

Opening Up "A Different World"

Realizing the Research Opportunities at SBU

By EUGENE TAN
Staff Writer

When students hear the word "research," they often think of boring labs, tons of test tubes and long lists of step-by-step procedures. However, what many people don't realize is that research can actually open up an exciting new world and provide a new perspective on classroom science. And especially for Stony Brook students, research is particularly exciting since our university has such state-of-the-art research laboratories and resources.

According to Karen Kernan, Director of Programs for Research and Creative Activity, Stony Brook University has had "strong reputation for [its] graduate schools" and research, and as a result, these excellent research facilities have become available to undergraduates as well. In 1987, the office of Undergraduate Research & Creative Activities (URECA) was established through the Provost's Office to "promote an undergraduate education through hands-on experiences." In addition to receiving funds from the University's budget, URECA is also funded by several outside donors such as the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Dr. James Simons, a

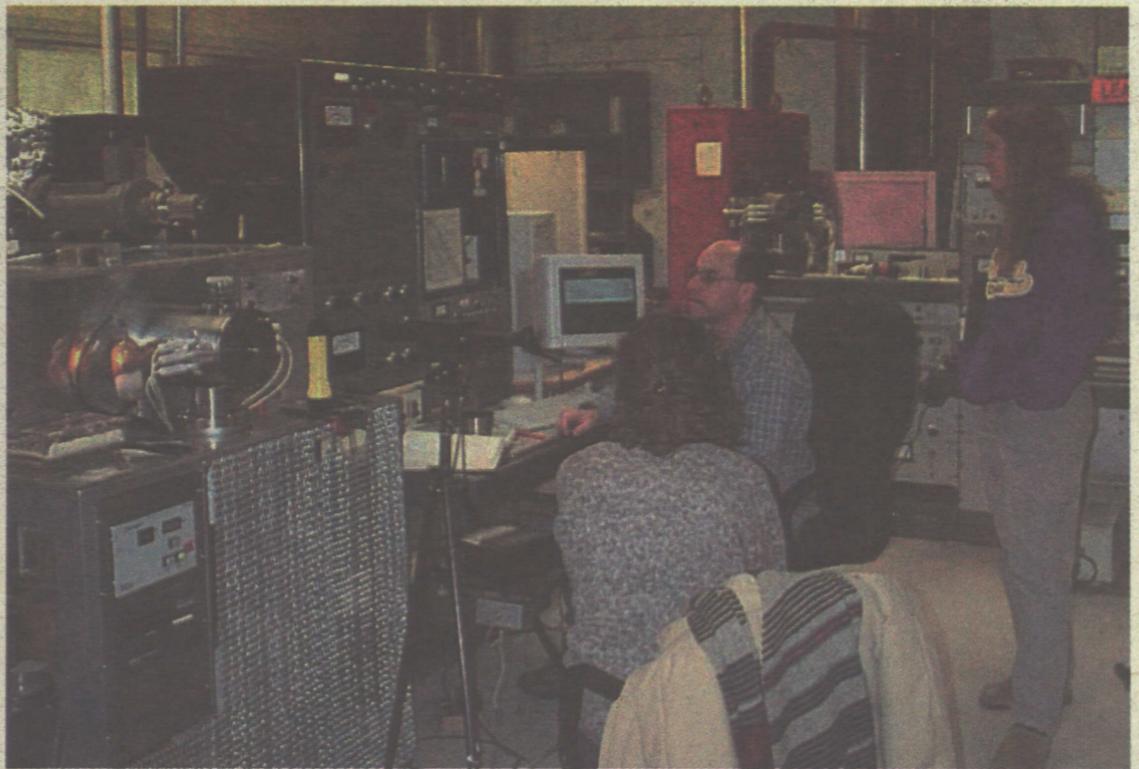
former chair of the Department of Mathematics at Stony Brook.

Since its inception in 1987, URECA has expanded greatly to include many research fellowship programs, such as Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site Programs, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Undergraduate Research Fellow Programs and the URECA Summer Fellowship. Such programs often award students stipends and research positions in one of Stony Brook's many departments or at outside institutions such as Brookhaven National Laboratory or Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory.

Indeed, as Kernan stated, research at Stony Brook is very comprehensive and has received "national recognition." Awarded in 1997 for integrating research and education, Stony Brook was one of ten universities selected by the National Science Foundation to receive a Recognition Award for the Integration of Research and Education (RAIRE). In the 2005 to 2006 school year, Stony Brook was also cited in U.S. News and World Report's America's Best Colleges as one of the best undergraduate research and creative projects program.

With its resources and recog-

Continued on page 6



Students working in an isotope lab on campus.

Courtesy of Stony Brook University

Professors who mentor undergraduates do so because they truly "believe in the whole process of education."

Stony Brook
In Vogue
The Perfect Denim

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Holiday Events

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SB Bytes:
Who Rules?
The Game

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SBU Pulse: Manhattan Expands

COMPILED BY JOSEPH WEN
Staff Writer

Stony Brook Professor Receives National Medal of Science

Recently, Dr. Dennis Sullivan, a professor in Stony Brook's Mathematics department, was chosen to receive the National Medal of Science, awarded by the President of the United States to individuals "deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to knowledge in the physical, biological, mathematical, or engineering sciences." Sullivan was recognized for his groundbreaking work in exploring new mathematical fields and connecting diverse topics of study. The National Medal of Science initiative was created in 1959. Since then, 417 distinguished engineers, scientists, and other academic luminaries have received the award, chosen by a selected committee of twelve scientific experts. Sullivan has been a member of the Stony Brook community since 1995. He holds a Ph.D in

Mathematics from Princeton University and has taught at MIT, Princeton, CUNY Queens and in France.

SBU Student Recipient of Marshall Scholarship

Senior Melissa Friedman, a Physics major, is one of approximately 40 college seniors in the U.S. to receive a Marshall Scholarship this year. The Marshall Scholarship is considered to be similarly prestigious to the Rhodes Scholarship, and provides for two years of study in the United Kingdom. Friedman has an extensive record of participation in research. She took part in a National Science Foundation-funded program involving work with optics and lasers in laboratories in Europe, and recently presented research data at the Undergraduate Research Symposium of the Division of Laser Science of the American Physical Society and the Optical Society of America. Additionally, Friedman is a co-author, along with Nobel laureate Eric Cornell, of an upcoming research paper. Friedman was nominated for the scholarship by Dr. Harold Metcalf. She is the

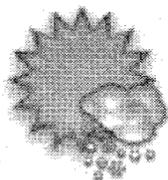
first SBU student in the school's history to receive the award.

SBU Manhattan Adds New Program

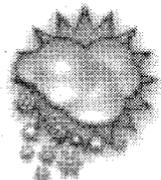
The administration has announced that a new academic program will be launched at SBU's Manhattan satellite. The new Executive MBA program, administered by SBU's College of Business and intended for law firm managers, is scheduled to commence in earnest in April, 2006. Classes are to be held twice every other week. Curriculum topics will include core courses centered on business management, leadership and marketing strategy, in addition to elective courses pertaining to specific concentrations. Students will have the luxury of small classes and extensive interaction with faculty. This program will be of particular interest to managers seeking to ascend in their firms' hierarchies. Application will be competitive – prospective candidates require a sponsorship from their firms and at least five years of relevant experience.

