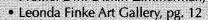
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VOLUME XLIX, ISSUE 9

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STATESMAN EXCLUSIVE: Pg. 2

Interview with Diana Acosta, President of USG

SUNY Tuition Hike Threatens Stony Brook

By EUGENE TAN Features Editor

In terms of tuition and fees, New York's most expensive in the United States in 2003. higher education, New York ranks currently in thirty-ninth place, according to studies done by the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG).

To make matters worse, Governor George and families." Pataki's 2005-06 budget proposal, which four-year public colleges were the twentieth tuition plan that would effectively "decrease SUNY state support by \$25 million and in-Yet in terms of state tax dollars allocated for crease the tuition revenue portion by \$114 million," stated a NYPIRG report entitled "Overburdened." Though this plan was not approved last year, Governor Pataki may reintroduce a similar proposal in January

college is getting increasingly difficult. fund the state's public colleges onto students those times. According to the written SUNY

According to last year's proposed 2005was presented in January 2005, involved a 06 SUNY tuition plan, which was termed tuition increases, then has imposed large, has had two sudden tuition increases dur- SUNY Tuition Guarantee also included the ing the past ten years, one in 1995-96 and statement that tuition increases over the past the other in 2003-04. In both these school 20 years have served only to "offset reducyears, these tuition increases were accom- tions in state support." panied by even larger reductions in New York State aid, which adversely affected Director of Media Relations, former Chan-Today, it is obvious that paying for 2006, further shifting "the responsibility to students enrolled in SUNY schools during

Tuition Guarantee, SUNY has historically "gone through extended periods with no "The SUNY Tuition Guarantee," SUNY unpredictable increases as in 2003." The

According to David M. Henahan, SUNY

Continued on page 5

SB Students March on D.C. to Protest War

By WILL JAMES Staff Writer

At the crack of dawn on September 24, and cars and mounted a coach bus at the idea what was in store. Stony Brook train station. The other half of students, sporting "War doesn't show who's right – Just who's left" on their identical t-shirts, men and women forty-plus in age, a mother and daughter team, and a solemn mustachioed gentleman donning a shirt for "Veterans Against the War."

The high school kids were part of the Melville-based Human Rights Task Force. A girl toward the back was from a CUNY Manhattan school. The older ones had their own index of organizations, the acronyms for the bus.

years old, but still kicking. They had the All of them had protested before.

A quiet man, face against the window, half a bus full of shambling, potentially eyeing the landscape between naps, had land metro system. With what seemed like extended itself into the core of the capitol. un-showered youth crawled out of dorms simply seen a flier in the SAC. He had no

All of them were embarking on the hattan route at rush hour was dwarfed. the seats were occupied by Ward Melville five-hour ride to Washington D.C., where Operation Ceasefire was to kick off that morning. In this event, anti-war figurehead Cindy Sheehan, along with umbrella groups United for Peace and Justice and A.N.S.W.E.R., had whipped up the most massive blast of bring-them-home-now sentiment since the invasion of Iraq. From Stony Brook, Chad Kautzer and Charlene Obernauer of the Social Justice Alliance had caught wind of the rally, and arranged

packed lunches, the coats, the witty signs. two chaperones, the former a graduate stu-second generation apoleolytes," one of dent and the latter barely seventeen, the bus them voiced over the noise. This was the was unloaded and unleashed onto the Mary- epicenter from which the arm of the march an entire city packing the every-ten-minute Hours later, it seemed that the entirety of train rides, the crowd density on any Man- the city was a large marching whirlpool of

> Stony Brook sect emerged, late, amidst a at a number around 100,000. book fair in the shadow of the Washington Monument, where Lynn Cheney had spoken ment, the intensity was replaced with a just minutes before. It became clear that the fair had chosen the wrong place, the wrong time; the ensuing scene was like something from a movie. Signs and banners rose over a tidal pool of faces. Masked figures scaled monuments of mounted founders to raise anarchic flags. One group, in tattered cloth and old skateboard padding, was distribut-

After being carefully debriefed by the ing pamphlets. "We're from the future: people and signs. A headcount was impos-After riding the metro for an hour, the sible, but word-of-mouth estimations hinted

As one spread out from the monurigid solemnity. Early on in the route, two men shared one bullhorn, declaring that the protestors were, "at war with God." As the smaller of the two said, "I'm a real American, fascists," a Texas Veteran, ponytail visible from behind a wide-brimmed hat,

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Thursday, September 29, The Stony Brook Statesman

STATESMAN EXCLUSIVE: Interview with Diana Acosta, USG President

By Kerry Walsh Contributing Writer

The President of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG), Diana Acosta, has a very ambitious agenda for Stony Brook this year. Her agenda includes improving the USG constitution with a major reform, being run by Rob Romano, which will create better communication between the branches of USG, and make the Stony Brook Community better as part of a long term program that will likely last two or three years.

Acosta feels that the 2004-2005 school year was a rough year as far as communication between the branches of USG and they often were "stepping on each others toes". She hopes that the constitutional reform, which will likely be a year long process, will help to redefine the branches in a less ambiguous way, which will help the communication between branches. If every branch knows what they have to do, and knows what the other branches have to do, each branch will run much more smoothly.

As a short and long term goal Acosta wants to make Stony Brook a better place to live and go to school. Students should feel that there is more to do than just go to classes and a greater sense of community should help to foster that belief. Acosta has scouts from the student government trying to find out what activities students want to see more of on campus. Once the USG can identify what the student's want, it will be easier to accommodate those desires. One thing that Diana Acosta mentioned as a likely possibility is more concerts, which many students will appreciate.

and clubs do not come without a cost. The student involvement fee has been raised ten dollars from last semester, without notice. Acosta remarked that she feels the previous president of the USG should have notified the students; however, because they failed to do this, she plans to send a letter out to students explaining the raise in the student activity fee. Many will question the fairness of this fee, as the students voted last year not to have the activity fee raised; perhaps the students feel that USG should have been more conservative in drafting the budget for this year in order to spare students extra costs. Acosta stated that the main reasons that the Student Activity Fee was raised are an influx of new clubs (there are already more than 250) and organizations, an expanding student population, and the depletion of a previous surplus. In order to keep the student activities fee stagnant, USG would have had to take away money from many clubs and organizations.

With all these changes going on in the USG, there will be a way for students to become a larger part of the process. USG will be having "town meetings" where students can attend and voice their concerns in person. These meetings will be advertised across campus, so keep your eyes open and be sure to get involved and voice your concerns. Acosta hopes that the town meetings will ease the sense of apathy that students have towards the USG.

Serving on the executive council of the USG this year are a group of very talented and active students. Diana Acosta is the President, Samuel Darguin the Executive Vice President, Jackey Wu the Treasurer, Ralph Thomas the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, Romual Jean-Baptiste Unfortunately, these added activities the Vice President of Student Life and



Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

Diana Acosta, currently USG President, through May 2006.

Programming, Chinelo Onochie the Vice council last semester by a simple major-Reves the Vice President of Communications, Annlyn Bristol the Senior Representative, Kanika Jain the Junior Representative and Ana Hernandez the Sophomore Representative. The student body elected the students who make up the executive

President of Academic Affairs, Nichole ity. They have been given the authority to represent the students of Stony Brook, and hopefully, under the direction of Diana Acosta, they will make good decisions. The best way to get involved, as of now, is to attend the town meetings and make your opinions known.

