

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER OF STONY BROOK'S GRADUATE COMMUNITY

THE GRADUATE



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Volume 1, Number 2, December 2003

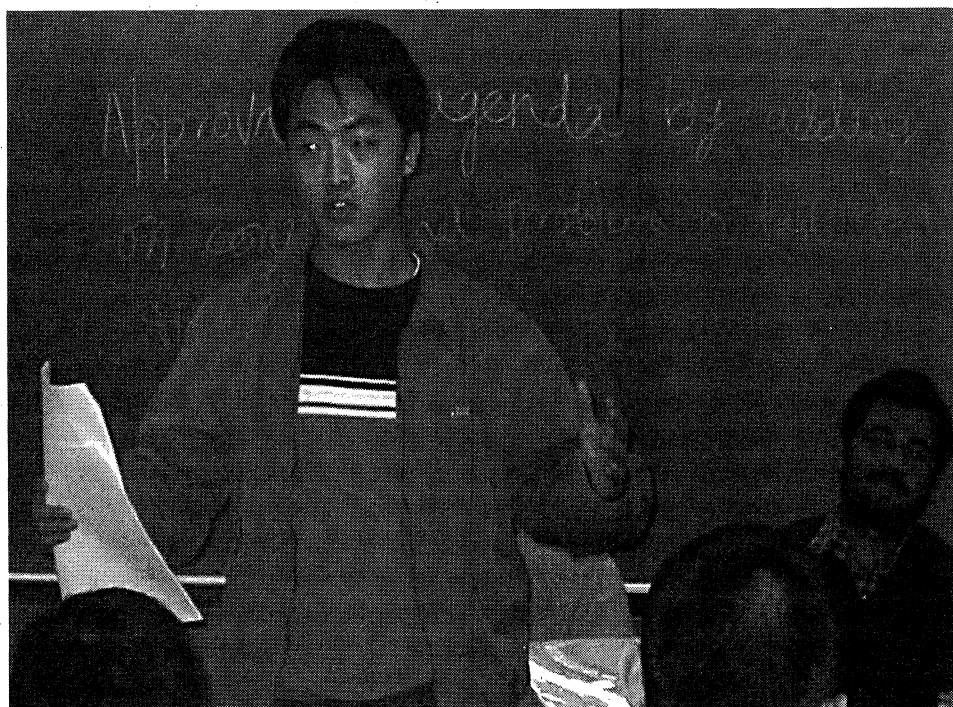
**DEAN MARTIN'S
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**T'WAS THE NIGHT
OF CHRISTMAS!
CAROLS FROM
AROUND THE
WORLD**

**STONY LOVE
INSPIRED AT THE BROOK
NOTHING NEW
CITY ARTS
NEWS AND BLUES
CAFE LATTE
STALLER NIGHTS
AND MUCH MORE INSIDE....**

GUOFENG IN LIMBO: SENATE MUTE ON REMOVAL OF PRESIDENT



Ex-President Mr. GUofeng HUo makes an impassionate plea to the senate.

Photo by Sivaraman Prakasam

He added, the goal of a student organization is to learn to work together and not to display the tyranny of the majority. He said a vote based on a narrow majority is not a victory to any one party concerned but a failure in a student body context. He urged the students to abandon such divisiveness and work together as a team.

On the removal of the president, The Dean took pains to explain that the decision was made purely based on the information he got from the speaker and that this does not mean that its final. He said Mr. Guofeng should use the GSO's appeal process. Based on the outcome of the appeals process and further review by the university a final decision would be made. He went on to say the University reserves the right of final decision .(CONTD PAGE: 9)

Dec 9, SAC 303,
SUNY, Stonybrook, NY

December's senate meeting turned out to be a show of strength, with the senate floor divided almost equally. The evening began with much excitement, with video cameras set up and enough snacks to make the senators last a long and tumultuous night.

The Dean Dr Lawrence Martin also turned up for the meeting. The first salvo was fired as expected when some senators moved that item F of the new business in the agenda be moved to the beginning of the meeting, Item F being the discussion about the unconstitutional removal of President Guofeng Huo.

This motion then failed narrowly

and the agenda was approved as is. The next business was approval of minutes. After some brief but bitter wrangling the minutes too were approved. Following that the dean was invited to address the senate.

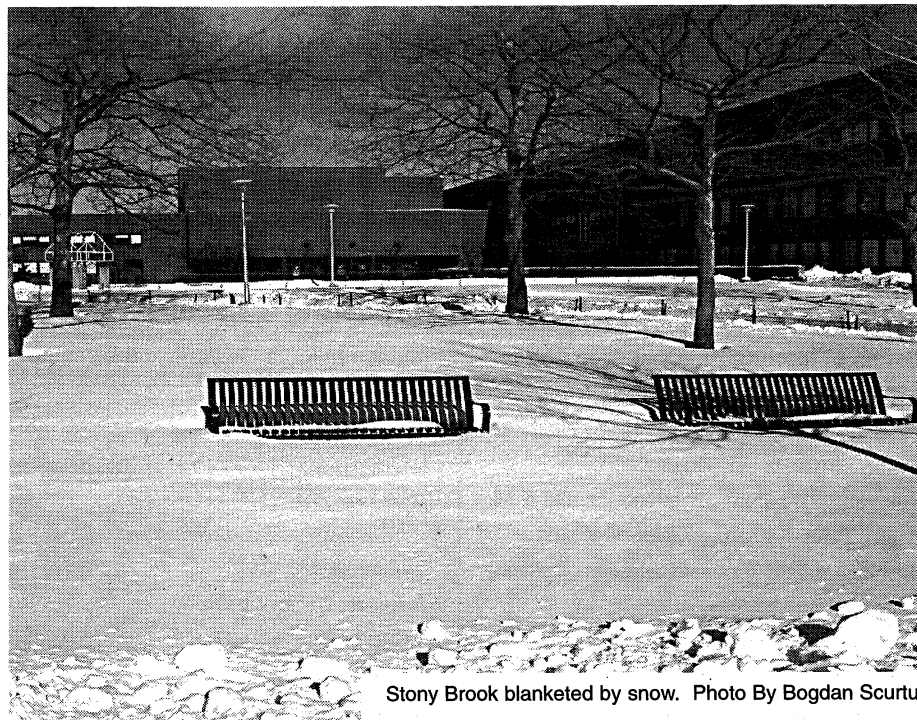
The Dean first admonished the senators for the divisiveness displayed by the senators. He made the assertion that to an impartial observer the voting seemed to fall ethnic patterns, which he described as unfortunate. He advised the senators to vote based on issues and represent their departments which are ethnically diverse and not on their own beliefs. He also went on to say that decisions based on narrow majority maybe okay for states and governments but not for student organization. (see below)

SNOWY BROOK: WINTER ARRIVES TWO WEEKS EARLY THAN USUAL

STONY BROOK, NY

An Unprecedented noreaster hit much of north eastern coast of the united states with total snow accumulation ranging from 12 - 24 inches. Atleast eight deaths were linked to snow related traffic accidents across three states. In new york city snow accumulated upto 13 inches, with Mayor Bloomberg stating the cleanup cost of the city is going to a million dollars per inch.

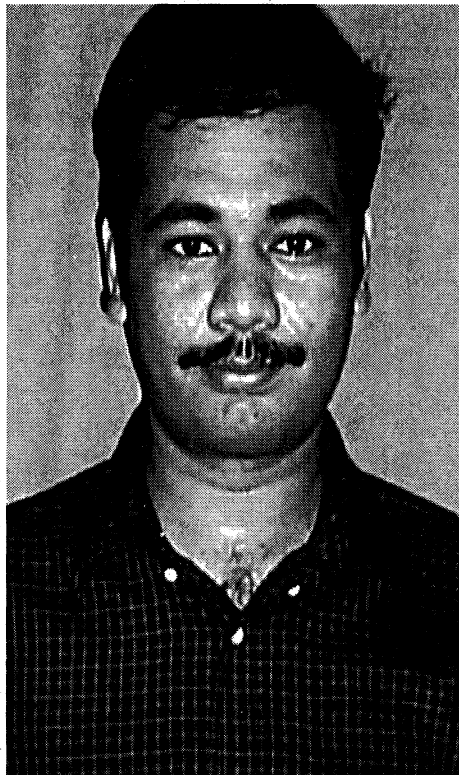
Stony brook was also greatly affected by the storm. An accumulation of 12 - 18 inches was reported on the yahoo weather page. This reporter witnessed atleast three cars sliding of nicholls road due to slippery roads. An empty school bus lay overturned on the same road. Many of the residents were little prepared to tackle the slick conditions on the road as winter made its unwelcome arrival two weeks earlier than usual. (CONTD PAGE: 9)



Stony Brook blanketed by snow. Photo By Bogdan Scurtu

Welcome Aboard

Mr Speaker!



THE NEW SPEAKER OF GSO MR. PRASANNA THOGULUDU

We the editors, on behalf of the Stony Brook graduate community welcome, Mr Prasanna Thoguludu to the GSO. Mr Thoguludu has taken up the position of Speaker after the resignation of Mr Shawn Pottorf.

Mr Thoguludu is a first year graduate student at the Material science department. He joined Stony Brook after completing his undergraduate degree in technology from India.

He takes office at a difficult time for the GSO and shoulders a tremendous responsibility in maintaining the dignity of the GSO.