Student Forecast: Dec 5 - Dec 11

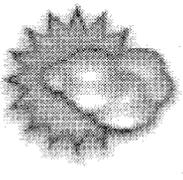
By Britta Merwin



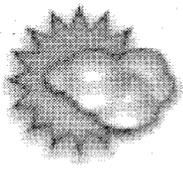
Monday:
High 40/Low 29
Mostly cloudy with
developing snow over-
night into Tuesday



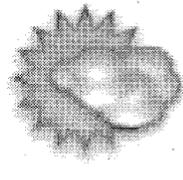
Tuesday:
High 38/Low 27
Snow beginning early
in the morning, ex-
pected 1 inch or less



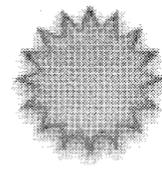
Wednesday:
High 38/Low 24
Partly cloudy incom-
ing cold air from the
passed cold front



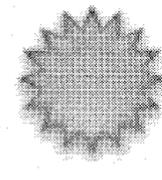
Thursday:
High 35/Low 24
Mostly Sunny with cold
winter temperatures



Friday:
High 40/Low 28
Partly cloudy,
cold but dry



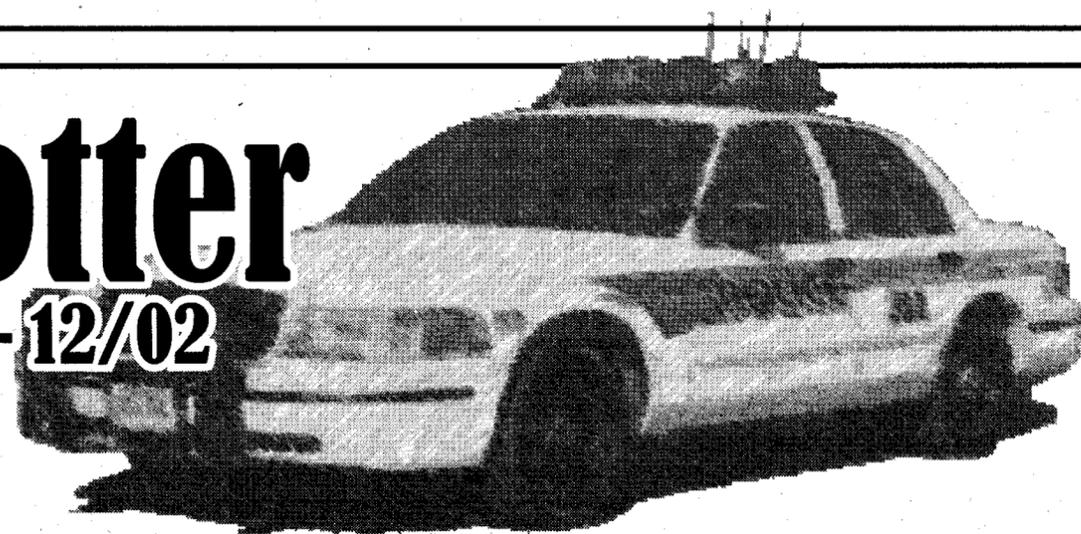
Saturday:
High 41/Low 30
Mixed sun and clouds



Sunday:
High 42/Low 29
Winter temperatures
continue but
staying dry

Police Blotter

Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman 11/28 - 12/02



Stolen Computers

Several cases involving stolen computers were reported between 11-28-05 and 12-2-05. In the Health Sciences Tower, computer towers, a keyboard and a palm pilot were reportedly stolen on 11-28-05 at 8:08 AM. Later on that day in the Health Sciences Tower, a laptop was reported stolen at 2:41 PM.

On the same day, a laptop was also stolen from Langmuir College at 10:22 AM. Elsewhere on campus, a flat screen monitor was taken from an office in the Melville Library on 11-29-05 at 9:10 AM. On 11-30-05, computers were taken from a room in Dreiser College at 11:13 AM.

Harassment

In the Chapin Apartments, a student was reportedly threatening another student on 11-28-05 at 4:55 PM. One subject was referred to the police.

Vandalism

In Cardozo College, damage to fire exit signs was reported on 11-28-05 at 10:43 PM.

Fireworks

In the Kelly Café inner quad, subjects were reportedly lighting fire works on 11-29-05 at 2:29

AM. The police patrolled the area, but all appeared in order.

Public Lewdness

In the University Hospital, a patient in the hospital was exposing himself to a staff member. The case was reported on 11-29-05 at 6:34 PM.

Marijuana

In Hamilton College, the smell of marijuana was reported on 11-29-05 at 7:45 PM, and five students were referred to the police. In Sanger College, the smell of marijuana was reported on 11-30-05 at 11:53 PM, and an RA corrected the situation. Upon arrival of the police, all appeared in order. On

The History of Stony Brook

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

Crime Engulfs Stony Brook Leading Up To Great Drug Bust

By RADEYAH HACK
Staff Writer

By 1968, SUNY Stony Brook was a thriving institution of higher learning that had made the transition from its temporary location, at Coe Estates, to the permanent campus as a University Center in Stony Brook. President John Toll had recruited C.N. Yang, a Nobel Laureate of Physics, and plans for the University Medical School and hospital were underway. 1968 brought SUNY Stony Brook into fame not for its academic accomplishments, however, but for the great drug bust that occurred.

"The new university, if still thin on women faculty and men and women of color, was full of Jews, radicals, and hippies," says Joel Rosenthal, a History professor at Stony Brook, in his book *From the Ground Up – A History of the State University of New York at Stony Brook*.

The counterculture that defined the social scene of the 1960's and 1970's was persistent on college campuses across the nation. The quiet, suburban state school in Stony Brook, Long Island was no exception to this trend. Political dissent over the Vietnam War was rampant amongst the college generation, while drugs and rock and roll became intertwined in the mix.

Opposition to the counterculture came to a head at Stony Brook on the night of January 17, 1968, when 200 Suffolk County police officers raided the dorm rooms of unsuspecting students and arrested those found with marijuana or pep pills. According to the Michael Zweig, an Economics Professor at Stony Brook who was caught up in the whirlwind following the drug bust, the raid appeared to be deliberately provocative and planned by the Suffolk County-Police Department as way of showing opposition towards the University. "We received a lot of hostility and suspicion from the community," he said.

This hostility and suspicion culminated in a military-style raid in student dorms by police officers searching for marijuana, during exams week. "Young people in 1968 were smoking dope all over the country – people were smoking this everywhere,"

said Zweig.

"The information about who was involved in the drug world had come from campus snoopers – undercover agents and pseudo-students with police connections – plus the too-casual world of rumor and gossip," says Rosenthal.

What followed the drug bust were McCarthy-like hearings at the New York State Senate Committee on Crime for Stony Brook students and faculty members. Jail sentences for students who sold and distributed marijuana were issued, and faculty members raised funds among themselves to hire legal counsel for cases. "As in most witch-hunting investigations, the senators wanted the faculty and staff witnesses to 'name names' – from whom did you buy, to whom did you sell, with whom did you...etc," says Rosenthal. Zweig was one of the faculty members who was called to testify to a grand jury and spent two nights in jail after refusing to incriminate students in the act.

