

Statesman

Circulated to over 100 off-campus locations
Weekly readership estimated at 30,000.

VOLUME XLV, NUMBER 25

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2001

PUBLISHED TWICE WEEKLY

Blood Flows on Stony Brook Campus

By MICHELLE PIRRAGLIA
Staff Writer

Students, faculty and staff rolled up their sleeves to make a difference at last week's Long Island Blood Services blood drive held on campus. On Dec. 3 and Dec. 5, over 250 people showed up to donate and volunteer their time, and 154 pints of blood were collected.

"It's the easiest way to make a difference in another person's life," said Walter Moss, a 21-year-old junior who donated blood last Wednesday.

Linda Mugford, account manager of the Long Island Blood Services, concurred, and added that some who think they cannot to give blood may now be eligible.

"There have been some major changes concerning eligibility to give blood in the past three years. Those who have diabetes and are on insulin could not donate in the past, but they can now. So can organ cancer survivors who have been in remission for five years," Mugford said.

According to Mugford, the two day blood drive had a good overall turnout,



Statesman/Michelle Pirraglia

Yen Liu, a sophomore mechanical engineering major gave her time and blood at last week's Long Island Blood Services two-day blood drive.

but Monday was less successful than Wednesday.

The participation of volunteers was vital to the success of the blood drive, she added.

"I just like helping out, and I can't donate, so I do what I can," sophomore, Ted Teng said.

Many fraternity and sorority

members also promoted the drive by passing out flyers and coming down to volunteer.

Many of those who came down to donate blood felt this was their way of making a difference.

"Just because of the fact that it saves lives, I'll do it again," Sheena Gethers, an 18-year-old freshman, said.

In 2000, Stony Brook students, faculty and staff showed just how willing they were to give of themselves, as SBU had the highest amount of blood collected by a New York school.

"The 150,000 pints we buy from Europe is coming to an end in 2002," Mugford said, and added that this is due to the incidences of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, commonly known as mad cow disease. "So now we have to find a way to collect an extra 150,000 pints."

In an attempt to keep people aware of these drives, Mugford is working with the students to get them to donate or assist in some capacity.

"We also want to educate students more, so that we can get more people who may be hesitant to roll up their sleeves to come out," Mugford said.

Blood Services also gave out free T-shirts with the dates of the blood drives on them, hoping to promote the importance of giving blood.

"I wanted to find a way to thank all those for giving a donation, and also remind them that we're here a lot,"

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Stony Brook Cares—One Campus, One Voice



Statesman/Marie Huchton

Organizers of this year's Stony Brook Cares campaign, from left: David Hicks, Robert McGrath, Martin Lawrence, Maureen Veprek.

By JEFFREY JAVIDFAR
Statesman Editor

If you were to walk in to the office of Academic Affairs at 8 p.m. on any given weeknight, you would see the silhouette of Provost Robert McGrath's assistant, Maureen Veprek, rising up from piles of papers, phone in hand. From a distance, the only thing that lends insight to what exactly it is that drives her to continue to work long after her

colleagues have left is an eleven by seventeen poster with the words "Stony Brook Cares" running along the top.

Provost McGrath is the Vice President of Academic Affairs and the Vice President of Brookhaven National Lab, and is chairing this year's Stony Brook Cares campaign. As his assistant, Veprek often finds herself juggling multiple tasks and working obscenely long hours.

"Since we've started the [Stony Brook Cares] campaign, a 12 hour day is the norm," said Veprek.

Stony Brook Cares is a university sponsored annual fundraising initiative, aimed at financially supporting close to 200 charitable organizations that are either part of the State Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA) or the United Way.

"The charities range from the Breast

Cancer Coalition to Trout Unlimited, so there is a cause for everyone," said David Hicks, who is coordinating the 2000-2001 campaign along with Veprek. Hicks moved into the Associate Provost's office on Sept. 1 of this year. Prior to that, he served as the Chair of Stony Brook's nationally recognized Anthropology Department.

After raising \$173,257 in 1999-2000, this year's campaign set the ambitious goal of \$200,000 and 15% participation by Stony Brook employees. At press time, Stony Brook Cares had raised \$232,235.79, with approximately \$1,500 still waiting to be tabulated into the day's total.

With still a month left to solicit contributions, the quarter-million dollar benchmark is becoming a realistic goal.

"Handling it every day, my projection is [raising] \$248,000 when the campaign is finished," said Veprek.

Hicks and Veprek both attribute the success of this year's campaign to the organizing committee, the team captains, and an incentive program that was

instituted this year.

McGrath's office makes it very easy to participate in Stony Brook Cares. Benefactors may choose from one of two options: payroll deduction or check contribution; there is a payment plan available, as well. Those who make donations of \$500 or more are automatically enrolled in the "Cornerstone Club," and will be recognized sometime early next year.

Of the many organizations that fall underneath the umbrella of Stony Brook Cares, four are affiliated with the

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Stony Brook's Charitable Side

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campus: Stony Brook Responds, Stony Brook Child Care Services, the University Hospital Auxiliary, and the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Funds, Inc.

Traditionally, Stony Brook Cares does not solicit donations from students. However, Stony Brook Responds has managed to raise a significant portion of its approximately \$30,000 total from student

groups and student-sponsored functions.

The Stony Brook Foundation, which is overseen by the office for Advancement, directed by Vice President William Simmons, established Stony Brook Responds after the Sept. 11 tragedy. Simmons described the Stony Brook Responds as a relief campaign that will ultimately be turned over to Governor George Pataki; the monies will be incorporated into the World Trade Center Relief Fund.

The Latin American Student Organization is currently

planning a 15-act show entitled "United We Stand," a culmination of the Stony Brook Responds campaign. The event will take place on February 3, 2002, in the Student Activities Center auditorium. The proceeds from the show have also been earmarked for the relief fund.

"After the September eleventh tragedy, we had anticipated that it would take over the whole campaign," said Hicks. "The reality of it is that still people have given their support to all the variations that exist. This has been inspiring."

Bird Song: To be continued...

