

SBU Professor Honored for Mentoring

BY MANSOOR KHAN
Statesman Editor

Students, faculty and staff gathered on Monday to honor David Bynum, Ph.D., founder and director of the Long Island Group Advancing Science Education. Bynum, an associate professor of biochemistry and cell biology, received the 2002 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mentoring for his efforts to increase the availability of research opportunities for underrepresented students throughout Long Island.

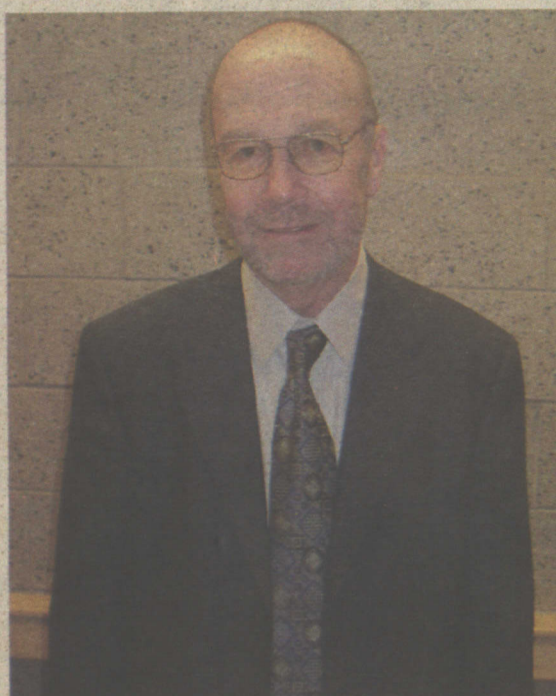
The event, entitled "Mentoring for Success: Helping Underrepresented Students Thrive in a Research Environment," featured Michael F. Summers, Ph.D., professor at the University of Maryland, and Howard Hughes, Medical Institute Investigator.

In keeping with Stony Brook's 2003-2004 theme, "Mentoring in Community," Summers lectured on

the relationships he has developed and the opportunities he offers to undergraduate students as a research scientist at his university. Summers is director of the Meyerhoff Scholars Program at UMBC, which offers undergraduate fellowships in order to increase the participation of underrepresented minorities in science, engineering and mathematics.

"Based on the statistics, we can see that there is a proportionately lower number of underrepresented minorities in these fields," Summers said. According to Summers statistics, the Meyerhoff program has been successful in their efforts, drastically increasing the quantity of minority participants in research.

Summers argues that a propor-



David Bynum was honored for his contributions to mentoring in the Stony Brook community.

Statesman/Mansoor Khan

Continued on Page 11

Writing Your Dream Novel: An SBU Workshop

BY MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS
Statesman Editor

For many aspiring writers, starting the novel they've been dreaming of writing can be difficult. For others, the real difficulty comes with publishing and promoting their new literary work. "Start Your Book at Stony Brook" provided new writers the opportunity to listen to and interact with leading professionals from the field of publishing.

The workshop was held at both the Manhattan and Stony Brook campuses, on November 13th and 20th, respectively. At both sessions, current and aspiring novelists listened to publishing professionals discuss techniques to improve their writing, what today's editors are looking for in a novel, how to find a publisher, and how to market a novel effectively.

The Manhattan workshop featured former wrestler-turned-novelist Mick Foley, novelist and award-winning book reviewer Katy Munger, award-winning editor and publisher Otto Penzler, and Juris Jurjevics, co-publisher of the SoHo Press. The Stony Brook workshop featured novelist and professor K.J.A. Winshia, novelist

Continued on Page 11

Design Chosen to Revamp Walkway

BY SAMANTHA EARLEY
Statesman Contributor

The winner of the competition to redesign the Union walkway was announced recently by the contests' sponsor, the on-campus environmental group, School of Thought.

Utilizing trees for shade, ivy grown on lattice, a walkway outlined in brick, benches and tables for congregation, and outdoor chess tables, the design seeks to revolutionize the area in front of the Student Union that faces inner campus.

Ted Johnson, a junior from Buffalo, is the student behind the winning design. The history major could offer no reason for applying. "I just felt like doing it," he said. Johnson, who does a lot of landscaping, was shocked that his computer-rendered design won.

"Ted was hands-down the winner," said senior Michael Zannettis, founder and president of the club. "He incorporated every fundamental idea we had about the space. Environmentally progressive, culturally significant, aesthetically pleasing, social and practical."

Over the past summer, Zannettis



Statesman/Peter Sunwoo

Ted Johnson won the competition to redesign the walkway in front of the Stony Brook Union. His computer design was selected because of its natural appeal.

recognized the need to revamp the area in front of the Student Union. Within the first weeks of this semester, the club was immersed in meetings with Dean Jerrold Stein, the university's

deputy president, George Meyer, the university architect, Robert Zimmerman and other department heads.

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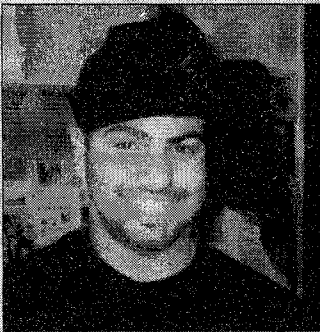
Index

Professor Honored.....	1,11
New Union Design.....	1,11
Writing Workshop.....	1,11
Campus Voices.....	2
Behind the Shelves.....	5
Police Blotter.....	5
Neal the Real Deal.....	5
Commentary.....	6
Met Fans.....	6,11
Women's Basketball.....	7
Music Reviews.....	7
Festival of Lights Pics.....	12

Campus Voices

By Peter Sunwoo and Mansoor Khan

What do you think of night life around campus?