Support, however, from the higher ranks of the administration, particularly Toll, was minimal. "Neither, alas, did he [Toll] express much compensatory sympathy for the students arrested for what was usually a street-misdemeanor, not the subject of a major raid. Neither did he show much indignation about the publicity-oriented invasion of the dorms," writes Rosenthal. As Zweig points out, the administration was in a difficult situation since they need to protect the integrity of institution.

A whirlwind of media attention accompanied the drug bust, with articles in the New York Times and Newsday turning the event into an urban legend. "This wasn't just an ordinary bust operation with the scale and intensity of the attention it received," said Zweig.

The Great Drug Bust of 1968 endured well into the later decades as the event that defined SUNY Stony Brook, one that not only reflected the Stony Brook culture, but the culture of a generation.

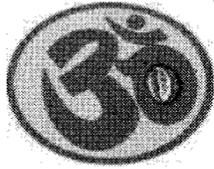
Quotations for this article were taken from Joel Rosenthal's book From the Ground Up – A History of the State University of New York at Stony Brook.



A burned gatehouse, part of the aftermath of the riots over the Drug Bust of 1969.

Courtesy of University Archives

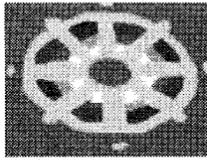
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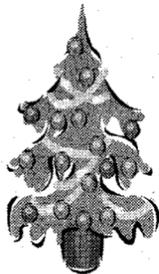
Diwali



Native American Winter Solstice



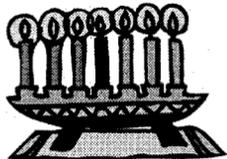
Rohatsu



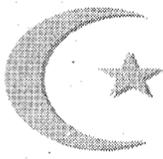
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Kwanzaa



Ramadan & Eid ul-Fitr

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

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

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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You Need to Get Involved With Research

For all the shortcomings of this university, one thing that we do well is research. Nobody disputes this point; in fact, people commonly talk about how unbalanced this university is with such a strong research program and weaker academics. With all these resources available to us, it's astonishing that more students don't get involved in laboratories.

We are in an institution of higher learning with the resources of the best minds in the country at our fingertips. We owe it to ourselves to actually get involved with some of this research and learn in depth instead of simply sitting through twelve credits of classes a semester. Stony Brook is ranked as

one of the top ten research universities in the country, a very telling statistic. The research is being done here whether undergraduates are participating or not. It seems foolish to go through four years of schooling, surrounded by world-class research, and never be exposed to it firsthand.

All intrinsic reasons aside, it is becoming increasingly difficult to get into graduate schools without demonstrating previous experience in a field. This used to be true only in the sciences, but this paradigm is spreading to other fields as well, including the "soft sciences" and even in humanities. Many students who plan on going to graduate school are in for a rude awakening when they

apply without having any good experiences in that area. Admission committees look for research experience, plain and simple. Coming from Stony Brook, there is no reason not to get involved.

There are students who realize the importance of research to the point where they delay their graduation in order to bulk up in it. It is not terribly uncommon for a student who wants to go to medical school to spend another semester here, taking lighter classes and doing heavy research. This might be pushing it a bit, but it is indicative of the new requirements that we need to adhere to. Many students are adapting and there is no excuse for those of us who aren't.

CONTINUATIONS

Opening Up "A Different World"

Continued from page 1

Stony Brook has a great deal to offer its students, and as Kernan commented, "students who really want to do research can find placements" in laboratories. Unfortunately, many students often do not seek these positions or apply for fellowships because they think they do not have a chance or "are afraid to go to faculty" members to discuss research.

However, Kernan emphasized that "students should definitely apply for more" fellowships, which are given to select students chosen by a team of faculty members. Although some fellowships, such as the Howard Hughes program, can be very competitive, other programs, such as the Battelle Summer Research Fellowship, receive between five and ten applicants in some years, so the chances of being selected for the program are much greater.

Nonetheless, Kernan emphasized that regardless of these chances, it is always "worth applying" in order to make the best out of what Stony Brook has to offer. For example, the Battelle Summer Research Fellowship is a ten-week program with a \$5,000 stipend to do research at Brookhaven National Laboratory or Battelle Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. In addition, the Howard Hughes program offers all undergraduates the opportunity to do biology research; this fellowship amounts to a \$3,000 stipend during the academic year and a \$2,500 stipend plus room and board over the summer. The list of fellowships goes on. As Kernan explained, we try to "give as much money as we can to our students."

However, it is important, Kernan stated, to note that research programs are not just limited to the sciences. On the contrary, there are fellowships for the Fine Arts, Ceramics, Music, Hispanic languages, Anthropology, etc., and having this freedom to do "scholarly

research," students also have the opportunity to meet with a faculty mentor periodically. Students who want to do research outside of the sciences can definitely apply for the URECA Summer Research Program, which is open to all majors and allows ten weeks of full-time research with a \$3,500 stipend.

Epitomizing the value of research, junior Melanie Bobb, a Biology major, has worked with Dr. Mike Bell in the Ecology and Evolution Department. Through the Long Island Group Advancing Science Education (LIGASE), Bobb became part of the Biology Program for Research and Education Partnership (BioPREP), which offers summer research opportunities to underrepresented community college students. Bobb has been able to do research for the past two summers on the Alaskan three-spine stickleback. In addition to working on a project "that was very interesting," she also enjoyed meeting other graduate students, reading scientific literature, writing scientific papers and developing basic organizational skills, such as data collecting. Her research experience has truly equipped her with better skills to pursue a future career in dentistry. Bobb has enjoyed her research so much that she is planning on presenting her work in the URECA Celebration, which is an annual event in the spring showcasing undergraduate research in the Student Activities Center.

According to Bobb, research is "an opportunity for me to find myself." Specifically, she has found that though research is very gratifying, it is "all about time management." Research is definitely time-consuming, and now that she is taking two credits of research this semester, she will have to "learn how to prioritize." But overall, Bobb affirmed that when it comes to research, "the positives outweigh the negatives."

Although there are so many excellent research programs, such as the one in which Bobb participated, a student does not have to be in a program to do research. Jason La, a junior and Pharmacology major, stated that he was simply "very interested in science," so he took it upon himself to learn about the different types of research professors were doing. Then, he had interviews with some of these professors, and now, La is working with Dr. Robert Haltiwanger in the Department of Biochemistry and Cell Biology. La said that "it wasn't difficult" to find this research opportunity, and he finds that he "like[s] it a lot."

Echoing the same words as Bobb, however, La did mention that the main drawback of research is that it "takes a lot of time" and that he has to "work [his] schedule around it." As La stated, research can also be frustrating when experiments don't work as they are supposed to. Nevertheless, on the whole, he enjoys research because it gives him the chance to take his classroom knowledge of science and apply it in a "hands-on" way. Said La, "the things you learn in the classroom don't stay in the classroom." He emphasized that, "You learn a lot more" this way.