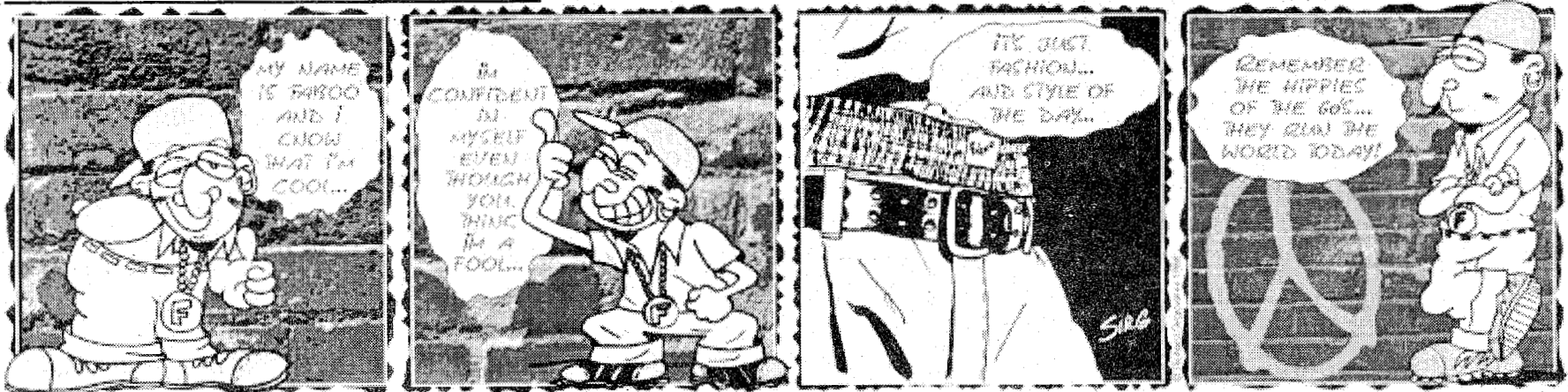
By KRISTOPHER LEE
Statesman Staff

Thanks to everyone who picked up the paper to read my serial cartoon. Thanks to the staff who put up with me taking up space in their paper. Unfortunately, I will not be able to finish the story this semester. I hope that you can remember Bird Song until the spring, but if you can't, please look forward to a short recap after the break, or go to www.sbstatesman.com. In any case, thank you again for reading my work. See you next semester.



Urban Philosophy

By R.A. SIRGIOVANNI
Statesman Contributor



The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, December 13, 2001

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BNL Enzyme Studies Promise New Antiviral Agents

By GENE TULMAN
Statesman Editor

The United States Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) is home to three new enzyme studies, all yielding a novel strategy for blocking infection by human adenoviruses (a 20-sided virus that contains DNA). These findings have already been used in the design of experimental antiviral drugs.

Numerous severe infections that may be caused by adenoviruses include respiratory infections, gastrointestinal infections and conjunctivitis. For patients with HIV, infections are often fatal.

"Our new antiviral drugs are expected not only to inhibit adenoviruses, but might also be effective against other organisms that use the same enzyme—including chlamydia, one of the most prevalent sexually transmitted diseases, and *Yersinia pestis*, the organism that causes the black plague," Walter Mangel, a principle researcher, said.

Adenoviruses make an enzyme

called a protease during infection to complete the maturation of newly formed virus particles.

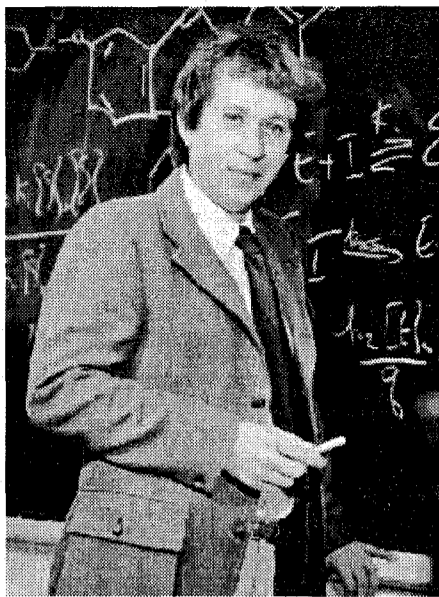
"Adenovirus particles are built with scaffolding protein inside," Mangel said. "Once the virus particle is formed, the protease becomes activated and cleaves the scaffolding to render the virus particle infectious."

Recent BNL studies revealed that the protease enzyme is initially synthesized in a form that is not active, binding to the viral DNA to become partially activated.

According to Mangel, such activation of a protease by DNA has never been seen before.

This partially activated enzyme cleaves out a cofactor (a protein fragment) which binds to the protease to become the fully active complex of enzyme and cofactor.

"These studies suggest that drugs that bind to the active site of the enzyme—the part involved in cleaving proteins—the cofactor binding site, or the DNA binding site should block the enzyme's action and serve as effective



Courtesy of www.pharm.sunysb.edu

Walter Mangel is working to develop enzymes that may be effective in fighting viral infections.

antiviral agents," Mangel said.

William McGrath, a post-doctorate in the lab, had previously characterized active sites by using an intense beam of x-rays. The pattern of x-rays bouncing off the atoms revealed the three-dimensional molecular structure.

Recently, Mary Lynn Baniecki, a graduate student at Stony Brook University, identified which parts bind to the enzyme and which stimulate the enzyme's activity.

Mangel has proposed a new form of antiviral therapy using three different drugs against the active site, the cofactor binding site, and the DNA binding site on the same virus-coded protein. This three-sided approach may overcome one of the biggest challenges in antiviral therapy, the spontaneous evolution of drug-resistant strains.

A mutation conferring drug resistance at one site may alter the physiological functions at the other two sites because they are interdependent. In this case, drug resistance is much less likely to arise. Mangel's team has already developed two new drugs that will be tested as antiviral agents by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

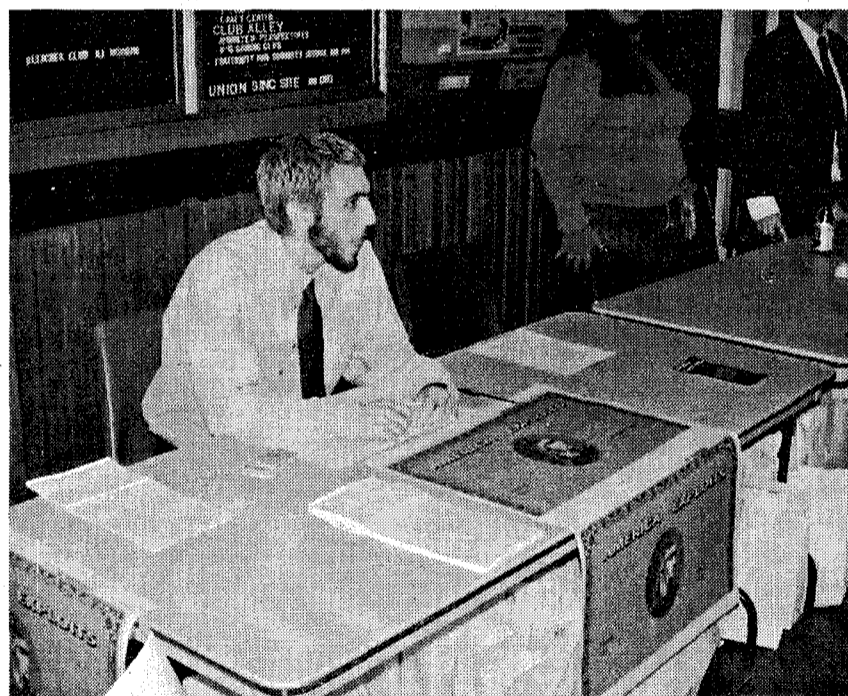
"The adenovirus protease may be a good model system within which to test the efficacy of this form of combination therapy," Mangel said.

