

the stony brook Statesman

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Stony Brook Road Trip Takes Off to Capitol

By Emy Kuriakose
Statesman Editor

Just before the sun came up last Tuesday, Stony Brook buses were racing back and forth across campus to pick up hundreds of droopy-eyed students, faculty and staff. The massive group convened by 13 coach buses stationed in South P lot, and boarded with breakfast bags of apple turnovers, orange juice and bagels for the four-hour journey that lay before them. The ride to Stony Brook Day at Albany would soon become a quiet venture, as heads slowly bobbed to the bumpy motions of the sea of buses that lined the LIE.

Once the group got to Albany, however, the momentum picked up as tables of cheering supporters chanted "Stony Brook! Stony Brook!" to wake the hundreds for the long day ahead.

Throughout the afternoon, groups of five or more students, faculty and staff would meet with various senators and assemblymen who represent the Stony Brook community and its surrounding districts. Teams also met with representatives from the five boroughs who work for students from those areas. The goal was to convey to these officials Stony Brook's importance in fostering a valuable educational experience for thousands of students from a variety



Stony Brook students, along with Wolfy, helped spread the SBU spirit in Albany.

of cultures, economic classes and backgrounds.

"They want to hear real stories from the students," said dean of Arts and Sciences James Staros, "not some guy in a blue suit."

Representatives are more likely to remember and respond to the people who take the time out to see them and speak

with them. That is why Stony Brook Day has become so important to the university, he said.

Over 600 members of the Stony Brook community traveled to Albany, leaving other universities and lobbyist groups in awe at the sheer number of bright red Stony

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NRA's Cushman Visits SBU

By GREG LUBICICH
Statesman Staff

In a speech defending the Second Amendment of the United States constitution, Wayne L. Cushman of the NRA's Institute for Legislative Action, paid his first of two visits to Stony Brook University on February 19.

"In January, I attended the 2004 Conservative Political Action Conference," said Virginia Morgan, a junior who helped organize the event. "Important issues regarding the Second Amendment were discussed and I felt the need to bring that discussion back here to Stony Brook."

Cushman started his talk by stating that he was not paid for his position within the NRA, but that he was a volunteer. He then spoke about how people's views and perceptions on personal arms derive from the media. Cushman felt the media is a business, reporting mostly sensational or misrepresentative information, in order to attract a larger audience. Indeed, Cushman's view of the media might explain why some accuse the media of unbalanced reporting on racial minorities. For similar reasons, newspapers and television networks present personal arms only in a negative light. Cushman spoke of a reporter whose pro-freedom stories concerning firearms were banned.

Cushman believes that hunting for food is necessary in some cases, such as when underprivileged families finance a hunter's license in exchange for some of the game. For a nominal fee, these families receive hundreds of dollars worth of meat. In addition, each year in New York alone, over one million pounds of game meat is donated to soup kitchens, homeless shelters and the needy. While students from upstate New York may be familiar with this, it is doubtful one will ever

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Envisioning an End to a Worldwide Epidemic



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

Richard Brodsky (bottom row, third from left), shown here with members of Visions, APSAP and SASA, was one of the key speakers at "Envisioning an End to AIDS."

By ROHIT DAS
Statesman Editor

Disease and death are two words that undeniably go hand in hand. But what about disease and discrimination, or disease and social demoralization? Initially, such comparisons would make no sense; diseases seemingly only cause death, and usually have no effect on one's status in society. AIDS, perhaps the most physi-

cally and socially devastating illness of our time, is an exception to this rule. This past Wednesday, various student organizations, including Visions, CHOICE, APSAP and SASA, collaborated to sponsor "Envisioning an End to AIDS," a program which emphasized the impact of AIDS in a societal context.

The event featured a performance by Swallow This!, as well as presentations from three key speakers: Richard

Gerrig, chair of the Honors College and professor of Psychology, Peter Mastroianni, health education coordinator for the Student Health Choice Center, and Richard Brodsky, author of "Jodi - The Greatest Love Story Ever Told."

Gerrig described how AIDS emerged as a cultural phenomenon through an analysis of the artwork of the American generation that first felt the effects of AIDS. In particular, he focused on a prominent message of the time, "Silence Equals Death." This was a call to society, especially to the gay community, to begin the fight against AIDS. Art was being used as a medium to break the silence and eliminate the stigma commonly associated with the disease.

"Silence was the initial reception to AIDS in this country," said Gerrig. "People felt that the right people were dying, that the wrath of God was being served. What people couldn't understand was that a retrovirus can't distinguish between a sinner and a non-sinner, only the pulpit can."

Mastroianni, in discussing the history and future of AIDS, reinforced many of the

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BY JAMES BOUKLAS

ALL INFORMATION AND PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BBC

Aristide Steps Down as Haiti's Ruler



Caving in to both internal and international pressures, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide of Haiti went into exile early Sunday morning. Since early February, rebels began to take control of the country, capitalizing on the growing resentment of Aristide in his country.

Despite the former president's strong pro-democracy roots, police officers often gave in to the invading rebels without a fight, showing the lack of support for Aristide in the past month. President Bush ordered Marines to Haiti to aid in restoration of civil order during the transition to the new Haitian government, to be led by Boniface Alexandre, the head of their Supreme Court. Members of the "Friends of Haiti" group, an informal group of countries including US, France, Canada, and Caribbean states, are currently in talks to prepare a multilateral force to keep the peace. UN humanitarian aid will begin shortly now that the violence has ended.

Martha Stewart Charge Tossed Out

Due to lack of evidence presented by the State, a judge threw out the most serious charge against her: securities fraud. If convicted of securities fraud, Stewart could have faced up to 10 years in jail. "The evidence and inferences the government presents are simply too weak to support a finding beyond a reasonable doubt of criminal intent," the judge wrote.

After this ruling, she can still face up to 20 years on other charges. The defense presented a fast case without ever putting Stewart on the stand. This odd style of defense has paid off in the short run.



UK Accused of Tapping UN Phones



Former British cabinet minister Clare Short accused Tony Blair's government of tapping UN Secretary Kofi Annan's phone in relation to the invasion of Iraq. "The UK was also getting spies on Kofi Annan's office and getting reports from him about what was going on," said Short.