In summation, Kernan emphasized that lab work is so exciting to some students because it is not like "a canned project" in a lab course. Instead, it gives students a "whole different sense of research" since they are "doing their own projects," going to professional meetings, and working with an "international group" of graduate and undergraduate students. Moreover, professors who mentor undergraduates do so because they truly "believe in the whole process of education." These undergraduates, who may "start out washing glassware," eventually "become a part of the lab." In short, research truly "opens up a different world" to students.



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We Be Burnin' (Legalize It) - Sean Paul	141006
I'm Sprung - T-Pain	141007
Girl Tonite (feat. Trey Songz) - Twista	141008
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If You're Looking To Get Into the Spirit...

As we approach finals week, it is wise to remember that the hard work we put into the semester will bring rewards. The Long Island area brings several rewards in the form of holiday events. Here are some:

Holiday Tree Lighting at Bayard Cutting Arboretum

December 9 from 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Montauk Highway
Oakdale, NY 11769
631-581-1002

The Bayard Cutting Arboretum will jumpstart the holidays with its eighth annual lighting ceremony, with Christmas carols, tasty Yule fuel and ubiquitous Christmas icons. Local schoolchildren will perform traditional holiday tunes as the arboretum's Solstice Tree will make its seasonal debut. Bring a natural food ornament to decorate it. Or simply enjoy hot beverages and other snacks until Santa's dramatic arrival on an elaborate red sleigh, escorted by the Great River Fire Department. In true holiday spirit, organizers have added a charitable canned goods drive to the event. This event is free, although donation of non-perishable goods is suggested.

Holiday Tree Lighting at Belmont Lake State Park

December 10 at 4:15 PM

Southern State Parkway
Babylon, NY 11704
631-667-5055

If one tree lighting does not suffice, watch Santa Claus aboard the Long Island Sleigh Express at Belmont Lake State Park's annual tree lighting ceremony. Join the South Shore community during the pre-tree festivities, as you enjoy horse-drawn wagon rides, ice-sculpture displays and a pyrotechnics show by the Gruccis, the self-proclaimed "first family of fireworks." The North Babylon School Chorus will present an upbeat catalog of traditional holiday music before the tree lighting at 5:00 PM. The afternoon's events are presented by the Long Island State Park Region and co-sponsored by the North Babylon School District and Cox Broadcasting. This event is free.

Winter Festival at The Vanderbilt Museum

December 10 at 5:00 PM

180 Little Neck Road
Centerport, NY 11721
631-854-5555

For the kid in you, this is your chance to show off your wish list and plead your case for being naughty or nice. You will also find seasonal serenades, as you are entertained with Yuletide tunes before festive tree lighting. Enjoy cups of hot cocoa and holiday cookies for \$1. Do not forget to enjoy the outdoor activities and a candlelight tour of the mansion that will have been decorated by volunteers and members of local garden clubs. The courtyard events are free. The tour costs \$5 for adults, \$3 for children.

Flying Santa at The Fire Island Light Station

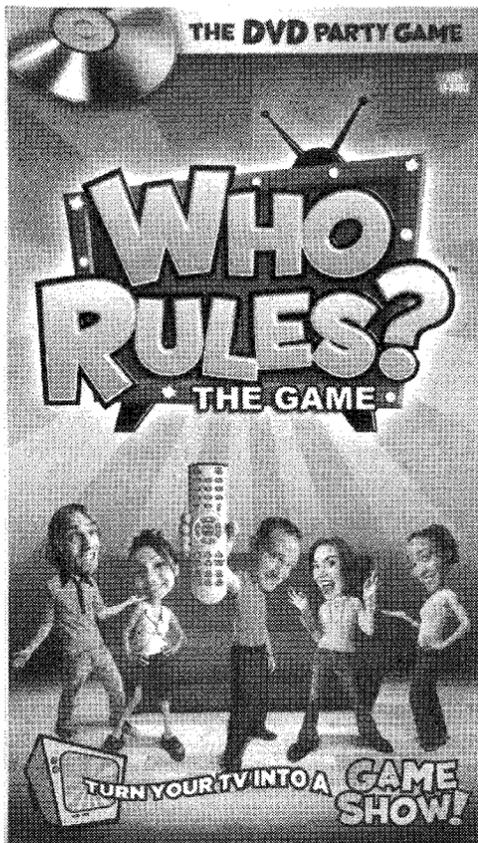
December 10 at 12:00 PM

Fire Island Boulevard
Fire Island, NY 11702
631-321-7028

Watch Santa Claus hop onto a helicopter because of reindeer trouble. The "Flying Santa" tradition began on December 25, 1929, when pilot William Wincapaw took his float-plane to bring festive care packages to the lonely keepers of East Coast lighthouses. His quixotic mission has led to a cargo cult that is currently fostered by the Friends of Flying Santa, Inc., a non-profit educational entity. Those seeking an immersion course in this eccentric Christmas tradition can join Gottfried Mahler, former keeper of the Fire Island Lighthouse, and his wife Marilyn for an afternoon discussion at the lighthouse. Participants are encouraged to bring cameras to this complimentary program, which will definitely benefit from the presence of a "special surprise guest." For more information, visit flyingsanta.com.



SB Bytes: Who Rules? The Game



By JAMES BOUKLAS
Editor-in-Chief

For all you fans of DVD-based games, there's a new one to add to your collection: Who Rules? - The Game. Who Rules is presented in a game show format, complete with bombastic announcer and flashy prizes. The novelty wears off after a while, sadly, and I found myself bored before the end of my first game. In the time before I got bored, however, I found myself entertained, almost making this game worthwhile.

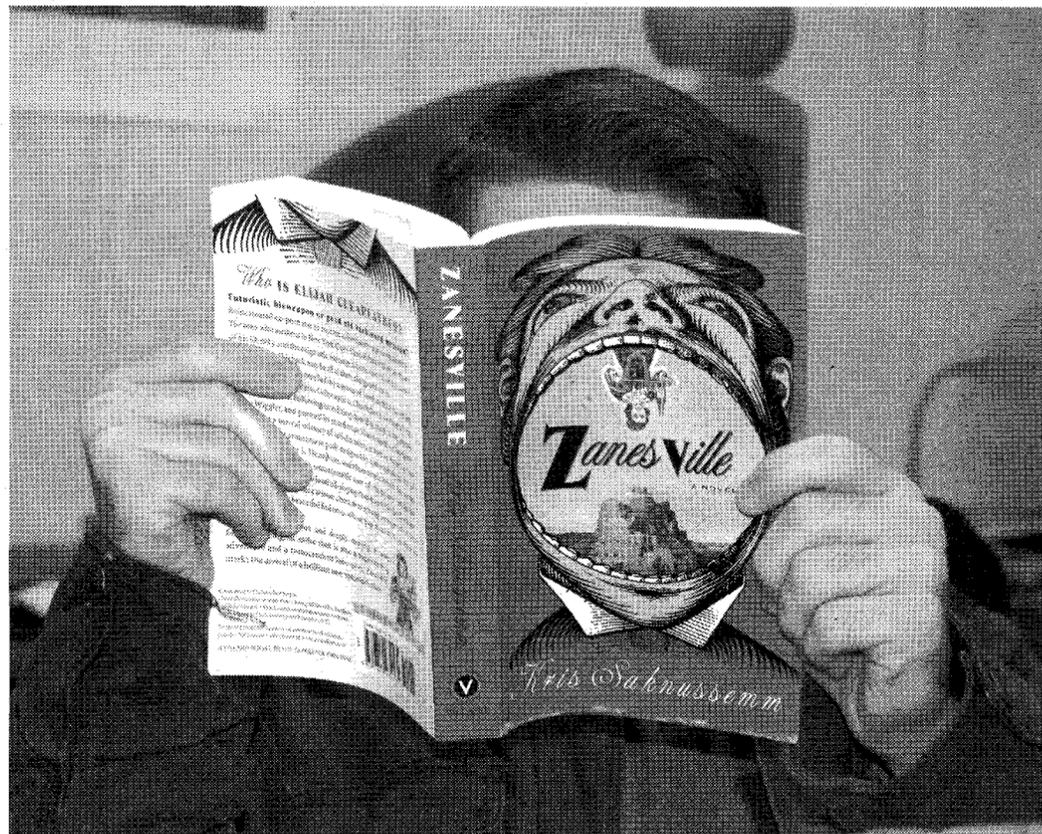
The first thing you'll notice when putting in the DVD is that it's kind of hokey, but that's okay. The publishers took a gamble by parodying the typical game show format and I think it paid off. The graphics are big and colorful, which are not only easy to read but are amusing as well. The art is very professional and tight, adding positively to the entire feel of the game.