Elected: May 2005

End of Term: May 2006

Agenda Highlight: Improving the USG Constitution **Executive Council:** Samuel Darguin, Executive Vice President Jackey Wu, Treasurer Ralph Thomas, Vice President of Clubs and Organizations Romual Jean-Baptiste, Vice President of Student Life and Programming Chinelo Onochie, Vice President of Academic Affairs Nichole Reves, Vice President of Communications Annlyn Bristol, Senior Representative Kanika Jain, Junior Representative

USG Update: Senate Meeting

By Kerry Walsh Contributing Writer

While this year's new Undergraduate Student Government (USG) appears to be off to a shaky start, they are already making progress in counteracting the student body's leftover apathetic sentiment toward last year's USG. Despite some fumbling with parliamentary procedure, their most recent meeting saw a good deal of legislation presented and passed.

The first order of business on Tuesday, September 27, was to pass the agenda, which was done quite quickly and without much discussion.

The Legislative Committee presented their findings from their Committee

meeting. The Legislative Committee has decided that they will act as a facilitator of bills. Basically, if they believe legislation is consistent with the USG Constitution they will present it to the Senate meeting for debate and voting by the entire

Next, the Special Rules of Order were presented to the Senate. The Special Rules of Order mirror the USG Senate Bylaws and the USG Constitution for the most part, putting all the rules in one document for less confusion. One of the few sections that did not state something already covered by the Bylaws or Constitution is section six, which discusses political parties. Simply stated, a Senator may be active in a political party and act as they would with that

political party outside of Senate meetings than \$1,000 will likely be needed. and Senate Committee meetings. However, Senate Committee meetings they are coming as a representative of the Stony Brook student body. They are not representing a Democratic or Republican belief in the meetings. There was considerable debate issue of political parties will be taken up again at the next meeting.

The next thing to be presented was the report of the Chairman. He stated that the USG Senate's budget for the year is \$1,000, and that he will be bringing a budget plan to a later meeting. The Chairman also urged the Senators to appropriate passed after some debate, with a vote of some of the surplus to the Senate, as more nine to two.

Rob Romano presented the election once they step inside Senate meetings or timeline, which passed. The election timeline focused on training in leadership, parliamentary procedure and legal aspects. Emphasis was placed on the fact that the USG needs to do more advertising.

NYPIRG also made a presentation over this but the bill was passed and the to form a position against the automatic tuition increase. This passed with a vote of twelve to one.

> Romano presented the Consistency of Legislation Act, which proposed officially throwing out the CORE laws so that the second Clubs and Organizations Bill of Rights would be uncontested. This

Students Rally Against War...

Continued from page 1

stepped forward from the crowd, speaking loudly and turning red. Soon, the bubble of dissention was swarmed, and a screaming contest ensued. Most of the marchers simply walked on to the chant of "War machine! Shut it down!"

The blend of people was uncanny. Tribes of college kids, some wearing masks, others trying to mask their awe, patrolled the largely closed-down city. Middle-aged couples pushed babies and walked dogs, as if it were the fourth of July. An old woman stood, arms crossed, in front of a large sign saying, simply, "Impeach the son of a bitch." An alarming amount of people, most commonly bespectacled men who looked like college professors, wore banners proclaiming, "Bush is the symptom. Capitalism is

the disease," advertising flagrantly socialist websites. Most were average people; the familiar faces of grandparents and friends, separated from their daily lives by the cotton of their sigil-baring t-shirts.

The cloudy sky turned to drizzling rain halfway through the day. At one point in the march's route, Capitol Hill could be seen on a cross street, a distant figure walled with flashing lights and sirens. Caution tape lined the sidewalks, in places. Mounted police, standing in military lines, stood watch over key corners. Most of the way, it seemed that the protestors were split into two sub-categories: those who marched, and those who stood on the sidelines, waving banners and cheering their approval.

At the end of the route, the crowd congealed around a camp of Americans with differing political views. A tight line of po-

lice stood before the thin crowd of protestor protestors, who were led by a hefty fellow with a flag painted on his face. They were veterans, brothers and sisters of troops, and average citizens set off by Sheehan and her parade. From behind a sign that read "Freedom isn't free," a man cupped his hands, poked his head from behind a tall, helmeted policeman and said, "Ya'll have no dignity, and certainly no class." A marcher ran back and forth in front of the police barricade, eyes wild, screaming, "Robots! Robots!" An officer began to slip on black gloves. Again, the majority of the protest marched right on by, to the sound of tribal drums and the buzzing of an ever-circling flock of choppers. The closer one got to Capitol Hill, the more police were present, some groups in the ebony uniforms and storm-trooper helmets of Vietnam documentaries.

When the Stony Brook bus reconvened after a couple hours, the elders appeared much the same as they had been on the way down. Their lunch boxes now empty, their signs were retired and they leaned back, still solemn, slightly chatty. Even the youth seemed drained, but naturally displayed that they had not lost their ability to speak. Chad Kautzer was among the last to reenter the vehicle, full of glee. "I'm smiling. I feel good," was his only reaction; it took a few minutes for him to transform back into the commander of twenty-thingsat-once that he had been that morning. The emotion of the return trip was saturating; it transcended politics, protests and wars. That day, D.C. became a place where ideas grew legs and marched, clashed and became something physical beyond the paper walls and crystalline screens of academia.

Friday, September 23, 2005

2:03 AM - Smell of marijuana reported at Baruch College.

3:18 PM - Roosevelt Quad/Stimson College, Petit Larceny in P Lot of Roosevelt Quad and Stimson College. Permit taken from vehicle and vehicle damaged.

Saturday, September 24, 2005

2:05 AM - Vehicle left roadway on Circle Road in motor vehicle accident. The car hit a tree and 2males were transported to University Hospital ER by SBVAC. Setauket FD heavy responded and vehicle was sent to impound.

2:13 AM - Crisis intervention at James College. Police Ex-boyfriend was refusing to leave dorm room. Escorted to LIRR.

Sunday, September 25, 2005

1:05 PM - Police notified about Medical Emergency in first floor rest room of Greeley College. Person intoxicated.



Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman



Statesman Stony

Gas Prices Causes Commuter Hardship

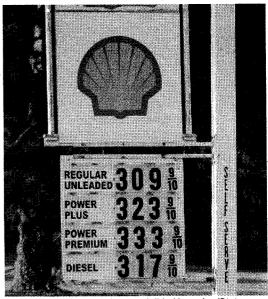
By ALEX DRELICK Contributing Writer

Although gas prices soared just one day after Hurricane Katrina hit the southern United States, it seemed as if no one was going to stop commuters from coming to campus en masse each day. "People haven't really been calling us about increased gas prices. They realize there is nothing we can do about it," says Shannon Kelly of Commuter Student Services. "However, I have been getting more calls from students about carpooling with other students." Although carpooling cuts down on the school's increasing problems with congestion and can save students money, it still has problems. Most important of which is that not every student has the same schedule. Therefore, finding that one person who commutes and is on campus for the same time can be incredibly difficult.

With little or no change in the amount of people commuting to campus, students have been changing a few habits. It seems that, according to the staff of commuter student services, students have taken into account rush hour traffic and are beginning to determine when and where they will drive according to what time it is. However, instead of commuting earlier to beat the eight-to-nine flood of commuters towards the city, students are staying on campus later, until nearly seven, to escape the five o'clock rush back home.

