

Strawberry
Festival
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the stony brook
Statesman

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Roth Regatta

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Anti-Abortion Protest at Stony Brook

By MAURY HIRSCHKORN
Contributing Writer

Planned Parenthood's all-day conference in the Student Activities Center on April 15th began with facing an hour long demonstration against abortion by the Long Island Coalition for Life. Thirty anti-abortion protesters gathered at the main entrance of Stony Brook University, and one anti-abortion protester stood at the south entrance of the university. They held up large pictures of aborted fetuses and healthy babies for people entering and leaving the campus to see.

"[Our protest] was to raise the public's awareness that Planned Parenthood is the largest provider of abortions in America,"

said Jerome Higgins, chairman of Long Island Coalition for Life. Higgins organized and headed the protest.

The graphic images of aborted fetuses disturbed many people, and numerous college employees complained to University Police about them.

To Higgins and the other protesters, abortion is the same as killing babies. Reina Schifffrin, CEO of Planned Parenthood disagrees. "Since Roe v. Wade, abortion is legal in this country," she said. Roe v. Wade was the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the first three months of pregnancy.

Besides providing abortions and abortion referrals, Planned Parenthood provides family plan-

ning counseling, pregnancy testing and counseling, gynecological care, sexuality education, adoption referrals and other family planning services. "We have a full range of options, including family planning, adoption referral, neo-natal care and education," said Schifffrin. "We're the largest provider of pap smears. Eighty percent of the services we provide are prevention services, and five percent is termination."

Higgins said that Long Island Coalition for Life has a presence at all of Planned Parenthood's events and meetings. Schifffrin disputes that. "Anti-choice groups don't usually have demonstrations at our events," she said. "But five or six of them usually have demonstrations at our medical center

in Smithtown when abortions are being provided there."

Schifffrin also condemns the tactics that people against abortion use at demonstrations. "People have a right to protest, but I don't approve of their bullying and intimidating tactics of having photos of supposed aborted fetus and [displaying] the names of doctors at our centers who perform abortions," she said.

The Planned Parenthood conference in the SAC consisted of several workshops. According to Suzanne Witzenburg, director of education and training for Planned Parenthood, around 70 people attended. "Teachers, nurses, social workers and other education professionals were there," she said.

One of the workshops entitled "Creating Safer Spaces" was about how to help gay and lesbian teenagers understand their sexual identity. Another workshop entitled "No Body's Perfect" was about how to help young people accept their bodies when advertisers constantly barrage them with millions of images of what a "perfect" body looks like. Another workshop entitled, "Teens and Relationships" was about how to help teenagers in abusive relationships.

"There were real life, real talk workshops," said Lisa Winjum, director of public affairs and communications for Planned Parenthood.

Don't take student events for granted!

By LAUREN MUTZ
Opinions Editor

Programs and events don't just come together on their own—planning and implementing them can take a great deal of time and effort and require good teamwork and leadership skills. More than one thing is required to assure that a program runs smoothly and, possibly more importantly, that you can actually get people to show up.

First, you need an idea—which is probably the most difficult part of the process. The idea should meet most, if not all, of the following criteria: 1) the program is something your club or organiza-

tion can afford, 2) it serves some educational, social, or 'other' function, and 3) it is something that people will be inclined to attend because it meets one (or more) of their needs.

Second, you will need to publicize your event, which is where a good "Public Relations" and marketing sense comes into play. Fliers, phone calls, emails, "facebook" messages, and word-of-mouth will be necessary to assure people are aware of the event and of its relevance and/or potential benefit to them.

Next, you need to actually plan and organize your event—which can mean a variety of things. If your event includes food, you

will need to make arrangements to purchase or to cater in food. You will also need to secure a room/location for your event. You may have to make arrangements with special guest speakers, performers, or bands (if this is the type of event you are holding). Other possible considerations include: preparing an itinerary, getting permission from building owners or managers, and assuring you have access to all necessary accommodations.

Finally, you will need to complete all necessary "clean up" activities, including: sending out "thank you" notes, paying off all debts incurred, and assuring that everything you used for the event

is returned to the owners and that no traces (or messes) remain.

