracks are new, written by del Rey herself.

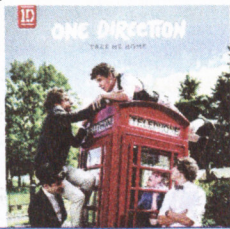
Of all the songs on *The Paradise Edition*, "Cola" stands out. It was written about del Rey, and is all about how a certain body part of hers tastes like Pepsi Cola. Intentionally provocative lyrics aside, the song is actually really good, and is her latest single from the album. Her first—and probably most favored among del Rey fans—is "Ride," for which there is an eerie and strange 10 minute video (complete with a del Rey monologue). The worst new songs on the album are "Bel Air," which isn't compelling or interesting in the way del Rey songs usually are, and "Yayo," which just falls completely short.

Of course, there are some people who just cannot like her music. It's an acquired taste, I must admit, and there are those music snobs who find her music

too monotonous or think she's the most tone-deaf woman out there, to which I say you're missing out. Del Rey's music definitely is a bit tonal and out-there, but that's what makes it interesting. You really don't have to be a hipster to like her music — you just have to have an open mind.

TAKE ME HOME ONE DIRECTION

One Direction's *Take Me Home* is a stark contrast from *Up All Night*, the international boy band's debut record. While that one launched the boys into superstardom with their hit "What Makes You Beautiful," the remaining tracks, with a few exceptions, didn't provide much besides bland melodies and



mediocre lyrics. *Take Me Home*, though, offers much more. It introduces different sounds that work surprisingly well

for the band and there's a good balance of ballads and upbeat tunes.

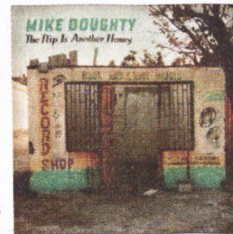
The overall theme of the album gets a little repetitive—almost every song, if not all, is about love—but some of the concepts for each track have matured.

The music on this album is still what people would usually expect of a boy band: pop tunes paired with crooning voices, synthesized beats and lovey-dovey lyrics. But if this British-Irish group is really aiming to go in "One Direction," then *Take Me Home* is certainly the right way to go.

THE FLIP IS ANOTHER HONEY MIKE DOUGHTY

As a huge fan of Mike Doughty, I have to admit I approached *The Flip Is Another Honey* with a lot of concern. Doughty's songs have always been great because of his incredibly clever lyrics, so releasing

a cover album just feels like a wasted opportunity. It should surprise no one that the best tracks are the ones where Doughty gets creative; John Denver's "Sunshine on My Shoulder" and the Stone Roses' "Tightrope" both are supplemented by original rap verses full of Doughty's signature proficient vocabulary. At the very least, the other song choices are unusual gems that don't usually get attention, filled out with great atmosphere that balances equal parts catchy hooks and relaxing tones. Sure, some tracks are annoyingly repetitive, but Doughty's having fun again, and that mentality definitely shines through. I might want more, but this LP is worth a lot more than the sum of its parts.



CRYSTAL CASTLES CRYSTAL CASTLES

In 2008, there was no new group that sounded more gimmicky than Crystal Castles. Electronic dance music hadn't quite blown up to the proportions it has now, but even by today's standards in the mind-bogglingly diverse blanket genre, they've carved out their own harsh, bizarre and chaotic brand of goth-style dance music. "Untrust Us" and "Alice Practice" from their first album were addicting and refreshing takes on a recognizable sound, and the release as a whole was surprisingly well-consumed. But how long can a terrifying lady scream into a microphone over glitched-out Atari sounds and still expect to make engaging and interesting music?

Apparently, way longer than you'd think. Their second album in 2010 was surprisingly fantastic. It took a step



in a less-harsh and more structured direction from their first album, but still would take the time to tear your eardrums out. Crystal Castles' third self-titled album (no, not "Crystal Castles III," it's the third album they've named simply "*Crystal Castles*") takes another step into a more expansive and beautiful sound. But don't think it's any more upbeat than their first two albums: the only song title on this album that doesn't sound like it's scary is "Transgender." This album is just as fucking bleak as their music has always been.

The one difference with this release is it that it never quite reaches the brutality that their first two albums do on tracks like the head-splitting "Doe Deer" or the chaotic "Alice Practice." But the album doesn't suffer from its toned-down nature, and

STADIUMS OF SHIT

GIRLS POOP by Howie Newsberkwoman

I'm so weird when it comes to pooping. I understand that every species gets rid of their waste, but it weirds me out. Not that I'm a girls-don't-poop type of girl but I'm publically shy about this private bodily function. It's just that my shyness causes me to have a mental block when it comes to doing a number two in public restrooms or at friend's houses.

Any time I give it a go when I'm not home, my anxiety skyrockets.

Am I taking too long in here?" I think to myself.

What if the person outside the stall knows I'm *pooping*? What if someone hears a splash from the toilet? What if there is a smell? *Oh, the horror.*

I was at a lecture in the Javits Center when I thought it would be a healthy decision to go to the bathroom. I walked into the bathroom feeling confident I could defeat my anxiety for this session: one session at a time. When I opened the door to the "Women's Restroom," I came across a blue and white restroom that had toilet paper scattered on the floor, the sink, even the ceiling. And it smelled like old people's soap and poop water. *Come on, ladies.*

The bathroom was empty.

"You got this," I coached myself.

I scanned each stall for something reasonably clean. Behind door number one was a toilet that someone forgot to flush. (Why!? Why would you *not* flush the toilet in a public area?) Door number two, there was a toilet that was covered in excess toilet paper someone put on the seat to not get germs, a concept I never understood. Behind door number three, there was a drop of pee on the toilet seat. (Again, why!?) Finally, behind door number four, I decided it was clean *enough* to get down to business.