Jaclyn Congello, a commuter from Nassau County, continues to drive to campus, even with inflated gas prices, and shows no sign of remorse for choosing to commute. "After figuring out how much I spend on gas for the entire week," which is about sixty dollars, "I'm still saving money by commuting instead of living on campus." There is nothing any of us can do about the constantly fluctuating price of gas.

But, by driving smarter, we can help each other by lowering car congestion on campus, and save a few bucks in the process.



Campus Still Adjusting to Bus System

By Aisha Akhtar Contributing Writer

Three weeks into the semester, students are still adjusting to the changes in the bus routes. Despite the attempt to enhance services for commuters around campus, complaints still remain among students as well as bus drivers.

A new bus system was implemented in order to accommodate the addition of new dormitories and buildings that have been constructed over the past five years. Simultaneously, an increased enrollment called for better service for the estimated 900,000 to one million people that use the buses each year.

Updating the bus routes to the current situation was made possible from the input of students and a committee made up of students and staff which met about twenty times over the past year. They collaborated the best way to meet the needs and demands for better transportation service.

Bus driver are generally apathetic to the route changes, but they point out the flaws in the system. In particular they see a problem for the Chapin apartment residents, who are still subjected to long rides into the campus. Bus drivers claim the residents travel to their destinations in about fortyfive minutes, and that it is inconvenient for them to switch buses in order to reach the train station. However, the present route for Chapin was the suggestion of two representatives from the Chapin complex.

Terence Harrigan, Director of Facilities and Services denies such a problem for Chapin commuters. He said, "It takes about ten minutes to get to the transfer point [SAC], and then about another ten minutes to get to the train station. As far as getting to the railroad, the rider-ship isn't there to support that."

Chapin residents have raised another issue. "It seems like Chapin wants to get to the Union," said Harrigan. The suggestion



Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

is being taken into consideration.

Another complaint arises from the service between the South Parking Lot to the campus. Freshman, Jeremy Case from Shelter Island, said, "They stop the express route at 10:07 from the SAC. This poses problem on days of tests that run late." Harrigan commented that in a situation such as this, other routes can be taken to the destination.

With so many destinations, many students still find it confusing to read the bus maps. "For the people that have been here for years, I'm sure it was a confusion at first. But after three weeks, I believe the students have calmed down," said Harrigan. The maps for 2005 are delivered in an

upgraded format consisting of only a front newly painted, along with new landscaping. and back, along with a user-friendly key. Previous maps consisted of many sides benches, and vending machines for a more and were in pamphlet form. Nonetheless, commodious waiting period. "We encourstudents still remain confused about transfer age students to use the South Parking Lot, points and timing.

"We're struggling on how to get information out there," Harrigan commented. " We have put up advertisements through the student employment office to hire students to become drivers. We also have people stationed at bus stops to help direct people to where they want to go."

Other upgrades around campus are taking place as well. A new fleet of buses have been ordered, and are expected to Recently, the bus station in the South Parking Lot was

The waiting station will have doors, new 25% more people take advantage of it now, said Harrigan.

Bus stop shelters across campus will be changed as well. "We're in the process of getting new shelters before the bad weather sets in," said Harrigan.

"I'd say 90% of the people are happy with what we've done," said Harrigan, "feedback is encouraged, and we'd be happy to make any changes." Students can give their input at www.stonybrook.edu/ parking/.

Tuition Hikes Threaten Students...

Continued from page 1

cellor Robert King put together this tuition plan for the Fall of 2005 in order to prevent future sudden tuition increases, which have been unpredictable and have stifled investments needed to improve academic quality. The SUNY Tuition Guarantee stipulated that beginning in Fall 2005, tuition would be frozen for all current and incoming undergraduates for the duration of their degree program, which typically lasts four or five years. However, beginning with the Fall 2006 class and each incoming class thereafter, the tuition rate for undergraduates, who are New York State residents, would increase by a certain percent, which is based on the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) - a "predictable inflation index," according to the SUNY Tuition Guarantee.

To illustrate how these "annually indexed tuition rates" work, we can consider the following hypothetical example: all students currently enrolled in the 2005-06 school year pay \$4,350 tuition annually for the duration of their time at Stony Brook. Incoming freshmen in the 2006-07 school year, however, pay tuition that consists of \$4,350 plus a dollar amount determined by that year's HEPI; this increased tuition is "frozen" for these 2006-07 freshmen, meaning that they will pay the same tuition for the next four years. Then, 2007-08 freshmen pay an even higher amount of tuition, which is fixed for their four years of college. As this process continues, we will find that with each successive school year, incoming freshmen will pay a higher tuition, which is fixed for all members of the same class for the next four years.

It is clear that under the SUNY Tuition Guarantee, the trend in higher education is toward indefinitely escalating tuition. According to NYPIRG's Higher Education Coordinator Miriam Kramer, it is for this reason that student activists and organizations such as NYPIRG, whose goal is to keep higher education affordable for all New Yorkers, lobbied against the approval of this tuition plan last year when it was presented as part of Governor Pataki's January 2005 budget proposal. The New York State Senate supported the plan, but the Assembly did not. Therefore, the tuition plan was not approved in January 2005. However, New

York State is now preparing for Governor Pataki's budget proposal in January 2006, which may reintroduce a similar tuition indexing plan, stated Kramer.

Henahan asserted that the SUNY Tuition Guarantee will be beneficial because it will get New York State away from the unpredictable pattern of sporadic tuition increases, allow students to plan better for college finances, and raise money to enhance education. Specifically, according to this tuition plan, government aid will help finance increases in fixed mandatory costs, such as contractual agreements and energy, while students will finance any increases needed to "invest in academic quality," which involves hiring full-time faculty, equipment, technology, etc. Henahan commented that small, predictable tuition increases will provide SUNY schools with a steady source of revenue.

However well-intentioned this tuition plan may seem, organizations such as NYPIRG believe that it only forecasts financial danger for students. According to a NYPIRG report, "there is no guarantee that a smaller, but annual tuition hike program will actually end future big increases like SUNY's last \$950 hike." Indeed, similar programs in other states have not fared well; as the report states, "in the past two years, states that index annual tuition increases have seen hikes greater than that index."

Although states should ideally use cost of living indexes, such as the consumer price index (CPI) or the HEPI, to set tuition policy, experience has proven that this does not happen. For example, as data from NYPIRG show, though the tuition increase for South Dakota State University is 2.2%, the actual percent increase from the 2002-03 school year to the 2003-04 school year was 11%, and the percent increase for the year after was 5.8%. Both percentages clearly surpass the percent increase indicated by the cost of living index. Even more shocking is the fact that Iowa State University had a percent increase of 22.3% from 2002-03 to 2003-04 though the increase indicated by CPI or HEPI was a mere 4.6%. Though Henahan stated that with an "incremental change in tuition," students "don't have to worry about a sudden spike," he also admitted that there is a possibility that tuition can increase by more than the expected percent. Therefore, students actually do have to worry that this SUNY Tuition Guarantee does not truly guarantee "modest tuition increases," as the tuition plan stated in its January 2005 version.

In addition, according to a NYPIRG report, "community college funding shows that the state already has set a bad precedent for following its own rules." Theoretically, state aid is supposed to fund at least 40% of the community college budget, and tuition revenue should not make up more than one-third of the total budget. Each year, however, the state government simply "not withstands" this clause, increases tuition, and decreases state aid. If this is happening with community colleges, it can very well happen with the SUNY system as well.