We wish him luck and request that he do his best to help the GSO business, being done in a fair and impartial manner
regards
-the graduate

Letter from the Former

Speaker Mr Shawn Pottorf

Letter to the GSO from the Speaker present at the Nov. 11, 2003 GSO senate meeting concerning the claims of unconstitutional procedures

and order followed during the Board of Appeals (BoA) report at the above mentioned meeting. It is not claimed by the Speaker that this letter is absolute or is an exact account of the events at the above meeting. This letter is solely intended as commentary to shed light on the actions of the GSO from the perspective of the Chair of the meeting, the Speaker, at the Nov. 11 meeting.

Guofeng Hou, the GSO President at the Nov. 11, 2003 GSO senate meeting under the authority of interpretation given to him by the GSO constitution has made the claim that the procedures and order followed in the senate's decision to remove the President from office are unconstitutional and therefore instantaneously make the above decision null and void.

The President's claim, which is paraphrased above, has been noted in the minutes of the Nov. 11 meeting. It is out of order, though, to determine that as the GSO President, or as any GSO member, an interpretation of the GSO constitution made in a meeting must instantaneously have action taken. In concerning procedures and order at a GSO regular or urgent meeting, it is the Speaker, or chair of the meeting, who determines these matters in dealing with the orders of the day (the agenda) and orders of business. Rephrasing the above statements: claims in which the decisions made by the GSO senate are instantaneously null and void due to the President's authority over interpretation of the GSO constitution at all GSO meetings are out of order.

In order to properly justify the claim of unconstitutional procedures or order, the GSO senate must first challenge the procedure or order followed by raising the question, which in this case has been raised by the President at the Nov. 11 meeting. In other words, a senator should make a motion to call to question (vote) on the interpretation, or make a motion to modify or suggest alternative procedures or order, or not follow the procedure in question. Since the GSO President is not a member of the senate, but an executive, the President cannot make motions to call to question the constitution at a senate meeting. The President's authority lies in the right to make the sole interpretation of the constitution at a GSO senate meeting with no other implications. Therefore, if no motion is made to call to question an interpretation made by anyone in the senate

concerning the constitution, then it should be noted that the question may be taken up by the Rules and Constitution Committee in order to determine the definitive interpretation, again, with no other implications on that determination and with no implication on the course of action by the senate in lieu of the question. The lesson to learn here is that any interpretations of rules of an assembly never determine the actions that the assembly must make or should have made. In parallel to the discussion of the President's claims of unconstitutional procedures during the BoA report, which was a trial of the President, the Speaker had no challenges from the senate during the BoA committee report at the Nov. 11 senate meeting. In addition, the proper people requested by the current BoA chairman were present in order for the BoA report to proceed.

In the matter of how the BoA report was conducted, there were many reasons that may justify the procedures taken. The BoA written report had been previously presented to the senate and made publicly available in an August 2003 urgent senate meeting. At this meeting the accused was given appreciable time to present his case to the senate, and appreciable time was given to the senate to ask questions to the BoA committee and the accused. With the BoA report having been tabled at this meeting (meaning no decision was made by the senate) and at the following meetings until the Nov. 11 meeting, it should be known that the accused had ample time to prepare any statements to be given the senate, written or verbal. In addition, it was the view of the Speaker that the BoA report was of a very delicate nature and because of the reasons above limited the BoA to only a summary of their report and the accused (after his request) to a limited statement in defense of the charges in order that the senate be given ample time to ask questions to the BoA and the accused during the Nov. 11 meeting until the senate chose on its own to end discussion.

It is common procedure (see Robert's Rules for example) for an assembly during a trial of a member, in this case the President, that after the investigating committee (BoA) reports and the accused makes statements the assembly acts upon the resolutions (report) submitted by its investigating committee. When the senate at the Nov. 11 meeting came to this point

by ending discussion the accused was asked to leave the meeting in order to deliberate and make a decision on the report. This, again, is common procedure (see Robert's Rules) especially in the case of a trial.

In summary, it appears that the procedures followed during the BoA report was within the common and written procedures, which allowed for the senate to make a decision on the BoA report, in this case to remove the President from office. For proper action to be taken to challenge the final decision of the senate the question should be brought to the senate by a senator and deferred to the RCC or BoA for investigation.

Respectfully,
Shawn Pottorf
Chairman, Lounge Advisory Committee,
former GSO Speaker

DEAN DR. LAWRENCE

MARTIN'S LETTER

On Friday November 14, I met with the Speaker of the GSO Senate who presided over the GSO Senate meeting on November 11. Having reviewed carefully the procedures for the Senate meeting, the Speaker is of the firm opinion that the decision to remove Guofeng Hou as President of the GSO was

in accord with the GSO constitution. While I recognize that there is considerable disagreement on this issue, I have decided to accept the results of that vote pending the outcome of any appeal that might be made according to GSO and University policies. As such, Angeliki Field-Pollatou will be recognized by the University as the President of the Graduate Student Organization.

Best, LM.
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LOUNGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

9 DECEMBER 2003

The Lounge Advisory Committee (Lounge Committee) consists of at least four (4) members that work in conjunction with the FSA, as per guidelines, i.e. a contract, established by the GSO and FSA, to oversee the operation of the Graduate Student Lounge (the University Cafe). At least once every semester, the committee shall present a detailed report to the Senate describing the present status of the Lounge, and outline any future plans as provided by the GSO constitution.

The Present Status of the University Café

The University Café has been operational since September 5 with limited hours of operation being in the evening. A required health permit is still being applied for and delays in obtaining the permit include, but have not been limited to:

1. Installing additional hot water supply to meet Health Dept. requirements (University covering expense)
2. Installing additional grease traps to meet Department of Public Works requirements (University covering expense)
3. Installing air gaps under sinks to meet Health Department requirements (University covering expense)
4. Providing explanation of University Power Plant capacities that support the facility, from a State engineer
5. Obtaining sewage clearance (S-9) from the Department of Wastewater Management
6. Adding spill guard to bar
7. Adding splash guard to washing sink
8. Providing separate racks for clean and dirty dishes
9. Installing barrier to separate employee-only areas from patron areas
10. Identifying employee locker areas
11. Submitting explanation that adequate storage space exists
12. Providing a full menu that specifically excludes any food preparation on site
13. Providing additional plans to demonstrate that no wastewater lines run above the facility
14. Providing additional plans to show plumbing to facility
15. Providing additional plans of entire first floor of Stony Brook Union
16. Providing additional plans that

show various details of the facility, including labeling of all fixtures in rest room

17. Providing proof of Disability and Workers' Compensation insurance
18. Processing time at Health Department for resubmissions of required documentation (3 rounds to get all of the issues defined, as of now)

The Café may not sell consumable items in reusable retainers such as glasses without this health permit; thereby the service of the Café is limited to bottled alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages and practically restricts the hours of operation to the evening. The willingness of Chartwells to make their catering permit available to us, and with a lot of creative and hard work by the Café manager, the University Café would not be open at all due to the Health Department process.

The Lounge Committee has written its first feedback report to the Faculty Student Association (FSA) with concerns of the University Café. A Feedback Report is requested by FSA at least once a semester. The Feedback Report is attached below. The Committee requests that any concerns of the GSO senate or of any graduate student with the University Café be sent to the Lounge Committee chairman or members (<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso/committees/committees.htm>).

In general, it is the feeling of the Committee and Café management that the University Café has seen an overall increase in patrons and praise for its location and décor compared to the previous GSL. Though, reports from FSA on the revenues of the Café in the first three months do not appear to be on track to meet the subsidy budgeted by the GSO for 2003-2004. Two factors in these losses are believed to be hindering further growth in revenues, which are 1) the Café's limitation on services like espresso, coffee, and pastry snacks and hours of operation; and 2) restraint from campus wide advertisement due to our lack of services which require a health permit. The Committee is mindful of the GSO's initial desires for the GSL services and balanced budget and is fervently working to meet those desires. At this time, with the GSL still in a state of settling into its new location and with problems defined above in obtaining a health permit, it is difficult to recommend taking any new course

of action.

Programming and Services at the University

Café

The committee reviews its programming for the University Café every two months and discusses new programming for the following two months. In addition, the committee reviews and approves proposals by student groups, faculty and staff groups, or other persons in regard to holding events or requesting performances at the University Café. Any group may utilize the lounge to have meetings provided they do not conflict with scheduling and campus alcohol policy (minors may not be on Café premises while alcohol is being served). Events and special programming organized by groups must be approved by Student Union and Activities (SU&A) by following their guidelines for special events in addition to approval by the Lounge committee and University Café management. Procedures for reserving and utilizing the University Café may be found at the following website: <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Stu/spottorf/info/gso/lounge-docs.htm>.

Nightly programming to date consists of the following and is subject to change:

Wednesdays:

Sharp-9 Jazz Sessions 8 – 11:30 PM.
Thursdays:

Various singer/songwriters of the Long Island Music Coalition 8 – 10 PM. Karaoke 10:30 PM to closing.
Fridays:

Blues/Bluegrass or invited guitarist/singers 8 – 11 PM.

Saturdays: Various bands and musicians at 10 PM.

Please visit the University Café website listed below for more programming information.

Menu services include, pending the acquisition of a health permit: coffee, tea, espresso, cappuccino, café latte, hot chocolate, bottled beer, wine, limited mixed drinks, single serve desserts and sandwiches. The menu can be found on the Café's website listed below.

The Café now has wireless internet access for university registered lap-

tops. Contact the Division of Information Technology (DoIT) for inquiries about registering your laptop for wireless access at the Café. Any problems accessing the network at the Café should be directed to the Café manager or staff.

