

# SBU Poorly Prepared for Disaster

By SURAJ RAMBHIA  
Contributing Writer

In light of the devastation caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita along the Gulf Coast of the United States just several weeks earlier, a mild rainstorm experienced by Stony Brook University residents and people all over the tri-state area evokes a much more troubling question. Does Stony Brook University have the resources in place to deal with a natural disaster? Are we prepared for the worst?

For many, Stony Brook seems to be a place that is more interested in construction of new buildings and the establishment of state of the art research laboratories rather than the welfare of its students, staff, and faculty. Albeit there is nothing wrong with a new building to wow the crowds during campus tours, or with the establishment of new laboratories for students to work in, however many feel after the rainstorm that Stony Brook was not prepared for the worst.

When asked if they felt safe at Stony Brook, students Kevin Ankney and Laura Dwyer replied emphatically in unison, "No." Several other students replied in a similar manner with a few added expletives.

A staff member, who wished to remain anonymous, recalled the March 9, 2005 snowstorm, when an evacuation of the campus resulted in a major traffic jam. She cited, "It took three hours just to leave the campus, forget about getting home afterwards. People were actually driving on campus to try to save time. There were no signs or anything to tell the people not to come in." In a last ditch effort to leave the campus, this staff member, along with many others, had to drive across the train tracks to escape the mess. The staff member went on to comment on the evacuation as a whole – an evacuation that was "poorly coordinated" and "lacking a structured system."

A faculty member, who also expressed a desire to remain anonymous, answered the question in a more diplomatic fashion. "My honest reply is that I am unaware of any disaster plans in place," he said. He told stories of his tried and true method for dealing with disasters on Stony Brook, also recalling the March 9, 2005 snowstorm. "I simply wait until later in the evening when the traffic clears." He cautioned, however, that in another type of situation, e.g. a terror threat or power failure, waiting it out would not be the best solution.

When asked where this lack of faith in Stony Brook's

safety plans stemmed from, both the anonymous faculty and staff members pointed straight at the top to Dr. Richard Mann, Vice President for the Administration here at Stony Brook. Dr. Mann was reportedly responsible for bolstering securities on campus after the World Trade Center attacks in 2001. And while it feels satisfying to be able to point fingers at one person for apparent inadequacies of emergency services at Stony Brook, it serves for everyone's benefit to obtain a better understanding of the nature of the problem we have on Long Island, not just within Stony Brook, when dealing with natural disasters and emergencies.

On Long Island, the nature of the transportation system is such that we have only three major roadways via which we can find refuge in the mainland, that is, in the event of a hurricane hitting the shores of Long Island, major power outages such as the one experienced by the entire northeast in August of 2003, or other types of emergencies. These three major roadways, the Long Island Expressway, Northern State Parkway, and Southern State Parkway, are sure to be jammed with motorists attempting to leave the island at the same time in the event of a catastrophe. Fleeing the onset of a hurricane or tropical storm, thus, will require planning and foresight.

As seen in the recent events that led up to Hurricane Katrina concerning the failure of the New Orleans levee system, appropriate measures are often not taken for protection unless an actual unavoidable problem arises. People on Long Island take for granted that a hurricane will lose power as it works its way up east coast of the United States. According to a study performed by Schefner and Butler in 1996, an analysis of 20 hurricanes that have hit the New York area predicts that a category three hurricane will return every 80 years. Although 80 years may seem like a long time, the last major hurricane was Charlie, in 1938, approximately 77 years ago, and at the time, Long Island was a largely underdeveloped area. Today, a hurricane of that magnitude would prove to be devastating not only for the economy but for the 2.65 million people living on the island.

A simple survey of storm surge maps of Nassau and Suffolk counties reveals some alarming facts. A category three hurricane would result in a covering of much of the north and south forks of Long Island with flood waters. Any type of storm, category one or higher, would result in massive beach erosion as was evident with Hurricane

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## STATESMAN EXCLUSIVE: SBU Muslim Fights in Iraq



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## USG Senate Meeting Update

Tuesday's USG Senate meeting began with all but two Senators in their chairs, redeeming the attendance disaster of the meeting two weeks prior. More importantly, though, the Senators seemed finally engaged and awake, and with good reason; that night, the amassment of pent-up issues hanging over from last semester spilt onto the floor, making for an arduous and energized mop-up session. The meeting's main catalyst was Robert Romano, whose current case with the student supreme court has frozen a hefty chunk of the student activity budget. The gallery was packed with members of the Rugby team, Ice Hockey team, Crew team, and others representing the organizations most severely starving for the tied-up money.

Diana Acosta, USG President, and three other leading council members took the podium first, and made their cases for the ten dollar student activity fee increase. While Acosta said, "this year's council cannot be held responsible for actions taken under last year's council," she also tried to justify the allegedly unconstitutional increase, which was passed last year without the approval of the Senate as a result of the

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# SB Ill Prepared for the Worst

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Gloria, a category two hurricane, in 1985. In addition, reports from Time Magazine in 1998 have indicated that a hurricane event in New York City would result in a loss of life greater than that lost if a similar hurricane event hit another U.S. city.

With this in mind, one can return to the perspective of Stony Brook University. Data from the Stony Brook Department of Institutional Research indicates that a gross campus census consists of approximately 22,000 students, both graduate and undergraduate, as well as approximately 13,000 employees, both faculty and staff. Of these 22,000 students, approximately 13,000 students are commuters. Thus, if one assumes arbitrarily that 75% of the employees and 50% of commuting students come to campus via car, a minor calculation gives the arbitrary number of 16,250 representing the number of people who commute on campus via car. To be fair, if one takes into account people who come via car pool, this number might drop to 12-15,000 cars.

Concerning a mass evacuation of the campus, such as what occurred on the day of the March 9, 2005 snowstorm, we need a system that must be prepared for the exit of at least 12,000 vehicles on campus. Note that this figure does not count for people exiting the campus via other forms of transportation, e.g., bus and train. How can a system that was deemed "poorly organized" have any chance of effectively evacuating the campus? How can the 30,000 students and employees

on campus rely on a system that they themselves don't have any faith in? Does anyone actually know how the system works?

To find answers to these questions, some new resources must be tapped: Douglass F. Little, Deputy Chief of University Police; and Gary Kaczmarczyk, Director of Environmental Health and Safety. These men were appointed by Dr. Mann and Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, President of the University, as part of an emergency task force, post 9/11. Little handles the Police Department, presiding over 60 police officers on campus, while Kaczmarczyk's work concerns the proper functioning of facilities and communication. These two individuals, as Co-Emergency Management Coordinators with a combined 58 years of experience working in their respective fields, created an emergency management team based on the policies and information obtained from the State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The procedures put in place by Little and Kaczmarczyk are based on the incident command system (ICS). Based on a specific incident, whether it is a fire, power outage, toxic chemical spill, etc., an Incident Commander is appointed from the emergency management team. That is, the person who has the most knowledge in a certain area pertaining to the incident will become the Incident Commander. For each incident, the Incident Commander reports directly to an administrative executive.

Another aspect of the emergency man-

agement system instituted by Little and Kaczmarczyk consists of the Safety Warden program. Along the academic mall, approximately 300 safety wardens are volunteers who are equipped to aid in communications, evacuation, and coordination of the people in their particular buildings. An extension of the Safety Warden program known as Citizen Core is a FEMA-based program that is designed for students to be involved in assisting in emergency service procedures.

As far as communications procedures, the radio station 90.1 FM, the campus website, and University television channels are used to broadcast information regarding campus closings and other emergency information. Emergency e-mail notification via the list-serv "E-Notify-L" has also been set up to get messages across faster to students, faculty, and staff members who wish to receive information via their campus e-mail.

Aside from the programs that have been set in place, special precautions are taken at mass gatherings, e.g. sports events, homecoming, etc. According to the emergency management brochure, if an emergency situation does arise, the order of importance is as follows: people, university property/facilities, university operations, and local community.

When asked if they felt they had sufficient resources and funding to run their emergency services, Kaczmarczyk responded evasively with praise to Kenny, saying how she was "profoundly touched by what had happened [regarding 9/11]," and that in providing funding for the emergency management she was

ensuring the "safety, security, and well-being of the Stony Brook community."

Little emphasizes that one way we can achieve a sense of security on this campus is, "by constantly reinforcing our vigilance. 'If you see something, say something.' He continued, 'I'm very proud of the men and women of this department. 60 cops handle approximately 20,000 emergency/non-emergency calls every year. We can't handle it all without the help of everyday people.'" Kaczmarczyk commented, "We're always concerned about complacency. [People] underestimate the need to continue the vigilance." While being vigilant won't prevent the next hurricane, deluge, massive power outage, snow storm, etc., Little rightfully said, "you might make a difference in someone's life."

Understanding that handling emergency services is not an easy task, county-wide officials are of mixed opinions on Brookhaven Town Councilman Steve Fiore-Rosenfeld's theory that "our county needs significant structural improvements to be able to handle a massive evacuation."

Others, including Joseph Williams, Suffolk County Commissioner of Fire and Rescue Emergency Services, cite that, "the resources are there" and that "systematic plans are in place for terrorist attacks." The shelter system, also cited by Williams, however, has not been opened since Hurricane Gloria (category two) in 1985. It is also questionable how much of the shelter system would be useful in the event of a higher category hurricane.

## Order of Importance, in Emergencies:

1. People

2. University Property/Facilities

3. University Operations

4. Local Community

## Senate Meeting Update...

*Continued from page 1*

Senate's failure to act on it. Her claim, mainly, was that all club activity would have been frozen until late September (the Senate's first chance to vote since the mishap) if the executive branch did not take actions into their own hands, last spring. The night's star Senator, Areya Glas, drilled the President relentlessly, but the feeling in the packed room was that unconstitutional or not, the Senators largely recognized the necessity of the tax raise. Ralph Thomas, Vice President of Clubs and Organizations, brought up the addi-

tion of religious and political clubs onto the USG's list of responsibilities. Linn, another council member, brought up the spike in the enrolled student population. Romeo Jean-Baptiste, VP of Student Life, said that if the Senate failed to approve the tax increase tonight, and Rob Romano continued his court battle, that "student life on this campus will basically cease to exist." Alex, a judge on the court, dryly paraphrased the problem in saying that the Senate must vote "yes," if only to appease Romano so that he would drop his case and allow the budget to flow once again.