Activism Around Campus



Statesman/Christopher Latham

NYPIRG members protested higher education funding cuts by offering students ridiculously priced goods on Dec. 11.



Statesman/Christopher Latham

Members of RAW, Radicals Against War, protested the war effort by offering students "American Exploited" Cards on Tuesday.

Microsoft Takes an Active Part in SBU Life

By SARAH GOSHMAN
Statesman Contributor

The Microsoft Users Group, while founded only two years ago, has since become an integral part of our campus community.

The Microsoft Users Group, a subsidiary of the Stony Brook Computing Society, does consulting for Microsoft on campus. This involves speaking to faculty, organizing and sponsoring faculty and student projects and giving talks on campus about Microsoft technologies.

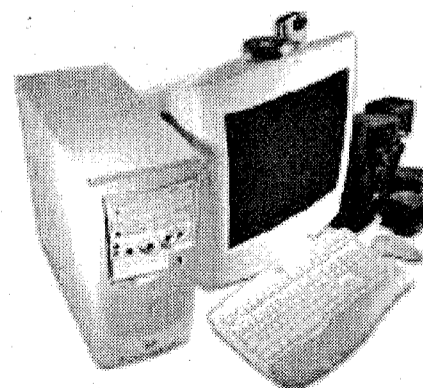
Currently the Microsoft Users Group is sponsoring four or five faculty and student projects in Computer Science and Engineering. When sponsoring a project, Microsoft provides needed books and software and, in some cases, funding for travel

to conferences and other necessities.

Currently they are sponsoring a programming project which involves converting Java to C++, as well as a Computing Society project, in which students are actually constructing a robot based around pocket PCs.

The Microsoft Users Group is not limited to Computer Science and Engineering majors, however. The talks they sponsor range from general information about Windows XP to programming talks on .NET technologies.

"It's important to Microsoft to involve themselves with events on campus because students are being exposed to new technologies that are emerging and these technologies are ones that students will be



Courtesy of www.ebay.com

Microsoft technology has been making its way onto the Stony Brook campus.

using when they graduate. The technology we're exposing them to is what they'll end up using in the workplace over the next few years," Robert Wlodarczyk, the current

president of the Microsoft Users Group and past president of the Computing Society, said.

Earlier in the semester, the group gave a talk on Microsoft mobility. Talks like this attempt to prepare students for how our lives are going to change over the next few years. The significance of miniaturization of devices, pocket PCs, wireless communication and wireless networking were all covered.

In addition, the group recently held a series of .NET talks which covered topics ranging from introductory information on .NET and learning C++, to more advanced material, such as Web Applications, Web Services, and security in .NET.

Next semester the society will be hosting a variety of events including LAN parties, a

Continued on Page 8

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Staller Center Holiday Concert

BY SARIKA SHIRSAT
Statesman Contributor

The end of December is almost here, and the holiday season is rapidly approaching. If you need a way to relax or just a way to bring in the holiday season, come listen to the Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers perform in a concert this Friday at 8 P.M. The concert will be held in the Staller Center Recital Hall and will feature a special holiday repertoire.

Tickets for the concert will be sold up through Friday night with general admission tickets being sold at \$8 and student tickets selling for \$4.

This year, the Camerata Singers will begin the concert with an *a capella* piece entitled "The Christmas Story." Composed by Hugo Distler in 1933, the piece is performed in English. After a short intermission, the Stony Brook Chorale will perform the piece "Laud to the Nativity." Written by 20th century musical composer Ottorino Respighi, the Italian piece retained its text from 13th century religious poet, Jacopone da Todi.

The Stony Brook Chorale will be

accompanied by a variety of instruments, including flutes, bassoons, an oboe, an English horn, a triangle and a piano. The "Laud to the Nativity" features male and female soloists singing the parts of a shepherd, an angel and the Virgin Mary.

The Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers will perform this semester's holiday concert pieces under conductor Joan Lee. He is a first year student in Stony Brook's Musical Arts doctoral program, studying under the supervision of Timothy Mount, Professor and Director of Choral Music at SBU.

Lee said she is looking forward to this Friday's concert.

"It'll be very good," Lee said of the upcoming event. Lee grew up in Korea and has a home in Montreal. Prior to coming to Stony Brook, he obtained a Masters in music and an Artist's Diploma from Yale University.

Professor Mount has been the conductor of both the Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers for over fifteen years.

"She's a very talented conductor," Mount said of Lee. Mount is also excited about this Friday's concert.



Statesman/Marie Huchton

On December 14, the Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers will be performing in the Staller Center Recital Hall.

"Christmas carols are traditional," Mount said. "This is a little different."

Both the Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers have been rehearsing the holiday music since the beginning of the semester during their weekly meetings. The two choral groups participated in another concert on Staller's Main Stage in mid-November. Members of the Stony Brook Chorale include Stony Brook University

students, staff, faculty and the surrounding community.

The Camerata Singers consist of graduate and undergraduate music students, area music teachers and members of the Stony Brook community. Both groups audition for new members at the beginning of each new semester.

Members of the choral groups highly anticipate this weekend's holiday concert.

"I look forward to every concert," said David Cliffe, a bass singer for Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers.

Led by an enthusiastic conductor, the talented voices of the Stony Brook Chorale and the Camerata Singers promise a great concert filled with relaxing holiday music.