"I think it sucks because everyone goes to the city. All there is to do is eat, unless you know a group going out, you won't meet anyone, really. Girls in the city are a lot hotter and user friendly."
Kamran Mohammed, Senior



"I don't really go out much, but if I can change off-campus nightlife, I would make clubs and bars closer to campus, so people don't drive home drunk."
Hana Musabegovic, Junior

"We don't have enough bars for social activities. If you have enough social activities, people will participate more and stay on campus during the weekends, as well as increase school spirit."
Girish Kunapareddy, Senior



"I go out once in a while because there aren't that many good spots to go to. I'd rather hang out inside with friends."
Matt Napolitano, Senior



"I think they should convert all the stores across the railroad, like the Cleaners and Calcutters, to bars."
Roseann Voutsinas, Senior



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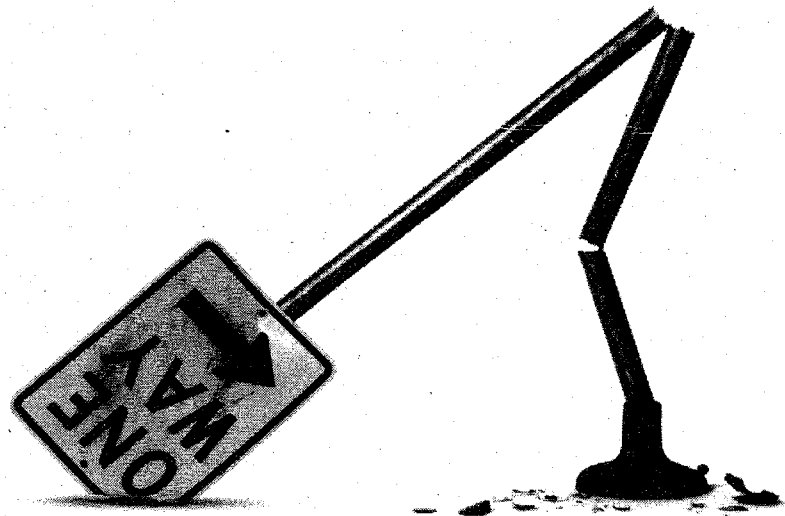
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Bill to Ban Patents on Human Organisms Nears Congressional Approval

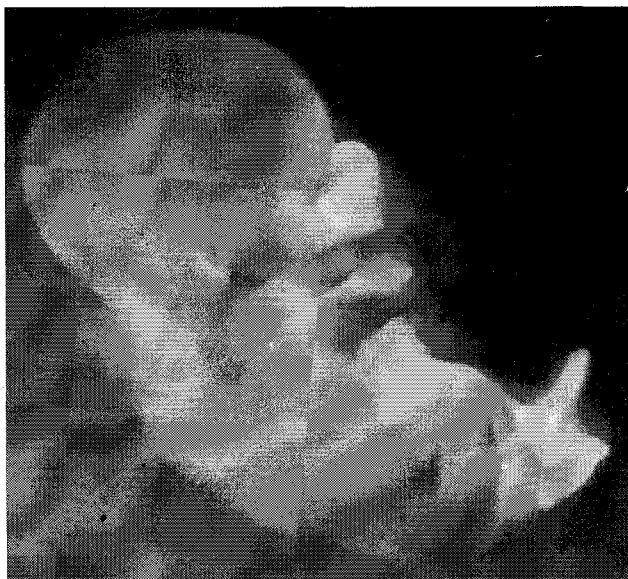
3

By JEFFREY BRAINARD
Chronicle of Higher Education

Congress is poised to approve legislation that would bar the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office from issuing a patent on a "human organism," including any human embryo created by researchers. Some scientists have thought that the amendment could be interpreted so broadly as to prevent the development of stem cells for medical therapies, but the final measure includes clarifying language to allow such research.

Some research advocates were satisfied with the clarification, which was offered last week. But others continued to worry about the measure's impact, in part because it was proposed by Rep. Dave Weldon, a Florida Republican who has backed previous efforts to ban the cloning of human cells for medical research and has criticized research on embryonic stem cells.

The research is controversial because scientists must destroy embryos to derive the cells, which have the potential to treat diseases. Opponents, in-



Courtesy of google.com

cluding Representative Weldon, regard embryos as human lives.

His proposal is contained in an amendment to a spending bill to provide money for several federal agencies in the 2004 fiscal year. Congress is expected to approve the bill this month or in January.

Representative Weldon, who is

a physician, has said he does not intend the measure to prevent research on human stem cells. The patent office has approved patents on stem cells, and its director, James E. Rogan, said last month that Dr. Weldon's proposal was consistent with the office's existing policy, which prohibits patents "directed to or encompassing a human being."

Dr. Weldon said he substituted the words "human organism" for the patent office's "human being" because the former was "more politically neutral and more precise."

Academic researchers continued to examine the proposed amendment last week, concerned that it could have some unintended consequences that would hamper medical research related to embryos and stem cells. Scientists' abilities to patent discoveries can influence whether they work with biotechnology companies to develop their findings from basic research into therapies for patients. Colleges stand to receive royalties and license fees from such work.

Dr. Weldon has argued that Congress should codify the patent office's policy because of advances in medical research, including the genetic modification of embryos for research purposes. He pointed to reports this year that researchers in Spain had created a hybrid embryo containing some cells from a human male embryo

and other cells from a female embryo, a union they dubbed a "she-male." (The researchers destroyed the hybrid after it had grown for six days.)

"We should not allow such researchers to gain financially by granting them an exclusive right to practice such ghoulish research," Dr. Weldon said in July.

Absent Congressional support for the patent office's policy, the bill could be overturned in court. In 1980, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a patent-office policy when it allowed a gene to be patented.

Lawrence S.B. Goldstein, a professor of cellular and molecular medicine at the University of California at San Diego, agrees that human embryos themselves should not be patented. But the amendment is too broad, and the word "organism" is vague, he says.