We are proud to announce that the 46-inch plasma television has been installed. It is provided to be used in presentations and entertainment. The Café is in the process of providing cable TV programming for casual entertainment or for special events and hopes to be able to provide TV programming by spring 2004.

More information about the University Café can be found at its website at <http://www.universitycafe.org>

Committee documents

website:

<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Stu/spottorf/info/gso/lounge-docs.htm>.

FSA/GSO Graduate

Student Lounge Contract

A new contract between FSA and GSO in managing and running the GSL has been approved by the Committee and President and accepted by FSA and the Graduate School dean. A copy of the contract can be found at <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Stu/spottorf/info/gso/lounge-docs.htm>.

This report has been approved by the members of the Lounge Advisory Committee.

Shawn Pottorf, Chairman,
Lounge Advisory Committee

The Lounge Advisory

Committee

Shawn Pottorf, Chairman
Angeliki Field-Pollatou, Events Liaison
Abhijit Sengupta
Brian Pringle
Carl Shapiro
Christine Promin
Elisabeth Bojsza
Fei Ji
Guofeng Hou
Jean Cadet
Masa Prodanovic
Wenyi Zhang

THE BLAH BLAH BLOGS

-BY Janani Ramnath

...And the stars say

"Leo, if you're single, today you will find love." proclaimed my daily email horoscope. Aha! At last, my day hath come.

I went to work with a heart full of song and a head full of dreams. Who would be the one? Maybe it would be one of the innumerable people that call me up everyday (I work for Tech Support for a manufacturer of electrical hardware). So I answered every call with the sweetest smile and the most enthusiastic voice I could muster. Well, yes they wouldn't be able to see my smile, but you bet they'd hear it.

"Yes, our equipment will start in most outdoor conditions. How is the weather there anyway?" I tried striking up conversations. Unfortunately people didn't seem very inclined to socialize. "Lady, is

there someone else in Tech Support I can talk to? I need answers you see." Ah well, some people just couldn't appreciate even basic courtesy. I guess that guy wasn't my type anyway.

I refused to let this get me down. So, when the phone rang again I sang "Tech support. This is ..." It turned out to be my friend who was on a similar quest. "Hey girl, there is a rep meeting going on in my company and there is this really hot dude there. You think I should chat him up?"

"Oh do whatever you want. Don't tie up my phone lines. Today is the day you know" I said airily. "What? Not you as well. Hmmp!" and she hung up sounding extremely miffed. By the end of the day, I'd arrived at the conclusion that

electrical contractors were really not my cup of tea. Nevermind, there were still six hours left for the day to get over. A lot could happen in six hours.

I stopped by at Dunkin Donuts to get a cup of coffee. "How much is a small hot chocolate?" I heard someone ask. I turned around. Hmm. Kinda cute. "About a dollar fifty I guess" I replied even though he hadn't asked me. He looked slightly startled, nodded in acknowledgment and moved away quickly. Maybe he was married. Maybe he was gay. Maybe he was just an asocial psychotic.

I reached home and checked my email; all email, even the junk ones which I usually delete. Maybe my love worked for a debt consolidation firm or a instant baldness cure company! I was sure

that when I read the right message, I'd know somehow.

After poring through dozens of junk mails about topics ranging from getting a quick-fix diploma to instant weight loss to penile and breast enlargements, I finally found another mail from the same horoscope people...this time with a weekly forecast. "Take care of major expenses this week. Work may be stressful early in the week. The weekend is a time to sit back and enjoy some romance with a special person".

What?? This was from the very same website. How could they contradict themselves? Bah!

Oh well, at least I've got till the weekend to find the special person. ;-)

-J R

And the Gods laughed...

And the Gods laughed...

Why did they laugh you ask?

Well, for that we need to go to the beginning. Or maybe that would take too long. Hmm... But how do I provide an introduction otherwise?

Well, somewhere in the middle of the story is a guy who is interested in a girl. Yes, I know I haven't told you who the guy is or who the girl is and why he is interested in her. See, that's the part of the introduction that I've skipped. To really tell you all would take me months or maybe even a year. After all that's how long he knew her before he realized that he truly deeply adored her. It all happened suddenly though. The realization I mean.

Here is a girl he has been seeing every single working day of the past year and it suddenly strikes him that he loves her, all because she happened to wear a hideous pink and white striped skirt that day.

Why she wore the skirt is a different story, and one I am not sufficiently qualified to narrate. Wear it she did and love her he did. Perhaps it reminded him of his mother who wore a similar skirt although her (the mother's) skirt had yellow stripes on it as well. Perhaps it was the absence of the yellow stripes that attracted him. He never really sufficiently analyzed the cause of his sudden attraction.

He was a doer not a thinker you see. Being a doer, he merely walked up to the girl and asked her out to lunch. This itself was no big surprise, since they'd had lunch together every single working day in

the year that had just passed.

Over lunch though, in addition to his daily commentary about the weather, the latest sports score and his metabolism, he added, "I cannot imagine a life without you".

This startled her out of her slumber. She gaped at him wide-eyed. "What did you say?"

"I said I cannot imagine a life without you."

"Oh!" she paused and added "But I can."

"You can what?" He said slightly confused.

After all it had been just one of those standard lines he had said, and he didn't expect she'd take it so literally.

"I can imagine a life without you I mean."

"Oh!" he said slightly put off and not knowing what else to say, added "Must be nice I guess."

"Actually it isn't" She replied with a smile.

She had chronic insomnia and this suddenly looked promising as a lifetime cure. It took some time for her sentence to sink in, but when it did, he embraced her with "Oh darling."

So busy were they with their embrace that they didn't hear the gods laugh. Which brings us back to the original question. Why did they laugh? How am I supposed to know? Am I privy to their amusement?

Oh well, I know what you're thinking. You're probably wondering what sorrow lies in store for this young couple. All right, all right, I'll go find out why the Gods laughed.

Upon investigation, I found one lone God perched on a cloud giggling occasionally.

"Hey God" I called out. No response.

"Yoo hoo God! God" I called repeatedly before he turned around startled.

"Twas me you were calling? Sorry. I thought it was just someone swearing using my name as usual" He said.

"Goddamn you. My throat is hoarse now" I cried rather angrily.

"See! That's what I mean. Anyway what brings you here? How did you get here anyway?" He asked

"I am the narrator of this story, which allows me to go anywhere. The reason I am here is to ask why you're laughing."

"Oh that? It was this cloud I was perched on. It has this most peculiar lift when the wind blows a certain way. It is funny. Most funny." He said.

"How come I heard multiple voices laughing? Where are the others?" I asked looking around.

"Oh that's just the cloud formation again. It creates certain sound frequencies to resound. I am afraid it's just me here at this point. The others are gone on a pilgrimage"

"A pilgrimage? For the Gods? Where would they go?"

"Never you mind. You stick to your story

and don't trespass" He snapped. I could see his laughter was wearing off.

"I guess I'll leave now. I came here because I thought you were laughing at that young couple below". He looked down to see where I was pointing and suddenly broke into a renewed fit of laughter.

"What now for godssake?" I asked rather scared that he might choke.

"I am amused that you'd think I was laughing at that couple. Have I nothing better to do?"

So saying he looked down again and laughed even harder than before if that were possible.

"And now?" I asked even more fearfully. "Oh now, I am finally laughing at that couple below."

"But why God? Is there doom ahead of them? What tragedy will befall?"

"See that's the mistake you fellas make. Surely I have a right to be amused! Why bring disaster into it? I am merely laughing because they look so silly. Her pink and white skirt! So ridiculously hideous! Why, my mother, god-bless-her, has a similar skirt as well!"

So, I left him giggling, perched on his funny little cloud. Strange are the ways of God, don't you think?

-J R

Minutes of November 11th 2003 Regular Senate Meeting

The regular senate meeting starts at 6:15PM with 30 senators and all the executives in the meeting room.

A motion to move old business item A (Appointment and approval of new committee members) and new business item A (Election of new speaker) to after the approval of minutes is made by Salih (Agenda of Nov 11th meeting is attached). Motion to end discussion on the above motion is made by Christine and it passes by in favor 24, oppose 2 and abstain 5. Motion made by Salih (to move old business item A and new business item A to after the approval of minutes) passes unanimously.

Motion to move new business item C (NYPIRG (Melissa Morahan)) after committees' report is made and it fails by in favor 6, oppose 22 and abstain 5.

Motion to remove all the three paragraphs right after the appointment and approval of standing committees in emergency September 23rd senate meeting and approve the rest is moved by Christine. Discussion on this motion is taken up and Guofeng explains that it's the power of the president to nominate standing committees and the senate shall only approve or disapprove the committees. Motion to end discussion on this motion is made by Maria and it passes by in favor 25, oppose 3 and abstain 7. The motion made by Christine passes by in favor 23, oppose 10 and abstain 3.

Motion to remove the word "senator" after Alok (in October 14th minutes) and add that Tanya asked the treasurer, "How many members on budget committee, that are also members of SBCSSA were present when a decision on the funding proposal for the Moon festival party is made", "The speaker didn't allow Board of appeals to present the report as there is none qualified to answer questions by the senate present" to the October 14th senate meeting minutes is made. The motion to end discussion on the above motion is made by Masa and it passes unanimously. The first motion passes by in favor 33, oppose 1 and abstain 5.