In the end, as predicted, the Senate voted unanimously for the ten dollar increase. After hearing it officially from the student reps' own mouths, Romano said, "I'm a man of my word," and announced the end of his campaign. Why all the fuss, then? If Romano had never brought up any issue of unconstitutionality, the budget, and its increase, would have moved throughout the

clubs as usual. Romano himself explained it as an issue of precedent; the council had to learn, once and for all, that it could not act without the absolute approval of the student reps, and could not get away with doing so no matter what the circumstance. Afterwards, Acosta admitted that she had no idea as to how the Senate would vote, hence the overwhelming, drawn-out presentation, and her conjuration of so many upset club members.

Next, the senate began their scheming to excavate the more serious underlying issues. The formation of a constitutional review committee was thoroughly argued and approved, as written by senators Areya Glas and Amy Wisnoksi. The committee is to include only Senators, and will thus operate separately from Diana Acosta's cross-branch task force of the same purpose; both will uproot and rewrite the various out-dated, contradicting lines from the USG constitution.

After a new Student Activities President was quickly and painlessly approved, the meeting adjourned. The senators actually appeared drained by the maelstrom, which is a positive thing for those who had once witnessed the distance, the vacancy, and the disinterest that had become typical after meetings. One issue remains outstanding though: the student body polled against the proposed increase, by a large majority. Will they react to the disparaging action taken by their so-called representatives? If exposed to the same facts, the same testimonies, would they be inclined to agree? Overall, is a Senate that acts in the perceived best interest of the people, a Senate that recognizes and stamps its approval on a bitter medicine, favorable to one that serves a mass whim? One thing is clear: USG is trying very hard to turn over a new leaf, despite a public that's internally perceived as indifferent and numb to their actions.

# If Your Party's Rockin, the RA May Come Knockin

BY SHARON LINDELL  
Contributing Writer

RAs (Resident Authority) are supposed to build community and maintain said community inside residence halls. But do they fulfill these obligations when it comes to loud parties?

A lot of students don't know this, but parties inside residence hall dormitories are NOT permitted. The office of Campus Residence encourages events and parties but they must be registered by filling out an event registration form and following event regulations. Also, students must abide by the Term of Occupancy regulations in their dorm room; which refers to the number of guests one can have in one's dorm room. The average number of guests allowed in a dorm room is two guests per person. According to Campus Residence, this does not mean, however, that because there are six people in a suite that they are allowed twelve guests to one person in the suite.

Ahmad Hussein, an RA for Douglass College, defines

being an RA as being "a bridge from residence to campus residence." He says that RAs "keep things moving as smoothly as possible." Hussein admits that Douglass College has had parties which had to be broken up. The reason for the discovering and breaking up of the parties was because the parties were too loud, going against Douglass College's "Quiet Community" standards. A "Quiet Community" designates specific times when there must be silence in the building. Also, the parties were in violation of the Term of Occupancy regulations. When an RA breaks up a party that is the first warning; if the party does not break up, RAs have to take different action, such as calling the University Police.

All rules that apply to dorms also apply to students in the West Apartments. Suhei Suro, a junior in West Apartment building H, says "RAs from outside" complain about just "little noises." Suro says that another apartment building, Chlomburg, has massive parties that do not get broken up and commented, "They kicked 15 girls out for talking but they don't go and regulate the 50 person party."

Sofiya Shoaib, a freshman in Douglass College, believes when she really needs her RAs they will be there, but that the RAs could be doing more for her. When it came to the parties, Shoaib says it "took them a while" to break up the loud parties and to quiet the loud people outside. While loud parties and people bother some students, some students don't mind them. An anonymous girl from Kelly Quad commented that she did mind a "whole bunch of guys and people over [in her dorm]...blasting music." She admitted that it was a bother sometimes when she tried to go through her common room and bathroom. It seems these parties were not broken up by RAs.

The vigilance of RAs varies across the campus, but their role in the community is to keep said community safe and make sure the students follow the rules. Also, the students have a responsibility to follow the Student Conduct Code that they agreed to when they decided to go to Stony Brook. More information on the Student Conduct Code and Terms of Occupancy can be found on the Stony Brook web site.

## Marijuana Smell in Dorms

The smell of marijuana has been reported in Langmuir College, Irving College, Amman College and Benedict College. The campus police responded to the call about the complaint at 4:14 am in Langmuir College on October 8th, but the smell was unfounded upon arrival of the police. On Sunday, October 8th at 9:09 pm, campus police, however, referred students from Irving College to the Students Affairs office after responding to the complaint of marijuana smells in the building. At Amman College, the smell of marijuana was reported

at 9:05 pm on Wednesday, October 12th, but again the smell not found by the police. The smell of marijuana was again reported in the D/E Wing Basement of Benedict College at 1:22 am on October 13th, but again, the smell was not found upon arrival of the campus police.

## Petit Larcenies on Campus

A number of cell phones thefts have been reported on campus in the past week. At 4:52 pm on Wednesday, October 12th at Center for Molecular Medicine and at 8:59 pm at O'Neill

College, petit larceny of cell phones were reported to campus police. An additional petit larceny of the exit light on fire doors being stolen were also reported at Gray College on October 7th at 11:20 am.

## Miscellaneous Events

On Sunday, October 9th at 11:53 pm, fifth degree arson was reported at Mount College when toilet paper was set on fire in third floor bathroom. The fire was extinguished the Resident Advisor and campus police was notified.

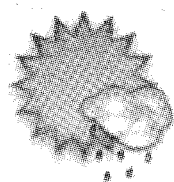
# Police Blotter

Compiled by Radeyah Hack/Statesman

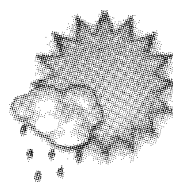
10/7 - 10/13



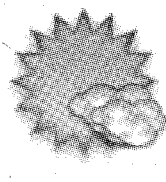
## Student Forecast: October 10 - 16 By Britta Merwin



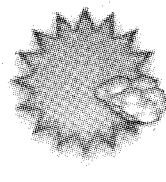
**Monday:**  
High 62/Low 47  
Partly Cloudy, Passing  
Cold Front Gives Way  
to Possible PM Showers



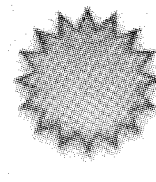
**Tuesday:**  
High 63/Low 50  
Partly Cloudy,  
Continued Chance of  
Showers



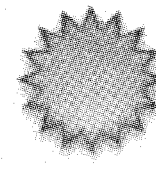
**Wednesday:**  
High 65/Low 46  
Mostly Sunny



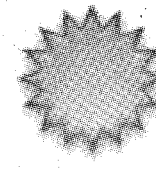
**Thursday:**  
High 67/Low 46  
Mostly Sunny



**Friday:**  
High 62/Low 45  
Clear and Cool



**Saturday:**  
High 68/Low 48  
Pleasant Weather



**Sunday:**  
High 68/Low 54  
Warming Sunshine



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## Expanded Recycling Efforts

### West and Schomburg Apartments Expanded Recycling

The Department of Recycling and Resource Management, in partnership with the Division of Campus Residences, has expanded its program to now include the West apartments and the Schomburg graduate apartments. The existing residence hall program has been improved by providing students with an additional bin for trash, as well as posting detailed signage and distributing updated literature.

### Looking for Ways to Recycle?

If you're looking for ways to recycle on campus, you will find our Recycled Recyclers in various academic and administrative buildings. They have three compartments, for the convenient sorting of mixed paper, trash, and bottles and cans. Victor-Stanley clusters have also been placed around the academic mall and other outdoor areas. Trash may be disposed of in the green container, while bottles and cans can be recycled in the blue container.

### Want to Recycle Inkjet and Toner Cartridges?

We would also like to draw your attention to the inkjet cartridge and toner cartridge recycling program. The required recycling envelopes can be found in many academic and administrative buildings on campus, and can be used free of charge.

### Goodwill Drop-off Bins

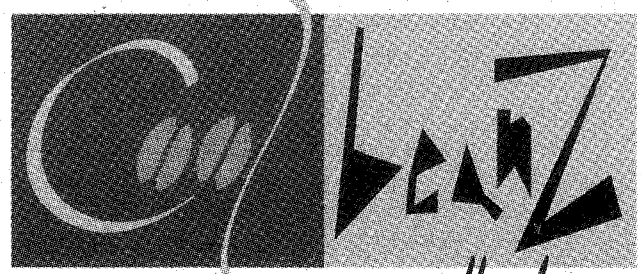
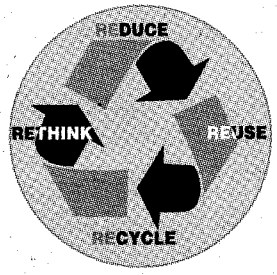
Look for the Goodwill drop-off bins located in each quad if you would like to donate clothes and small appliances.

### More Information

Our outreach efforts are not just focused on resident students, but are also aimed at commuter students, faculty, and staff.

For more information and to find out how you can become a part of the University's eco-culture, call the Recycling Hotline at 632-1514. We are always looking for passionate people who care about the environment to help us make our program more successful.

**[www.stonybrook.edu/recycling](http://www.stonybrook.edu/recycling)**



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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.

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#### 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.

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# Rain Tells All: SB Ill Prepared

After Hurricane Katrina, we, as a community, were forced to reevaluate our contingency plans if a serious disaster hit the island. If a hurricane showed the Gulf region that they are ill prepared, a mere week of rain showed us how poorly prepared Stony Brook is for disaster. Buildings across this university were flooded inside, with what seemed to be rain pouring profusely from the ceiling in the Union.

Students dubbed the massive pools of water by the lecture hall "Lake Javits" as they tried to navigate to class. Between the leaks and inaccessibility of campus, one wonders what would happen in case of a real emergency. The possibility of Long Island getting hit by a

hurricane is very real and should not be taken lightly. Part of being prepared means keeping up on maintenance.

It can be said with a certain amount of certainty that these buildings did not leak at the first instance of rain when they were built. We pay ample tuition, and it the opinion of this editorial board that maintaining buildings so that they stand in the future is not too much to ask. We go to a university that prides itself on being world-class and yet our buildings cannot even protect us from the elements. Have we no shame?

It should be a very high priority for administration officials to sit down with local

and state officials to draw up a real game plan for when catastrophe hits us. This is not some vague prediction but a reality that we have to face. Be it a terrorist attack or natural disaster, we will find ourselves in a bad spot one day and it's the obligation of our public servants to have a plan in effect to deal with it. This is not some pipe-dream or nicety that we can live without. This is a very serious problem that we have to take with gravity. The best way to get this moving is to show that you care about it. Start talking about it in class; take a visit to the Administration building and let them know that this is a big concern. If you don't make it an issue, they won't.