But what kind of person (or persons) does it take to do all this? Well, I'd say it takes individuals who are passionate about what they are "trying to sell" so to speak (because this helps attract people to your event), have a good business and marketing sense, organizational skills, and can work well with others. In my own personal opinion, the working well with others is most important because having a team who can collaborate by sharing responsibilities and tasks are most likely to have success. And, although it is possible for one person to run a program or event, it is much better

to have a collaborative or group effort. Having a team of cohesive and interconnected leaders will improve the quality of the program or event, and allow for a spread, or range, of ideas and perspectives. Also, having more than one responsible person helps to take the burden off the one (which provides more time to prepare a creative, functional program).

So, the next time you go to an event or program, don't take it for granted! The individuals or officers in charge probably expended a great deal of time and effort to assure everything runs smoothly and that it meets all of your expectations and needs.

Democratic values in SBU students

By JOHN NOBLE
Contributing Writer

A tall, thin man walks into the room. It is Helmut Norpoth, a professor of political science at Stony Brook. He has on a pair of aviator sunglasses to help shield his eyes from the warm April sun. He has a grin on his face as he enters, a strange expression to have as he gets ready to talk about the serious issue of Constitutional rights.

According to evidence in a recent CNN poll, 50% of high school seniors believe that the First Amendment goes "too far." This trend continues into col-

lege, as students in Norpoth's class expressed willingness to abridge the speech of groups including the Ku Klux Klan and Professor Ward Churchill, who said that the victims of 9/11 deserved what they got.

This trend, however, is not new, according to Norpoth.

"It's not new. It's been around for 30, 40, 50 years. As long as people have taken opinion polls, they've noticed that," said Norpoth, who specializes in public opinion polling and election forecasting. He also said that the specific groups that the public wants to silence change, but the overall trend

does not.

The numbers, according to William H. Flanagan, author of Political Behavior of the American Electorate, bolster Norpoth's opinion:

-48% of Americans support stopping crime even at the risk of reducing rights.

-42% of Americans say they don't mind a politician's methods, as long as they got the right things done.

-33% of Americans say that almost any unfairness or brutality is justified when some great purpose is being carried out.

"Totally in the abstract,

if you read into it, most people wouldn't have a problem with it" Norpoth says of extending rights to all groups. Behind him, John F. Kennedy's smiling visage imposes you to vote for him. "They say, 'Should government make any laws to infringe on freedom of speech, censorship,' people would say no."

"But, let's say in an age of terrorism, where you think that maybe people could take advantage, you have to be able to make some restrictions. Then they would be saying, 'Yeah, I don't mind some restrictions.'"

During a classroom dis-

cussion, students were asked whether they support democratic values such as free speech and the freedom to peaceably assemble. The answer was overwhelmingly positive. However, when asked about a specific case involving a person who belittled the victims of 9/11, the reaction was lukewarm. Almost the entire class of 25 agreed there should be some restriction on that kind of speech.

Not all students felt this way, however. Pete Densing is a political science student at Stony Brook and one of Norpoth's stu-

Continued on page 3

Democratic values...

Continued from page 2

dents. Usually wearing an old cap over his long, curly hair, Denning looks like someone who might have been a radical in a past era. He doesn't sound like it, although he feels he is, by today's standards.

"I think it's alarming that people are willing to abridge freedom of speech to keep other people from saying harmful things," Denning said. He thinks that things that are "simply emotionally disturbing and 'harmful' to some people" constitute insufficient grounds for compromising free speech.

Denning expressed trepidation at this concept. However, experts say that there is little danger in this being used by unscrupulous politicians. There are several reasons why.

First, according to polling research conducted by Leonie Huddy, a colleague of Norpoth's, the public seems to support undemocratic values in the abstract as well, but does not support them when specifics are applied. This is the same attitude that they have toward democratic values as well.

Support for the monitoring of phone lines and e-mails peaked at 59% when the target of this action was unidentified. It dropped sharply to 26% when those taking the survey were the target.

In addition, the political author Flanigan sees the major political parties as a stabilizing force.

"The parties and the public's attachment to them are often seen as preventing political change," Flanigan writes. "They

can also be seen as encouraging stability and preserving a democratic system by lessening the likelihood of a demagogue's rise to power."

While the experts say that democracy in America will continue like it always has, Denning still feels concerned about the government, or other officials, using this to their advantage. He feels that by playing on this willingness and the current climate of fear, the government can get people to agree to things they wouldn't normally agree with.