I sat down and began to relax. I was looking down at the tile floor when I saw it. A used maxi pad lying next to the sanitary napkin trash bin. (Again, why!?) It was *huuuuge*. It must have been those nighttime pads that are so gigantic you can't walk without it looking like you have a tail poking out from your behind. And what was all over it, was not pretty (I'll spare the details).

Immediately my body tensed up with shock and horror. *Ewwwww*, times a million.

even provides a consistency that makes their newest release their best yet.

"Kerosene" is an atmospheric and catchy track featuring breathy and subdued vocals from singer Alice Glass. "Affection" is similar in tone, and a hypnotizing and windy synth melody allows Glass's vocals to flow perfectly from tune to tune. "Sad Eyes," although the title suggests otherwise, is a perfect old-school rave banger. No track here is completely disposable, and I find myself just as drawn to their newest release as I did to their previous two, which is an incredible feat for a band I expected to forget about several years ago.

"Nope, no pooping now," my mind was saying to itself.

I ended up having to reschedule that pooping session and contemplating suicide since I will forever have that image of a dirty, old woman's size maxi pad fried into my brain.

OVERRATED BATHROOMS

by Andy Polhamus

Ever have that feeling where you discover a movie, band or book and fall in love with it for a few years, only to wake up one morning and realize *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* was never that great to begin with?

That's how I feel about the unisex bathrooms located throughout the library. When I first found one, up on the fourth floor, I was entranced. It was an oasis of privacy and comfort in an otherwise cold and unforgiving environment.

Now, though, I'm shocked when I pay a visit to these bathrooms—even those in secret locations deep in the bowels of the library. Much like the movie *Garden State*, these places were special to me when I was a younger man. But it became obvious after awhile that these shit stations were overrated. The little nuances that once attracted me to them, including those tall, comfortable handicapped toilets and those weird full-length mirrors on the far wall that let you really, truly, see what you look like while you defecate had suddenly lost all their charm. Also, this one time I went in there and somebody had pissed into the wastebasket by the sink, and that fucking sucked.

Nowadays, if I find myself in one of these restrooms, I have to make a liberal arts student's estimation of the likelihood of contracting chlamydia (note: if you're not sure, just assume it's always going to happen, then do whatever it is you were planning to do anyway). Sure, I'll visit every once in awhile for nostalgia's sake, just like I'll still listen to The Decembrists once in awhile if I'm looking to take a trip down memory lane.

But just the same way I hate Colin Meloy's voice now, and think that the script of *Garden State* seems forced and that *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is awfully pretentious for a novel published by MTV, it's never the same when I go back to the unisex bathrooms. And as I prepare to graduate this December, I suspect that I'll never go back. I'm just not that guy anymore.

SKYFALL

by Mark McClean



The secret agent every man and woman wants to be doesn't show any signs of slowing down in *Skyfall*, the latest installment in the 007 series. James Bond has been saving the world for half a century, and this movie shows how much has changed in that time.

Daniel Craig isn't the savvy, sophisticated and seemingly invincible James Bond we came to know when the series began with Sean Connery in 1962. In Craig's third outing as 007, we are treated to the most human and realistic Bond we've ever seen struggle against a villain who has him clearly outclassed (all of those shaken martinis had to catch up with Bond sooner or later). Javier Bardem, who plays the role of the leading villain Silva, is the most animated and twisted adversary to appear in any of Bond's 23 adventures. He can send shivers down your spine, and he plays arguably the biggest role of any Bond villain.

Bardem and Craig aren't the only reasons why this film is so great. Judi Dench's acting as M is phenomenal as always, and this film really delves into the relationship between her

and Bond. Q, played by the young Ben Whishaw, makes his debut in the Craig era. While you won't see exploding pens and sophisticated gadgets in *Skyfall*, you will be treated to Q playing a much larger role in this movie. He constantly pushes Bond's buttons and provides witty and biting dialogue.

Skyfall's acting is just one of the qualities that make this movie a must-see. While the fancy, exotic adventures such as a motorcycle chase through Istanbul and a trip to a Chinese casino bring us back to the classic Bond films, this installment takes place primarily back home in London. If you're expecting the classic plot of saving the world from someone aiming to take it over, you'll be pleasantly surprised this time around, with Silva more interested in revenge than world domination.

The superb acting, changes of scenery and unique plot are enough to make *Skyfall* Craig's best outing and one of the best Bond films of all time. As Bond says, resurrection is one of his hobbies, and *Skyfall* has done just that for the 007 series.

MY NIGHT WITH EDWARD CULLEN

by Daniel Cashmar

It was a cold, dark, mid-November night when I went to see the midnight opening of the last *Twilight* movie. I had never seen the prior movies but seeing as the Internet exists and I consider myself an avid surfer of said World Wide Web, I knew the basic plot. Entering the movie, my life held nothing but hopelessness and desperation. Never did I expect I would end that night knowing true love. This is the story of my night with Edward Cullen.

I was just your regular Long Island kid, struggling to get by as an able-bodied white male. I woke up to my posters of Michael Jordan and Wayne Gretzky and sprayed on some Axe deodorant. But today was unlike any other and I should have known. I should have realized the sparkle in the corner of my eye was none other than the vampire Edward Cullen stalking me all day.

After the movie, I was walking back to my Enzo Ferrari when I saw the sparkle once more and screamed out, "Who are you?!" My interrobang didn't go unnoticed as he finally revealed himself to me.

"I've been following you all day," he said.

"I know," I told him. "Why?"

"I just... had to see you."

"But why me?"

