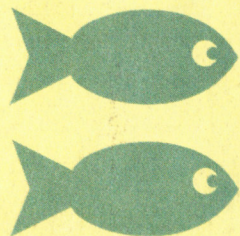


**one fish**



**two fish**



**red fish**



**Reel  
Big Fish**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

## EDITORIALS

---

Reel Big Fish 4

## NEWS

---

Move in Day 6

Chaplain Nadim 7

Printing 8

## FEATURES

---

Know Your Rights 9

On Watch 10

Sexiled 12

Lumpy's and S3 13

Apps For College 14

Parking 16

Freshman Advice 18

Campus Map 19

Campus Dining 20

New Staller Sign 21

## CULTURE

---

### MOVIES

---

Premium Rush 22

Hope Springs 23

### MUSIC

---

Nutshell 28

Reel Big Fish 24

COMICS 33

## OPINION

---

Bill Nye 34

Conventions 35

## SPORTS

---

Swim Team 36

Football 37

# THE STONY BROOK PRESS

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In the previous issue of *The Stony Brook Press* (Summer Issue), an article regarding Apple store employees had numerous details which were reproduced from an article published in *The New York Times* without giving proper attribution. At *The Stony Brook Press*, we pride ourselves in providing reliable and original content for our readers, and we as a whole apologize to our readers and to *The New York Times* for this unfortunate event.

## STAFF

VINCENT BARONE  
TERICHI BELLINGER  
CHRISTINE BOUCHER  
SIOBHAN CASSIDY  
LAUREN DUBOIS  
JOHN FISCHER  
ARIAM FREZGHI  
HALLIE GOLDEN

JOSHUA HA  
PRISCILA KORB  
BUSHRA MOLLICK  
MATTHEW MURRAY  
TEENA NAWABI  
BRIANA NEUBERGER  
HOWIE NEWSBERKMAN  
VANESSA OGLE

CHRIS PRIORE  
ANDY POLHAMUS  
MATT WILLEMMAIN

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The Stony Brook Press  
Suites 060&061  
Student Union  
SUNY at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200  
Email: [editors@sbpress.com](mailto:editors@sbpress.com)



## IF YOU DON'T ADVERTISE YOUR SHOW, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A BAD TIME

USG kicked off the fall semester with the Back to the Brook concert featuring the ska band Reel Big Fish. Overall, it was a great time and a great show, but it could've been much better.

Over the course of my time at Stony Brook, we've had some really spectacular entertainment come perform. Matt and Kim, Aziz Ansari, Immortal Technique, and Chiddy Bang just to name a few. However, the problem with these events was the sheer lack of promotion.

Often, an event will be announced several days before it is to take place, leading to a mad dash to make arrangements and purchase tickets. Personally, there have been several performances I've missed due to lack of promotion.

When The Undergraduate Student Government is asked to explain this, they often state that promotions cannot be made until after the contract with the entertainer has been signed, which is usually just a few days before the actual event is to take place.

Often, an event will be announced several days before it is to take place, leading to a mad dash to make arrangements and purchase tickets.

Of course, this is understandable; there's no use in announcing an event and creating hype for it if its occurrence isn't definite. That could just lead to more

frustration among students.

An easier and more attainable solution may be to attempt to plan events more ahead of time, this way the contracts could be signed a month or so in advance, leading to plenty of time for promotion and ticket sales. After all, in order for the event to be a financial success for the university it has to be attended by as many students as possible.

It would be a good idea for USG and the Student Activities Board to sit down before the beginning of the semester and plan out which artists are available and affordable, and then begin the process of booking the events for the entire semester. Ideally, this would make it possible to announce the annual Spring Concert in February or March.

Many popular artists do college tours around the United States, so it would be an even better idea for Stony Brook to try and book those artists while they're on those tours. Instead of making them come to Long Island for the sole purpose of doing one performance.

Of course it's important to remember that the members of the organizations that plan these events are students, and school work most of the time has to come first, which may result in secondary activities being put on the back burner.

Regardless, as a student who loves attending concerts and other live performances, I'd love to be able to fit as many in as possible during my remaining time here. The easiest way to achieve that is by actually knowing when and where performances are happening.



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## STONY BROOK CHAPLAIN VISITS WHITE HOUSE

by Olivia Burne

Stony Brook has its first White House representative, and she comes in the form of our Muslim chaplain, Sanaa Nadim.

Nadim, or Sister Sanaa as the students commonly call her, received an invitation from the White House to join President Obama for the feast of Iftar, the Muslim feast that breaks the month of fasting Ramadan.

The importance of Obama's invitation was further amplified by his reference to Nadim in the evening's address, while discussing the influence and impact female religious leaders have on their community.

"They are faith leaders like Sanaa Nadim, one of the first Muslim chaplains at an American college," said President Obama. "A voice for interfaith dialogue who's had the opportunity to meet with the Pope to discuss these issues. We're very proud to have you here."

... "One of the things I'm proud of is the fact that I live in a campus community that energizes and accepts religious life on campus."

And Nadim was proud to be there. She described the evening as being "a very sacred experience for me" and described the honor of praying in the East Room. Nadim also described the "warmth" of President Obama's person, before chuckling to herself and saying "he's a very proud Christian."

There were not only respected Muslim dignitaries present, but also a variety of other religious representatives, like the Israeli ambassador, which demonstrated Obama's

"respect for all faith groups," according to Nadim.

As the Muslim chaplain at Stony Brook University, she has been a witness to the religiosity and freedom of religion on her own turf.

While she said that there is a variety of religions both within the Interfaith Center and on campus, there is a strong sense of "cohesiveness and communication" among the leaders and students.

"One of the things I'm proud of is the fact that I live in a campus community that energizes and accepts religious life on campus," said Nadim.

The Stony Brook Interfaith Center also hosts Jewish, Protestant, Asian Christian and Roman Catholic ministries. Each group provides different programs to not only express the faith of students, but also to discuss different faith groups and perspectives.

And the religious leaders head the groups by "upholding an example of working together well," according to Nadim.

But she was not always a Muslim chaplain. Nadim used to work on Wall Street, before "having an epiphany" (and her third child) and leaving to work in Stony Brook's Interfaith Center.

"I wanted to find myself in terms of leaving a mark on this world," she said. "Once you have material things, you desire spirituality."

And none can deny Nadim's love of spirituality. While speaking over the phone from her garden, she described the "good omen" of a nearby, peaceful ladybug and the natural life around her.

"I love nature and I love things that are divine that remind you of your creator," said Nadim. "We're part of something that is eternal."



# #MOVEIN2012 #DOPESTSHIT

by Howie Newsberkman

Summer has come and gone, and thus comes the joyous day when all the Stony Brook students come flooding in, many in their parent's minivan, siblings and grandparents in tow, eager for their first overpriced meal provided by campus dining or the ceremonial first deuce in a new bathroom.

However, it is on this one, wondrous day that we see Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. emerge from his administrative hole in the ground, much like one Punxsutawney Phil Sowerby does on a frigid February morning, only to soon retreat for another year. On this day, Stanley assists one lucky student in moving a box (or bag, in this case) into his or her dorm room. What a chill bro!

At approximately 11:00 A.M. on Friday, August 24, President Stanley made his appearance outside Mendelsohn Quad's Ammann College, sporting a crooked SBU tie and a dope pair of Ray Bans, to help his chosen freshman, who we'll call Louie, for the sake of brevity. At this point one of his handlers asked the man of the hour if his room "wasn't on the third floor or anything," concerned, as slogging things up the stairs would undoubtedly be the most work any of the men involved had done in years. Fortunately for them, Louie lived on the first floor, very close to the building entrance. I can't imagine that his room placement had anything to do with his selection.

After President Stanley and his posse waited for no less than six photographers to show up to shoot the move, they

began. Louie grabbed a cardboard box of his belongings, his father a plastic tote with a case of water stacked on top. President Stanley, being the super considerate, chill bro that he is, always wanting to pull his own weight, opted for a Bed, Bath & Beyond bag that appeared to be stuffed to the gills with heavy objects like a pillow and comforter. What a champ. We should all look up to him.

Upon completion of this grueling task, President Stanley wrapped things up the way President Stanley wraps everything up: by bumping fists with Louie, immediately following it up by pantomiming an explosion with his hand and making a "boom" with his mouth hole. He then let his new bestie know that he was now his "dawg," and will be for life—pending a blood oath.

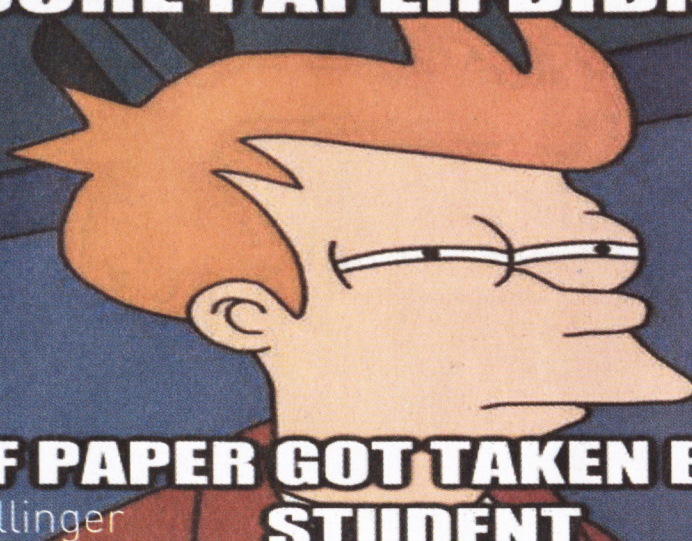
**"I'm out this mo'fucka! See y'all bitch-asses next year!" President Stanley bellowed, treating onlookers to two middle fingers in the air...**

"I'm out this mo'fucka! See y'all bitch-asses next year!" President Stanley bellowed, treating onlookers to two middle fingers in the air as he started to make his departure from the building. He then yelled "Stanley, out!" as he kicked the door open before making his way to his administrative golf cart and was driven off into the distance.

# NOT SURE PAPER DIDN'T PRINT

## OR IF PAPER GOT TAKEN BY OTHER STUDENT

by Arielle Dollinger



When students arrived at Stony Brook University's library SINC site to print their syllabi and class schedules this fall, they found a new set of printing policies: a development that, according to Diana Voss, Manager of Instructional Technology Support for Teaching, Learning & Technology, has brought both benefits and problems.

"It gets very interesting," Voss said, after telling the story of several arguments she overheard last week over whose printouts were whose.

In collaboration with the Sustainability Studies Program and the Undergraduate Student Government, TLT has instituted an ID swipe system, as well as a change in monetary distribution, said Voss. The department has also decided to do away with the cover sheets with the student's name on them, a decision which Voss said will save one million sheets of paper per year.

Students now have a balance of \$14, instead of the former \$2-a-day cumulative balance system.

USG President Anna Lubitz wrote a resolution to make the changes, after the president of Stony Brook University's Graduate Student Organization reached out to her.

"The executive council thought that'd be more beneficial for the students, ultimately, because it gives them more freedom," Lubitz said of the balance change.

Lubitz said the university was already planning on changing the printing policy and decided to speak to the students before making any decisions.

"It's great 'cause we're not wasting paper for the separator pages anymore," Lubitz said.

Jared Chamoff, a junior, said he is happy with the changes.

"I always found those cover page things to be a waste of paper," he said.

And he would go even further in the direction of green.

"Girl, I think we should be paperless," Chamoff said.

But, according to Voss, the absence of separator pages

has caused dispute as students rush to take what they think is theirs from the printer, and actually pick up someone else's print job.

"We need [the students] to be a little more thoughtful," Voss said, noting that she would otherwise call the changes a success.

Meanwhile, some members of the senate are concerned about the fairness of the new balance system.

Because the printing proposal was passed by the summer senate, Lubitz had to bring it to the senate floor once again this fall. A few members of the academic year senate raised concern. For example, all students have printing privileges in the health science buildings, in addition to their \$14-a-week balance. And students can also print in color in the health science buildings.

"Students were concerned that they might be getting, you know, I guess gypped out of their money," Lubitz said.

According to USG Senator Kenneth Myers, prior to this year, resident students received \$14 a week to print at the SINC sites, \$14 to print at the Health Science Center and 20 printed pages a day at their residential computing center. With the changed policies, students will receive a unified fee -- possibly \$14 total.

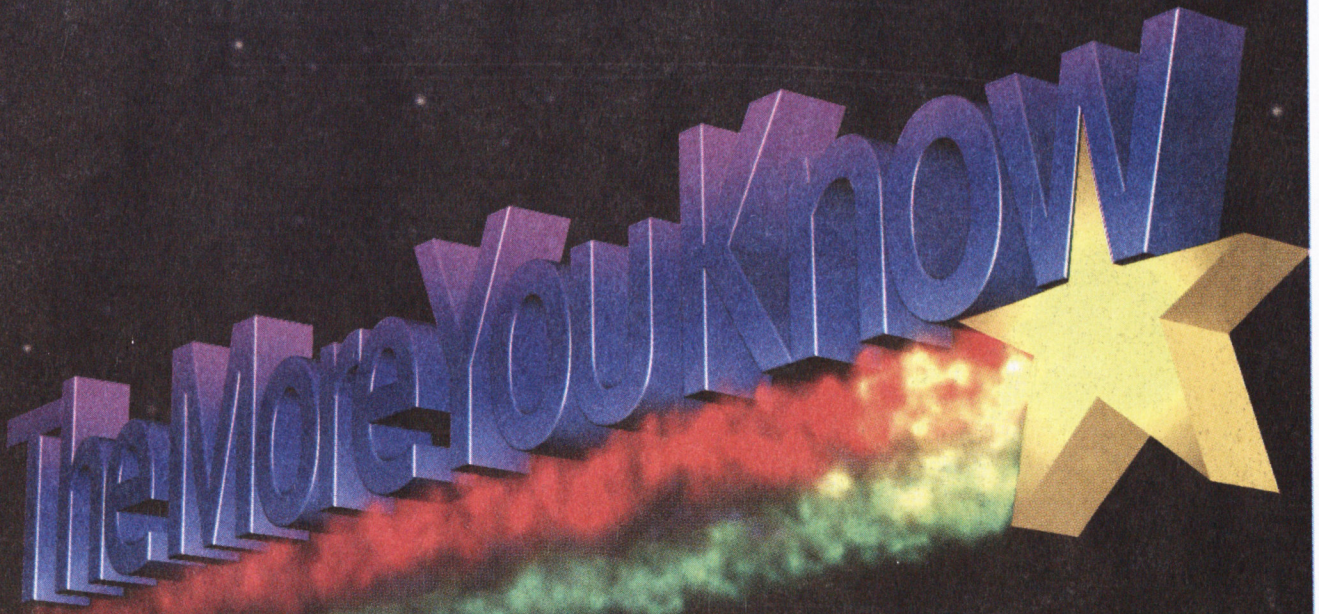
"This would create a loss of access to \$14 for commuters and \$28 for residents," Myers said. "While I do support the other changes that have occurred, like the loss of cover pages and students having access to all funds at the start of the week, I think that the account merger is detrimental."