The Best Bands You've Never Heard, vol. 1

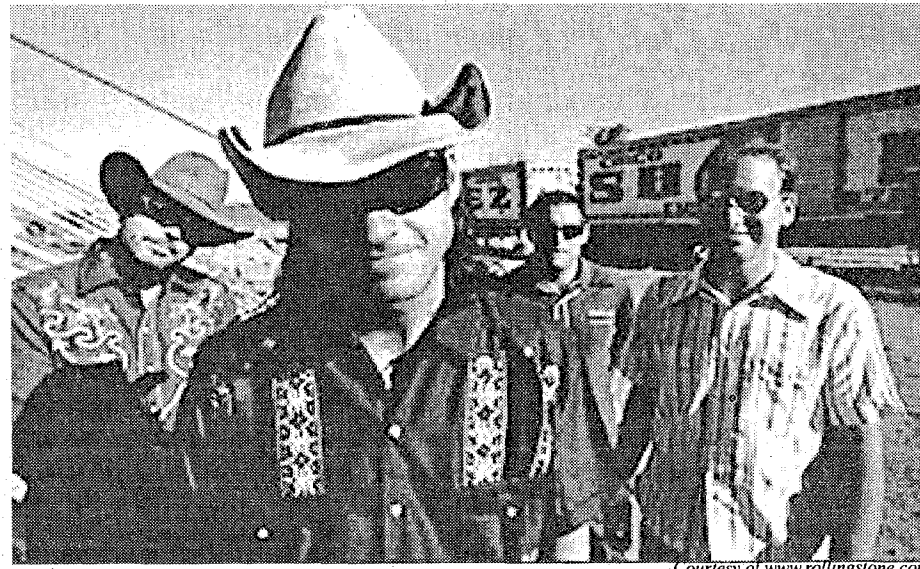
BY RYAN SOBEL
Statesman Editor

Imagine that you are driving down a wide-open highway. There is not another car in sight. The sun is shining, the wind is gently blowing through your hair, and your friend is sitting next to you, munching away on some cheese doodles. It all seems so exhilarating, so freeing.

There is one significant problem though. You know something is missing, but you just can't quite put your finger on it. You need music. Now, you ponder, what is the most appropriate sound for this atmosphere?

Well, your problem is solved. Just pop in a CD by The Refreshments, a little known, largely overlooked, Arizona-based rock band. This band specializes in "cruising" music. Just picture a bunch of guys lounging around a run-down cantina on the Tex-Mex border with their instruments in one hand and tequila in the other.

The Refreshments released their first studio album, *Fizzy Fuzzy Big & Buzzy* back in 1996 to an MTV music scene still thriving off grunge bands like Nirvana. The band fuses the beats of Tom Petty with the lyrical stylings of the Barenaked Ladies. Combine that with an enchanting, euphoric guitar sound laced with a subtle Mexican tinge, and you have 12 tracks of pure,



Courtesy of www.rollingstone.com

The Arizona-based rock band, The Refreshments, has a unique sound made specifically to be played while on the open road. Now, as the Peacemakers, the band continues to rock unadulterated "cruising" music.

The debut album spawned four singles in both the United States and Australia, including "Banditos", "Down Together", "Girly", and "Mexico." The addictive "Banditos" and "Down Together" artfully blend a pop/punk sound with the humorous, upbeat lyrics that gave the band a steady nationwide fan base.

A year later, in 1997, The Refreshments' follow-up album *The Bottle & Fresh Horses* was released. Though

critically acclaimed, the album failed to rekindle the magic that accompanied *Fizzy Fuzzy Big & Buzzy*.

Nevertheless, the band released three equally superior tracks. "Wanted" and "Good Year" feature experimental twists on the band's captivating guitar sound, in addition to some clever production additives and sound effects.

"Sin Nombre," however, is the gem of the album that exquisitely highlighted the band's songwriting maturity. It is a

somber, moody, emotional powerhouse of a song, a perfect fit for driving when the sun goes down.

In 1998, two members of the band departed. A few months later, however, lead singer/songwriter Roger Clyne and drummer PH Naffah reinvented The Refreshments with three new members and a new name, Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers.

Since then, the band has picked up where its predecessor has left off, producing newer, more potent cruising music. According to Clyne, "The Peacemakers' music has the same theme that the Refreshments songs had. It's all about living."

Using the melodic expertise of former Gin Blossoms guitarist Scott Johnson, the band released its first album *Honky Tonk Union* in late 1999. Now, two years after riding the underground success of the CD's hit single "Beautiful Disaster," the band is awaiting the February release date of its sophomore attempt, *Sonoran Hope and Madness*.

Clearly, now is the time to take advantage of the legacy of the Refreshments and the promising future of Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers. This is your opportunity to fill the boring musical void on those lengthy road trips.

SBU Blood Drive

Continued from Page 1

In an official statement, Carl Hanes, deputy to SBU President Shirley Strum Kenny, said a person helps others and themselves by donating blood.

"96 percent of us will need a component of blood during our lifetime," Hanes said. "If someone who donates once a year were to donate twice a year, there would be

no blood shortage. We need repeat donors as well as new donors. Our area hospitals need approximately 800 units of blood per day. A goal has been set to beat last year's numbers. With over 15,000 students, this should be an easy task."

The next blood drive at SBU will be in April. For more information on blood donation, call 1-800-933-BLOOD.



Statesman/Michelle Pirragua

Senior Teresa Hammond donating blood in the SBU Sports Complex on December 5.

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**Editorial****Make Them Work For Us**

We have a bone to pick. Lately, our office has been barraged by phone calls and e-mails of a most vexing nature. Various student groups and administrative offices on campus have been harassing members of our staff, pestering us to write articles about their latest happenings and most grandiose functions.

Everyone is looking for the same thing—a promo, a plug, a little free advertising. We have openly acknowledged the problems that campus organizations face in disseminating information about meetings and events to the campus community. But, we cannot be in the business of furnishing free publicity. Our

responsibility is to inform the public about campus news and events as objectively as possible.

Don't get us wrong—we are committed to covering as many campus events as possible, but don't call us up and whine/beg/wheedle for a front-page feature on the importance of the Hawaiian pig roast taking place in the SAC during Campus Life Time. We don't like that.

If you want to sell your group or event, we will sell you in our advertisements. We, as an incorporated paper, depend on ads for our livelihood. As much as we would love to love you in the headlines, we can't afford it.

Op-Ed**Phase II of Stony Brook's War on Ignorance**By ARIF RAFIQ
Statesman Editor

It's been quite a semester. Two weeks into it, on the Day of Emergency, 9-11, 5,000 of our very own were slain in the "city that never sleeps." For many of us, it was fear and pain that kept us awake in the latter parts of the night. America responded with an outpouring of support for her countrymen, and Stony Brook did too. From prayer vigils, to fundraising, to peace rallies, seminars and teach-in's, the destruction of September 11th helped bring our campus closer—and made us more aware of the world around us.

Shortly after the commencement of the semester, the Twin Towers fell—and toward its end, the Taliban tumbled as well. Osama bin Laden began our semester on wanted posters and the newspapers' front pages. He may soon be in their obituary pages.

A traditional Sufi tale reads: "Someone called out, 'I'm looking for Bayazid.' Bayazid replied, 'I have also been searching for 'Bayazid' for thirty years and still have not found him.'"

Have we, the undergraduate students of Stony Brook University, found ourselves? I think not. At least not collectively. The administration and various graduate student organizations have been organizing great programs to bring "context to the crisis." But we undergrads have been dangerously silent—

especially our various cultural organizations and the infamous Student Polity Association (your so-called student government).

