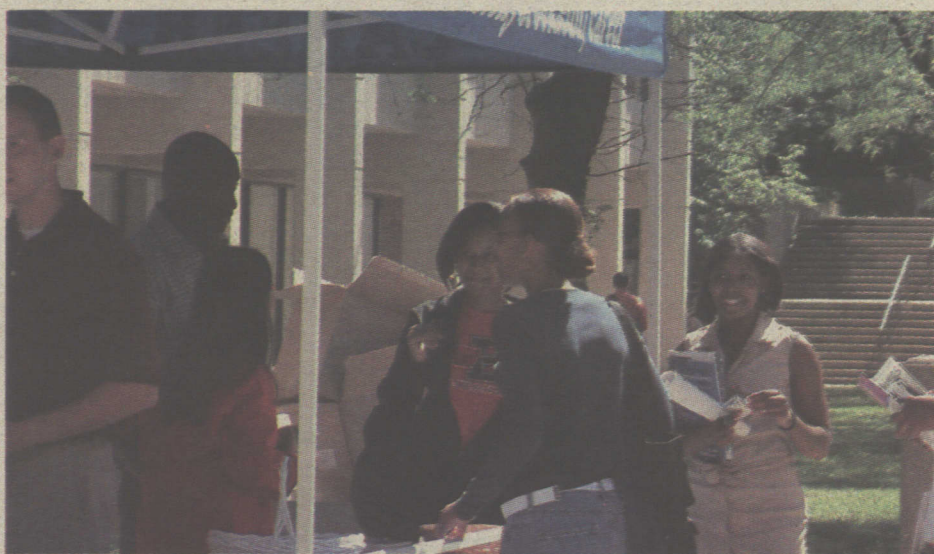


## Entering an Uncertain Job Market



Students gathered at the Career Center booth outside the library during Campus Lifetime. Those who land internships or jobs during college are more valuable to hiring companies.

By NAZIA KHAN  
Statesman Contributor

You go to college, you get a degree, you land a job and you're set for life. What was once a straight track through education is not as clear anymore. Times have changed, and so has the job market. In today's economic climate, graduates are no longer guaranteed a job, let alone their dream job.

Future graduates "need to be better prepared than ever before" said Marianna Savoca, Director of the Career Center. According to the College Journal of the *Wall Street Journal*, employment has declined from more than 132 million to 130 million jobs since 2001, leaving millions unemployed or left with temporary or unsatisfactory occupations.

Recent graduates agree that the market is not friendly. Timothy Rodolico graduated

from SBU with a Computer Science degree last May. He is currently working part time at Keyspan and attending graduate school. Timothy said that he decided to go back to school to get an education that would put him at an advantage over others entering the job market.

Though the market is lagging as a whole, not every industry is falling behind. In the midst of a bad economy, federal government jobs, including those in nursing, human services and healthcare are booming.

Experts predict a change in the downward trend in corporate hiring. The class of 2004 can expect a 15.3 percent increase in college recruiting in the Northeast for that year. In New York alone, 12 percent of recruiters will concentrate on SUNY schools.

According to the *New York Times* Job Market, the undergraduate degrees that are most in demand are business and technology, whereas education and engineering are at the bottom of recruiters' lists.

It is important, however, not to choose your major based on the newest "hot job," said Career Center specialists. There is no guarantee that they will be so "hot" by the

Continued on Page 5

## Careless Drivers Plague SBU

Police Work to Increase Awareness of Road Regulations

By TED LAI  
Statesman Staff

On roadways around the country and on our campus, drivers routinely disobey traffic laws and common sense, putting themselves and others in danger. With drivers speeding above limits, ignoring stop signs, talking on phones and cutting pedestrians and even ambulances off, SBU Police reports a staggering number of violations every day.

"Roads here are no different than neighboring communities," Deputy Chief of Police Douglas Little. "Driving is a privilege, and when you get your license, you have responsibilities."

In 2002 alone, there were over 1000 warnings given out by University Police, 1000 moving violations, almost 300 accidents, and nearly 100 hit-and-runs. Since the beginning of the semester, there have been 14 accidents and five hit-and-runs.

"I remember where there were three accidents in a course of two days in the Mendelson parking lot," said senior Lauren Welicky. "It annoys me because all of them could have been prevented if people would just be more cautious."

"The people I see driving around campus are ridiculous. Some have

Continued on Page 4

## Navratri Brings Hundreds to SBU

### Indian Culture Draws a Diverse Crowd

By MIRA KINARIWALA  
Statesman Staff

The pounding beat of the drums intermingled with the sharp sounds of the organ as 700 dancers hopped, clapped and danced in unison Saturday night at Pritchard Gym. This annual Indian cultural celebration, Navratri, or "Nine Nights" attracts crowds of all ages from as far as Baltimore and Binghamton. The event is run annually, marking an age old Hindu tradition that originated in the state of Gujarat in India.

"The celebration involves men and women dressing up in festive clothes for nine days of dancing," said coordinator Jyoti Shah. "This festival celebrates a fierce battle between the forces of evil and darkness that lasted for nine nights. On the ninth night, the demon was destroyed and harmony and light was once again restored."

This year, the celebration was held on

Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. The festival was organized by a group of ladies who wanted to introduce Indian culture to the youth in America. Twenty-two years ago, these ladies organized the first annual Indian Navratri festival on Long Island. Twelve years later, they brought the spotlight to Stony Brook University.

"I used to go to this festival in India, and I'm so excited that I can still attend this celebration at Stony Brook," said sophomore Pameen Gandhi. "I feel like I get to experience a little bit of India in America."

This celebration brought people from all religions and cultures. "I've never been to a Hindu festival," said senior Nazish Quadeer.



People of all ages celebrated Navratri with 'dandia' (Hindi for sticks) and danced to lively rhythms in Pritchard Gym.

"It was very interesting learning about a whole new set of customs. I would love to learn more."

"When we first started this festival in Long Island, it was a small event, now the event draws people from all over New York,"

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# Exploring Iraq's Past to Help Shape Its Future



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

Elizabeth Stone detailed a model for a new Iraqi government based on past systems.

By EMY KURIAKOSE  
Statesman Editor

Just months after removing Saddam Hussein from power, the United States finds itself rebuilding the economy, government and infrastructure of a torn country. Experts all over the world have contributed ideas and political philosophies regarding this reconstruction, but few offer a solution based on Iraq's own political history.

Elizabeth Stone, archeologist and Stony Brook professor, offered her analysis of Iraq in the midst of political and social unrest in her Provost's Lecture titled "Ancient Mesopotamia: Lessons For the Future of Iraq From Its Distant Past." Last Thursday,

she offered solutions to rebuilding the country based on political structures and community hierarchies that had functioned well in the past.

"[Coalition forces] are adopting interim councils based on religion and ethnicity," said Stone, who has done research in Iraq before and after the Persian Gulf War. "We're imposing this on them. [The Coalition doesn't] understand what Iraq is, much less what worked twenty years ago."

Today, the several changes that Iraq has gone through make it almost impossible to repair the damage of years at war. Stone described her visit to Iraq earlier this year.

