

# the stony brook Statesman

VOLUME XLVIII, ISSUE 16

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2004

PUBLISHED TWICE WEEKLY

## A day with Frank McCourt

*Pulitzer prize winning author comes to Stony Brook University*

By TING TU & ROHIT DAS  
Statesman Contributor & Editor

Stony Brook freshmen were in awe last Wednesday. The person they spent their summer reading about stood before them, telling stories of his life and letting them find out more about little Frankie McCourt, the Irish immigrant who survived a childhood filled with an alcohol-abusing father and the death of three siblings.

McCourt is the author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times best-seller, *Angela's Ashes*, the freshman reading selection for this year. He came out to Stony Brook from his home in Manhattan to headline Undergraduate College Commons Day, a packed day of events geared mainly toward freshmen, but open to the rest of the campus community.

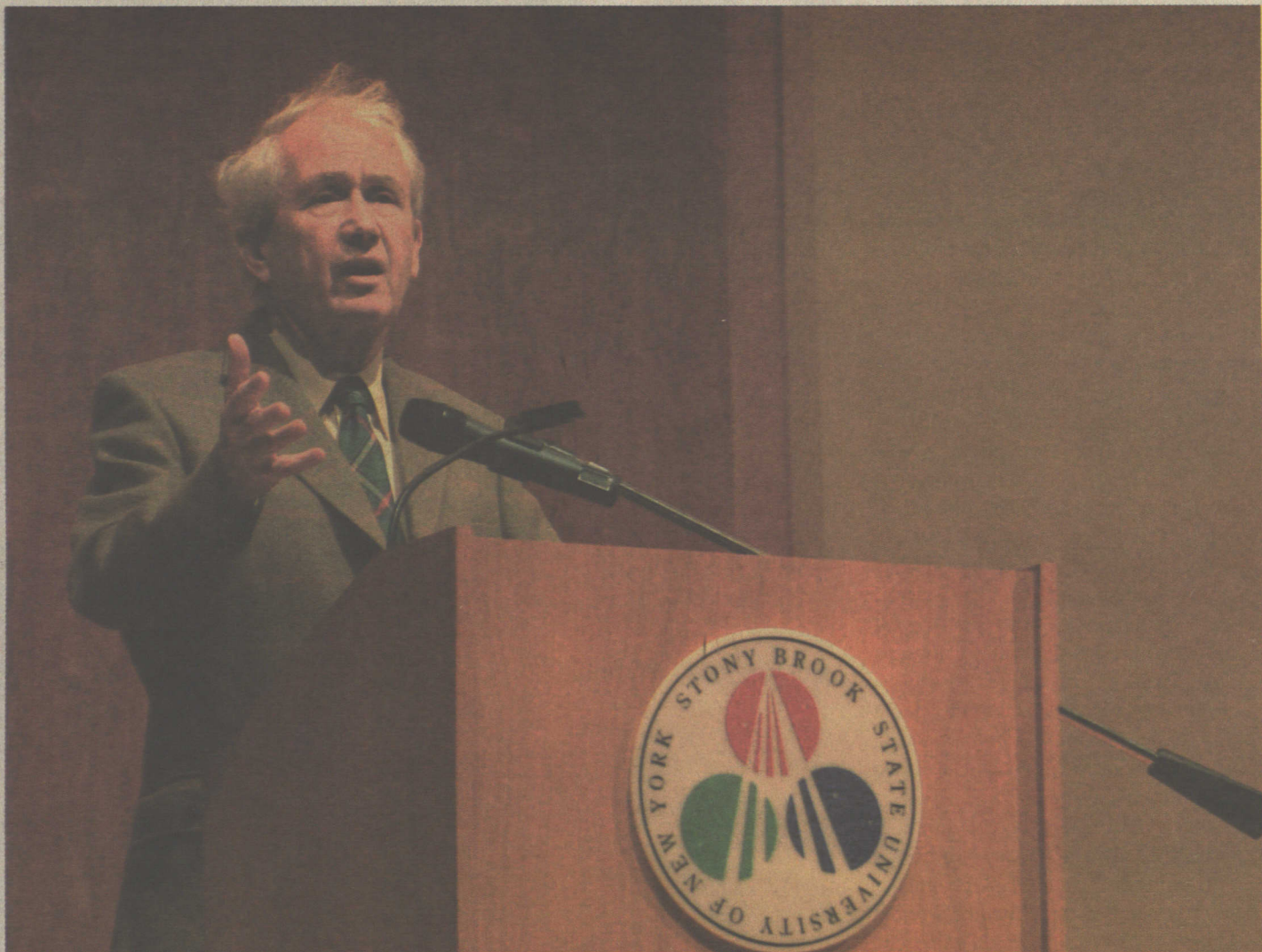
McCourt opened the day with a lecture detailing his experience as a high school teacher at Stuyvesant. It was one of his most rewarding experiences, he said, but dealing with adolescents was a handful at times. "You're dealing with a swarm of hormones," McCourt said. "They run around after you, saying Mr. McCourt this and Mr. McCourt that." Regardless, the acclaimed author feels that teaching at Stuyvesant played a huge role in making him who he is today.

McCourt's autobiography was a work in progress, something that fizzled in his thoughts for decades while he went on with the rest of his life. "All the time I was teaching, it was building up in my mind," he said. "This was the one thing I wanted to do, to write my story."

Lightheartedly, he claimed, "I had the luck," alluding to the luck of the Irish. Through a colleague, McCourt had inadvertently come across an agent who, upon reading his memoir, jumped at the chance to publish it.

McCourt emphasized how his book was a dream, and how its success was more or less unexpected. "My dream was to write a book and get published," said McCourt. "I didn't expect to win the Pulitzer Prize. I didn't expect to sell that many copies, I was astounded. I was used to standing in front of teenagers and being amused, not spokespeople."

Directing his comment toward the students in the audience, McCourt passionately expressed the importance of having a dream and working towards it,



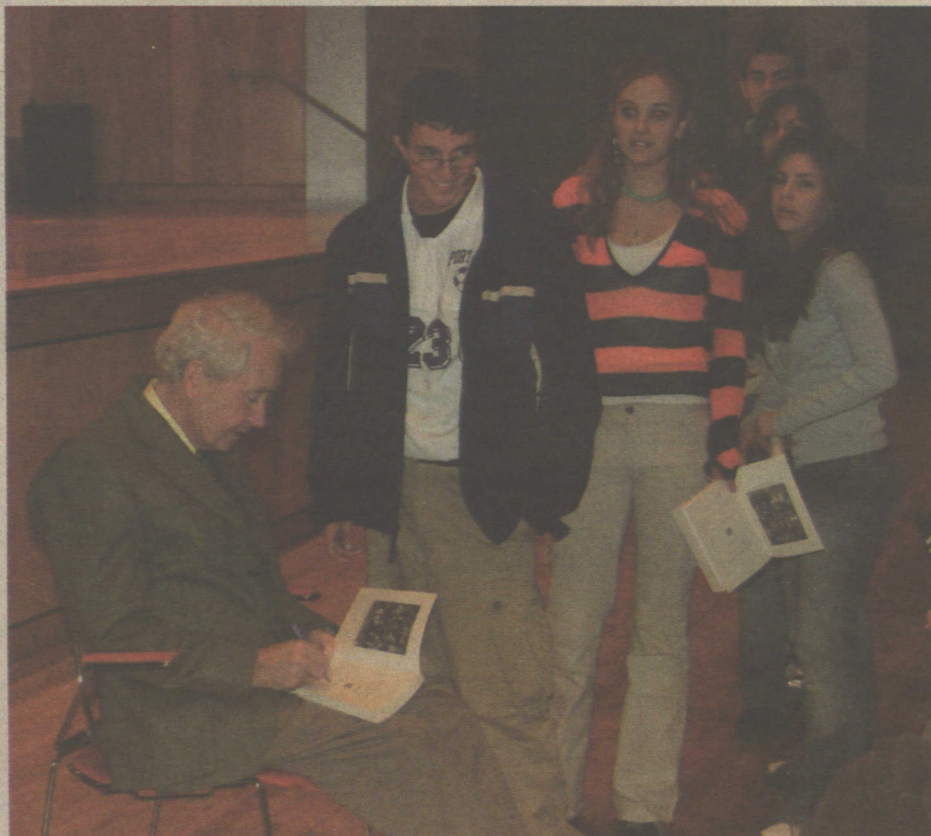
Frank McCourt, Pulitzer prize winning author of *Angela's Ashes*.

Photos by Jun Zhou/Statesman

relating his own childhood dream to one day, view the New York skyline.

To McCourt, writing is the most important and most efficient mode for self-expression. He noted that although there are many ways by which one's thoughts and feeling can be brought to public attention, writing, to him, is the most appealing avenue. "Nothing is significant, until you make it significant, and one way I make things significant is writing it," McCourt said.

McCourt maintained a very humble demeanor throughout the talk and seemed to stray away from his Pulitzer prestige. "While I'm here, I'm feeling guilty, I should be home writing," he said. "All I have is an apartment in NYC, and 27 acres of Connecticut. I have a miserable existence, but I'm glad I'm here talking, it's been an adventure."





# Stay away from that sandwich!

## *MSA holds annual Fast-a-Thon*

By PETER SUNWOO  
Statesman Editor

The SAC Ballroom was clamored with hungry faces, waiting in anticipation of having their Iftar, the breaking of a fast. The Stony Brook Muslim Students Association (MSA) commenced their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 2004 fast-a-thon this Monday. Both Muslim and non-Muslim students gathered for the 6:00 p.m. dinner after fasting for over 10 hours. Whatever the religion of the student, everyone sitting at the event was there to celebrate Ramadan.