Motion to post minutes of regular senate meetings at least one week before the next senate meeting is made and it passes unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Standing Committee Report by Guofeng: Guofeng ask interested people to come forward to be on the committees. For Alcohol Revision Policy Committee Abhishek Datta shows show interest and a motion is made by Salih to approve Abhishek. The motion passes unanimously. Motion to approve Smitha on Housing Planning Advisory (HPAC) Committee is made and it passes unanimously.

THE GRADUATE 5

Motion to approve Jamie Page on SB Child Care Board is made by Salih and it passes by in favor 35, oppose 1 and abstain 2. Motion to approve Christine on Student Life Advisory Council is made and it passes unanimously. Motion to fill standing committees first and send available university committees positions to the senate list is made and it passes unanimously. About the Budget Committee Guofeng says that Venkat and Shawn decided to resign from the Budget Committee and so he nominates Jean Cadet and Christine as voting members on BC and Abhijit as BC alternate. Motion to approve all the members of Budget Committee (Rong Su, Song Gao, Chris Labarbera, Jean Cadet, Christine Promin, Abhijit Sengupta (Alt) and Guofeng (Alt)) is made by Salih and it passes unanimously.

Motion to end discussion on the standing committees and vote on the members of the committees is made. The motion passes unanimously.

Motion to approve BoA members (Bin Tang, Sabrina Hom, Wenyi Zhang, Sivaraman Prakasam and Yu Zeng) is made by Masa. The motion fails by in favor 13, oppose 23 and abstain 1. Christine suggests that the president nominate Sabrina, Wenyi, Shiva, Abhishek, and Salih for BoA Committee since Abhishek and Salih expressed interest. Guofeng says that overturning the minutes is not overturning the committees approved on September 23rd meeting and he sticks to his earlier nominations. Shawn suggests that the senate should move on and let the executive council decide on the BoA committee.

Motion to limit discussion outside the agenda for only 2 minutes is made and it passes unanimously. Motion to move on to GSO Budget and consider all the committees Lounge, Elections, and Housing that are not approved in this senate meeting as interim is made. This motion and the motion to end discussion on this motion pass unanimously.

Christine moves a motion to rescind the previous motion (The motion to consider committees as interim). The motion fails (requires 2/3 majority, quorum 36 senators) by in favor 22, oppose 13 and abstain 1.

Budget Committee Report by Rong: (Please check the budget report by Treasurer, Rong). Motion to move the RAP amount for each individual from \$200 to \$250 is made and it passes unanimously. Motion to approve the budget as presented in the last senate meeting with the above amendment is made by Sabrina. The motion fails by in favor 10, oppose 17 and abstain 3. Motion to reduce club allocations from \$10,000 to \$5,000, allocate \$200 for clubs with less than 50 members, \$350 for clubs with members from 50 to 200, allocate \$500 for clubs with members

greater than 200, keep the speaker series at \$6,000 is made. Motion to end discussion on the above amendments to Budget by Christine is made and passes in favor 23, oppose 4 and abstain 1. The earlier motion passes by in favor 22, oppose 5 and abstain 2.

Motion to approve the budget by adding Cabaret grant \$550, increasing allocation for WUSB from \$1500 to \$3000 is made. The quorum in the meeting is 29 and the above motion passes (with 2/3rds majority) by in favor 26, oppose 0 and abstain 3. The GSO Budget with the above changes passes. Motion to fund the conference by Ecology Dept \$835 from speaker series is made and it passes unanimously.

On Diwali party proposal by IGSA, Rong says that IGSA submitted the proposal late and there is no recommendation from the budget committee. Maria moves a motion to move on to the next budget item by ending discussion on the IGSA Diwali party proposal. The motion passes unanimously. Thanksgiving party proposal by IGSA: Motion to approve the budget committee recommendation to give \$750 and suggest that IGSA apply for the club allocation fund is made and it passes unanimously. Motion to discuss the BoA report as Chris, the BoA chair from last summer, is in the meeting and not move on to new business is made and it passes unanimously.

Chris Noto gives a brief summary of the BoA report (Board of Appeals Report is attached). The question and answer session begins and it is agreed to limit the discussion to 10 minutes and allow a motion to end discussion in the middle of the discussion. Guofeng objects to the procedure being followed by Shawn. Motion to end the discussion after a minute is made by Christine and it passes unanimously.

The discussion on BoA report ends and Shawn asks Guofeng to leave the room to allow the senate to make a decision on the findings. Guofeng says that it is still unconstitutional, while leaving the room. Shawn says that Guofeng can give a presentation for a minute and Guofeng says that he tried his best to represent all the student bodies. Guofeng also informs that he persuaded many students not to bring the referendum on activity fee again. He then leaves the room.

Motion to amend the recommendation by the BoA committee that the senate censures the President Guofeng (on allegation number 3), to remove him from the office is made. Chris accepts the amendment. Discussion on this motion is taken up. Masa says that the senate should deliberate further on the report.

Motion to end discussion is made and it passes by in favor 21, oppose 1 and abstain 4.

Quorum in the meeting 27.

Motion to approve the board of appeals findings is made and it passes by in favor 20, oppose 6 and abstain 1.

Motion to remove Guofeng from office is made. Motion to end discussion on the above motion is made and it passes by in favor 18, oppose 7 and abstain 2. A senator from AMS Department (Bin Xu) is not allowed to vote saying that he came after the question for voting is made. Voting on the motion to remove Guofeng from the office is taken up and it passes (by 2/3rds majority) by in favor 18, oppose 8 and abstain 2. Another senator from Marine Sciences Department (Xiaosong Yang) is not allowed to vote as he came in when the counting of votes started.

Guofeng was called in to the meeting to be informed of the senate's decision on the findings of the Board of Appeals.

Guofeng says that the entire procedure is unconstitutional. Maria says that the senate needs to elect a new speaker. Prasanna Kumar Thoguluva gives his nomination for the speaker position and Shiva supports his nomination. Some senators nominate Arie Grossman for speaker position, but he declines his nomination.

One nomination left for the speaker position. Quorum 22. The motion to accept Prasanna as the Speaker of the Senate passes (in favor 19, oppose 0, abstain 5). Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15PM passes unanimously.

11 November 2003: Agenda for the Emergency GSO Senate meeting, 6 – 8 PM

General Announcements

A new name for a new time: the News and Blues newspaper is now called "the Graduate"! Visit www.universitycafe.org to find out what's happening every night at our Café! Happy Holidays from the GSO! Pre-meeting Session (5:45 – 6:00 PM)

Time for contact with executives and committees. All new business must be approved by the end of this session.

Welcome (6:00 PM)

Approval of Agenda (6:00 – 6:05 PM)

Approval of Minutes (6:05 – 6:15 PM)

A) 23 September 2003

B) 14 October 2003

Committee Reports (6:15 – 7:15 PM)

Standing Committees

A) Budget Committee (Rong Su)

B) Board of Appeals Committee (Bin Tang)

Old Business (7:15 – 7:30 PM)

A) Appointment and approval of new committee members (Guofeng Hou)

B) Senate meeting location (Kavita)

New Business (7:30 – 8:00 PM)

A) Elect new GSO Speaker

B) Duties and responsibilities of new senators (Angeliki Field-Pollatou)

C) NYPIRG (Melissa Morahan)

D) Annual conference – by English Dept. grads (Susan Crane)

Adjourn (8:00 PM)

YAMATO DRUMMERS OF JAPAN

November 23, 2003

Staller center
Stony brook, NY

Ever fantasized about mixing the sacred art of Japanese Taiko drumming, the original Harlem Hip-Hop, the dreamlike Spanish street fair and an all-African hair-do? That is exactly what we get this winter.

On the 23rd of November, Staller center proudly presented WADAIKO YAMATO (YAMATO Drummers From Japan) from Nara, Japan. Consisted of 10 dynamic young artists (in this show), YAMATO is pitched as the new wave of Japanese Taiko drumming. And it sure does not fail to bring in some fresh air to the classic elegance of Taiko. As one member said in his bio: "I want to create.... a new genre: something fun, interesting and moving that not only one has done, but everyone will want to try".

As a Taiko group, Yamato's performance should be judged first and foremost on its drumming. And they sure have enough fire power to propel a capacity filling enthusiastic crowd. While not particularly technical, they also win us over with their confidence and infinite energy in YAKARA and TAMASHI. All performers are young, fit and good-looking, with nice hair. Personal style flow through their musical creation, something you can not say for other taiko groups.

The two hour program included a heavenly mixture of both traditional and modern taiko pieces. Vocal, dance, folk instruments, pantomime and other theatrical elements were seamlessly incorporated into powerful drumming to help create a total experience. I was especially thrilled to see Tsugaru-syamisen in HAYATE. Tsugaru-syamisen is a traditional Japanese instrument fitted with metal pick and strings, which give the instrument abil-



ity to express harsh winter winds. With the guide of our leading lady, although sitting in the warm theatre, I felt as if I went through a tough battle with harsh winter, meanwhile I just can't appreciate more of the courage and warmth that human beings possess. I had goose pimples all over me.

While geared towards a younger audience, the whole program was nonetheless

enjoyable for everybody. However, some musical pieces feel too short, which made hard-core taiko fans salivating for more. The lack-luster lighting effect and costume are typical for a small group.

For those of you who missed it, you can have a glimpse of the show from this website

<http://staller4.staller.sunysb.edu/0304/images/yamato/>. After all, for \$15 (The original

price is \$30, but if you buy the ticket in the month of the show with a student ID, you got half price off.), you can not find a better deal within 100 miles. Let's hope Staller center continues to bring performance of such caliber to our community. And I urge my fellow SUNY SB students not walk, but run to the next celebration.