"Iraqis are having a hard time believing

that life is better since the war," she said. "Every house has been damaged. There are no police, traffic lights, and traffic is horrible. The death rate in Baghdad has been increasing every month since the war. Iraqis are being principally shot by Coalition forces, but it's not talked about."

Western views on what Iraqi politics should be are also changing the social and political ideology of the land.

"There's a curfew now, and you can not go out anymore," Stone said. "This security system has had a terrible effect on women. Iraq once had the most liberal policy with women." Now, women are forced to go out only with male family members for security on the streets.

Stone said at the Interim Government Council has been created without foresight into what Iraqis need.

"Since the members [of the council] are outsiders, they can only relate to [Iraqis] based on ethnicity and religion," she said. "We think they [Iraqis] think that way, but they don't."

The system that existed traditionally worked for the social strata in Iraq as well. All neighborhoods, Stone said, have enormously strong family ties. Households consisted of extended families, but would split with the death of the father. Each community would likewise have their own local leaders who took charge and kept every day life in order.

"I'm surprised that Iraqis haven't been given an election where they elect local officials yet," Stone said. "If you had an election, you could have a mixture of traditional Iraqi politics and the what will

come for the future."

In the absence of laws governing Iraq, due process and fair representation is often lost to misunderstandings between Coalition forces and Iraqi citizens.

"The current situation is one in which Coalition forces would arrest someone without really understanding why," Stone said.

Stone used the example of an Iraqi family trying to protect their house from looters. While several brothers fired rounds of bullets into the air in an attempt to scare intruders, Coalition forces drove by and arrested one of the family members. He spent more than two months in jail following the incident despite several complaints and eyewitness accounts of what had actually transpired.

"True, Saddam used to kill people, but they were mostly political enemies," she said. "Saddam used to pay compensation after a war, and this doesn't happen now."

History professor Wolf Schäfer offered a different view of the post-war situation during the question-answer session following the lecture. "I remember the reconstruction of Germany, and no one talks about the four months after the end of the war—it took decades," he said. "It needs a longer time to see some control."

Students who attended the lecture said that the information Stone provided gave them more thorough view of post war Iraq.

"I had no idea about the past history of Iraq," said Corey Cohn, graduate student. Now I have a better understanding of how ancient life is affecting government today."

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# Under a Rock: The Weekly News Summary

By REGINA GLICK  
Statesman Staff

## IRAQ

Amid international calls for the U.S. to grant sovereignty to Iraq, President Bush defended the invasion and requested international financial and military aid from a largely unsupportive United Nations General Assembly. President Jacques Chirac of France, one of Bush's staunchest opponents, said that his country would neither send troops to the area at this time, nor approve a UN resolution that doesn't recognize the need for an immediate transfer of control to Iraqis.

Secretary of State Colin Powell announced Friday that the interim governing council had six months to draft a new constitution for Iraq. He said nationwide elections could be held next year to install a permanent, sovereign Iraqi government.

The Pentagon announced that thousands of reservists will be called into Iraq over the next few weeks if foreign troops are not sent to the area soon.

## UNITED NATIONS

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Kofi Annan, criticized the concept of preemptive war on the grounds that it threatens to destabilize the world and undermine the principles on which the UN was established. He did not specifically mention the U.S. Annan also said that the UN has "fundamental weaknesses" and has not appropriately responded to world events, including the war in Iraq and the massacres in Liberia. He called for the expansion of the Security Council, which currently has 15 permanent members, to include more Latin American and Muslim countries.

## AIDS

The United Nations also said that the world has failed to adequately address the international AIDS epidemic. Most of the world's 42 million cases of AIDS are located in sub-Saharan Africa and, without a change in the way the world is currently addressing what the UN deemed a "crisis," by 2010 there will be an additional 42

million cases worldwide. The World Health Organization, a UN agency, announced that it plans to provide AIDS treatment to 3 million people, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa by 2005. The WHO said that that is four times the number set to be treated under all existing international plans, including President Bush's call to treat 2 million people in 14 countries by 2008.

## GERMANY - HEAD SCARVES

Germany's highest court ruled Wednesday that it cannot ban a Muslim teacher from wearing her veil in a public classroom because there are no laws prohibiting it. The court did not assert a Muslim's right to wear a veil in a public school, nor did it forbid any states from passing laws denying Muslims that right. France and other European countries are currently dealing with the same and similar issues in public schools.

## AFRICA

A Nigerian peasant woman, Amina

Lawal, who had been sentenced to death by stoning in March 2002 for committing adultery, was acquitted Friday by a 4 to 1 decision by the Katsina State Shariah Court of Appeals and is now a free woman. In Nigeria, 12 of the 36 states have enacted Islamic Shariah law since 1999. The decision was based on technicalities concerning the application of Islamic law during the initial investigation and trial. The sentence had been the subject of much international outrage.

## CALIFORNIA RECALL

In a reversal of last week's decision, the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruled Tuesday that the California governor's recall election can, in fact, take place on October 7th, even if questionable punch-card ballot machines have not yet been replaced in many districts. The court's unanimous decision was based on the belief that the public's need to hold the election on schedule outweighed the risks of ballot irregularities.

# Up 'Til Dawn: How to Turn Green into Life

## Fundraising Group Raises Money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

By SAMEER KHANJO AND VANESSA DUMONT  
Statesman Contributors

Three goals encompass the mission of Up 'Til Dawn: To make the sound of children laughing possible, to bring about innocent smiles on children's faces and giving everyone the knowledge that they can make the life of a sick child better.

Up 'Til Dawn bills itself as a student-led philanthropic program designed to give college students nationwide an opportunity to learn about its current mission: to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Founded by the late entertainer Danny Thomas, star of 1950's television, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

is located in Memphis, Tennessee. St. Jude's is world renown as one of the premier centers for research and treatment of diseases in children.

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is kept open solely on the kindness of donations. The cost of care for the children is paid for by the fundraising profits of groups like Up 'Til Dawn.

Executive Director Shelley Farsiar is leading the Stony Brook chapter of Up 'Til Dawn into its second full year. "I thought about how good of a cause it was, and that if I could spur on a little change, hopefully greater change can come from my efforts," said Farsiar. During opening year Up 'Til Dawn raised over \$10,000. Up 'Til Dawn has garnered the support of both IFSC and Campus Residences. Here at Stony Brook, Up 'Til Dawn is attempting to facilitate a meeting of the minds between students, faculty, and surrounding community with the goal of helping the St. Jude children.

Up 'Til Dawn's most successful

fundraising activities last year were letter writing and canning. "It was great knowing that spending some time with my friends was raising money to help the children at St. Jude," said sophomore Gina DelGaudio, a member of the Cardozo College fundraising team. The money raised from these activities is sent to St. Jude where it is divided among research, medical supplies, wigs and toys for the St. Jude children.

Here at Stony Brook the end of the year marks Up 'Til Dawn's Final Event; a celebration of hard work and a great culmination to the year. The grand finale is an all out party, with food and music. At the Final Event, the Executive Board of Up 'Til Dawn takes time out to thank all the participants and award those

teams that raised the most money. Last years winners were Omega Phi Beta and Eisenhower College.