The last permitted meal for participants was breakfast before dawn called Suhoor. Students were given chickpeas, potatoes, and pakora, a fried batter with vegetables, as their Iftar. The event started with the Adhaan, the Muslim call to prayer. "As soon as you hear my breath begin the prayer, you can then break your fast," said Saleem Niazi, former president of the MSA. Most students seemed confused as to when they should break their fast, looking around the ballroom for other people eating. Others dug in right away, quenching their thirst and hunger while listening to the Adhaan.

The Fast-a-Thon was started 3 years ago by the MSA at the University of Knoxville in Tennessee. The event raised two-dollars for each faster who signed up, which was sponsored by various foundations and companies. This year, all proceeds raised in the Stony Brook event went to The Interfaith Nutrition Network (INN), a non-profit volunteer based organization. The INN is found throughout Long Island, providing the homeless with food and shelter. Stony Brook alone raised over \$1,000 in this event.

Over 54 universities nationwide participated in the event, and hopes of breaking last year's record of \$40,000 gleamed in the eyes of the dedicated members of the MSA and supporters. They all sacrificed the quick bites in between classes; they all restricted themselves from sipping their morning coffees to get their daily caffeine dosage; and they were all in it together.

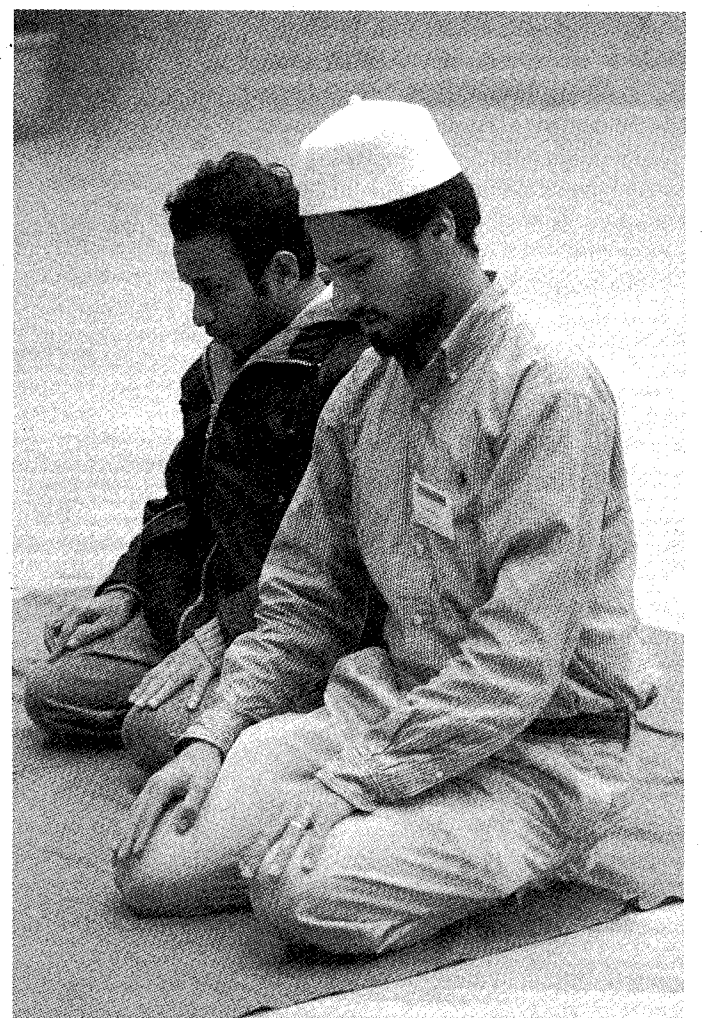
Every minute of sacrifice was shared among over 450 students attending the event for different reasons. "A lot of my friends happen to be Muslim, so I decided to share the experience," said Heather Martinez, a non-Muslim sophomore.

"I don't ever fast, I thought it was a good reason to learn how to appreciate what you have," said Veronica Marciano, another non-Muslim student.

Whatever the reasons may have been, everyone came out learning something new. A formal dinner, provided by Tandoori Kabob House in collaboration with the Faculty Students Association, followed guest speakers who cultured students about the meanings behind Ramadan and fasting. "Something opens up when celebrating Ramadan, and you start to feel the hunger of the poor," said Sister Sanaa Nadim, chaplain of Stony Brook's MSA. "Fasting is a personal journey; a personal experience where only



Muslims pray during their holiday known as Ramadan.



Gabe Sakellaridio/ Statesman

you and God feel the hunger."

"Two-thirds of Bangladesh is underwater causing millions out of homes; to feel their pain is why we fast," said Imam Siraj Wahaj, spiritual guest speaker of the evening.

For Muslims, fasting isn't just another way to raise funds. There is so much meaning behind it, and the event shed a new light on fasting for many non-Muslim students. "Restricting yourself from what is haraam, not permissible, is making me

think of refraining from temptations like drugs and alcohol after Ramadan even though I'm not Muslim," said Kathleen Ashwill, a junior.

"I feel I have a better understanding of what Ramadan is. It hit me when I started feeling like Americans may indulge a bit too much and refraining from things is inspiring," said David Smith, a non-Muslim sophomore.

"The main goal of the event was to raise awareness of how American

Muslims are," said Haroon Naderi, vice president of the MSA at Stony Brook. "Unfortunately, Islam is being misportrayed in the media, and this helps break the stereotypes." The event did just that. Students like Ashwill and Smith came out with knowledge that could potentially change their lives. "I found the event really enjoyable, I didn't know much about Islamic culture and I'm really glad I came," said Eli Steier, an English major at Stony Brook.



# My own experience: a personal look at fasting

3

By PETER SUNWOO  
Statesman Editor

It's 11 p.m. and I just finished my last meal, a Lake Grove Diner hamburger. No french fries. It isn't as good when you don't have the munchies after a Thursday night of partying, but now that I look back, it was well worth the \$4.25. After all, not everyone has the privilege of going to a diner and dropping a few bucks for a burger.

As an agnostic, I've never had to fast before, but a friend convinced me to sign up for the MSA's annual fast-a-thon. As a senior, I wanted to give it a wing before I left my beloved college, and besides, it didn't sound like it was going to be very difficult. By the next day at 4:30 p.m., however, I was absolutely famished as I stared at the people surrounding me in class, eating their chips and drinking their sodas. My mouth watered and my stomach growled. And to top it off, I had to sit through an anthropology lecture about various foods of Native American societies. Bison chops sounded pretty appealing at that point.

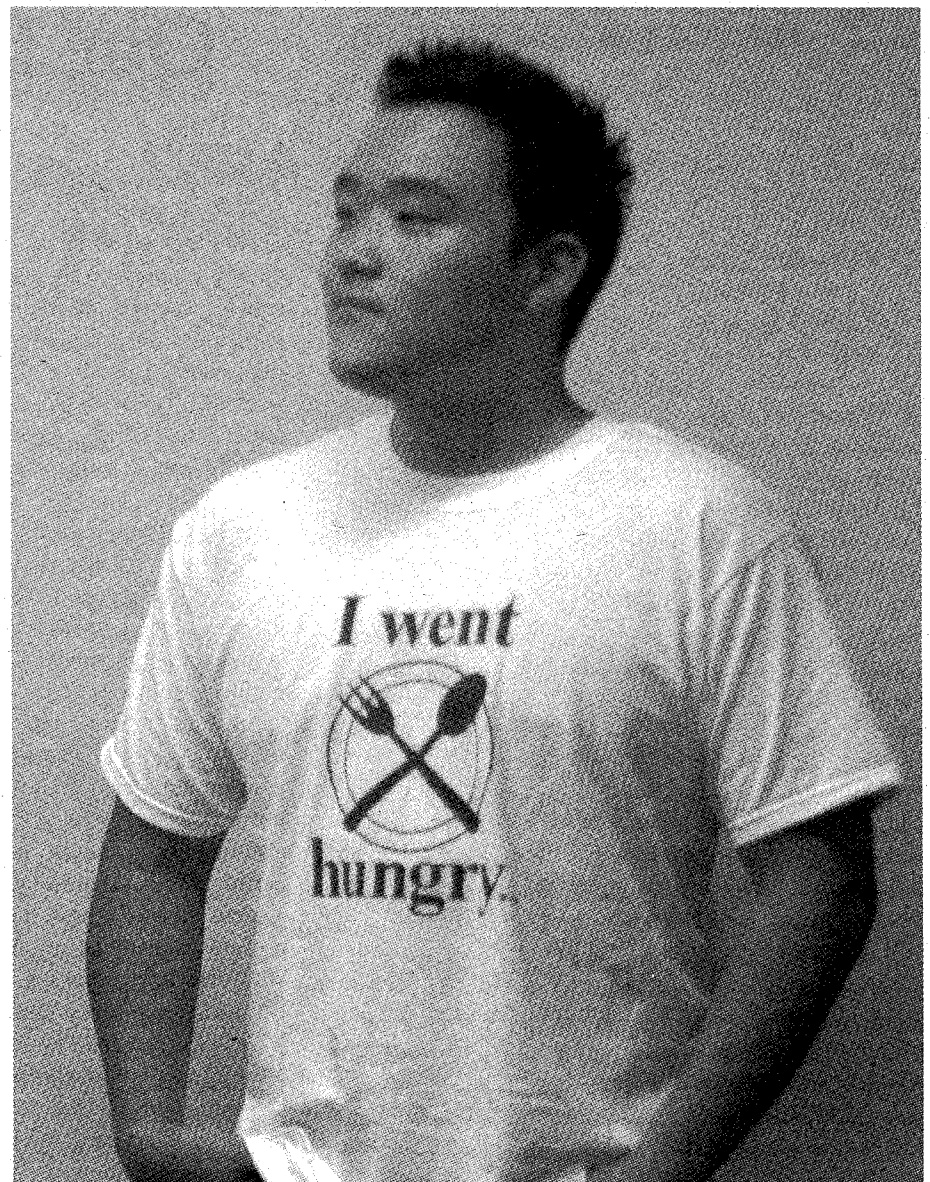
All of a sudden, my efforts at rationalization kicked in. I tried reasoning out the point of me not eating the whole day. I weighed out the pros and cons, and found myself without any pros. I mean, I'm not religious in any sense, but I did promise my friend. Promises can only go so far, but I still needed to prove that I'm in control of myself. I wanted to show my stomach who's boss, at least for the next hour and a half. Each minute that passed felt longer than the minute before.