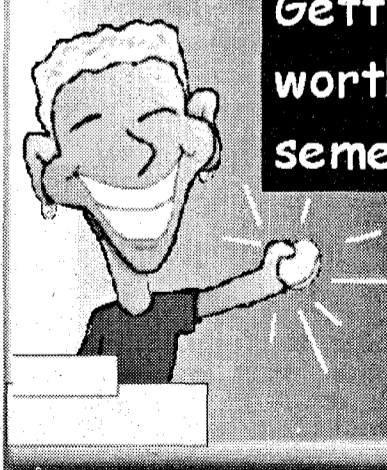
Please—we don't need another dance show or party. The world's great civilizations, represented here at Stony Brook, don't deserve such flat depictions of their contributions to our collective history. Our fleeting undergraduate student groups need direction and support from Administration. I recommend—and I view this as an imperative—that the University declare 2002 the "Year of Dialogue Among Civilizations".

The United Nations did the same for 2001. Guess who proposed the idea? None other than the elected leader of Iran—President Mohammed Khatami. So what is this dialogue all about? UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said, "I see...dialogue as a chance for people of different cultures and traditions to get to know each other better, whether they live on opposite sides of the world or on the same street."

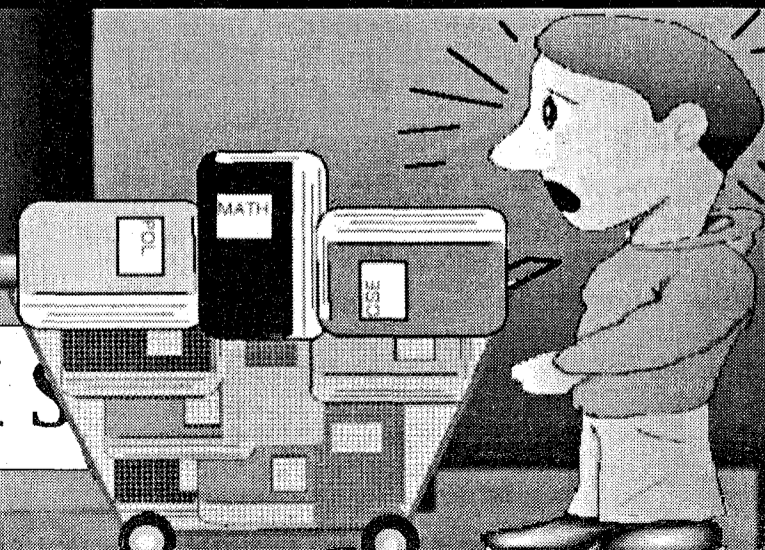
The UN has organized youth festivals, poetry readings, and academic conferences all over the world to promote this dialogue. There has even been a think tank founded in Iran called the "International Centre for Dialogue Among

Continued on Page 7

ALBERT S. COOPER

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SBU Needs to Promote Cultural Awareness

Continued from Page 6

Civilizations”.

Stony Brook is a young institution that is still seeking to define itself. There are two things it must do: one, establish working permanent links with the United Nations in a broad fashion, and two, work with the UN on a short-term initiatives such as conducting a inter-civilization dialogue here at Stony Brook. We must capitalize on both our position as an institution with a diverse student body and faculty and our relative proximity to New York City. We must serve as an example of how people of different backgrounds cannot only co-exist – but can also *thrive* in harmony.

So what can we do here at Stony Brook? Well, the week of March 17, 2002 is ‘Dialogue through Poetry’ week. We can certainly have related events here at Stony. How about an international or multicultural art show in February? A ‘World Film Festival’ in April at the Staller Center? Competitions between our Stony Brook baseball and basketball teams and teams from other countries like Mexico, Russia, and South Korea? Week-long student exchange programs with universities

in Israel, Palestine, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Spain and Tanzania? Maybe an MTV and UN-sponsored conference with bands and musicians from all across the world? Groups like Asian Dub Foundation and Junoon come immediately to my mind. When I met the heads of MTV-Networks, they seemed very inclined to do events along these lines. And what about a big conference with prominent speakers in May to top it all off once the Asian American Center’s finished?

Dr. Kenny, Dr. Preston: we need direction, we need guidance, we need support. Under your tutelage, we can work together to make this university great and demonstrate that our greatest assets are not our science and technology-related departments, but our people in general.

Sadly, the undergraduates have proved their ineptitude. The administration and graduate students have proved their ability to achieve quality results. I’m really grateful for what they’ve done. And I think the “Dialogue Among Civilizations” is a great way for all parties in this institution to work together and not merely bring “context to the crisis,” but more importantly, “meaning to our world.”

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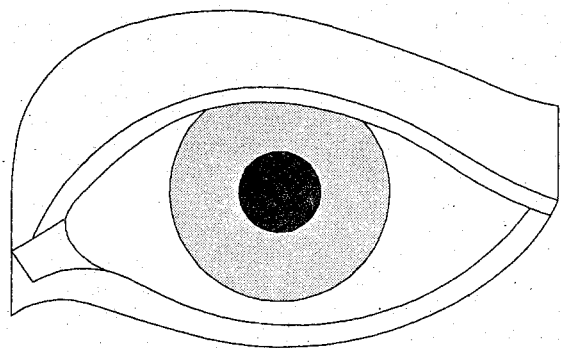
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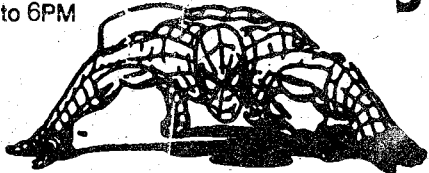
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Microsoft Moves In

Continued from Page 3

Microsoft Users Group X-box demonstration, continuation of the .NET talks from this semester and two or three sessions of hands on Windows XP tutorials.

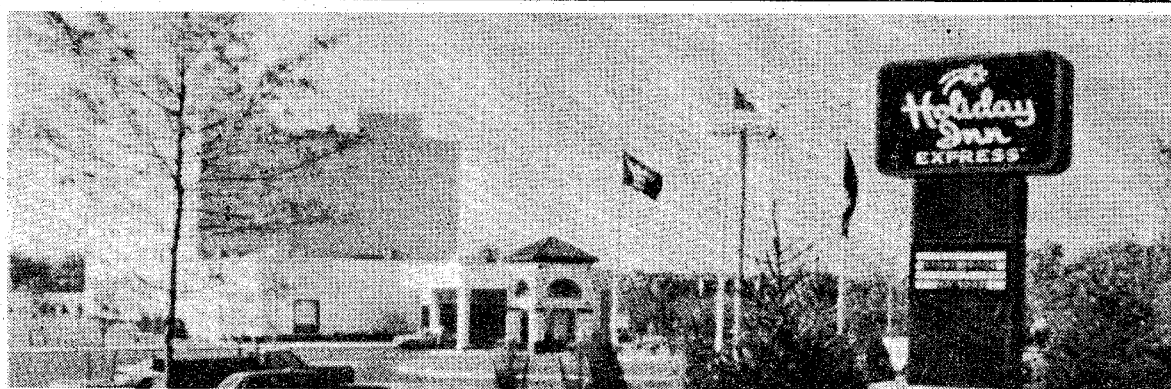
The Microsoft Users Group also wanted to let students know about the current web services contest from Microsoft. This simply involves the write up of an idea and an explanation of how the idea would best be used for a web service. Submissions are due by Dec. 31 and more information can be found on the Computing Society web page at www.sbc-acm.com and the contest web page at www.msdnaa.net/WSTest.