In addition to the fact that New York public colleges were already the twentieth most expensive in the United States in 2003, another reason to oppose the SUNY Tuition Guarantee is that continually increasing tuition costs can exceed increases in family income, stated a NYPIRG report entitled "Automatic Annual Tuition Increases Are Harmful and Should Be Opposed." New Yorkers' median family income increased by an average of 2.2% between 2000 and 2004, and if this tuition indexing plan is adopted - a plan that, as we have seen in other states, seems risky to begin with - tuition increases may exceed median family income and prevent low-income families from affording college.

To make matters worse, as the NYPIRG report showed, tuition increases may surpass the amount of financial aid provided by the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), which is crucial for students from low-income families. Though TAP has always been an issue completely separate from the SUNY Tuition Guarantee, it still is a serious problem to consider; because New York State's maximum TAP level is \$5,000, annual tuition increases may eventually surpass this maximum TAP level and jeopardize the education of poor students.

Lastly, as Kramer indicated, the state "needs to look deeper into its own coffers" and provide sufficient funding for public colleges instead of forcing students and families to dig deeper into their own pockets. Indeed, according to studies done by NYPIRG, "between 1990 and 2004, state

tax appropriations for higher education declined by 17% when adjusted for inflation." Obviously, the "state hasn't been keeping up with its share" in terms of aid allotted to higher education, Kramer commented.

Scott Reif, a spokesman for the New York State Division of the Budget, stated that, "In January, the Governor will unveil the executive budget" but that, as of now, it is still too early to say what his plans are. Kramer continued that although Governor Pataki "has not released any plans" yet for his budget, NYPIRG is speculating that "potential financial aid cuts" will be a part of it.

According to Kramer, despite the uncertainty regarding Governor Pataki's budget proposal, NYPIRG is trying to ensure that this year, students "are aware" of this potential tuition increase and understand that discussions regarding tuition "are taking place." Last year, opponents of the SUNY Tuition Guarantee "mustered a lot of support" across the state and were able to "prove in numbers that students oppose[d] the plan." Recognizing that "there is support amongst SUNY administrators for the plan," Kramer emphasized the importance of building "coalition[s] of student groups" against it.

However, the SUNY system supports its Tuition Guarantee wholeheartedly. According to Henahan, acting Chancellor John Ryan is advocating strongly for the tuition plan, and Senator Kenneth LaValle also embraces parts of this plan. Henahan stated that SUNY's goal is to get the tuition plan into the annual state budget process and advocate for it during the budget year.

In summary, it is extremely important that students across the SUNY system take a stand against the SUNY Tuition Guarantee, which does not truly guarantee "modest tuition increases." According to Henahan, on Thursday, October 6, 2005, hearings conducted by the Senate and Assembly Higher Education Committee will be held across the state. As Kramer added, these hearings are open to the public, but only a select group of people invited by elected officials will testify about a "broad range of topics" relating to public higher education. College students are strongly encouraged to attend these hearings and voice their opinions.

NEWS FLASH:

Fire Cancels Exams in Life Sciences

At 1 pm today a fire broke out on the 5th floor of the Life Sciences building. The building was evacuated and the fire department responded immediately. The BI O 328 midterm was canceled due to the fact that the exam papers were stored in the 5th floor office of Prof. John Cabot's office. Stay tuned for a more in dept investigation of the fire in Life Sciences Building.

States man

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GET INVOLVED

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:

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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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Reject the Tuition Hike

Last year's tuition hike proposal, ironically named "The SUNY Tuition Guarantee," is aiming to make a comeback in this year's budget. Students, be warned: this is a measure by the state to institute a minimum increase each year on your tuition, and nothing more. It does not set a ceiling for increases, but instead makes it easier for the government to raise your tuition without going through the strict access channels that they do now.

Under the current proposal, the state will be analyzing the index of what colleges generally cost and raising tuition accordingly. This would be well and fine if it worked. However, there is no data that supports the notion that indexed increases will allow for a more stable curve of general tuition increases. In fact, according to data collected by NYPIRG, every state that has instituted indexed increases has gone beyond its projections each year. Unless New York's plan is fundamentally different than that of other states, which it is not, there is nothing that indicates that this will benefit

Supporters of this plan like the fact that tuition is fixed for a student's entire four-year tenure at a SUNY school. This takes away the uncertainty of large increases in a semester, much like the \$900+ increase we saw just a few years ago. However, there are ways to lock a student's tuition for his stay at college that do not involve the negative aspects of this proposal. We should be looking at alternatives that both balance the books and benefit students at the same time.

To clarify a point of contention, it is true that there is nothing in the current proposal that increases TAP awards as tuition climbs higher. To be fair, tuition increases were never linked directly to TAP award increases, in recent history. The reason that it is an issue now is because within the next year or so, the tuition for many SUNYs will rise above \$5000, which happens to be the TAP award amount. This means that in the near future, TAP will not cover tuition, for the first time. This is an issue that needs to be addressed and one that is not directly linked to indexed increases. If the state deems it necessary to revamp the system by which it charges tuition for students, it should also evaluate the system by which it awards need-based scholarships.

There are simply too many holes in this proposal for us to support its passing. Until the legislators can promise a ceiling for increases, more community feedback, and a way to address need-based awards, then there is no way that this can become policy. Write your representatives and let them know that your voices need to be heard.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor.

I would first like to sincerely thank you and any other media organization who attended last week's Senate meeting for taking on the all other student media organizations to attend vital task of watchdog of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG). It is essential that the student body be provided with honest and dress some of the comments made in the responsible reporting on the USG., and I would like to encourage you and all other on-campus media organizations to attend all of the Senate meetings.

As everyone knows, it is the Senate that decides how the collective student activity fee is dispersed, and for that reason alone students have a vested interest in the Senate meetings. However, the Senate also performs other important functions; the Senate passes have some justification, I would ask Mr. James legislation that affects almost every aspect of to give the Senate a chance to prove some of pus, the amount of buses available to students, for the entire Senate, I can assure Mr. James and innumerable other issues. Because of its that I am very serious about my duties and that I can to prove myself right. remarkable power, I would also encourage that I have ambitious goals for the Senate. I do students to attend the meetings. It is unfair to not tolerate inefficiency in myself, and I will expect the entire undergraduate student popu- do everything in my power to make sure the lation to attend all of the Senate meetings but Senate portrays a similar attitude.

the senators do need to be held accountable for their actions and thus the importance of student media organizations cannot be overstated in that respect. So again, I urge the Statesman and this Tuesday's and all other Senate meetings.

With that being said, I would like to ad-September 22, 2005 issue of the Statesman. There were two articles in that issue that addressed the Senate, the first of which was titled "USG Off to Weak Start." While Mr. James provided a fair account of the happenings at last Tuesday's meeting, some of his comments reflect the cynicism felt by many who witnessed the madness at last year's Senate meetings, and while this bitter skepticism may student life including the price of food on cam- his misgivings wrong. While I cannot speak

The other article I would like to address was titled, "This Year in USG: More of the Same." The Senate has only had one official meeting this semester, and while it is undeniable and regrettable that some of the senators arrived late, I do not believe that the meeting was remarkable enough to serve as proof positive that the Senate will be as out of control as its predecessor, nor do I think it fair to use that meeting as evidence that the Senate will be vastly effective.