## COMMENTARY

# SB vs Penn State: Who Wins?

By RISA GOREN  
Asst Arts & Entertainment Editor

There is something to be said about a school that still has me spending Saturdays checking up on its football scores a year after our bitter separation. This is, after all, the college that sparked my interest in school spirit and football - a tough order, to say the least. And yet, despite my transfer from Pennsylvania State University over a year ago, I find myself happier than I have been in years.

Way back in the stress-free days of high school, when allowance was still an acceptable means to live by, I turned my nose up at the notion of attending a school in New York - much less a school on my native Long Island. My stubbornness led me to PSU, one of the most expensive state schools in the nation. Three years later I would leave Penn State far from my degree, financially drained, and feeling ripped away from a life I had worked hard to establish.

It turned out that when you are supporting yourself, \$30,000 isn't so easy to come by for an unemployed undergraduate. Working forty-hour weeks at minimum wage jobs didn't dent the bill, just my GPA. After months of not making it, I packed up and came home.

Thus began my life at Stony Brook Uni-

versity. I came here with low expectations, planning to get my bachelors degree and move on. To my surprise, a few weeks into my first semester, I began looking forward to classes. Professors had befriended me, showing a sincere interest in my work - a notion rare in the masses of Penn State. By the end of the semester, I found myself looking for reasons to hang around campus, finding my Penn State void being rapidly filled by new life at SBU.

Don't get me wrong, the hefty tuition at PSU provided for luxuries impossible to the SUNY system. Environmentally sound buses, well-maintained historical lecture halls, one of the largest football stadiums in the country - all perks of life at a Big Ten school. It took a little adjusting, but I finally began to see how little these things matter to the overall quality of a school.

At Stony Brook, my GPA is on its way back to where it should be. My professors here know my name, and give me the individual attention I did not think was possible for a large university. And even with this imminent tuition hike we've all been hearing about, Stony Brook is by far a more affordable university.

Despite these factors, Stony Brook still has its work cut out for it. If there is one thing I have learned from my dual school experiences, it is the importance of school spirit to

a university. To not know Joe Paterno and his winning Nittany Lion record is sacrilegious within the walls of PSU, yet if you asked me the name of the Seawolves football coach, I'd be struggling. Instead of the Penn State population vacating campus on weekends as we do, it quadruples.

It takes a lot to get a cynical, unimpressed person such as myself into the school spirit vibe, and yet Penn State managed. It is no coincidence that massive amounts of their funding come from an alumni association more involved than most.

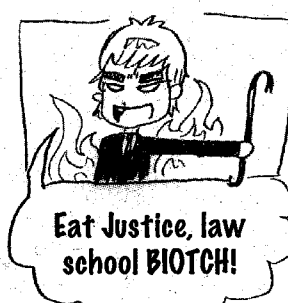
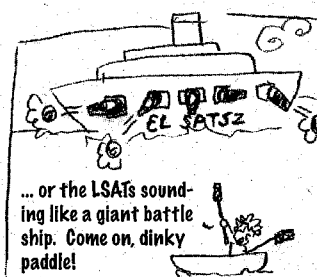
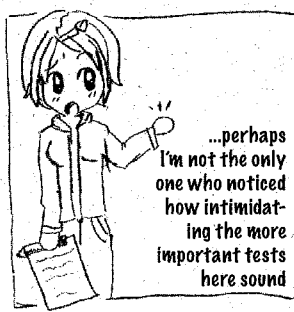
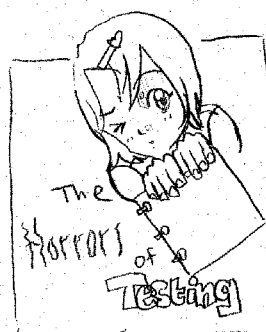
To be fair, Stony Brook is a much younger university than Penn State, and in turn, lacks the tradition. With time and student involvement, Stony Brook has endless potential.

We may not have the football stadium or the fan base to fund it, but what we do have is what matters: a university providing an equal, if not better, education. And shouldn't that count for something?

I will continue to check up on the Nittany Lions every so often, because Penn State will always be a part of me, but I am a Stony Brook student at heart. I have been a member of the SBU community for less than a year, establishing myself more than I could have dreamt of at any university - and that, my friends, is priceless.

And now for something completely different...

By Denise Yazak



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# Tell Dr. J

Reach Dr. J anonymously at: [sbstatesman.org/telldrj](http://sbstatesman.org/telldrj)

Dear Dr. J,

My roommate's boyfriend has been staying in our room a lot. She asked me the first week whether it was okay for him to stay. I thought she meant every once in a while, but it's been three/four times a week. He's a nice guy, and they try to be nice about it, but there's a man in my room... I always have to go to the bathroom to change, and I have to be polite to a person at times when I just want to relax. But the worst part is at night, when they, you know... consummate. What should I do? Am I just being a prude, or is it okay to say something?

SOS

Dear SOS,

First I'll give you the healthy psychologist advice, which is to talk to her. She has completely taken advantage of your initial kindness; in psychology, we call it the foot-in-the-door technique. It's like in high school when your parents are out of town; you tell them you'll have a couple of friends over, but instead you invite the whole school. She didn't ask you for three or four days a week because you would have said no, so she asked you for an arrangement that you would say yes to and then took advantage of the fact that nice people try not to go back on their word. So you need to talk to her, and you need to be clear and focused in telling her that you do not consent to the current arrangement.

I have found in this type of situation that if you try to get her to empathize with your hardship, she is likely to try and negotiate her way out of it, i.e., "What can we do to make it more comfortable..."

No negotiation. In a kind, calm voice you should say to her that you think two nights a week is a reasonable amount, and beyond that she needs to move out. Period.

If she doesn't cooperate, let me give you the brass knuckles approach. Embrace the fact that your roommate brings a nice, attractive man over all the time. Get to know him. Flirt with him; laugh at his jokes. Cook him a meal. And if your towel drops on the way back from the shower, and he's there to witness, so be it. I have a feeling your roommate won't bring him around as much.



We ask you to send any of your questions and concerns anonymously to:

**Tell Dr. J**  
[telldrj@sbstatesman.org](mailto:telldrj@sbstatesman.org)

Tell Dr. J will appear every week in our twice-weekly publication. When writing your question, please keep in mind that Tell Dr. J is not intended to replace face-to-face counseling if you are currently in distress. The University Counseling Center, located on the second floor of the Student Health Services building, offers free and confidential professional counseling to Stony Brook students. The center is open Monday through Friday from the hours of 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., with extended hours until 7 p.m. on Tuesdays. All you need to do to make an initial appointment is call 631-632-6720 (2-6720 if you are on campus) and say "I'd like to speak to a counselor."

# IS SB A TRUE MELTING POT?

By SARAH MALIK  
Contributing Writer

In one suite alone, one can have roommates who are Chinese, Dominican, Indian, Korean, Filipino, and Caucasian. What other university besides Stony Brook would allow students the experience to share a common room with so many different types of people? Every room, every building, and every department at this university reflect the diversity of its students.

Out of Stony Brook's 14,287 current undergraduate students, 35% are Caucasian, 9% African American, 22% Asian American, and 9% Hispanic American. 5% are foreign, and 19% belong to other ethnicities (see Table 1 below). Stony Brook's graduate students also belong to various cultures. Although the majority of the 7,724 graduate students and professionals are Caucasian (55%), 6% are African American, 7% Asian American, and 4% Hispanic American. Also, 19% are foreign, and 9% belong to other ethnic groups.

Students at the University may come from different backgrounds, but they also have a lot in common; 91% of 2005 undergraduates and 75% of 2005 graduates live in New York. While 41% of all students are from Suffolk County, 13% are from Nassau County, and 25% are from New York City. A minority of students come from other parts of the country (4%) and other parts of the world (10%). Andrew McGowan, a Caucasian freshman from New Orleans, Louisiana, said that the school "is not diverse in the respect that everyone is from Long Island. I'd rather meet people from all over the country. I felt a little out of place at first, but now I'm used to it."

The percentages of minority students at Stony Brook have continuously changed (see Table 2 below). In 1976, minorities represented 8% of the

16,571 undergraduates, graduates, and professionals. Now, minorities represent 32% of the 22,011 students on campus. The populations of African Americans, Asian Americans, and Hispanic Americans have steadily increased over these 30 years, with Asian Americans showing the greatest increases (from 2% in 1976 to 17% in 2005). According to Eileen Delaposta from the Institutional Research Department, Stony Brook has become more diverse over the years because the population of students from the city has increased. The city population is more diverse, and this is reflected in changes in the percentages of minorities attending the university.

Students express different opinions about the ethnic breakdown of Stony Brook's community. For example, Ana Hernandez, a Dominican sophomore from New York City, believes that "the school itself is very diverse, but the percentages of minorities could be more equal. The school should have more special initiative projects to help bring in all types of people." Nevertheless, students still appreciate the diversity across campus. Tiffany Kataria, an Indian-Filipino freshman from Valley Stream, NY, said, "The diversity at Stony Brook has exposed me to many different cultures and ways of life that I didn't know about before. And even though we all come from different backgrounds, we all share the same values and the motivation to learn."

**Table 1: Profile of Stony Brook Students, Fall 2005**

Students	UGrads	Grads & Pros	Total
White	35%	55%	42%
African-American	9%	6%	8%
Asian-American	22%	7%	17%
Hispanic	9%	4%	7%
Foreign	5%	19%	10%
Unknown/Other	19%	9%	16%
Suffolk County	36%	50%	41%
Nassau County	14%	11%	13%
New York City	33%	10%	25%
Other NYS	8%	4%	6%
Other US	4%	6%	4%
Other Countries	5%	19%	10%
Total# of Students	14,287	7,724	22,011

All statistics were provided by Eileen Delaposta, P.I., Institutional Research Department at SUNY Stony Brook

**Table 2: Changes in Minority Population at Stony Brook**

Year	1976	1986	1996	2005
Total # of Students (UGrad, Grad, Professional)	16,571	16,166	17,316	22,011
Minorities (Total)	8%	19%	28%	32%
African-American	4%	6%	8%	8%
Asian-American	2%	9%	14%	17%
Hispanic	2%	4%	6%	7%

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:

## Omar Khowaja, Afghan Soldier in Iraq

By JAMES BOUKLAS  
Editor-in-Chief

Omar Khowaja, a currently a junior at Stony Brook, was in a very unique position when he was called to fight in Iraq- he is a Muslim, born in Afghanistan. He lived in this country for most of his life and enlisted in the army reserve after graduating high school.