Tony Blair called the claims "deeply irresponsible," potentially affected areas of national security. Short stepped down as a member of Blair's cabinet in protest of the way Blair handled the Iraq situation. Other members of the UN, including former UN Chief Weapons Inspector in Iraq Richard Butler, claim to have been bugged for years. "I was well aware of it. How do I know? Because those who did it would come to me and show me the recordings that they had made on others," said Butler. The UN has said that any bugging would be illegal and should end immediately. Although, the overall reaction at the UN has been that this is just business as usual.

Israel Told to Halt Work on Barrier

The Israeli Supreme Court ordered an injunction on further building of the controversial West Bank barrier for one week.

During this time, the court will determine if Israel can build the barrier around eight Palestinian towns. The Israeli government claims the barrier is to prevent suicide bombers from entering the country, while opponents argue it is a ploy to gain more land. This ruling affects the most hotly debated portions of the barrier that move into the West Bank that cut off Palestinian towns, and not just on the border of Israel.



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Harvard Says Yes, Then No, to Proposed Sex Magazine

BY BETHANY BROIDA
Chronicle of Higher Education

Sometimes a little sex can cause a big headache.

Just ask the Harvard students and officials who are embroiled in an indecate controversy over an idea that straddles the fine line between art and pornography.

This month Harvard University's Committee on College Life approved a request by two undergraduates to start a magazine called *H Bomb*, which would feature nude pictures of Harvard students and articles about sex.

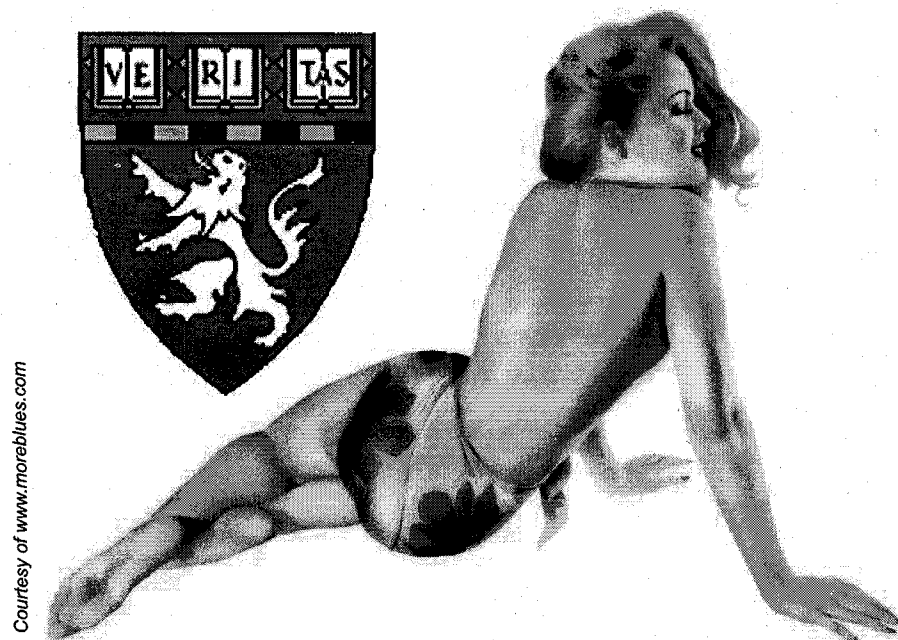
Katharina C. Baldegg, a sophomore, and Camilla A. Hardy, a junior, said they plan to model the periodical on *Squirm*, a student-run magazine of erotica at Vassar College.

In the student newspaper, *The Harvard Crimson*, the two women repeatedly referred to their magazine as "porn." But the next day, they said the *Crimson* had "misrepresented" their literary goals.

"*H Bomb* will be a magazine that deals with sex and the issues surrounding sex for men and women of all sexual orientations," the two wrote in a statement. "It will contain feature articles, fiction, humor, photography, art, and advice. What we are proposing is an outlet for literary and artistic expression that is both desired and needed, not a pornographic magazine."

Before approving the magazine, the panel consulted with university lawyers and other campus officials.

"Our thinking was, this is a free-speech issue," said Paul J. McLoughlin, assistant dean of Harvard College, who



Harvard University first approved *H Bomb* Magazine, and is now rethinking their approval because of the magazine's sexual nature.

is a member of the committee.

He warned, however, that the panel's approval did not necessarily mean approval by the university.

Within a few days, it was clear that Harvard did not approve.

Usually, a go-ahead by the committee amounts to official recognition of a campus organization, allowing it to apply for money from one of the six groups that make grants for such student activities.

But Harvard soon announced that the proposed magazine would not get university dollars.

In a statement, Harvard officials said: "The committee will be reviewing the proposal with the students to make sure that there is a clear understanding that the organization will not be involved

in the dissemination of pornographic material."

Whatever the magazine's status, financing could be hard to come by.

"We have a number of publications, and they are all having trouble finding funds," said Judith H. Kidd, associate dean of the college and chairwoman of the committee. Kidd said she warns all student publications against starting their work without adequate funds.

Baldegg and Hardy told the *Crimson* that they planned to publish the magazine twice a year and hoped to distribute the first issue at this spring's commencement.

"I am going to cross that bridge when I come to it," Kidd said of the potentially controversial timing.

Scholar on Ice

BY SARA LIPKA
Chronicle of Higher Education

Some people will do anything in the name of science. To test human response to extreme cold, Gordon G. Giesbrecht, a professor of thermophysiology at the University of Manitoba, cross-country skied the length of frozen, snow-covered Lake Winnipeg last month, a 27-day, 240-mile solo trek.

Often called Professor Popsicle, Giesbrecht, 46, braved temperatures as low as 31 below and whiteout conditions so severe that he "had to use a compass every 100 yards to get a bearing."

He consumed about 6,000 calories daily, slathering butter atop meals of pepperoni, pound cake, and Chinese noodle soup.