"I am alarmed at the use of fear, but am not surprised at it," Denning said. "I do think, unfortunately, that even John Kerry was guilty of frightening people with the terror card. And I'm a Democrat."



A THOUGHT
FROM
RABBI ADAM



Once, a Chassidic Jew went to take counsel with his Rebbe, the holy Tzemach Tzedek of Lubavitch. He was plagued with doubts of faith and he was seeking guidance from the Rebbe. After explaining his situation, the Tzemach Tzedek remarked, "So what? Why do you care?" "But Rebbe", exclaimed the Chasid, "I am a Jew!" "Well," said the Rebbe, "in that case, everything is fine" For doubts are okay, because growth in the spiritual realm is a process. Along the way are bumps, insecurities and doubts. Sometimes things ring true. Other times things seem hard to swallow. This is particular true for the Jewish experience. For Judaism is more than a belief in G-d. Rather, it is a way of life that expresses a specific connection with G-d by doing "Mitzvot". Doubts of faith arise when these ritualistic nuances seem to be more like ritualistic nuisances. But whatever the case, belief in G-d is constant, for G-d is more of a reality than a tenant of religion. And just as reality is not a matter of particular belief, so too G-d is not a matter of religion. The same is true with one's connection to G-d. Since G-d is a reality, the ability to connect to Him through the Mitzvot is real. Doubts are just doubts. They are part of the growth process. So what do you care?

Rabbi Adam

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Interfaith Center, Stony Brook
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Statesman production meetings are held throughout the day on Wednesdays and Sundays in Rm 057 in the basement of the Student Union. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newspaper is welcome to attend these meetings.

The Statesman encourages readers to submit opinions and commentaries to the following address:

Stony Brook Statesman
PO Box 1530
Stony Brook, NY 11790

phone: (631) 632-6479
fax: (631) 632-9128

Email us at:
comments@sbstatesman.org

To view previous issues, extra material, and to learn about how to get involved with the Statesman, visit our website at sbstatesman.org.

For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632-6480.

WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucolian" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975 "The Statesman" was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student-run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography staff are student volunteers while its business staff are professionals.

The Stony Brook Statesman is published twice-weekly on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the fall and spring semesters.

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USG Election Results

Your Student Activity Fee at Work

VP of Communications*

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Yarisantos, Victoria Arcangel	611	35
2 Rogers, Samone Lakeema	545	32
3 Reyes, Nichole Louise	573	33

VP of Student Life

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Jean-Baptiste, Romual	1463	100

Senior Class Representative

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Bristol, Annlyn	485	56
2 Crespo, Gianna Ivanneza	384	44

Junior Class Representative

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Jain, Kanika	391	100

Sophomore Class Representative

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Nacmias, Michael	121	45
2 Hernandez, Ana	148	55

Senator for College of Engineering

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Sysak, Walter Basil	133	53
2 Fasano, Alyssa Teresa	116	47

President

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Acosta, Diana	1141	65
2 Nassimi, Ilan	610	35

Executive Vice President

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Hsu, Jui-Che	677	41
2 Darguin, Samuel Karl	961	59

Treasurer

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Wu, Jackey	1304	100

VP of Academic Affairs

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Onochie, Chinelo Ann	1345	100

VP of Clubs and Organizations

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Narvaez, Francisco Alberto	851	48
2 Thomas, Ralph	922	52

Senators of Arts and Sciences

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 Wisnoski, Amy Catherine	692	8
2 Reichman, Jonathan Emanuel	688	8
3 Shih, Enyu	673	8
4 Vyas, Nigam Gunjan	583	7
5 Glas, Aryeh	666	7
6 Amin, Amol Bhupendra	604	7
7 Patel, Milap S	636	7
8 Patel, Natasha	715	8
9 Khan, Tanzim	598	7
10 Gross, Marc Jared	672	7
11 Grewal, Simardip Yingh	583	7
12 Cohan, Michael	659	7
13 Toor, Jaspreet Singh	589	7
14 Pawar, Ajay	605	7

The Undergraduate Student Government is considering the benefits to filing for not-for-profit Section 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. If it wishes to do so, the constitution must include the attached language in the Constitution. Do you support an amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government wherein Article II, Section 2 shall be amended as follows:

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 NO	318	20
2 YES	1282	80

Do you support an amendment to the Constitution of the Undergraduate Student Government wherein Article III, Section 3.B.4. is repealed, and Article III, Section 3.B.2. shall be amended as follows:

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 NO	351	23
2 YES	1194	77

Do you wish to continue to support a chapter of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) at its current level of \$6.00 per fee-paying student per semester for the next three years? Please visit www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/nypirg for more information about NYPIRG.