To pass the resolution would be to say, "we support getting less than before," Myers said.

At this point, he said, if the resolution is voted on without an explanation, he would vote against it. If the cut is justified, however, he would reconsider.

The resolution was tabled until Voss could get more information about the way that the changes have affected those who frequently used Health Science Center printers.





# KNOW YOUR DORM RIGHTS

by Howie Newsberkman

As a newly-minted college freshman, living in your dorm room is likely to be the first time you're living on your own. It's embarrassing, yet completely natural, to wonder who the hell is in charge here? Dorm residents often severely underestimate the rights they have, as they are so used to the mindset of living under a snooping parent's roof. But in short, you have a lot more rights than you probably think you do.

Here's some things you should know:

## **RAs CANNOT touch your stuff.**

Room inspections are solely visual. While RAs come, unlock your door and snoop around a few times a semester, they always give you at least 24 hours notice, and they cannot open drawers, lift up sheets or check out what's in your fridge. So if you're under 21, make sure any signs of alcohol—including empty bottles and caps—are disposed of or hidden from plain view before inspection.

## **You can't blame all the alcohol on your 21-year-old suitemate.**

In a dorm room, there can only be one bottle of alcohol open per 21-year-old residing there. The police need permission to enter your room. Police officers are aware that many students do not know what rights they have, so if an officer is at your door, he may use the classic line "I'm

coming in your room, alright?" That's a question disguised as an unarguable statement of authority, and you have the right to say "no," or to not answer the door entirely. The police will also say, "If you allow us to search your room, the punishment will be a lot more lenient." This is a load of bullshit.

## **Do not incriminate yourself.**

Even if it seems like you're caught, there is no harm in resisting cooperation, and your resistance can't be used against you by law. If your RA catches you out in the hallway in a drunken stupor, he or she can't demand to see your alcohol or your room. The authorities may never get the chance to obtain it otherwise, and you aren't helping your case by handing over evidence.

## **Disciplinary hearings don't follow "innocent until proven guilty."**

Unfortunately, a school-based punishment decision is up to the discretion of the RHD running the hearing. This leaves a huge inconsistency in outcomes which depend on the leniency and personal biases of your RHD. Some may take your word for it more than others. But whatever your hearing decision is, it doesn't affect the case by law: even if police are involved, most minor drug or alcohol related offences on campus stay at school-level.



# ONWATCH IS WATCHING YOU

by Alyssa Melillo

Janaa Bryant didn't know what she was getting herself into when she agreed to let a guy she met at a West Apartment party in May walk her back to her dorm.

When they reached Hand College in Tabler, Bryant was ready to part ways and head to her room by herself. But the guy insisted on walking with her.

"I thought it was weird," she recalls.

He followed Bryant up the stairs and into her room. All of her suitemates had gone home for the weekend. She was drunk. The situation was not in her favor.

According to the White House, one in every five women will experience an attempted assault in college.

Her intoxicated state caused her to pass out for a few seconds, and when she woke up, the guy was sitting next to her with his penis out.

"Get away from me," Bryant, who was then a junior, said. "I have a boyfriend."

She reached for her BlackBerry and drunkenly tried to dial a friend's number. Noticing her struggling, the guy took the phone and assured her that everything was fine.

She passed out again.

This time when she woke up, the guy was sitting by her legs masturbating.

"Let me pleasure you," he told her.

"No, get off of me," Bryant demanded. "I have a boyfriend."

She flailed her legs in a panic and kicked him. He ran to the bathroom and then came out shortly after.

"Fine, fine, I'll leave," he said angrily.

Although Bryant did attempt to call a friend, she found herself too drunk to scroll through her contacts or dial a number. A simpler way to contact help could have prevented her situation from escalating to that point—a simpler way such as OnWatch, for example.

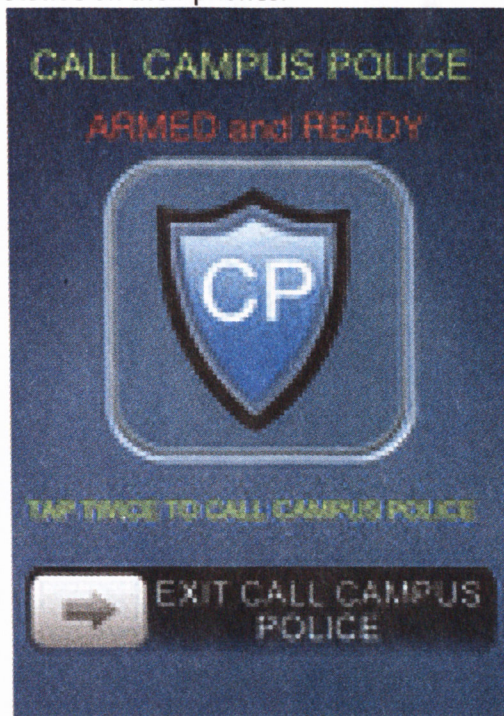
OnWatch is an app for the iPhone and Android that will call or sends text messages to preprogrammed phone numbers, like campus police or a friend, with just two taps of the screen. It is the winner of Vice President Joe Biden's Apps Against Abuse Challenge, a contest held last year that sought out innovative phone applications designed to protect young women. According to the White House, one in

every five women will experience an attempted assault in college.

OnWatch founder and creator Jill Campbell, a tax accountant, developed the app after she experienced several situations in her life where she felt she could have used protection.

"I started writing down instances in my life where I needed an alarm," the 67-year old says. "In those instances, you're going to want 911 or your friends."

The app, which launched in April, offers several features. In addition to calling campus police or 911 instantly, the user can simultaneously call them and preprogrammed friends. 'Emergency Friends' sends a prewritten text message to any contacts the user adds, and it will even post the message to Twitter or Facebook when activated. 'Watch My Back' can be used for running or a blind date, for example. It allows the user to set a timer with an alarm that will go off if she does not respond to it; the preprogrammed contacts will receive text messages and emails alerting them that the user needs help. 'I'm Here' will alert certain contacts that the user safely arrived at her destination. All of these features use GPS technology to alert the user's contacts of her location, and contacts don't need to have OnWatch installed on their phones.



but after the subscription expires the user must purchase the app for \$4.99 per month or \$49.99 for a year. The options to call campus police and 911, however, are available at no cost.

Stony Brook offers a similar feature called SB Guardian. Students can sign up for SB Guardian and program a special number into their phones. Calling that number notifies Uni-

versity Police, and if a student is using a smartphone, an officer will automatically know where he or she is on campus. When students sign up for it they can provide a photo, class schedule and any other personal information they choose that will show up when they call.

University Police Chief Robert Lenahan acknowledges that OnWatch could be very helpful, but he advises Stony Brook students to utilize SB Guardian instead because it's designed specifically for this campus. And it's free.

"I think what we offer is more beneficial," he says.

But when Amy Streifer, a senior majoring in journalism, was at a frat party last semester and saw a girl passed out on the deck in the rain, she didn't call campus police because she didn't know the number.

"I'm a college student, but I don't really think of UPD as a go-to," she says. Streifer also didn't know about SB Guardian, or that dialing 911 from any campus phone will directly call Stony Brook police. "I wish I knew that," she says.

Streifer says an app like OnWatch "would've been totally beneficial" that night at the frat party. She says that if Stony Brook police advertised its number and services more, she would have been more likely to utilize one of them to help that girl.

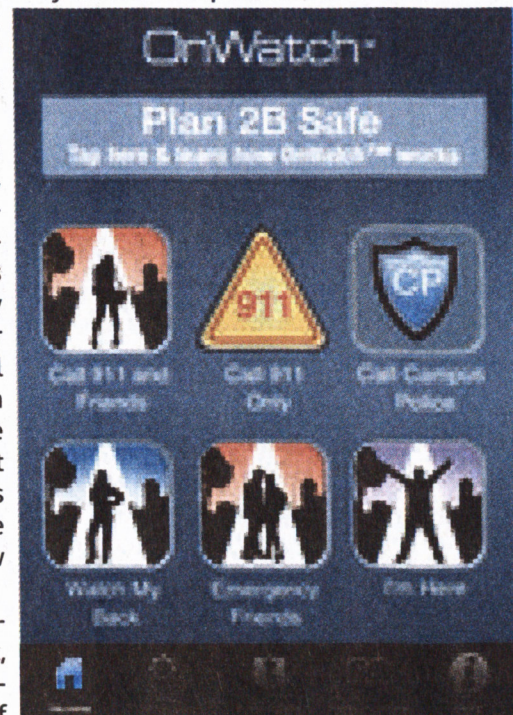
"If they inform us more, we'll take the necessary steps," she says.

OnWatch isn't the first of its kind out in the app world—there are dozens such as bSafe, StreetSafe and more that use smartphones' GPS capabilities. Campbell says she believes that in the future cell phones will become great tools for safety, and Lenahan agrees.

"We've come a long way," he says.

And for Bryant, she says that an app like OnWatch definitely would help other girls who might find themselves in situations similar to hers.

"That would be very useful."



# DOING THE DIRTY ON THE DL AND OTHER SEXILED STORIES

by Bushra Mollick

Whether you're entering college or transferring to a new one, there's always that person who will give you loads of advice you had never asked for. That's where I come in. Except I'm giving you the scoop on something no one else is willing to dish about. Sex.

College students aren't the only ones who have sex, but here the partners aren't always alone. Stony Brook University is home to about 10,000 residents, most of whom live with roommates. With a stat like this, overtly awkward sexual encounters between roommates, suitemates or anyone else nearby, are almost inevitable.

So for you freshmen or new SBU residents, here's a heads-up of what may or may not happen. We were able to collect a series of true-life stories from students, who were either sexiled, enjoying the sexy time or were a part of any sort of awkward sexual situation. Enjoy.

## "We All Know You're Lying"

Freshman year, first semester my group of friends were really close. Maybe too close for comfort. We always hung out in our two friends' suite. Somehow the two of them were always getting sexiled out of their own room—which they shared—by other people. I kid you not. Anyway, one night we were all hanging out in said suite, drinking, and suddenly we all realize that two of our friends had disappeared. These two friends had never shown any interest in each other, but we somehow quickly figured out they had slipped into "the sex room." So like the immature freshmen that we were, a few of us listened by the door and we could very clearly hear them going at it, moans on her end and everything. The next day (and for years afterwards) the two of them still *swear* they never had sex, she just gave him oral, because she was "on her period." Funny. I can't imagine moaning that loud with a penis in your mouth.

## "I Saw Too Much"

My roommate and I weren't exactly friends, and I didn't like her boyfriend any better. I came back from work the same time every Monday, so it shouldn't have been a surprise that I got back when I did. When I got to my room and opened the door, it took me a second to realize they were naked on her bed having sex. Yes, *on her bed, not under the sheets.* I slammed the door and screamed "OH MY GOD, THEY'RE HAVING SEX," and ran out of my suite. Being the considerate people they are, they didn't stop or finish anytime soon after, and when they did finish, they left the condom right on top of my garbage and just walked out like nothing happened. Best part? I ran into them just 10

minutes after and they didn't say a damn thing to me.

## "Newfound Hatred for Hot Dogs"

Oh, lord. Well, I know someone who was spanking his meat with sound silencer headphones on. His roommate walked in and didn't notice and was on his side of the room trying to get stuff for a shower, and it took about two minutes to notice. The roommate spanking off didn't notice either, and the roommate walks out and when spanky is done, the whole suite knows of the situation except him. We all played "Beat It" by Michael Jackson for him.

## "No One Plays Call of Duty Naked"

Freshman year I lived with a random roommate, whose boyfriend was always over. One morning I woke up, before my alarm could wake me, thanks to the gorilla-like sex noises coming from under my roommates' sheets. Mortified, I jumped out of bed and ran to class in a T-shirt and sweats (my pajamas). Later on that day, I returned to my room with the hopes that I would discuss this morning's occurrences. To my surprise I opened my door, only to find my roommates' boyfriend, naked, playing video games in the room. Let's just say I have a different roommate this year.

## "How Can You Ask Someone That?"

My freshman year at Stony Brook, I met my roommate and we ended up being great friends. I wound up introducing him to a good friend I had made on the first day and they hit it off and began dating early my second semester. It was great! We would all hang out and she basically became my third roommate. Ah, I can still look back fondly at the sound of their voices. "Could you face the wall and put headphones in?" they would say with a smile! And then I would fall asleep to the soothing sounds of them jumping up and down on the bed for an hour or so! Other times I would have conversations with them at night before going to sleep and their breathing would get heavier as they talked. I guess they needed to exercise more if that winded them. Ah, memories.

A fair notice to all readers. Although this happened to these students, it won't necessarily happen to you. But prepare yourself. If you're someone who's uncomfortable with any sort of sex-related situation, be sure to talk to your roommate to sort out the issue. Granted, while these stories are funny, they are not as hilarious in the moment as they are in hindsight. So try your best to communicate and resolve the problem before things get worse.



# LUMPY'S AND S3 FALL FLAT

by John Fischer

Lumpy's, the new food truck on campus, is no MoGo. Don't get me wrong. The food has some flavor and deserves more credit than its name gives it. But it doesn't compare to the crispy, chicken fingers or those sweet, sweet potato fries that you could get from MoGo's last year.

While I will miss MoGo's delicious onion rings, I decided to give Lumpy's a try and see if it could dish it out like its predecessor. But after eating my pulled chicken taco, I have to ask the school not to fix what isn't broken. What upset me most was that the taco was bit too watery for my taste and kept on dripping. I also would have liked a hard shell rather than a soft one. I like my tacos with a little crunch.