The trek — which raised about \$3,000 for Canada's Arthritis Society — followed similar endeavors by Giesbrecht. Another trek, to the North Pole, is in the works. Before embarking on these voyages, he says, "I really analyze what the objective dangers are and ... whether I can mitigate those dangers." Last month he traveled with a satellite telephone and an emergency beacon.

Professor Popsicle has crossed the threshold of hypothermia (a 95-degree body temperature) more than 30 times and pushed himself as low as 88.2 degrees. His findings have been cited in paramedic-training manuals. The scientist conducts only human-subject experiments because he is committed to finding "things that are immediately relevant to humans," he says. "Anybody can make a dog cold, but not everybody will become cold themselves."

Student at San Francisco State U. Faces Punishment for Disruptive Activism

BY ELIZABETH F. FARREL
Chronicle of Higher Education

A pro-Israel student activist at San Francisco State University was escorted off the campus on Monday by police officers and forbidden to return for two weeks following a heated argument with a student-discipline officer.

Natalia Menaker, a Russian immigrant majoring in English, was on disciplinary probation and had received numerous warnings because of her often-disruptive methods of voicing her Zionist views. She had repeatedly threatened administrators, students, and faculty members, according to Christina Holmes, a university spokeswoman.

During a meeting to discuss Menaker's probation violations,

Holmes said, the student was warned that the police would be called if she did not calm down, but Menaker continued to yell and ripped posters hanging in the administrator's office.

Menaker, 53, said in an interview that she had been quite involved in political causes before immigrating to the United States and had been arrested twice in Russia for her affiliation with religious groups and her underground-education efforts.

"The U.S. legal game is very unknown to me, but I am a fighter," said Menaker, who has three children and also works as a journalist for Russian publications and the California-based online periodical *FrontPageMagazine.com*, which is edited by the political activist David Horowitz. "I fought the KGB

in Russia, and I see children of the KGB here, meaning people who will do everything to get power."

According to Menaker, the disciplinary officer told her that she was expelled until 2009, but Holmes said the administrator had only discussed that possibility with the student. Holmes said the final result would be determined in a disciplinary hearing on March 15.

Menaker's friction with faculty members, administrators, and pro-Palestinian groups began during a highly publicized clash between Muslim and Jewish groups on the campus in May 2002, when Menaker was accused of yelling at Palestinian activists and shouting racial slurs against African-Americans. She denied that she had ever used slurs but conceded that she had spoken

harsh words against pro-Palestinian demonstrators.

Following that altercation, the university rescinded financing for the General Union of Palestine Students, a pro-Palestinian student group. The administration also sent a warning letter to the Jewish student group involved.

Ephraim Margolin, a San Francisco-based criminal lawyer who is representing Menaker pro bono, said he believed the situation could be resolved amicably for both the university and Menaker.

Menaker said she hopes to return to the campus and finish her degree.

"Right now, I am very lucky because the teachers I had [at San Francisco] are so great," Menaker said. "It was such an opportunity to study, and I hope to complete it."

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 1, 2004

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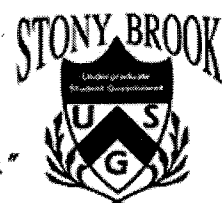
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The Passion of the Christ: Blood Bath and Beyond

BY MANSOOR KHAN
Statesman Editor

Blood, gore and violence. Sound like a horror movie? Well, it is, in a way. Mel Gibson's epic retelling of Jesus Christ's final hours is one long rollercoaster ride to hell and back, literally. *The Passion of the Christ* is a violent movie, with the principal intent of illustrating the staggeringly brutal and savage last moments of the King of the Jews.

Gibson's film has been shrouded in accusations of anti-Semitism; critics have attacked Gibson, and not entirely unwarrantedly, insisting that his portrayal is overly cynical and disparaging of Jews in the year 0. Considering that the movie includes the devil literally walking between Pharisees, eyeing the mother of God with arrogant revulsion in his (her/its? Actually, the devil is played by a woman in this movie) eyes, those critics might just have a point.

But *The Passion of the Christ* is based on a true story. In fact, Gibson even based the movie on a book. Take a look in that book, and you'll see that ol' Matthew, Mark, Luke and John weren't so loving of the Jews, either. They killed God! Now whether or not that's true is not up to me,

but I think that a movie has the right to exaggerate a bit in order to prove a point. Actually, they have a right to exaggerate even if they don't have a point. Did noone out there witness the face-slappingly vile examples of racism in last month's *My Baby's Daddy*? No, because that's some stupid comedy, and those movies are apparently *allowed* to be mean-spirited and hateful. Why, then, should critics focus on Mel Gibson's movie?

As for the movie itself, I have one hyphenated word: well-made. It's never once cheesy, corny or predictable, and almost always powerful. Yes, the movie is extremely graphic, but there is a reason for that. Gibson illustrates a vivid, moving portrayal of Jesus' last 12 hours. Oh, and

the whole movie is in Aramaic, subtitled.

But the fact is that *The Passion of the Christ* isn't a life changing experience, nor is it some sort of massive revelation on the life of Jesus.

It isn't likely to inspire another Nazi-like

genocide any more than it is likely to generate religious fervor in anyone who doesn't already have it. It is, simply put, Mel Gibson's sharply drawn vision of what may have happened. How you react to it depends mostly on

what you take in with you.

The Passion of the Christ is a visual feast of brutality and cinematic savvy. Gibson does a fantastic job of realistically beating the living daylights out of Jim Caviezel. I can honestly say I've never seen anyone on screen endure something like that. By the end, Caviezel's skin looks like dog food. He's a disturbing mass of pain and shredded flesh that communicates with the audience only by

energy emanating from his one good eye.

Gibson attempts to put the viewer into Jesus' perspective, often switching the camera into his upside-down view after a stumble. The blood, pus and lashings are so pervasive, though, they become repetitive, and images of Jesus spattering blood on the ground lose their power. The inter-cut scenes, however, carry more bite. Several flashbacks depict various moments in Jesus' life—from Mary Magdalene's near stoning death to the washing of the apostle's feet. But these scenes are a bit too rare, and Gibson could have played them up more, although I admit that they wouldn't be of much use to anyone who isn't familiar with scripture. While I'm not Christian, 12 years in Catholic school taught me what I needed to know to see this movie, but others may not be so lucky.