"If this is so important," says Mr. Goldstein, "why not write a carefully crafted bill, with definitions and exclusions" for stem-cell research? "What Congressman Weldon would find," the professor says, "is that there would be a lively debate." Because the proposal was offered as an amendment to a spending bill, however, it did not get a Congressional hearing.

In response to such criticism, the clarification added last week contains a reference to Dr. Weldon's July statement that the policy would not apply to "stem-cell research or patenting genes."

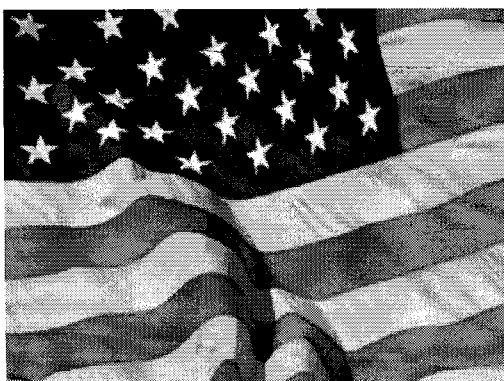
Should the amendment pass when Congress takes final action on the entire bill, the policy would be in effect for only the 2004 fiscal year, unless it is renewed. That could provoke another round of debate.

U. of Southern California Wins Federal Grant for Terrorism Research

By ANNE MARIE BORREGO
Chronicle of Higher Education

The Department of Homeland Security has chosen the University of Southern California to create the first of several planned national centers for research on terrorism, in a deal worth \$12-million over the next three years.

Researchers at the university's new Homeland Security Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events will examine the potential targets and means of terrorism, as well as the protection of



Courtesy of google.com

the country's key infrastructure systems, including electricity, transportation, and telecommunications.

"We are confident that the cooperative efforts of the first Homeland Security Center of Excellence" -- as the center is being described -- "will greatly enhance our ability to combat terrorism by empowering the best scientific minds at our nation's universities to tackle the challenges we face," Charles E. McQueary, the department's undersecretary for science and technology, said in a written statement last week.

Randolph W. Hall, associate dean for research at the university's School of Engineering, will direct the center. Re-

searchers at the university already study responses to unexpected and destructive events like earthquakes. The institution plans to extend its scope by working with outside experts in other areas, such as disaster response and modeling. The expanded team's findings could also apply to blackouts and fires. Research-

ers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, New York University, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Wisconsin at Madison are already on board.

The announcement of the center ends months of speculation over which institution would land the lucrative research-center grant. Last year, when Congress created the Homeland Security Department, many universities cried foul over legislative language that they said seemed to favor Texas A&M University at College Station as the recipient. The department chose the University of Southern California from among 70 applicants in a competition that began in June.

The department expects to issue its second request for proposals this month for university centers that will focus on agricultural terrorism.

Carolyn Heilbrun: A Scholar's Suicide

By VANESSA GRIGORIADIS
Chronicle of Higher Education

Carolyn Heilbrun, a Virginia Woolf scholar and a pioneer in feminist studies, believed that suicide is everyone's moral right. She exercised that right in October.

"Heilbrun's suicide was an act of will, an idea brought to life," writes Vanessa Grigoriadis, a contributing editor at the magazine. "It was something she chose, by herself, for herself."

Ms. Heilbrun was a professor of English at Columbia University until 1992, when she "resigned in protest over what she saw as the department's sexual discrimination," Ms. Grigoriadis says. "Heilbrun was instrumental in securing a place for both female characters and female writers in the serious study of literature," she says.

The scholar had often talked and written about suicide, particularly the

Heilbrun's suicide was an act of will, an idea brought to life.

idea of ending one's life at the age of 70. Her own suicide came at age 77. Apparently, she was not sick or depressed, though she had expressed sadness about the state of the world in general. She spent the days before her death in her customary pattern of reading, writing, and taking walks in Central Park.

At her memorial service, friends and family members expressed "anger, guilt, and confusion, but an ultimate acceptance of Heilbrun's decision to author her own life, even its ending," Ms. Grigoriadis writes.

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Kristen Nyitray: Researcher Behind the Shelves

BY REGINA GLICK
Statesman Editor

On the second floor of the Melville Library at Stony Brook University and behind a locked door, Kristen Nyitray oversees the Special Collections Department, which holds more than 20,000 rare books, maps and manuscripts.

The oldest book in the collection, from 1493, is a rare copy of the *Chronicum Nuremberger*, an early German attempt to record the history of the world, beginning with creation.

One of her biggest goals is to raise awareness on campus about her department, which has been mistaken for a collection agency and the bursar's office in the past.

"You see this dust?" asked Nyitray as she carefully opened the Oxford-unabridged-dictionary-sized chronicle, noting the reddish-orange powder from the decaying cover. "That's red rot. If you touch it, you can get a rash."

The dark, heavy volume was an anachronism in the brightly lit, temperature-controlled Special Collections office.

And, similarly, Nyitray, affable and wearing fashionable knee-high suede boots, too, seemed to contradict the austere demeanor of the office.

"I like my work a lot," she said. "I

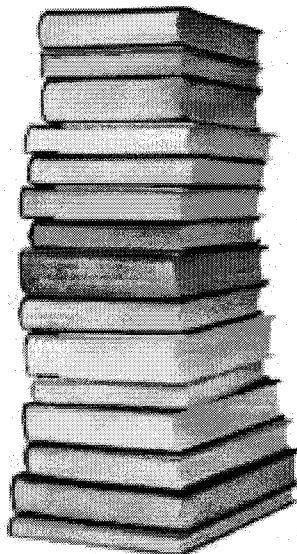
think my favorite part is just helping people doing reference work, assisting people with research. It's a very service-oriented profession."