I also like more crunch in my fries, which is the exact opposite of Lumpy's yucca fries. For all those who like watery tacos and extra chewy fries, Lumpy's is the place for you. For everyone else, at least give it a try.

The food truck serves a variety of tacos, including Cuban Pork, Baja Fish tacos and the "el classico" with sides of Yucca fries, salsa, chipotle sour cream and green rice with black bean mash. But what annoys me the most is that every dish ends with the same word: tacos. At least with MoGo, there was more diversity in the choice of a meal.

At the very least, I would like to tell all of you about a new place on campus that serves tasty, affordable food that's good for you. But I can't. So, I'll settle for S3 Fusion, the new sushi place in Roth Quad that replaced California Pizza Kitchen. Presenting an Asian medley of food that can

also be found at Jasmine, S3 Fusion is broken down in to three categories of food: Sushi, Salad and Stir Fry.

I'm not a big sushi fan, so I can only tell you that it's pickup as you go. They do, however, offer a wide variety including spicy tuna, yellow tail, eel and salmon. I prefer a salad, but not the Asian Cabbage Salad since I'm not a fan of coleslaw. Personally, I would go with the U-Pick salads option where you can build your own salad with a choice chicken or fried tofu as the main ingredient and choose from a variety of dressings.

**For all those who like watery tacos and extra chewy fries, Lumpy's is the place for you.**

If you're a stir fryer, I definitely recommend the Thai chicken along with an egg roll. While a little oily for my taste, the meal contains little chunks of pineapple to give it a tangy taste and is comprised of an assortment of vegetables, including the fava beans, peppers and chopped bits of onion. If you want a side, though, stick with white or brown rice and stay away from the bland oriental chicken rice they serve.

Just because I may not like S3 or Lumpy's doesn't mean you won't though, and I'd say they're both still worth trying.



## What's The Happs With These Apps? by Alyssa Melillo & Tom Johnson



Flipboard



Pages



WolframAlpha



Adobe Ideas



MobileLearn



Dropbox



Penultimate



iStudiez Pro

Now that high school's over, it's time to work on downloading those college applications—for your phone, that is.

Almost everyone has a smartphone nowadays. So, if you're looking for an easy way to study, manage your classwork, entertain yourself and overall just make your first year at Stony Brook a more pleasurable experience, look no further. There are apps for all that.

**Blackboard Mobile Learn:** This free mobile app is for students to check homework assignments, grades, announcements from professors and more. It pretty much features the same content the website does. And since most Stony Brook professors put anything and everything related to a course on BlackBoard, you might want to put this at the top of your app list and set it so that it notifies you when your instructors post something important. But you'll need to be connected to WiFi in order to use it. This is available for iOS, Android, BlackBerry.

**iStudiez Pro:** Since keeping track of your courses and assignments can get pretty overwhelming, allow iStudiez to take some of the responsibility. Once you put in your schedule, this app allows you to manage homework assignments as well as keep track of your daily tasks. You can also record your grades in it. The free version limits you to three courses, but the Pro one lets you go all out for just \$0.99. This is exclusively for iOS.

**Flipboard:** Where else can you find your social networks, news, style and politics combined into one app? That's what Flipboard's for. This free app allows you to compile all those aspects of your life into one convenient

entity. By aggregating content from Twitter, YouTube and more, Flipboard feeds you information on the topics you choose when you set up the app. And you literally flip through it all, just like a magazine. This one is good for iOS and Android users.

**iTourSB:** Lets face it, Stony Brook is huge. You're bound to need help navigating campus at some point during the first few days of classes, so why not save yourself embarrassment and ditch the map and download iTourSB instead? This free app features a colorful location-based map of campus, plus exclusive weather forecasts, sports news, videos and—wait for it—panoramic photos of Stony Brook's most iconic spots (in case you didn't want to use your map and see them for yourself). You'll find this one for iOS, but it's also accessible through Google Play for Android users.

**Find My iPhone:** Lose your iPhone after a drunken night at The Bench? No problem. By downloading Find My iPhone, you're able to track any of your missing iOS devices by signing in with your Apple ID on any Apple product. The free app will locate your lost device on a map and allow you to lock it, display a message or completely erase everything. But watch out—if your Apple information falls into the wrong hands, this app may not be so helpful. This app is another one specifically for iOS users.

**Sky Burger:** Bored in class? Then let Sky Burger feed your hunger for entertainment. This free app lets you act as a waiter or waitress and make extravagant burger orders with ingredients that drop down from the sky. And the more you play, the more badges you can unlock to become

Sky Burger's best employee. You might play so much that you decide to leave Stony Brook all together and pursue a career as a table waiter. But for now just try a taste of it first. This little time-killer is available to iOS and Android users.

**Adobe Ideas:** It can be really hard to find a decent app on the iPad that is full-featured enough to produce good artwork. Even the apps some of our staffers used to create some of our illustrations last semester, such as "Brushes" for iPad, lacked important features like layering. Adobe Ideas also has the added benefit of being completely vector-based, meaning that it can be scaled up or down without taking a hit to quality. Your files can also be synced through Adobe's own cloud storage service and reopened in Adobe Illustrator on your Mac or PC for more precise editing. Sure, at \$10.00, Adobe Ideas is the priciest app recommendation on this list, but it's well worth the cost if you're doing anything artistic on your tablet.

**Dropbox:** Over the last few years Dropbox has risen from relative obscurity to become what is more or less the defacto cloud storage platform for most, if not all platforms. Dropbox allows you to easily store your files there so you can effortlessly access them from another computer or device. You get 2GB free when you sign up, but can expand that up to 18GB through referring friends and the like. If you'd rather not do that, you can opt for Dropbox Pro, which will net you 100GB, 200GB or 500GB of storage for \$10-50 a month, depending on the plan. You can sign up for your 2GB and download the apps for free on your Mac, PC, iOS and Android device.

**Penultimate:** Penultimate is my go-to app for taking notes with a stylus on my iPad, and it should be yours too. You can easily sort your notes into different notebooks, and email them to yourself, either with or without the paper texture behind it. It's a simple app that does one thing, but it does it's one thing exceptionally well. You can nab Penultimate off the App Store for \$0.99.

**Wolfram|Alpha:** To say Wolfram|Alpha is useful to have doesn't even say the half of it. Need to compute the photon energy of a given wavelength? Type it in and it's got your back. Need key informaton on a particular text or person in history? It's got you there too. The app was originally running a steep price of \$49.99 when it was first released, but it has since been knocked down to a cool \$1.99 for the iOS versions, and a less-cool but still reasonable \$3.99 for the Android version through Google Play.

**Pages:** If you've ever used Pages on a Mac, then you know exactly what you're getting into on the iOS version. You have a pretty well fleshed out version of Pages, complete with all the templates and whatnot you'd find on the desktop version of the application, thus making it what is by far the best word processor I've ever used on iPad. Sync up a bluetooth keyboard to your device, and you'll barely know the difference. You can even sync your devices with iCloud so you can pick up on your desktop or laptop from

where you left off on your mobile device. You can grab it off the App Store for \$4.99.

**Pulse News:** Pulse News is a really slick and polished news reader for your iPad or Andriod device. Unlike Flipboard which aggregates content from your social media accounts, Pulse works more as a RSS reader than anything else. If you're using the app itself for your content, your options are limited at the start, as you choose sources to be displayed in your feed or first "page" from a predetermined set of sources. The nice thing about Pulse is that you can add additional pages which can be directly synced to your Google Reader account or set up differently, that way you don't have a ton of different, unrelated sources cluttering one feed. You can get Pulse News for free at the App Store or through Google Play.

**Evernote:** The note utilities in most phones and tablets are usually mediocre at best. Evernote is a note-taking application that has clients for pretty much everything. As a result, you never have to worry about having your notes in one place but not the other. You can download the client for free on Mac, PC, iOS and Android. You get 60MB of upload space a month on the free-usage tier, which isn't really an issue if it's just for text. However, if you're using pictures and documents, you might want to go for the premium plan, which will run you \$5.00 a month or \$45.00 a year so you get 1GB a month, as well as some other nifty features.



**Rdio:** If you're someone who buys a lot of music (because piracy is wrong, kids.) it can really add up. Fast. Rdio is a subscription music service for your Android or iOS device, but it also has a web client so you can stream on your computer. It's essentially Netflix for music. You pay your \$9.99 or \$14.99 a month, depending on your plan and how many devices you want to have using the service simultaneously, and you get access to tons of music. A great selling point is the ability to easily download the music you like to your device over 3G or WiFi, so you can listen without having to stream every time, which is nice for those of you with usage caps on your wireless data plans. A lot of people swear by Spotify premium for this same service. However, in testing, I've found that the music discovery options are way better with Rdio. It's also way more user friendly when you want to sync music to your device. Sure, \$9.99 can be a bit much to some, but the service is well worth it.

# FACULTY AND STAFF LOTS

Stony Brook University faculty members put a lot of time and effort into their work, whether it results in Nobel Prizes or new ways to cheat death. **JUST DON'T PARK IN THEIR PARKING SPACES, YOU WILL GET A TICKET, BECAUSE YOU ARE A PISS STAIN COMPARED TO THESE STARS OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.**

Looking at the park-

ing map, it is obvious that these faculty lots are situated in the best areas, adjacent to the academic mall so that professors can get to office hours quicker. The only problem is that nobody goes to office hours, leaving professors all alone in their offices to play Nintendo.

You can totally park there after 4 P.M., though.

# L.I.R.R. PARKING LOT

The train station lot, though not visible on this map, is another excellent spot for commuters. It's adjacent to the North P Lot, so it's only far away, as opposed to really far away, and it expands much farther out than the actual commuter lot. One caveat: it's supposed to be for the train commuters going into the

city to work. But fuck 'em, right?

That just mean's it's always open and there are (generally) no worries about tickets. It fills up quickly, though, later than the Gym Road Lot, but earlier than North P. It's also the obvious choice for parking if you want to take the train. Who knew?

# COMMUTER LOTS

Commuter students have a number of places to park, the largest lot being South P. Looking at the parking map, it is apparent that South P is very far away.

For those commuters who are willing to show up early, green-colored lots on this map are available. These lots are North P and the Gym Road Lot. However,

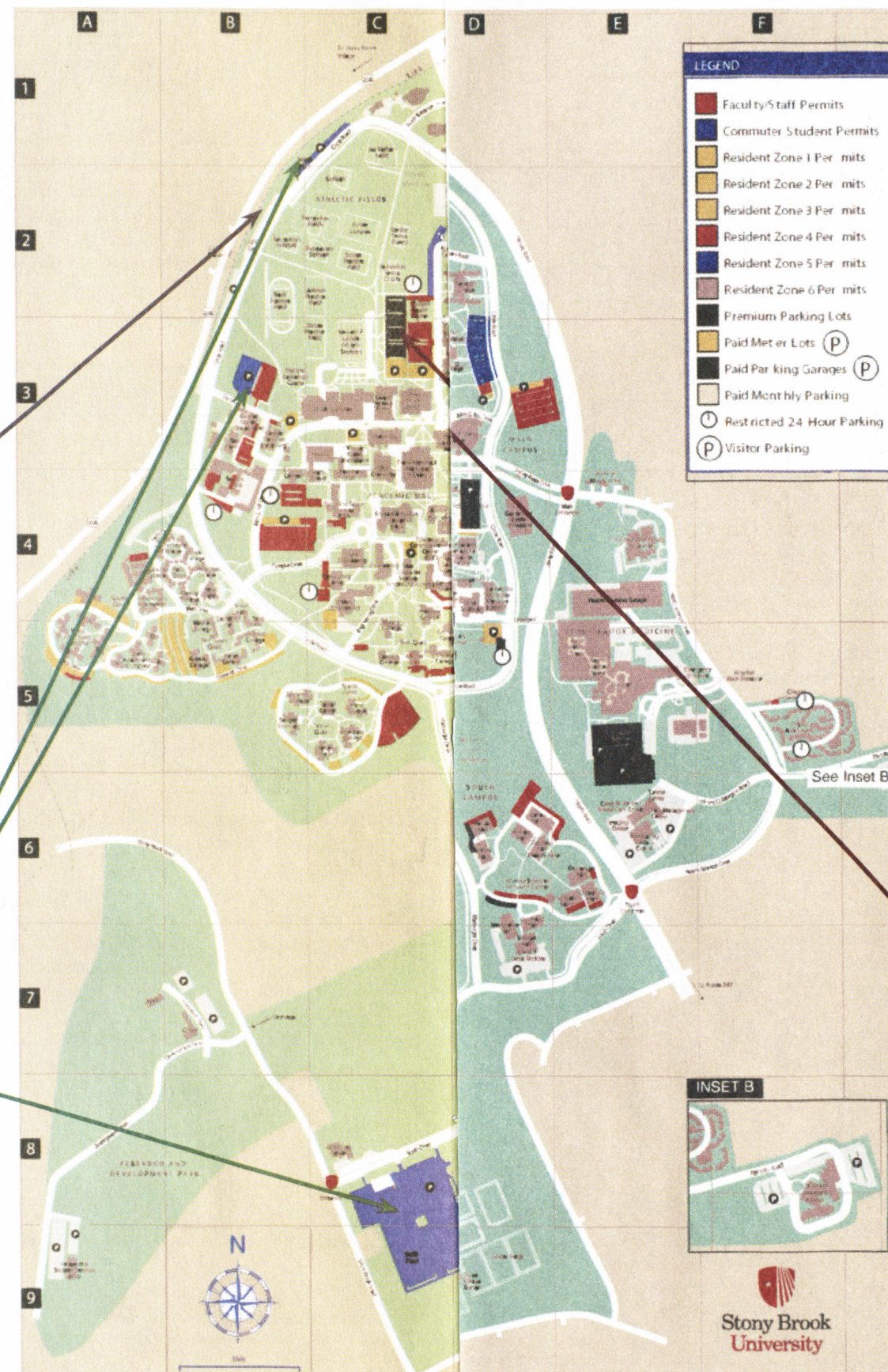
even these commuter lots are in baseball land and the industrial park, respectively. These nicer spots do fill up quickly: North P and the Gym Road Lot are usually filled by 9 A.M. After that, the only option is to take your \$0 commuter parking pass, park in South P and ride the Express Bus to the heart of campus.