Overall, *The Passion of the Christ* was worth the ticket admission and two hours of my life. The acting was superb; Jim Caviezel is stellar and convincing as Christ, and Monica Bellucci is beautiful even in rags as Mary Magdalene. A trip to see *The Passion of the Christ* is a whole lot easier than spending every Sunday in church.

I give it 4 out of 5 stars.

Neal the Real Deal: WWE

BY NEAL KINARIWALA
Statesman Staff

Recently, there have been many rumors that Mick Foley will be returning for a match at Wrestlemania, which will likely pit him against Randy Orton. Foley's return to wrestling is great, but I feel like his constant retirements and subsequent comebacks liken him to Michael Jordan. Like Jordan, he did not leave his profession of choice in a blaze of glory, but instead dimly tapered off like a nor'easter. Jordan's last game was a 107-87 loss to the Philadelphia 76ers, where he scored 14 points, nowhere near his career average of 30.12. Regardless, Foley is probably not returning for the money, as he has accumulated so much over the years and I would find it hard to believe he was overly reckless with it. What would he spend it on, a new hip or ear reconstruction surgery? Yet, it's hard not to respect the fact that at his age, he can still get in the ring and wrestle. Seeing as how I'm not in charge of his returns to wrestling, he'll probably return, and with my luck, he will be praised for having the match of his career.

On a strange side note, it appears that former wrestler Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake caused an anthrax scare at a subway station in Boston. At the booth where he was employed, some loose white powder was spotted, and was mistaken for anthrax. The incident was taken so seriously that the station was evacuated. While it was not actually anthrax, the real story was not much more promising for Mr. Beefcake. Brutus later confessed that the powder was actually his cocaine. Police at the scene also reported that "The Barber" was required to take an IQ test at the scene and the results were negative. People like

Mr. Beefcake are the reason that test was introduced. Not a single brain cell has to be functioning to put oneself in a situation like that. But in the Beefcake's case, the brain cells are few and far between, so it's entirely conceivable. People's idiocy is astounding sometimes.

Why does the WWE take commercial breaks in the middle of matches? If you don't see a problem, let me paint you a picture: Let's say you're watching Brock Lesnar about to pin Eddie Guerrero, and they suddenly cut to a commercial break for some gross anti-diarrhea medicine with repulsive side effects like loose bowels and gas with oily discharge. These commercials in the middle of matches undermine any momentum the match had, and almost always leaves you confounded as to who was doing what before the break. Alternatively, they could just take longer commercial breaks between different matches. But this is coming from the company that employed Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake, so no doubt these suggestions would fall on deaf ears. I also implore the WWE to release Val Venis because I detest his pelvic gyrations and croaky voice. And now...Seinfeld:

Jerry- "So you feel 'women and children first' in this day and age is somewhat of an antiquated notion."

George- "To some degree."

Jerry- "So, basically, it's every man, woman, child and invalid for themselves."

George- "In a manner of speaking."

Jerry- "Well, that's honest."

George- "They should be commending me for treating everyone like equals."

Jerry- "Well, perhaps when they're released from the burn center they'll see things more clearly."

CAMPUS CALENDAR

Tuesday, March 2

Commuter Connection
7:45-9:30 a.m.
SAC Commuter Commons
Lounge

Self Defense Program for
Women
5:30-7:30 p.m.
SAC Aerobic Studio

Indian Popular Cinema: To
Sing, To Dance, To Live!
"Mother India"
7:00 p.m.
Wang Center Theatre

Wednesday, March 3

Job and Internship Search
Strategies
12:45-2 p.m.
SAC 303
Career Center

Loida Nicolas Lewis: "Why
Should Guys Have all the
Fun?"
12:45 p.m.
Wang Center Theatre

Women's B-Ball vs. Maine
7 p.m.
Sports Complex Arena



Taiko Drumming Workshop
7:30-9:30 p.m.
SAC Aerobic Studio

Thursday, March 4

"My Heart is in the East": A
Celebration of Asian Jewish
Cultures
3:00 p.m.
Wang Center Theatre

Women's Lacrosse vs. Boston
College
3:00 p.m.
LaValle Stadium

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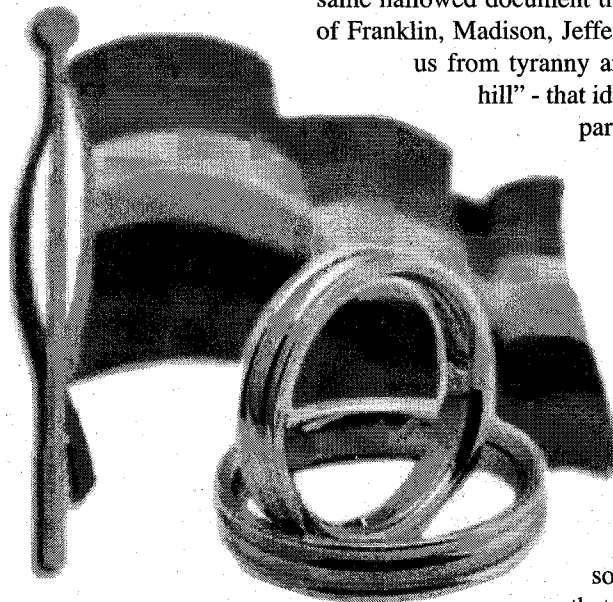
ANONYMOUS
Statesman Contributor

Listening to President Bush imply that it is necessary to alter America's founding document in order to "defend" marriage from the likes of people like me, who seek the chance to find love and build a family with the same legal protections that heterosexuals take for granted, left me devastated and heartbroken. I cannot begin to put into words the overwhelming force with which this divisive and cynical political calculation for a constitutional amendment banning marriage and perhaps all relationship rights for gays struck me.