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 NO	413	19
2 YES	1783	81

Do you wish to continue allocating \$.50 per student per semester (\$1.00 per academic year) to Roth Regatta? Please visit www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/regatta for more information.

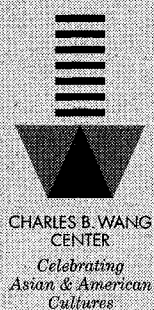
Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 NO	647	32
2 YES	1381	68

Do you wish to increase the allocation by \$.50 per student per semester (\$1.00 per academic year) to Roth Regatta to hold a Fall event? Please visit www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/regatta for more information.

Name	Total Votes	Total Vote %
1 NO	1167	58
2 YES	839	42

Correction:

The article entitled "Baseball 2-1 in Albany series" was incorrectly attributed to Eugene Kozlovsky. The article was actually written by Mary Vanderhyde.



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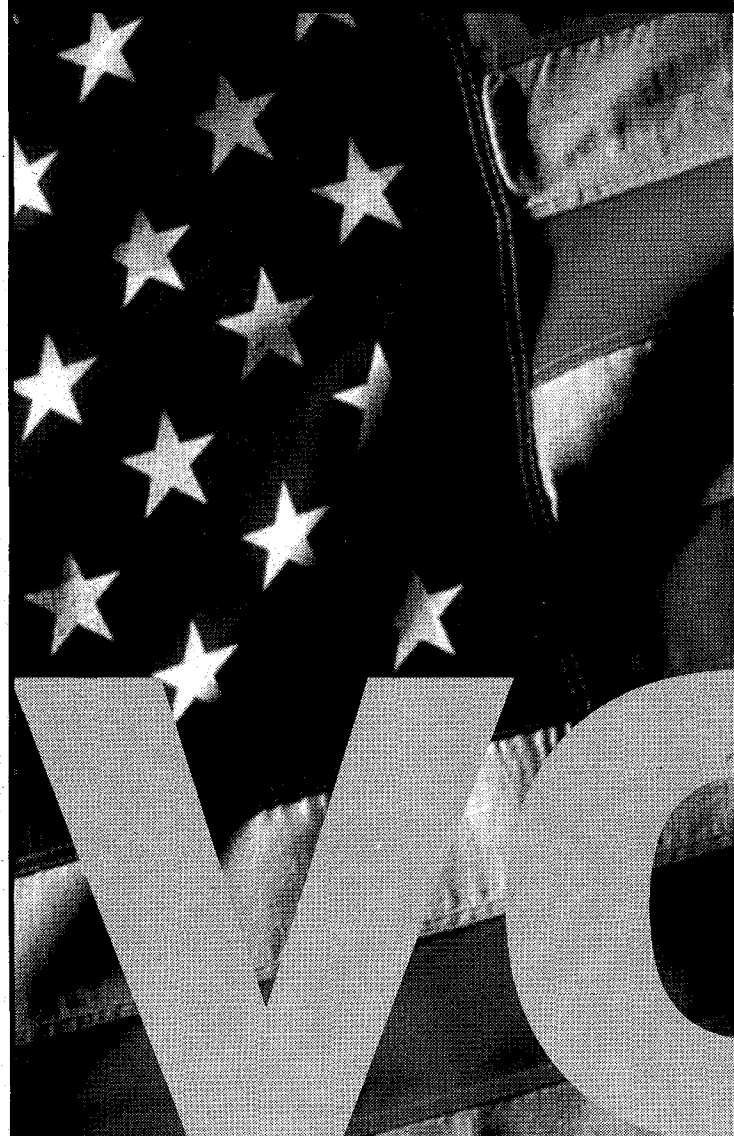
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I Wan Jan Puppet Theatre



For more information on this and other upcoming Wang Center Asian/American Programs, call (631) 632-4400 or visit our Web site: www.stonybrook.edu/wang. The Wang Center is open to the public Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Jasmine serves Asian cuisine from Monday to Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Guided group tours available upon request. To be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us at wangcenter@stonybrook.edu. AA/EOE. For a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-1944.