This year Up 'Til Dawn is looking to build on the success of last year by incorporating more students and faculty, garnering more support from outside sponsors and engaging in more fund raising overall. Recruiting students is among the primary goals for this year's E-board. "It's a wonderful program and a good opportunity for anyone interested in learning more about the hospital and raising money for the children," said E-board member Clairee Bessell.

Anyone interested in becoming involved can pick up forms in SAC 219 or call Shelley Farsiar at 6-4891. Everyone is encouraged to participate.

## Your Headline Goes Here

YOUR NAME HERE  
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Joe Blow began writing for the Statesman in September. A few days later, his article was published. Statesman editors and Stony Brook news enthusiasts were thrilled.

"I can't believe Joe Blow sent us that article," said Marc Newman, Statesman Editor-In-Chief. "I mean, all it took was a few hours, and then he saw his name in print a few days later."

Joe Blow was once a typical Stony Brook student. He went from class to class, taking notes and studying for tests. "Often, I would complain to my friends that there was nothing to do at Stony Brook. Since I joined the Statesman, I realized how wrong I was," Blow said.

Joining the Statesman took one email to the Editors at [join\\_statesman@yahoo.com](mailto:join_statesman@yahoo.com). "All I asked them was 'what's a good article to write'. They assigned me a few days later, and I was set," said Blow.

Often students complain that it is difficult to know what events are happening on campus and when they are taking place. "Often I'll just stumble across an event I wished I knew about beforehand," said Jane Doe, a friend of Joe Blow. "Now that Joe joined the Statesman, I know about all events as they are happening. It's really great. I never feel like I'm in the dark knowing Joe."

According to experts, since the Statesman started publication in 1954, writing for the Statesman has looked great on a college resumes. The Statesman had won numerous awards from Newsday and other groups.

"I think the message here is that anyone can write a news article, and it is a really cool experience," said Blow.

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# Celebrating Hindu Culture

*Continued from Page 1*

said Shah.

"I heard about this from a friend, it just seemed like a interesting thing to check out," said freshman Michelle Abraham. "It ended up being really cool."

The community dance ran late into the night with sore-footed dancers still spinning and jumping. Even the balmy heat didn't deter the dancers.

"I think I danced for about three hours straight," said senior Megha Patel. "I was getting tired, but I didn't even realize it

because I was having so much fun."

Two years ago, the event was cancelled due to concerns that arose about safety after Sept. 11. Now in its second year back at Stony Brook, the festival is seeing an even larger crowd than it had in previous years.

"The turn out for the festival was great. It was nice that so many people got to share our Hindu culture," said Shah. "But we would like to advertise the event a little bit more and try to reach an even broader audience. I would really like to see more young people come and experience the traditions of Indian culture."



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

An Aarti, or offering, is used during the prayer in between celebrations.

# SBU's Dangerous Driving

*Continued from Page 1*

total disregard for others. [They are] carelessly speeding down the road," adds Ross Ratner, senior. "I have been commuting to campus for the past four years, and I don't think a day goes by that I don't see someone run a stop sign somewhere on campus."

University Police is out in full force trying to curb all violations and protect the safety of the campus community. "My officers are out there giving a lot of warnings, but they are giving a lot of summonses," Little said.

One of the more notorious violations on campus is cell phone usage while driving. Though New York State law prohibits talking on a cell phone without a headset, campus drivers constantly disregard the mandate.

"It's crazy," Little said. "People think they are in their living rooms talking to their family when they are driving this machine - this includes administrators, staff, visitors, and students."

"I drove behind a car that was weaving in and out of the lane because the driver was on his cell phone," said junior Jeff Kruszyna. "I slowed down to let him move further ahead of me because I didn't want to risk having an accident. I don't know what he was thinking because he was clearly all over the road - I wish everyone would just take driving more seriously."

Recounting numerous encounters

One of the more notorious violations on campus is cell phone usage while driving. Though New York State law prohibits talking on a cell phone without a headset, campus drivers constantly disregard the mandate.

with aggressive drivers, senior Eva Chrysanthopoulos said, "I hate pulling up to an intersection and not being given my right of way because they [the drivers] are always in such a rush to fly out of the parking lots. This has to end."

University police is working to increase awareness of these critical traffic problems on campus. "This is not just about the police department this is a community issue," Little said. "It is important to education drivers about safety and utilize enforcement."

To avoid needless accidents and traffic tickets, Little said, drivers should remember to obey all traffic laws on and off campus. As the saying goes, "It's better to arrive late than to never arrive at all."



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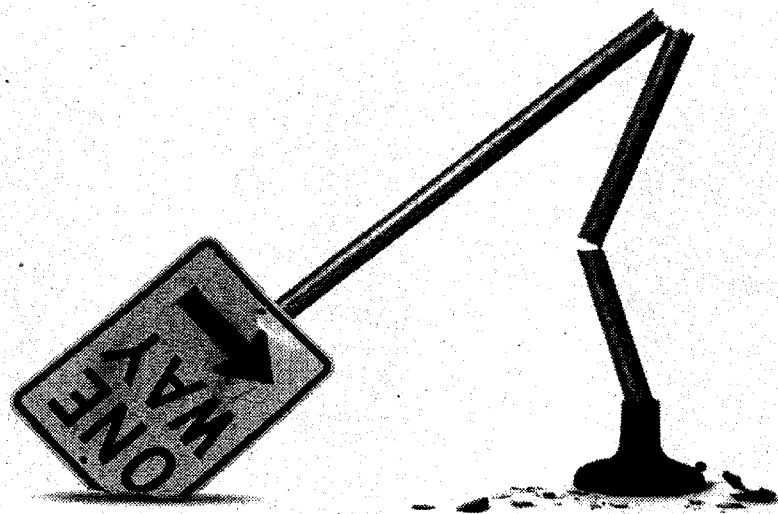
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# KaZaA's New Technology: Free Online Phone Calls

By FLORENCE OLSEN  
The Chronicle of Higher Education

The creators of KaZaA, a wildly popular software program for sharing music online, have started a new software business -- one that will let users make free phone calls over the Internet.

The software, known as Skype, is so new that officials at several colleges where KaZaA has been popular said they were unaware of it and of whether it is already being used on their campuses. Some analysts predict that Skype, or software like it, could become the next big thing on campuses. But it is not expected to be as disruptive to networks as KaZaA and other programs that students use for trading music and video files.

"I think students will glom onto this technology as fast as they can," said Cheryl Currid, President of Currid & Company, an information-technology research company in Houston, TX.

Some campus-computing officials said they would have to learn more about the software program before they could predict whether it would cause trouble on campus networks. Skype, like KaZaA, is a peer-to-peer program that finds and appropriates unused network bandwidth and computer resources.

Such programs do not behave as "responsible network citizens," said Michael R. Sherer, director of information technology at Goshen College in Indiana. "That's why you'll find antipathy towards the authors of these programs, regardless of what kinds of files they're sharing."