The immense impact its potential realization holds for not only my future, but that of countless friends and family makes it critical that this issue be publicly discussed. Coming from a very conservative South Asian culture and family that strongly disapproves of homosexuality, and facing ostracism from the only people, my parents, who know of my queerness, I only just began to confront the fact that I am not attracted to girls no matter how hard I try or wish I could have this easy path in life. But, just after I began to get over the depression and even self-loathing because of my feelings of same-sex attraction caused me for years, and only when I recently began looking at the future with new hope for finding true love and someday starting a family of my own, President Bush has rocked me with this announcement and has cast a pall over my future.

This time, though, I cannot sit idly by as I have so many times in the past, when it was still considered acceptable to hate and bully gays. Like the times I saw people jeer or even physically threaten someone, not because he had hurt anyone or been a bad person, but for a simple fact over which he had no control: that he liked guys and not girls. Or the other times when people mocked and avoided someone they considered effeminate when that person wasn't even aware of his innocent hand gestures and couldn't understand why other people didn't take his ideas seriously.

Simply put, it is un-American to remain silent and allow in our nation's fundamental document the enshrinement of discrimination that will stigmatize a minority group for at least the next several decades and further legitimize gay bashing. The passing of this amendment will condemn our nation's founding document. It will destroy the most intimate and personal hopes and aspirations of many for building a loving home and family will not result in legal protection, but instead as some sort of "threat" against which the institution of marriage must be "defended," the language that opponents of marriage rights for same-sex couples use.



Courtesy of google.com

"Jim Crow Returns – This Time Gays are Targets"

It will provide further ammunition to those critics who cannot see beyond their homophobia and disapproval of homosexual physical intimacy to acknowledge the humanity of gay couples as simply people engaged in equal and parallel relationships with the same desires and capabilities for love and happiness that straights seek for themselves. It will further confuse the issue of gay marital rights as an issue of sexual ethics, when, and I repeat for the umpteenth time, no one chooses to be gay and biological studies provide convincing and mounting evidence for this. It will bypass the issue that gay marital rights is really about: that of the most fundamental freedom to love a person of one's choosing and build one's life together with him or her.

Moreover, the psychological impact such an amendment will have on younger and more impressionable gay kids will be devastating, as it will intensify their feelings of being outsiders and less than their straight peers. Their "otherness" will be endorsed by the same hallowed document that was created by the likes of Franklin, Madison, Jefferson, and Adams to protect us from tyranny and govern our "city on the hill" - that idealized land of freedom and parity for everyone.

I cannot sit idly by and see my future and that of so many others be attacked in this way without speaking up. I realize that there is a long way to go in showing people the harm that comes from scornfully telling "faggot" jokes, or needling others about their sexual orientation, as if being straight or gay is some kind of accomplishment that reflects a superior talent or ability. But, this amendment

creates an urgency that requires all of us to exercise our basic human decency and conscience in not tainting our founding document and allowing ourselves to be swept away in the intolerance and discrimination our President's proposal contains.

The solution to the issue of gay marital rights is to allow each state to make its own policy in this regard; it most emphatically is not to impose a far-reaching ban in our country's most cherished document, that which embodies its ideals of liberty, tolerance, and equality for one and all, and which has only been modified to include and expand citizens' rights, not rip them away.

I call on fellow members of the Stony Brook community to consider the very tangible and real harm such an amendment will have on the lives of millions who are only seeking the right to marry that the majority of us take for granted. It would be an outrage to defile our nation's founding document, embrace the same arguments for discrimination advocated by opponents of interracial marriage just a few decades ago, and relegate decent gay men and women to perpetual second-class status so that George W. Bush can cynically exploit this important issue for political gain.

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The Question Remains, "Just Where Are Those Weapons?" 7

By ROBERT J. ROMANO
Statesman Contributor

Expanding the war on terrorism to Iraq last year, one of the justifications used was Iraq's refusal to comply with UN Security Council Resolutions in its pursuit of weapons of mass destruction, and other banned weapons programs, like long-range missiles.

Nearly one year since "Operation Iraqi Freedom" began, the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) has been diligently searching for and dismantling Iraq's former programs. While the stockpiles of WMD's remain unaccounted for, and are still being searched for, the importance of locating them has been neglected by partisans who feel "betrayed," and who would just as soon assume that they never existed and that Iraq really was complying with the resolutions.

Even further buried by talk of "a nation deceived" is that the efforts of our brave men and women in uniform in the field of battle are being ignored, despite their enormous success, and to the important issue of the weapons stockpiles, including discoveries made by the ISG thus far.

In Dr. David Kay's testimony before Congress on Oct. 2, 2003, the former chief U.S. weapons inspector stated: "We have discovered dozens of WMD-related program activities concealed from the United Nations during the inspections that began in late 2002. The discovery of these deliberate concealment efforts have come about both through the admissions of Iraqi scientists and officials concerning information they deliberately withheld and through physical evidence of equipment and activities that ISG has discovered that should have been declared to the UN." In other words, Iraq was in material breach of its international obligations, and of the ceasefire agreement which followed the first Gulf War.

Also mentioned in Dr. Kay's testimony is that the unaccounted-for stockpiles are relatively small, and "[i]t is important to keep in mind that even the bulkiest materials we are searching for, in the quantities we would expect to

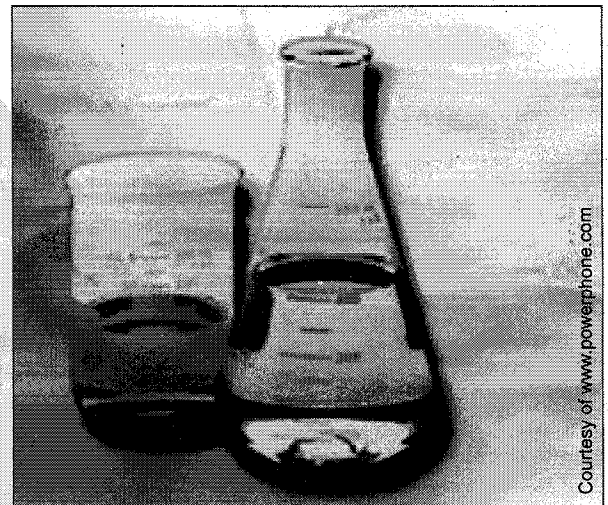
find, can be concealed in spaces not much larger than a two car garage..." This raises the disturbing question: just where are the stockpiles that the UN had confirmed that Iraq possessed?