You can choose to either play alone or play against another team. The questions are mostly popular trivia, many of which are more obscure than they are challenging. There is good range, though, with questions that cover the latest music fads to historical events of the 19th century. The makers claim there are over 800 different questions on this DVD, keeping replay value very high. All of the questions are narrated by Patrick Warburton, more popularly known as Elaine's boyfriend from *Seinfeld* and as the voice of The Tick. Having this guy ask the questions was a great choice, as he adds more authenticity to the spoof of the game show genre with his overbearing comedic tone.

All the questions are multiple choice, a format limited by the medium of DVD. This allows for very basic, though limited, gameplay. There is a distinctive lag between selecting an answer and any action by the DVD player. Anybody who's ever played a game like this knows that it comes with the territory, but it's still annoying. All these downsides can all be blamed on the fact that this game is on a DVD, but it doesn't change the fact that it hampers its usefulness.

If you want a game that is fairly fast-paced and light hearted, then this might be worth buying this holiday season. It won't keep you captivated for very long, as its cheesy theme grates on you after a bit, but it's definitely worth a look.

Get Your Read On: *Zanesville*



Adhip Karmaker/Statesman

By JEREMY FALLETTA
Copy Editor

Title: Zanesville (485 pages)
Author: Kris Saksussemm
Published: 2005

Zanesville is a thrill ride of the imagination that's hard to put down. Short chapters keep the action fluid and Saksussemm's vivid imagination is continually refreshing and impressively original. The sheer amount of one-liners alone evinces the creative effort that went into writing this novel.

So what is it about? It's set in the future of America; just how far ahead is hard to say, but I'd say at it's at least 2050, probably further. It eventually becomes clear that the plot is taking place in the aftermath of the life of "the neglected genius" Lloyd Meadhorn Sitturd, a fictional historic element whose mental power far exceeds the norm. He seems, in fact, to be somewhat of a latter-day Leonardo Da Vinci. The protagonist, dubbed "Elijah Clearfather" by a drag-queen resistance leader, due to his amnesiac inability to remember his own name, feels as if he has some connection with Sitturd, and the book describes his quest across America to find out.

Clearfather wakes up one day in a camp called Fort Thoreau by its inhabitants, which is right in the middle of Central Park. Of course, no one can see it, due to elaborate futuristic camouflaging and invisibility-granting technology. His only clues to his identity are a mammoth penis and the words "FATHER FORGIVE THEM F," which are scarred onto his back. The resistance cell based in Fort Thoreau erases his memory a second time, and when he wakes again all he has to go on are a map of America with a couple of pinpointed locations and a smooth, round white ball in his pocket.

In the course of his travels he visits places like Dustdevil, Texas (which is a real place) and "Los Vegas, Nevadaifornia," which is a fictional city comprised of the remains of Los Angeles and Las Vegas, since most of California was destroyed during "the Bigfoot earthquake." All the streets in Los Vegas are named after celebrities that will be well known to any student of pop culture.

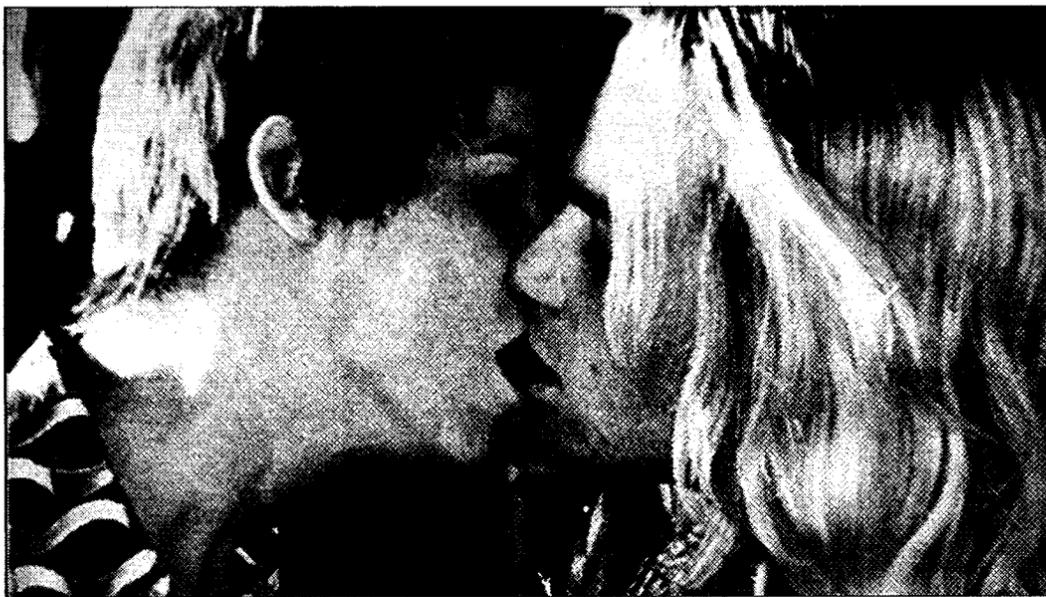
Vitessa, the token evil corporation (or "cult-poration" as they are called in this book), seems to be out to get Clearfather as he travels cross country. While the novel is ingenious and very funny, there are some very profound passages as well. At one point, Vitessa's forces are closing in on Clearfather and his companion, Kokomo. He thinks "Kokomo and I will unleash the wind! We will empty the pits and the burrows. We will open a tunnel in the sky and send all these creatures to the stars. Together, we are One," referring to the strange and often deadly psychic power he seems to possess.

In many ways, *Zanesville* follows the structure of a traditional allegory, while managing to be quite satirical as well. Clearfather takes a journey, meets people along the way (including a man who has perpetuated his life for almost 150 years by having organs transplanted continually, a lesbian motorcycle gang, an underground colony of mutants, etc.), makes friends that join him in his adventure, and learns something by the end that you can take home with you.