"We'd like to get students to participate in this web services contest, to

get students involved in as many of these events that we're having next semester as possible, and to increase overall membership," Wlodarczyk said.

Another great resource he recommends to students is www.devhood.net. This site, designed by students at MIT, is an online community where members can discuss current technologies. It contains discussion forums, tutorials and links to the latest news on technology, submitted by other users. It is especially useful for students interested in taking what they learn at Microsoft Users Group talks on campus and discussing it with students online.

Overall, the Microsoft Users Group is a vital part of campus life and, as Wlodarczyk hopes, it is encouraging students to "think in the higher realm of technology."



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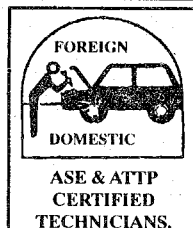
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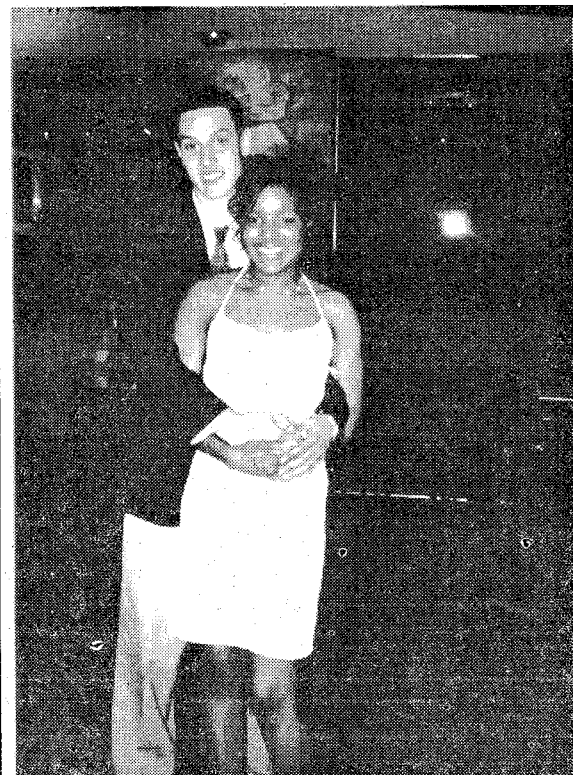
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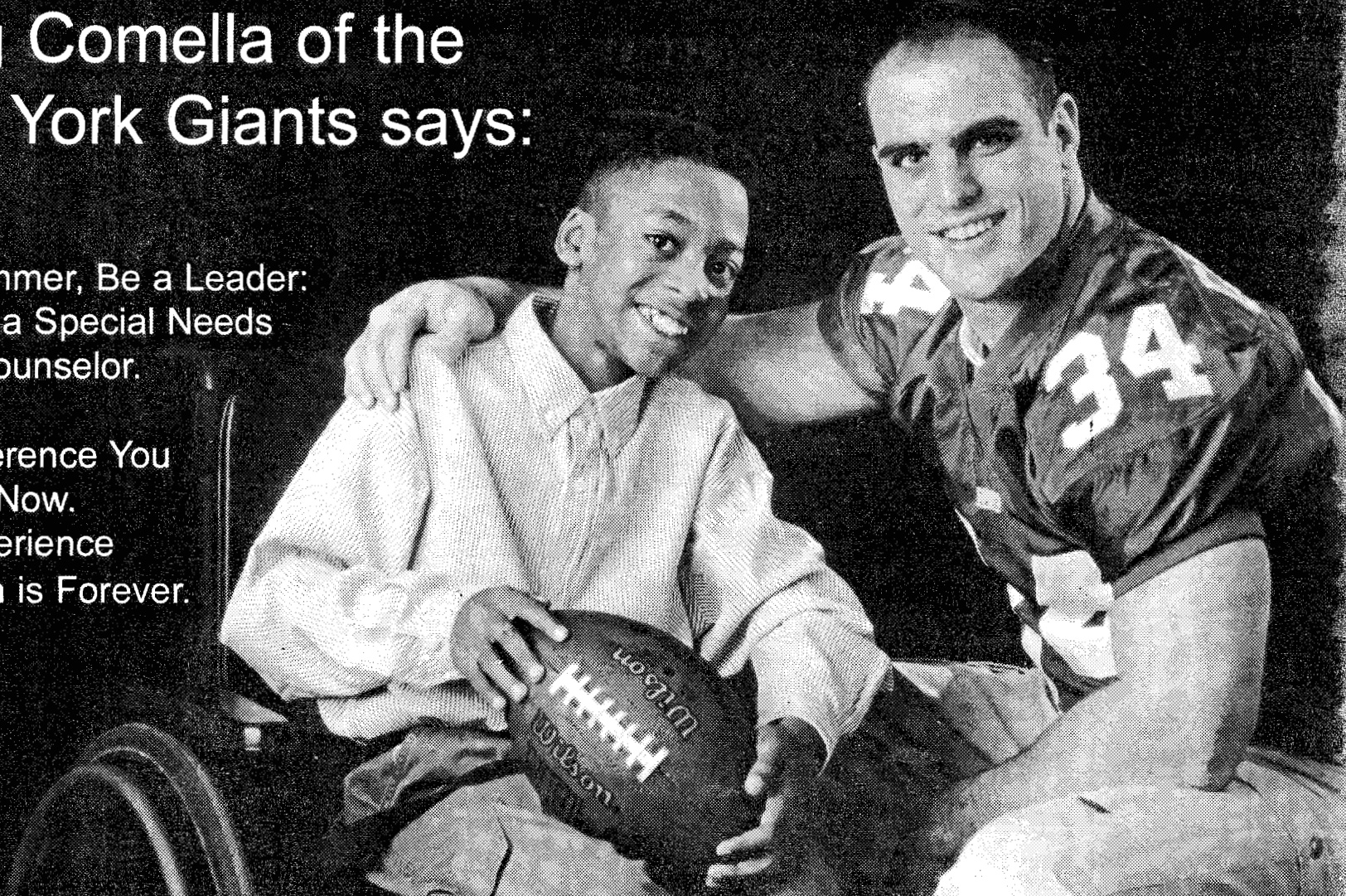
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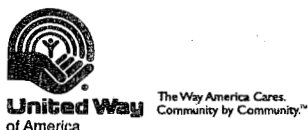
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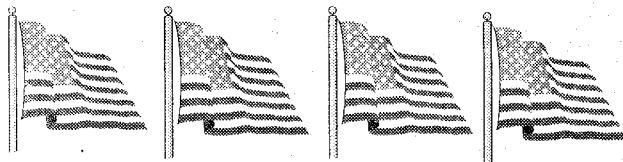
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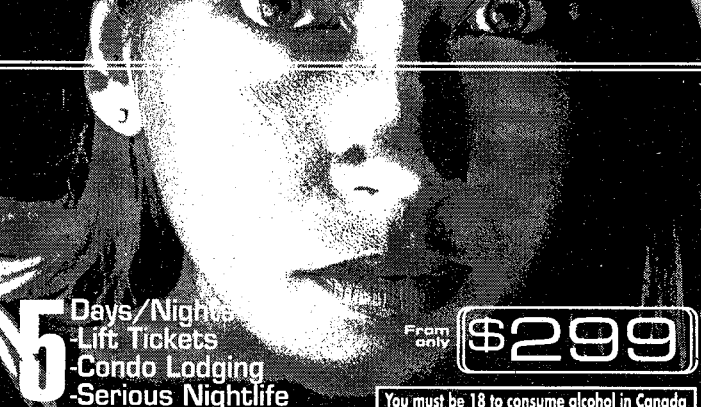
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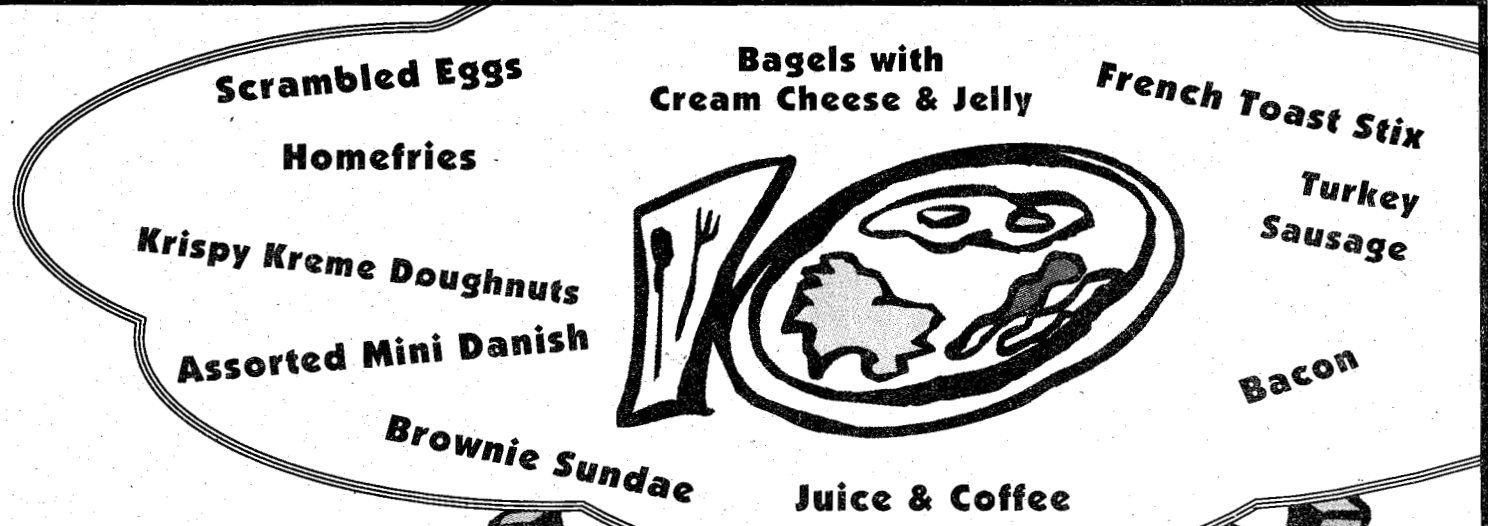
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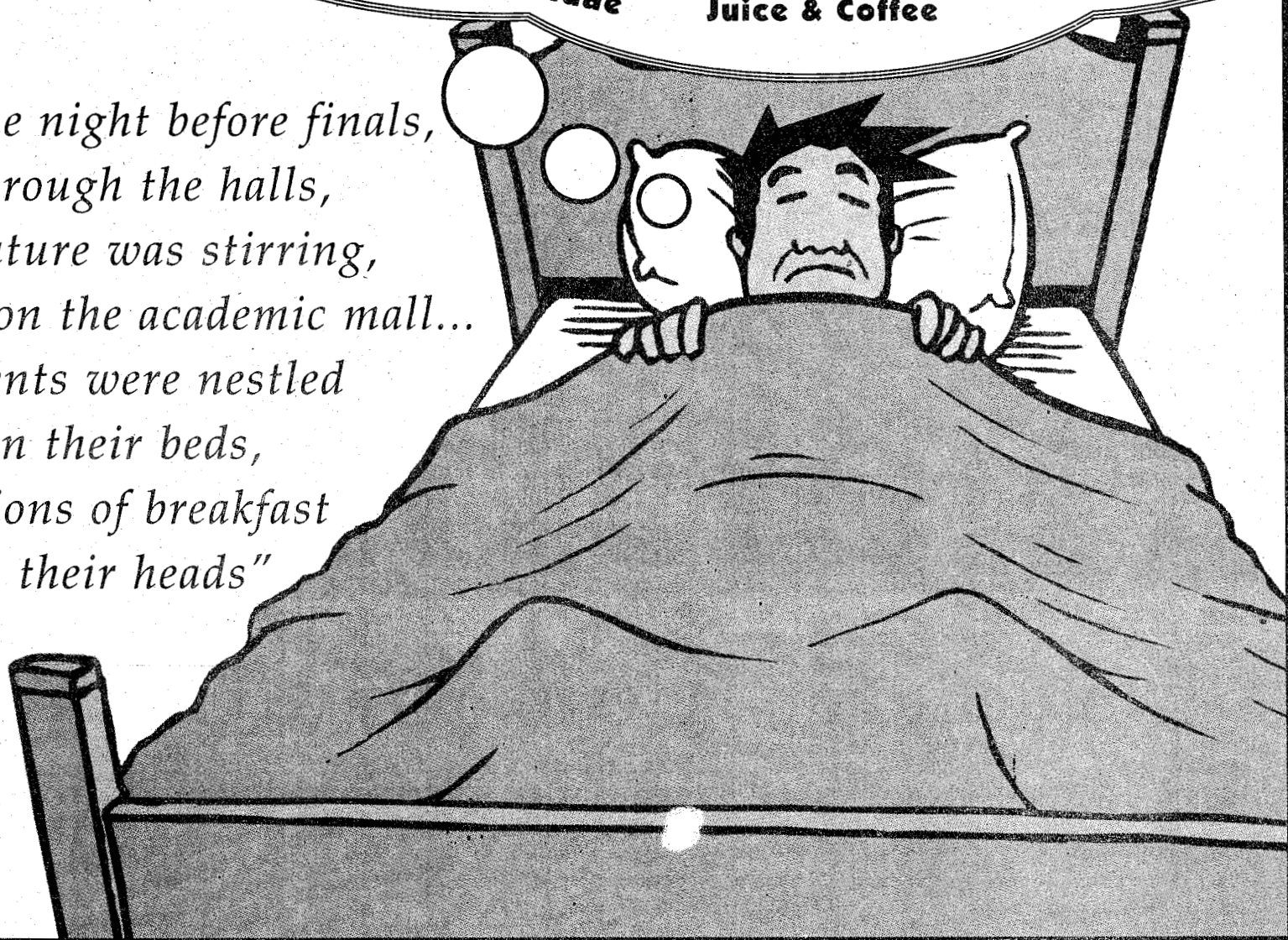
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Ground Zero: Attraction or Hallowed Ground?