While some view this as an opportunity to put our intelligence agencies on "trial" for being "wrong," and perhaps even the chance to downgrade our ability to gather such important information, these blind partisans are missing a very serious point: Iraq was not disarming. In fact, Iraq was concealing both the capability and the intent to reconstitute its stockpiles, hardly meeting the legal conditions set forth by the disarmament regime following the first Gulf War. Iraq had violated resolution after resolution, defied the international community, and was a grave and gathering danger. Left alone, Iraq had hoped, through deception, to have the sanctions imposed on it lifted, and once accomplished, to fully reconstitute its arsenals.

Yes, the inspections were in many ways successful, and the hard work of the inspection regime was honorable, carried out by individuals who put their lives on the line to disarm a genocidal dictator. And yet their work was incomplete, and it was not until "Operation Iraqi Freedom" commenced that we discovered the larger extent of not only the programs in place, but also of Iraq's involvement with terrorist organizations, which were previously underestimated.

Because of this, the President's special commission investigating contemporary intelligence-gathering dating before the war, is extremely important, and will improve our capabilities, but such a commission should not be made to obscure what has been accomplished by disarming Iraq and liberating the Iraqi people.

The sad truth is that those who are attempting to prove that America was "misled" are distorting the facts, and have more of an interest in reacquiring political power than in finding the missing stockpiles of WMD which we know Iraq had possessed. Yes, the world was misled... by the



Courtesy of www.powerphone.com

brutal and deceitful regime of Saddam Hussein. What's worse is that these partisans are blindly attempting, some unwittingly, to revise history, and are willing to serve as apologists for a genocidal tyrant simply so they can play "gotcha!" with national security. Saddam Hussein was a danger with the weapons, and he was a danger with the ability and intent to make the weapons. He was still in violation of the UN resolutions, and Congress authorized the President, in an overwhelmingly bipartisan effort, to enforce those all-too-often-ignored resolutions. The President made the right decision, and we must, in our efforts, fully account for the still-missing stockpiles, for the safety and security of all. We should not be so ready to close the book on the extent of Iraq's network of denial and deception, and we should never be willing to leave the peace and security of an entire region up to the arbitrary dictates of one man.

The efforts to disarm Hussein's Iraq were justified, and they deserve our collective support, as do the brave men and women in uniform who are risking their lives for you.

THIS WEEK ON IN FOCUS

Join hosts **Dustin Herlich**, of The Stony Brook Press, and **Joanne Marino** of SBU-TV, as they interview **Louis Medina**, new Executive Director of the Undergraduate Student Government at Stony Brook University.

**Tune in: Wednesday, March 3rd
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 1, 2004

AIDS Education at Stony Brook

Continued From Page 1

views presented by Gerrig. He felt that many people still believe that AIDS is not their problem, and this complacency is holding back the fight against AIDS.

"Some societies, even today, are denying that they have a problem with AIDS, and [are] simply pushing it away," said Mastroni.

Brodsky took a far more personal approach, and specifically discussed the impact of AIDS on his life. His novel is actually a tribute to his wife, who decided to stay with Brodsky even after he had told her that he was HIV positive and was bisexual. Brodsky also described his efforts in promoting the AIDS Africa 2004 Marathon, an event dedicated to raising money and medicine in Africa, the region with the highest rate of AIDS infection in the world.

"There's a generation of orphans being raised in that country; that's unacceptable," said Brodsky.

...any victory simply requires stringent effort and dedication, and the fight against AIDS is no different.

"Everyone should have an equal right to treatment."

Speakers and students alike thoroughly enjoyed the event, which was both moving and informative.

"This event surprised me in a lot of ways," said Gaurav Verma, a student who attended the event. "There was a great turnout, and every single minute of the event was significant in some way."

"From doing safer sex education for 10 years, it's great to see anything from the students," said Mastroianni. "I hope this is the start of something truly great."

Brodsky echoed these sentiments. "It's great to see this kind of event in a university, because this fight has to start with the college students."

This event truly serves as a message to us all - any victory simply requires stringent effort and dedication, and the fight against AIDS is no different.

Wayne Cushman Appears at Stony Brook

Continued From Page 1

hear about it on the evening news in downstate New York.

On May 1, the NRA will sponsor a free course at the Long Island Shooting Range for women who want or need to defend themselves using Second Amendment rights. The event will feature gun safety instruction, after which each participant will be paired with an NRA certified instructor to practice shooting with a .22 rifle.

Cushman alluded to the effective repeal of the First Amendment for groups as diverse as the NAACP, ACLU and NRA by the McCain-Feingold Campaign Finance Reform Bill. "The man who owns the press is the only one with the freedom of the press," he said.

"I believe John L. Cushman's [March 2nd] visit will undoubtedly help educate those on this campus as to the importance of our fundamental right to bear arms as well as



Statesman/Greg Lubich

Virginia Morgan helped organize Cushman's visit to Stony Brook.

the need to motivate young voters at the grassroots level to get their voices heard," said Jeff Kruszyna, president of the SBU College Republicans.



RESOLVED:

"The PATRIOT Act Must Go"

Wednesday, March 3, 2004 • 3:00 p.m. • Charles B. Wang Center, Lecture Hall 2

IN THE AFFIRMATIVE:

Michael Zweig, Professor of Economics
Jacob Levich, Manager of University
Web Content

IN THE NEGATIVE:

Michael Sigrist, Ph.D. student,
Department of Philosophy
Louis Esparza, Ph.D. student, Department
of Sociology

MODERATOR:

Professor Gilbert Hanson, Distinguished
Service Professor, Department of
Geosciences

In the immediate aftermath of the September 11 attacks, Congress passed the USA PATRIOT Act, a massive 342-page crime bill granting sweeping new powers to both domestic law enforcement and international intelligence agencies. The Act has since caused controversy between those who hail it as an essential weapon in the "War on Terror" and those who condemn the act as an unprecedented invasion of privacy, as well as an infringement of speech rights and academic freedom.