The new Senate may still be finding its bearings, but the senators I have spoken with are bright and serious individuals who will not allow what transpired in last year's Senate to occur again. No matter what your predictions are for the effectiveness of the Senate this year, I ask the Statesman and the student body at large to at least allow the Senate adequate time to prove itself. I have faith that we will exceed all expectations, and I will personally do all

> Sincerely, Amy Wisnoski

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Dini Diskin-Zimmerman

By JENNY WANG Staff Writer

A member of what the television news world call the "Class of 1972," the group of women who broke through the gender barrier, Dini Diskin-Zimmerman can be described best by two words: passionate and pioneering. Her take on life: "really treasure every minute of it. Take care of yourself and take care of others around you."

It was those characteristics that brought her from starting as a desk assistant for the ABC Washington Bureau in October of 1972 to being the radio director of ABC Radio within half a year in April of 1973. Having started during the impeachment trials of former United States President Richard Nixon, Diskin-Zimmerman is full of rich experiences that she gladly shares with all who wish to hear.

"I love startups," she said as her eyes lit up in one of the back rooms of the television studio. Having directed the first show CNN aired, been on the initial team that started Nightline, left CNN with her husband to help start News 12 Long Island, and started the Food Network. Diskin-Zimmerman has lived those three simple words her whole life.

Walking into the television studio on campus during a taping session for HON 301, one can spot her by the group of students who surround her, eagerly listening to her retell her stories of the early days at CNN. She was the first female director of the network.

The quality that draws people to Diskin-Zimmerman stems from her willingness to go the extra mile. She lets students know that if they want to learn, she'll teach them about any and all aspects of television production. "I believe God gave me a talent, and I need to share the trade."

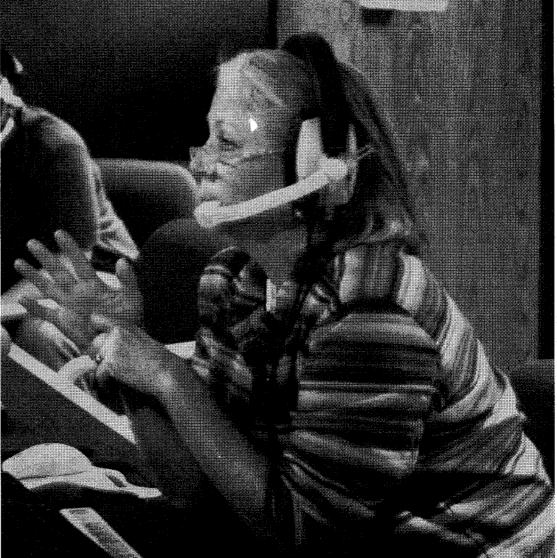
Although she is no longer teaching classes due to program cuts, she is still the television producer for Stony Brook University, and has directed such events as the Noam Chomsky interviews that her husband, Bill Zimmerman, conducted. Diskin-Zimmerman is the reason the Provost Lecture series can be borrowed from the Melville Library video collection.

"I'm very passionate about what I do," she says, "I don't want to spend any part of my life wasting time. So I put everything I have in everything I do."

What makes her so passionate about television? Diskin-Zimmerman says "the passion comes from doing it; they watch what you produce] and think about it. I've been on the air when popes have died and presidents resigned from office. It really is being a part of history and living it."

Among other things, Diskin-Zimmerman has been an integral part of the project I Saw Myself: Poems of Angel Island, a student documentary that chronicles the history of the immigration station at Angel Island and includes student readings of some of the poems carved into the walls of the station. The video will soon be sent to Angel Island to enrich the experience of those who visit the island.

Another project that Diskin-Zimmerman helped produce was



Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

Dini Diskin-Zimmerman supervises taping of student production in the TV studio.

Child of Asian America, a moving documentary that includes a moment in which a Stony Brook University student breaks down in front of an auditorium of children because she is letting them know that the racists remarks made to her in the hallway of that school had hurt her.

"Television is a way to trans-

mit information to the masses," Diskin-Zimmerman pasisonately said. "What the camera can show when you take a good reporter and she stands with babies and masses who are dying conveys to the whole world that genocide is going on..."

From leading the way for other women in the news industry to

touching hearts around the globe by helping students to bare their souls in hopes of ending racism, Diskin-Zimmerman has used this Diskin-Zimmerman has used this medium to make an impact from behind the camera. "Television is something really profound if you use it to do good," she says. It's hard to think of a better example of someone who has.

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October Highlights

Minbuza: Japanese Folk Dance and Music

Tuesday, October 11, 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m., Wang Theater



Japan's spirit, and culture are vividly expressed through lively folk dances performed by Minbuza, New York's premier Japanese Folk Dance Institute, headed by the accomplished Momo Suzuki. Captivating melodies by Ryukushan and dynamic Taiko drumming by Taiko Tides are special features of this lush performance.

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E-mail wangcenter@stonybrook.edu to reserve your tickets or call 631-632-4400.

Everyday Zen

Thursday, October 13, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., Wang Center Chapel

Ven. Issai Chizen Denton Sensei will review the basics of sitting meditation and how to develop a regular practice that will fit within the context of our lives, as well as how to apply the lessons of meditation to our lives "off the cushion" – the real test of any practice. Please wear comfortable clothing.

Chakushin Ari (One Missed Call)

Tuesday, October 18, 7:00 p.m., Wang Theater



A cell phone message that predicts your death. People in your cell phone's phonebook murdered. What eerie horror! (Directed by Miike Takashi, 2003, 112 min., starring Kou Shibasaki, Shinichi Tsutsumi, Kazue Fukiishi, and Renji Ishibashi.)

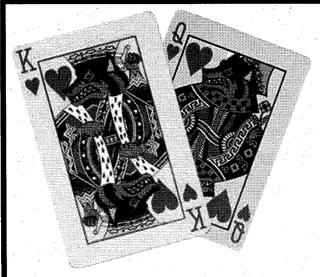
Act More Like an Immigrant: Cathy Bao Bean Speaks on Being Asian American

Wednesday, October 19, 12:45 p.m., Wang Center, Room 401

Th rough vibrant personal stories, Cathy Bao Bean, the zany author of *The Chopsticks Fork Principle: A Memoir and Manual*, challenges stereotypes, clarifies generalizations, and raises extraordinary cultural questions with wit, wisdom, and warmth. Bring your lunch. Light refreshments will be served. Booksigning to follow.



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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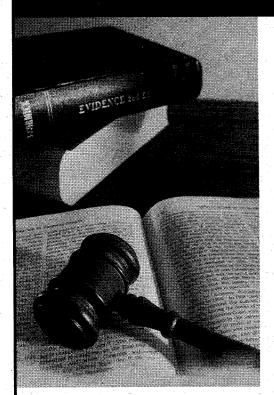
Homecoming Queen • Elizabeth Roberts

For more information or disability-related accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Activities at (631) 632-9392, www.stonybrook.edu/homecoming, or you can visit us in the Student Activities Center, Suite 218.