At 5:45 p.m., I slowly hauled my weak body to the SAC Ballroom for the dinner at six. It felt pretty cool being surrounded by hundreds of others who went through the same ordeal that I did. We all made it, and there were many smiling faces across the area, including my own.

The event started with a prayer, and an explanation of why Muslims fast, and it was at that point that I found out that my small journey wasn't just about getting over my biological needs. I was given an opportunity to partake in a powerful religious practice, to feel the hardships and pains that millions of people experience when in poverty. My organic chemistry lab homework due the next day became insignificant compared to the meaning behind fasting.

The event created a sense of solidarity through the crowd, and we all started to realize that such a simple concept could be so powerful once experienced. There was something endearing about the entire experience, and it brought upon a new light to my understanding of Muslim culture. Muslims were no longer just a distant group of people; a mystery to me. Instead, now I knew what it was all about: self-control, appreciation for the world around you, submission to something—God, life, friends, family, the world, anything. The story seemed to reveal itself in front of my eyes, and that story wasn't so bad.

If I could do the entire experience again, the only thing I would change is my dinner at the diner. I'd shell out the extra two bucks for the hamburger deluxe.



James Caston/Statesman

## CARTIER, BERNSTEIN, AUERBACH AND DAZZO, P.C. ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW

Over 20 Years Experience  
Call Anytime  
Always a Free Consultation  
Weekend & Evening Appointments  
Available Throughout Suffolk  
& Nassau  
Se Habla Espanol

ACCIDENTS/PERSONAL INJURY  
MATRIMONIAL • DWI/CRIMINAL  
REAL ESTATE • ESTATES  
WILLS • TRUSTS

Visit us on the web at [www.chbalawyers.com](http://www.chbalawyers.com)  
or email us at [chsba77@aol.com](mailto:chsba77@aol.com)  
631-654-4900 or Toll Free at  
1-888-MY-ATTYS (1-888-692-8897)

3131 Nesconset Highway, Stony Brook, NY 11720  
(One mile east of Rte. 97/Nicolls Road, on Rte. 347)

  
**Holiday Inn  
EXPRESS**  
"Your Home-Away-From-Home"



Consider us *family.*

**\$99** \* **SPECIAL  
EXTENDED  
STAY RATE  
FOR 7+ NIGHTS!**

**WE HOST MEETINGS UP TO 100 PEOPLE!**  
For Reservations: Call Direct: 471-8000/1-800-HOLIDAY  
or Reserve Online: [www.stonybrookny.hiexpress.com](http://www.stonybrookny.hiexpress.com)



# the stony brook Statesman

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

**Editor-in-Chief**  
Mansoor Khan

**Managing Editors**  
Peter Sunwoo  
James Bouklas

**Layout Editor**  
James Caston

**Features Editor**  
Amanda Rubenstein

**News Editor**  
Rohit Das

**Photo Editor**  
Chris Lonardo

**Copy Editor**  
Eugene Kozlovsky

**Business Manager**  
Frank D'Alessandro

**Graphic Designer/Advertising Asst.**  
Patricia Gallo

**Accountant**  
Arthur Golnick

**Editor Emeritus**  
Emy Kuriakose

**Now circulated to over 100 off-campus  
locations, with a weekly readership  
estimated at 30,000.**

The Stony Brook Statesman, which serves SUNY Stony Brook and its surrounding community, is a nonprofit literary publication produced twice weekly during the academic year and bimonthly during the summer. First copy is free. Each additional copy is 50 cents. For advertising information, call us at (631) 632-6480 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial board and are written by one of its members. The Stony Brook Statesman welcomes letters, opinions and information about events and issues on or around campus.

All letters and opinion pieces must include the author's name, address and phone number for verification purposes. Please type all submissions. Anonymous and handwritten submissions will not be printed. Please keep all submissions to a maximum of 650 words. Statesman reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity, language and readability. Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and are not necessarily those of Statesman, its employees, staff, or advertisers. All contents Copyright 2004.

The Statesman has been a member of the Associated Collegiate Press since 1994.

**E-MAIL: [statesmn@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:statesmn@ic.sunysb.edu)**

**WEBSITE: [www.sbstatesman.com](http://www.sbstatesman.com)**

**Please submit all letters to:**

Stony Brook Statesman  
P.O. Box 1530  
Stony Brook, NY 11790

or:

Room 057 / Student Union  
Campus Zip 3200

Phone: (631) 632-6479  
Fax: (631) 632-9128



## Commentary

# Our Lackluster Student Gov't

**By ROHIT DAS**  
Statesman Editor

Student government is central to the functioning of any university. In our particular case, the USG is supposed to provide funding to clubs, organize both administrative and recreational activities, and perhaps most importantly, provide a voice for our large student body. Additionally, as an important student organization, the USG should ideally serve as an example for other clubs to follow as a mark of administrative efficiency and excellence.

Yet, at a recent meeting of the undergraduate student government Senate, such a model for organizational success was absent. I saw a student government full of gaping holes in their enumerated duties and a group of individuals who sought to fix the consequences of a problem, not the source.

Present at the meeting was Jim Driscoll, a commuter student who is also President of the Commuter Students Association. Driscoll delineated over 100 alleged violations of the USG By Laws pertaining to recent student elections. For example, he cited how the USG Election Board lacked in constituency, both in numbers and in student diversity, how the USG showed a lack of due process on many occasions, and how public information was often left within the walls of the USG suite. There was a clear indication that several facets of USG's duties were neglected and that the organization as a whole was creating more problems than they were fixing.

In realizing its many mistakes, the Senate eventually proposed to suspend the results of the election pending a full investigation of these documented allegations. One senator went so far as to say that "if we don't have re-elections, we've failed the student body." Others reinforced this notion, declaring that the election results were both inaccurate and illegitimate.

What's lost here, however, is the true significance of the problem. If the American government suddenly

decided that we conducted botched elections, the results of which were to be ignored, how do you think voters and the American public, never mind newly elected government representatives, would react? Granted, the USG is certainly nowhere as large or as important as our national government, but should not any functioning political body at least be able to properly hold elections?

Fine, the senators clearly recognized the mistakes they made, and perhaps they will once again hold elections and conduct them according to USG laws. But who is to say that this will not happen again, or any other major administrative predicament for that matter? The problems I have described above are not a function of the system in which they occur, but rather a function of the people responsible for correctly executing that system.

Perhaps I am putting too much blame on the institution, and not enough blame on those who essentially erected it. After all, we elect these senators, and their capabilities, or lack thereof, are indirectly a reflection of our own. It is certainly time for us, as students, to look more deeply into the workings of our government, and learn to be partly responsible for their actions. Nevertheless, the assumed trust that inherently goes into any election process can certainly end up being a bad assumption, as the actions of others are not always under our control. In light of this, it is even more imperative that we let our voices be heard, like that of Jim Driscoll, and make the USG aware of their blatant flaws as an organization.

During the annual conclave two weekends ago, USG President Jared Wong eluded to how the student government is meant to be the foundation for the success of other student organizations. If the USG is indeed to serve in this role, it must now realize the severity of its current situation. The mere idea of having to hold re-elections is a mark of weakness and a display of unequivocal disunity relative to its student body. It is time for the USG to reevaluate its administrative quality and put in place a government that is conducive to accomplishing its stated purposes.



Senators discuss business at a meeting, accomplishing little.

### Statesman Staff

Joy Dutta  
Nick Guariglia  
Radeyah Hack  
Sameer Khanijo

Jessica Landress  
Courtney McKay  
Melissa Meserole  
Lauren Mutz

Arpana Rayannavar  
Gabe Sakellaris  
Rosie Scavuzzo  
Kristie Schlauraff

Susan Thomas  
Jenny Wang  
Michael Zannettis  
Jun Zhou



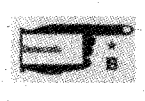
# On Election Day after you vote for President . . .

## keep going. . .

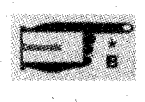
until you find. . .

# Steve Englebright.

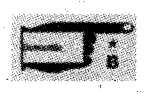
## *As Stony Brook University's Assemblyman,*



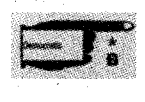
Steve Englebright restored the Governor's \$212 million proposed cut to TAP (Tuition Assistance Program).



Rejected the Governor's unfair plan to hold one-third of a student's TAP award until graduation.



Eliminated the sales tax on textbooks.



Created the college tuition tax credit to help keep higher education affordable.