She said that she gets "very into" other people's research. "Our collections are really A through Z, so there's so much to learn. It's hard because we're so all over the place, but it's wonderful."

Nyitray, who has worked in special collections since 1999 and became head of the operation in April, said her department is used by approximately 300 researchers every year, slightly more than half coming in from off-campus, across the country and around the world.

One researcher flew in once from Sweden to view the department's collection of Eugenia Soderberg's original manuscripts, correspondences and photographs. Soderberg was a 20th century Swedish-born journalist who reported from the United States for Scandinavian newspapers. Others have visited from the state of Washington, Ireland and India.

"Anybody can buy a book, but special collections make a library distinct," Nyitray said. "I think Special



Courtesy of google.com

University Police Blotter: Nov. 27 - Dec. 1

COMPILED BY MAURY HIRSCHKORN
Statesman Staff

Nov. 27, 2003

8:43 p.m. - Small fire, Toscaninni College, dryer fire extinguished by student.

Nov. 28, 2003

1:30 p.m. - Motor vehicle accident, South Dr./Marburger Dr.

Nov. 29, 2003

3:52 a.m. - Attempted burglary, Baruch College.

Nov. 30, 2003

5:21 p.m. - Larceny, Whitman College, laptop stolen.

6:02 p.m. - Motor vehicle accident, rear of Roosevelt College, one summons issued.

6:53 p.m. - Larceny, Schick College, computer and monitor stolen.

7:28 p.m. - Burglary, Greeley College, computer and electronic equipment stolen.

10:46 p.m. - Larceny, Indoor Sports Complex, wallet stolen.

11:53 p.m. - Arrest, Circle Rd., arrested two subjects who had criminal possession of stolen property. (Which were the items stolen from Schick College at 6:53 p.m.)

Dec. 1, 2003

3:53 p.m. - Larceny, Melville Library, wallet stolen.

6:10 p.m. - Larceny, Douglass College, DVD player and Sony Playstation stolen.

Collections, and the library as a whole, can bring reverence and respect to a university."

Since there is no centralized catalogue or search engine for the information contained in the collections, Nyitray and her small staff spend a lot of time checking the books, manuscripts and university archives for information requests.

"Every book is so special," she said. "There's always an opportunity to constantly learn."

Although she majored in sociology as an undergraduate at Stony Brook, Nyitray said she was a bibliophile before she decided to make books her career.

"I've always loved libraries and been surrounded by fine books," she said. Her mother collected antiques and "fine books."

Nyitray said that she was not sure what to do after graduation, but a friend who was a librarian suggested she pursue a similar career.

She earned her master's degree in Library Science at Queens College.

She has expertise in children's literature and said she would like to earn a second master's degree in art history, with a focus on books as works of art.

For now, she is conducting her own research into artistic books, using the department's Perishable Press, Ltd. collection. The press, created by Walter S. Hamady in 1964, specializes in unusual books of handmade paper, bound by hand, and produced as works of art like any other painting or sculpture.

Further, she said she would like to exhibit the Hamady and other collections, to reach a larger audience than the 300 researchers she sees per year. But the department lacks display cases and even a place of its own to put them in.

She said one of her biggest goals is to raise awareness on campus about her department, which has been mistaken for a collection agency and the bursar's office in the past.

"We want students to feel welcome and to come in and use primary materials," she said. "We don't want the place to be shrouded in secrecy."

Neal the Real Deal: Macho Music [or Not]

BY NEAL KINARIWALA
Statesman Contributor

As scary as it might sound, rap star and wrestler Randy "Macho Man" Savage exhibits some real talent for the rap game in his new album, "Be a Man"—or not! I admit, in my previous column I made some jokes about his album without actually taking the time to listen to one of the tracks. Therefore I felt that I should at least attempt to listen to his latest CD. But once those horrid aerial vibrations reached my eardrums, I realized I had been too easy on the Macho Man. Honestly, it sounds like something made for a 1970's macaroni commercial.

Actually, I think it would be more accurate to describe this album as a black hole of talent. If you hope to succeed in any aspect of music, keep out of earshot of such Macho Man "classics" as *Tear It Up* and *R U Ready*.

It sounds like his rhymes were written by Mr. Peanut or something. In fact, I wouldn't be surprised if the

Macho Man bought the lyrics off a mental defect. But frankly, in this case, I think it would be better if the author remained anonymous. In reality, it really doesn't matter, because no one would possibly want to take credit for such lines as:

Hollywood Hulkster, you're at the end of your rope

And I'm gonna kick you in the butt and wash your mouth out with soap

And don't forget the classic:

People on the streets say "Randy you the illest"

And I'm one of the realest, so it's not hard to feel this

So according to Randy, seemingly normal people walk up to him and tell him he's the "illest." I hate to break it to you Savage, but there is not one person on this green earth that thinks you're the illest, unless we're considering your mental state.

Back to actual wrestling—it has been reported that Trish Stratus will assume the role of Sonya Blade in the



Courtesy of google.com

third installment of Mortal Kombat. "Wow, I didn't know Sonya Blade was such a big fan of plastic surgery!"

Anyways, in case you haven't heard, Kurt Angle is out with another neck injury. Thankfully, this one is nowhere near as serious as his previous neck injury, due to which he was expected to

retire. The surgery to remove bone chips in his neck will only sideline Angle for approximately a month.

Speaking of injuries, I think it would do us all good if Vince McMahon could injure something just so he wouldn't hog up TV time the way he does right now. Nothing too serious...turf toe will do.

But seriously, the man's ego cannot be sated. He sucks up TV exposure like a sponge sucks up water. You'd think he would take more vacations with the kind of money he has, but no such luck.

P.S.: Don't ever dwell on your SAT scores: (Bush's verbal: 560; Bush's math: 640). It's kind of interesting that he went to Yale with those scores And now, for the devoted Seinfeld fans:

Kramer: "Hey, Jerry, rub some lotion on my back."