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, September 29, 2005

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The Stony Brook Statesman

Events:

Homecoming 5K Run/Walk

By Jessica Grossman Asst Arts & Entertainment Editor

As Homecoming weekend came to an end, many people were sleeping off celebrations which went well into the morning. Students were snug under their comforters in their warm beds, or perhaps they had decided to nap on a friend's floor. Still, not everyone was asleep. On that Sunday morning a large group of enthusiastic people gathered for a "run" around campus. This 5K challenge translated to a run and walk which took place over a three mile loop around the campus. This run was organized by Dr. Susan DiMonda, Director of Campus Recreation. Stony Brook has been hosting the run for sixteen years and encourages everyone to get involved. Anyone can sign up, or if one is not the athletic type, he or she can hang out by the sidelines and cheer on the runners. Before the race started there were raffles for people who signed up. The prizes included gift certificates to local restaurants and stores in Stony Brook and Setauket. All participants received a festive Stony Brook Homecoming t-shirt.

With the sun shining, birds singing and a small breeze blowing, students, alumni and eager community participants came together for the event. There were sixty-four participants running; twenty-three of them were Stony Brook students and nine were alumni. The youngest was a seventeen-year-old male and the oldest was a woman in her seventies, and of course, all ages in between were represented as well. Not only were people there to run but also simply to be supportive. Family, friends and significant others showed up to stand on the sidelines and show their support.

The run started on John S. Toll Road, and continued to the right onto Circle Road. They followed Circle Road all the way down, passing by the dorms and the train station. Finally, they turned onto Stadium Road and finished at the stadium entrance. Along the path that the runners followed were tables set up with ice-cold water. This was to ensure that no one became dehydrated along the way. As the runners finished the race, they stood by the sidelines cheering on those still running. Sounds of high fives and voices saying the words "I'm so proud of you" could be heard throughout the morning air.

Everyone gathered onto the patio of the Sports Complex when the race was over. All were given Powerade, water, apples and bananas for refreshments. Also on the patio was a booth for the Stony Brook University Hospital Blood Bank, which encourages all healthy people to help save lives by donating blood. Awards were given out to the top male and female competitors, and following that, to the top male and female competitors in each age group. The top male runner was Ralph Voyerson and the top female was Jessica Donaldson. There will be another run at the end of November, the Turkey Trot. This will offer students another chance to get in shape and become more active in campus life.

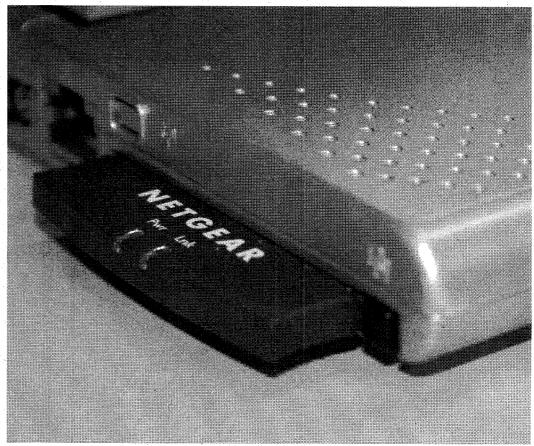
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SB Bytes: Unplugged



Now that you

have wireless,

what do you do

with it?

By James Bouklas

equipped with built-in wireless, letting you surf the internet without having to be plugged into the wall - a very cool technology indeed. Stony Brook provides some spots to do this, they specified to pick up my information, and though there are certain limits that restrict your newfound sense of freedom.

First off, you're not allowed to run a wireless router in your dorm room. This puts a their end. damper on the usability of your laptop. The

reasoning behind this is that the universityadministered Resnet system (Residential Network) would be extended in an insecure fashion, posing a potential security risk. So, officially, you can't plug in a router in your dorm room, configure

in your dorm.

wireless connections in many key buildings. including the Melville Library, the SAC, Email telnet@notes.cc.sunysb.edu with your name, student ID, and e-mail address with to get the process rolling. They'll send you some basic setup instructions on how to set up their wireless VPN system, which stands difficult to do on newer systems, but can be a not to.

hassle on older machines that don't have great wireless support.

All that's left is to pick up up your user ID Today, just about every laptop comes and password, during specific hours. While this may not be a problem for many students, it was a problem for me when I was a freshman - I had either work or classes during the hours they would not give it to me over the phone. This was two years ago, and hopefully things have changed, as far as flexibility goes, on

Now that you have wireless, what do you

do with it? Aside from basic e-mail checking and web surfing, the internet has become an integral part of many classes. All but a few professors heavily rely on Blackboard for class announcements, course materials and discussion forums as a required

it normally, and have a wireless connection part of their classes. Having this information accessible from most of the major buildings That said, the university does offer its own on campus with your laptop makes life that much easier.

Of course, there's also AIM, downloading Union, Harriman Hall Café, and a few others. music (legally, of course), and a plethora of Registration, while fairly simple, takes time. other things you can do from just about any-

If you don't have a computer but would "Wireless Registration" in the subject line like to have this flexibility, virtually any new laptop will do the job - it's almost unheard of to buy a laptop that isn't wireless-ready. For those of you that have laptops, take the extra for Virtual Private Network. This isn't too step to register with the school. It's pointless

Rockin' the Brook: Awesomer

By Inur Mamoor Staff Writer

A good album title says a lot about the music. Blood on the Wall's Awesomer does just that. It lets the listener know this CD is not just awesome, but awesomer than that new Hillary Duff CD.

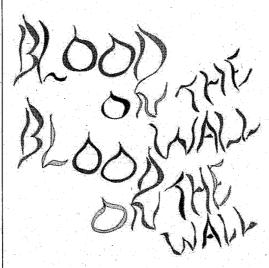
The Brooklyn trio sounds like a blend of Sonic Youth, circa Daydream Nation and the Velvet Underground. The brother/sister vocal tag team of Courtney and Brad Shanks conjures up thoughts of the Velvet Underground while drummer Miggy Littleton brings it down a notch to basic rock that beckons us to dance. The juxtaposition of the male/female vocals produces a captivating effect. The loud, throw-inhibitionto-the-wind vocals laid side-by-side with the additional bare and timid vocals gives the album a dreamlike aura.

BOTW sounds a lot like early 90's college indie alternative rock. Think Pavement and Pixies, if you will, but BOTW revives that sound, making it fresh, and yet basic. There is no noise or pretentious art rock, just three dudes making music.

"I'd Like to Take You Out Tonight," for example, is a striking song sung by Courtney. The mood set by the song is reminiscent of high school make-out sessions. Courtney has an innocence in her voice that is appealing, making the track a definite staple in any kiss-fest mix tape.

Other tracks like "Stoner Jam" and "Can You Hear Me" sound as if you took a long night of rowdy drinking, mixed it with some crazed dancing, added a dash of longing and set it all to music. BOTW has a knack for being able to fuse different sounds yet still stays true to their mission; essential, enjoyable, straight-up indie alt rock.

While some songs haunt us and others make us want to open another six pack, it can be said that all the tracks are lyrically well constructed and catchy. BOTW's sound blends together to



Courtesy of Blood on the Wall

form a cohesive sound that will lead to Awesomer being on repeat.