# RESIDENT STUDENT LOTS

Resident lots come in six different colors, and resident students come in two different varieties: there are "suitcase" students who use their cars to drive home on weekends and there are those students who choose to stay at the Brook on weekends. Of those who choose to stay, the ones who can use their vehicles

drive to the Smith Haven Mall, Port Jefferson village and that big duck.

That being said, the parking space allocated for residents is actually in the same area as their respective residence halls and apartment complexes. This makes for a quick escape to home, the mall, Port Jefferson Village or that big duck.



# METERED LOTS

There are several metered lots on campus that allow parking for a price. Ticket machines invite you to put your dollars and quarters in, receiving one hour for each \$1.50 entered, or \$7.50 for the whole day. These lots are the most patrolled by parking enforcement, and thus guarantee the likelihood of the dreaded \$30 parking ticket.

They are smaller lots but are generally in the best locations, such as the one behind the Student Union, as well as the one right behind the SAC and Javits.

Because they will inevitably make the most money, these spaces don't open up to the general public until after 7 P.M. and the strict rules are back in effect at 7 the next morning.

# STADIUM LOT

Stadium Lot parking passes cost \$150, and the waiting list to get one of these permits is over 1,000 students long. That being said, the Stadium Lot's posh location near the center of campus may make the \$150 worth it, provided you have the extra money lying around. But then you need to be lucky enough to be

called off the waiting list.

This lot is frequently patrolled, and the fine for parking in the Stadium Lot without a permit is \$30. However, like the Resident and Faculty lots, it opens up to the general public after 4 P.M. and on weekends, making it the ideal place for parking for students with evening classes.



# ADVICE TO FRESHMEN by Arielle Dollinger

I went to a competitive high school, a 45-minute drive from Stony Brook, and nobody wanted to come here. It was close to home and we didn't consider it a well-known name to the world outside of Long Island. I got into NYU and I hugged the purple folder with the gray torch, bought an NYU T-shirt and dreamt of life in the city, independence and four years of intense happiness.

But money is cold and hard and real, and I decided that I didn't want to come out of school owing tens of thousands of dollars. So I wound up at Stony Brook University.

I won't sugarcoat it—it's a heavy commuter school; the majority of students go home on weekends. It's also a SUNY school; it's notoriously devoid of glamour and swank. I remember calling my mom during freshman orientation weekend and saying, "I'm transferring. I don't like it here. I'm so unhappy. I'm transferring to NYU next semester."

"It always rains here," I used to say. I believe I often insinuated that the abundance of rain correlated to the universe's general statement that Stony Brook was a sad place to be.

One night last week, I was eating dinner with a friend's family, and we got to talking about colleges. Her brother is a senior in high school, and about to embark on the journey that is the college application and acceptance process. Her parents said that they might want him to go to Stony Brook. My friend, whom I've known since we were eight years old, said that she wouldn't want him here. She said that there was no campus life, that it "isn't a good school for him to grow up at."

I found myself furious. I very rarely feel true anger, but

I felt a surprisingly fiery sort of pride as I attempted to defend my school to people who didn't really care to listen. If I hadn't known this friend for so long, and been sitting at her family dinner table enjoying the chicken her mother had cooked for us, I probably would've gotten up and walked out.

And that's when I knew for sure, as I enter my junior year, I can honestly say that I love Stony Brook. I do. I love the people I've met here. I love (certain) professors I've had. I love the opportunities that it has opened my eyes to, from internships to extracurriculars to fitness classes.

I started writing for campus publications and I joined the University Orchestra. I started attending on-campus events and making friends. I started taking advantage of the school's workout classes (Zumba is really fun if you get there early). I started paying attention to the fountains and the yellow daffodils that pop up in the spring.

I struggled with this story for a while, because I'd set out to write a piece about giving advice to freshmen and then realized that I don't have it all figured out yet either. But here's what I've come up with so far: If you want to be miserable, you will be. If you want to be happy, you can be. And, no matter what my friend said to me at the dinner table, this is a great school to grow up at. In the time I've spent here so far, I've grown up more than I could have possibly predicted. The age-old cliché applies: Your time here is what you make of it.

I also took the liberty of consulting the older and the wiser for you. Here is what a few SBU professors had to say about making the most out of your years at the university:

## PROF. BENTE VIDEBAEK

1) "Get to know and be comfortable with at least ONE professor or advisor. You can do this even in HUGE classes. Be a known face; have at least ONE island of comfort. But you have to be proactive."

2) "Take an active interest in your education. Know that everybody is fallible, so stay in touch with general academic as well as major/minor advisers, but KEEP YOUR OWN SHEET(S)/checklist(s)—at the end of the day, it's all on you. But with help, that's not so hard. Most advisers/professors will more than welcome you."

3) "Forget your high school prowess. You are now a mid-sized fish swimming in a huge pond. Buckle down, do your work and get some study buddies."

## PROF. BARBARA SELVIN

1) "My top piece of advice is to go see at least one professor during office hours every semester. I think it's important to get to know professors outside of class...I would never write a recommendation for someone I haven't spoken to in my office at some length."

2) "Make lists of everything you need to do, and keep them updated. Use your lists to help you break down large tasks into small tasks. So if you have a paper due, you're going to read such and such assignments by such and such date."

3) "Get some exercise and get outside. Don't lose sight of that balance in your life."

## PROF. SHARON POCHRON

1) "Remember that your only job for the next four years is to learn. Going to all of your classes needs to take precedent over any other job."

2) "Don't waste your summers. Make sure you find an internship or something that advances your academic experiences. You might not get a paying internship, but you can often get research credit. Talk to your advisor."

3) "Go to all of the extra things that sound even moderately interesting. That lecture on string theory? Go to it. That visiting professor from Stanford? Go meet her. That jazz quartet from Yale? Go listen. Stay after and talk to the people. You never know who you'll meet or what great ideas you'll get for your future."

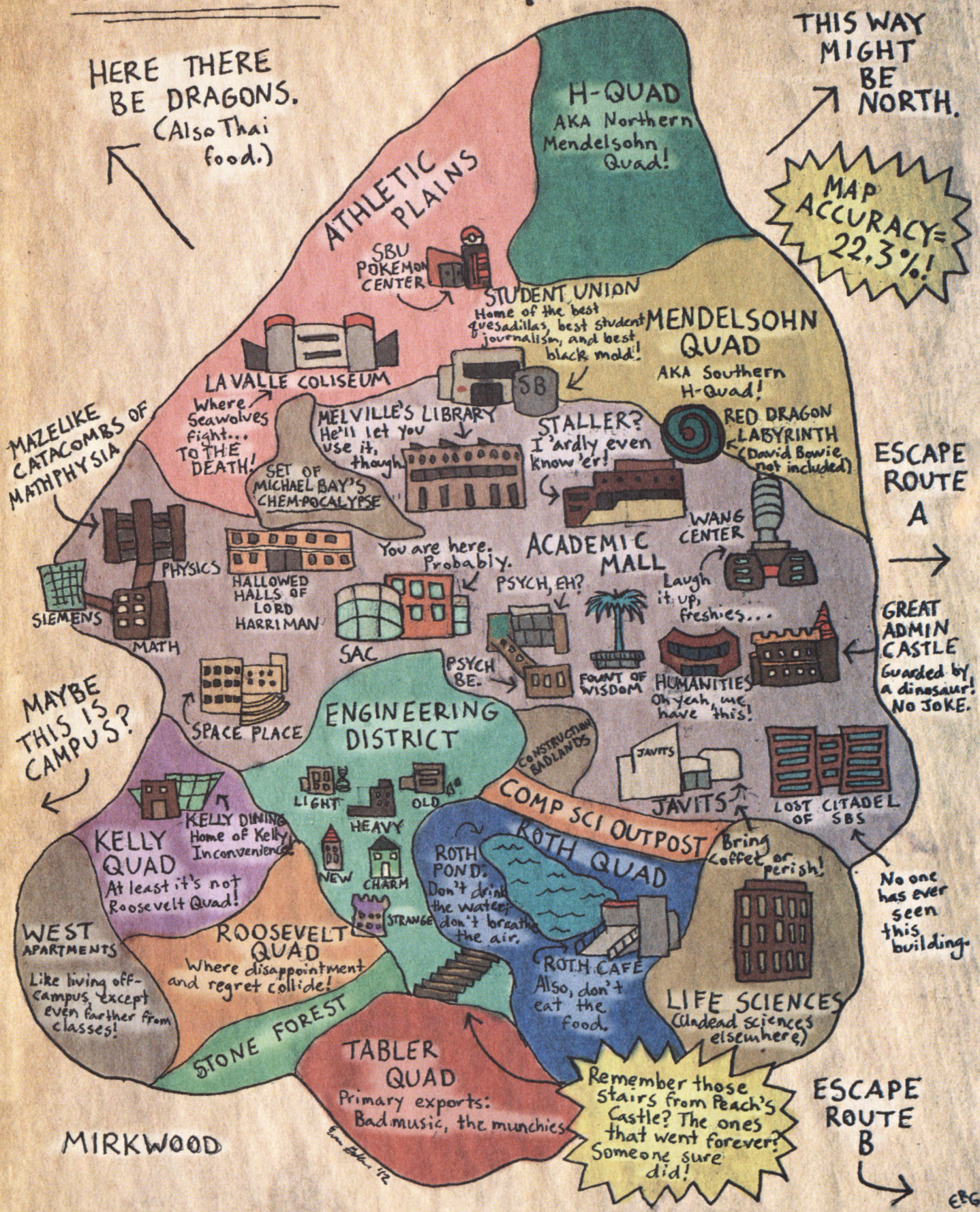
# THE STONY BROOK PRESS!

# MAP OF THE DAMNED

HERE THERE BE DRAGONS.  
(Also Thai food.)

THIS WAY MIGHT BE NORTH.

MAP ACCURACY = 22.3%!



# ON-CAMPUS DINING

by Jodie Mann

## Student Activities Center

The SAC is one of the most popular dining locations on campus. It's stocked with tasty options: Wrap It Up for sandwich and wraps, Charcoals for burgers and fries, Native Spice for variety, with different ethnic options every day, and Mulberry Street for pizza, with different slices featured every day. In the morning there is an omelet station and options for egg sandwiches, pancakes, waffles and french toast. There are also Au Bon Pain soups and chili, and different kinds of yogurt and toppings, so you can create the perfect mix.

**PROS:** Centrally-located in the Academic Mall, the SAC is a good bet for lunch when you're out for class. The pizza is great, the sandwiches are filling and the salad bar is usually fully stocked.

**CONS:** Always crowded during the day, so there are long lines between class blocks.

## Jasmine

Located in the Wang Center, Jasmine is the best place for Chinese food on campus. But it doesn't stop there. Other types of cuisine include Halal, Japanese, Indian and Thai, with plenty of pre-made sushi and vegetarian options. If you have the meal points and the time to wait some of the best dishes are the teriyaki chicken, vegetable lo mein and chicken tikka.

**PROS:** Delicious food with a good variety.

**CONS:** Usually gets packed at lunch time and the prices are high.

## Tabler Café

Dunkin' Donuts is really the only thing that's here, but it's a nice place to hang out, even during the long stretches of time when Dunkin' is closed.

**PROS:** Laid-back environment and coffee available sometimes.

**CONS:** You have to walk the mountain that is the Tabler Steps to get there, so it's probably not worth it.

## Roth

Wendy's is the place for really greasy foods on weekend afternoons, plus their Frosties are always good for a pick-me-up. S3 is new this year, but promises sushi, salad and stir fry. Pura Vida is on the lower level where you can

get some pretty good coffee and smoothies. Roth Market isn't much of a draw though.

**PROS:** Wendy's is good for when you want a lot of food for a few meal points, but you're likely to run into a pretty long line.

**CONS:** You'll be within breathing range of Roth Pond.

## Student Union

The Student Union is home to a lot of food options. The Union Deli is great for sandwiches or picking up a snack or drink on your way to class. The Union Commons is the only place to find U-Pick where you can personalize your salad with fresher options than the salad bars in other locations. There is also Taro 13 for Chinese food, a made-to-order sushi nook and Picantes for burritos and quesadillas, as well as another Charcoals. The Commons is open for all-you-can-eat brunch on the weekends, but the price is steep and the food isn't worth getting out of bed for. The Starbucks on the second floor may be crowded between class blocks, but it's still a good place to waste free time and meal points.

**PROS:** The late-night hours are great for midnight snackers, and U-Pick is the best choice for salads on campus.

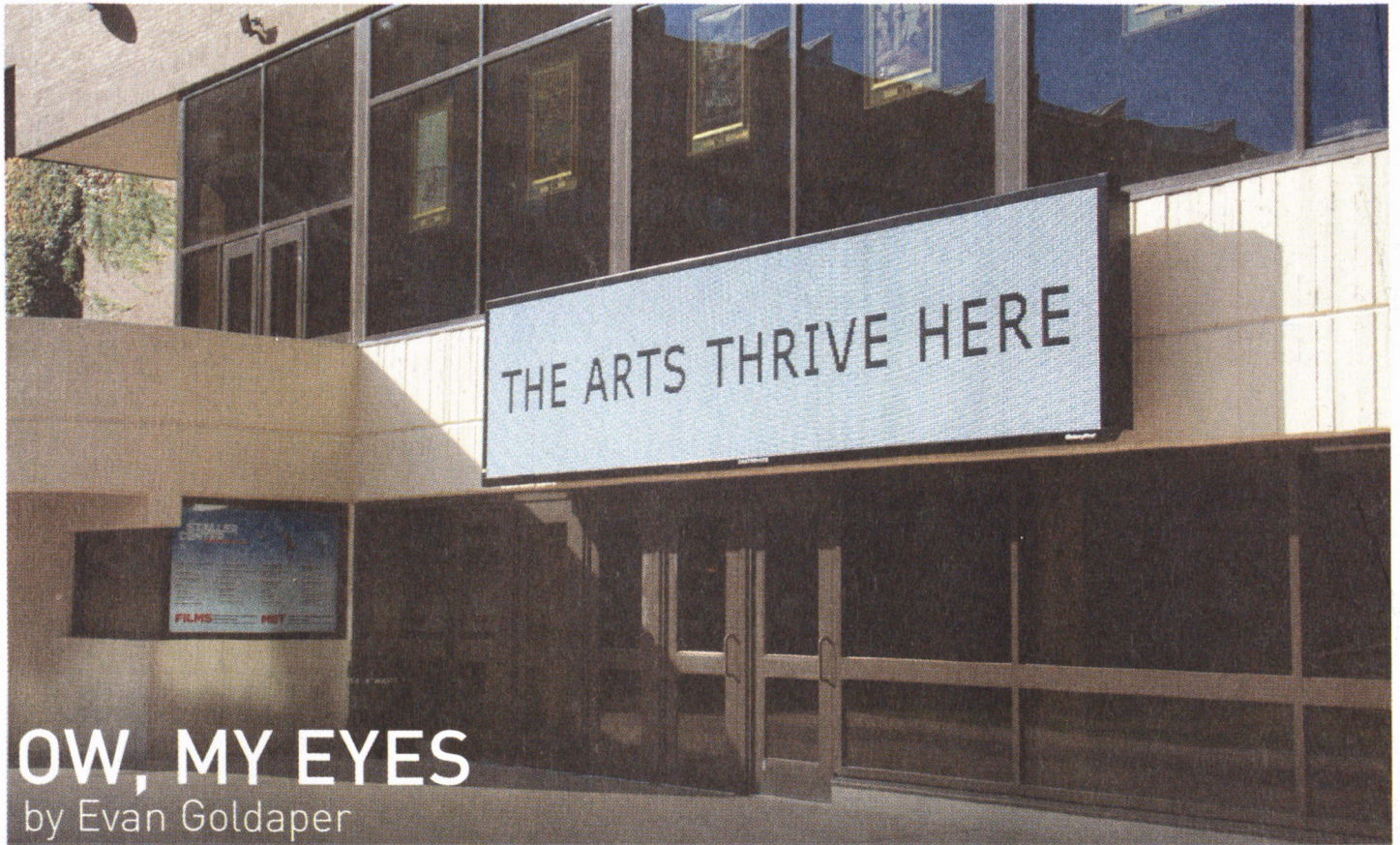
**CONS:** Different vendors close at different times during the night, so you should double-check what's open before going out to satisfy your cravings.