Jerry: "Who are you, Mrs. Robinson?"

Kramer: "C'mon, and I'll rub some on you."

Jerry: "That's not sweetening the

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Commentary

More Credit! SBU Registration Problems

By MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS
Statesman Editor

Did you know that the maximum credit load for Stony Brook students was lowered from 19 to 17? If you didn't, that's perfectly okay. This decision, which affects a tremendous number of students, was recently reached, but hardly publicized. The only notice students did receive was a message on their SOLAR accounts, describing the new rule. Of course, students did not receive any e-mail or other notifications to inform them about this message, so a large amount of students did not, or have not, found out about it.

Moreover, students who wish to take more than 17 credits cannot immediately petition to overload on credits. Instead, they have to wait until January 12th to petition. This is a month or more after the registration period for most students, and in the middle of winter break, when both resident and commuter students are at home or on vacation, but definitely *not* on campus.

Forcing students to wait one month before they can even petition to overload for credits creates a series of problems. First, students have to physically be on campus to petition, and have to physically be on campus the next day to find out the result of their petition, and get it processed by the registrar's office if it was approved. Additionally, it is very likely that many classes—lower credit limit notwithstanding—will have filled up by January 12th,

locking out students who otherwise would have been able to register for those classes. Obviously, for students interested in taking 18 or more credits, there is no way for them to know, during registration, which of their intended classes is most or least likely to be full a month later, so a guessing game is created.

It should also be mentioned that due to the budget cuts affecting Stony Brook and other SUNY schools, there are fewer classes being offered, or fewer sections available in classes that are still offered. This reduces the amount of available seats in classes and increases the likelihood of those classes filling up faster, even with a reduced credit limit.

As a result of these changes, it is very likely that certain students will not be able to take necessary classes, and will also have far fewer chances to take that class

Forcing students to wait one month before they can even petition to overload for credits creates a series of problems.

in the future, due to reduced course offerings. Students will also be hard-pressed to replace that class with a similar one, again due to the reduction of the maximum credit load and the reduced amount of courses available.

Though there isn't much Stony Brook University could have done about the state-mandated budget cuts, there is a lot the university could still do to help improve the academic experience it provides for its students. Reducing the maximum credit load from 19 to 17 and keeping dedicated students from taking classes they want, and perhaps need, to take, is not the way to improve that academic experience.

The Lovable Underdog: A Met Fan

By JOHN NOBLE
Statesman Staff

There exists a surprising phenomenon in New York. A well-known but little-acknowledged force that can cause grown men to act in very strange ways. That force is baseball.

For five months of every year, New York tends to get swept up in baseball fever. The Bronx Bombers and the Amazin' Mets suit up, and go out to make their fans proud. Well...they both suit up, anyway.

Since the inception of the club in 1962, the Mets have always filled the role of the underdog in New York. Seldom has there been a club whose bungling has consistently brought them to the forefront of attention. Seldom has there been a club so adored for the unlikely mistakes and miscues of its players.

Seldom has there been a group of fans so fiercely loyal to a club that has done so little to deserve it. The Yankees are the winners in New York; they always have been, and they continue to be. The Mets are loveable losers, occasionally finding their moment in the sun, but for the most part, wilting in the spotlight of New York.

Strange, then, that grown men would find it necessary to ridicule Met fans. It seems almost surreal, but it happens. A proud young Met fan, wearing his new team apparel, is harangued by the catcalls of Yankee fans: "The Mets suck! Mike Piazza is gay! The Yankees have 26 World Championships!"

It is an experience shared by a large contingent



Continued on Page 11

Correction

In reference to the article that appeared in the Dec. 1 issue of the *Statesman* regarding the SBU Cat Network, the headline "The Taming of the Felines" was in no way meant to misrepresent the informational content of the article or present the issue of feral cats as whimsical. The headline chosen was not the original selected by the article's author, and it is recognized that the problem of feral cats exists because stray cats on campus are indeed not able to be "tamed."

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Women's Basketball: Delaware Defeats Seawolves

7

By DANA GOMI
Statesman Editor

The Delaware Blue Hens defeated the Stony Brook women's basketball team, 67-58, on Nov. 25 in the Sports Complex. The loss lowered the Seawolves' record to 0-2, and the Blue Hens improved to 1-1.

In the first half, the Seawolves gained a two-point lead with 9:40 remaining. Delaware then went on an 8-0 run, giving the Blue Hens a 22-16 lead. However, the Seawolves came back to tie the score at 29, thanks to Stephanie Barlett's layup. The Blue Hens, however, came back to score the final four points of the period, giving them a 33-29 halftime advantage.

SBU battled uphill with Delaware throughout the second half. In an intense sequence of events, the Seawolves cut the lead to five points on a three-pointer by Kelly Watson. Delaware then took a seven point lead with a pair of free throws by Amanda Blackstone, but Seawolf Danyelle Ingram fought back and cut the lead down to five again with two free throws of her own. Blackstone's layup then gave Delaware a seven point

lead again, bringing the game out of the reach of the Seawolves.

Theresa LoParrino bagged a team-high 14 points for the Seawolves, while Mykeema Ford scored nine points on a 4-of-7 shooting. Ingram and Barlett each scored eight points, while Bojana Bogetic and Jessica Smith grabbed seven rebounds apiece.

Despite some strong individual performances, Stony Brook couldn't defeat Delaware, due to weak defense throughout the game. "Obviously, defensively, we need to get better," said assistant coach Tricia Floyd.

The team's defensive strategy has been changing though, as coach Trish Roberts experiments with plays to determine the best strategy. "Coach has been switching it up," Ingram said. "She hasn't kept the same people in a group. She is working with a different group, seeing which group works the best for defense. Till then, she still hasn't found a group that works. It's hurting; it's hurting a lot not having a defensive group that works."