"I don't know. I'm just drawn to you."

I could tell from his quivering lips that he was telling the truth. He didn't want me for my blood. He wanted me for something more, something only a vampire historian like myself could understand. We entered my car through its butterfly doors and the F140 65° V12 engine roared as it started. As I drove my car without a destination, he placed his cold hand on my inner thigh. I gasped.

"I know what you are," I said to him.

"Say it out loud," he commanded. "Say it."

"Vampire."

"Are you afraid?"

I turned to him as I was driving and answered, "No."

As my eyes weren't on the road, I drove off of the road and hit a large bump that sent my car went flying into the air. We crashed into a river and pulled each other to safety as my car exploded. Our clothes were soaking wet and he motioned to an old millhouse near us. I obediently followed him inside and he started a fire in the fireplace.

"What if the owner--" I tried to ask, but he pressed a finger onto my full lips to silence me.

"Take off your clothes," he told me.

He stripped naked and I turned bashfully away. He walked up to me and put his hands on my shoulders and then pressed his face to my neck. I shivered. I knew this was wrong, but it felt so right. His manhood pressed my butt through my soaking jeans and I sighed animatedly. I'm not sure how it happened but I soon found my clothes to be on the other side of the room and him on top of me, kissing my lips and grabbing chunks of my chest hair. Reaching for his penis, I felt a bizarrely warm sensation fill my

palm. Perhaps it was joy warming me, or perhaps it something more. He pressed his penis into my testicles and they separated to reveal a hidden vagina.

"But, Edward, aren't I a man?" I asked him.

"Of course you are. As a vampire, I have the ability to impregnate anyone," he informed me.

"Are you going to give me your child?"

"Yes."

"Thank you."

I could feel ovaries forming inside of my body as he vigorously entered me. I wrapped my legs around his spotless, sparkling back as I became the seahorse he required of me. He arched his back, coming close to ecstasy and I wrapped my arms around his neck to keep him close, to feel his breath on me. It was too much and I felt his donkey-like genitals give me the emission of a horse.

At that moment, a group of ninja werewolves burst through the windows as Edward rolled off of me.

"Give us the humpire child," they demanded in a thick Russian accent.

"No, I'll never give you my child," he said, defending our baby and me.

The werewolves jumped at Edward and started slashing his beautiful, sparkling chest. His blue vampire blood sprayed across the gorgeous mink rug on the floor, completely ruining its aesthetic value. He stabbed through the chest of one werewolf as his hand transformed into a sword and sliced off the head of another. The other werewolves retreated after their comrades died.

"Thank you for saving us, Edward," I said as I walked over to him.

But his knees gave way and he collapsed onto the floor. I combed my fingers through his fantastic brown hair as I held his head up. Blood poured from the corners of his lips and dripped onto the wooden floor. He coughed out, "I love you" to me through the liquid and I began to cry. I could feel the humpire child crying from within me as it started to try and birth itself.

"Edward, I, I think I'm giving birth," I said to him through my tears.

"That's...beautiful."

The baby started crawling out from my testicle vagina, whistling the tune to Mystic Cave Zone as I writhed in pain, holding my dying Edward's hand. I lay on the ground, screaming and gasping and the baby came out looking remarkably like a blue hedgehog.

"You're too slow," it yelled.

"Edward, our baby's first words," I said, crying.

But he didn't respond. He had passed on to Vampire Heaven, or as we humans know it, Hell. I grabbed my baby, who had already aged to five years old, and exited the millhouse. And so this ends my night with Edward. He will forever be the Jackie Chan to my Chris Tucker.

BEASTS OF THE SOUTHERN WILD

by Arielle Dollinger and Aleks Gilbert-Petrovic



The protagonist is Hushpuppy and Wink is her father. They live in the Bathtub.

An isolated island community off the coast of Louisiana, the Bathtub is on the wrong side of the levees protecting New Orleans. That's okay, though; when a storm floods the Bathtub, the solution is as simple as blowing away part of the levee, which—like pulling the plug out of a bathtub—drains the water, exposes their submerged homes and returns the lives of the Bathtub's residents to the way they were.

Hushpuppy narrates the film with the simplistic musings characteristic of a seven-year-old. She sees a broken world. She looks up at adults and sees weakened people pretending to be stronger than the force of nature. She makes her best effort to understand the world around her, but all she knows is what she's learned from schoolteachers' cautionary tales and her father's lessons in survival.

Beasts of the Southern Wild takes American infatuation with rugged individualism to an extreme. As a girl with no mother and a dying father, Hushpuppy (Quvenzhané Wallis) needs to learn self-sufficiency, because nobody's going to catch her catfish for her.

The fact that the bayou-drawl of Hushpuppy and Wink made it difficult to understand some of the lines was unimportant. The simple dialogue is buttressed by the visual and musical elements of the work.

In the Bathtub, words don't matter; people and community matter. Words, as powerful as they are, were not necessary to accurately describe the feelings of its residents. Their worn-out

faces and hollow smiles, along with a raw, organic soundtrack, were emotional enough. As the Bathtub fills with water, its residents become shells of themselves, and nothing is more haunting than their silence.

Beasts is a view of the world from the eyes of a child. The camera is always pointed upward at anything taller than Hushpuppy, and there are barely any scenes where it is not juggling around as if held by Hushpuppy herself (which is less annoying than anyone who didn't like *Cloverfield* would imagine).

The easiest comparison would be to the Terrence Malick film *Tree of Life*. But unlike *Tree of Life*, loved by critics and not so much by everybody else, *Beasts* has garnered good reviews from users on Metacritic and the Internet Movie Database. For the most fickle viewer, there are even a few explosions.