-Fie Ji

Campus Peace group sponsors World-Wide Concerts: **The Music for Peace Project.**

The Music for Peace Project is a global effort to hold 5000 concerts in 50 hours for Peace. This world wide event will begin February 4th at 8:00 PM EST and end on February 6th at 10 PM EST. It was conceived and is sponsored by the Musicians' Alliance for Peace with sponsorship by the Social Justice Alliance. Since, Stony Brook University will be the hub for this world-wide event, three days of events are being planned to coincide with international concerts.

Concerts featuring internationally renowned cellist Colin Carr, jazz trom-

bonist Ray Anderson, SBU Music students and local high school students will be interspersed with films, panel lectures, political tabling, and free receptions. The local festival will end with a Techno/Hip-hop party. MAP's web site has details on how you can become involved in this global effort: www.m4p.org

Keep your eyes open for upcoming advertisements and schedules of events.

If you are interested in being a part of this event please contact Ben Robison at peace@m4p.org

WORKSHOP FOR GSO MEMBERS **-ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**

Hello all,

I am interested in organizing a workshop for GSO members before the next senate meeting. The workshop will include training for senators and a simple introduction to the Robert's Rules of Order. Since there is no formal training process for senators it is really hard for new senators to know what are their responsibilities and duties during the senate meeting and for their departments.

Additionally, the lack of knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order can make our meetings hard to follow. Knowledge of some simple rules will make our meetings run smoothly and efficiently.

Please contact me if you are interested in participating in such a meeting.

Best regards,
Angeliki
GSO President

It is the time of the year when the snow falls and colours Santa's beard white, and one hears Jingle Bells whilst stealing a kiss under the mistle toe , and of course, then wafts in the sweet sound of the famous Carols. We bring you a sample of carols sung around the Globe in this holiday season. You will find here some foreign Carols you have never heard off, as well as some very familiar and nostalgic ones.

LATIN CAROL
Adeste Fideles

Adeste Fideles
Laeti triumphantes
Venite, venite in Bethlehem
Natum videte
Regem angelorum
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum
Cantet nunc io
Chorus angelorum
Cantet nunc aula caelestium
Gloria, gloria
In excelsis Deo
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum
Ergo qui natus
Die hodierna
Jesu, tibi sit gloria
Patris aeterni
Verbum caro factus
Venite adoremus, Venite adoremus,
Venite adoremus, Dominum

O come, all ye faithful
O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to
Bethlehem;
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of Angels;
Chorus:
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
O sing all ye bright host of heaven
above;
Glory to God,
All glory in the highest;
Repeat Chorus.
Yea, Lord we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing;
Repeat Chorus.

GERMAN CAROL
Kommet, ihr Hirten

Kommet, ihr Hirten,
Ihr Männer und Fraun!
Kommet, das liebliche
Kindlein zu schaun!
Christus, der Herr,
Ist heute geboren,
Den Gott zum Heiland
Euch hat erkoren.
I: Fürchtet euch nicht! :I

Lasset uns sehen
In Bethlehems Stall,
Was uns verheißen
Der himmlische Schall!
Was wir dort finden,
Lasset uns künden,
Lasset uns preisen
In frommen Weisen.
I: Allelujah! :I

Wahrlich, die Engel
Verkündigen heut
Bethlehems Hirtenvolk
Gar große Freud:
Nun soll es werden
Frieden auf Erden,
Den Menschen allen
Ein Wohlgefallen.
I: Ehre sei Gott! :I

Come, all ye shepherds,
Come hark unto me!
Go ye to Bethlehem,
Jesus to see!
Great is the story,
Great is His glory,
Great is the story,
Great is His glory,
Be not afraid!

Let us obey now
The heavenly voice!
Jesus, our Saviour's born.
Come and rejoice!
Come every nation,
Give adoration,
Come every nation,
Give adoration,
Gifts to Him present!

Truly the angels
Have spoken today:
See Mary, Jesus,
The stable, the hay!
Hear their sweet singing,
Round us now ringing,
Hear their sweet singing,
Round us now ringing,
Glory on high!

FRENCH CAROL
Minuit Chrétiens (O Holy Night : French)

Minuit Chrétiens
Minuit, chrétiens,
C'est l'heure solennelle
Où l'Homme Dieu descendit jusqu'à nous
Pour effacer la tache originelle
Et de son père arrêter le courroux.
Le mode entier tressaille d'espérance
En cette nuit qui lui donne un
sauveur.Peuple à genoux,
Attends ta délivrance!
Noël! Noël!
Voici le Rédempteur!
Noël! Noël!
Voici le Rédempteur!
Le rédempteur
A brisé toute entrave:
La terre est libre
Et le ciel est ouvert.
Il voit un frère
Où n'était qu'un esclave;
L'amour unit ceux qu'enchaînait le fer. Qui
lui dira notre reconnaissance? C'est pour
nous tous qu'il naît, Qu'il souffre et meurt.
Peuple debout,
Chante ta délivrance!
Noël! Noël!
Chantons le Rédempteur!
Noël! Noël!
Chantons le Rédempteur!

O Holy Night
O holy night! The stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious
morn!
Chorus:
Fall on your knees
Oh hear the angel voices
Oh night divine
Oh night when Christ was born
Oh night divine
Oh night divine
Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming
With glowing hearts by His cradle we
standSo led by light of a star sweetly
gleamingHere come the wise men from
Orient landThe King of Kings lay thus in
lowly manger
In all our trials born to be our friend
Repeat Chorus.
Truly He taught us to love one another
His law is love and His gospel is peace
Chains shall He break for the slave is our
brother
And in His name all oppression shall
cease
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus
raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy name.

JAPANESE CAROL
Asahi wa noborite
Lo. Now Ascends the Morning Sun

Asahi wa noborite, yo wo teraseri,
Kuraki ni sumu hito, kitari aoge!
Chie ni tomitaru Shu, yo ni idetari,
Satori naki hito wa, kitari manabe!
Chikara ni mitsuru Shu, yo ni nozomeri,
Kayowaki hitobito, kitari tanome!
Yasuki wo tamau Shu, yo ni kudareri,
Kurushimeru hito wa, kitari ukeyo!
Sukui wo tamau Shu, yo ni umarenu,
Subete no hitobito, kitari iwae!
Ame-tsuchi shirasu Shu, yo ni arawaru,
Yorozu no mono mina, doyomi utae!

Lo, now ascends the morning sun
And floods the world with light
Let all who now in darkness dwell
The glorious sunrise greet
For he whose word is truth and law
Has come into the world
Let all who seek for righteousness
Kneel humbly at his feet
The Lord who wields almighty power
Has come into the world
All ye beneath life's crushing load
Come unto him and rest
Our lord, the prince of peace and love
Is come down from above
O come, all ye who mourn and weep
And he will wipe your tears
The Lord and source of endless life
Is born into the world
Let everyone now dead in sin
Come unto him and live
The Lord, who brings salvation down
In glory now appears
Rejoice, all ye who worship him
Rejoice, give thanks and sing
(more carols on page 9)

CELEBRATION OF FOLK DANCE AT STALLER

—By Masa Prodanovic



Celebration of folk dance at Staller

Staller center,
Stony Brook,
New York

My special interest in Staller
Center are visiting dance companies, so I

went to see
Krasnoyarsk National Dance Company of
Siberia on November 15th. Krasnoyarsk
is, let me remind you, a city that boasts as
the center of Russia. While one would
assume that there is nothing but vast tun-
dra in that neighborhood, Siberia has
mighty industry and thriving culture. It has

always amused me to think that the harsh-
er landscape and climate are, the more
imaginative and high-spirited people get.

The Company was founded in
1960 and has been success ever since
visiting more than 60 countries all over the
world. Its repertoire roots from folk art

dance patterns which are mastered
further by choreographer's imagina-
tion and amazing performance.
Dances were mostly created by
Michael Godenko, the artistic direc-
tor and main ballet master, and
Vladimir Kornev, the composer;
both of whom have extensive
knowledge of folk dances and
music. Colorful costumes tradition-
al-based add to the scenic perform-
ance even more. The show glazes
smoothly from one vigorous rhythm
to another in a fusion of old round
dances and very demanding mod-
ern ones. My favorites were
Cossack dance and funny Farm
Yard with hilarious roosters, hens
and chicken impersonations.
Almost every dance showed not
only 40 Plus unified dancers, but
also a range of talented soloists.
The dancers are, in main, gradu-
ates of choreographic schools and
undergo daily rigorous training.
A refreshing part of the perform-
ance that certainly adds to compa-
ny's success is its orchestra of
national instruments on the stage.
"Balalaika Solo" was a delighting
piece, carried through by the old
Russian mandolin-like musical
instrument.

To sum up, the Company capti-
vated me by its colors, rhythm and
vividness, stunned me by its acro-
batic performances and even made me
laugh. The music was haunting me for the
night after leaving Staller and my legs
wanted to reproduce the patterns I
saw...unsuccessfully.

M.P

Judas Maccabeus Conquers

—BY KATHERINE KAISER

Initially thwarted by the week-
end blizzard, the Stony Brook Chorus
under the direction of Timothy Mount
valiantly performed Handel's Judas
Maccabeus on Monday evening in the
Staller Center. Putting
together a full orchestra for the postponed
concert proved difficult, but a team of very
talented and energetic pianists ran from
keyboard to keyboard to accompany the
chorus and soloists.