Shortly after 9/11, there was already talk about going into Afghanistan, but Khowaja "didn't think we would get so quickly involved militarily. I felt that I would only go if I could go there to help; I couldn't see myself fighting my own people." Khowaja was prepared to serve in the capacity of a translator had he been deployed.

His unit ended up not being called up for the Afghanistan conflict. He would not see combat until the war in Iraq, over three years later.

His unit was deployed to Iraq in January 2004, nearly ten months after the war began in March 2003. "When I first heard we were going to Iraq, I was concerned because it conflicted with my heritage and my religion," Khowaja said. He considered accepting the label "Conscientious Objector," which would have meant a dishonorable discharge from the military. "I spoke to my father, and he said, 'You do what you have to do. If you have to go, try not to kill anybody,' and so I went," he said.

When he got there, the Coalition forces were met with relative calm. "We were the ones who fired the first shot," Khowaja said. "It was very stupid, though. During training, we were taught that if they showed any signs of hostility or aggression, we could retaliate as hard as we wanted."

This quickly became an issue for the Iraqis. "I remember in the first few days I was there, we came upon a house, and I overheard the command talking about how a man came out of his house with a shovel to protect his wife and kids," said Khowaja. Soldiers ended up firing a solid uranium tank round into his house, killing the man and leaving in their wake a pile of debris. "There were a bunch of incidents like that. That's why they fought back against us, not because Sadaam told them to. You have to put yourself in their shoes."

While escorting POWs in a cargo truck, Khowaja became painfully aware of his situation. "I remember saying to myself, 'Some of these guys look like my uncles, like my relatives.' It was very hard," he said.

While Khowaja acknowledges the disrespect by the US military towards the Iraqi people, he made it a point to not let it happen under his watch. He is a non-commissioned officer, with marines under his command.

"I made sure they were respectful. The military brainwashes its soldiers into making them think that the enemy isn't even human; they called the Iraqis Hajis, like when they called the Vietnamese 'Gooks,'" he said.

"I heard stories that there were some marines out there who thought it was cool to go into people's houses and urinate all over the bed and stove, who thought it was cool to stick a pistol into somebody's mouth and scream at them. They wonder why they shoot at us from rooftops," Khowaja said.

Despite this, Khowaja does not harbor contempt for his fellow soldiers. "I'm sure that back home they're good citizens," he said.

This was bred within an atmosphere of near-paranoia in the military, according to Khowaja. His superiors would tell him, "if a little kid comes walking up to you, don't trust him, because he might have a bomb on him. Don't show sympathy for anybody, even an old lady asking for water, because she might have a bomb," he said.

One incident captured the absurdity of the situation in Khowaja's eyes. "A captain told an enlisted marine to shoot a donkey coming his way because it might have a bomb strapped to the saddle. It just became ridiculous," Khowaja said.

When he was deployed, Khowaja, along with the rest of his unit, was told to expect a tour of duty between six months and a year.

For them, it happened to be six months. "Thankfully, we left on time. We had a day and a half's notice," he said. At the time, nobody knew how they would be in Iraq. "The rumors started to fly. Nobody knew anything, from private up to colonel." In the middle of May 2004, his unit was replaced half by an army unit and half by a marine core reserve unit, based out



Courtesy of Omar Khowaja

Omar Khowaja, Stony Brook student and US Marine, serving in Iraq.

## "They say we're fighting for freedom, but come on."

### *Omar Khowaja, Junior and US Marine*

of Atlanta.

Leaving Iraq was a mess in itself. Rather than taking air transport, his unit went home, as they came, on a ship.

"It's the worst place to be, on a ship," Khowaja said. "They chose to float us back."

For Khowaja, the trip was well worth the reward- getting to be home again. "When we got back, I remember that we

were marching in formation, and when we turned the corner, we saw thousands of our families, screaming and cheering. It was awesome to see that," he said.

Now that he is back home, he feels as if the respect soldiers are afforded is overdone. "We got a lot of respect, but honestly, it's not deserved," he said. "It's overrated; they say we're fighting for freedom, but come on."



# The History of Stony Brook

*A weekly feature chronicling the little known origins of our Alma Mater*

## Stony Brook Develops Student Life

By RADEYAH HACK  
News Editor

An integral part of any college experience is participation in student life activities. For SUNY Stony Brook, development of the University went in tangent with development of an interesting and exciting student life. Before the days of the SAC and 250 student clubs and organizations, Stony Brook students found themselves being active participants in shaping the role of student activity on campus, one that reflected the cultural and political makeup of the time.

Building a student community on the campus grounds was one of the many necessities the University developed in its early years. The surrounding community greatly lacked resources and outlets for students to fall into, and New York City was fifty miles away, so daily culture and entertainment alternatives were not within immediate reach for the early student body. Adding to the dilemma, Stony Brook was, and still remains, a campus composed of half commuters and half residents. The incentive to create a sustainable weekend and evening social life on campus was lacking, due to the great trend of returning home in the evening for commuters and on the weekend for many dorm residents.

Despite these challenges, the early student body worked feverishly to develop a cultural life on campus for their peers. Joel Rosenthal, in his book *From the Ground Up – The History of the State University of New York*, pointed out that the 1966 edition of the yearbook proudly displayed members of academic clubs such as Biology, Chemistry, Math, Education, Pre-law, etc., as well as student theatre productions of plays by Shaw, Lorca, Dylan Thomas and Sean O'Casey. Students were also treated to worthwhile concerts featuring Simon and Garfunkel, the Fugs, Dave Brubeck, Jimmy Hendrix, Pink Floyd, Janis Joplin, U2, the Beach Boys, etc.

"Another area of student life is that of speakers invited to campus: poets, Nobel Laureates, acrobats, TV comedians, rock groups, and others brought (and paid) for a live performance," said Rosenthal. Speakers such as Alan Ginsburg, William Kunstler, Dr. Benjamin Spock, etc. all made their presence known and united the faculty and students in a common interest.



Students relaxing in the old Student Lounge.

Courtesy of University Archives

Student publications on campus provided a forum for students to express their opinions and creativity. Stony Brook possessed no dearth of publications, ranging from the *Statesman*, which started originally on the Oyster Bay campus as the *Sucolian*, the student yearbook *Specula*, *Blackworld* and the highly opinionated *Stony Brook Press*. The early student body also saw the fleeting appearance of many varying student publications like *Latin America Speaks*, *The Patriot*, *Harmony*, etc.

The 1960's and 1970's were highly charged political times, and college campuses across the nation were participating in social demonstrations and speaking out against the war in Southeast Asia, segregation, drafts, etc.

The students of SUNY Stony Brook embraced the counterculture and brought the wave of resistance to quiet Long Island. "When the nation's students were deeply enmeshed in politics, as in the

1960's and 1970's, Stony Brook students tried to hold their own against the activism of Berkeley or Columbia," said Rosenthal. The radical students of that era protested the Army's Selective Services in 1968, participated in a 1969 sit-in for students' rights and held Attic rallies and demonstrations against the Department of Defense in the 1970's.

As in any university experience, sports played a growing role in student life at SUNY Stony Brook. The athletic clubs of the 1960's on Stony Brook's campus, along with the playing fields and gym, provided the medium for athletic recreation and development of the athletic division. By the 1980's and 1990's Stony Brook had established sports teams in volleyball, basketball, football, baseball, etc. and in 1999, they entered Division I AA of the NCAA.

A unique feature of the Stony Brook campus is the presence and role of religious organizations among the student

body. "As the University demographics have changed, the religious 'check a box' identity of the students has shifted. Between 1973 and 1982 the proportion of entering students who were Jewish declined from 38% to 19%. Roman Catholic numbers climbed from 29% to 46%. Protestants held steady at 13%," said Rosenthal. Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism and other Eastern religions are also increasing in numbers among the student population. With this shift in religion comes a shift in the focus of social events and religious balance on campus.

Quotations for this article were taken from Joel Rosenthal's book *From the Ground Up – A History of the State University of New York at Stony Brook*.

In the next installment of the *History of Stony Brook*, we will look at Stony Brook's transition from a teacher's preparatory College to a major research University. Pick up the Monday issue every week and take a dive into history!

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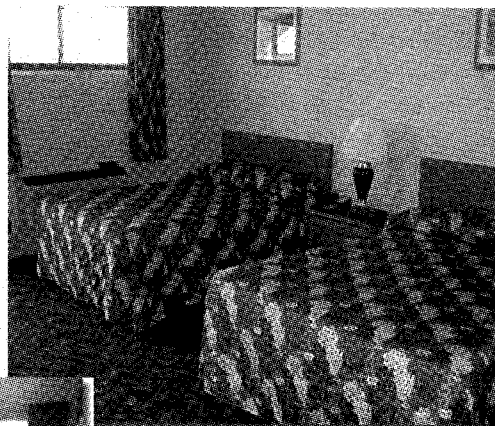
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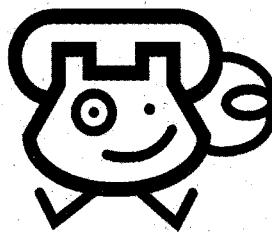
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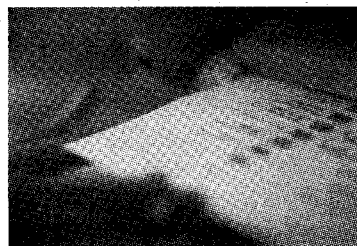
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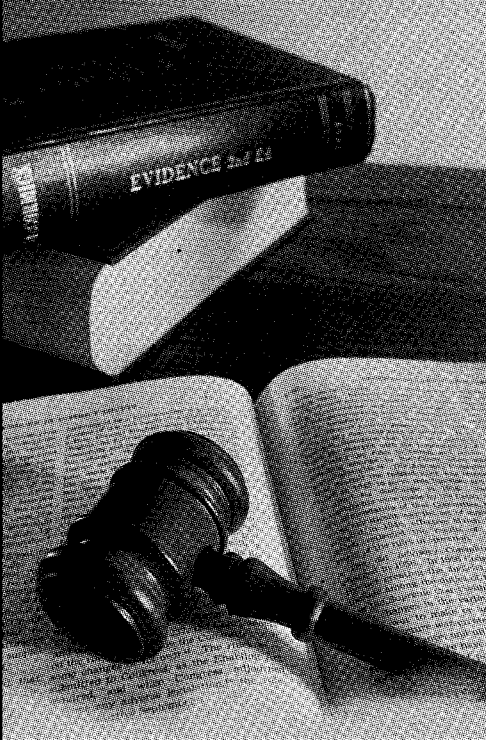
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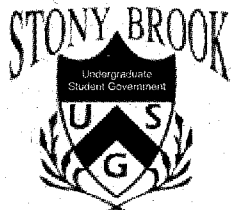
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## A THOUGHT from RABBI ADAM