## Kelly Dining

Another late-night dining option, Kelly Dining is another place where you can find Charcoals, Picantes, Wrap it Up and Mulberry Street, which offer the same foods as their other locations. There is also Eco Cravings, the only all-vegan dining available on campus, and the Fish Market where you can choose your type of fish, seasonings, marinades and sides. The Kelly Market Place is great for stocking up on ramen, cereal, ice cream, Easy Mac and party-sized bags of chips.

**PROS:** Close to Kelly and Roosevelt Quads for late-night snacks on your way to your dorm.

**CONS:** All-day brunch on weekends eliminates all other options. Construction hasn't affected food quality yet, but it does limit entrance and exit points, meaning you have to actually go into Kelly Quad to get inside.



## OW, MY EYES

by Evan Goldaper

If you've been to the Staller Steps recently, you've no doubt had your eyes opened up to and your retinas scalded by the nation's third-brightest object—that abhorrent LED sign at the base of the Staller Steps. If my estimates are to be believed, this abomination of nature radiates light at nearly  $4 \times 10^{28}$  lumens, making it only a little brighter the Sun itself. It's also over 2,750 kilometers long, rendering it, like Australia's Great Barrier Reef, large enough to be seen from the Moon. Maybe I misplaced a few dozen zeroes in my arithmetic, but can we really be sure?

Well, one thing we can be sure of is this sign's inordinate tackiness, an inarguable law like gravity, thirds, or the New Jersey speed limit. How else can you explain the fact that only four people were on the Staller Steps last Thursday? Answer me that, sign supporters! Don't cite the awful weather or the fact that I was reporting early in the morning. Obviously, the real problem is clearly this sign's complete lack of style. Why, dozens of people stopped and stared in its direction while I was jumping up and down and cursing at it, and they sure didn't seem happy. Rumor has it that Sir Elton John took one look at this sign and informed Liberace that it really needed a more muted palette.

Really, the choices of color wouldn't be terrible: everybody loves Mustard Pumpkin, Kool-Aid Red, and White. What's problematic is when those colors are dominant background colors. Stare at a radiant fruit-punch-colored billboard for too long, and you won't remember

how to walk properly, let alone when President Stanley's convocation will be. I'd be remiss to forget a mention of the sign's incredibly low-res images and occasional use of a mock-script typesetting that could be weaponized to quell any potential uprisings of graphic artists and web designers.

Stare at a radiant fruit-punch-colored billboard for too long, and you won't remember how to walk properly, let alone when President Stanley's convocation will be.

And how about the environment? My calculations place this sign's daily energy use at enough watts to illuminate the state of Montana for 19 years. Think of all the dolphins we could save with that kind of energy. Heck, think of all the musical instruments we could've bought with that kind of money!

And for what? To tell me that the Turtle Island String Quartet is coming to campus? Wait. Turtle Island? Those guys are pretty terrific! They're coming to campus? Huh. Wouldn't have realized otherwise. I should really buy a ticket.



# PREMIUM RUSH

by Nicole Kohn

It comes as quite a surprise that, the pick out of the summer 2012 crop is none other than the unnoticed thriller *Premium Rush*, directed and written by David Koepp. It's a film that makes its viewers believe that the so-called "bicycle messengers" of the Big Apple risk their lives as well as their limbs to make sure that "important" messages get from point A to point B safely. But who is he kidding: these "bike messengers" are nothing but a bunch of adrenaline-junkies, some who may have a death wish as they weave in and out of New York City traffic. They are too free-spirited to get a normal job, sitting behind a desk. With all that said, the lifestyle of these thrill-seekers does make a perfect end-of-the-summer movie, and that's what Koepp and his team delivered. It's a film with it's share of thrills, and a storyline that makes you want to pedal along with them so you don't miss a thing.

Wilee (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is the definition of a champion when it comes to getting across town in record time without a scratch. He insists that not having brakes on his beat-up aluminum ride is the secret, and while this just makes him look totally insane, it becomes his most important tool later on when he finds himself in some action-packed scenes. With his reputation of being a big-shot biker, he's been requested to deliver an important envelope from one end of Manhattan to the other in less

than 90 minutes. Sounds like a pretty easy task for Wilee, except for the fact that the delivery is in the middle of rush hour. And to make things even more challenging, as soon as he accepts the package, he runs into Detective Bobby Monday (Michael Shannon), who's bent on getting that envelope. He embarks on a dangerous pursuit of Wilee that will put not only himself, but also Wilee and many other innocent bystanders in great danger.

While this is not the sort of film you usually find performances to praise, it must be said that Shannon was fun to watch. His way of acting is scarcely found in films like this. He moves through one scene to the next in a very believable panic, delivering a performance that makes the viewer believe he is a maniac, as his character becomes more desperate to get the package that Wilee is carrying.

But it is not just Shannon that had a performance to praise. Gordon-Levitt and his costars helped set Koepp's film apart from the rest. Koepp's old-school ways of catching true chase thrills on the big screen consist of one thing: holding the camera on the action. We really get the sense that the actors are really putting themselves in danger. With no green screen or stuntman accountable, the film goes a long way in creating the scenes with a sense of realism.

Needless to say that *Premium Rush* peddles to satisfy.



# HOPE SPRINGS

by Nicole Kohn

A surprise that sneaks up and will move even those who didn't like it, *Hope Springs* brings it's A game, not letting its awkward and obsolete dialogue change the spirit of the film. The storyline is humble: Arnold and Kay Soames (Tommy Lee Jones, Meryl Streep) have been married for 31 years and their sexual and emotional connections are non-existent. They sleep in separate bedrooms. They don't dare touch each other, acting like they are 12 and they have cooties. Each morning is the same routine: two eggs, one strip of bacon, quick read of the newspaper and out the door for Arnold, thanks to the compliant preparation by Kay.

Out of desperation, Kay signs them up for intensive couples training led by Dr. Bernard Feld (Steve Carell), who is a well-known therapist in intimacy issues with couples, whether they are married or not. But Kay must convince Arnold, who is at first unwilling to take the trip to the small town of Great Hope Springs, Maine. First the couple is assigned just touchy-feely exercises, then the exercises get more intense. This is when most comedies related to sex whip out the Viagra gag and vibrator jokes, but not *Hope Springs*, daring to discuss sex maturely and with the honesty of how old age brings the unwillingness to learn new things.

Kay and Arnold live with unspoken feelings, few actors can convey nonverbal emotions better than Streep and Jones. Changes in posture and facial expressions say everything that the couple won't say to each other.

Streep came out of her shell in this film, portraying more of a flirty and free-spirited character. It was refreshing to see her this way, especially in a scene where she took

a sex book and a bundle of bananas into the bathroom. (I'll just let your imagination wander.)

As for Jones, I have never seen him so playful and fun, and he knows exactly what facial expression to make at what time. And then there was Carell, who seemed to be more laid-back in this film, not giving his full-fledged potential like he usually does, yet he still pulls off a satisfactory performance.

What is most unexpected in the film is the emphasis on sex and physical intimacy. Teens don't want to think about their parents having sex, and even the movie business focuses on youth interactions, rather than focusing on sex later in life.

*Hope Springs* [dares] to discuss sex maturely and with the honesty of how old age brings the unwillingness to learn new things.

It's a film made for an older audience, and I realized that when I walked into the theater and was the youngest person there, but whether you're 17 or 80 years old, it's a film that embraces the subject of sex overtly, at times hilariously and others a bit clumsily. *Hope Springs* heads the couple toward a insightful journey that's well worth taking.



# REEL BIG FISH REVIEW

by Ethan Freedman

Photo by Tom Johnson

"We're from the 90s, remember?" Reel Big Fish's lead man Aaron Barrett asked an exuberant, mostly post-pubescent Stony Brook crowd of several hundred at Stony Brook's Staller Steps Monday for USG's "Back to the Brook" concert.

This bellow from Barrett highlighted the 90s nostalgia that lined the day, the latest of 90s-style entertainment courtesy of USG, dating back to last year's 90s themed Roth Regatta.

Reel Big Fish's version of ska music—"third-wave ska"—is essentially very danceable reggae music mixed with a 90s angst mentality.

Reel Big Fish played in a very loose, freewheeling style, and were unafraid to veer off the beaten path. They even played an impromptu version of "Happy Birthday" for a fan

As a genre most popular with younger people, this concert could have very easily been a disaster. Most concert-goers said that they were fans of Reel Big Fish in middle school, but that their enthusiasm for the band had tapered off as they got older. Other students complained that the event had been poorly advertised and that they had been unaware of the concert until the day of. This organizational lapse was readily apparent as USG members

were desperately trying to coax students, online and on foot, into going to the concert, right up to the four p.m. starting time—which had already been delayed for two hours, to accommodate for the arrival of more students.

All I Can Say was the opening act, a local quartet that churned out endless blink-182-lite rockers—minus blink's silly humor (see: *Take Off Your Pants and Jacket's* "Happy Holidays, You Bastards," the original "Another F.U. Song").

What was All I Can Say's biggest hit with the crowd? A punk cover of the Backstreet Boy's "I Want It That Way".

That being said, the concert could qualify as a success. Reel Big Fish won over the sweaty, amped crowd early and was entertaining for those of us who remained on campus for the long Labor Day weekend. Reel Big Fish played in a very loose, freewheeling style, and were unafraid to veer off the beaten path. They even played an impromptu version of "Happy Birthday" for a fan, and sang purposefully garbled versions of "Enter Sandman."

Reel Big Fish's set list mostly consisted of their biggest hits; it was a sort of best of us for the rest of us, as in most of the set list consisted of songs that could be found on their Best-Of collection, *A Best of Us for the Rest of Us*. Even Reel Big Fish's drummer, Ryland David-Burton Steen, says, in an interview with *The Press*, that playing in the current band is kind of like playing in "a tribute band.")

But for humor, or at least irony, no one does it better than our boys over at Reel Big Fish. Their saxophonist and trumpeter are introduced as "Saxl Rose" and "Johnny Christmas." They love to end songs with blues rundowns, even on songs like "Everyone Sucks." They made songs called "Everyone Sucks."

And their big "hit" single? "Sell Out". Gotta love it.



# SITTIN' WITH REEL BIG FISH

By Andy Polhamus

Photos by Tom Johnson

Stony Brook ska-lers were treated to a skank-tastic performance by 90s third-wave ska veterans Reel Big Fish Sept. 5 on the Skaller Steps. The band opened with fan favorite "Trendy" and skanked through more than three hours of ska-mazing horn-infused pop rock classics, closing with their ska-bove ska-verage cover of "Take On Me" by one-hit wonders Ska-Ha. With a crowd of several hundred students in search of a back-to-ska musical skafari hungrily awaiting skatisfaction before the show, *The Stony Brook Press* was able to steal a few minutes with drummer Ryland Steen—whose résumé as a drummer also includes Maroon 5, Suburban Legends and Phantom Planet—to discuss Reel Big Fish's signature sound, their cult-status ska careers heading one of pop music's most polarizing subgenres and how apparently, it's pretty awesome to get paid to be in a band, even if it is a ska band.

**Stony Brook Press:** When exactly did you join Reel Big Fish?

**Ryland Steen:** I joined almost seven and a half years ago. But they've gone by in the blink of an eye, I'll tell you that.

**SBP:** Where had you been performing before that?

**RS:** It was just kind of a bunch of random bands.

**SBP:** Any other ska bands?

**RS:** No, actually. I grew up in Nebraska and I hand't really been exposed [to it]. The only sort of ska music I had been exposed to was probably the 2-Tone (*Editor's note: Steen is referring to the so-called "second wave" of ska, the period that first brought the genre from the Caribbean Islands to England and the U.S. between the 70s and 80s after it got its start in 1960s Jamaica. 2-Tone is the name of a seminal ska label from the era.*) ska from England, like The Specials and Madness and Bad Manners and Selecter and stuff like that. It wasn't until I moved to Southern California in 2000 that

I started getting exposed to more of the ska-punk, style, or the "third wave" as they call it.

The band I'd moved out to California with played this battle of the bands, and Reel Big Fish, they were one of the judges. We met them and became friends with them, and that was how the relationship started. It was weird, because I was friends with them before I even heard their music. It was cool to be able to see them play and go, "oh, this is really fun music."