However, poor defense wasn't the only problem Stony Brook faced during the game. "Putting [Delaware] at the foul

line 33 times was a big difference when we only went to the foul line 13 times," Floyd said. "They had 40 rebounds and we had 28. We also didn't box out."

Despite the fact that the game was a



Statesman/Djamel Beldjilali

SBU Women's Basketball looks on as another close game slips away.

non-conference matchup, Stony Brook's loss was a tough one. They just didn't have the spark they needed to grab the victory from Delaware.

"Delaware is a tough opponent," Floyd said. "Our non-conference schedule is tough. It's very challenging for us, but great preparation for the America East."

At least one team member disagrees with Floyd. "We should have beaten them," Ingram said. "I think we played horribly as a team overall today. If we played them on a better night, I think we could have definitely beaten them." The Seawolves women's basketball team has been battling uphill recently and with the new freshmen on hand along with the absence of Sherry Jordan, the team will need to work even harder if they are to succeed.

Their schedule this season includes a number of tough opponents, including Providence, Fordham and Harvard. The team's next home game will be against Providence on Dec. 11. Tip-off is at 7 p.m. in the Sports Complex.

Holiday Cheer: Four Big-Name Music Reviews

By MICHAEL KIMMEL
Statesman Staff

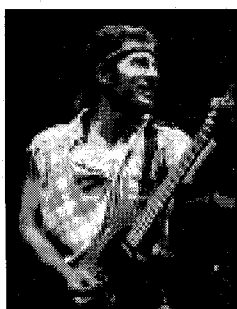
Brace yourselves. Every year, at about this time, as the holidays approach, record companies begin to trot out all the special "gift-giving" ideas they have been squirreling away for the year. Two strategies tend to dominate their idea of gift-giving: either new releases by well-known, tried and true groups, or deluxe package sets of recycled material.

The list of new releases by old friends is usually both extensive and impressive. But ultimately, virtually all are a bit too safe, a bit too familiar. Here, mega-stars return to what they do best, to what got them there in the first place. Nonetheless, here are a few you might want to check out. Three are good, but not great. One is truly inspired.

Bruce Springsteen: The Essential Bruce Springsteen (Columbia).

The guy's been touring non-stop since the release of The Rising in 2002, and has played for more than 2 million fans. So it makes some sense to put out something to slake their thirst for Bruce Juice. But this three-CD set covers the same ground as the 1995 "Greatest Hits" package, the best pair of songs from each album in his 30-year career, adds a bit from albums since 1995, and throws in a few bonus tracks not released elsewhere. Then the whole thing's sweetened with a bonus DVD of a stunning concert in Barcelona. Since I've never given a negative review to any of his albums, it would be out of character to give a negative review to a compilation of all the "essential"

recordings. Sure, I'd quibble with a few of the selections ("Mary's Place"?) and



a few of the little previously unreleased nuggets are less than stellar ("Viva Las Vegas"?). But the live cover of Jimmy Cliff's "Trapped" is as powerful as when I first heard it on "The River" tour in the early 1980s. Between the Greatest Hits package and the massive 1998-boxed set, Tracks, you have all the "hits" you need. Personally, I'd go with the big box: with Springsteen, more is more.

Sting: Sacred Love. (A&M Records).

As much a brand as a musician, Sting couples his new release with his autobiography, now climbing up the best-seller lists.

Sting has matured as an artist and singer—and that's not always a good



thing. This new release uses a variety of world music grooves culled from early 1990's Mediterranean discos, and grafts onto them his characteristic introspective love lyrics. At times he catches the wave and his voice sails; at others it might as well be karaoke for world muzak. "Forget About the Future" and the title-track stand out. For real fans—and their moms and dads.

Sinead O'Connor: She Who Dwells in the Secret Place of the Most High Shall Abide Under the Shadow of the Almighty (Vanguard Records).

With a title longer than most of the songs, Sinead O'Connor's farewell release (she promises that she is retiring from recording) returns to her first love—traditional, Celtic-infused languid pop songs, propelled by her haunted whispering voice that can swoop or soar in a heartbeat. But here, she offers one disc of covers, and while I admire some of her choices, the result feels



derivative and hardly offers O'Connor at her smoldering best. The second disc is O'Connor's first live recording, a 2002 Dublin concert that is powerful and poetic. Including many of her hits ("Nothing Compares 2 U" and "Last Day of Our Acquaintance"), it's the right way

to go out—at the top of your form.

Neil Young: Greendale (Reprise).

After nearly 50 albums, you gotta give Neil Young credit. Like rust, he never sleeps. He keeps reinventing himself, taking old sounds and making them new. Greendale is his first concept album—which enables Young, here re-teamed with his long-time backup band, Crazy Horse, to feel utterly unconstrained by time (some songs chug along for 8 or 9 minutes). It's a portrait of small-town America that resonates more with his send-up of the rural South in "Southern



Man" in 1970. Despite its happy facades, there's darkness at the edge of town here too; one guy shoots a cop, the family disintegrates in the media circus that follows, and the innocent daughter strikes out for a life on her own. But unlike Springsteen, who thinks there's "just a meanness in this world," Young sees no prime mover, no first cause. Things happen because, well, they just do. Then the big bad world converges even on bucolic small towns. In the film Young made and these 10 long and languidly rocking songs, he paints a portrait of small town America that is as vulnerable as it is idyllic. Don't miss it.

The Stony Brook Statesman

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In 2002, The Stony Brook Statesman became the first newspaper in the history of the Newsday Journalism Awards to be recognized in five different categories. The contest's previous record for the most awards won by a single organization was four. It was set by The Stony Brook Statesman in 2001.