All are welcome. • Refreshments will be served after the event.

Sponsored by the Stony Brook University Graduate School, Lawrence Martin, Dean, and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Peter Baigent, Associate Vice President.

The Stony Brook Debating Society has been formed to stimulate reasoned debate on the great issues of our time. We expect to hold one debate per semester on a variety of topics. If you are interested in becoming involved in the activities of the Society, please contact Malcolm Bowman, Interim Chair, Malcolm.Bowman@stonybrook.edu.

A A / E O E



A THOUGHT
FROM
RABBI ADAM



Sometimes there are obstacles separating a person from a goal. Such a person has but one of two options. Either one could invest their energies in the physical realm and try to manipulate every detail of every obstacle as it presents itself. Or, one could ignore the physical reality, ignore all the obstacles, and by placing all their energies in the spiritual realm, continue to the desired goal with a trust in G-d that things will work themselves out. Take the Biblical Book of Esther as an example. King Achashverosh's minister, Haman, made a decree to kill all the Jews. Now Esther, the king's forced-into-marriage bride-queen, was secretly Jewish. She had to somehow convince the king to nullify Haman's decree. However, one was not allowed to approach the king without invitation or it was "off with your head"-wives included. Now what was Esther to do? In a few days the decree would be carried out with much bloodshed! She decided to approach the king's sanctuary without invitation, hoping for the best. Now, according to the laws of logic, in order to escape the guillotine, the best way to find favor in the king's eyes would have been to look very attractive. But instead, Esther fasted and prayed for 3 days straight. She looked like a wreck! So how was she to find favor in such a king's eyes? Well, she had a choice. She could invest her efforts in the physical realm, play according to the laws of nature, and try to look pretty to impress the king. Yet she chose to ignore the physical reality, and, instead, invest all her efforts in the spiritual realm- trusting that the merit of her prayers would go farther than the merit of her beauty. And this is exactly what happened. She fasted and prayed, and, the king received her and nullified the decree. Hence, the Jewish holiday of Purim celebrates the fact that one doesn't have to be governed by the laws of reality. For just like the concept of "mind over matter", so too is the spiritual over the physical.

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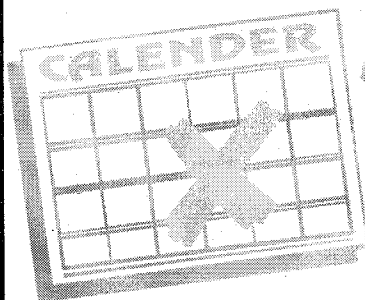
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March 8	5:00pm	Quesadillas
March 9	5:00pm	Thai Cuisine
March 10	5:00pm	Shrimp
March 11	5:00pm	Healthy Italian
March 15	12:00pm	Kathryn Bari
March 15	5:00pm	Vegan Italian
March 16	5:00pm	St. Patty's Day
March 17	5:00pm	Making Cheese
March 18	12:00pm	Fiber In Your Diet
March 22	5:00pm	Healthy Greek
March 23	5:00pm	American
March 24	1:00pm	Kathryn Bari
March 24	5:00pm	Spring Vegetables
March 25	1:00pm	Appetizers
March 25	5:00pm	Chocolate Dipping
March 29	12:00pm	Yummy Fruit
March 30	5:00pm	April Fool's Demo
March 31	5:00pm	Back to Basics

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SBU's Annual Albany Day Leaves Its Mark on Legislators

Continued From Page 1

Brook pins that lined every hallway and floor of the Albany capitol buildings.

"The campus came out in force on Stony Brook Day," said President Shirley Strum Kenny. "It's all part of the wonderful momentum we have built over the last few years. We're on a roll and now our representatives in Albany know it too."

Senator Kenneth LaValle, adjunct professor at SBU and

benefactor of LaValle Stadium, was among the senators students visited that afternoon. LaValle spoke candidly to the students about his interest in the University and his work there. Having worked in the old Humanities building as an adjunct, he recalls the dilapidated state of the classrooms and hallways, and jokingly pointed out that President Kenny must have placed him there so that he would suggest a change, to help renovate the structure. He was a key

"They want to hear real stories from the students; not some guy in a blue suit."

James Staros

proponent for that project. He also detailed a plan that he is working on in the Senate to combat rising tuition at state universities.

"I have a proposal," he said, "and that is: whatever the tuition is when the student enters college, that's what it is for all four years. So you can plan your life, and the university can plan its life."

His plan is aimed at ensuring stronger foundation for students who may not be able to match the state's whims and new plans for tuition hikes.

"We are trying to ensure the easiest possible way for every student, regardless of their age, or where they're from, to have access to postsecondary education," he said.

Following his talk with nearly 50 Stony Brook members, he escorted the group to the Senate Chamber room, which the Smithsonian has dubbed the most beautiful room in America. Pointing to the 18th century art, fireplaces, chandeliers and antique engraved wood that adorn the room, LaValle explained the history of the room's construction and the daily routines of state senators who work there. As cameras flashed and students reached out to touch a piece of state history, LaValle said that this experience would be unlike any that students would receive in the classroom.

Following the meetings with representatives and rushed lunches, the group came together at the end of the day in the "Egg," a building befitting its unusual name. As students indulged on warm food and refreshments, President Kenny and other event organizers recapped the happenings of the day.

By late afternoon, exhausted feet made their way back to the buses, and the sun began to set on the capitol. Conversations about meetings and new encounters graced each bus bench, and students shared new digital images of the day with their team members.

"This is the biggest community building event we have at Stony Brook," said Jerrold Stein, dean of students. "The turnout this year was great, more than we've had any other year."

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Lowenstein Building, South Lounge, 113 West 60th Street
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Statesman SPORTS

Stony Brook Beats # 2 Team in the America East

By DANA GOMI
Statesman Editor

Stony Brook; Boston: two different teams going head-to-head, with only one possible victor. Stony Brook Women's basketball amazed everyone by pulling off a 72-70 win over Boston University Wednesday night at the Sports Complex. This victory snapped their two-game losing streak and gave them great confidence as the conference tournament approaches.