**SBP:** Had you heard of them before that? Maybe in the 90s ska fad?

**RS:** Maybe when I was 15, and I heard them in the movie *BASEketball*. It wasn't until later that I was like, "oh yeah!" But over the next few years, there were a few times when I filled in for previous drummers, and then it was in March of 2005 that they asked if I wanted to join full-time, and I didn't have anything else going on at the time, so it worked





out great. Fast-forward seven years later.

**SBP:** You moved into a hotbed of music that now has a cult following, but for a while, ruled the world for a couple of years.

**RS:** By the time I came in, it was back underground by then, but Reel Big Fish had established themselves as their own entity. I mean yes, we're a ska-punk band, but I don't think people think of us as a ska-punk band. I think they just go, "we're gonna go see Reel Big Fish play." Obviously our singer, Aaron Barrett, is the musical mastermind, but they're not coming to see any one member of the band. They're coming to see us play Reel Big Fish songs. Which is kinda weird, because even though you're in the band, you end up feeling like you're almost like a tribute band.

**SBP:** And over the course of 20 years, you're going to have some turn over. All ska bands, members come and go all the time.

**RS:** Aaron is really "the guy." We're actually kinda happy about that. It allows a band to have a direction. It'd be cool if everyone really has their own voice, but it seems like total chaos. I think it's great that we have someone steering the Reel Big Ship as it were. As members have come and gone I think it's been great that we have a big pool of musicians to choose from in the Southern California area. And even though Aaron is the one coming up with the songs, we're all still able to put our own fingerprints—our own personality. You can't help but do that when you're in a band. Whatever instrument you play you're gonna put your personality down in your instrument. With this new album we have, *Candy Coated Fury*, we really show that.

**SBP:** Speaking of the new album, your own hometown newspaper called

*Candy Coated Fury* a return to your roots. Do you think that's true, and how do you feel about the idea of "returning to your roots" in general? You're obviously always going to sound like Reel Big Fish. It's always this ska-influenced kind of pop rock/punk that you've been doing forever.

**RS:** You're totally right. And there's a



reason the songs have been written that way over the years. Because our fans love us for that. We've been one of those bands that thought we need to play more artistically, or we need to get into this or that. No, we love playing ska-punk music. Getting back to the roots of it? I think really what that comes down to is trying to bring in more of the reckless abandon into the music. There was a number of years when we'd go to make a record

we'd focus on making everything perfect or doing a million takes. And with this record, it was more like we'd almost put a time limit on recording. We wanted to be able to just capture an energy. When you put time constraints on yourself, you have to step it up a notch and perform in a way you wouldn't if you had all the time in the world.

When you're young and making records, you're not thinking about making things perfect. You're thinking about having fun and getting as crazy and energetic as you can. We were trying to capture an energy—we're trying to be young and dumb teenagers again. One of the great things is because this band has been touring so long...

**SBP:** You're known for a tight live performance.

**RS:** And now, we know we can play these songs. Now you have to just go in and do it. It was cool to accomplish that on this record.

**SBP:** So after all this time what still motivates you as a band?

**RS:** We love what we do, and we feel lucky enough to do what we do for a living. We're able to keep the bills paid and have a place to live and have families and still be able to do it. I have friends in bands that make good money and they're like, "uuuh, I don't want to do this." And I'm like, "dude, you get to play music for a living." We've always been able to

maintain perspective on where we are and what we're doing. So many bands dream about trying to make it, but what I think happens when you're younger is you don't realize life is long. You get to that point but you want to keep it going. And what do you do when you're 30 or pushing 40 and you've already been doing it for 15 years? The short answer is we feel lucky that we get to do what we do, and that's what keeps us going.

**SBP:** I can predict what your biggest triumph would be—the opportunity to do this for a living. But have there been any failures or disappointments that stuck with you?

**RS:** If there were, I guess I haven't dwelled on them too much. The band, since I've been in it, has been on automatic pilot. We're always touring and making records and doing things. There hasn't been a moment where I was like "oh, that was an epic fail," fortunately. But the biggest triumph is that we've been able to keep going the way we have over the years. I think that's amazing.

**SBP:** And it's a polarizing style. You play for people that absolutely love your music, but the whole genre pisses some people off.

**RS:** I do feel like there's some sort of universal quality. The music is just fun. Because we've toured for so many years, the band has built its reputation on the live show. Plenty of fans will come up and talk to me and say, "I don't own a single one of your albums,

but I come see you guys play every time you're in town." Just because they know it's going to be a fun show. As far as live goes, there seems to be a certain sort of quality that people just want to come and have fun. It's great that we're able to provide a couple hours of fun and help people forget about any stresses and anxieties they have for at least a couple hours. It's not so much that people hate us. They usually go, "I don't know who that is."

**SBP:** Aaron has this schtick where he has an insensitive jerk thing going on. He plays up a jaded character of himself onstage. At one point during a live show, he said, "Hey, I had a moderately successful single in the late '90s ("Sell Out," from the record *Turn The Radio Off*). You can't talk to me like that." But he's obviously a sensitive guy. How real and how deeply felt is that bitterness?

**RS:** I think even when people are being sarcastic there's a certain amount of sincerity. Maybe as disappointed as Aaron could be with certain things that have happened with the band, I know he feels totally lucky to be able to do what we do. Some bands could say, "oh, we're doing the same tour again last year." But I say, "yeah, and it was a pretty awesome tour we did last year!" He feels so lucky to be able to continue to make music and have a group of guys to back him up every step of the way. He's always doing what he feels is best for the band. As far as the sarcasm onstage, he is a humble person. It's that sort of self-deprecating kind of push and pull. Everything sucks, but by the end of the song, everything will be okay. I think everybody has those same emotions, whatever

their story is. He just happens to have a microphone right in front of him. We take what we do seriously, but we don't take ourselves seriously.

**SBP:** You joined the self-releasing movement after Jive Records dropped you. And it seemed to give you a new wind.

**RS:** The thing that changed with not having to deal with a record label was it gave the band a new freedom. You didn't have to worry about the A&R guy standing over your shoulder saying, "we don't hear a hit." It took some pressure off to let the band do what it does and feel good about it. It allowed us to be able to enjoy the music we were making again, moreso than when we were on a major label, because those labels make bands second-guess themselves. It's been nice having that freedom, just being able to put out albums and be proud of what we're doing.

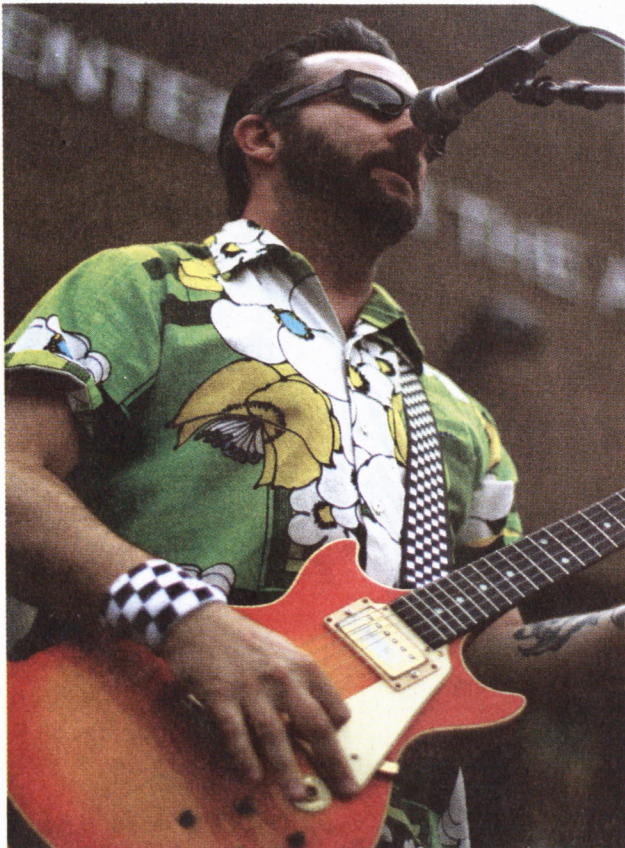
**SBP:** You released an album of covers, and a lot of the times, the songs a band covers exposes their influences. Which of your covers best exemplify your influences?

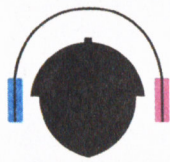
**RS:** That's tough, because we can take a crotch rock song from the 80s and make it sound like a Reel Big Fish song. But Aaron is a child of the 80s and he grew up loving bands like Quiet Riot and Poison. But he also loved all the old-school ska, like Toots and the Maytals and Desmond Dekker. When you put that together with what was going on in Orange County at the time, you had the punk influence. When you put it altogether with what Aaron was listening to growing up, I think Reel Big Fish's music spans a lot of areas. I think that's another reason people like to come see us live. It's not just a one-trick pony playing the same songs. There's a little something for everybody.

**SBP:** Anything you think we should know?

**RS:** I think that's all. You can check out our tour dates and our record on our website.

**SBP:** Thanks a lot.





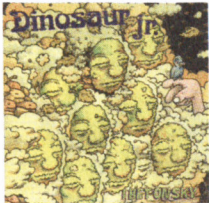
# THE NUTSHELL

CONTRIBUTORS:

Vin Barone  
Sam Liebrand  
Teena Nawabi  
Ethan Freedman  
Dan Cashmar  
Evan Goldaper

**DINOSAUR JR**  
*I BET ON SKY*

J Mascis and Dinosaur Jr have been consistently releasing albums since 1987 and will probably continue to churn out grungy strains for the next 125 years or so, through my U.S. presidency and beyond. One great thing about Dinosaur Jr. is that you always know what you're getting into--fuzzy guitars, lockjaw vocals and a smelly monochrome gray tie-dyed t-shirt. *I Bet On Sky*, the band's 10th studio LP, is a solid effort, which is more than you can ask for from most bands in the autumn of their career.



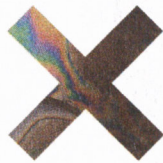
The album kicks off with "Don't Pretend You Didn't Know," a keyboard-driven number that happens to be one of the finer songs on the record. Unfortunately, the album slows with the single "Watch The Corners" and fails to reclaim the listener's attention until "Peirce The Morning Rain," the seventh and best song featured here.

Like most bands with vast catalogues, only a few Dinosaur Jr albums are really worth holding near and dear. Did this record need to happen? Probably not. More serious fans might

appreciate new material, but casual Dinosaur Jr. listeners will let this one slip by.

**THE XX**  
*COEXIST*

The xx has a new album, and it's hard to believe, but this one is even better than their first. *Coexist* is the London trio's second album



after their debut album, titled simply *The xx*, debuted in 2009. Even though it's been three years, they've managed to keep some of the qualities that made their first album so successful.

The most pleasing thing about the album is that The xx haven't abandoned the "silent" approach to music that has won them so much acclaim thus far. Their greatest weapon has always been the silence in between their verses, the gaps in melody and lack of a prominent beat. In "Missing", after Sim says "and now there's no hope for you and me," there is a full four seconds of complete silence; after the pause, the direction of the song changes. The melody becomes bolder, and Sim even sings "my heart is beating in a different way." The silences in between their verses help break

up the songs without the changes sounding abrupt.

The best song on the album is their single "Angels," on which Romy Madley Croft's soft and calming voice is on full display. The song sounds almost like a lullaby at first, with no beat and a soft melody. Croft's is the only voice on the track, which is about how everyone would be in love with the subject of her song if they could only see them the way she does.

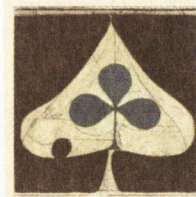
Madley Croft and Sim's voices complement each other in such an appealing way, melting together as they sing different parts of the same melody. Their combined singing talent is best displayed in the song Chained, one of the few songs where they sing at the same time.

Each song on the album is completely different, although they are similar in composition and sound, and are all worth a listen. The album's expected release date is September 11.

**GRIZZLY BEAR**  
*SHIELDS*

Just a touch over three years ago, Jay-Z and Beyoncé were spotted in Brooklyn watching a show by indie rock darlings Grizzly Bear. Although the world's most successful celebrity couple were certainly invited by Beyoncé's drastically hipper

sister Solange, Hova did express his admiration for Grizzly Bear and even went so far as to say that the indie rock movement would push the boundaries of Hip-Hop. That's an ambitious claim to say the least, but still an admirable point of view coming from the undisputed king of Rap. Grizzly Bear's second album, *Veckatimest*, sent their visibility outside the indiesphere shooting up to near-Arcade Fire levels, but their psychedelic tendencies limit their chances of playing Madison Square Garden or showing up on your dad's iPod. Yet, they can somehow still be enjoyed by musicians on the opposite end of the musical spectrum.



Their third album, *Shields*, isn't likely to rake in any more fans. Grizzly Bear's newest sees a very modest expansion of their sound, but it is largely another collection of songs in the vein of their previous breakthrough album. This isn't necessarily a bad thing: opener and first single "Sleeping Ute" is a beautiful and sprawling track that hits hard enough to retain your attention, but remains subtle enough to play to singer Ed Droste's vocal strengths. Although the climax includes a slightly uncharacteristic

synthesized arpeggiator that swirls around the vocal harmonies, this track would have been a welcome track on *Veckatimest*.

"Yet Again," the second single from *Shields*, matches the layering strength of "Sleeping Ute" but is even stronger in melody and finds more interesting instrumental territory, ending in an abrasive and spacey jam reminiscent of Radiohead's "OK Computer."

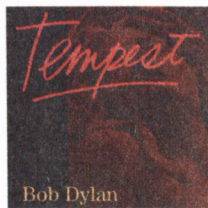
What *Shields* is missing is a song like *Veckatimest* track "Two Weeks," which provided an incredible pop sensibility that anyone could recognize, yet remained in Grizzly Bear's unique gloom-folk atmosphere. The closest we get here is "A Simple Answer," which features a similar loopy piano and anthemic chorus, but doesn't have the same immediacy or catchiness. But as a whole, *Shields* is meticulous and thoughtful enough that it lacks the filler that would make an equal pop single necessary.

Recommended Track: "Yet Again"

**BOB DYLAN**  
**TEMPEST**

Amid rumors that this would be his final album—the album title alludes to the title of Shakespeare's final play—Bob Dylan came up with his strongest effort in years. It's a return to the freewheeling style of 2001's *Love & Theft* and 2006's *Modern Times*. This album takes the theft motif of the latter album.