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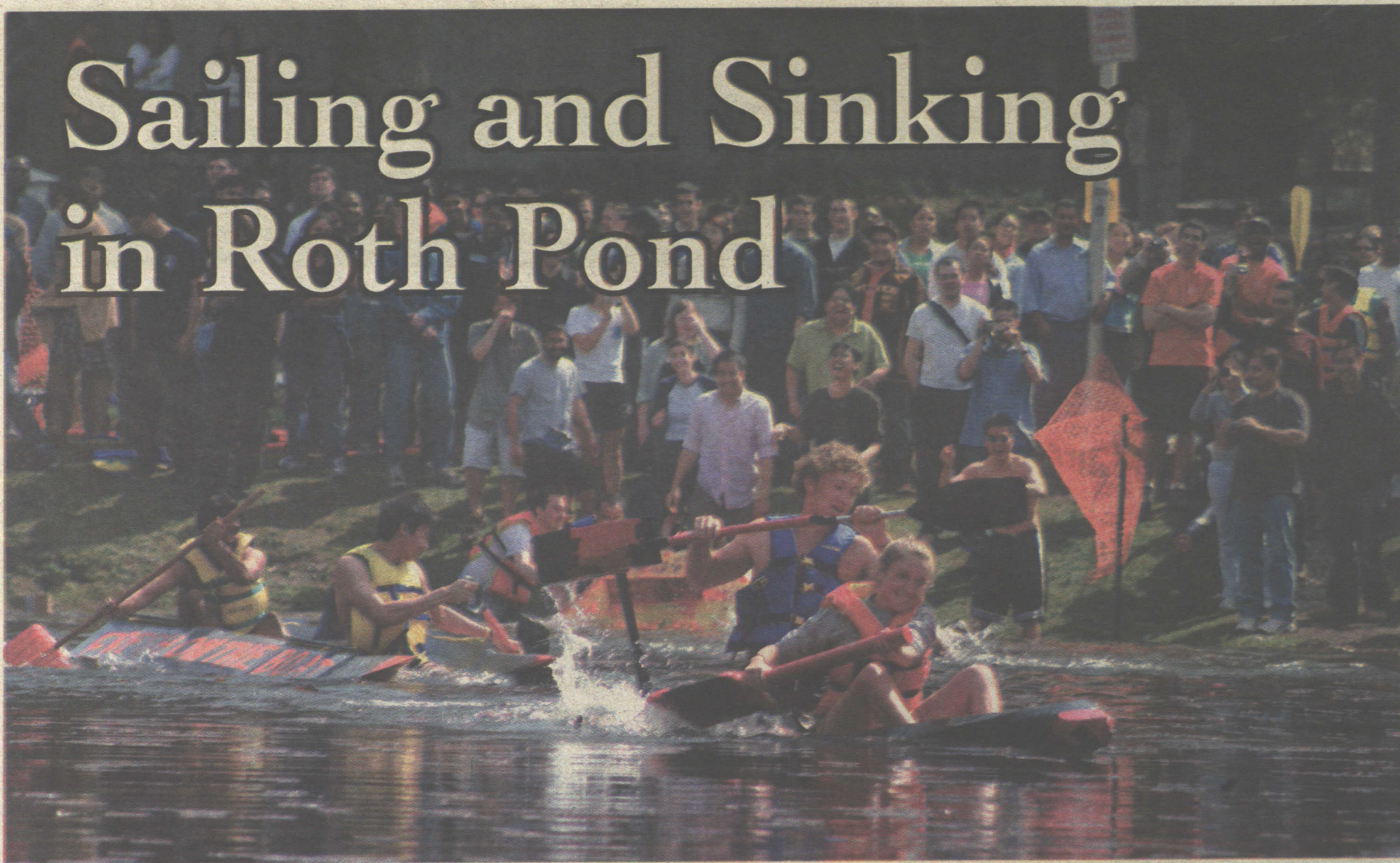
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Sailing and Sinking in Roth Pond



Page 6 photos by Joy Dutta/Statesman; Cover photo by Joseph Fann/Statesman



Results

Yacht Finals:

- 1st Chorion's Bark
- 2nd RSP Inferno
- 3rd Rugby Alumni House
- 4th Escalade

Speeder Finals:

- 1st Laventer
- 2nd Christina T
- 3rd Sava Million Dollars

By RADEYAH HACK AND
ANNESA BRIDGEMOHAN
News Editor & Contributing Writer

Brave and adventurous students attempted to sail cardboard boats across Roth Pond last Friday in the sixteenth annual Roth Pond Regatta. "It's 'the' event of the year," said Professor Stephen Koch of the Chemistry department, who came to see students from his Honors Chemistry class partake in the great Stony Brook tradition.