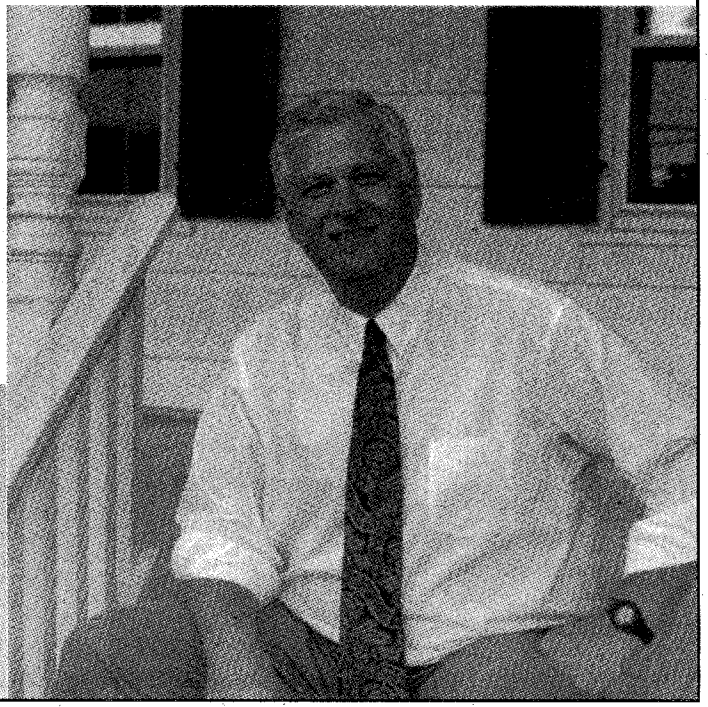
### Re-Elect

## Steve Englebright

Democrat, Independence, Working Families

Election Day is Tuesday, November 2  
Vote at SAC Room 222, 6 am to 9 pm

Paid for by Friends of Steve Englebright





## What we need from the elections

By MICHAEL ZANNETTIS  
Statesman Staff

The youth vote has not historically impacted elections. For a myriad of trivial reasons, young people do not turn out to the polls. Political scientists would credit the youth with common sense – voting is an altruistic act. Nevertheless, choice in aggregates is significant, and since that choice is often based on information, it is the burden of this paper to inform the electorate – let each become aware indeed.

Since New York's electoral votes will undoubtedly be awarded to John Kerry in a landslide it would not be economical to extol his candidacy, though we endorse it. Rather, our focus will be on Steve Englebright, State Assembly, and Tim Bishop, U.S. Congress.

In the self-interest of students, Stony Brook could not ask for better representatives: Englebright, a Lecturer at SBU in Geosciences, and Tim Bishop, former Provost of Southampton College. Each politician prioritizes education. Englebright was an advocate against Pataki's cruel higher education budget cuts. State universities are New York's golden goose, consistently producing highly trained graduates that contributing to the tax base. Pataki's unfortunate shortsightedness in cooking this producer was not lost on Englebright. We need that vision and strength to watch out for our interests.

At the federal level, Bishop fought for increased access to Pell Grants – our financial aid. Socially liberal college students should also rejoice in Bishop's and Englebright's pro-choice opinions. Abortion rights are not lost on a local politician like Englebright since the state often controls the funding of abortion for females who otherwise could not afford it.

Students would also be wise to endorse the 1 and 2 Ballot propositions, mandating the purchase of open spaces for natural conservation. Beyond the ecologically friendly aspects, underdeveloped spaces are our last hopes to preserve drinkable water in L.I.'s aquifers.

## A good, hard look at the issues

By MATTHEW AUGUSTINE  
Statesman Contributor

The election is less than two weeks away and both Bush and Kerry are blasting each other's records in what, according to a recent CNN report, is one of the most "negative" elections of all time (48 percent of people polled said they believe the 2004 campaign is mostly negative, compared with 15 percent in 2000). Unfortunately, with all of the character assaults, it seems as if not enough attention is being given to the actual issues. Moral issues are one thing, but I'm speaking about the future of our country: things that have more bearing than potentially swaying the swing voters (what is your stand on abortion, Mr. President?).

With this in mind, I'd like to bring something to light that is not given nearly enough attention, considering the threat it poses to us as a nation – and I, unlike our dear candidates, am not speaking about terrorism.

In 2003 social security was a 509 billion dollar drain on the federal budget, 23 percent of total spending. Alan Greenspan was quoted as saying that there is no way to pay retirees what was promised without recalibrating the entire system, by either raising the retirement age, or cutting benefits significantly.

Health care costs have risen 36 percent in the past four years, and retirees are the primary bearers of the burden. Cutting already subsistence-level social security payouts, coupled with through-the-roof health care premiums, and rising housing costs would cripple the fiscal stability of many low to middle income Americans. As far as raising the retirement age goes, where do you stop? The age is already being raised through a phase in process. Do we continue to 72? 73? Do we go past the life expectancy? Reduce social security by hoping half of the liability doesn't live long enough to collect?

Bush has a plan for partial privatization of

social security. This plan calls for citizen control – albeit partial – of a portion of their retirement money. This would decrease the government's burden, both financially and politically. It would also give a higher rate of return, leaving retirees with a larger sum than they would have otherwise had under current "pay as you go" social security policy. Also, taking money out of government coffers and infusing it into the open market would be a tremendous boon to the economy – and arguably the most important aspect of it, the financial sector.

Kerry's rebuttal was that the Congressional Budget Office said that Bush's plans would leave a two trillion dollar hole, or that benefits would have to be cut 25 to 40 percent to sustain current social security payoffs during the "transition." The irony here, however, is that Alan Greenspan said the same thing about social security in its current form. There is going to be an astronomical discrepancy between funding and cost regardless of whether or not there is a "transition."

However, what Kerry did not address was that if and when privatization begins to materialize, the options become broader and the burdens lighter on both sides. People would have more control over their economic future, and it would give the government some room to breathe, allowing for adjustments and "recalibrations" as necessary, without having the economic future of the nation hanging in the balance.

Kerry has his own alternative: it consists of crossing your fingers and hoping that the economy surges so far ahead that things such as national debt, education costs and social security can be dismissed with a smile and a wave of the hand. This, of course, would be done, he claims, without raising taxes, and with cutting the federal budget deficit in half in four years. Something is going to have to change, and if not, I predict a lot of broken promises.

### Attention!

On-campus Organizations  
& Off-campus Businesses:

Advertise in  
The STATESMAN!

Contact our Advertising staff  
Monday-Friday from 9am-5pm

631-632-6480

## Calling all Commuters!

Get Involved • Be a Leader • Help Others • Meet People



### FREE Coffee, Donuts, and Commuter Mugs

### The Commuter Connection

Wednesday, November 3 • SAC 144 - Commuter Commons

Drop by between 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

**New DAY !!**

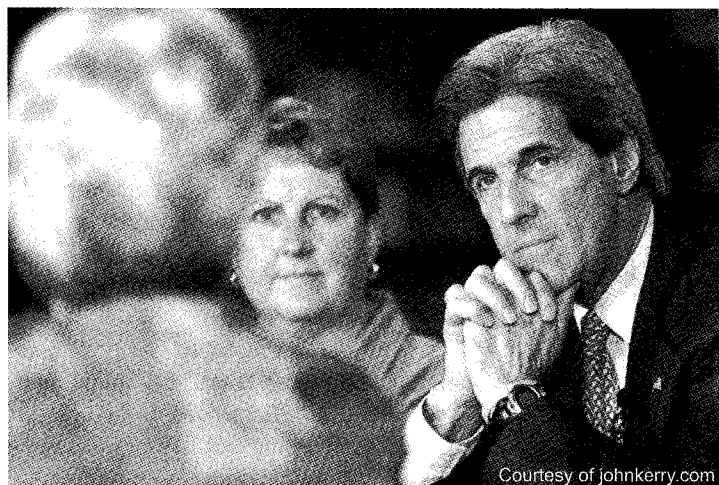
Enjoy FREE coffee and donuts with representatives from the  
Health Science Center's Department of Nursing,  
Health Technology and Management, and HSC Student Services.

Meet other commuters and make new friends.

For more information, contact Brenda Walker, Wells Fellow for Commuter Student Services,  
Office of Commuter Services, SAC Room 222, 632-4345 or E-mail: [Brenda.Walker@stonybrook.edu](mailto:Brenda.Walker@stonybrook.edu).



# The pres candidates on higher education



John Kerry has different views than his opponent on higher education.

BY LAUREN MUTZ  
Statesman Staff

Despite all the glamour surrounding international and economic policy in Presidential debates and slogans, voters must also consider an equally important but much less visible issue. As college students, the future and direction of educational programs, financial aid, and scholarships are extremely influential to our demographic.

According to President Bush's website, his administration will "allow low-income students who take the rigorous high school curriculum required by the State Scholars program to receive up to \$1,000 in additional Pell Grant funding, bringing the total maximum award up to \$5,050." Bush also proposed the creation of "a merit-based add-on" to assist low-income scholar students with "an additional \$1,000 grant." Finally, Bush asserts that he will "increase first-year students' [loan limits] from \$2,625 to \$3,000 and allow low-default schools more flexibility in loan disbursements."

Senator John Kerry also has plans for Higher Education. From his speech at the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition in Chicago, he has proposed to "offer \$10 billion in fiscal relief for states that commit to keeping tuition increases no greater than the rate of inflation" as well as benefits to colleges which graduate increased numbers of Pell recipients. The Senator will also encourage more women and minorities to pursue degrees in science and math - one million to be exact. He claimed in the speech that he would "offer new incentives to recruit and retain high-quality teachers in math and science."

An article from the Chronicle of Higher Education claims that Bush and Kerry have both "proposed tax cut policies" to mitigate the financial burden of college costs on families.

According to the American Council on Education's Department of Government Relations & Public Affairs, Bush's 2004 Education Plan will increase the education department's budget by three percent, but will eliminate 38 educational programs that amass to \$1.5 million. Some of the programs listed for eradication: Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP), Perkins Loan

Capital Contributions, and the Tech-Prep Education State Grants and Demonstration Projects programs (to replace with the new Secondary and Technical Education program). The President will also cut money from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE). However, his plan did maintain the maximum Pell Budget, the Javits Fellowships, Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GANN), and boost funding for Title III, Part B: Aid for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutions, among other programs.