Dylan snatches lyrics and music from every influence he could get his hands on, such as the Sgt. Pepper's rip "I read the news today, oh boy" in his John Lennon



Bob Dylan

tribute, "Roll On." "Pay In Blood" sounds like a wheezy cover of Bruce Springsteen. "Narrow Way," could be Neil Young's lost sequel to "Sedan Delivery." The best track, "Duquesne Whistle," was co-written by Grateful Dead lyricist Robert Hunter and is reminiscent of "Thunder on the Mountain."

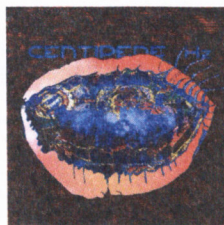
**ANIMAL COLLECTIVE**  
**"CENTIPEDE HZ"**

Some bands progress. Not Animal Collective. This, of course, isn't to say their sound doesn't change. Quite the contrary: each Animal Collective album since the mid-2000s has its own distinct atmosphere, but none of them come in any sort of logical order. Some may say the band "perfected" their sound on *Merriweather Post Pavilion*, their good-but-severely-overrated previous full-length. But that's suggesting they have had a determined destination, when in reality that album was just another stop on their meandering journey through musical atmospheres.

Their ninth album, *Centipede Hz*, sounds like they're all over the southern hemisphere, with heavy tribal and tropical elements and an all-around upbeat air. But the band doesn't

think of it as earthy at all. In a recent interview, de-facto frontman Avery Tare said in comparison to their introspective last record, *Centipede Hz* is up in space, on a spaceship—but it's a lot more grounded in one location than off dreamily in the clouds.

In fairness, Animal Collective have never exactly sounded like they were from Earth, but this record in particular sounds consistently extraterrestrial, yet is more accessible and thematically consistent than anything they've ever done. No track drifts into abrasive noise or



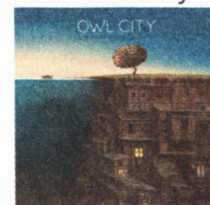
loops into oblivion as many of their other albums do. Tracks flow easily and fluidly from one to the next, and each have their own distinctive flavor from the same murky location. Lead single "Today's Supernatural" is possibly their most "rocky" track to date, with harsh distorted chords crashing along with Avery Tare's melodic raspy voice through the chorus. "Wide Eyed," which features newly re-instated member Deakin on vocals, is one of the strongest tracks on the album, making use of a muddled synth arpeggiator and a catchy melody. The entire album sounds distinctly natural, with the exception of "New Town Burnout," which begins with a definitively trip-hop influenced beat. What makes this album different than other Animal Collective albums

(though it is unmistakably an Animal Collective album) is its comprehensibility. Songs have much more defined structures, end before being blown off course and rarely shift dramatically.

This one's easier to digest, but for Animal Collective that's not saying much.

**OWL CITY**  
**"THE MIDSUMMER STATION"**

The question to ask whenever Owl City releases a new album is "Am I better off just listening to The Postal Service's *Give Up* for the sixtieth time?" Unfortunately for electro-pop fans, the answer is often "yes." On *The Midsummer Station*, Adam Young is trying very hard to tread new ground. Unfortunately, that new ground is generic dance-pop. You might not have liked "Fireflies" as much as the rest of the world seemed to, but at least you remember it. Strip away the adorable self-doubt, jaunty rhythms and bad puns, and all you're left with is bad autotune and club music that's thematically better-suited for a youth group. Is it listenable? No. Is it worth your time? Probably not.



Even a guest appearance by Carly Rae Jepsen can't make me remember the album, which mashes together into a forgettable mess. Wake me up when it's 2009 again.

Recommended  
"Speed of Love"

Track:

## INSANE CLOWN POSSE "THE MIGHTY DEATH POP"

Insane Clown Posse's newest album (ignoring their other cover album and other story album that were released on the same day as it) has a theme that POPS out randomly to remind you there's a theme even if it has no context to the song. The theme seems to be reckless people doing stupid or dangerous things and then

the death pop gets them, which either represents death itself or the moment you die. I think. To say this album hurt my brain is an understatement. Here are



some lyrics if you think I'm exaggerating in any way... In the title track: "Let your balls hang out if you wanna but don't cry when they get kicked."

In "Kickin' Kickin'," a song about how being a ninja is awesome: "Legs busy as fuck like Mr. Krabs's feet," and later, "redneck, pork sliced, kill 'em, finish my bowl of rice." When not describing everyday activities of ninjas such as balancing on chopsticks and eating rice, they are also shoguns. I never knew that. If you really HAVE to listen to this album, the only songs of any "merit" are "Juggalo Juice," where they actually

seem enthused to be doing this album, and "Skreem!," because Hopsin and Tech N9ne are in it. If I had a gun to my head and I had to single out one song as the worst, I would consider if my life is really worth it and then probably settle on "Hate Her to Death," which was an uninspired and boring piece of shit.

Recommended Track: "Juggalo Juice"

## INTERVIEW WITH THE MAINE

by Khosnur Alam



Recently I attended five out of the 32 dates on the North American leg of the Pioneer World Tour headlined by The Maine, originating from Tempe Arizona, with guests Arkells from Canada and also from Arizona, Lydia. This tour was basically a group of friends jamming out every night across the world and generally making sure that the attendees left a show exalted thanks to their quirky charms.

I was able to sit down with some members from each band to ask them a few questions.

**Khosnur Alam:** Is there any kind band you wouldn't want to play with, or gig you wouldn't want to have for whatever reason?

**John O'Callaghan (lead vocals - The Maine):** I think we've realized that we CAN say no. I think we're into a stage in our career where we know what we want; we know what we don't want. We could go on tour with One Direction and play for however many kids they'd bring but we chose to not, keeping in mind that that there may not be as many people at our shows. We

want the kids coming out who are really really passionate about what we're doing. Those are the ones we want to engage...

**Jared Monaco (lead guitar - The Maine):** And we're headlining this tour, so WE get to choose.

**Max Kerman (lead vocals - Arkells):** For us, I think we're a pretty inclusive band, which is one of the things that I'm most proud of. We don't care what the person looks like, if they're a guy or a girl. If they want to see an energetic rock band and our songs can connect with them; that's all we care

about.

**KA:** What's the story behind how Arkells landed this tour?

**MK:** I actually didn't know the story myself until I heard John (lead singer of The Maine) tell it in like an interview, or something. John said that a fan gave them a record at a show and they put it on in their van and liked it. A little later John tweeted our lyrics, I think, or said to "Listen to Arkells" and it got a bunch of retweets. We weren't even familiar with The Maine at the time.

When their album *Pioneer* released (December 6, 2011), I could relate to a lot of their influences and so I e-mailed Jared (The Maine's guitarist), "You know, if you guys are going out and ever looking for a band for support in America..." Then within a couple of days the tour was sort of in motion. Also, what's funny, a while later I got a message on Facebook from that kid telling me that he gave The Maine our record and I thought, "Oh! You're the kid that started this. You're basically the reason why all

this is happening!"

**KA:** If you ever make mistakes on stage, how do you cover up/react?

**Leighton Antelman (lead vocals-Lydia):** You're always your own worst critic. Sometimes you're just like "Damn! I can't believe I messed that part up!" and everyone in the band is like, "What are you talking about?" Sometimes I'll sing the second verse before the first verse and the other night our guitar player called me out, but said I covered it up well.

**MK:** We have a smile rule, if things are going wrong. Don't grimace; don't act frustrated 'cause that just perpetuates the problem. You've just got to laugh it off, you can't cry over spilled milk, you know?

**KA:** What's it like to manage touring life and your personal life/off-time?

**LA:** A lot of the times they bleed into each other. You'll be like in this "tour mode" two and a half, three weeks into tour. Your body is almost like a machine, especially on this tour since our

set times never change. So like on the last day of tour, you look forward to being able to do whatever you want for the rest of however long until the next tour.

**KA:** When an album comes out or you release something, do you read your reviews?

**JO:** I mean, we don't ever sit down as a band and look...

**JM:** I definitely look, when our album comes out, I get on iTunes for the initial response, especially the first ones because those are the people, who bought it im-

mediately, knew about it... but I don't go on any forums.

**JO:** I don't think that an opinion about anybody else's music should ever be referred to as "better" than anyone else's. Everybody has their own opinion...at the end of the day it's your *opinion*.

My opinion is that The Pioneer World Tour was one of the best tours I've attended. The Maine, Arkells, and Lydia will be touring (separately) in the fall and I plan to be there.

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# DOCTOR WHO

by Rebecca Tapio

Steven Moffat may be the only writer in television who can script a show with no basis in logic, ignore canon, and leave more loose ends than an Afghan rug, yet still create something beautiful.

BBC's *Doctor Who* premiered its seventh series on September 1, starring Matt Smith as the Eleventh Doctor, Karen Gillan as companion Amy Pond and Arthur Darvill as her husband, Rory.

"Asylum of the Daleks" finds the Doctor walking into a trap on Skaro, the home planet of the infamous Daleks—which, incidentally, was time-locked during the Time War, and as thus cannot be accessed in the timeline, according to canon.

(For those new kids on the block, the Doctor is a 900-year-old alien, of the Timelord species, who travels through time and space in a TARDIS, a ship in the form of a British police phone box, which is bigger on the inside, while getting up to shenanigans and periodically saving the universe from collapsing. Standard science fiction.)

And so fans are thrown into the series while Skaro is suddenly a thing again, Amy and Rory are getting a divorce, and the Daleks are enlisting the Doctor to save them from their own kind, confined within the Dalek Asylum, all in the first ten minutes.

None of which Moffat bothers to explain any further except in passing.

The Asylum is a prison for the "Daleks that have gone wrong," that even their own species cannot control. When the human ship ALASKA manages to crash into the planet's surface through the "impenetrable" force field surrounding it, the Daleks fear the fact that, if anything can get in, anything can also get out.

As stated by Madame du Pompadour in Series Two, "A door, once opened, may be passed through in either direction."

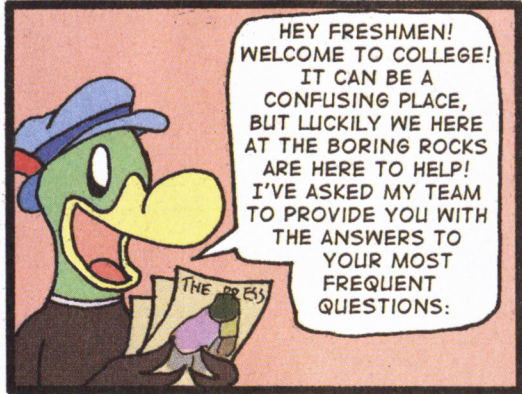
The beauty of this episode is found in wonderful Oswin Oswald, part of the ALASKA crew, who was fully converted into a Dalek by the inmates of the planet due to her exceptional intelligence. She hides herself in a dream of being human, refusing to wear her metal suit.

It's in the Daleks of the Asylum, who are feared by their own species because of they cannot hate, but they can love.

They are shunned by their own race, which defines itself by its overwhelming ability to hate. And that is Moffat's genius; he manages to humanize the least of all of the Doctor's enemies.

Damn you, Mr. Moffat for making me love the Daleks.

**The Boring Rocks** by Evan Goldaper



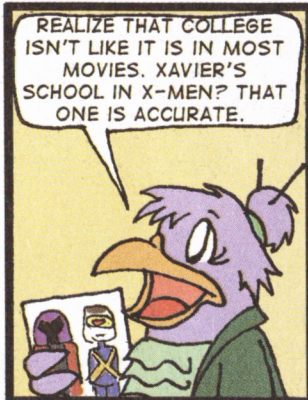
HEY FRESHMEN! WELCOME TO COLLEGE! IT CAN BE A CONFUSING PLACE, BUT LUCKILY WE HERE AT THE BORING ROCKS ARE HERE TO HELP! I'VE ASKED MY TEAM TO PROVIDE YOU WITH THE ANSWERS TO YOUR MOST FREQUENT QUESTIONS:



LOST ON CAMPUS? DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK SOMEONE FOR HELP! ALTERNATIVELY, JUST REMEMBER THAT MOSS ALWAYS GROWS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF TREES!



IF YOU DON'T LIKE YOUR ROOMMATE, PEOPLE SAY TO TALK TO AN RA. I SAY BLACKMAIL.



REALIZE THAT COLLEGE ISN'T LIKE IT IS IN MOST MOVIES. XAVIER'S SCHOOL IN X-MEN? THAT ONE IS ACCURATE.



COLLEGE IS ONLY AS AWESOME AS YOU ARE. THAT'S WHY I LOVE IT SO MUCH!

The Long-Awaited...  
Much-Anticipated Return of...  
**Sportz**  
By Mark Greek

Hey man, did you hear about Lance Armstrong? They're gonna take away his Tour De France titles and ban him from cycling for life.

Yeah, I heard about it. I really don't see the issue.



What's unfair about it? It's natural to want to use every resource available to give yourself a competitive edge, especially when money is involved. Can you honestly say you wouldn't do the same thing in his situation?

Would the driving force behind that concept have anything to do with that contraption on your head?



These Turtle Beach™ gaming headphones? I'm just using the new technology available to me. Just like Lance.

What about sportsmanship? Honor? Basic personal pride in appearance?



With these bad boys I can almost hear enemy troops moving on the entire map.

I think I can hear your Mom calling you for dinner...







## BILL NYE CRITICIZES CREATIONISTS

by Andrew Carrieri

To me and many others my age, PBS' most educational children's show during the 1990s was *Bill Nye the Science Guy*. Through his show, which aired new episodes between 1993 and 1998, Nye exposed children to the hard sciences by discussing and demonstrating topics such as static electricity, the brain and respiration. Nye essentially disappeared from my thoughts after reruns of his show stopped airing. However, while perusing the internet on August 27, I saw some relevant news about him for the first time in years: in a video he created for the website Big Think, "Creationism is not Appropriate for Children," Nye slammed creationism and the large percentage of Americans (46% according to the results of a May 2012 Gallup Poll) who continue to promote it. He fears that continued belief in creationism will hinder the future scientific prospects of America.

I agree with Nye on the validity of evolution. Processes such as genetics have been discussed at length in my science classes over the years, and they have all seemed to be backed up by valid research and empirical evidence. Regarding creationism, I am Roman Catholic but don't interpret the texts literally—when scientists make new discoveries and are able to support their claims, I believe them.