If you like reading stuff with lots of layers of meaning, this is for you. This book is saturated with overt symbolism. It's also loaded with material that many would consider very blasphemous, so consider yourself forwarned (personally, I think this makes it what it is). It took me a little while to get through, at 485 pages, but it's worth checking out over winter break if it sounds good to you.

Indie Flicks:

Velvet Goldmine



Courtesy of Miramax

BY RACHEL BROZINSKY
Staff Writer

Light a candle. Make the Shiva call. Prepare for the wake. Glitter is dead. So turn up the lights and wipe off that mascara, because now you just look silly.

Velvet Goldmine is a spectacle of color and bright lights; it's as if a rainbow exploded on your screen. It is the story of glitter and Glamrock, from its birth until its sad demise. Arthur Stuart (Christian Bale), a young, British reporter, is trying to find out what ever happened to Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys-Meyers) after he staged his own fake assassination. Because when you're famous, spoiled and self-obsessed, it's okay to do whatever you want, no matter who you hurt.

Somewhere in between, Slade meets and collaborates with Curt Wild (Ewen McGregor), the blonde, grungy, emotionally scarred, garage band-boy from America. The two build an intimate relationship that goes from the recording studio to the bedroom.

At times the movie seems like a documentary about Glamrock and rock legends. Even the camerawork had a retro feel to it because of the very seventies zoom-ins to emphasize the frequently heightened emotions.

Slade has an alter ego, Maxwell Demon, who he performs as. This character is clearly based on David Bowie while Curt Wild bears a striking resemblance to the late Kurt Cobain. The beautiful thing is that you don't need to know a thing about Ziggy Stardust (David Bowie's alter ego) or Nirvana to understand or enjoy the film, although it certainly doesn't hurt.

One of the most remarkable aspects of the movie is the chemistry between McGregor and Rhys-Meyers. The genuine emotion shared between the actors is almost startling. The tension and the heartache are almost tangible.

Toni Collette plays Mandy Slade, Brian

Slade's ex-wife. It is wonderful watching Collette, a British actress, playing an American putting on a tacky British accent. She is a frivolous, carefree girl in the beginning, and then convincingly plays a heavy-hearted, crestfallen woman.

The most breathtaking performance of the movie is without a doubt McGregor's. It seems as though he has completely lost himself in the role of Wild, so much so that when he walks away from Slade for the last time, it breaks your heart.

Music can make or break a movie, especially one that is based around music. The soundtrack to *Velvet Goldmine* is mind-blowing. It's hard to believe that these songs were written for a movie made in the nineties and didn't appear on a record in the seventies. Rhys-Meyers and McGregor both provided vocals for most of the songs performed by their characters. Unfortunately, Rhys-Meyers seemed to have some trouble with the lip-synching, which causes the audience to temporarily lose the illusion.

Another slightly disruptive aspect is the strange passage of time and the way that the scenes cut from future to past to present and back again, in no particular order. At times, it is hard to follow the chronology. By the end of the movie, however, most of what has passed becomes clear.

Also outrageous are the costumes donned by many of the characters. One of the film's themes is sexual revolution and freedom, which is displayed by Slade and Jack Fairy's (Micko Westmoreland) androgynous choice of dress, not to mention the over-the-top, vibrant makeup. Incredibly, the effeminate outfits work for Rhys-Meyers who perfectly embodies the beauty of Glam.

Ultimately, *Velvet Goldmine* is a bittersweet requiem for Glamrock, its idols and the innocent bystanders who got caught up in its flare, proving that not all that glitters is gold.

Stony Brook *In Vogue* The Perfect Denim

BY AMY DRAGANI
Staff Writer

Some of the best outfits I've seen – the most stylish and chic – consist of a plain top, simple shoes, and few accessories. These outfits are so fabulous due to the perfect jeans.

Jeans are such a fantastic item because of their versatility. Worn during the day and at night, through the hot and cold, jeans hold no boundaries. Each and every day here on campus, we see hundreds of different fades and styles, for women and men alike. During the day a pair of jeans coupled with a simple long sleeve t-shirt, sweatshirt, sweater – whatever you prefer – works perfectly. Jeans are simple, comfortable and durable – everything you could ever desire.

I've found that jeans aren't always utilized to their full potential at night or for more dressed up occasions. A pair of well-fitting jeans, a black top, black heels, and a hint of jewelry here and there are my favorite choice for nighttime attire. What can make or break this type of simple yet fashionable ensemble is, of course, the wrong jeans. Often in this type of situation, the pants become the focus of the outfit so it's crucial that they can hold their own. What does "well-fitting" jeans mean? It depends on the individual body you're working with. Luckily, so many stores, brands and designers are out there to fulfill our every need. The Smithaven Mall houses stores such as Express, Abercrombie & Fitch, H&M and American Eagle – all retailers that carry different sizes, styles and cuts in jeans. If you're very tall or very short (or just right!), these stores carry the traditional number sizes labeled as "long," "short" or "regular" as well as sizing in respect to where the jeans fall on your waist (i.e. "low rise"). This is so fantastic because everyone's body is different; it helps to cater to your individual needs. Some more expensive choices are designer jeans such as Guess, Diesel and Sevens. These brands can be found at department stores such as Macy's or Bloomingdale's, and the designer's store as well (i.e. the Guess store at the Smithaven Mall). These jeans are a bit pricier than the ones mentioned earlier, but the quality and fit is perfect. So an expensive jean can be a very good investment. Every brand and store mentioned thus far carries clothing for women and men with the same types of choices and selection for both genders. Retailers such as Victoria's Secret, however, only provide for women. Victoria's Secret carries a large variety of dress pants, casual pants and jeans for women. The Victoria's Secret store in the mall carries jeans that are low rise, ultra low rise, at waist and above waist. I've found that this brand tends to be cut a bit higher than other brands, so the low isn't traditionally very low. This is important to keep in mind because the rise of a jean can dramatically change the look.

Fashion Tip of the Week

It may sound silly, but always try on your jeans. And take a couple sizes in with you – maybe a size larger and a size smaller than what you assume you wear. Sizes aren't all the same at different stores, and they can even vary between styles of the same brand. Choose the jeans that fit you perfectly, flatter your body, feel good and make you feel fabulous!

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Contact us for directions to the above locations or if you would like to schedule a personal interview during the week of December 4th – December 9th.