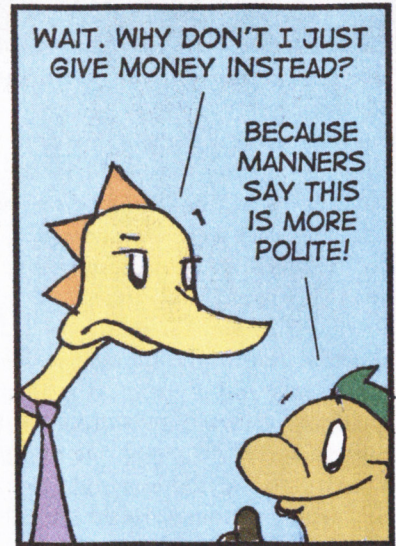
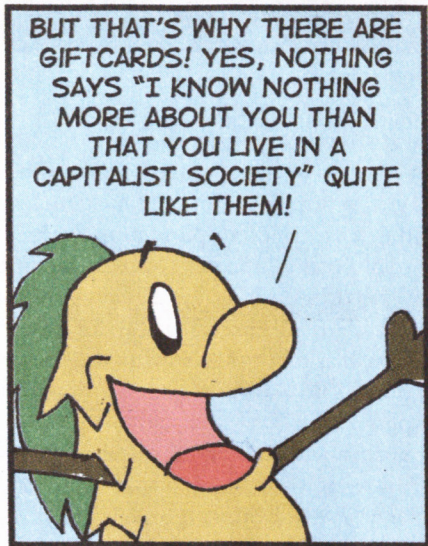
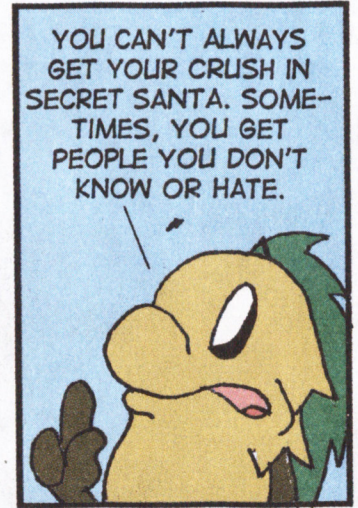
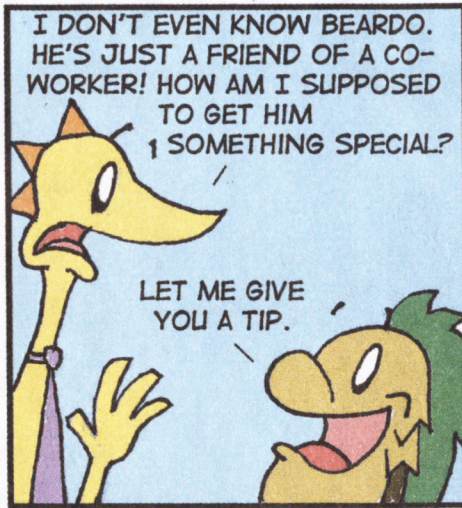
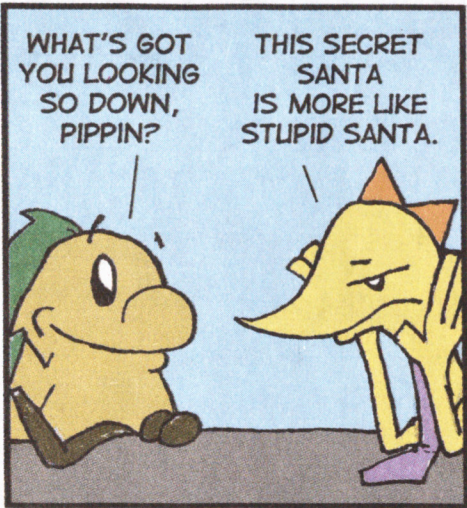
The movie poster depicts an almost-silhouetted little girl surrounded by sparks. She emerges from woods, the light in her own two hands. And that's what *Beasts of the Southern Wild* is. The situation is dark, their home destroyed, but in the eyes of the community's inhabitants, the light has never disappeared. The hurricane ravaged the Bathtub, but not the spirits of its people.

Your last chance to see *Beasts of the Southern Wild* in any sort of theater probably passed with Friday's showing at the Staller Center. This review isn't completely in vain though: according to the movie's website, it will be available "on a variety of Video on Demand platforms beginning Thursday, Nov. 22 for a limited time."

Tickets to showings for the remainder of the Staller Center for the Arts' fall film series are now \$5 for students.

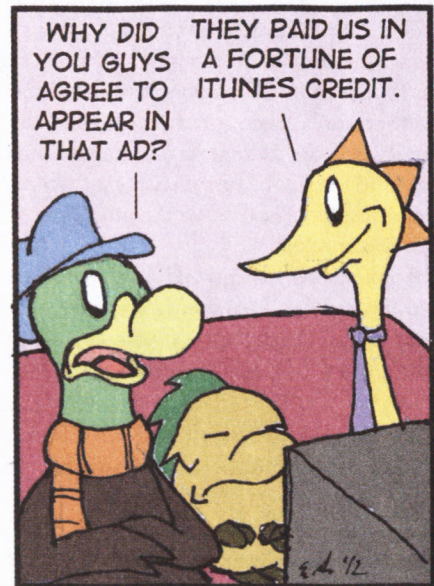
The Boring Rocks

a poorly-colored comic by Evan Goldaper



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THE SPY WHO SHAGGED ME

by Hayley Parr



Sex, spies and scandal are the three S-words on everybody's lips this week.

For what reason? Is there a new movie out?

There's no movie. The reason for this is a load of S too!