Basic spiritual philosophy understands that each and every living thing has a soul. For when a person dies their body lies as a lifeless heap of flesh and bones. For then the body's life-force has departed. And it is this life-force which is normally referred to as the "soul". But a question begs to be asked, "Where did this life-force go?" Is this life-force like a previously charged battery that eventually runs out? Or is it more like an electric current that has just been cut off? In other words, does the life of the soul come from the body's own potential that has just worn out, or does the life of the soul come from a higher source that has just been cut off? Jewish mysticism understands the soul to be like an electric current flowing from the source of life and spreading throughout the body. And, at a particular predetermined time, the spread of that current returns to its "source", thereby resulting in death and sending the soul back to its source. However, a person doesn't have to die in order to experience their source of life. For all the while the current is "on", one can, by way of analogy, follow the current back to its source. For all the while that one remains "down here", their soul is still connected "above". And this is the mystical goal of the Jewish High Holydays. For when the soul is revealed as it is "above", there is felt nothing but blessings [for a sweet new year (Rosh Hashanah)]. For when the soul is revealed as it is "above" there is felt the purity of being free [and forgiven (Yom Kippur)] of sin. And similarly, when the soul is revealed as it is "above" there is felt only joy and happiness. [Hence the holiday of Sukkot and Simchat Torah follows just after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and is called the "time of our joy".]

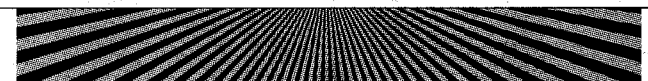
*Rabbi Adam*

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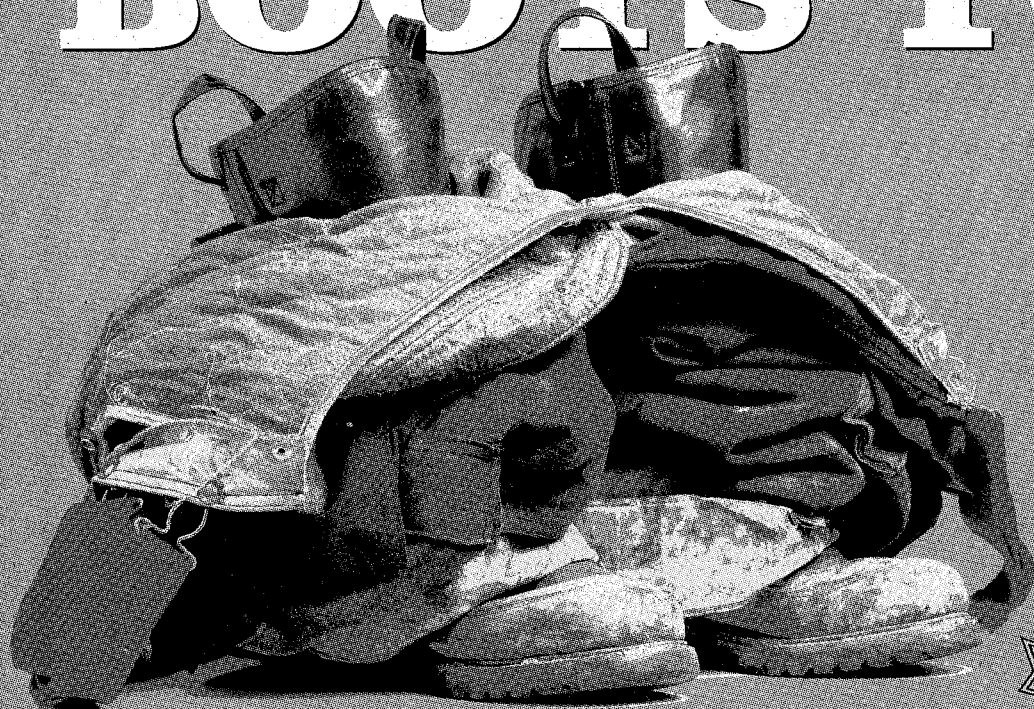
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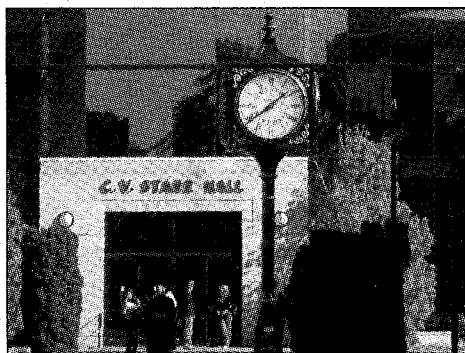
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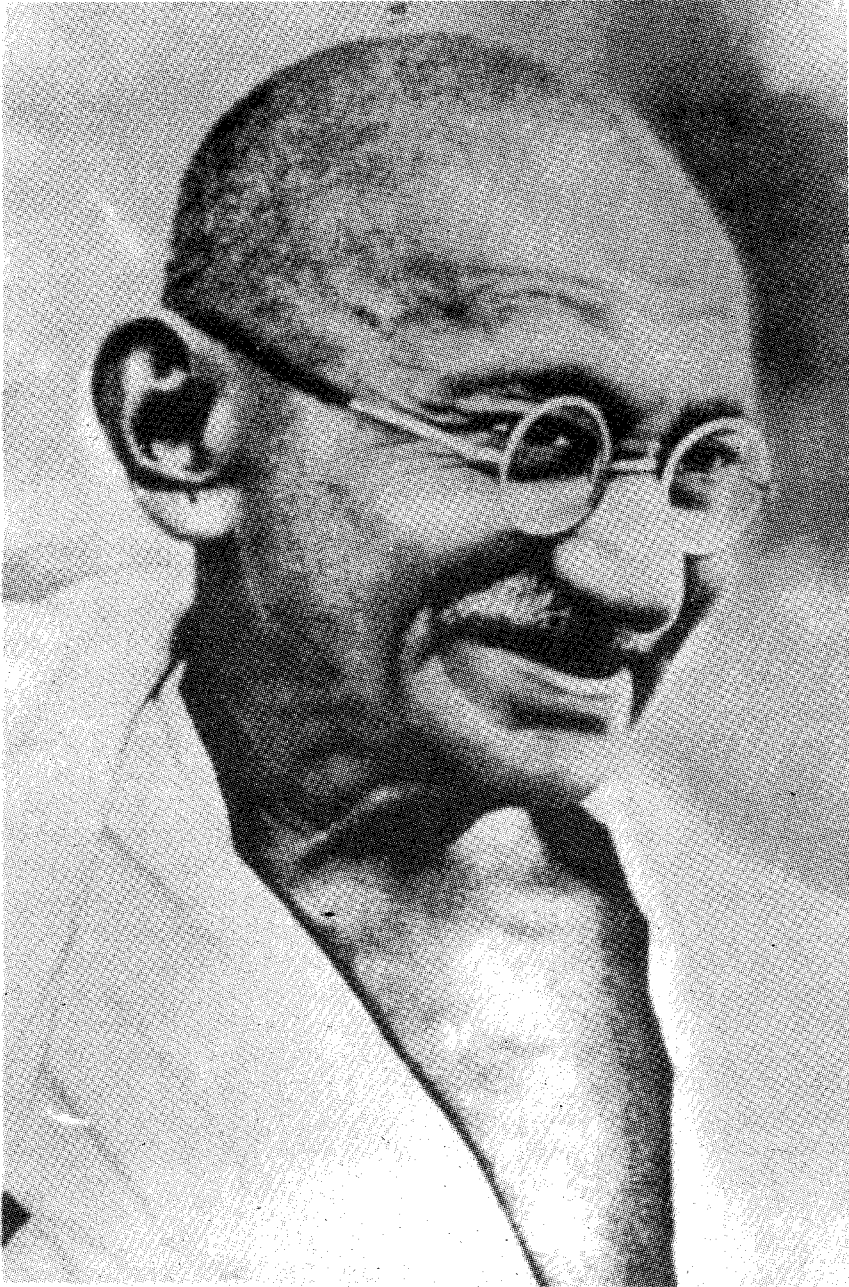
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# Gandhi's Life Remembered

*The Wang Center Celebrates Gandhi's Nonviolent Philosophy*



By ANABIA HASAN  
Staff Writer

The Charles B. Wang Center held a recent exhibition in commemoration of Mahatma Gandhi's birthday (October 2, 1869). The purpose of this exhibition and two film showings was to educate the student body and local community about Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence and celebrate and learn from his peaceful lifestyle in this age of terrorism and war. The event attracted many students from various cultural backgrounds including many viewers from outside of the Stony Brook Community.

The exhibition, entitled "My Life is My Message," was accessible nearly all day from 11 AM to 8 PM on both Thursday, October 6 and Friday, October 7. The display was on loan from the Gandhi memorial center located in Maryland. It consisted of photographs and quotes that created a historical guide to Gandhi's life. Posters of his childhood history and youth allowed the viewer to fully appreciate his life and work. Sana Hava, sophomore, commended the display. "It's very informative not only on Gandhi's teachings but his life as a whole." Hava is currently enrolled in Introduction to Civilization of the Indian Subcontinent offered at Stony Brook. As it was recommended by her Professor Sridhar, she felt the event greatly enhanced the coursework.