But Sherer said he suspected that phone

calls made over a campus network would not be too disruptive - or at least not nearly as complicated as downloading video, where you have multiple screens trying to download 700-megabyte files.

This week, Dartmouth College offered freshmen the option of downloading several varieties of "softphone" software onto their PC's for making free local and long-distance calls from the wireless network on campus. Cisco Systems is sponsoring the project, which studies the effects of voice traffic on wireless networks.

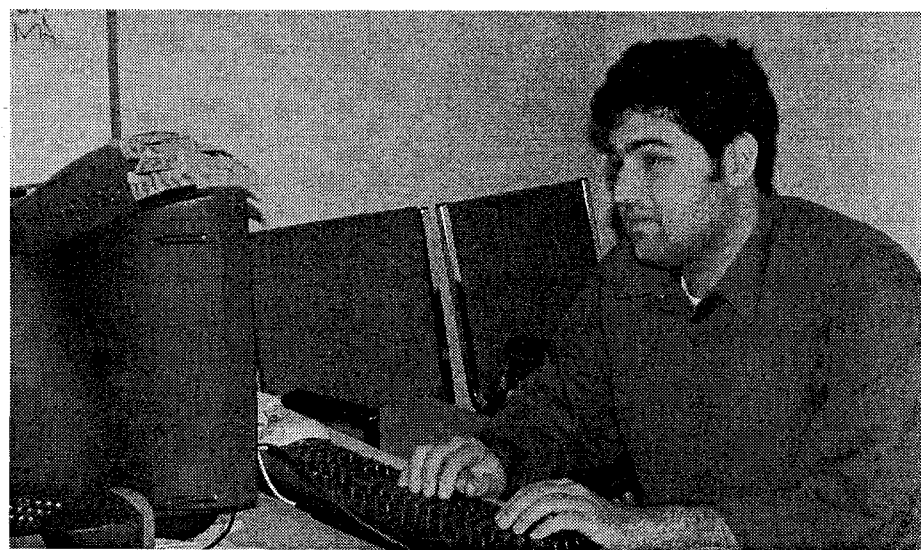
Skype uses voice-processing software

**If Skype were to become very popular, it could pose a threat to traditional telephone companies.**

from Global IP Sound, in San Francisco, CA. "We do all the voice coding and decoding, and we deal with the echo and with the delay," said Gary Hermansen, president and chief executive officer of Global IP Sound.

The basic Skype software is free and will remain free, but the company said it plans to develop additional services such as connectivity to the public telephone network, conference calling, and voice mail, for which it will charge users.

"We believe that the cheapest way for us to market our product is to give it away for free," said Niklas Zennstrom, the Chief Executive Officer of Skype Software, which



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

**Students will soon be able to use KaZaA's peer-to-peer computer networking to call their friends around the world for free.**

is based in Stockholm, Sweden. "This is all about the network effect," Zennstrom said. "The more people using Skype, the more valuable it becomes."

Currently, Skype works only on Windows XP and Windows 2000 platforms, but the company is planning to offer versions for other operating systems. Calling options are also limited -- Skype cannot be used to make 911 calls, for example, because 911 services are not equipped to take calls placed through the Internet. But company officials said they are working on a version of Skype that could be used to make phone calls to traditional telephones. Skype encrypts all phone calls, they said, to ensure caller privacy.

If Skype were to become very popular, it could pose a threat to conventional telephone companies, Currid said. And colleges that

resell long-distance telephone services to their students could feel a financial pinch. However, many colleges have already discontinued programs they used to have for reselling traditional long-distance service because students are using cellphones or inexpensive phone-calling cards instead.

"All of that stuff just sort of undercut the resale program," said Daniel Grim, Executive Director for Network and System Services at the University of Delaware. The University of Delaware is among the institutions that have stopped reselling long distance.

Grim said he did not think the peer-to-peer program was being used on his campus, but he thought it sounded like an interesting concept. "We thought we might download the thing and put it in our lab and play with it," said Grim.

## New Graduates Face Meager Employment Rates

*Continued from Page 1*

time you graduate. "Pick based on who you are, what you like," Savoca said.

Rodolico stressed that students should also have a passion for their field. "Ask yourself if you are in it for the money or if you enjoy it. I enjoy it," he said, referring to computer science which was the "hot" major his freshman year. "I think I made

Melanie Luk, Johnson's classmate, is currently working as a financial analyst for the company at which she interned while attending SBU. Her employers are also paying for her masters. Her advice to those graduating seniors: "Don't wait for last minute." Luk stressed the importance of starting early with your job search to get the best results.

"You need to know that you are terrific. You need to reflect your experience [at SBU] to the market," said Savoca.

Recent graduates agree. "Half of my learning experience was from getting involved," said Johnson, a former Student Ambassador at SBU.

Rodolico, who interned for Merrill Lynch and Keyspan, echoed the importance of college experiences. "The way you work in school is the way you work in the job market," he said. "You form your work ethics in college, so you really have to push yourself."

The undergraduate degrees that are most in demand are business and technology, whereas education and engineering fall at the bottom of recruiters' lists.

the right decision."

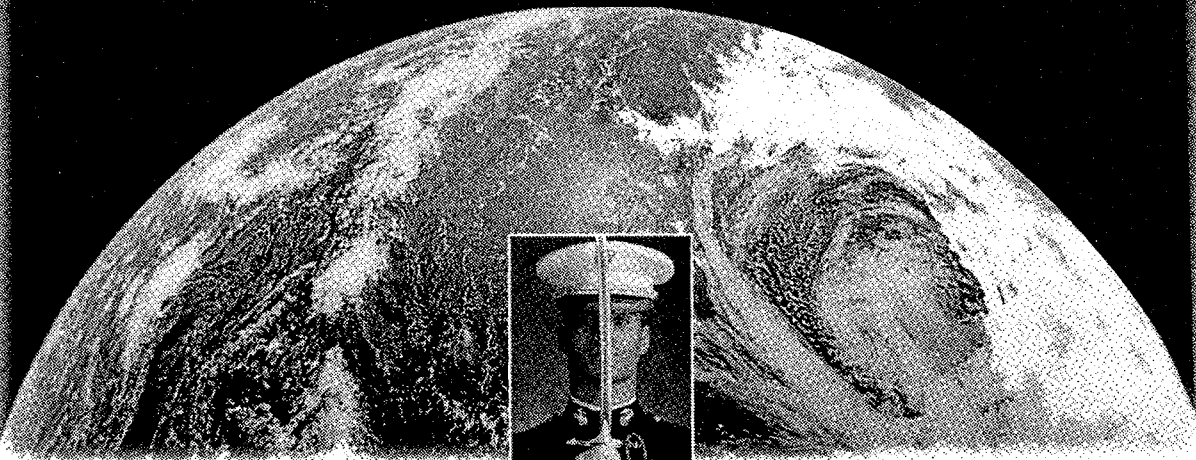
Not only do juniors and seniors feel the pressure of planning a career, underclassmen feel the stress also. The Career Center urges students to prepare for their careers throughout their undergraduate years. As in the past, the market can be highly unpredictable, and current reports remain ambiguous about hiring standards for years to come.