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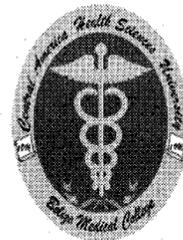
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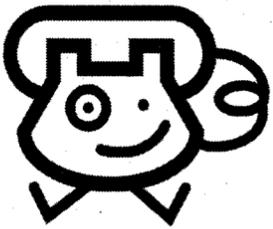


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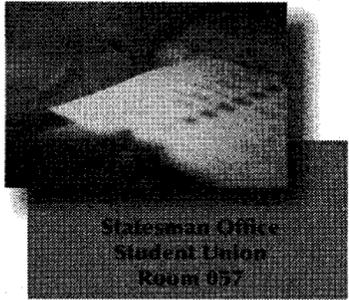


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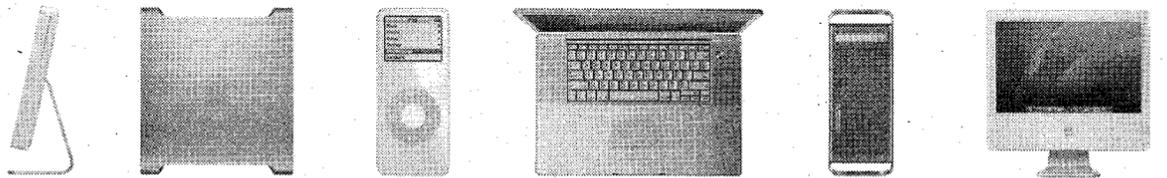
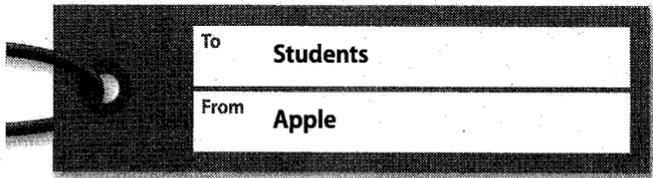
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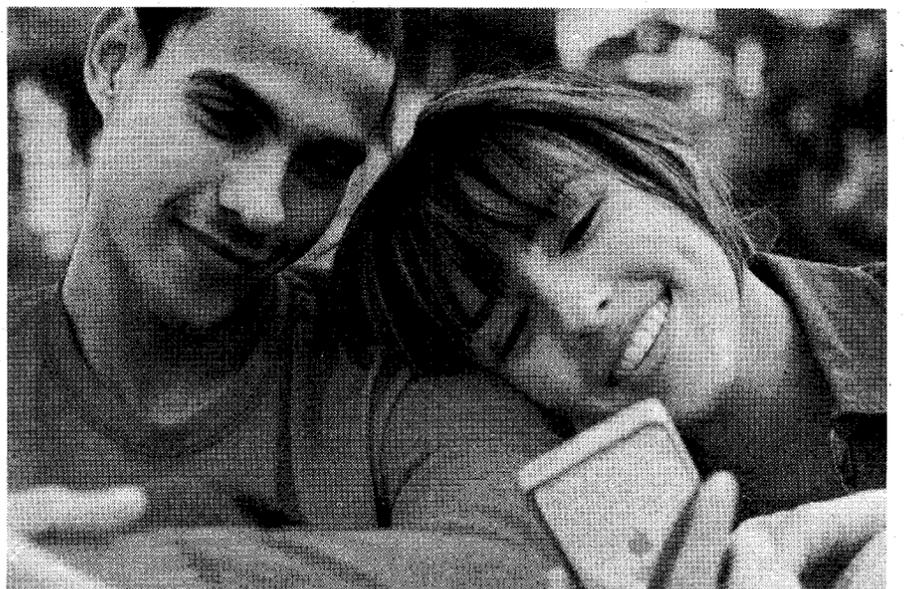
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, December 5, 2005



Women's Basketball Gets by Arkansas State, 79-74

Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005

Providence, R.I. - Jessica Smith led five Seawolves in double figures as Stony Brook battled to a 79-74 victory over Arkansas State in the second game of the Brown Classic at the Pizzatola Sports Center on Saturday afternoon. With the win, the Seawolves improved to 3-1 on the season, marking the team's best start through four games since the 2000-01 season.

SB advances to the championship game on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. where they will take on host Brown, 86-71 winners over Hampton earlier in the afternoon.

Trailing 72-71 with 3:31 remaining in the contest, Mykeema Ford went to the line and hit three free throws to put SB back up by two. On the ensuing play, SB's Leah Getz came up with a huge steal and added a bucket to make it 76-72 with 2:13 to play.

After a basket by Kelsey Lock made it a two-point game, the Seawolves turned the ball over but the Lady Indians (3-3) could not take advantage, missing a three and turning the ball back over before they were forced to foul with 20 seconds left. Getz made the first of a two shot foul, but Dana Ferraro came down with the board and was fouled. Ferraro missed both shots, but ASU's Katie Caraway missed what would have been a game-tying three pointer with five seconds to go. Ferraro was fouled again but this time iced both free throws to put the game away.

Both teams came out shooting in the first half, but the Seawolves used a 9-0 run capped by a Farah Vasquez Jacobo layup to take a 12 point lead at 35-23 just over 10 minutes into the contest. ASU slowly crept back however, and cut the advantage to five points at 47-42 at the break.

Smith bounced back from

two tough games, finishing with 18 points on 7-of-10 shooting from the field and a perfect 4-for-4 from the free throw line to go with a game-high four steals. Ford finished with 17 points and nine assists while Getz netted 12 points in just 11 minutes of action off the bench and Ferraro pulled down a game-high 13 rebounds. Jessie Boylan and Kelly Watson each chipped in with 11 points in the victory.

Ford tied her career-high with nine assists, tying her for the fourth-best single-game total in program history, while Ferraro's 13 boards stretched her double-figures rebounding streak to five games dating back to last season.

Adrienne Davie led ASU with a game-high 19 points and 11 boards, while Lock netted 17 points and Amber Abraham chipped in with 13. The Lady Indians will face Hampton in the consolation game Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

Women's Hoops Falls to Brown 71-62

Sunday, Dec. 4, 2005

Providence, R.I. - Sarah Hayes netted 20 points and added eight boards to lift Brown to a 71-62 victory over Stony Brook in the championship game of the Brown Classic at the Pizzatola Sports Center on Sunday afternoon. With the loss, the Seawolves dropped to 3-2 on the season, while the Bears improved to 3-3.

Stony Brook jumped out to an early 12-9 lead before Brown used an 18-0 run fueled by a pair of three pointers by Colleen Kelly to make it 27-12 with 6:32 remaining in the half. The Bears would stretch their lead to as many as 17 before the Seawolves began to chip away at the advantage, closing the half with an 8-3 spurt behind four points by Farah Vasquez Jacobo to cut it back to 12 points at 43-31 at the break.

The Seawolves continued to claw their way back into the contest, using a 7-0 run midway

through the second half to pull within two points at 54-52. That was as close as they could get however, as Hayes converted on a pair of three-point plays and Colleen Kelly sank a pair of free throws to push the lead back to 10 points and put the game out of reach.

Jessica Smith led all scorers with 21 points to go with 10 rebounds and four steals, while Dana Ferraro stretched her double figures rebounding streak to six games dating back to last season with a game-high 12 boards. Mykeema Ford was held scoreless for just the second time in her career, going 0-for-11 from the field in the loss.

Smith and Ferraro were both named to the All-Tournament Team for the Seawolves.

Kelly finished with 16 points, while Jackie Vocell added 12 for the Bears.

The Seawolves are back in action on Wednesday when they host Temple at 7:00 p.m.

Softball Lands Six Nat'l Letters of Intent

Thursday, Dec. 1, 2005

Stony Brook University softball head coach Megan Bryant is pleased to announce the signing of six student-athletes to National Letters of Intent to play for the Seawolves, beginning in the fall of 2006. Crista Cerrone, Victoria Kavitsky, Katelyn O'Donnell, Jamie Downer, Kendall Blumenthal, and Jade Clare will all wear Seawolf jersey's next season, as they are the largest early-signing class for Bryant.