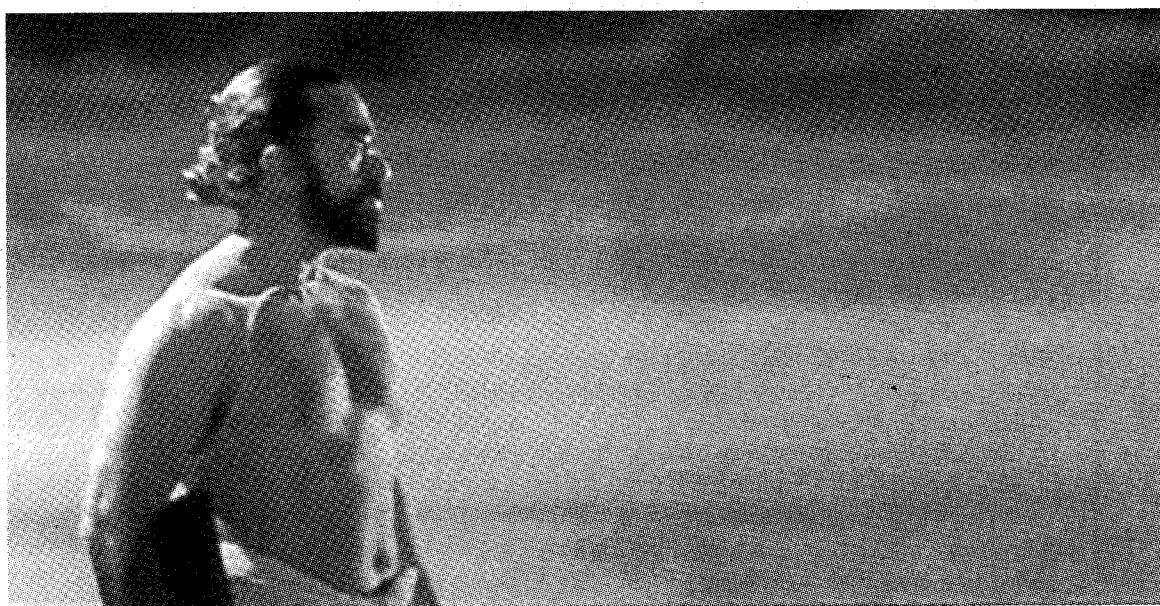
The two films shown during this exhibition were *The Making of the Mahatma* and *Hai Ram* ("Oh God!"). *The Making of the Mahatma* concentrated on the early life of Mahatma Gandhi and his transformation

from a simple man to a world-renowned philosopher. It potently describes his struggle with and philosophy of non-violence. *Hai Ram*, an Indian movie with subtitles, was also interesting in its presentation of racial and religious conflicts of pre-independent India. It described the story of Sakat Ram, a man overcome by the murder of his wife, who follows a fundamentalist religious group. He joins in their plot to assassinate Gandhi, whom they believe favors the Muslims. The story describes the process of his eventual self discovery against the brutal climate of the period.

Student Shuchie Jaggi described the film as very graphic in its portrayal and parallel to modern times. "Today's current events illustrate that racial and religious violence is not simply exclusive to the past," said Jaggi, "and Gandhi's teachings and philosophy are just as applicable today as back then."

The success of the event illustrated that Gandhi's philosophy is indeed just as significant and applicable today as in the past. Gandhi once said, "Destruction is not the law of humans. Man lives freely only by his readiness to die, if need be, at the hands of his brother, never by killing him. Every murder or other injury, no matter for what cause, committed or inflicted on another is a crime against humanity."

The current conflicts of terrorism, racial profiling and recent wars are in fact crimes against humanity. Perhaps a close analysis of Gandhi's philosophy could provide solutions to the world's current social and political problems. Stony Brook's commemoration is a significant step towards recognition of these goals.



Courtesy of Hai Ram



Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

Above (top): Mahatma Gandhi, who developed a philosophy of peace and nonviolence

Above: Kamal Hasan directs and stars in *Hai Ram* (Oh God!).

Right: The Charles B. Wang Center commemorated Mahatma Gandhi's birthday with a photo and image exhibition and two films.

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, October 17, 2005



# SB Bytes: Grab the Wiki

By JAMES BOUKLAS  
Editor-in-Chief

Ever since the advent of the Internet, ordinary people have had access to literally billions of pages worth of information, some of it useful and most of it not. Discerning what is worthy becomes increasingly difficult as the Internet evolves, as average Joes publish what they claim to be facts without any authority to do so. At first, it was easy to tell what not to trust. If a website was done cheaply and looked amateurish, the info was bad. If the site looked legitimate, odds are it was. Nowadays this is not the case. The most prominent example of this is Wikipedia, an online "encyclopedia" that allows people to contribute information to any subject under the sun. A page on a topic is aptly called a "wiki," and these wikis are being used by many as sources of real info and not just a community resource anymore.

The Wikimedia Foundation, the parent organization that gave the world Wikipedia, offers no claim of legitimacy to their product. It is meant to be a clearinghouse for information. Anybody can contribute to any topic, allowing a broad range of sources for readers. Searching on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict yields a wide array of information from many different viewpoints and bases, something you can't get from the mainstream.

Typing "Stony Brook" into the Wikipedia search gives a great overview of the university, better than can be found on our website and complete with university stats and a brief history. This is because anybody, be it student or administrator, can contribute info to the Stony Brook wiki, and we are not locked into what one department writes and publishes.

The best part about the site is that it is current. Typing in "Hurricane Katrina" brings up one of the most comprehensive pages out there on the recent hurricane that devastated New Orleans. Browsing CNN.com or NYTimes.com doesn't even come close to giving you the whole picture like Wikipedia. You can search on just about any subject and odds are you will get a good hit.

The success of Wikipedia has actually born a real problem for students. Wikis should not be used as sources of legitimate information for papers, ever. This is not meant to be an official encyclopedia, complete with fact checkers and accountability. Its purpose is to get as much information out there as possible, and it does this well. The problem lies with students using information found there in academic papers, thinking that what they're citing is legit. While a good deal of the info on Wikipedia may in fact be true, this does not make it suitable for papers. Wikipedia suits its purpose well; so use it as it's meant to be used and you won't be disappointed.

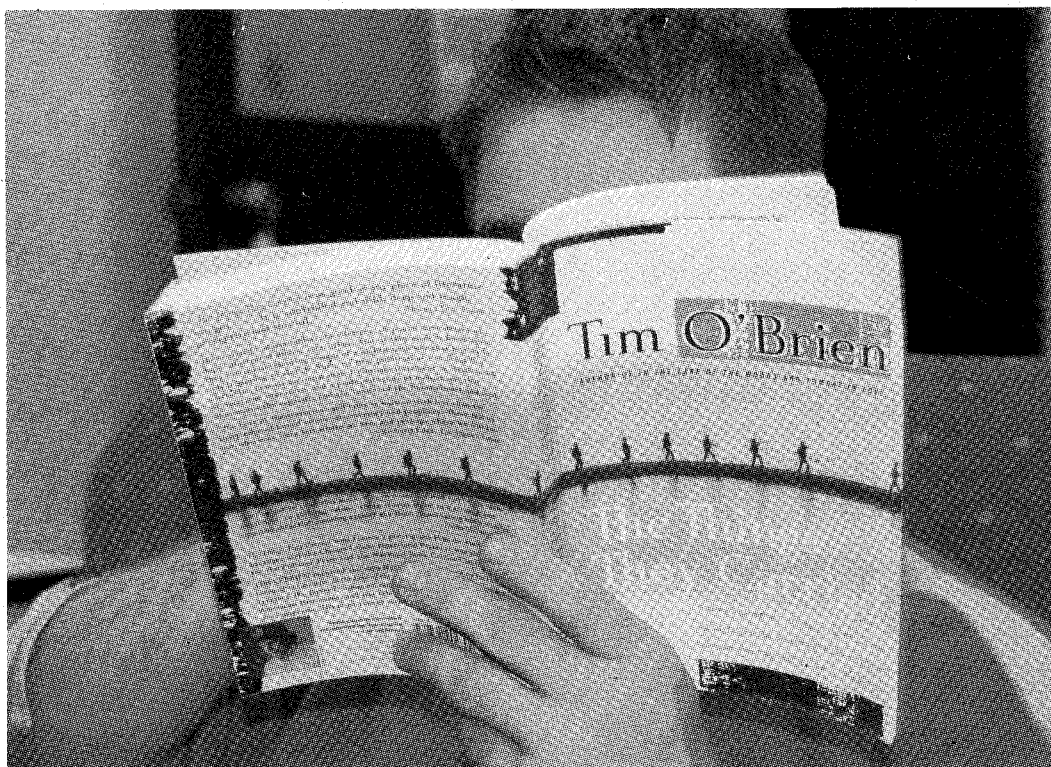
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# Get Your Read On: *The Things They Carried*



Adhip Karimaker/Statesman

By JEREMY FALLETTA  
Copy Editor

He reinforces this later on with a short chapter entitled "Good Form."

**Title:** The Things They Carried (246)  
**Author:** Tim O'Brien  
**Published:** 1990

*It's time to be blunt.*

*I'm forty-three years old, true, and I'm a writer now, and a long time ago I walked through Quang Ngai Province as a foot soldier.*

*Almost everything else is invented.*

Not being a huge fan of war memoirs, I was skeptical about the awesome reviews that *The Things They Carried* has earned over the years since its first publication. Let me tell you, this is the best collection of war stories I have ever read, or expect to read. It's ironic, but I found myself lamenting the fact that we will never again see such a gruesomely human ground war as Vietnam (or Korea); there will never be another source of war literature as rich as those wars have proven to be.

O'Brien tells his stories like no other veteran I have ever known. As I was reading his book, I kept thinking of my grandfather, who served in Korea, and how much he clearly has left out of his own storytelling. It takes incredible courage, as O'Brien notes in his book, to relay war stories with any degree of realism and accuracy. Furthermore, he does far more than simply tell the stories — he makes one feel a part of the experience, inside the action (which takes place mostly in the minds of his characters).

Each story that he relates pertains to one specific member of his platoon, but we learn later on that they are largely creations of his fictive imagination. Or if not, they are embellished to a great degree. This may seem hokey, but O'Brien explains himself fully in short order. Using Rat Kiley, one of his platoon-mates, as a mouthpiece, he tells an outrageous story of a soldier's girlfriend being imported to Vietnam. Regarding Rat's level of exaggeration, he writes "It wasn't a question of deceit. Just the opposite: he wanted to heat up the truth, to make it burn so hot that you would feel exactly what he felt."

In the rest of this chapter he explores the meaning of telling stories. He says, "I want you to feel what I felt. I want you to know why story-truth is truer sometimes than happening-truth." O'Brien continues to play with this notion throughout the remainder of the book — telling each story and then second-guessing it. He creates a system of checks and balances for himself. As a result, the reader feels closer to the happenings of the text than is normally possible. By making the reader privy to his own absolute truth-seeking methodology, one trusts him all the more, whether he's schmoozing or not.