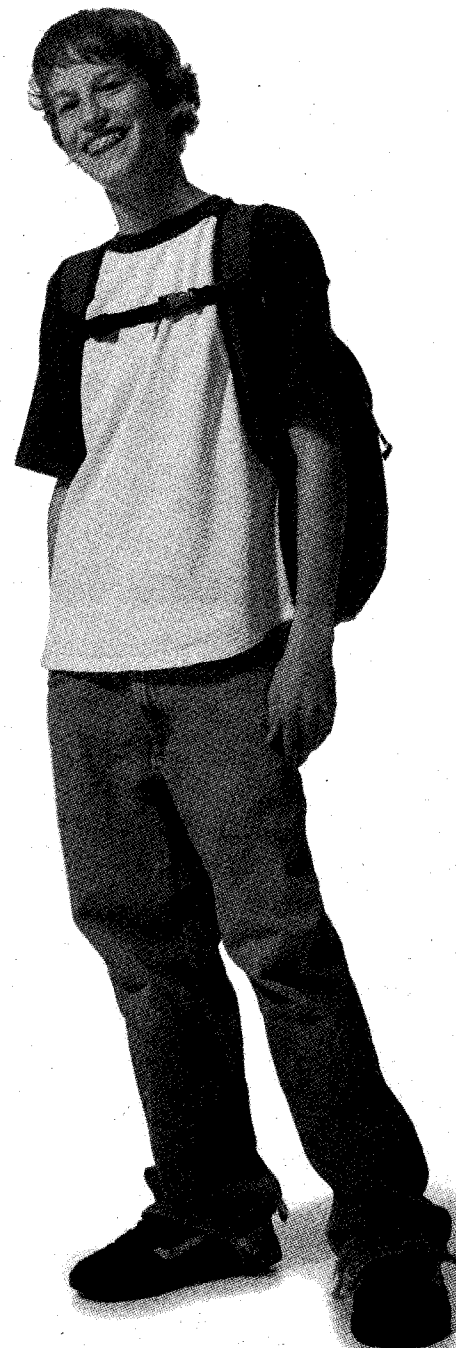
"[Bush's] budget proposal is thoroughly inadequate to meet the increasing need for financial assistance faced by America's college students and their families," said Becky Timmons, director of government relations at the American Council on Education. "By continuing to level fund critical student assistance programs, we are closing the door to college for thousands of low-income students."

However, according to Bush's website and David Brooks from the *New York Times*, Kerry is "no good for education." Brooks and the Republican Administration deem him a man with a lot of talk but little action. It has been said that Senator Kerry has promulgated long-winded speeches on controversial issues to later just "jam them in a jar and [bury] them in the backyard."

While we have no proof that either candidate will fulfill their promises, both have assured the American public that they will do their best for higher education. President Bush promises to increase Pell Grant Funding and Loan limits and provide for "an additional one million students to afford college." Senator Kerry on the other hand, promises to reward colleges for "increasing the number of Pell Grant students they graduate," offer aid to states that curtail tuition prices, and encourage "one million women and minorities to pursue science and math."

When you go to cast your vote Nov. 2, keep in mind that media-hyped topics, however important, do not constitute a candidate's entire platform; in fact, it may be the covert and "silent" issues which will most directly and drastically affect your future, so choose wisely.

JEFFREY NEEDS TO  
KNOW WHAT THE HECK  
 $a^2 - 2ab \cos(\theta) + b^2$   
IS ALL ABOUT.



If you know, become an outstanding high school math teacher through the Newton Fellowship Program. You'll expand the minds of New York City kids and earn \$90,000 in stipends.

Newton Fellowships are designed to train mathematically talented individuals to be outstanding high school math teachers and support them in the early years of their careers.

- > Year 1: Full tuition scholarship toward a Master's Degree in Education and living stipend
- > Years 2-5: Position as New York City high school math teacher plus MfA stipend
- > Mentoring, coaching, and professional development
- > Camaraderie with a group of talented math teachers

To learn more visit  
[www.mathforamerica.org](http://www.mathforamerica.org)

MfA is not affiliated with Teach for America

**MfA**  
Math for America



# 8 The grand opening of Jasmine

*Free food and festivities at SBU's newest food court*



By MANSOOR KAHN  
Statesman Editor

Korean drumming and festive Indian dances filled the lobby of the Wang center, welcoming the bigwigs of Stony Brook, a host of faculty and staff, and a handful of students to the grand opening of Jasmine, the Wang Center's newest addition.

Jasmine was brought to Stony Brook by Sushil Maholtra and Rajesh Bhardwaj, founders of the noted Café Spice Restaurant Group, which includes the acclaimed Café Spice and Feng Shui restaurants. Last Wednesday it was bustling with people struggling to find standing room, trying to hear the words of Charles Wang on stage and glimpse the exotic outfits worn by students from a variety of different cultural heritages.

Those students recited blessings on stage, one by one, in a score of different languages: English, Hindi, Urdu, Korean, Japanese and more. They introduced Jasmine as a cultural hub, a place for all ethnicities to come together and share a meal.

"I think it's a wonderful gathering place, a center point," said Wang, who spent his time on stage thanking all the individuals who worked to bring the Wang Center and Jasmine to fruition. "We hope it's a catalyst to bring more people together."

The restaurant consists of a large open dining room, as well as a private dining area for parties and special events. Both rooms are positioned near a glass front, creating a connection to the Wang Center's outdoor pond and gardens.

"When I first saw the Charles Wang Center, and how beautiful and artistic it is, I thought the regular college fare would not be fitting for such a place," said Maholtra. "I thought, and the president of the university thought, there should be something upscale, but within a student's budget. Something that was extraordinary, and different. People want healthier food. They want quality food. They want something they haven't had before."

And that is exactly what the students can get at Jasmine. With menu items including Japanese, Chinese, Thai and Indian fare, diners at Jasmine can make a plate full of food far more diverse than the hamburgers and French fries they may have been used to elsewhere on campus. Visitors to the new restaurant even have the option of getting a tray of sushi, although the sushi options at Jasmine are much more varied than the California rolls found tucked away in the SAC and Union refrigerators.

"Jasmine is going to be a truly extraordinary dining experience," said Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, Stony Brook University President. "The Charles Wang Center is the perfect place for Jasmine, and Jasmine is the perfect place for students, the faculty, and the public. Indeed, a unique Asian American cultural center deserves a unique Asian American dining experience."

The concept of the interior design and material selection of Jasmine is based on traditional Asian themes and icons, with a modern panache. Suspended wood ceiling grids, glowing lanterns, river rock pads, bamboo flooring and bamboo and glass panels are used to give the scale of the existing shell an inviting, con-

temporary Asian inspired dining experience.

President of USG, Jared Wong, himself an Asian American, was pleased with the arrival of an Asian food center at Stony Brook. "I can't tell you as an Asian student how proud I am to be in this building devoted to Asian culture," he said. "I hope that after the food court opens, I never have to hear a student asking 'what's in the Wang Center?'"





# A tasty new choice

9

## *Jasmine at the Wang*

By MANSOOR KAHN & ANNIE VAINCHENKER  
Statesman Editor & Contributor

You walk into the Wang Center's newest Asian food court and you're greeted by a refreshing air of dignity. The ceilings soar above your head; splotches of green surround you on every side; decorative (but still plastic) plants are strategically placed around the huge dining area; garbage receptacles are cleverly camouflaged among towering pillars; and the glass walls reveal delicately designed architectural gardens splattered in the trademark red that bathes the Wang Center exterior.

You look around to see the bigwigs of the university milling around with their platters of Thai noodles and chicken tikka masala, professors dining with their colleagues and a scattered array of students sticking their noses into their books, munching on stir fry pork cooked by Manhattan's best chefs.

You have entered *Jasmine*, the latest addition to Stony Brook University's diverse array of appetizing and not-so-appetizing dining halls, where you can pick up bottled green tea and a plateful of vegetable khorma between classes or settle down at the end of the day with a mouthful of scrumptious Japanese stir fry. At *Jasmine*, you're treated to a delectable array of ethnic foods, from Chinese to Thai to Japanese to Indian. With prices within a college student's budget (for most things), *Jasmine* offers students something they have been requesting for a while: food that's comparable to off-campus options.

But beware, because *Jasmine* has its ups and downs. The Indian food is an experience to behold, rivaling that of the expensive alternative, Curry Club. I usually judge an Indian restaurant by its chicken tikka masala, and by that standard, the Indian food at *Jasmine* is excellent. The saag panir, a ground spinach dish with a swamp-like texture, is absolutely delicious. The spicy chick pees chinna masala boasts the perfect tasty texture, but it lacks that fresh herb taste you find in most other good Indian restaurants. The prices for the Indian food, however, are a little bit steep for a quick bite of lunch. You may want to save money for the dinner. A typical entrée and rice meal will run you up to \$7.25 (for lamb), while you can get a wrap (the Indian version of the gyro) for about four bucks. While the Indian food at *Jasmine* is overall very good, avoid some of the dryer dishes like the normal chicken tikka (not masala), which will leave you wishing you had some good 'ol curry.

The Thai food is a bit disappointing, however. The trademark of all good Thai places is the Pad Thai, which is absolutely bland at *Jasmine*, and the Thai beef is tough and flavorless. The Thai chicken is probably the only redeeming entrée for this section of *Jasmine*, and if you're willing, it just might be worth your while. It has a soft, oystery flavor and a spicy kick that piques at the tip of your tongue. Overall, however, avoid the Thai food at *Jasmine* if you can. It doesn't quite compare to most Thai restaurants around Long Island, let alone Manhattan.

*Jasmine*'s Chinese food, however, is pretty tasty compared to Stony Brook's other Chinese place, Deng Lees. With a kickin' General Tso's Chicken and a spicy, zesty batch of mixed vegetables, you can't really go wrong. The shrimp stir-fry, especially, is absolutely delicious, with soft, tasty shrimp not disguised by an onslaught of spices.