David Petraeus, the CIA Director under Barack Obama since 2011, resigned last week after admitting he had an extramarital affair with Paula Broadwell, the author of his biography, *All in: the Education of General David Petraeus*.

The four-star general known for leading the United States' war efforts in Iraq under former president George W. Bush and for making outstanding progress against the Taliban movement in Afghanistan, is now the one in the firing line for the "activities" of his private life.

News of the affair was collected from Petraeus's Gmail account, which raises serious ethical questions concerning privacy. However, while flicking through pages and pages, and pictures and pictures of the hottest political scandal of the year, I can't help but wonder: who cares?

Yes, a high paid, important and respected man had an affair and gave a little more personal information to a writer than any biographer would need, to say the least. But when statistics tell us that in 41 percent of marriages, either one or both spouses have admitted to emotional or physical adultery, you can't help think the man is only human (not that I regard adultery as acceptable, normal behavior).

Of course the issue of mistrust comes into factor when talking about affairs: how can we trust an official who is disloyal? But he was unfaithful to his wife, not to his job, his employees or the military. Therefore, I do not think we can judge him too harshly.

It was reported that President Obama said that there has been no evidence to show that Petraeus's affair harmed national security.

Now, If Petraeus's work ethic and job standards in being the Director of the Criminal Intelligence Agency are good enough for Obama, they're good enough for me, and probably good enough

for many people reading this article.

Who are we to judge what officials do behind closed doors (excuse the pun) if it is not affecting their work?

If the Petraeus affair were to have caused a lapse in the country's security then, yes, serious issues would have had to be raised. However, if a man can do his job to perfection there is no need to drag family and relationship problems into the equation.

"After being married for over 37 years, I showed extremely poor judgment by engaging in an extramarital affair. Such behavior is unacceptable, both as a husband and as the leader of an organization such as ours," said the guilt-ridden Petraeus in a statement to his CIA employees.

Next, we will be hearing what color of underpants they wear—or don't wear in this case!

I fear that news is driven too much by sex scandals and that we are in a constant stream of "who slept with whom" information, though these stories add no benefit to our knowledge.

As an exchange student from the UK, I am well informed of sneaky political scandals. Our newspapers are filled with stories outing government officials and people of authority. Honestly though, however little or large the stories are, the newspapers line the next day's rubbish bins or wrap our fish and chips and are forgotten about.

The press in the UK has a field day with stories on affairs, tax scrimping and sexual harassment, the latter two being very serious and newsworthy. So when reading about the Petraeus affair, it was kind of boring news to me, as a consumer who is inundated with the private lives of people whose private lives are just human. The only reaction I had was "When will we hear the end of this?"

It was inevitable that Petraeus was going to be caught: he worked for the CIA where obviously there are spies spying on spies! I just don't think that it was newsworthy enough for a talented man who did his job to perfection to have his world crumble. Wait a second...maybe this is a movie?

DON'T FUCK THIS UP, COLORADO

by Howie Newsberkman

I'll admit it: I was a denier. Even after I was a part of the well-attended HempFest 2008 gathering in Boston, I still figured this whole "Legalize Marijuana" movement was a lazy, hazy fringe group I was just marginally a part of. There were minor steps of progress in the medical marijuana and decriminalization movements over the past several years, but nothing to really get stoked about. To be honest, I was never passionate about legalization since the magic grass would be only marginally easier to obtain if it were sold at gas stations. Seriously, how hard is it to score weed around here anyway? Spit up in the air and there's a good chance whoever it lands on has some sweet herb for sale.

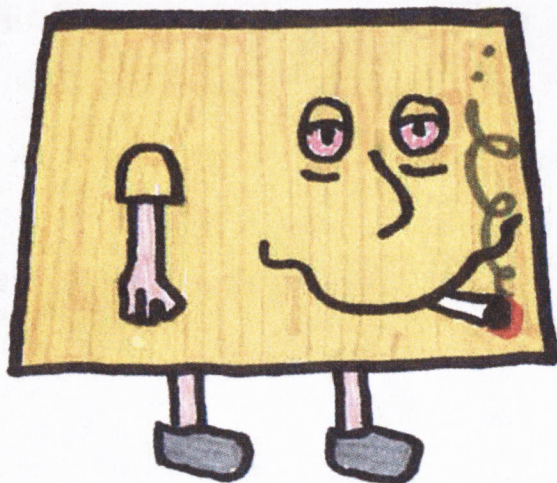
But my apathetic view of legalization was probably due more to my pessimism about drug policy reform happening before I become balding and fat and probably shouldn't be eating nachos anymore—let alone smoking weed. I always imagined that full-on legalization of the Devil's lettuce would take place when my generation started gaining power...you know, in like 35 years or so. But here we are, just four years after my original pessimism, and two states have straight up legalized marijuana—as in for full-on bong-pack-to-the-dome smoking purposes. Colorado, props,

but listen: your responsibilities are just beginning here. You are America's first-world super-baked guinea pig, and the fate of national and perhaps even international marijuana policy reform is heavily dependent on how good of an example you set.

The key is to minimize negative associations. As much as Mary Jane enthusiasts love to promote their individuality, the guy with the dreadlocks and a sublime t-shirt smoking a joint and playing three chords on his guitar outside of a coffee shop isn't helping to convince people like that Fox News asshole Steve Doocy that people are responsible and respectable enough not to get "potted up and get behind the wheel," as he so eloquently put it. As much as we like to believe we don't need respect from ignorant tools for the legalization movement, they're an unfortunately large

demographic who need convincing. The anti-pot crowd will clutch at any negative impact that legalization brings, from public smokers to increased DUI arrests to people generally being more obnoxious.