There are plenty of war memoirs out there that all follow the same tune: "This is what happened and this is why it was terrible and no one will ever be the same after reading this." But O'Brien has managed to find a niche all his own, aside from the typical depression and angst present in most war memoirs. He takes the reader inside the trivial thoughts of several soldiers, spotlighting the small things that make the big things which are typically written about seem that much more real and reasonable, and not just crazy wartime heat-of-the-moment travesties.

I couldn't put this book down. I devoured it over a two-day period, which would have been a lot shorter if it weren't for annoying details in my life such as class. Tim O'Brien will be on campus on Thursday, October 20, and will be available in the afternoon for a book signing.



# New York City CONNECTION

## May the Farce be With You

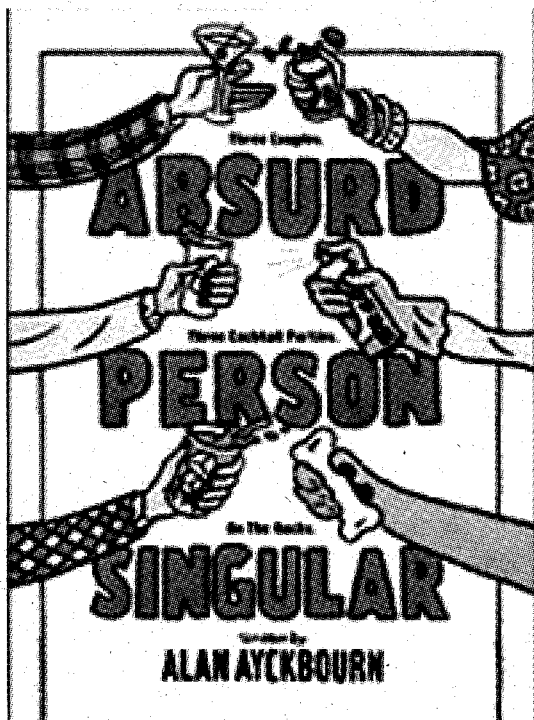
BY LES HUNTER  
Staff Writer

It is thought that the word "farce" comes from the Old French meaning of "stuffing," and that it referred to the stuffing between more serious religious plays. John Tillinger's production of Alan Ayckbourn's "Absurd Person Singular" by the Manhattan Theater Club delivers the stuffing in copious amounts of highly improbable comedic situations, but also conveys a darker, ironic message about class, ambition, and failure.

"Absurd" takes place in a nondescript contemporary London in the kitchens of three couples who meet on successive Christmases. The first Christmas is at the house of Jane, played by Clea Lewis who is a blithering, compulsive neat freak and Sidney (Alan Ruck), an ambitious small businessman. Sidney's main interest in the evening is getting the financial support of Ronald (Paxton Whitehead) the banker. Ronald's aristocratic wife, Marion, played smartly by Deborah Rush, delivers quick, well-timed lines: (Marion) "What's that?" (Jane) "That's a washing machine." (Marion) "Yes... whites, colors, my God, it's Apartide all over again."

Like any good farce, many of the situations are highly unlikely, and the humor is derived from their absurd implausibility. In the second act, we see the couples gathering again, this time in the apartment of the philandering architect Geoffrey (Sam Robards) and his pill-popping wife Eva (Mireille Enos). Geoffrey has just revealed that he has been involved in an adulterous affair, and he intends to leave Eva. In moments when he looks away or turns his back on Eva, she frantically tries to scrawl out a suicide note, throw herself out a window, run herself into a knife, or overdose on pills. Comedic timing to this sequence is key, and this is the one place in the production where that timing was slightly off. Enos doesn't read Robards well, and jokes that could have otherwise been hilarious instead fall flat.

The act picks up however, when Geoffrey realizes that it is Christmas Eve and the other couples are imminently arriving. Geoffrey leaves to go get a doctor for Eva. Jane, Sidney, Ronald and Marion are thus left in the room with Eva, clueless that she is attempting suicide. They believe she is simply sick and misconstrue her actions. Through misunderstanding, they hilariously thwart all Eva's attempts to kill herself. When Eva sticks her head in the oven, Jane, the obsessive cleaner, believes that she is simply try-



Courtesy of Absurd Person Singular

ing to clean, and like a good guest, insists that she do it herself. This sequence, the high point of the production, is punctuated with quick wit and ironic juxtaposition.

In the third and final act, we find ourselves in the stately kitchen of Ronald and Marion. Geoffrey and Eva, who for some loosely explained reason are not divorced, are visiting Marion, sad, ill, and drunk. They get a surprise visit from the now successful and newly wealthy Sidney and Jane. In an ironic ending, because of their new-found wealth and power, Sidney forces them all into a humiliating game of "musical dancing," a version of musical chairs that involves wearing silly outfits.

Director John Tillinger intelligently depicts complicated interactions that rely heavily on physical humor and timing. The set design, complete and impressive, by John Lee Beatty, underscores the class difference between the three couples.

For a great study in farce, with all the stuffing and even some seriousness, get out and see "Absurd Person Singular."

"Absurd Person Singular" is playing at the Biltmore Theatre, 261 W. 47th, through December 18. For more information go to [ManhattanTheatreClub.com](http://ManhattanTheatreClub.com) or call Telecharge for tickets at 1-800-432-7250.

## Stony Brook *In Vogue*

### Autumn Weather Must-Haves

BY AMY DRAGANI  
Staff Writer

It's time to retire those tanks and tee's and replace them with some more seasonal apparel. Long sleeves, sweaters, and jackets – it's officially Fall.

Fall is a fantastic time of year, when it's not yet freezing but no longer sweltering. The perfect time of year for long sleeved shirts. It's very easy to find tops that are your own personal style that are cost efficient. Local stores at the Smithaven Mall such as H&M, Abercrombie & Fitch, American Eagle and Forever 21, just to name a few, will absolutely carry a large array of styles, colors, fabrics, prints – you name it! H&M carries a basic cotton long sleeve, ribbed around the wrists and under the waist, in several colors, for less than \$15 (I have about four so far). They are a great find if you're looking for a traditional, comfortable top. Abercrombie also carries a large selection of long (and short) sleeved tees. Once again, basic cotton shirts in solid colors or graphic tees will definitely be spotted. These will run at about \$20-\$25. What I love the most about these types of tops is that they are long in length (not just in the sleeve!). A longer shirt elongates and slims the upper body while still remaining comfortable (and a bit of accidental shrinking from the drier won't do too much damage!).

Another great choice for the cooler weather is sweaters. Lightweight sweaters that can be worn over dress pants or jeans, and thrown on just to warm up are convenient and stylish. Victoria's Secret has a fantastic selection of sweaters. Button up, pullover, long, short, wool, mixed – there's a sweater for everyone! These types of sweaters don't necessarily have to cost an arm and a leg because they don't have to be heavy, expensive material. The versatility lightweight sweaters have as being part of an ensemble or just an extra layer is what makes them such a fabulous addition to your closet.

Lastly, it's crucial that we mention jackets. There's a big difference between those winter coats worn to battle the snow and ice, and the lighter jackets that are perfect for keeping you comfortable in the autumn chill. Once again, Victoria's Secret has some very nice choices, as well as H&M and department stores. The best choice is a jacket that is form fitted, and perhaps buttons up in a pea coat type of style. Since these jackets aren't for the inclement weather, they can be made of cotton or polyester, or even velour or suede. Jackets are essential for the cooler weather and it's definitely worth it to invest in a fun Fall jacket.

### Fashion Tip of the Week

#### Wear layers.

Of course, be aware of the weather and temperature (no one wants to be hot) but layers are another exciting part of chilly weather. A long sleeve over a tank with a light jacket looks stylish, keeps you warm when you need it, and allows for a layer removal or two to cool off.



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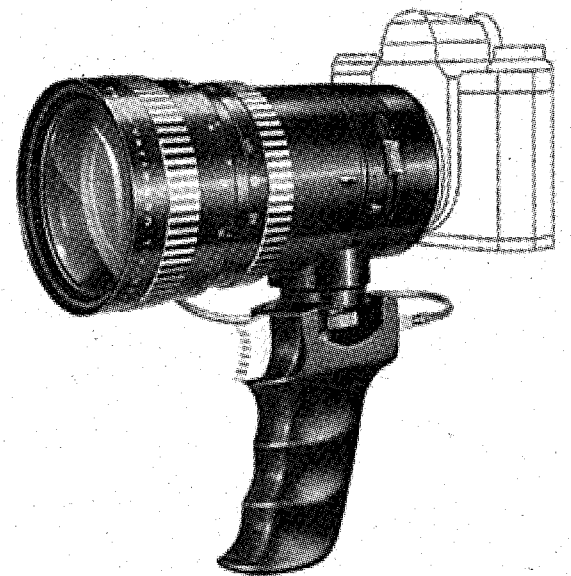
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# Men's Soccer Continues Winning Streak

By ANDREW FEI  
Staff Writer

The Seawolves Men's Soccer Team continued their impressive winning streak on a freezing Saturday night, defeating Albany by a score of 2-1. This result may bring the Wolves to first place in the America East Conference standings; currently the first place honor belongs to Binghamton. This result will also help with the Wolves' NSCAA New York regional rankings.

The score of 2-1 in this game may be greatly misleading. By far, both teams played a weak and muddled game. Chances in the first half were few for both sides and Albany, especially, proved to be an incompetent match for the home team. Albany's decision for a 4-5-1 formation was grossly ineffective, with their lone striker Yan Gbolo running around aimlessly and trying to call for the ball. Albany's penchant for fouling also ruined the flow of the

game in the first half.

The second half started out with a bang when Stony Brook's Matt Avellino scored his first goal of the season at 42:43, a 30 yard blast in the open, after a pass from Michael Palacio. This long range goal spoke volumes for the offense of Stony Brook; in other words, the offense was lacking. The goal resulted from incompetent defensive marking by Albany rather than a good play by the home team. Albany continued with their poor defense throughout the game, occasionally leaving the Wolves with a wealth of open space.

The Wolves dominated the second half with eight shots to Albany's four. Another goal came without surprise for the Wolves at 64:19 when Douglas Narvaez's pinpoint cross from the left was headed into the goal by Palacio. This takes Palacio's goal total to six, and his points to two (one goal, one assist) for this single game.