Performing the three-hour, uncut
version on a weeknight was obviously tax-
ing for soloists, chorus members and audi-
ence alike, but all held out to hear one of
Handel's more obscure, but most excellent

works. The story of Judas Maccabeus is
also the history of Hanukkah, and this ora-
torio was a refreshing change from the
obligatory messiah, not to mention one
less sullied by overuse in Starbucks
muzak.

Indeed Judas Maccabeus has
all the makings of a great holiday hit. It
features great, catchy choruses like "See
How the Conquering Hero Comes"
"Hallelujah Amen" and "Fallen is the Foe"
not to mention beautiful solos full of vocal
acrobatics and lovely melodies.

Perhaps only the ambiguity and
mystical poetry of the Messiah are miss-
ing. The text and story give a blow-by-
blow account of Judas's fight for freedom

and final victory.
Extended passages about conquering
seem more newsy than poetic, and with
the current conflicts in the Middle East, it
sounds almost inappropriately militant to
the modern, peace-loving ear.

Even without the pomp and cir-
cumstance of the brass and the
Baroque groove of the orchestra, the cho-
rus gave a spirited rendition of the piece
(with excellent diction) that provided the
audience a sense of what it might be like
to celebrate after oppression and a long
battle. Martin Vasquez added a particularly
Italian heroic character to the challenging
title role. Kara Cornell's performance of
the Israelitish Priest's air was particularly

outstanding. Orival Goncalves sang the
role of Simon with his usually mellifluous
solemnity, however most impressive was
Jae Youn Paik's excellent Baroque style
and beautiful navigation of Handel's diffi-
cult coloratura passages which were bril-
liantly clear accompanied by Monday
night's small orchestration.

The small but appreciative audi-
ence gave a standing ovation, perhaps
suggesting that this holiday experiment
deserves an encore in coming years.
Barring a Noreaster imagine what there
will be—this time with full orchestra.

-K K

SENATE SAYS BUSINESS AS USUAL...

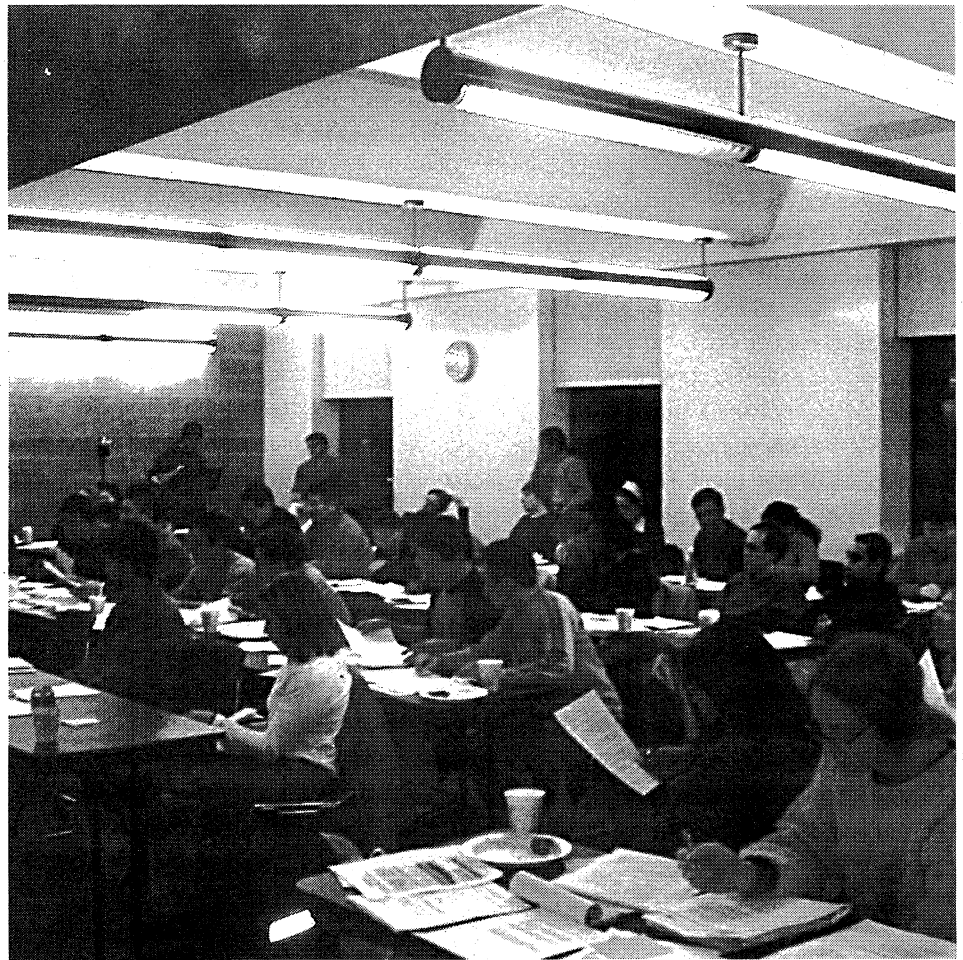
(CONTD FROM FRONT PAGE)

He went on to say that, it is in the best interest of the GSO to resolve this issue and work together, failing which the university might decide to solve the problems taking a leaf out of the undergraduate polity controversy, and create a graduate student government.

The floor was then opened for questioning. Many senators took exception to the dean's perception that the voting was taking place on ethnic divides. The Dean replied by asserting that the appearances were such. It was then pointed out that there is no appeals process in the GSO constitution for Mr. Guofeng Huo. The dean expressed his surprise at the non-existence of an appeals process and said that then he would then recommend Mr. Huo to appeal to the university and they would look into the issue and resolve it. Some conflicts of interest questions were raised, to which the dean replied any party, which has a conflict of interest, should remove themselves from the appeals process.

Following the Deans departure, the senate dove into the unfinished business. Around 8:30pm, another organisation, which had reserved the room, asked that the premise be cleared for their meeting. The senators voted to adjourn the meeting rather than reconvene in another location. Item F, thus was not discussed, leaving nearly 2/5th of the senate disillusioned, many of them having anticipated this meeting to vent their disappointments about the manner in which the president was removed. The meeting thus ended tamely, albeit with many senate business- es getting accomplished. The question on Mr. Guofeng Huo has been thus resolved de-facto by the silence of the senate, pending any appeals made in this regard. Mr. Huo is expected to appeal his removal to the university and beyond. Mrs. Angeliki Pollatou will serve out the remaining term as president, and a new vice president is expected be nominated in her place.

-THEGRADUATE



SENATE MEETING ON DECEMBER 9 2003, PHOTO BY SIVARAMAN PRAKASAM

MORE CAROLS

(contd from page 7)

POLISH CAROL

Lulaj e Jezuniu (Polish)

Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, moja pere_ko,
Lulaj, ulubione me pie_cide_ko.
Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, lulaj_e, lulaj!
A ty Go, Matulu, w p_aczu utulaj.
Zamknij_e znu_one p_aczem powieczki,
Utl_e zemdlone _kaniem usteczki.
Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, lulaj_e lulaj!
A ty Go, Matulu, w p_aczu utulaj.
Lulaj_e, pi_kniuchny nasz Anio_eczku,
Lulaj_e, wdzi_czniuchny _wiata
Kwiateczku.
Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, lulaj_e lulaj!

A ty Go, Matulu, w p_aczu utulaj.
Lulaj_e, R_yczko najozdobniejsza,
Lulaj_e, Lilijko najprzyjemniejsza.
Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, lulaj_e lulaj!
A ty Go, Matulu, w p_aczu utulaj.
Lulaj_e, przyjemna oczom Gwiazdeczko,
Lulaj, naj_liczniejsze _wiata S_oneczko.
Lulaj_e, Jezuniu, lulaj_e lulaj!
A ty Go, Matulu, w p_aczu utulaj.

Sleepin little Jesus, my treasure, my
blessing While Mary comforts Thee tender
caressing.
Lullaby little one, in loving arms lying
Guarding my darling and stilling Thy cry.
When Thou awakenest, Jesus, my treas-
ure
Raisins and almonds I have for Thy pleas-
ure.
High in the heavens a lovely star sees us,
But like the shining sun, my little Jesus.

AMERICAN CAROL

I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
I saw Mommy kissing Santa Claus
Underneath the mistletoe last night.
She didn't see me creep
Down the stairs to have a peep;
She thought that I was tucked up in my
bedroom fast asleep.
Then, I saw Mommy tickle Santa Claus
Underneath his beard so snowy white;
Oh, what a laugh it would have been
If Daddy had only seen
Mommy kissing Santa Claus last night!!!



CHRISTMAS TREE AT THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING (PHOTO BY SIVARAMAN PRAKASAM)

STONY BROOK'S EARLY CHRISTMAS

(CONTD FROM FRONT PAGE)

The situation was made worse on Sunday by the winds blowing around the accumulated snow. Much of the University resembled the Gobi desert complete with shifting sand dunes.

The emergency alert website of the university carried a blizzard advisory on Saturday and listed the situation level as a "warning"

All university activities were cancelled on the weekend. Most notable among the cancellations were the stony brook symphony orchestra (which was postponed to a future date) and the stony brook preview day.

Airports around the area experience many cancellations and delays, but Longisland

rail road was running on schedule for the most part.