So please: behave yourselves, Colorado. I understand the impulse to spread the smoky love, but try to contain yourselves.



CONSERVATIVES LIKE US

by Nowie Hewsberkman

Well, that's it America, pack it up and call it a day. The hope for future generations of Americans just went up in smoke: skunky, Cheech-and-Chong smoke.

For those of you who don't already know of this travesty, Colorado and Washington both legalized the personal use of marijuana, right after they re-elected that socialist Barack Obama.

What has this country really come to? Kids learn about sex in school, people think we've evolved from monkeys and now the streets will be filled with a bunch of pot smoking hippies!

This just further proves that liberals are taking over the country and they have no concern for the moral values that this

great nation was founded upon! What would the great Thomas Jefferson think about this country today if he knew that we could pick up joints at the gas station and get more stoned than Snoop Dogg. Or Lion. Or whatever his name is in Amsterdam.

I want my kids to grow up and be successful business people like Mitt Romney, not some burnt out artist living in New York going through some damn existential crisis.

Is this the type of America that we really want? An America where you can go to your local Wal-Mart and buy marijuana like it's damn orange juice? Pretty soon they'll be selling heroin and cocaine in drug stores. We need to go back to a

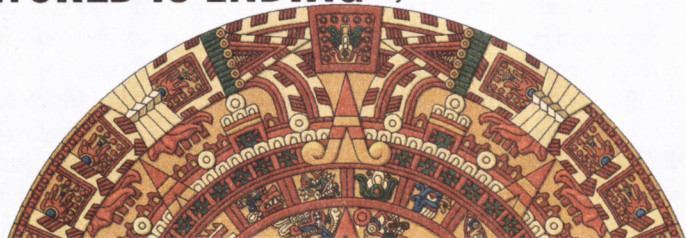
simpler time in America, like the 1920s. At least we still had morals then.

It's not like those good 'ol days are ever coming back, though. We've got illegal immigrants stealing the good jobs from hardworking Americans, a socialist in the White House and now drugs are legal. There's no hope for America. We should all just pack up and move to Canada or something. At least they're not trying to socialize my health care over there.

But the jokes on all of you pot-smoking, fornicating, socialist-voting liberals, because Hostess went bankrupt last week.

WHY DON'T Y'ALL BELIEVE THE WORLD IS ENDING

by God



Hey everyone. I know it's been a while since I've written to all of you, maybe a couple thousand years or so. If you haven't noticed, I've been trying to avoid direct communication with y'all mortals; Vague and mysterious symbolism is kind of my style. But fuck, I've been stepping up my divine messages game lately and no one seems to be picking up what I'm trying to tell the masses. I'm left with no other choice but to appeal to you through the boring medium of writing in your favorite college magazine.

Look: I've been planning this "End of the World" thing for a while now. I've gone through with eight or so mass extinctions, and they have all been meticulously planned and executed. I was looking forward to going through with this one because you guys are the first of my creations to recognize my existence. As you can imagine, I've been getting pretty stoked to see everyone praising me and begging for mercy from my totally awesome power. But other than only a handful of the weirdest of you motherfuckers, no one has caught my obvious signs that I'm going to brutally destroy you all on December 21.

Granted, maybe leaving foggy evidence with a long-ago conquered civilization wasn't the most believable of signs. But have you seen what I've been doing to the world lately? I sent you guys a hurricane and a blizzard in the middle of autumn within a week of one another. What more evidence do all of you need that I'm going to rip every fiber of your being into shreds in just about a month? And for the love of Me, stop contributing my signs to that "climate change" bullshit. You really think your pathetic little SUVs have been sowing the seeds of your destruction? Please, I can—and have—wiped out villages in Asia with a single sneeze.

Just do me a favor and kneel at my greatness. Really, it's the least you can do after I gave you all life in the first place. Those of you who chose the right religion will be spared and sent to heaven of course, but I'm not saying which one it is. That would really ruin the fun.



50 STATES IS ENOUGH

by Nick Batson

With the outcome of election season came a few important changes in legislation in the United States, including the legalization of marijuana in Colorado and Washington, as well as the legalization of gay marriage in several states.

Outside of the continental U.S. also came big news: Puerto Rico, a small island that is currently a United States territory, has voted to apply for statehood.

If Puerto Rico were to become a state, it wouldn't really benefit the United States, but the benefits would be felt in Puerto Rico.

In turn, the United States would inherit Puerto Rico's 13.4 percent unemployment rate, and its very small GDP per capita (\$24,600 per person per year). The economic growth of Puerto Rico itself is also quite small, ranking 172 in the world with a growth rate of only +0.191 percent per year.

It should be noted that at some point Puerto Rico, as well as other U.S. territories should become states, but now is not that time. We have too many economic problems to handle already without inheriting others.

The last two states to be admitted to the Union, Alaska and Hawaii in 1959, came at a time when economic growth in the United States was high (+7.2 percent to the current +4.969 percent in 2012). In all fairness, admitting Puerto Rico to the Union wouldn't place an enormous burden on the nation's shoulders, but it would be an unnecessary one.

The manner in which Puerto Rico put the application for statehood on its ballot was also very confusing to those voting, according to an article published by The Huffington Post. It didn't come right out and say: "Do you want to become a state?" Instead it asked voters if they were satisfied with the current commonwealth status of the nation (although a United States territory, the people of Puerto Rico commonly refer to it as a commonwealth).

This confusion resulted in some 470,000 people casting ballots where that option was left blank. Leading to an inaccurate conclusion as to whether the people of Puerto Rico even want to become a U.S. state.