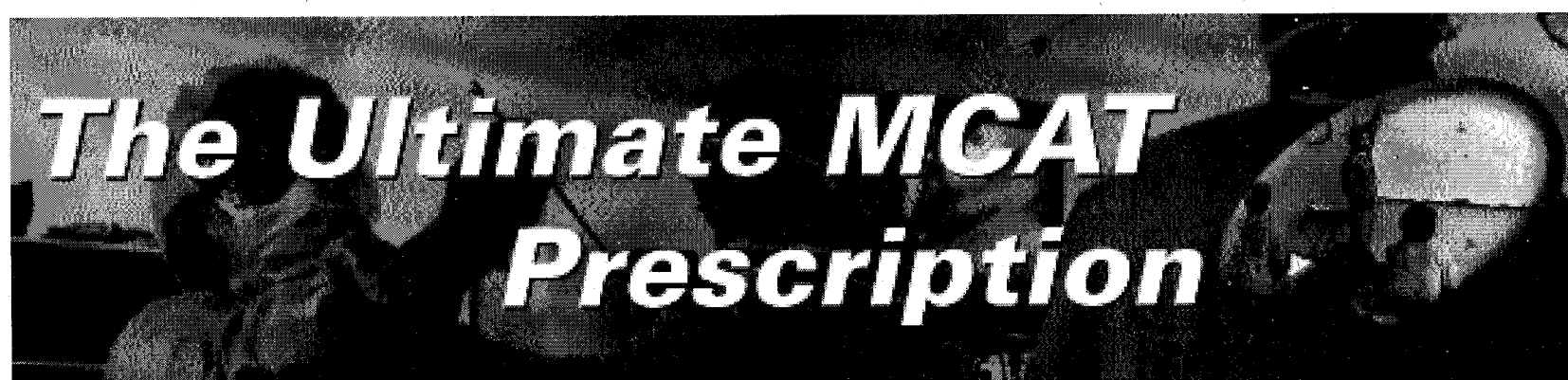
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Union Walkway Contest

Continued from Page 1

Plans for a design contest were made and the contest began in October. Concluding on November 4th, 2003, the contest brought attention to the project and the submission of applications by students.

"We hope the Union Walkway can serve as a microcosm of how we would like to see the world: environmentally sound, with a regular, healthy interaction between people and non-people,"

"...a group of students saw a problem, and instead of just complaining, sought a solution."

Jerrold Stein

said Zannettis.

"Throughout the process, you've found some obstacles and barriers... used creativity and ingenuity...but

there's still more to overcome," said Stein. He said fundraising will be the greatest obstacle for the project during the next few months. Donations are currently being sought.

"This project was started by students, for students, and we want to keep it that way until the end. But in order to do that, we have to put our money where our mouth is," Zannettis said. "Any student club or organization has the chance to sponsor a brick for \$150, a tree for \$400, or a bench for \$1,000."

Johnson feels that his design will benefit the campus community. "It opens up the area—makes it nicer," he said. "It gives people a meeting place, I suppose."

Following a December meeting with world-renowned New York architect John Belle, the project will be finalized, with groundbreaking scheduled to start sometime next semester, and a dedication ceremony to be held at the site on Earth Day, April 22, 2004.

Stein said he is pleased with the progress and direction of the project. "What's great about this whole process is that a group of students saw a problem, and instead of just complaining, sought a solution."

David Bynum Honored

Continued from Page 1

tionately higher amount of African Americans than Caucasians aspire initially to receive a Ph.D. in math, science, or engineering. "There are a large number of minorities interested," he said. The Meyerhoff scholarships offers these students a chance to immerse themselves in these fields of study.

What the program offers is a solid relationship with faculty members that can encourage these minority students to pursue their desired career path, Summer said. Bynum heads a similar project at SBU with LIGASE, offering undergraduate Howard Hughes fellowships to students interested in pursuing research. "I have had many Howard Hughes students [in my laboratory]," said Berhane Ghebrehwet, D.V.M., professor of medicine. "Dr. Bynum has been extremely supportive. When he sees bright students, he knows where to place them."

John H. Marburger III, the Presidential Science Advisor and former president of Stony Brook University, introduced the event and personally honored Bynum and Summers for their mentoring work with students. "Both men have made their life expe-

riences available to others to enrich lives beyond their own," he said. "It is an essential characteristic of humanity for each generation to pass

"When he sees bright students, he knows where to place them."

Berhane Ghebrehwet

on to the next generation.

Bynum has been working to nurture the relationship between students and faculty for years, said William Arens, Ph.D., professor of anthropology, who was on the advisory board for the first residential academic college with Bynum. "He's been committed to these types of things for as long as I can remember."

"It's a pleasure to see things keep going. I feel like this is only the beginning," Bynum said. "I'm touched by this. I felt like I was doing what I really wanted to do, and that's the beauty of it."

New Writing Workshops Ideal for Aspiring Authors

Continued from Page 1

Hallie Ephron, radio talk show host Larry Davidson, and publicist Tracy Day McRoberts. Both sessions were moderated by John Westermann, himself a novelist, and professor of fiction writing at SBU.

"Tonight was basically a short course in everything you need to know, from writing the book to going out and selling it," said Westermann after the Nov. 20 program, held in the Wang Center.

During the workshop, Westermann, who is a former police officer, described how an early interest in writing, and his experiences as an officer, led him to

return to school and begin a career as a novelist and professor. Westermann

was also instrumental in bringing this workshop to Stony Brook.

"I was having lunch with President Kenny," said

Westermann. "She suggested we do something like this to encourage

fiction writing at the university, and I was happy to do so."

For many aspiring writers, starting the novel they've been dreaming of writing can be difficult.

Many of those who attended the workshop came away satisfied. "I have a book I've written that I'm trying to find an agent for," said Ann Becchina, a Stony Brook alumna. "I came to see what I can learn. It was in-

formative, and very interesting."