Savoca encourages students to take advantage of the Career Center, which offers workshops, seminars and resources to anyone looking to plan a career. It also offers classes for credit to help students choose a major. The Center helps students with internships and part time jobs, a facet the *New York Times* Job Market claims is a plus with hiring managers.

Stony Brook alumnus Brian Johnson, class of 2003, related his experiences following graduation.

"I know friends who graduated with me that still don't have a job," said Johnson, who is currently attending law school at St. John's University. He suggests that students looking to work after college should take on internships.

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## Editorial

# Breaking the Cycle of Apathy: Express an Opinion, Any Opinion

By MARC NEWMAN  
Statesman Editor

**M**ore soldiers have died in international conflict for the US in Afghanistan and Iraq since 2001 than in 1963 and 1964, the first two years of what would later come to be called *The Vietnam War*. Hundreds of thousands of soldiers remain abroad, and the international agenda of the United States steams forward.

528 U.S. businesses, worth billions of dollars, and 67 percent of Americans have been convicted of a crime. Since I started writing for the *Statesman* three years ago, the number of unemployed people in this country has nearly doubled. Thirty-six million Americans live below the poverty line: that's \$18,000 a year for a family of four. That's \$375 per person, per month. That's \$12 a day. Thirty-six million people have less than \$12 a day to live on. For a little perspective: 40 million people live in the country of Spain.

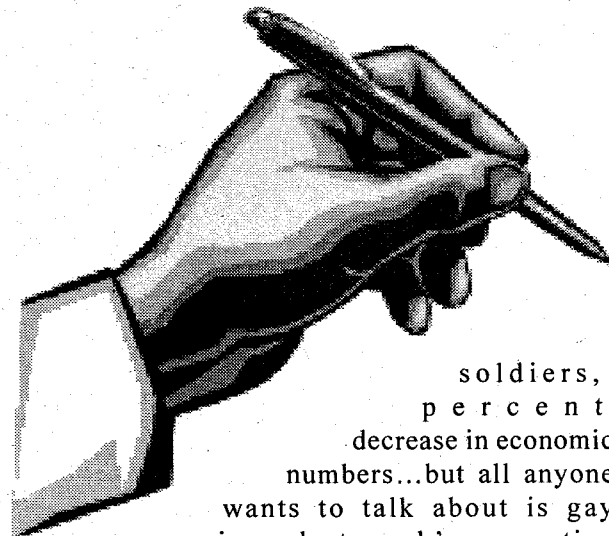
The average salary in the U.S. is \$79,000. But that doesn't mean a whole lot when the average salary of a CEO is \$12 million. The median U.S. salary is \$42,000. That's down 3 percent over the past two years. CEO's salaries, however, have gone up a nifty 5 percent during that time.

None of this seems good for 'regular'

So where is the political uproar? Every major media outlet spouts out statistics: number of dead soldiers, percent decrease in economic numbers...but all anyone wants to talk about is gay marriage, last week's respective football/baseball game, do not call lists or some debate between unknown politicians in California.

Americans. If you've watched CNN, read Newsweek or TIME, listened to NPR or the most conservative of radio stations, no one will tell you that America is 'going in the right direction.' Oh, that's right, 40 percent are willing to say that (Gallup Poll, Sept. '03).

So where is the political uproar? Every major media outlet spouts out statistics: number of dead



soldiers, percent decrease in economic numbers...but all anyone wants to talk about is gay marriage, last week's respective football/baseball game, do not call lists or some debate between unknown politicians in California. Rather than hearing debates between politicians from the likes of Fox News or CNN, I see re-runs of the recall debate in California: "Yeah, you should go to a place for addicted people or something," harks Arnold.

Commentary flows in and out of the *Statesman*, and much of it embraces our commentary page. Overall though, while impressed with much of the effort our new and sprawling journalism staff has made on campus, covering events or uncovering a hard to find Stony Brook news story, I've been disappointed with the interest in the politics that seem to be affecting everyone. A lot of people are without jobs and people are sitting on radiators in classrooms. The only politically motivated thing I hear from anyone is an e-mail from a close friend: "Vote Wesley Clark 2004. He's going to be our next President!"

I want some political discourse here people. WRITE IN TO THE STATESMAN and tell us HOW YOU FEEL. I swear, if you watch any news at all, you would think there is some class war going on between the people with a lot of money, and the people without any money who know someone dying overseas.

So send us your commentary. Do you like any of these Democrats running who claim they can beat George W Bush? Do you think 9/11 is all but forgotten?...Maybe something less global...Do you think overcrowding on campus is acceptable? Do you think your education is so-so? Scratch *Anything Else*, a movie I saw two weekends ago; every movie currently playing in theaters is horrible, so spare us any reviews. Write about something that's interesting and affects everyone. Plus you get to see your name in print. I've seen it like a hundred times and it's still pretty amusing. Grab that napkin next to your SAC meal, grab that notebook that you only dreamt of filling in with actual notes, and write about an experience everyone can relate to. It's news, and we all want to see more of it.

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# A THOUGHT FROM RABBI ADAM



Describing the process that starts with Rosh Hashanah (this past weekend) and concludes on Yom Kippur (next Mon. 10/6), the Jewish prayer book writes, "On Rosh Hashanah they are inscribed (for blessing) and on the fast day of Yom Kippur they are sealed (for blessing)". This process can be likened to a strategy planning committee where after an idea is agreed upon, it takes many more committee meetings before the idea is adequately formulated for implementation. Since Rosh Hashanah is when G-d determines what will happen for the upcoming year, our prayers represent a sort of "committee brainstorming" upon which G-d formulates the coming year's blessings based on the input of our supplications. However, the final "committee meeting" isn't until Yom Kippur. Where on Rosh Hashanah a person's blessing is "written," on Yom Kippur it is "sealed" for immediate implementation. The difference between "written" and "sealed" is the degree of the surety of implementation. That which is written but yet to be sealed, is not as sure to be implemented as that which is already sealed. Similarly, on Rosh Hashanah we redirected our hearts towards G-d and our Jewish identity. But for full implementation, our actions must mirror the redirection of our hearts. Thus the days leading up to Yom Kippur are called "Days of Repentance" where we work on changing our actions for the better: we ask forgiveness from friends we may have insulted and regret past wrongs. It is not until Yom Kippur that we resolve towards the future. The last step before implementation. The "sealing" of our blessing for a sweet new year.