The university maintains a website to disseminate news during major emergencies and disaster. The weblink is <http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/emergency/status.shtml>

Other potential source of information are:
Campus Cable Channel 8;
WUSB 90.1 FM;
TV: News 12;
FM Radio: WALK 97.5, WKJY 98.3,
WBLI 106.1, WBAB 102.3, WRCN 103.9;
AM Radio: WOR 710, WCBS 880, WINS 1010

-THE GRADUATE

DISSERTATION DEFENSE POLICIES

Dear Graduate Students:

Over the past year, the Graduate Council has received several inquiries about dissertation defense policies which lead us to believe that some clarification may be in order. The Graduate Council has several times in recent years discussed these policies and considered various possible relaxations of the requirements, but have always concluded that there are good reasons to maintain the requirements as spelled out in current Graduate School Policy (reproduced below). The essential elements of current policy are: (1) an oral examination, (2) held on Stony Brook campus, (3) open to the university community, (4) with adequate prior notice, and (5) with full attendance of the examination committee (minimally, 3 internal and 1 external members).

Though all of these requirements serve the same central purpose -- guarding the academic quality of Stony Brook PhDs

-- the most common objections focus on the full attendance policy. The most central problem concerns the logistical difficulty that may arise in assembling a full committee consisting of at least 3 internal (meaning within the program) and 1 external members. We believe that despite these potential difficulties, the principle of oral examination by the full committee, including the external examiner, is essential to ensuring the academic integrity of our PhD degree. The external member serves the critical function of certifying that the standards we use are legitimate for the given discipline. The oral defense serves to evaluate the candidate's ability to discuss, comment on, and defend her ideas in an academic setting. Moreover, when some members are not able to attend in person, they can often attend "virtually" through campus audio/video services or through the use of webcams (contact the Graduate School for more information). In cases where none of this is possible, the committee member will need

to be replaced for the purpose of the oral exam, though they may still serve on the dissertation committee. The bottom line: A minimum of 3 internal and 1 external members must participate in the oral examination, either physically or virtually. Finally, as the policy indicates, these requirements may be waived by the Dean of the Graduate School.

Published Graduate School Policy:
All Dissertation Defenses shall take place on campus and require the full attendance of the Dissertation Examining committee. Any exceptions from this practice will require approval from the Dean of the Graduate School. Campus Audio/Video Services can be employed in the event that a committee member cannot be on the premises due to extenuating circumstances. While the examining committee may wish to hold the committee examination of the defense in private, the public presentation of the defense will be open to the University community and should be advertised campus-wide three weeks

prior to the scheduled date. A minimum of three weeks prior to the dissertation defense, the dissertation abstract, approved by the student's advisor and Graduate Program Director, must be submitted to the Graduate School with details of the time and location for the defense. The Graduate School will be responsible for advertising the defense to the University community. To be eligible to participate in the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony, the student must have successfully completed an oral defense of their dissertation. A student may register for no more than one additional semester following the successful defense of the dissertation.
Best Wishes,

Charles Taber
Chair, Graduate Council
Associate Professor
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Political Science
SUNY at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-4392
<http://www.stonybrook.edu/polsci/ctaber/>

COURSE FOR COMPLETING LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

Kathryn Meyler
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Department of Music
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The CUNY Graduate Center language Reading Program will offer intensive, non-credit courses in four languages in the spring term designed to assist graduate students in meeting the language requirements for their degrees. These courses last for twelve weeks and aim at developing a reading knowledge of the languages.

Tuition for these courses for students matriculated in the spring semester in a degree-bearing program of CUNY is \$275 per course, \$500 for non-matriculated students. Payment is by check, cash, or money order only.

Registration forms are available in the lobby and in the office of the Language Reading Program (Room 4415) or by mail:
CUNY Graduate
Center Language Reading Program
365 Fifth Avenue
New York,
New York 10016

Registration for these courses is not handled by the registrar's office, nor do these courses appear on the student's transcript. However, official documentation of each student's performance will be supplied by the Office of the Language Reading Program upon request. The closing date for registration is January 21st, but classes often close out before then. For further information, call (212) 817-2081.

Level One courses in French, German, Latin, and Spanish, which assume no knowledge of the language, meet twice a week, Mondays and Thursdays, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., beginning February 6 and ending May 12.

Level Two courses in French and German assume an ability to read scholarly articles and meet Mondays and Thursdays, from 4:15-6:15 p.m., beginning February 6 and ending May 12.

NEW VAN SERVICE TO BNL

This service is primarily intended for the benefit of graduate students who are doing their research at BNL.

In response to great interest in having easier transportation to Brookhaven National Lab, we are implementing a van route between our two institutions. Beginning on Monday, December 1, 2003 a trial run of this route will be held through the end of the semester and intersession. Adjustments to the route based on timing and demand will be made for continuation of this service into the spring semester.

The current schedule is as follows:

Monday to Friday

Pick up		Drop Off	
8:30 AM	Stony Brook University SAC Loop	9:15 AM	Brookhaven National Lab Berkner Hall
9:30 AM	Brookhaven National Lab Berkner Hall	10:15 AM	Stony Brook University SAC Loop
4:30 PM	Stony Brook University SAC Loop	5:15 PM	Brookhaven National Lab Berkner Hall
5:30 PM	Brookhaven National Lab Berkner Hall	6:15 PM	Stony Brook University SAC Loop

The van will be limited to 12 passengers on a first come, first serve basis. I appreciate the flexibility of passengers throughout this trial run, as I mentioned above, we will adjust the number of vans based on demand.

All passengers on the van must hold a current BNL Security Clearance Badge, persons without a current badge will not be permitted to ride the van.

If you have further questions or suggestions regarding the van, please feel free contact my office at (631) 632-4360.

CITY ARTS - The Old Story Afresh

Mabou Mines Dollhouse

- By Jasmina sinanovich

Closing December 14
St. Ann's Warehouse
38 Water Street
Brooklyn, NY

Avant-garde meets realism in a fascinating production of Dollhouse directed by Lee Breuer with Mabou Mines. Three tall women (around 6') and three short men (around 4') play around in Ibsen's tale that at one point shook European stage.

It is difficult to imagine being able to redo the story in a way that will make it afresh but Breuer does it. The bourgeois tragedy turns into a comedy and melodrama and ends as an opera. It includes singing, dancing, lipsyncing, and puppets and all this is spiced up with some strong psychological realism.

Dramatic music underscores the production, music designed by Eve Beglarian, the Pianist is Ning Yu. This emphasizes the melodrama of character's monologues. This makes monologues entertaining rather than dragging on, as they might, since Breuer cut out some of the dialogue and created more monologues. Breuer further played with the text and ordering of the scenes in the play and added a couple of dream sequences. Beautiful light design complimented the production. Actress Maude Mitchell plays Nora and ranges from "a little skylark" in the beginning to the woman who may not know what she wants but certainly knows



Photo by Richard Termine

what she doesn't want in the end. Her voice, her movement and her overall appearance changes in the end. On the other hand, Torvald, played by Mark Povinelli, changes his voice from deep and masculine to a very childlike tone in the end.

Povinelli manages to create Torvald that is both appalling and appealing. His humanness forces us to feel pity for him. The relationship between Kristine Linde (Honora Fergusson) and Nils Krogstad (Kristopher Medina) is also twisted a notch.

We don't get the same happy ending in coupledome as they rejoin. If there is time make sure not to miss this production. You might be able to get on the ushering list and get in for free as well but ticket prices range \$ 22.50-27.50.

Upcoming production at St. Anne's Warehouse: Hiroshima Maiden, Conceived and Directed by Dan Hurlin. Puppet show about the true story of the Hiroshima Maidens – a group of Japanese woman disfigured by the nuclear blast – and their infamous visit to the U.S. in 1955 to undergo reconstructive surgery. Stylized like Bunraku puppets and includes an original music score by Robert Een that borrows from Haiku. Tickets \$25.

Check out www.stannswarehouse.com for more. **-J.S**

STONY LOVE

- JZBICH

Dear JZ,

My girlfriend is convinced that there is no such thing as a g- spot. She will not let me attempt to find it on her! how can I convince her?

-g man

Dear g man,

It is really up to your girlfriend to decide if she wants you searching for her g spot. You could suggest she attend one of the toys in the babeland workshops that are designed to help one get in touch with her g spot. You might also buy her (Holidays and gift times are coming up) one of the specially curved vibrators that are supposed to help reach this area. Nevertheless, I would like to know why are you so opsed with this issue? Just remember convincing people what they like and what they don't is difficult in much simpler things than sex,

Dear JZ,

My boyfriend masturbates so much, that the only way he comes is by his own hand masturbating- how can I involve myself?

-Freehands

Dear Freehands,

it is not unusual that people (both male and female) will know how to please themselves better than anyone else would. Try asking your boyfriend if you could perhaps keep your hand on his while he masturbates. This might help you learn the rhythm he likes. After that perhaps he could lead your hand. I suppose once you are comfortable with this you might want to bring up that you'd like to try different things, however as I told g man, you can not make people prefer something they don't so as long as you both come in the end who cares what took you to get there.

-JZ

PS (Post Sex) from JZ G SPOT

The Grafenberg spot is an area on the front wall of the vagina, between the opening and the cervix, and it can be extremely sensitive to stimulation. It is hypothesized that the G-spot is either a bundle of nerves coming from the clitoris, or a gland or series of glands that produces lubrication.

It is thought to be perhaps, analagous to the prostate gland in men. There is a lot of mystery related to the G Spot and many women cannot find it and don't believe in its existence.