The royal crown of *Jasmine*, however, is definitely the Japanese Grill. It blows the SAC grill out of the water. The chicken is by far the best of the three meaty options, with beef following a close second and pork trailing pretty far behind. The best part about the grill is that your food is nice and hot, freshly made, while the other options at *Jasmine* offer only pre-made food. The disadvantage, however, is having to stand around and wait in the often-



The *Jasmine* grand opening boasted a variety of cultural performances and Charles Wang, the benefactor for the Wang center.

All photos on pages 8 & 9 by Gabe Sakellaris/  
Statesman



*Continued on Page 14*



# Stony Brook's congressional district up for grabs

## *Bishop fights off Manger for seat*

By MICHAEL ZANNETTIS  
Statesman Staff

Of the 535 Congressional Seats, only 30 are under serious contention, including Stony Brook University's New York Congressional District 1. Bill Manger (R), former Senior Advisor to the Department of Transportation, Maritime Students, is opposing incumbent Tim Bishop (D), former Provost, Southampton College, in his bid for re-election. Bishop profits from the greatest advantage of congressional politics – incumbency – and intends to use that advantage, coupled with the modest name recognition of his brief tenure to solidify his political base. Challenger Manger will have to rely on his own resume to convince voters he's a better choice to serve as their congressman.

New York's 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District is historically unpredictable, including Bishop's own upset over Republican incumbent and fireworks magnate, Felix Grucci in the 2002 election. For that reason, coupled with the large voter turnout expected because of the presidential election, expect a tight race. History favors Bishop: first, as the incumbent, second, because large voter turnouts tend to favor Democrats.

Nevertheless, Manger is doing his best, including trumping out the star power of the G.O.P.'s largest political celebrities: Rudy Giuliani and John McCain. Giuliani is a more natural fit since Manger was involved in homeland security with his D.O.T.

post. Manger helped tighten the port security that John Kerry criticized during the presidential debates. Manger, though, awkwardly adopted an environmental motif for his campaign imagery, seeming to play into the strengths of Bishop, who has been endorsed by such environmental giants as the Sierra Club and The New York League of Conservative Voters.

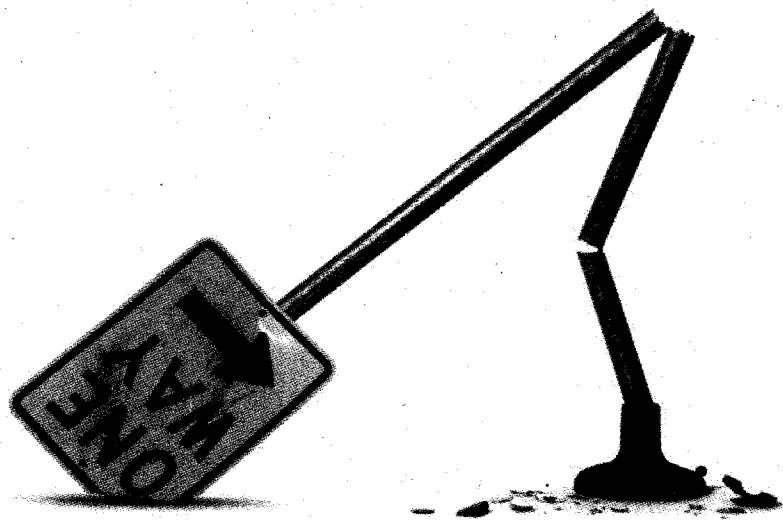
Bishop highlighted his two-year Congressional term with improved funding for local schools, a \$35,000 grant to the Sag Harbor Fire Department, and the removal of radioactive material from Patchogue-Medford High School. Jon Schneider, Bishop's press secretary, over a phone interview, focused on the incumbent's local accessibility. "He's held over 100 Town Hall meetings...helped more than a 1,000 constituents with individual concerns...met with literally thousands of constituents," Schneider said. Additionally, the demands of the post 9/11 world are not lost on Bishop. "We're going to do a better job with Homeland Security, especially airport security," Schneider continued. Bishop opposed a draft.

Unlike the presidential elections, with a very clear-cut difference between the two candidates and voluminous evidence for a referendum on the incumbent, New York's 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional race features candidates with similar goals and dreams. Both favor strengthening the local economy, securing the homeland and helping young families. Bishop's short tenure has not afforded him opportunity to make any substantial difference, but Manger would be in the same position if elected.



Tim Bishop is the incumbent candidate for Stony Brook's congressional district, and his position is hotly contested.

**"IF YOU'VE WRECKED YOUR  
INSURANCE, CALL ME."**



**AS YOUR DRIVING  
RECORD IMPROVES,  
YOUR RATES COULD TOO.**

SIMON A. DESOUZA  
1320 STONY BROOK RD.  
(COVENTRY COMMONS MALL)  
OFF STONY BROOK RD.

**631-689-7770**



**Allstate.**  
You're in good hands.

Subject to availability and qualifications.  
Allstate Property and Casualty Company, Northbrook, Illinois.  
© 2000 Allstate Insurance Company



*The most important person in her life could be you.*

Imagine the feeling. Reaching out to someone's heart. Becoming the person they depend on to learn, to develop and grow. It's a feeling you get every day at DDI. As a leading innovator in the education and habilitation of developmentally disabled children and adults, we have challenging positions available for career-minded people who are ready to make a difference in someone's life.

### ***New & Improved Salary Scale!***

**Assistant Teachers • Direct Care Counselors • Speech Therapist  
Certified Special Education Teachers • Registered Nurses  
Day Program Counselors • Carpenters/Handymen**

We offer excellent benefits for F/T and P/T positions including medical, dental, tuition reimbursement and more, with a competitive salary. For more information on these full and part time opportunities available throughout Suffolk County, please contact **Jean Austin**.

**Phone: 631-366-2955  
Fax: 631-366-2966  
Email resume: [jobs@ddiinfo.org](mailto:jobs@ddiinfo.org)  
Apply online: [www.ddiinfo.org](http://www.ddiinfo.org)**



**DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES  
INSTITUTE**





## Hillel-O-Ween

What to do when you don't celebrate Halloween

### Six Flags Great Adventure



Sunday, October 31st  
\$30 per ticket



**INCLUDES FREE  
KOSHER FOOD & TRANSPORTATION**

Sign up & Pay at Hillel in Union 201  
by **THIS THURSDAY, October 28th**

## Letterman.... Atlantic City.... White House...



### NOW STONY BROOK

**FREE Israeli Comedy Dinner Show**

**Friday, October 29th @ 6:30PM**

Following Shabbat Services at 5:30PM - For various locations call Hillel

**Roth Kosher Café**



## MADONNA'S DOING IT... Why can't you?

**WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3rd  
UNION BALLROOM 11-4PM**

Come to the Israeli Fair for your red Kabbalah bracelet!!!  
...AND a chance to win a sterling silver  
bendel like Madonna's!

## ISRAELI BASKETBALL...



## BEYOND POLITICS

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10th  
4:00-5:00pm in SAC 303**

Stay afterwards for an intimate Q & A  
6:00pm - Join the basketball team for dinner  
in the Roth Kosher Cafe

FMI Contact Michelle @ (631) 632-6565 or [www.sunysb.edu/hillel](http://www.sunysb.edu/hillel)  
Sponsored by The Hillel Foundation for Jewish Life

## "We Just Joined Teachers Federal Credit Union."

### Convenient Branch Locations

Stony Brook University  
Student Activities Center  
Health Sciences Center

### ATMs

Student Activities Center (2)  
Health Sciences Center  
Administration Building  
Long Island Vets Home  
(Call for Hours and ATM Locations)

### Amityville

355 Broadway (Rte. 110)

### Bay Shore

3rd Ave. and Sunrise Hwy.

### Bohemia

Sayville Plaza, 5191 Sunrise Hwy.

### Commack

10 Vanderbilt Pkwy.

### Farmingville/Main Office

2410 N. Ocean Ave.

### North Babylon

1134 Deer Park Ave.

### Port Jefferson Station

450 Jefferson Plaza (Rte. 112)

### South Setauket

Nichols Plaza, 260-A Pond Path

**NEW SELDEN BRANCH  
COMING SOON!**



*You don't have to be a teacher to get great rates!*



## Join Us!

Teachers Federal Credit Union, Stony Brook's on-campus banking services partner, offers a complete range of financial services to Stony Brook students, faculty, staff and their families. Join now and become a member of Long Island's largest credit union.

And, with an account at TFCU, your campus card can be an ATM/Check card.

Open your account on campus today. It's easy for parents to make deposits throughout the year to student accounts via direct deposit or wire transfers.

**Stop by and open your account today!**

**Call 631-698-7000 or visit [www.teachersfcu.org](http://www.teachersfcu.org)**



The Educated Choice

Proud Sponsor of the Staller Center for the Arts 2004-2005 Season



### Easy Access

- FREE Checking + Dividends
- FREE Online Banking
- FREE Online Bill Paying
- FREE E-Statements & E-Notices
- FREE Telephone Banking
- FREE Visa® Check Card
- Payroll Deduction & Direct Deposit
- On-Campus ATMs + Worldwide ATM Access

### The Smart Choice For Loans

- New/Used Auto, Boat, RV Loans
- Visa® Credit Cards
- Fixed and Adjustable Rate Mortgages
- Home Equity Loans & Lines of Credit
- Homeowner Loans
- Personal Loans
- Education Loans
- Holiday Loans
- Vacation Loans

Plus Great Rates on  
Savings, Money Market &  
Certificate Accounts (CDs)



**ALWAYS FREE CHECKING • FREE ONLINE BANKING • FREE BILL PAYER**



## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE

**HANCOCK, NY, CATSKILL MTNS.** Five acres of wooded, level and surveyed property. Property taxes \$300 per year. Build, camp, hunt and fish. Great views of the Delaware River. **631-666-8107.**

**2000 DODGE DURANGO.** Excellent condition. Grey. 43,000 miles. \$16,000 firm. Leave message. **631-666-8107.**

**HARLEY DAVIDSON SOFTAIL 1999.** Low miles. Many extras. Mint condition. \$12,000. **631-567-2035.**

### FOR RENT

#### PORT JEFFERSON VILLAGE:

- 2 Bedroom, hardwood floors, washer, dryer, living room & dining room.
  - 1 Bedroom, E.I.K.
  - Studio with full loft.
- In historic home. **631-834-2502.**

### *You're pregnant?*

*You're frightened?  
Please let us help.  
Life can be a wonderful choice.*

**Alternatives to Abortion**  
Free pregnancy testing, information, counseling, and assistance.

Call 243-2373, 554-4144 or  
1-800-550-4900

## HELP WANTED

**WAIT STAFF NEEDED** for prestigious Catering Company with locations on both the North and South Shores of Long Island. Part-time and weekend positions available. Experience is preferred. Please call **631-862-0100** or e-mail [scott.kehlenbeck@lovinoven.com](mailto:scott.kehlenbeck@lovinoven.com).