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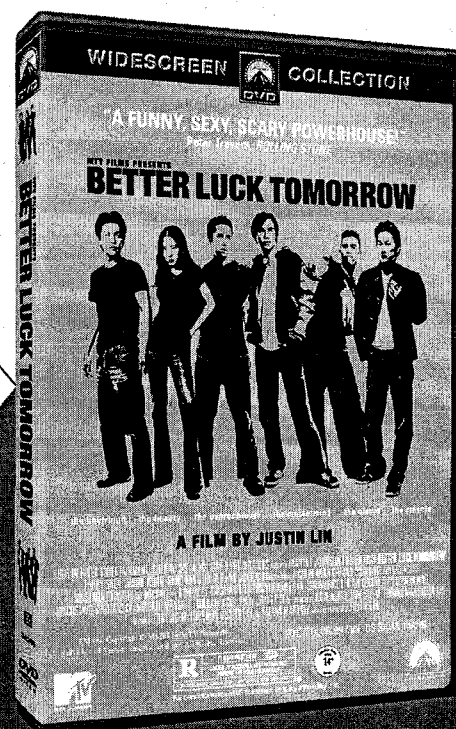
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# How to Have Not Such a Good Time in Mexico

MANSOOR KHAN  
Statesman Editor

*Desperado* was a good movie. It had the perfect mix of action and suspense, drama and romance. *Once Upon a Time in Mexico* had the imperfect mix of Enrique Iglesias and a blowtorch guitar case. What's clearly (and I mean crystal) portrayed as an action/romance movie in the previews is, in reality, carried out in a very different manner: much more slapstick than you would expect.

Johnny Depp is cool. Antonio Banderas is cool. Salma Hayak is gorgeous. So what could possibly go wrong? A whole lot. Writer/director Robert Rodriguez constructed a bewilderingly complex storyline filled with confusing subplots, stereotypical

characters and super-human heroics, that are grindingly stupid and violent.

*Once Upon a Time in Mexico* is a mass confusion of shady Mexican politics, involving revolution, a vicious cartel kingpin (Willem Dafoe) and the ubiquitous coup d'état. Lurking in the shadows is corrupt CIA Agent Sands (Johnny Depp) who provokes the players into undesirable acts fraught with peril. Treachery and sabotage bump up against betrayal, rendering the entire story a jumble of bloody anarchy. The

bottom line is, El Mariachi (Antonio Banderas) is to exact the ultimate revenge on the vicious military general who took the life of the only woman he has ever loved (Salma Hayak).

Throw in some seriously intermingled twists, including a retired FBI agent exacting revenge for his murdered ex-partner, Dafoe's daughter being a member of some task force or another, and a Chihuahua playing spy games for an American fugitive, and you can revert to the old saying, "Too many cooks spoils the soup."

What went wrong? The movie would have played wonderfully if I



Courtesy of Columbia Pictures

Robert Rodriguez, Antonio Banderas and Enrique Iglesias play a gang of guitar-playing gunners.

Johnny Depp is cool. Antonio Banderas is cool. Salma Hayak is gorgeous. So what could possibly go wrong? A whole lot.

took it seriously. But as soon as Johnny Depp shot a chef for making his eggs and bacon too "mmm-mmm delicious," I let go. Antonio Banderas should play a serious character, and he did, but the movie around him was too much. I like action movies. I like comedies. But they have to be mixed together with just the right touch for them to be effective as a couple (for instance, *Bad Boys 2*).

Banderas has very little dialogue, and barely utters more than a sentence in any one scene. Salma Hayak is seen only in flashbacks, which was quite a disappointment. Instead, we get too much Enrique Iglesias. He can sing,

sure, but he should stay on the stage, and off the screen.

The gore runs thick as a river throughout the imaginary Mexican village, complete with a triple-digit body count. Rodriguez runs into narrative trouble mid-way through, relying heavily on tamale-Western cliché to make his point. It's completely and utterly illogical, random and unfocused.

The movie is a bit crude, but I have to admit that it was quite snappy. I can't deny that it was fun to watch, although the aftertaste was a bit dull. I like a movie that bites, not nibbles.



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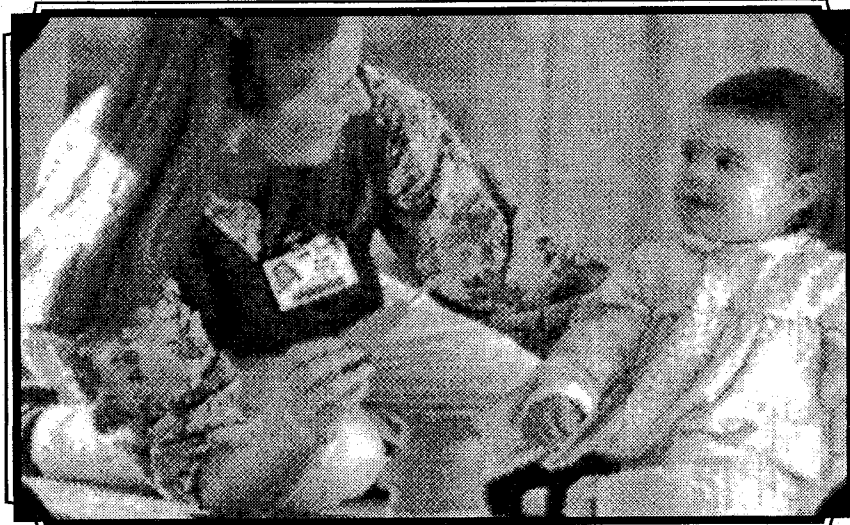
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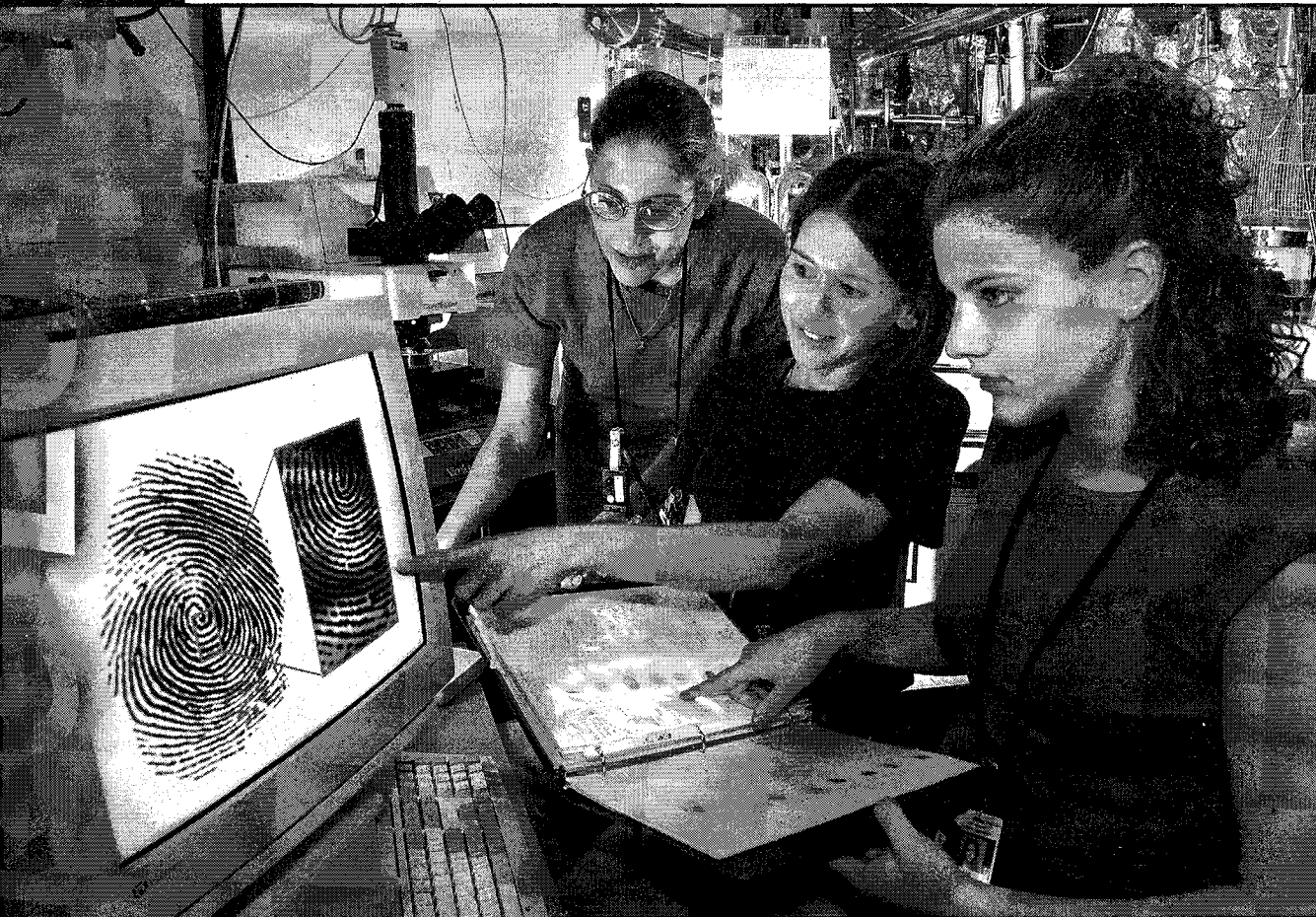
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At Brookhaven Lab's National Synchrotron Light Source, scientist Lisa Miller (center) mentors student interns.