If you'd like to check if you have one (well and if you have a vagina to begin with) insert one or two fingers in the vagina with the palm facing the pubic bone. Gently bend your fingers 'forward' so that they stroke the front wall of the

vagina. You may feel a raised spot or series of ridges, or you may feel nothing in particular. You may find this extremely pleasurable, or have an urge to urinate, or both. Stroking this spot with varying degrees of pressure will tell you if you've got it or not.

PPS (pre/post sex) from JZ

Since Holidays are coming I just wanted to wish you happy holidays and suggest you get something erotic to those you care about (toys, books, videos, massage oils, music, comic books, lap dances,...). Don't worry if this person is not your partner, they'll find the way to use it without your help. And don't forget, parents are people too ...

Love you all and looking forward to your future questions.

Email JZ at jzbich@yahoo.com

-J.Z

BABYS DAY OUT BUSH GOES TO BAGHDAD!

Baghdad, Iraq
& Crawford, Texas.

As promised (and it's so easy to keep this one) this month's Bush story from the desk of Bushman.

Remember mother of all wars...now we have mother of all photo ops. Tom Clancy couldn't have thought of this. The Hunt for Airforce One. Imagine a nice sunny afternoon in Crawford, Texas, scores of reporters waiting to report on the beloved president, spending Thanksgiving with his family like a true blooded American president would. Now imagine he doesn't show up there.

Cut frame, open next scene, imagine The Viceroy of Iraq Paul Bremer in front of the troops standing and asking for who's the seniormost person in the congregation. Imagine the President (remember he's supposed to be in Texas) walking from behind the screen to a whoop from the soldiers....hard to imagine??? well don't bother, check out archived movies of any news channel or just wait for next year's election..they saved us the imagining part and Mr. Roves brilliant production unit made the movie for us. As I mentioned we will have reruns all through next year. To elaborate on the screen play! The White House announces that Mr. President is spending a quiet Thanksgiving in Crawford with family including his mom and dad (#41) and the complete menu for the day which includes many items except stars and stripes the pardoned turkeys. A bunch of darkened cars speed out through the back gate.. (secret service agents taking a coffee break..thought reporters... yes role your eyes..you are right, full points to you, if you thought why would secret service agents take a coffee break? won't the coffee break come to them..they are protecting the president for pete's sake). A plane leaves from Texas to Washington. Quick change of planes Airforce 1 leaves for undisclosed destination. Lights turned, off windows closed??? (why both huh?). A British pilot spots it and contacts Airforce 1.. no he doesn't, he misidentifies it and he contacts control tower London, confused ?? well even the White House is confused about the British pilot part.. or as the British say the pilot stuff was sexed up to make the president look more sexy!!! (watch out Mrs. Bush...we don't need another Monica) But the truth according to our unreliable and imaginary reporters is that the pilot was not a pilot he was a cook masquerading as a pilot and he wasn't a he, maybe he was a she??? and he or she was actually singing "London Bridge is falling down falling down!" or maybe not. In any case the president's plane thus spotted or unspotted or polka dotted swoops low over Iraq and lands in Baghdad. The president is then whisked to the

Base camp where he addresses the soldiers and then dishes out a turkey which is not actually dished out, but just photographed as being dished out and then taken to who knows where. The soldiers then get a military standard dinner (whatever that is) prepared by a branch of the infamous Halliburton. (To those who don't know what or who Halliburton is, it's not an actress, that's Halle Berry, it's an oil company which Mr. VP Dick (am so slimy) Cheney used to run before he became VP.) Then the president meets with few other folks and zooms back to USA and just before he returns somebody notifies the distribution department... oops sorry I meant the news agencies about the amazing adventures of G.I. George. Incidentally Bush is TOP GUN, in toy-land no I don't mean Pentagon they might be living in their own fantasy land but I meant kids and toys-land.

To give Bush a grudging break..it was amazingly brave, interpid and perfectly executed (unlike other things...like the "winning the peace plan" etc..) It did boost the morale of the suffering soldiers and told them Mr. President cares (OK photo op too but anybody can use a little bonus from an action like that).

It also proved once again, Mr. Roves team is not to be underestimated, they are probably the best spin doctors in the world. But if one thinks hard... was it really that brave??? how much money was spent to pull off the stunt! who pays for it? was it part of the 87 billion? I think he met six hundred soldiers out of a hundred and odd thousand, wouldn't a teleconference address suffice since he didn't actually meet the other -duh !!! I dunno you do the fuzzy math- no of soldiers and am sure they set up a huge perimeter so there was no chance of him being in danger at any time.. but imagine if he was indeed in danger is that a price this country can afford to pay? If one remembers Sep 11 Mr. President took one whole day to come from Texas to Washington.. citing security...and I thought that was wise..if one is so wise in one's own country why be foolish in another hostile country?

If one doesn't think...thinking is for liberal elites remember...Mr. Bush is the bravest president! AMEN!

AIN'T GOOD TO BE A DONKEY NO MORE!

Baghdad, Iraq
& Algeria

It didn't help the beast of burden that has suffered so much! for so long! to be in the wrong place and in the wrong hands. Iraqi rebels or possible al Qaeda terrorists, pulled off an ingenious stunt by attacking an Iraqi oil ministry building and two hotels in Baghdad, Iraq, with rockets hauled around on a donkey cart. The tactics, although not new in guerrilla warfare has now put donkeys in the spot. Donkey carts

are stopped and searched all over Iraq, and indeed! two carts were hauled up for carrying rockets and explosives thus thwarting of another deadly assault.

Donkeys have since been declared enemy combatants and are treated with extreme suspicion. All donkey carts are searched thoroughly; one Iraqi donkey owner even accused American soldiers of ass-napping, (no not sleeping on their rear side that can be only pulled off by Saddam's so called elite Republican Army, infact the US soldiers caught them doing that when Operation Iraqi Freedom was launched... he was talking about abduction of his donkey). Reports of donkeys being taken to Guantanamo Bay are totally untrue, even if they are being taken there they would given full animal rights as other inmates of that prison said a Pentagon official on conditions of anonymity (until his name is leaked ofcourse).

Democrats are crying foul on reported plans by Bush re-election campaign team to show video clips of donkey hauled rockets and Mr. Bush kicking some donkeys with cowboy boot spur, claiming that it's a malicious attempt to demonize Democrats.

In unrelated news a gang of butchers and vets have been arrested in Algiers for selling donkey meat as beef during Ramadan when demand for beef goes up. "Donkey meat is destined solely for animal consumption. It's sold to the zoo, to places that take care of dogs or shops that sell food for dogs," an Agriculture Ministry official said.

As I said it ain't good to be a donkey no more...what a thankless world!

JOHN "F" KERRY

Mass, USA

Presidential contender Senator Kerry earned himself a new middle initial last week. The new initial is the letter F and it doesn't stand for the word which Mr. Kerry so passionately uttered during the course of a Rolling Stone magazine interview. (Bushman rarely uses that word). No it doesn't have any connection to JFK either and he is not going to call himself JFK the second.

The new F stands for Foul-mouth. (Courtesy: Bushman). He was quoted by the magazine as saying "I voted for what I thought was best for the country. Did I expect Howard Dean to go off to the left and say, 'I'm against everything'? Sure. Did I expect George Bush to f--- it up as badly as he did? I don't think anybody did."

Personally I agree with the sentiment and probably would have used the same language (rare exception ;-)) but hey am not running for prez am I? (So no exceptions for Mr. Kerry) To his defense Mr. Kerry was a macho soldier once, and he's a biker dude, but then he is also a sitting senator. So Mr. Kerry, we know that you were "born in the U.S.A" and you had "gone to fight

the yellow man" but maybe it's "time to learn some manners dude" "If you wanna be the president man".

Elvis has left the building.. And now drives a taxi!!!!

Seattle,
Washington,

A Mr. Dave Groh was fined \$60 last year for not wearing a crisp shirt and black pants as mandated by the city's 1997 taxi code. Mr. Dave was dressed as the king at the time of offense. After September 11, to bring some levity into the air he started impersonating the famous Elvis Presley while driving his taxi around Seattle, for which he was then fined.

Mr. Groh, then filed a lawsuit against the fine. This prompted Seattle lawmakers to formulate a new law which allows drivers to pick a costume which is "readily identifiable and of a generally well-known public figure, personality or fictional character."

This would become effective once the mayor signs the new law into practice. In response Elvis a.k.a Groh dropped the lawsuit and said "Uh, a-thank you verrah much," and then promptly left the building...to ofcourse drive his taxi.

The question is, Are there any takers for impersonating his son in law MJ?...that would be an awfully scary costume esp with a nose that peels off!!!!

Body builder loses to MOJO Man

London, UK

Strange are the ways of the British! They defended themselves vigorously when accused of spreading foot and mouth disease through their holy cows! and then what do they do... they make Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld the proud recipient of "Foot IN Mouth" award. The award is given by the British plain English campaign. The award is given to the most baffling statement made by a public figure. Mr. Rumsfeld beat Kaahlfonia's bawdy groper...oops body builder governor Arnold with the following incredible quote "Reports that say something hasn't happened are always interesting to me, because as we know, there are known knowns; there are things we know we know, We also know there are known unknowns; that is to say we know there are some things we do not know. But there are also unknown unknowns -- the ones we don't know we don't know."

John Lister, spokesman for the campaign, which strives to have public information delivered in clear, straightforward English, said: "We think we know what he means. But we don't know if we really know." The losing quote from Arnold "oh I am so dodging the groping charges"-shwarzenegger goes like..."I think that gay marriage is something that should be between a man and a woman,"

I will be baaack!!!

-bushman