**PART TIME EMPLOYMENT/** flexible hours - earn \$30 per hour or more with travel benefits. Call **908-431-1900 X115.**

## TRAVEL

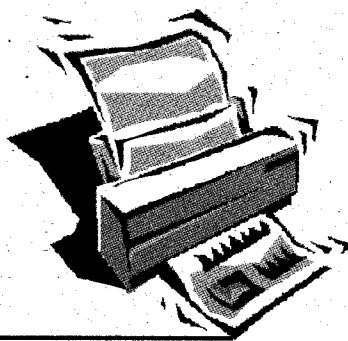
**SPRING BREAK** Bahamas Celebrity Party Cruise! 5 Days \$299! Includes Meals, Parties! Cancun, Acapulco, Nassau, Jamaica From \$459! Panama City & Daytona \$159! [www.SpringBreakTravel.com](http://www.SpringBreakTravel.com). **1-800-678-6386.**

**SPRING BREAK 2005. HIRING REPS!! FREE MEALS!!** Nov. 6th Deadline! Free trips for groups. Hottest destinations and parties. [www.sunsplasztours.com](http://www.sunsplasztours.com). **1-800-426-7710.**

## FAX SERVICE:

Only 50¢ per page.

Come to  
Rm. 057  
in the  
Student  
Union  
Bldg.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\$450 GROUP FUNDRAISER SCHEDULING BONUS.** 4 hours of your group's time PLUS our free (yes, free) fundraising solutions **EQUALS \$1,000-\$2,000** in earnings for your group. Call **TODAY** for a \$450 bonus when you schedule your non-sales fundraiser with CampusFundraiser. Contact CampusFundraiser, **888-923-3238**, or visit [www.campusfundraiser.com](http://www.campusfundraiser.com).

## SERVICES

**PROFESSOR ON CAMPUS** who has experienced Bipolar Disorder would like to have one-on-one contact with and help students who also have this illness. Also starting an evening discussion group. Confidentiality is assured. If interested, please contact Dr. Jerry Pollock at **631-632-8924.**

#### LSAT TUTOR

Let a lawyer teach you how to become one. One-on-one LSAT tutoring by attorney. Call **RAISING THE BAR** at **516-454-7620.**

**THE CARPET SPECIALIST.** Installation, repairs and re-stretches. Free estimates. Over 30 years experience. No job too small. **631-736-8260.**

**TO PLACE A  
CLASSIFIED AD:  
Please Call  
631-632-6480**

### Job Opportunities in Mental Health Services

Gain Valuable Work Experience Related to Your Career Goals

Flexible schedules, part time and full time positions  
working in group homes.

Training Provided

Competitive Salary, Excellent Benefits



**Options**  
for Community Living, Inc.

202 East Main Street • Smithtown, NY 11787

(631) 361-9020, ext. 133 or fax (631) 361-7087 EOE  
Visit our website at [optionscl.org](http://optionscl.org)



Broadway on Main Street!

**THEATRE THREE**  
at Athena Hall

at Griswold's Café  
on Theatre Three's  
Second Stage

### Friday Night Face-Off!

featuring "The Players,"  
is an evening of audience-  
interactive competitive  
improvisational comedy.



Sept. 24, Oct 1, 8,  
15, 22 & 29,  
at 10:30 pm  
Only \$10 (Drinks not included)  
\$2 Beer and \$3 Wine

**Improv Comedy Live**

Visit our Website: [fridaynightfaceoff.web1000.com](http://fridaynightfaceoff.web1000.com)

Box Office (631) 928-9100 (Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm)  
412 Main Street, Port Jefferson, NY 11777 • [www.theatrethree.com](http://www.theatrethree.com)



# Lunar eclipse leaves Stony Brook students in the dark

By JAMES BOUKLAS  
Statesman Editor



James Bouklas/Statesman

Above- the lunar eclipse as seen from Stony Brook University.

The lunar eclipse took Stony Brook by storm this Wednesday as crowds numbering in the tens gathered outside to witness this monumtous event.

In a lunar eclipse, the moon cannot be seen due to phenoma beyond explanation. Basically, the earth gets stuck between the sun and the moon and casts a shadow over it. So it's really dark on the moon and really bright in Iraq.

International Statesman correspondents report that it is really bright on the other side of the world, like in places such as Israel, Pakistan, and New Jersey.

When asked about this event, students could only respond with barely audible grunts as they walked by. They were truly speechless.

Dr. Richard Gerrig, professor of psychology and metaphysical phenomena, told us to expect plagues of frogs and loci in the days to follow. "I can remember the last time this happened," he said. "Threw off my whole day." Senior Statesman staff remain skeptical on this issue.

Other faculty members were unavailable for comment, citing better uses of their time, including office hours, sleep, and baby sitting graduate students.

Unlike the days of Abraham, the sun is scheduled to reappear sometime tomorrow morning.

Think you can do better?

Join the Statesman.

The above article is incoherent satire.

Rm 057 Union sbustatesman@gmail.com 632-6479

## Know how to vote: *What to expect on Tuesday*

This is what you'll see this Tuesday when you stop in to vote for your candidates. Remember, the presidential seat is not the only one that matters. Find out more about your local candidate and make an informed decision.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

YES NO

PROPOSAL ONE, A PROPOSITION

Shall Resolution No. 840-2004, Amending the Suffolk County Charter to Authorize the issuance of \$75 Million in County Bonds to Acquire Land for Open Space Preservation, Active Parkland, Farmland Development Rights, Environmental Protection Purposes, and Allow the Transfer of Development Rights, Be Approved?

YES NO

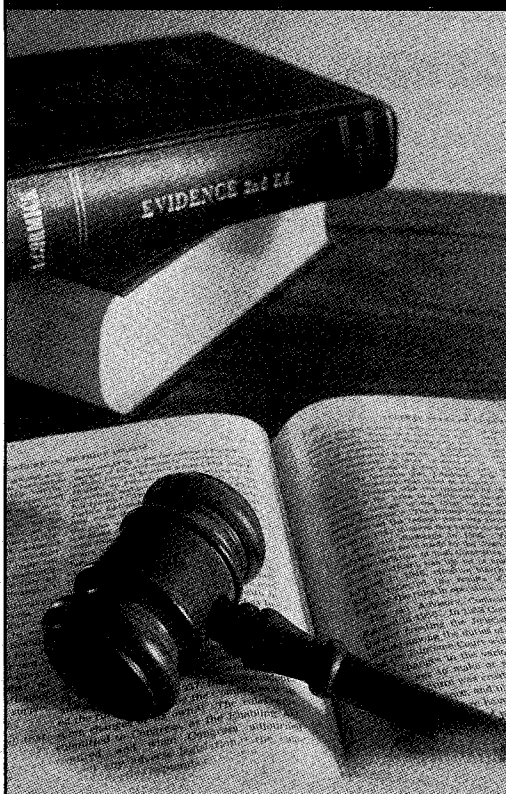
PROPOSAL TWO, A PROPOSITION

Town Proposition No. 1 - CLEAN WATER OPEN SPACE BOND ACT OF 2004

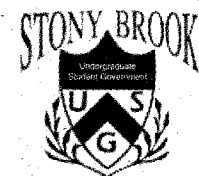
Shall THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED: "Clean Water Open Space Bond Resolution of the Town of Brookhaven, New York, adopted August 25, 2004, authorizing the issuance of \$100,000,000 bonds of said Town to finance the acquisition of interests or rights in real property in the Town for the preservation of open space, farmland and wildlife habitats, for purposes including but not limited to the protection of drinking water and surface water and the preservation of community character, at the estimated maximum cost of \$100,000,000," BE APPROVED?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Electors for President and Vice President (Vote for One)	1A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	2A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	3A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	4A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	5A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	6A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	7A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	8A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	9A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	10A Republican George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)
United States Senator (Vote for One)	1B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	2B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	3B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	4B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	5B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	6B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	7B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	8B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	9B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	10B Democratic John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)
Justice of the Supreme Court 10th Judicial District (Vote for any Two)	1C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	2C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	3C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	4C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	5C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	6C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	7C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	8C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	9C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	10C Independent Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)
County Court Judge (Vote for any Two)	1D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	2D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	3D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	4D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	5D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	6D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	7D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	8D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	9D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)	10D Conservative George W. Bush (Pres) Dick Cheney (V.P.)
Family Court Judge (Vote for One)	1E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	2E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	3E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	4E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	5E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	6E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	7E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	8E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	9E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	10E Working Families John F. Kerry (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)
Representative in Congress (1st District) (Vote for One)	1F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	2F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	3F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	4F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	5F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	6F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	7F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	8F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	9F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	10F Peace and Justice Ralph Nader (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)
State Senator (2nd District) (Vote for One)	1G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	2G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	3G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	4G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	5G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	6G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	7G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	8G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	9G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)	10G Socialist Workers Roger Caero (Pres) John Edwards (V.P.)
Member of Assembly (4th District) (Vote for One)	1H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	2H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	3H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	4H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	5H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	6H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	7H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	8H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	9H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)	10H Libertarian Michael Badnarik (Pres) Richard V. Ganssner (V.P.)
	1I Green David C. McReynolds	2I Green David C. McReynolds	3I Green David C. McReynolds	4I Green David C. McReynolds	5I Green David C. McReynolds	6I Green David C. McReynolds	7I Green David C. McReynolds	8I Green David C. McReynolds	9I Green David C. McReynolds	10I Green David C. McReynolds