Nearing the end of the game both teams had a few

dangerous opportunities to score. Albany's lone goal occurred at 74:50 when Eric Zekiroski received a pass on the left from Brad Ray and calmly placed a low shot past the home keeper.

The overall reaction by Seawolves' Head Coach Cesar Markovic was correct but perhaps a bit harsh. "I don't think we played a great game tonight," he said. "It came down to a couple of big plays." Regarding the defending near the end of the game he said, "It was a little too loose, letting them have too many opportunities." This reaction, although critical, might also be necessary. With a chance to attain first place the Wolves must play perfectly. Obviously Markovic realizes this "golden opportunity," as he called it, and wants to ensure it will be achieved.

The next match for the Seawolves will be a home game, and should be entertaining as it is the top tier battle with Binghamton. The date is Wednesday, October 15 at 7 PM at LaValle Stadium.

# Volleyball Falls to UNH

By CANDACE ISHMAEL  
Staff Writer

The weather may have kept the fans away, but the UNH Wildcats came to play. The Wildcats topped the Seawolves 1-0 in Thursday's American East match-up at LaValle Stadium. This loss brought Stony Brook's record to a damaging 3-11-1 (0-5 American East).

Only a few die-hard fans littered the wind-swept bleachers under the driving rain. Clearly the two teams would be playing for themselves and not for any encouragement from the stands.

The rain made the field a hazard, offering no traction. However, it was the wind that gave the ball a mind of its own; flying off-course, landing out of bounds and shooting past goal posts.

The first minutes were fast and furious; neither side could gain an advantage on the slippery turf. Then, less than fifteen minutes into play, New Hampshire's Ashley Cieslak tucked the ball into the corner of the net past the diving goalkeeper, senior Cindy Bennet.

It was a game of missed opportunities for the Seawolves' offense. "They just could not connect," one fan commented. Their shots could not find the net or anything else for that matter.

And UNH was not giving them any extra chances.

Stony Brook's defense played strong for most of the game. They protected the net effectively and got out of more than a few tight spots. Bennet nabbed six saves after letting through the only goal of the game.

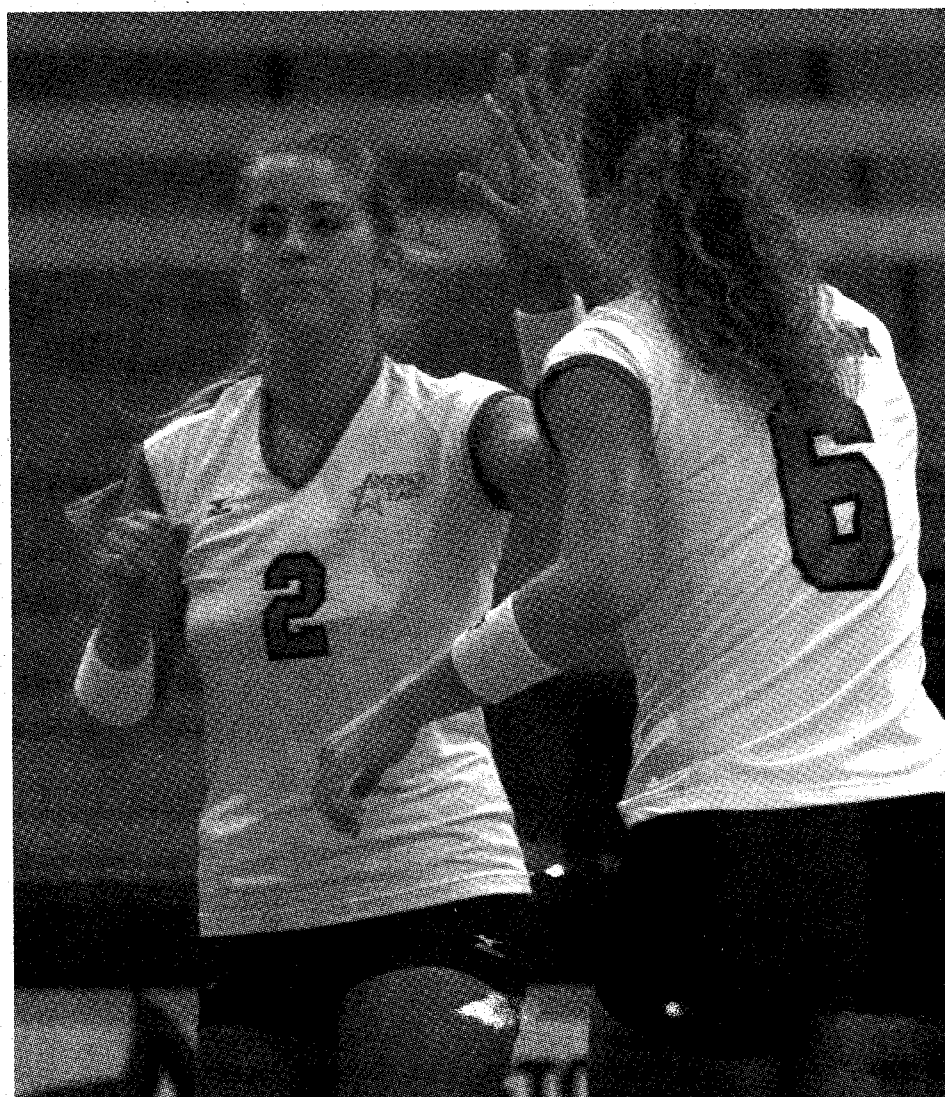
Twenty minutes into the second half, sophomore Kristen Mishrell went down on a battle for a header and had to be taken out of the game. She was replaced by sophomore Krista Shilts.

Late in the second half, Coach Sue Ryan had the team playing forward, trying to squeeze out a break. Freshman Brooke Barbuto put pressure on the Wildcats, taking shots on goal whenever the ball came her way. Unfortunately, she could not capitalize on any of them.

The Wildcats played aggressively and pushed the Seawolves back on the defensive. Possession went back and forth between the two teams, ending the game on an anti-climactic note.

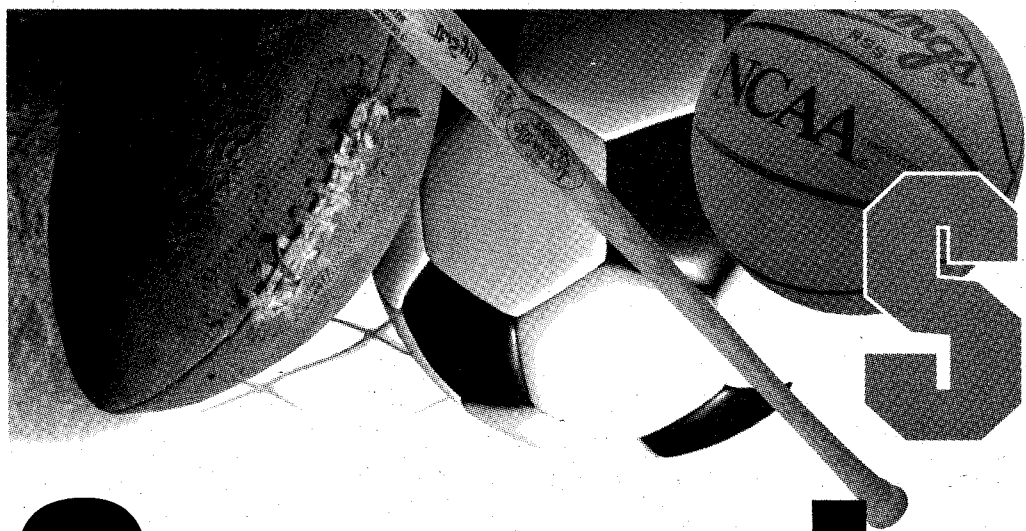
Stony Brook headed back to the locker room at the end of the game to regroup and work on a new strategy for next time. They were disappointed, but

The Seawolves' next home game is next Thursday, October 20, at 7:00 PM when they take on Albany.



Adhip Karmaker/Statesman

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, October 17, 2005



# Statesman SPORTS

# Seawolves Win!



Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

**'Wolves improves to 3-3  
overall, 2-1 in NEC play.**

By JONATHAN WALTER  
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook Seawolves scored a season high 47 points in an exciting victory over the St. Francis Red Flash on Saturday, at LaValle Stadium. The final score was 47-29 and improved Stony Brook's overall record to an even 3-3 and, more importantly, improved their Northeast Conference record to 2-1, which ties them, along with 5 other conference rivals, for first place.

Stony Brook opened up their day of scoring with a defensive touchdown when Paul Perez blocked a St. Francis punt, which Sterling Goodwin then recovered to score. St. Francis tied the game up at 7 by the end of the first quarter with a touchdown of their own. However, Stony Brook came up big in the second quarter scoring 24 unanswered points and heading into the half leading 31-7. That would be all they would need.

After falling behind by 30 points, the largest point differential of the game, St. Francis rallied to score two touchdowns and close to within 15. By the end of the game their efforts were fruitless though, and Stony Brook battled through the half, scoring a total of 16 points and going on to secure their third victory of the season.

"Last week's victory against Albany really challenged the guys to prove whether we're a good football team by winning two in a row," said Stony Brook Coach Sam Kornhauser. "I think the momentum from that win really carried over into this week's practice and helped keep it going into today."

Stony Brook's Luke Gaddis capped off the scoring for the day kicking a school-record-breaking 47-yard field goal. The original record was set back in 1988, by Bob Burden, in a game against St. John's.

It was a huge day for the Stony Brook offense. The team totaled a season high 280 rushing yards, with secondary Running Back Assad Haffiz rushing for 107 yards and a touchdown, and starting Running Back Rod Williams rushing for 99 with a touchdown of his own. Williams was in the game till the third quarter, when he had a bit of difficulty with a sprained ankle and Kornhauser opted to have him sit the rest of the game out and rely on Haffiz, whom he said has been showing a lot of improvement lately. Quarterback Josh Dudash threw for 141 yards, connected for two touchdowns, and completed 10 out of 15 passes with no interceptions.

St. Francis Quarterback Anthony Doria threw for 302 yards and completed 29 of 45 passes. He threw two touchdown passes and one interception, which got returned for a Stony Brook touchdown.

Stony Brook plays their next game at Sacred Heart, who lost their game against Albany on Saturday.

"Our next game is a big one," said Kornhauser. "Now the question is 'can we push to win three in a row?'"