Listening to Awesomer, a sense of nostalgia overtakes the listener. Where did it come from and why is it left lingering? Everyone will have their own explanation. Don't let their name scare you; Blood on the Wall's music has an encompassing, let's-have-a-good-time-and-screw-around

Blood on the Wall

Awesomer

- 1. Stoner Jam
- 2. Reunited on Ice
- 3. Heat from the Day
- 4. I'd Like to Take You Out Tonight
- 5. You Are a Mess
- 6. Keep Your Eyes
- 7. Gone
- 8. Mary Susan
- 9. Hey, Hey
- 10. Can You Hear Me
- 11. Right to Lite Tonight
- 12. Get the F--k Off My Cloud 13. Dead Edge of Town
- 14. Going to Heaven

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University Thursdays

By Elizabeth Scisci

This Thursday continued the once-weekly blues tradition at the University Café, this time accompanying an altruistic attitude and consciousness of national affairs. After a series of discussions about the political consequences of Hurricane Katrina and a benefit concert courtesy of the Musician's Alliance for Peace both held at the Wang Center Theater, students and faculty were encouraged to gather at the Café for a nighttime fundraising concert featuring the talents of Frank Latorres and his blues ensemble.

Latorres enjoys the concept of using music to accelerate and bring attention to a cause. This soft-spoken musician, enjoying the intimate concert scene, has been playing "blues and rock back and forth for a very long time." He agreed that performing to draw a donation-contributing crowd makes the experience all the richer. "It's a great cause," said Latorres. "We play for all kind of benefits, anytime we get the chance. It's not really a gig, just everyone coming down here to donate their time." Latorres is currently preparing to venture down to Louisiana to play at a benefit concert in the disaster's aftermath.

Unlike past blues bands at the University Café, Frank Latorres, his drummer Mike Scalzo, bassist Bob Haddard and violin guitarist Jeff Denny have a strictly blues repertoire. Being a very general genre, however, blues can be modified and extended toward different vibes. A rock influence clearly shows through with Scalzo's simple rock beat - steady, but ornamented with sloppy fills. Even such a loose mode of music, born as a representation of American freedom and premised on improvisation, called for tighter percussion. The bass also was a hidden aspect, letting treble melodies invade every selection. Good endings seemed more accidental than rehearsed, with most of the songs wrapping up clumsily. There were constantly desperate attempts to salvage endings with quick guitar improvisation to account for the sudden halting of a percussion line.

Vocal parts, handled completely by Frank Latorres, were limited and not a main performance focus. Expression was beautifully handled in instrumentation, not a travesty in the blues genre where communicative solos and intuitive embellishment can account for much of the artist's message. In the case of this band, plenty of emotion was conveyed with the accents of harmonica and discourse of electric guitar and violin guitar, a rarely seen instrument, described by Jeff Denny as having the range of a theoretical "tenor violin" and the same fingerings as a guitar. Their blues had a definite rock feel, but also carried undertones of country - a bit of a southern twang that made it charmingly regional. The laidback music style coincided perfectly with Latorres' casual nature, sitting on stage, leaning back and inviting anyone with an interest in music in blues, whether it be vocal performance or instrumental, to join his band on their regular Thursday night appearances on the Stony Brook campus. "It's nice playing here. It's really important to get college kids interested in this type of music."

All of the profits made in the monetary contributions from this week's concert were intended to be used as aid for the hurricane victims and are to be donated to the relief organizations selected by the donators themselves. In their own unique ways, the Café and its talented guests were able to assist the student body, faculty and staff in their efforts to ease the pain of their fellow Americans.

Thursday, September 29, 2005 The Stony Brook Statesmar

SPOTLIGHT: SAC ART GALLERY

Leonda Finke's 40 Years of Sculpture

By Nikki Tobar Staff Writer

Leonda Finke recently presented her exhibition "40 Years of Sculpture" at the about the message she hopes to bring Student Activities Center Art Gallery. Finke is able to use the different gestures message does not come first. and body language of the female form to convey her message of women's "struggles, self-discoveries, and inner psyches." She is able to convey the spirit of women through her powerful and thought provoking sculptures that capture their true portrayed as sex objects with idealized emotions and expressions.

Finke got her start as an artist at a very young age and was always drawing constantly. She attended the Arts Students League and was a commercial artist at night. She began sculpture in her 20's and is mainly self taught. She is inspired by other artists such as the German Northern Renaissance painter and sculptor Tilman Riemenschneider and by the abstract sculptor David Smith. "Genuinely good greatly influenced by the choreography of Martha Graham, the mother of modrevolutionary to use her body to express emotions," said Finke.

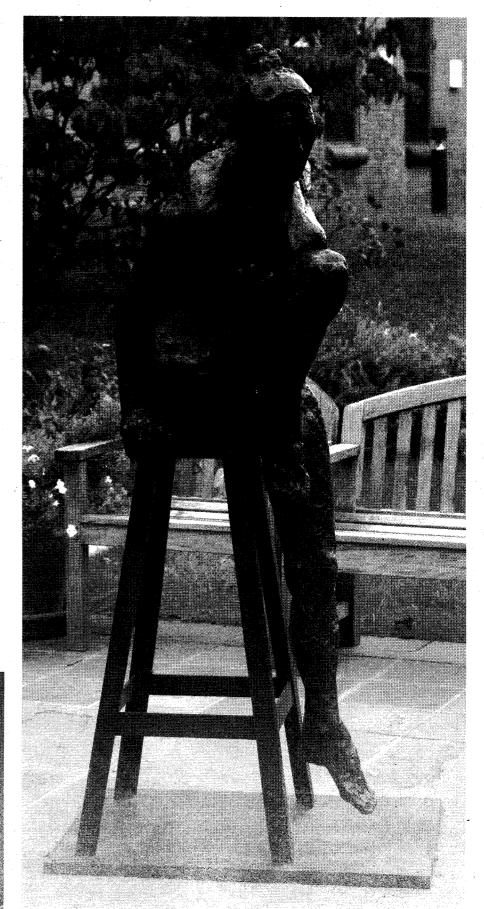
the body," she said. Another one of her your work has to come from yourself."

favorites, "Woman on a Stool," was displayed outside of the SAC. Dana Baum, freshman, believed the piece to be "very intriguing, very emotional." When asked across with her work, Finke replied, "The

The form comes first. Sculpture is about form and space." Finke believes that in showing a more realistic version of the female body, she is rebelling against the 19th Century sculptures of women bodies. "Real women are connected to the earth," said Finke. "We reach out way beyond ourselves. Sculpture is about form. Real women have more interesting

Her exhibition also included relief sculptures, which are a combination of sculpture and drawing. Portraits of Virginia Woolf and Emily Dickinson were among the poets and writers displayed. "These relief sculptures give me a chance art which speaks to us can be in any style to read everything they've written and in any time," said Finke. "My interests everything written about them," said cross lines of all styles." Finke is also Finke. "I'm able to dig into their work very deeply and understand it better."

"Look for and follow your influencern dance in the 20th Century. "She was es," said Finke, as advice to young artists. "You really don't choose art, art chooses you; it drives you. If this is your passion, Finke's large scale sculptures are you must stay with it. Develop your own very "evocative and expressive" images artist identity through working. You are of the female form. Her favorite piece is not to accept everything you are taught. "Witness I." "There is a lot of tension in Skills can be taught, but the direction of

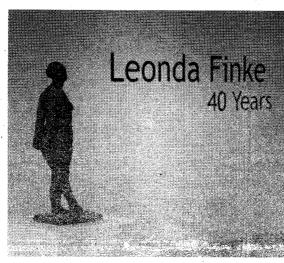


"Woman on a Stool" by Leonda Finke (above).

> Leonda Finke's 40 Years exhibition in the SAC Art Gallery (left).