## USG Presents...



### FREE Attorney Consultation



For SBU Undergraduate Students  
Every Wednesday, SAC 202  
4:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

Call 631-632-6460 or stop by  
SAC 202 to make an appointment.  
\*Lawyer available only when school is in session\*



# "The Grudge" a taste of Japanese horror

*Gellar stars in remake of haunted house classic*

BY MANSOOR KHAN  
Statesman Editor

It's one of those horror movies that makes you shout at the screen: "Don't open that door! Ignore the yells and moans in the next room and go on with your life, because you will certainly die a slow, painful death at the hands of a demonic entity and there is nothing you can do about that sound, so don't open that door!" Don't get me wrong, "The Grudge" is a spooky, entertaining, often thrilling movie, with a captivating storyline, but I just don't understand why they have to open those doors.

But that's what you expect from horror movies, especially remakes of foreign horror movies. The one in question, "The Grudge," is a remake of Takashi Shimizu's Japanese horror flick, "Ju-On," the story of a wretchedly haunted house with spirits that stalk visitors until there's nothing left of them but rotting corpses. Sure, the idea isn't all that creative, and the Hollywood remake is even less creative for essentially telling the same story, but it's the delivery that matters with "The Grudge."

The movie is chilling, yes, but not necessarily scary. Constant bouts of stop and go terror will keep you on the edge of your proverbial seat, leaning forward until that demonic face suddenly appears with a deafening, surprising sound that resonates in your ears and makes you jump back and grab the person closest to you. But

sheer, unadulterated fear is hard to come by, and I didn't find any of it in "The Grudge."

But like I said, Shimizu makes the film chilling. He succeeds on this front by providing a truly disturbing breed of CG-animated ghosts—floating specters of pitch black tendrils that form into gray porcelain faces, horrifically gaping mouths and milk-saucer eyes of a family murdered in a Tokyo house.

The twist in the remake of "The Grudge" that sets it apart from the original, however, is the introduction of foreigners, Americans, namely Sarah Michelle Gellar and company. The haunted house is occupied by an American businessman, his catatonic mother and his timid, anxious wife. The helpless mother must be cared for during the day by visiting nurses, and the foreign exchange college student, Karen (Gellar), substitutes one day for the mysteriously missing regular caregiver, Yoko. Needless to say, strange sounds appear behind walls, people open doors they don't have to open, and a number of the house's inhabitants and visitors go mysteriously missing.

The plot unravels into an intricate storyline involving love, hate, death and a bit of misplaced anger that could have been avoided with some marriage counseling. The characters, Gellar particularly, are quirky, entertaining and even neurotic at times, but they offer a refreshing outlook on life in a foreign country. Dewey-eyed, not knowing what the people around her are saying, Karen is attacked by uncertainty on all sides. Her naïveté adds



Sarah Michelle Gellar stars in this Japanese remake.

a certain twist of flavor that doesn't quite exist in the original, which centers on an all-Japanese cast.

"The Grudge" is a rollercoaster ride through Japanese horror. It doesn't particularly offer a down-deep, authentic chill down your spine, but it does jolt you back into your seat over and over again. It's an entertaining movie that will raise your heart rate, give you sweaty palms, and maybe even make you think twice when you enter your next haunted house. Just remember not to open that door.

I give "The Grudge" three out of five stars.

## A tasty new Choice: Jasmine

*Continued from Page 9*

crowded area for your meal. But the zesty grilled vegetables intermixed with the meat is well worth it. The price tag for the grill is \$5.95 for any of the three: chicken, beef or pork, not a bad investment since it's a pretty filling meal.

Jasmine also offers a wide array of freshly made, packaged sushi. The selections are far more diverse than what you can find at the SAC, but the prices are just as steep. An eight piece non-vegetable roll will run you \$6.49, and still your spicy tuna is surrounded by an overly

generous amount of rice.

But even so, the money may be worth it. Overall, Jasmine isn't the grand Asian extravaganza that many people were expecting. In fact, it kinda pops the hype bubble. Regardless, though, it's a pretty damn good alternative to most of the food places on campus. Jasmine offers a fresh and fitting taste for a university that was sorely lacking adequate Asian cuisine. If nothing else, the atmosphere is very inviting, and it makes you feel more at peace to sit down, eat your chicken tikka masala, and stare through the glass walls into space.

### Re-Legalize Freedom

[www.SilbergerForSenator.org](http://www.SilbergerForSenator.org)

*I Own Myself*

Paid for by Silberger for Senator

## FREE Practice Test!

**DAT GRE MCAT**

Take a free practice test with Kaplan and find out how you'll score before Test Day!

Saturday, October 30, 2004

MCAT: 9:00AM-Noon  
DAT: 1:00PM-4:00PM  
GRE: 4:30PM-6:00PM

Stony Brook University

Enroll today!

**KAPLAN** 1-800-KAP-TEST  
[kaptest.com/practice](http://kaptest.com/practice)

Test Prep and Admissions

\*Test names are registered trademarks of their respective owners.



USG: Student Activities Board

Presents:

Rockin shout outs to: SAB,  
Gorgeous George, Becky,  
Pam, Ilan, myself and my  
band

# Bowling for Soup

MTV Hits: "1985", "Girls All The Bad Guys Want", ..



## LIVE!

THURSDAY, November 4

SAC Ballroom At 9PM

\$5 SBU Students, \$10 Public

Tickets Available NOW

@ SAC Ticket Office

Opening Act: **Whole In One**

Tickets are very limited since the venue is small.  
Each student can have two off campus guests.  
Must sign-in at ticket office!





# Statesman SPORTS

## A closer look at the face of baseball

*Does money make that ball go round?*

By ROHIT DAS  
Statesman Editor

It's finally happened – the Red Sox actually beat the New York Yankees in a playoff series. For as long as I have watched baseball, the Red Sox's primary minimal objective has been to defeat the Yankees, and they have finally accomplished that goal. As upset as I may have been last Wednesday night, Boston's victory certainly changed the competitive scenery that has marked baseball for the last few years – Yankee domination.

However, if we look at the current face of baseball, how much has it really changed? The teams that have proven to be the best are still the most economically privileged teams. Both Boston and St. Louis are renowned baseball towns, and consequently generate large amounts of revenue to pay off big-name free agents.

When the term "curse" is talked about in the baseball community, it is usually in the context of the Red Sox's constant failure to achieve success in the post-season. As this curse slowly dissipates, however, a new one is quickly emerging – dominance via dollars.

Baseball needs to learn that having the same teams constantly win is quickly getting old. The excitement that most fans gain from sports comes through the element of surprise, and the Red Sox or Yankees constantly winning is simply not at all surprising. Big name players like Alex Rodriguez or Curt Schilling going to teams like the Yankees or the Red Sox is also not very surprising.

Another way to look at this is by realizing the limited amount of stories that exist in baseball. Aside from the individual specific stories, like the domination of Roger Clemens, one of the oldest pitchers in baseball, very few stories are based around team competition. Of course, we all know about the Red Sox vs. Yankees rivalry, but how many other rivalries can claim the grandeur that the Red Sox and Yankees command?

In leagues like the NFL, rivalries exist all around the league – Giants vs.

Eagles, Patriots vs. Jets, Packers vs. Vikings only to name a few. The reason for this difference between professional sports is that money is not the determining factor behind competitive success in football. What determines success is good coaching, team chemistry and execution, not how much money you spend on buying players.

This brings to light another factor behind the power of money in baseball. Unlike hockey or football, baseball is more or less an individual sport. We often talk about how great catchers can make mediocre pitchers excel, but this is the fullest extent of team interplay in baseball. Certainly, this does not even stand to compare with the amount of practice that goes into the timing between quarterbacks and wide receivers in football or same-shift forwards in hockey. Ultimately, the way baseball is built today, if you are able to buy high quality individuals, you make good teams.

This should not be seen as an excuse, however. There are still a few teams in baseball, like the Minnesota Twins, who find success through good managing, fundamentals, and team defense. Yet, in an arena where bills conquer effort, such teams are doomed to failure.

So, baseball fans, I plead you to realize that the success of the Red Sox, the supposed breaking of their curse, changes nothing in baseball overall. As long as money dominates baseball, its appeal as a recreational endeavor will slowly fade away to nothing.



Courtesy of justin.turnthecrank.com

Even though the World Series trophy may belong to the Red Sox this year, the money-dominated era of baseball remains unchanged.

## Star Defensive Back Missing in Action



Stony Brook played against Albany without star senior Chad King, a defensive back and kick returner from Ocean Township, NJ. King was leading the team with three interceptions, and even returned a kick for a touchdown in this year's Homecoming game. King, who has provided many heroics at LaValle Stadium, was kicked off the football team for violating team policy.

"We expect that our players will act responsibly and be accountable for their actions," said Head Coach Sam Kornhauser. Though no specifics have been given as to what exactly led to King's expulsion, two anonymous sources have told the *Statesman* that the dismissal was related to an altercation that occurred during the team's trip to Sacred Heart on Oct. 30. Photo is courtesy of goseawolves.org.