The first half proved tough for the Seawolves, as they faced defense problems. Boston seemed to want this game more than Stony Brook did. Despite Stony Brook starting the game with an early lead, Boston remained close, resulting in many lead changes.



At times, Boston led by as many as five points. Stony Brook looked tired as the first half ended, while Boston held a 30-28 lead.

"In the first half I don't think we were rebounding as well as we should have," said freshman Kelly Watson. "We weren't playing aggressive[ly] enough on offensive in order to score. We just needed to step up our game in the second half and we did. Things just came together in the second half."

In the second half, the Seawolves looked like a different team as they strove to step up their game. Boston quickly extended its lead to 46-41, but Stony Brook replied with a 17-3 run, fueled by Watson's six points and Sherry Jordan's five, resulting in a 58-49 lead with less than 10 minutes remaining. As the clock ticked, Stony Brook and Boston kept on battling, and with four minutes remaining, Boston's Becky Bonner connected on two three-pointers and a layup to bring Boston within three, 68-65. Boston's Katie Terhune followed with a pair of free throws to make it a one-point game, before Jessica Smith hit a jumper putting Stony Brook back up by three.

With 57 seconds left in the game, Bonner hit her sixth three-pointer of the

game to tie the score at 70. On Stony Brook's next possession, Mykeema Ford hit a driving basket with seven seconds left on the clock to return the lead to the Seawolves, 72-70. Boston had no timeouts remaining, but did have one last shot at winning the game. Terhune's jumper, however, was off the mark, and the Seawolves emerged victorious.

Jordan played an amazing game, scoring her 1,500th career point in the contest. She led Stony Brook with 18 points and 14 rebounds. She currently stands in third place all-time at Stony Brook with 1,508 career points. Watson also had a great game, scoring 19 points along with a career-high six assists.

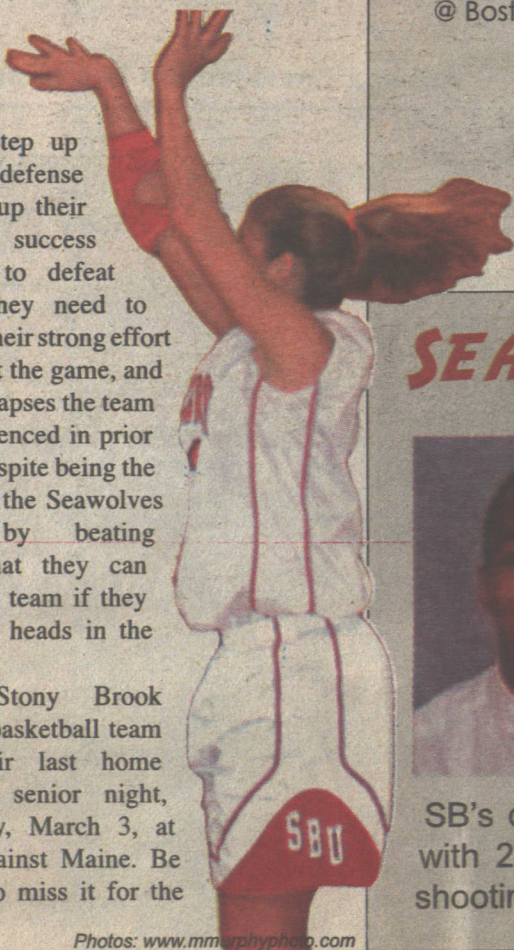
"I have played better than I did in the last couple of games," said Watson. And it shows. She was a major factor in securing the win over Boston.

Smith continued her outstanding play as of late, also posting a double-double with 10 points and 13 boards to go with five assists.

The women's basketball team earned a big win, but now have to focus on their next opponent, America East leader Maine.

The Seawolves need to step up their defense and keep up their offensive success in order to defeat Maine. They need to maintain their strong effort throughout the game, and avoid the lapses the team has experienced in prior games. Despite being the underdog, the Seawolves proved by beating Boston that they can defeat any team if they keep their heads in the game.

The Stony Brook women's basketball team plays their last home game on senior night, Wednesday, March 3, at 7 p.m. against Maine. Be sure not to miss it for the world!



Photos: www.mmmurphyphoto.com

CALENDAR

Women's Basketball

vs. Maine
7:00 PM
@ Stony Brook, N.Y.

Women's Lacrosse

vs. Boston College
3:00 PM
@ Stony Brook, N.Y.

Softball

vs. James Madison ECU
Pirate Clash
12:00 PM
@ Greenville, N.C.

Softball

vs. Ohio ECU Pirate Clash
2:00 PM
@ Greenville, N.C.

Baseball

vs. High Point
6:00 PM
@ High Point, N.C.

Men's Basketball

America East Tournament
TBA
@ Boston, Mass.

Softball

vs. East Carolina ECU
12:00 PM
@ Greenville, N.C.

Women's Basketball

vs. Northeastern
1:00 PM
@ Boston, Mass.

Men's Lacrosse

vs. Massachusetts
1:00 PM
@ Stony Brook, N.Y.

Women's Lacrosse

vs. LIU
1:00 PM
@ Brooklyn, N.Y.

Baseball

vs. High Point
1:00 PM
@ High Point, N.C.

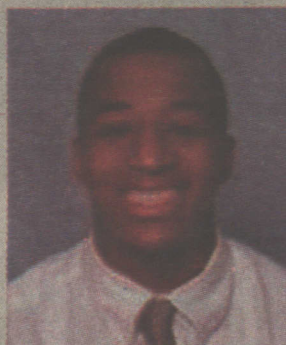
Baseball

vs. High Point
12:00 PM
@ High Point, N.C.

Softball

vs. ECU Pirate Clash
TBA
@ Greenville, N.C.

SEAWOLF OF THE WEEK



Mitchell Beauford earns Stony Brook Athlete of the Week honors after posting a solid week for the men's basketball team, averaging 17.0 points in two games for the Seawolves.

The freshman began the week with 12 points and two steals in SB's double overtime victory at Albany and capped it with 22 points, which tied his career-high, on 7-of-11 shooting to go with three steals in a loss to Binghamton.