Either way, it's unlikely that Congress will be considering any statehood options for Puerto Rico in the near future. If Congress decides to vote on statehood for Puerto Rico, it's likely that it won't be until long after Barack Obama has left office. Hopefully, at that point, our economy will be stronger and the option to take on another state would be a viable one.

Besides, no one likes odd numbers.

BASKETBALL FALLS TO SACRED HEART

by Andrew Carrieri

After winning an early morning close contest at Rider University on Tuesday, Nov. 13, men's basketball returned home and took on the Pioneers of Sacred Heart University on Sunday, Nov. 18. The Seawolves entered the game with a 3-0 record, while Sacred Heart was 1-2 on the season.

The home team got off to a quick start, outscoring Sacred Heart 9-0 over the first 5:23 of play. Junior guard Anthony Jackson was key to this run, hitting two three-pointers.

The lead didn't last long however, clutch three-point shooting by SHU guard Steve Glowiak and forward Nick Greenbacker led a 19-10 Sacred Heart run over the next 10:04 to tie the game. Glowiak was 2-2 from three-point range during the run, and Greenbacker hit 1-2 from beyond the arc. A layup by guard Louis Montes gave the Pioneers their first lead of the game, 21-20, with 3:41 remaining in the half.

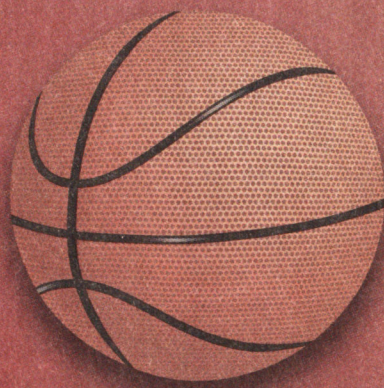
Unfazed, the Seawolves ended the first half on a 9-2 run, and they took a 29-23 lead into the locker room. Jackson and Marcus Rouse led the Seawolves in first-half scoring with six points apiece. Montes led Sacred Heart with ten points before halftime.

After Montes hit a jumper for Sacred Heart to open the second half, Stony Brook took control of the game. Junior forward Eric McAlister and Jackson both hit threes, and sophomore forward Anthony Mayo connected on a dunk to give Stony Brook a 37-27 lead with 15:23 remaining. The Seawolves took their largest lead, 54-40, on a three-pointer by Rouse with 7:42 left in the game.

Unfortunately for the crowd at Pritchard Gymnasium, the home team fell apart down the stretch. Down 60-51 with under 4 minutes remaining, Montes hit a jumper to cut the Stony Brook lead to seven points. Then, senior guard Shane Gibson took over the game, scoring the Pioneers' final 11 points en route to a 64-62 Sacred Heart victory. During Gibson's shooting barrage, the Seawolves scored only two points, on a free throw by Rouse.

Montes led Sacred Heart in scoring with 20 points; Stony Brook was led by Rouse's 16 points. With the loss, the Seawolves drop to 3-1 on the season.

STONY BROOK SEAWOLVES BASKETBALL 2012-13



MEN

| | | |
|--------|------------------|------|
| 23-Nov | Canisius | Home |
| 24-Nov | Connecticut | Away |
| 27-Nov | Cornell | Away |
| 30-Nov | Eastern Illinois | Home |
| 10-Dec | St. Francis (NY) | Away |
| 17-Dec | Sacred Heart | Away |
| 20-Dec | Maryland | Away |
| 27-Dec | Seton Hall | Away |

WOMEN

| | | |
|--------|---------------------|------|
| 24-Nov | NJIT | Away |
| 27-Nov | Robert Morris | Away |
| 29-Nov | Youngstown State | Away |
| 3-Dec | Sacred Heart | Home |
| 7-Dec | Fordham | Away |
| 10-Dec | Fairleigh Dickinson | Home |
| 14-Dec | St. Peter's | Home |
| 18-Dec | St. Francis (NY) | Away |
| 20-Dec | Rutgers | Away |
| 29-Dec | Iona | Home |

The Rise of Asian Americans

Pew Research Center Report

by Paul Huynh

A century ago, discriminatory policies geared toward Asian Americans left them returning to their emigrant countries in droves. The case is very different today. A 2012 Pew Research Center Report notes that Asians have surpassed Hispanics as the largest group of immigrants.

Asian Americans as a whole are also the wealthiest and most educated Americans. More than 61% of Asian immigrants aged 25-64 had a college degree, making them the most educated immigrants in US history. In total, 49% of Asian Americans over 25 have a BA while only 31% of all Americans do.

than that of their parents. These statistics point to greater financial satisfaction in their lives.

Asian Americans are also more open-minded with their group relations and intermarriage. More than 80% of say that they get along with whites, 70% get along with Hispanics, and 60% get along with African Americans. The latter figure is largely due to the negative views of Korean Americans, whose history as shopkeepers in black neighborhoods has created friction.