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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, September 29, 2005

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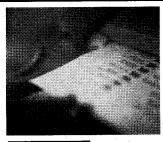
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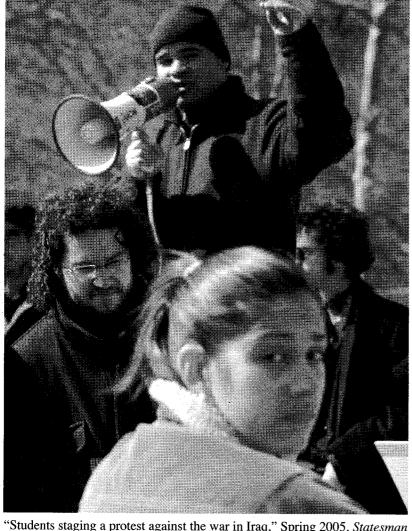
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Gandhi: His Relevance at a Time of Terror

Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7, Charles B. Wang Center



Wars, bombings, torture, collateral damage, the infractions of civil and human rights – these are the pockmarks of our current age of terror. This program examines alternative solutions to these violent and deadly systems of power by turning to the exemplar of non-violence. In commemoration of a great man's birthday (October 2), the Wang Center presents an exhibition, two films and discussion exploring the life of Mohandas Gandhi, the father of the independence struggle of the South Asian subcontinent, as well as the ardent advocate for nonviolent solutions to conflict. Free and open to the public.

Exhibition: My Life is My Message

11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A historical journey with evocative images of Mahatma Gandhi's life as he fought for India's freedom from British rule through civil disobedience. Lent to the Wang Center by the Gandhi Memorial Center, Maryland.

The Making of the Mahatma

Thursday, October 6. 3:00 p.m. and Friday, October 7, 7:00 p.m.

Resistance without violence. Confrontation without enemies Victory without losers. The film dramatically unfolds the transformation of Gandhi, the man. to Gandhi, the Mahatma, the great and enlightened world leader. (Shyam Benegal/ 1996/145 minutes/English)

Hai Ram! (Oh God!)

Thursday, October 6, 7:00 p.m. and Friday, October 7, 3:00 p.m.

A riveting and powerful story of revenge rage and reconciliation. Set in pre-independence India, Saket Ram's beloved wife is murdered by Muslim rioters. In his grief, he is persuaded by Hindu fundamentalists to assassinate Mahatma Gandhi (Kamalhasan/2000/199 minutes/English subtitles)



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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Statesman Athlete of the Week:

Daniel Michitsch

By Mary Vanderhyde

This week's "Athlete of the Week" honor goes to Daniel Michitsch, a junior on the Stony Brook football team. Michitsch has been selected for this honor due to his hard work and performance at last week's Homecoming game. He was able to defend the Seawolves' territory on the field and execute a total of 13 tackles. Even though Stony Brook lost to Georgetown, Michitsch was able to prevent them from gaining a greater lead than they had in the 10-7 finish, showing that the Seawolves were going to fight until the very end.

From Glendale, NY, Michitsch was originally a baseball

with friends but didn't start becoming serious until high school, where he discovered he loved it even more than baseball. Michitsch was able to earn four letters, rack up 180 tackles in his junior and senior year combined, had three interceptions as a junior, and earn all-city, all-league and CHSFL Defensive Player of the Year honors in football. He continued to play both football and baseball throughout his high school career, and was given the choice of the two when he started applying to college. In the end his passion for football won, leading him to become a Seawolf.

Since coming to Stony Brook University Michitsch has aided his fellow Seawolves, seeing action

player. He played football a bit in all ten games last season, and having a total of 21 tackles. One of the major reasons Michitsch came to Stony Brook was not only because it was his top choice but also because "the school has a good business program," and is not too far from home. He is only an hour away and his family can still see him at games. When he first came here, he felt the football program was really starting to improve. With great new facilities, it keeps improving every year he's been here so far. He is majoring in Economics, hoping to be successful in the business field and see where it leads him.

> This season, Michitsch believes that his team is doing really well. "I believe we did a great job at Homecoming, although it

doesn't always end up how you planned. The team played hard and that made it harder when we lost. Homecoming might not have gone as planned, and been disappointing, but we'll [the team] get over it and still can go far this season." When asked where he sees himself going with football in the long run, his reply was simply "I always want to try, right now I'm looking forward to the season. You never know when it'll end so I play and enjoy each game like it's my last." Michitsch also commented on this year's team in general, stating, "This team of all the teams I've been on in high school and college is one of the best unified teams. We all get along on and off the field as friends, and I've never seen a team



Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics

have this kind of chemistry, this kind of bond. We [the team] love and appreciate all the support the students have given us by coming to our games. Hopefully we will have plenty more exciting games this season, so the fans can continue to come and cheer us on."

Sports Commentary

Homecoming: A Sign of Things to Come?

By Keith Weinberg Staff Writer

While it took 10 4th quarter points for Georgetown University to manage a win in this past Saturday's homecoming game, the problems for the Seawolves football team were made even more evident as the Seawolves dropped their second game in a row following their opening day win against Bucknell. Through 3 games now, the Stony Brook offense is averaging less than 10 points a game, which includes suffering their first shutout since 1997 to their cross island rivals Hofstra. Fans could only be wondering now whether this will be another losing season for Stony Brook football, which would be their second in a row following their success which coincided with the opening of Lavalle stadium.

Seawolves offense started the season displaying some potential. Even though the game featured numerous mistakes, including two interceptions and three failed point after attempts, as well as a missed field goal: Stony Brook still managed 171 rushing yards and over 200 passing yards. If the Seawolves were only able to avoid special teams mistakes, they wouldn't have required a last second field goal for the win. However, following the shutout by Hoftra, which included well under 200 vards of total offense, as 2 interceptions. one returned for a score on a failed 4th down conversion at the Hoftra 30 yard line, the Stony Brook offense continued to struggle again Georgetown.

Besides their one fluke drive, which went spanned 95 yards on 10 plays, Stony Brook never even managed to get pass the Even with the recent failures, the Hoya 39 yard line. While the Seawolves managed to avoid committing even one turnover, as well converted on their one extra point attempt, the only averaged 2.2 yards a rush, and just above 150 yards on passing yards, numbers which are simply embarrassing. This is especially true considering the fact that a large portion of those yards came during one drive.

Even in their one win which displayed some offensive success, the main reason they managed to beat Bucknell, as well as keep the Hoyas close till the end, was the work of their defense. The Seawolves defense forced 5 turnovers against Bucknell, including 4 fumbles, and managed to keep the Hoyas off the board for 3 quarters even after repeatedly giving them prime offensive field position due to the inept offense and a poor punting game. While the defense was lit up by an obviously supremely talented Hofstra team, the defense continued its success again Georgetown. Second year defensive coordinator Vince Sinagra did a remarkable job in taming the Hoya offense. The only real fault for the Seawolves defense was their inability to regain possession of the ball when the Hoyas took possession with 2:57 remaining in the game.

With conference play beginning this Saturday, the season can quickly become a lost cause if Stony Brook's offense does pick up its play.

Unfortunately, they will be playing the defending Northeast Conference champions Monmouth, who will undoubtedly be looking for revenge as their only defeat last year was suffered at home to Stony Brook, 27-0. Monmouth's offense has well is averaging almost 36 points a game, meaning it will be a tough test for Stony Brook on both sides of the ball.