With over seventy five entries this year, the Regatta has grown into one of the most highly anticipated events. "It's really interesting to watch," said freshmen, Samana Zaidi. "It's definitely a unique Stony Brook tradition."

This unique tradition started in 1988, when residents who lived in Roth Quad decided to build cardboard boats and race across the pond for the fun of it. "The

next year, LEG groups and RA's started advertising the event through flyers, and its popularity grew through the years," said Nick Kilb, President of the Roth Pond Regatta Committee. The fame and support for the event culminated into this student run club, funded through the Student Activity Fee and which organizes the Regatta every year.

Kilb pointed out that although the tradition of the Regatta has been around for a total of seventeen years, this year's Regatta is considered the sixteenth due to a printing error a few years ago that repeated the number of two consecutive years.

Over the past seventeen years, however, the Regatta has grown from just students sailing cardboard boats into a bonanza with live music and barbecues.

This year a wide range of boat designs were entered into the competition. The usual streamlined canoes made out of duct

tape and cardboard as well as eccentric designs such as boats modeled after yellow Hummers and floating islands all attempted to sail across the murky waters of Roth Pond. The groups that made the boats were just as diverse as the designs; ranging from residents of various residence halls such as O'Neil to members of clubs and societies such as the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and Alpha Tau Freshmen Honor Society.

Although the Regatta is well known among the student population of Stony Brook, faculty members are usually not as aware of the event. "Every year I usually find out about this spectacular event only after it has happened," said Professor Koch, who is a first time spectator of the races, despite being a faculty member at Stony Brook for a number of years. "I only found out that it was happening today when my students told me they were naming their vessel after me," he said.

Word of the event, however, is now spreading among the faculty, and next year's Regatta might involve not only students competing against each other, but their professors also. Professor Koch stated that his colleagues from the Chemistry department, particularly boat enthusiast, Professor Phillip Johnson, are planning on entering a boat for next year's races.

Despite the excitement involved with designing a boat and entering the race, the prospect of sinking is eminent for many of the sailors. "The pond is the nastiest smelling thing I have ever been in. There's seaweed everywhere," said sophomore Lamya Karim, whose boat for the Biomedical Engineering Society capsized early on in the race.

The winners of the various races received trophies to showcase their accomplishments, while the every participant received a twenty dollar certificate for dry cleaning, as well as a T-shirt.

Strawberry Festival '05



Joseph Fann/Statesman



Peter Poon/Statesman

Students celebrated the coming of spring with Stony Brook's annual Strawberry Festival. Happening alongside Diversity Day, Strawberry Fest is an event held every year to get students involved with the springtime festivities, incidentally centering around strawberries. The Faculty Student Association (FSA) sponsors this event, which is free for all students to browse but costs money for food.

Many clubs had tables at this event and ran events of their own, including turban wrapping with the Sikh Student Association and bowling at the Campus Catholic Ministry. This year, unlike previous years, the event was held indoors due to inclement weather, which toned down the usual excitement in the atmosphere. Nonetheless, many students hailed this as a success and continue to look forward to this Stony Brook tradition.

www.sbstatesman.org

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Athletics Department Town Meeting

Wednesday, May 4, 2005 • 1:30 p.m.