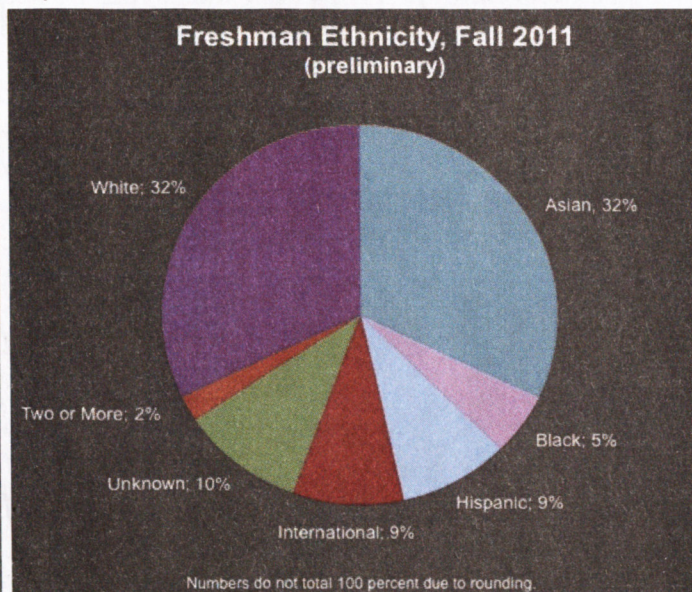
Many native Asian Americans are also more likely to intermarry than any other ethnic group. According to the study, about 29% of those surveyed between 2008 and 2010 were married to a person of another race. Asian women, in particular, were twice as likely to marry out as Asian men, exemplified this year with the headline news when just graduated UCSF med student Priscilla Chen was wed to Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg .

However, Asians are less satisfied with the way the general public perceives them as a group. The "Asian American" label is rejected by almost 62% of those surveyed. Instead, they identified themselves with their ancestor's country of origin (e.g. China). This is typical of immigrant and first generation of any nationality.

This way of social identification may also be attributed to the stereotypes that remain from older Hollywood films. Asian males were often sideline characters or martial arts masters, while Asian females were often portrayed as sexually available women. One in ten of those surveyed said they were called offensive names in the past year, and one fifth reported that they were treated unfairly.

The problem with the report, according to the Asian American Center for Advocating Justice, is that by combining all Asians, it gives a wrong impression of sub-groups. Cambodian and Laotian Americans, for example, have higher poverty rates than Blacks and a third of them do not even have high school degrees.

SBU is a mixture of what the Pew Report and the AACAJ each say. Asian Americans now make up 32% of entering freshmen, the same number as Whites, and in the College of Engineering, Asians are the majority. But SBU also has the lowest family incomes of all the SUNY Centers, much of which is due to the low income status of immigrant parents from NYC Asian communities.



The US job market attracts many foreign students seeking careers in engineering. It was recently reported by the National Science Foundation that only 4.5% of undergraduates in the US graduate in engineering. There is a severe shortage of engineers who have the required technical knowledge needed by firms. In order to fill that gap, they recruit students from China, India, and Korea despite the political backlash. Unemployment for this field was only 2% in 2010. Engineers can be expected to have a stable job with a starting salary hovering near \$80,000. Native born Asian Americans are also more likely to pursue careers in science, mathematics, and engineering .

This financial stability is partly why the study, conducted on 3,511 Asian Americans, reported that they feel more confident about their finances and the direction of the country than any other ethnic group. The median household income of \$66,000 is \$12,000 more than for Whites. About half said their standard of living was higher

A Sea Change: Asian Americans Went 73% for Obama in 2012 Elections

by Wilson Jiang



Ten years ago Democrats lost Asian Americans to Republicans by a hefty 24%. By 2008 they went blue and voted 62% for Obama. This year they not only gave Obama 73%, they were solidly blue in almost all federal races, and it was a banner year for Asian American women. Asian Americans topped Latinos as Obama's second-most supportive ethnic group, behind Blacks. Although only 3% of the electorate, that strong support made them crucial to the Obama reelection in swing states like Florida, Colorado and Virginia. AALDEF's election eve poll not only confirmed the exit polls but showed that one-fifth were first-time voters.

"We are clearly an undeniable and unshakable political power," said Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA) and former chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. "As the fastest-growing ethnic community in the country, we are the margin of victory."

Mazie Hirono became the first female Asian American Senator (D-HI), as well as the first Asian immigrant and first Buddhist to win. Grace Meng became the first Asian American ever elected to Congress from NY. Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI) became the native Pacific Islander (Samoan American) and first Hindu elected to the House. Tammy Duckworth (D-IL) became the first Thai American elected to the House. Mark Takano (D-CA) became the first openly gay person of color elected to the House. Fourteen Asian and Asian Americans were elected or reelected including Ami Bera (D-CA), the third Indian American elected to the House, in one of the most competitive races in the country against an incumbent.

Noah Kim, Editor of AAJ, SBU's Asian American Journal, thought the percentage would be higher. "I'm surprised it's that low," he remarked. "Everyone I knew was for Obama." And for his college-aged generation, that was probably closer to the mark. Obama won in part by

pulling out the youth vote to an even higher degree than in 2008, surprising everyone.

Brian Loo, SBU AA E-Zine grad student photographer, took the above photo of students waiting 3 hours to vote in SAC. While the election change allowing New Yorkers to vote anywhere because of Hurricane Sandy may have made voting on campus this year take longer, students were still willing to stay for hours to have the opportunity. Brian said that he thought that by "going later in the day to vote would mean that commuter students would leave and go home. Apparently that wasn't the case."

This election also saw the electorate change. The older white male vote was no longer dominant. Asians, Latinos, Blacks, women, and youth voted in higher numbers than ever before. On issues important to them - immigration reform, education, health care, marriage equality, contraception - they sided with the Democrats.

"Economic growth and jobs, those are the most important issues for Asian Americans, just as they are for everyone else," said Karthick Ramakrishnan, National Asian American Survey Director and professor at the University of California, Riverside. (www.naasurvey.com)

"They prefer more government services rather than cutting taxes to cut government services," he said. "We just released a report... that is very relevant to the fiscal cliff, and we find that two-thirds of Asian Americans support raising taxes on high earners, and the amount is about the same even when you look at Asian Americans who make a lot of money."

"We looked at Asian Americans who make over \$250,000; 62% of them support raising taxes on that category. So they are absolutely willing to pay higher taxes when it means providing more... government services."

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