However, I think Nye goes too far in his assertions against creationism—while a person may not strictly believe in evolution, it does not necessarily mean he or

she is opposed to all hard sciences. In the aforementioned Gallup Poll, 32% of Americans believe humans evolved with some guidance from God—a synthesis of creationist and evolutionist beliefs. In other words, people can believe in some scientific discoveries while opposing others. Nye is taking an "all or nothing" stance and fails to see a middle ground because he is a scientist. His stance is understandable, but it can come across as arrogant from a layman's perspective.

Arrogance aside, Nye faces an uphill battle in promoting his agenda because people will believe what they want, rationally or not. The evidence in favor of evolution is available and people are exposed to it, even if it's just through the ongoing debates over whether it should be part of the school science curriculum. It is one's own choice to accept it or not. Furthermore, Nye weakened his argument when, in a follow-up interview on CBS, he said "[people] can believe what [they] want religiously" because creationism is based on religious ideals. By decrying creationism, Nye is clearly against at least some religious beliefs, as a God would have had to create humans in their current form. Therefore, this line represents a poor attempt to mitigate possible public relations damage. If he wishes to continue his fight to advance evolutionary theory, Nye needs to go all out in decrying creationism, including possible religious connections. Straddling the fence will only make his already difficult battle still tougher to win.



# CONVENTIONS

by Brianna Peterson

Recently I sat in front of the TV and decided to watch the Democratic National Convention on my Xbox. I'll admit, I've never really watched a political convention in its entirety. I may have streamed candidates' speeches every so often, or gone on YouTube to listen to a speech because someone said it was inspiring, but I never immersed myself when it came to such events. Let me just say, as soon as it appeared on the screen, I was instantly entertained.

Whether it was the long speeches that inspired change and hope, or the "advertisement" videos endorsing Biden or Obama or the entrance music that played whenever a speaker walked onto the stage, I honestly can't say what made me keep watching. After watching the DNC I immediately looked up videos from the Republican National Convention and saw that it too was flashy. It had the appearance of a night at the Oscars rather than a political event.

Both parties are receiving \$18 million in taxpayer funds, money controlled by party officials to put on each convention's official speeches and nominations.

According to the Federal Election Commission's records, the amount of money received since 1976 has increased \$16 million. The money is used to cover various expenses like catering, transportation and hotel costs. Each convention also takes place over the course of three days, in order to characterize and endorse the candidate of each party for the public. Honestly, between all of the media coverage that there has been regarding the candidates for this year's election, and the fact that the debates that will begin soon, we really don't need three days to get to know who these guys are.

Political conventions and their function in presidential elections have changed drastically over the last 100 years or so. Back when both the Republican and Democratic parties were still being formed, it was decided to institute conventions in order to give major political figures the chance to select their nominee. Often, due to lack of transportation, these conventions would be held as early as a year before the actual election. It wasn't until the early 1960s that these conventions became a means for candidates to

rally support and gain media attention. That explains all of the special effects at both conventions and celebrity appearances, such as Clint Eastwood at the RNC this year. Not only that, but what were once official acts during these conventions have lost their significance. It's not really a surprise that President Obama received the nomination for the Democratic party this year, and the simple gesture of saying "I accept the nomination" is pretty silly. On top of that, when each convention is almost over, there is a vote as to whether the convention is finished based on the majority of the audience. Having each of the speakers come out to talk about the nominee giving them constant endorsement can become a bit tedious after the first hour or so. These once important instances in the political convention have now become little ways to positively remark about the candidate or keep the traditions "intact." In the end it leads to a redundant, repetitive, and frivolous event.

Still, there is a way that these conventions could become beneficial. While watching the DNC on my Xbox, there were questions that would pop up on the screen every so often referring to what the speaker was talking about, like "Do you feel that the Occupy movements helped the Democratic party?" These questions kept me engaged throughout the program and allowed me to think about what each speaker was truly talking about, which kept me from not just passively absorbing the promises and pointless words that they used. Perhaps having a way that viewers could interact and possibly affect conventions would give them more weight in the election process and help people make well-reasoned decisions. Regardless, there needs to be something more than three days of speeches and \$18 million in balloons and special effects that would allow citizens to feel that they are benefiting from essentially paying for said conventions. Until something changes, however, such conventions will remain nothing more than a "congratulations party" for the candidate to "formally" accept the nomination of the political party.



# SWIM TEAM SEASON SINKS

by Olivia Burne

Stony Brook's swim team has hit the wall. Figuratively, of course, because as of right now, the Stony Brook swim team does not have a pool wall to hit.

The home to afterschool swimming lessons and, more crucially, the Division I swim team, is under a \$10 million reconstruction project and is expected to be out of action for 12 to 16 months, according to the Stony Brook Athletics Department.

The out-of-action pool comes on top of an already difficult year for the team. Dave Alexander, the swim coach who had been training swimmers and divers for the past 32 years, passed away in June from cancer after battling it for almost two years.

Many of the swimmers and divers were able to say goodbye to their coach due to support from the Athletics Department, which provided accommodation and transport to the funeral.

Emily Cheng, 20, a junior health science major from Jericho, New York who attended the funeral, found it hard to say goodbye to her coach.

"We saw a timeline of his life," said Cheng, describing the wake. "And at the end it was just an open casket."

While Olivia Myszkowski, 18, a sophomore health science major from Queens, said that although the team knew Alexander was sick, "when the emails started coming through towards the end of the year that he was getting worse and worse, it was a shock."

Assistant Coach Chris Brandenberger has been named interim head coach while the school looks for a replacement. This will be a difficult task when the team does not have anywhere to train.

The athletes have not been given any pool time at the local Suffolk Community College and there has been no

indication that another pool will be available for the team's use.

Because of this, the Stony Brook Athletics Department announced in May that each of the 36 swimmers and divers would undertake a yearlong hiatus from competitive swimming. Or in athlete's terms, a forced redshirt.

According to some members of the women's swim team, this is not acceptable for a Division I Athletics Program.

Cheng said that while the Stony Brook Athletics Department has provided facilities, like the new Dubin Center, for the team to use, the department "could have made a better effort to find the team a pool."

"We're a Division I school, we have scholarship athletes, we shouldn't have this problem," said Cheng.

It also does not bode well for seniors like David White, 21, a music major from Flemington, New Jersey who has been forced to redshirt this year, meaning he won't have another opportunity to race for Stony Brook.

White has decided to continue training with his teammates, but doesn't blame those who have decided to quit.

"It's already one thing to have no pool, but no scholarships and no coach," said White. "It's a lot."

He continued, "I think the only thing we can hope for is that the pool gets finished on time," White said before continuing. "If it goes any time over, the swim program is going to die."

All women's swimming and diving scholarships will be honored this year, according to Jim Fiore, the Stony Brook Athletics Director, while the men, who have not had scholarships for the past four years, will continue to remain unfunded.

# SEAWOLVES SEASON OPENER

by Nowshad Hussain



Photo by Nick Batson

Seawolves Football opened their season at home for the first time since 2008 with a formidable display of offense that trumped the Central Connecticut Blue Devils, 49-17 led by senior running back Miguel Maysonet, who ran 171 yards and scored three touchdowns. Senior quarterback Kyle Essington passed for 188 yards and threw three touchdowns.

Early in the first quarter, the Seawolves were given the ball at the 4 yard line when Central Connecticut's punter brought his knee down as he caught the ball at the 4-yard line and drew the foul. Four minutes into the game and Stony Brook's Marcus Coker rushed into the end zone to score the first touchdown of the game for the Seawolves. In the next play, the defense stifled Central Connecticut's offense, resulting in a third down sack of Central Connecticut's quarterback Andrew Clements. With Stony Brook in possession of the play after, quarterback Essington extended the lead to 14-0 with an 89 yard touchdown pass to senior wide receiver, Kevin Norrell.

The clock winded down to the end of the first quarter, but that didn't stop Stony Brook from putting more points on the board. In a first and goal situation, running back Maysonet ran a spectacular 84 yards for a touchdown that resulted in a 21-0 Seawolves lead.

The Blue Devils began the second quarter promisingly with a close chance to produce a touchdown early on in the quarter, but the Seawolves defense picked up to stop the run and resulted in a successful field goal by Central Connecticut that put the score 21-3 for the Seawolves.

Central Connecticut scored its first touchdown after Essington threw an interception, which allowed the Blue Devils to score their first touchdown and put Stony Brook's lead to 21-10. But soon after, the Seawolves began dominating again when Maysonet caught a pass by Essington for a spectacular leap for a 25-yard touchdown and a third



Photo by Tom Johnson

quarter rush of five yards to extend the lead to 35-10. Essington finishes off the third quarter with a 19 yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Adrian Coxson. The Seawolves won the game in a staggering offensive and set the tone for exciting season. Not only did the Seawolves display an offensive prowess early in the game, their defensive line helped to keep the score as it was and to not allow Central Connecticut to make any offensive pushes in the game.



# ASIAN AMERICAN E-ZINE

WWW.AA2SBU.ORG/AAEZINE

**SEE THE BEAUTY OF THE WANG CENTER'S GARDEN  
BEFORE PRESIDENT STANLEY DESTROYS IT!**

**Goodbye trees and blue sky, goodbye peace and serenity!**



**Hello four six-story dorms, hello lights and loud music!**



Photo illustration by KSQ Architects with changes by Yimajian Yan to show dorms from in the garden - not from in the Wang Center.

**There is no excuse to destroy the garden or pagoda that has become SBU's icon! There is an equivalent alternative! The Toll Drive dorms insults Charles Wang, the \$60+ million donor, and every Asian/Asian American! His gift was to honor their shared heritage. SBU didn't think, ask or even tell him or them. But not just Asian/Americans will lose. Wang wanted a place where everyone would learn something about Asia "simply by being in the building." Destroying the serenity of its classic Suzhou garden only teaches a lesson in one thing - white privilege.**

**If SBU succeeds, all lovers of the Wang Center's beauty will lose!**

**Don't let it happen! Go to [www.aaezine.org/SaveWang](http://www.aaezine.org/SaveWang)**



# ASIAN AMERICAN E-ZINE

WWW.AA2SBU.ORG/AAEZINE

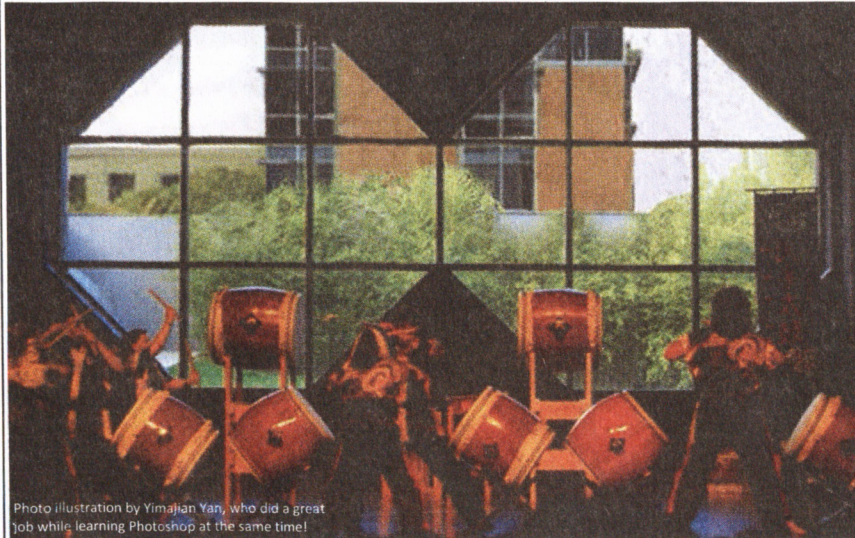
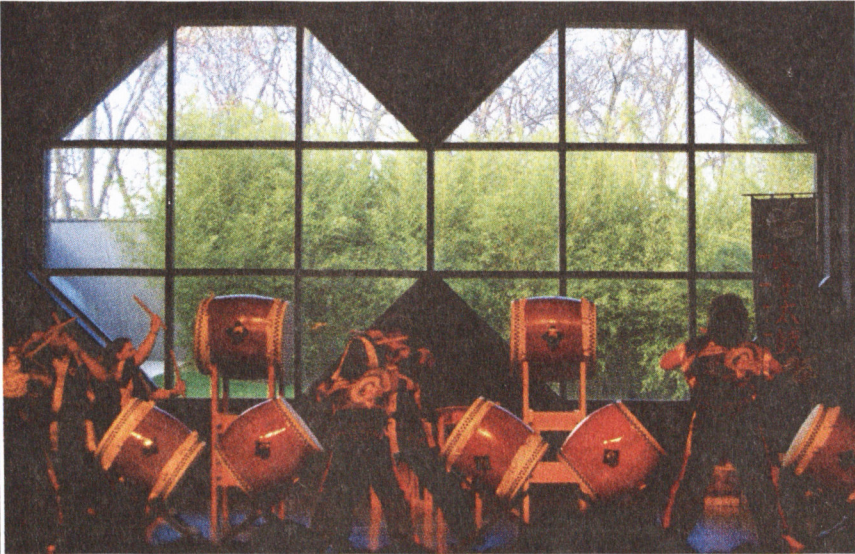


Photo illustration by Yimajian Yan, who did a great job while learning Photoshop at the same time!

**IF YOU DIDN'T SEE THE JAPANESE NOH STYLE BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN THEATRE WINDOWS AT SAKURA MATSURI LAST YEAR, YOU MAY NEVER GET THE CHANCE UNLESS YOU STOP PRESIDENT STANLEY! ASIDE FROM THE UGLINESS, THE CURTAINS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO OPEN AGAIN BECAUSE THERE WILL BE NO CONTROL OF THE LIGHT COMING FROM THE DORMS, IMPACTING A SHOW!**

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**Take photos while it's still beautiful! Cash prizes. No submission fees. Amateurs only. Judged by Wang Center architect. [www.aaezine.org/TuanWangPhotoContest](http://www.aaezine.org/TuanWangPhotoContest)**

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**Bi-weekly online e-zine with news and events geared to Asian / Asian American campus / local community and sent to over 3000 subscribers. Journalists, writers, columnists, photographers, videographers, and anyone interested in media wanted!**

**Open House : Friday, 9/14, 2:30, Union 071**

**Refreshments! All Welcome!**



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**UNION BASEMENT, ROOM 060**

**FREE PIZZA**