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## Football Suffers Home Defeat

*Continued from Page 12*



*Courtesy of SBU-TV*

SBU prepared its defense for what amounted to a comeback victory for Manmouth.

"He hurt his neck. He was conscious and moving, I thought that was a good sign," said Seawolves Coach Sam Kornhauser about Billy Buntin's injury.

The last time these two teams

"We respect them as a team. We knew they were good, we knew we were good. It was going to be a dogfight and that is what it turned out to be."

*Clinton Graham*

met was on October 12, 2002. Monmouth defeated the Seawolves, 14-9.

"We respect them as a team. We knew they were good, we knew we were good. It was going to be a dogfight and that is what it turned out to be," said Graham.

Graham just came back an ankle injury, which kept him off the field last season. Graham was forced to miss the season for academic reasons.

"Physically, I feel fine. It's all about mental," said Graham.

Kornhauser said the Seawolves worked hard in this game.

"I think our guys played awfully hard. Guys are disappointed. They feel terrible that they lost. The coaches feel terrible that they lost," said Kornhauser.

Next on the schedule for the Seawolves is their first away game of the season, after three consecutive home games. They will travel to Pennsylvania to play the Robert Morris Colonials at Moon Stadium on Oct. 4, with kickoff scheduled for 1:30 p.m.

## SEAWOLVES SCOREBOARD:

**Tuesday, Sept. 23**

Women's Soccer vs. St. John's  
Lost 2-0

**Wednesday, Sept. 24**

Men's Soccer vs. Sacred Heart  
Tied 1-1

**Friday, Sept. 26**

Women's Soccer vs. Fairfield  
Lost 1-0 in overtime

**Saturday, Sept. 27**

Women's Volleyball vs. Yale  
Won 3-0 (30-24, 30-19 and 30-26)

## Volleyball Win Against Manhattan

*Continued from Page 12*

fell behind early, and though they tied the game at 20, the Seawolves could not secure a lasting lead. Manhattan ran away with the contest late, using their defense to keep Stony Brook at bay.

"Manhattan is a tough team," said Head Coach Deborah Majetka. "They serve well, and they picked it up on defense."

"They are a pretty good team and they play good defense," she said. "They picked up some good balls," said Harry.

Stony Brook fell behind early in the fourth game and with Manhattan's solid defense, it seemed as if the Seawolves might have fallen for good. The Seawolves surrendered the lead a few times, and gave a few points up to errors. Although these could have been costly, the SBU held on to win the set and the match.

"We made eight service errors and six reception errors," said Majetka.

That's 14 points you give to the other team right away."

Stony Brook is now looking to keep unforced errors in check. Manhattan's errors, which totaled higher than SBU's, may have helped contribute to win.

Rachel Goldsmith's all-around performance lead the Seawolves. She recorded 25 kills and 12 digs, completing a double-double. The match against Manhattan gives Stony Brook four straight wins, bringing the team to a record of 5-8 for the season.

Despite the victory, the team is not settling down for the season. They are still working hard to prepare for conference matchups, but recent wins have given the Seawolves a confidence boost.

"[Winning] feels really good; it's a big relief," said Goldsmith. "The defense has picked up, and we are clicking and talking more on the court. We are coming together as a team. If we keep working hard and stick to it, we'll keep winning matches."

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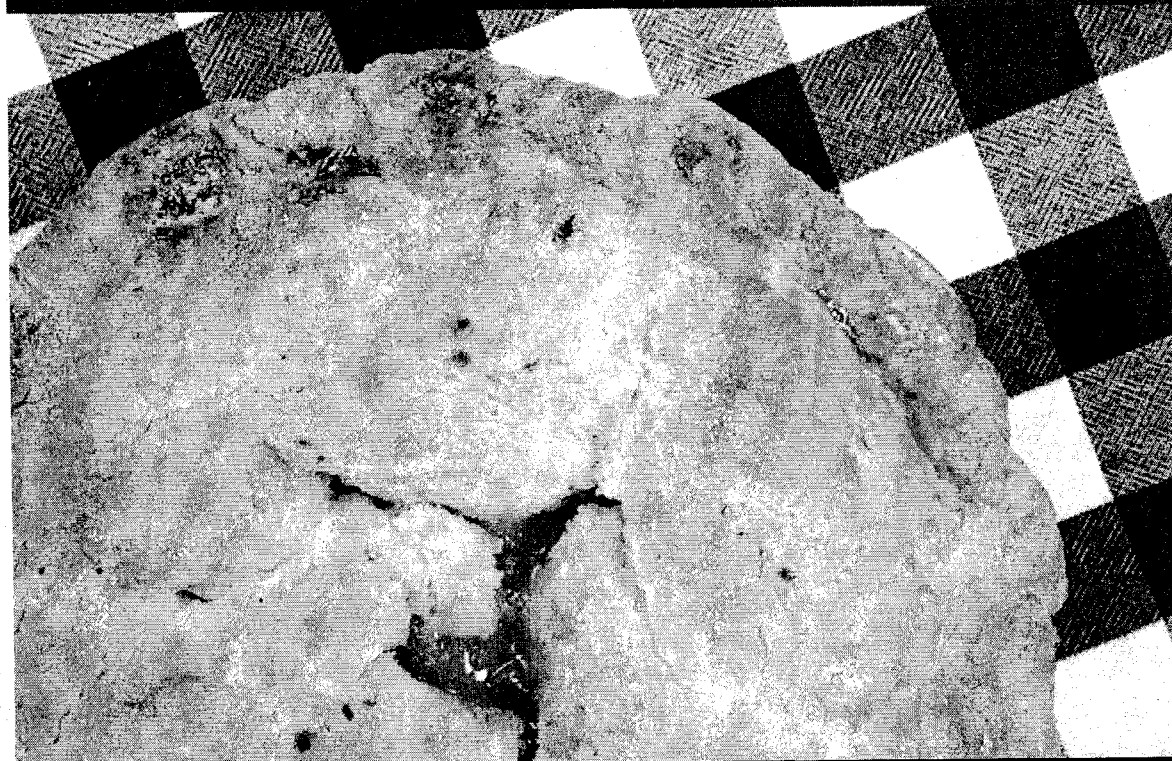
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# Sports