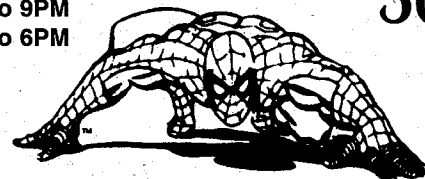
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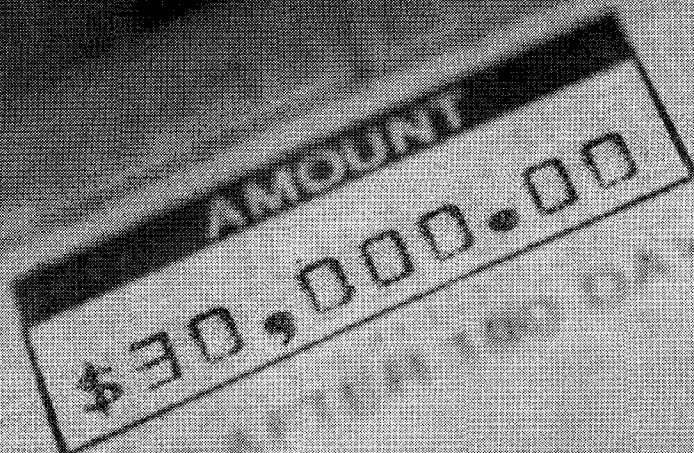
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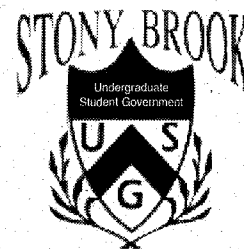
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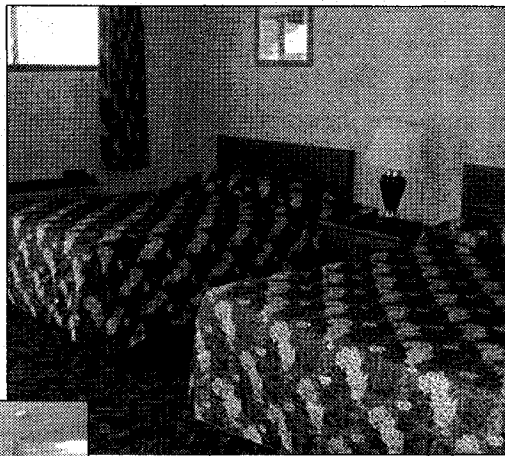
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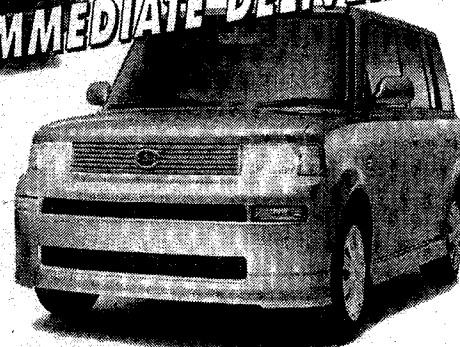
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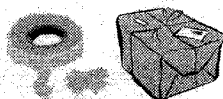
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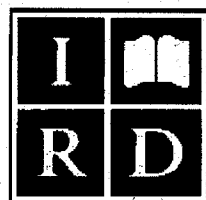
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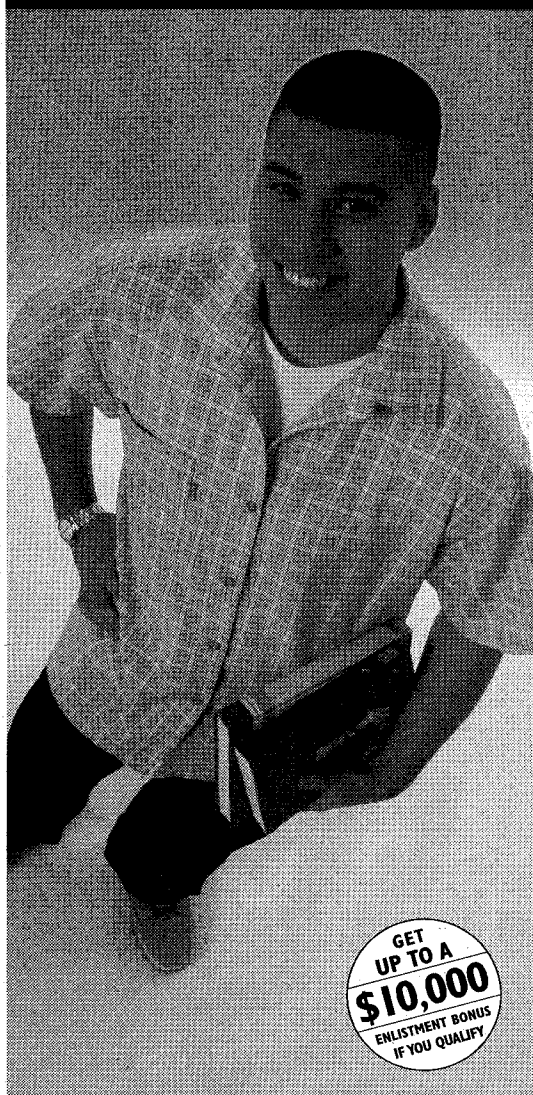
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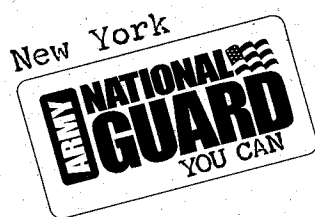
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Statesman SPORTS