"We are incredibly excited about this early class, as people, students and athletes. All these young women are exceptional individuals and are committed to academic and athletic excellence. They love the game of softball, have played in successful travel programs and are well prepared for the college game," said Bryant.

Cerrone, who hails from Floral Park, N.Y., is a versatile player who hit .345 as a junior while going 9-3 on the mound with a .65 ERA. She also had a fielding percentage of .962 at second base. She was a three-time All-Nassau County selection and a three-time team MVP. Cerrone plays for the BP All-Stars under coach Angel

Manguel, and was a state finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman Award.

"Crista is an outstanding student and athletic, determined player who epitomizes the very best of the term 'student-athlete,'" said Bryant. "She is driven to succeed in the classroom and on the field and is incredibly motivated. Crista will be able to play several positions for us and we welcome her versatility and knowledge of the game."

Kavitsky, a native of Cherry Hill, N.J., looks to make an impact in the infield. As a junior, she hit .481 with 23 stolen bases and 23 runs scored, with a .948 fielding percentage. A first team all-conference, all-group IV selection as well as second team All-South Jersey pick, and a member of the Carpenter Cup All-Star team, Kavitsky plays for the NJ Inferno Gold travel team under coach Don Meister.

"Vicki is a smart, gritty competitor who loves the game and has excellent experience playing at the highest levels. She brings speed, athleticism and a versatile left-handed bat to our line-up. We expect Vicki to contribute immediately both offensively and defensively and be quite a player

for us," said Bryant.

O'Donnell brings a big bat from her hometown of Kinston, Mass., where she was a finalist for Gatorade Player of the Year. An All-League and team MVP selection, she hit .592 with 28 RBIs and 16 doubles as a junior, leading Silver Lake High to the Division I State Tournament. O'Donnell is a member of the NJ Breakers Gold travel team under coach Joe Salvatore.

"Katelyn is a talented player whose game will soar in a Division I environment," Bryant said. "She is a gifted athlete who can play several places in the infield and has good potential with the bat. Katelyn really felt at home at Stony Brook from the very beginning and knew that this was the place for her. We believe Katelyn has a great future here!"

A local product from Glen Cove, N.Y., Downer comes to Stony Brook after excelling at Glen Cove High. As a junior, she hit .345 with 14 RBIs and two homeruns, which helped her garner three All-Nassau County selections and win the Principal's Cup Award as best athlete in the junior class at Glen Cove. Downer is a member of the BP All-Stars under coach Angel Manguel.

"Jamie is an incredible hitter for her age and she is at her best against better pitching. High school coaches walk her every chance they get. She can hit for power and has great plate coverage. Jamie can burn you long or lace a pitch to the opposite field. She will add so much ability and power to the middle of our line-up and will be an exciting player. Jamie has experience playing the outfield and has the skills to be a solid first baseman," said Bryant.

Blumenthal comes to Stony Brook from Frederick, Md., where she was a stand-out at Frederick High. After hitting a team-high .468 as a junior, she was named team MVP after leading the squad to the 3A West Regional Championship. A first team All-Conference, All-Area, and Frederick News Post selection, Blumenthal plays for the MD Heartbreakers travel team under coach Terry Burdette.

"Kendall is a great addition to our program both offensively and defensively. She has a solid glove and excellent arm and will contribute to our team at the corners and behind the plate. Kendall is a smart, heads-up player who has been well coached and knows the game. She can hit with power and

has unbelievable potential with the bat," explained Bryant.

Clare, who hails from Federal Way, Wash., was the league leader in batting average (.492), on-base percentage (.600), and slugging percentage (.723) as a junior. With 11 doubles, and 18 RBIs and a fielding percentage of .975, Clare was not only the team MVP, but also the SPSL Offensive Player of the Year and All-League pick. Under coach Wayne Miller, she plays for the Washington Ladyhawks Gold in travel softball.

"Jade is the consummate catcher - smart, quick, strong and a leader from behind the plate. She throws well, knows the game and loves to compete. Jade has a great work ethic and knows what it takes to be successful. Her experience with the Ladyhawks will prepare her well for the college game and she will be an exciting player to watch," said Bryant.

"We are very pleased to welcome Crista, Vicki, Katelyn, Jamie, Kendall and Jade and their families to our Seawolves family. We have added speed, power, versatility, and depth to our infield as well as behind the plate. This class will make its mark on Stony Brook softball - there is no question about that," Bryant said.



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BYU over Wm's Basketball, 77-54

Seawolves Suffer First Loss of the Season

By ROB DWYER
Staff Writer

Jessica Smith's first shot of Wednesday night's game looked a little tentative. The junior forward who normally shoots the jumper with a fluid form and a silky touch looked unsure of herself as she tossed up an airball from behind the arc. You could tell from the first possession of Stony Brook's 77-54 loss that the Seawolves were playing a little bit intimidated. And for good reason. The BYU Cougars of the Mountain West conference came into the game boasting a perfect 3-0 record that includes a stunning 71-67 victory over Pac-10 powerhouse UCLA. The Cougars are big and well coached and they have already started to gain some national attention, receiving three votes in the Top 25 poll.

Stony Brook failed to generate any consistent offense against the Cougars, but their tenacious defense kept the contest competitive for most of the first half. On the night, Stony Brook was able to force 20 BYU turnovers, but the Seawolves gave it right back 20 times on their own. There were several balls thrown out of bounds that seemed to be directed at no one in particular, and most of the times Mykeema Ford drove the lane she was either forced to put up a tightly contested shot or make a difficult pass in traffic. The team looked jittery as it faced its first formidable opponent on a schedule that includes several others still to come.

Dana Ferraro managed to turn in another solid performance, as the sophomore nabbed 14 rebounds and blocked two shots (both game-highs), and stole the ball three times. Dana continues to impress with her hustle and tough play, but she was held in check most of the night by the twin blond pillars of BYU — Danni Kubik and Lauren Riley



No. 13 Leah Getz, a junior, drives to the net.

Adhip Karmaker/Statesman

created all kinds of problems for the Seawolves with their height and size. These two behemoths were a favorite weapon for Cougar star Ambrosia Anderson who often passed over the heads of the Stony Brook defenders, leading to easy inside buckets. Anderson turned in a game-high 22 points to lead four Cougars scoring in

double digits, while collecting eleven rebounds and dishing out three assists.

Overall, Stony Brook needed to play their best in order to have a shot at taking down the Cougars, who gave the Seawolves plenty of opportunities in the early going. But the defense could not make up for shooting 18% from

the floor in the first half and 32% for the game. Eventually BYU's quick and efficient passing started to break down the Seawolves' defense, leading to 38 points in the paint. The Cougar's bench kicked in 33 points and it all added up to more than Stony Brook was able to handle on a night when they looked timid from the get-go.

Hoops In Review

Wednesday
v. BYU

Loss

77-54

Saturday
v. Arkansas

Win

79-74

Sunday
v. Brown

Loss

71-62