By KAREN RICE
Statesman Staff

Mike Chan, 43, an insurance salesman from Newark, NJ, stood on the sidewalk in front of the World Trade Center crash site and said he appreciated those who object to tourists in lower Manhattan.

"I can understand how people can feel that it is inappropriate to visit here," he said.

Chan felt the site was

being visited by many people solely out of curiosity, but that many were there to pay respects to the victims.

"Everyone needs to get a look at this," Chan said. "Everyone deserves a chance to see Ground Zero, no matter why they came to visit."

Theodore Zanders, 43, from Brooklyn, a tour guide for the New York City Rescue Mission, agreed that viewing the site is important, especially, for people looking

to contribute time and money to the rescue efforts.

"I have a tour group here from Pennsylvania. We thought if we took them here to [the site] it would help them relate," he said. "They are all looking to donate money to help those left homeless, and the families of victims."

Jeff Errico, 22, a storyboard animation artist from Manhattan, felt that tourists who have not lost a loved one have as much right to visit the crash site as tourists who have.

"I feel that if you lost someone you have every right to come and see. But, even if you haven't lost someone personally, you should still have the right to come and pay respects to those that died," he said.

Errico said that it was acceptable for people to visit the site if they show respect. He came out of curiosity, but remained mindful of those around him who may have



Courtesy of www.firehouse.com

Rescuers hard at work at ground zero in New York City.

been grieving.

Brian Friedman, 20, a graphics and design student from River Vale, NJ, felt that the site was becoming too much of a tourist attraction instead of a place of reverence.

"It's now a tourism thing, but it shouldn't be," he said. "All the vendors and people with cameras—it's not respectful. People . . . should be aware that it's still

a crime scene and the burial ground for many bodies."

This tendency for some tourists to come out of curiosity is perfectly natural according to one visitor.

"It's like seeing a car accident," Chris Grant, a psychology student from Upper Manhattan attending New York University, said. "Part of you feels wrong about it, but part of you can't resist watching."



ciccanello

Courtesy of www.geocities.com/ajcicar.html

Some people feel that the ground zero scene should not be viewed as a tourist attraction, but rather treated with reverence.

SBU Student Publishes Highly Acclaimed eBook

By CHRISTOPHER LATHAM
Editor Emeritus

According to Ross Brian Rosenfeld, he never set out to be a writer. The decision came from on high.

"I began when I was very young," he said. "I had no choice, really. God put the pen in my hand and I started writing."

Rosenfeld, an SBU undergraduate studying social and political science, recently published his first book with e-Novel.com, the online publisher. It has been a very successful submission at the site, and at last count was ranked third most popular.

The book, "A Good Place," centers around protagonist Billy Collins and

his maturity from a child in Queens, New York, to an adult fighting as a soldier in Panama. Rosenfeld said much of his inspiration for Collins originated by observing his older brother.

"Loss of innocence and trying to maintain innocence are major themes," he said. "The story takes place from the 1970s and into the present. It takes a general look at our society and is about trying to understand other people."

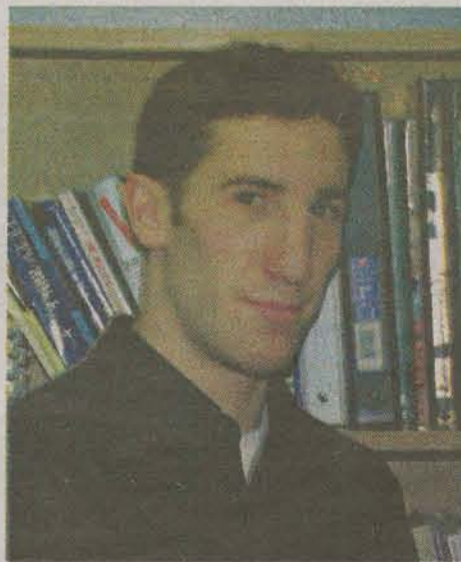
Strong plot-lines fuel the book. As a youth, Billy does poorly in school. When he grows up he becomes more concerned with sexual exploits, and learns a few moral lessons along the way. With few career options, he decides to join the army and fight in Panama.

After sustaining a leg injury, he returns home and attends college. The final chapters are gritty, with a surprise ending.

Rosenfeld chose to distribute his book online upon the suggestion of a paperback publisher.

"First you have to write the novel, which is 90 percent of the work," he said. "Then you have to find a proper host. If it's up to standards they'll take it. Anyone could probably put something on the Internet, but it depends on if you want people to see it."

His plans after college



Statesman/Christopher Latham

SBU student Ross Rosenfeld is the author of "A Good Place," located on e-Novel.com.

include teaching at the junior high school level, then entering national politics. A hardcore patriot, Rosenfeld said he supported U.S.

involvement in Panama during the 1980s, and that he supports U.S. action in Afghanistan now.

Though he currently has no definite plans as of now, some of his later writings may reflect his views on the terrorist situation.

"People who are against the war on Afghanistan are foolish," he said. "In fact, I'm for increased involvement. I think we have to go enter terrorist countries and wipe them out. Nobody wants to see innocent people die, but sometimes things must be done to save people in the end. I wouldn't even give terrorists last words before I kill them."

To read Rosenfeld's Internet book, log on to www.enovel.com.