Todd Thomas, a junior and English

major at SBU, attended the session because he is working on a novel of his own. "It was very informative. It gave me the path on how to do this," he said. "I know it'll be difficult, but I'm real confident that things will work out."

Westermann hopes to see more of these workshops in the near future, with more panelists and even more student involvement. "We're hoping to continue this at both the Stony Brook and the Manhattan campuses," he said. Westermann also encourages students who are interested in fiction writing to enroll in his course, "Writing Workshop: Fiction" (EGL 285) this spring.

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The Life of a Met Fan

Continued from Page 6

of Mets fans. But every Met fan knows what he is in for every time he dons that faded old cap. No one ever said it would be easy.

Every Met fan knows how easy it would be to become a Yankee fan. For fifteen dollars, a Met fan could buy a new Yankees hat, and start all over. Start again as a winner! The thrill of a World Championship is always within reach of a Yankee fan, and all Met fans know this.

But a true Met fan also knows that being a Yankee fan takes the fun out of baseball. The Met fan knows that if you are expected to win, then doing so is no longer exciting. And if you are expected to win, and you fail to do so, then you have failed, even if your team has turned in a season that you should be proud of.

So the Met fan thinks about it, sighs, and puts back on that old faded cap. He smiles to himself, because he knows that, even though he may be ridiculed, and even if other people think he is crazy, he has made the right decision.

And such is the lot of the Met fan; doomed to toil through seemingly endless years of mediocrity, waiting faithfully for that moment of glory. That elusive moment, so sweet, is made all the sweeter by the years of hope and anticipation. The love and devotion to this team makes all the waiting worthwhile.

And this is why, even in the face of ridicule, Met fans will stick with their team. Because baseball, like life, is not always about winning or losing. It is about the moment of anticipation, the elation and the disappointments. It is about the ride, not the destination.

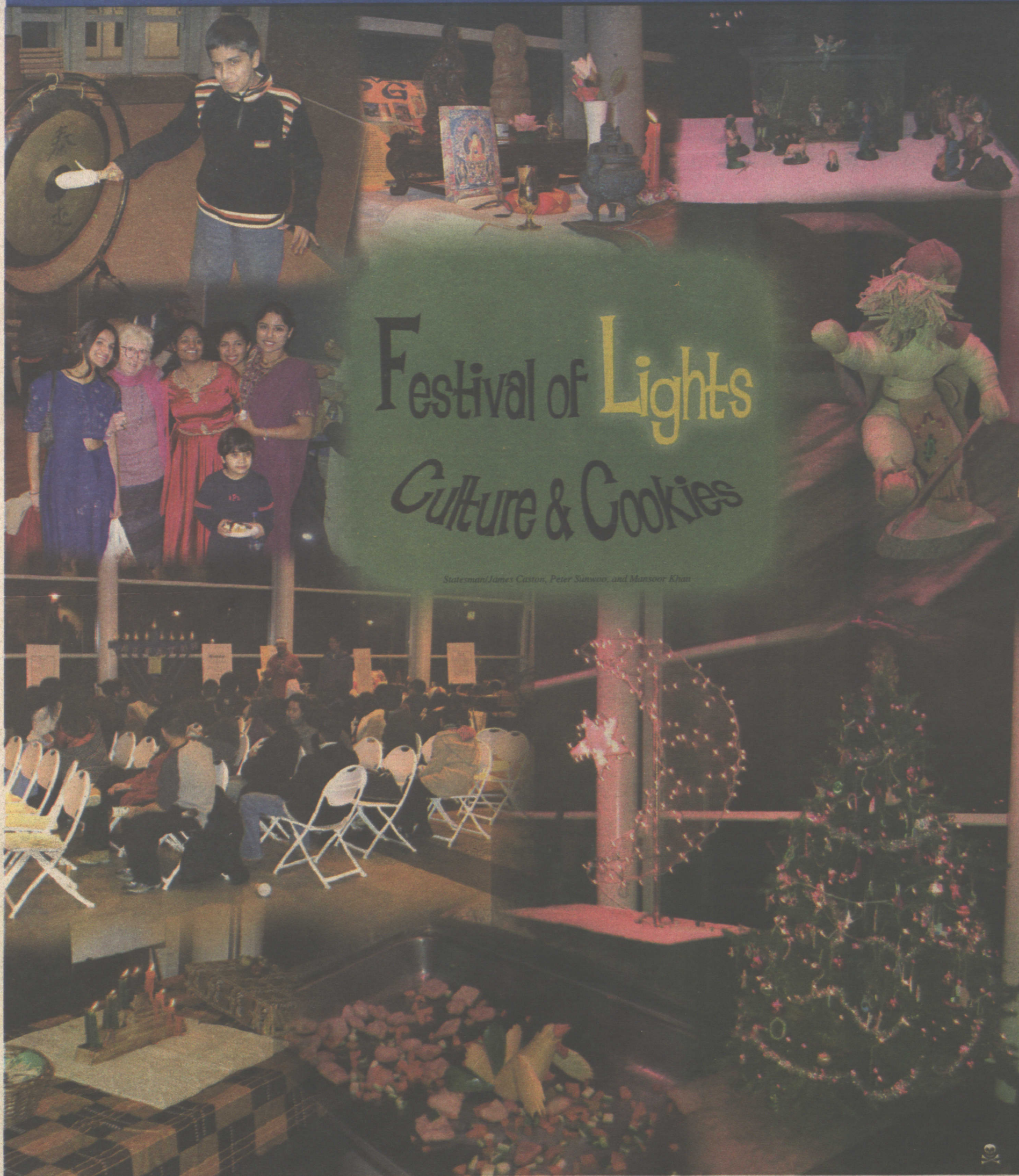
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