## SBU Seawolves Lose 14-20 at LaValle Stadium

### Loss Ends 8-Game Undefeated Streak at Home

By DANA GOMI  
Statesman Staff

The Stony Brook Seawolves were unable to hold off the Monmouth Hawks this past Saturday, losing 20-14 at LaValle Stadium, in the Ray Downey Heroes Classic. The loss snapped the Seawolves' 8-game undefeated streak at home.

The Seawolves started strong, taking an early lead in the first quarter. T.J. Moriarty put together an eight-play, 50-yard drive that ended with a three-yard touchdown. The extra point was good and brought the lead to 7-0.

Both teams went scoreless for the entire second quarter. The Seawolves' effective defense held the Hawks to only 68 yards for the entire half. At halftime, the score was still 7-0, in favor of the Seawolves.

In the third quarter, the Hawks

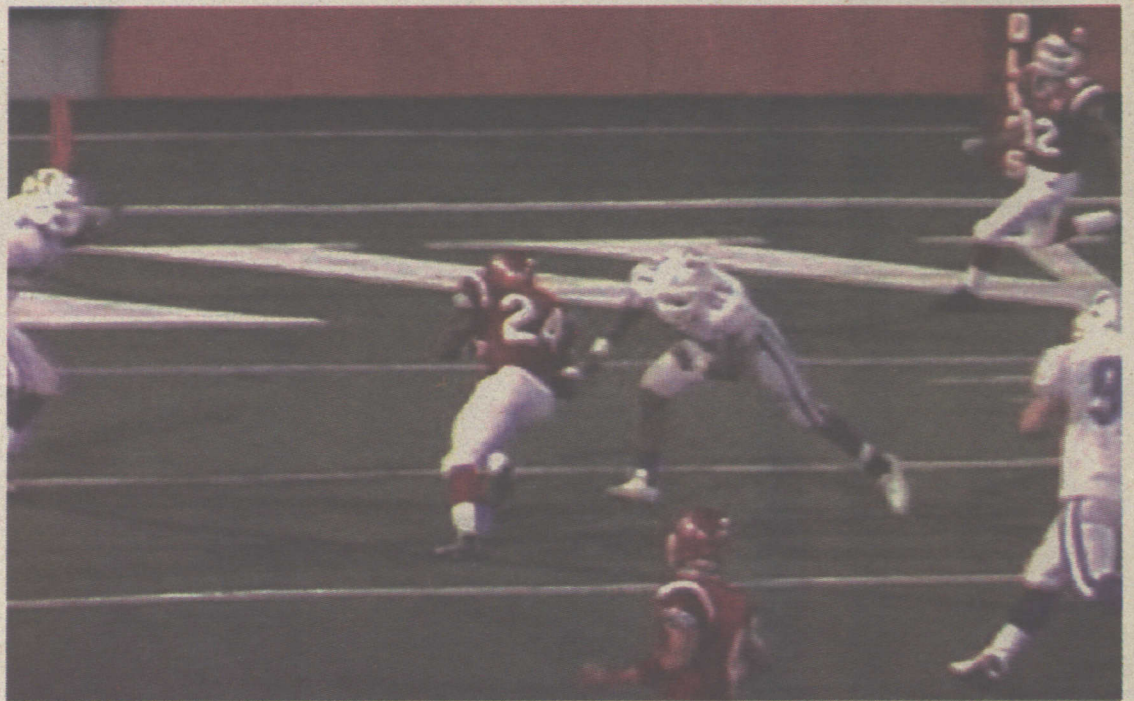
got back into the game. The Hawks' Brian Boland hit Miles Austin with a 13-yard fade by the end zone, tying the game at 7-7.

In the fourth quarter the Hawks took their first lead of the game when the Hawks' Steve Andriola kicked a 27-yard field goal to make it 10-7.

Later in the fourth quarter, the Hawks recovered a fumble from Moriarty at the Stony Brook 31-yard line, which led to a one-yard touchdown

by the Hawks' Bobby Smith and a 20-7 Hawks lead.

The Seawolves attempted a comeback, and a late 24-yard touchdown by Londre Blocker with 49 seconds left in the game brought the Seawolves within 20-14. The Seawolves onside kick that



Courtesy of SBU-TV

SBU wide receiver Londre Blocker scored a pivotal touchdown that kept SBU ahead until the fourth quarter.

followed had both teams scrambling to recover the ball. It looked like the Seawolves recovered the kick, but the Hawks' David Jiles came out with the ball, securing the win.

Clinton Graham played a good game, rushing a game-high 119 yards on 23 carries. Blocker caught

eight passes for 74 yards.

The Seawolves received bad news in the fourth quarter, when Billy Buntin injured his neck. He was taken off the field on a stretcher and rushed to the emergency room.

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## SBU Girls' Volleyball Tops Manhattan 3-1

JOHN NOBLE  
Statesman Staff

Rachel Goldsmith completed a double-double and Tesha Harry contributed 15 kills and a .591 hit percentage as the Stony Brook Seawolves defeated the Manhattan Jaspers, 3-1, at the Sports Complex on Thursday.

The first game was representative of the match as a whole; it was close, hard-fought and dominated by defense. Though Stony Brook and Manhattan were tied for most of the game, Tesha Harry's performance helped Stony Brook snatch the victory.

"It feels great to win," Harry said after the game. "Overall, I feel good because we played well. Stony Brook has worked hard on defense, and it showed tonight. We have to keep working on blocks and defense, we have to play consistently. She recorded six block assists, which led the team.

Although the Seawolves held the lead throughout most of the second set, the match was close, as the lead shifted



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

Tesha Harry provided offensive spark with 15 kills to defeat Manhattan.



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

Rachel Goldsmith had 25 kills and 12 digs that kept SBU ahead of Manhattan.

back and forth a few times. However, Stony Brook was able to settle down and regain the lead for good, ultimately claiming another victory.

The momentum appeared to shift in the third set, however. Stony Brook

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