Men's lax handed a painful loss

By EUGENE KOZLOVSKY
Sports Editor

A good descriptive word for Saturday's Men's lax game is nothing short of painful, as they blew a four run lead to take the loss 9-8. The loss dropped their record to 9-5 and 4-2 in the conference. The Wolves went into the break with a one run lead at 5-4 but mounted a strong attack coming out of halftime. Bo Tripodi scored a pair of goals as the third quarter began and Rhys Duch added one at the 8:29 mark but that was all the team had left in it's tank. They would not score a single goal the rest of the game. The game turned, more or less, on a single play. The Bearcats' Cavallo drove the net; the ball was knocked out and rolled to the SB crease. Brendan Callahan's attempt to scoop it however, was a scoop gone awry. He instead, pushed it into the goal, making the score 8-5. The Bearcats then went ahead to tie the game at eight in the third. The fourth quarter proved to be an offensive draught as there was only one goal in the entire frame. It is a shame though that it was against the Seawolves handing them a loss. Callahan picked up the loss after he relieved Matt Ural in the second half. Stony Brook is now locked in as the fourth seed with no chances of hosing any playoff games in next week's America East tournament.



Chris Lonardo/Statesman

Women's lax: Where's the defense?

By EUGENE KOZLOVSKY
Sports Editor

The Women's lax team scored 14 goals but could not keep UMBC from scoring as they fell in a hard fought game 18-14. With the loss, the Wolves end the season 8-7 overall and 2-4 in the America East. Although these do not seem to be amazing stats, this is the most wins in the program's history. The game was quiet for about six minutes until the teams exchanged one goal each. This was just the start to the turmoil. The Retrievers took a one-goal lead but the Seawolves responded with five unanswered goals of their own. Before the half was over however, Stony Brook was already down 9-7. They would not see the lead again the rest of the game. As the second half got under way, the teams began to exchange goals. The Wolves kept it within a few most of the game but could never catch up watching the Retrievers end the game with a 4-2 run.

Bing takes Men's Tennis for 3rd year

By MARY VANDERHYDE
Staff Writer

On Sunday May 1st, Stony Brook Seawolves Men's Tennis team combated against Binghamton's Bearcats in the America East Finals. For the last two years Binghamton has defeated Stony Brook, and unfortunately this year will make it three in a row, as Stony Brook lost 4-3. The 2005 America East Men's Tennis Championship was held at the Connecticut Tennis Center in New Haven, Conn.

The match pressed up despite the rain, being forced to move indoors. Nonetheless, the Stony Brook Seawolves played their best and were not easily pushed around, as Binghamton would have wanted. Even though we lost two out of three in the doubles matches, giving Binghamton the first winning point of the day, the Seawolves would not give up hope.

In the singles division, Stony Brook's Jan Krejci was able to defeat the American East Player of the Year in the number 1 singles, title match. Tal Meir was able to win the first set in the number 2 singles. Michael Crooks was able to achieve another win for the Seawolves in the singles division. Maybe next year the Men's Tennis team will be able to break Binghamton's three straight wins in a row and finally win the America East Men's Tennis Championship.

BU beats Wm's Tennis, 5-0

By MARY VANDERHYDE
Staff Writer

The Seawolves Women's Tennis team faced a tragic defeat at the American East semifinals on Sunday May 1st. The Seawolves fell to Boston University 5-0. The game was played inside due to unfortunate weather conditions, at Connecticut Indoor Tennis Center.

Seawolves' Hana Chovanova was defeated by Laura Ahmes, at No. 1 singles 6-4, 7-5. Boston's Laura Ahmes crushed the number 2 singles played by Stony Brook's Anne Catherine Valle 6-3 6-2.

Other players of the semifinals for Stony Brook included Sany Wijeratne, Monica Myers and Victoria Vovsha. The game ended with a 5-0 score because of the simultaneous ending of two matches at once.