

SBU PULSE: New VP of Advancement; Students and Donors Honored

By JOSEPH WEN
Staff Writer

SUNY Students Honored

On April 10, at a ceremony in the Empire State Convention Center, SUNY Chancellor John R. Ryan honored the 270 recipients of the Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence, a distinction annually awarded to selected graduating SUNY students who have demonstrated commitment to their respective campuses and communities and attained a grade point average not less than 3.78.

Potential recipients of the award are nominated by committees composed of faculty and staff on each SUNY campus. In a second round of selections, the nominees from each campus are reviewed by the Chancellor's Office, which proceeds to forward its recommendations of the top candidates to the Chancellor.

The fourteen Stony Brook recipients were: Tejus Bale, Oumou Tounami Diallo, Melissa Friedman, Sara Goldgrabe, Nathan Houd, Celmalie Jamie, Katherine Kao, Matthew Marge, Caroline Park, Elizabeth Roberts, Yi Mei Shi, Alexandra Smolyanskaya, Marissa Trachtenberg, and Michelle Wenderlich.

New VP of Advancement

Stony Brook University has recently appointed D. Lance King to the position of Vice President of Advancement. Bringing 14 years of experience in fundraising in the medical and higher education sectors to his post, King will oversee the entirety of SBU's fundraising efforts and supervise the management of received funds in his capacity as the President of the Stony Brook University Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit education corporation formed to manage the University's endowment.

King's initial responsibilities, to be assumed on June 1, will primarily consist of the planning and execution of fundraising events and initiatives to garner financial support for the University from private and

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Stony Brook Idol Exposes Talent and Personality



Michelle Schroeder won Stony Brook Idol with a personalized rendition of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

Will James/Statesman

By WILL JAMES
News Editor

On Wednesday, April 19th, the final round of the "Stony Brook Idol" singing competition was held on the Staller Center lawn, during campus life time. The full-blown springtime weather and voluminous crowd made for an enthusiastic opening for the Shirley Strum Kenny Arts Festival.

The competition mirrored the "American Idol" television show — Stony Brook's nine best amateur singers faced off in front of a panel of judges, which included two members of SBU faculty and staff, and a member of the American Idol Magazine staff. Singers were judged on pitch, intonation, vocal quality, control, lyrics, style, and presentation. The audience was also allowed to vote, in supplementation of the final decision.

Most of the singers in the competition sang a cappella, a move considered courageous by the judges. Charmaine Cole and Sabrina Patterson, who sang first and second, were among this group. Cole sang the soulful "Why Should I Feel Discouraged," also known as, "His Eye on the Sparrow." Judges recognized her originality, and the judge from American Idol Magazine compared Cole to Paris Bennett, a former "Idol" competitor. Patterson, who sang "I Can't Make You Love Me," shared the same review as Anna Raghubir, who sang an a cappella version of "Lean on Me," although they delivered

impressive vocal performances, they lost points for not looking like they were enjoying themselves on stage. Amrisha Gill, who closed the show, received credit for her a cappella performance of "A Woman's Worth," despite a brief vocal mishap.

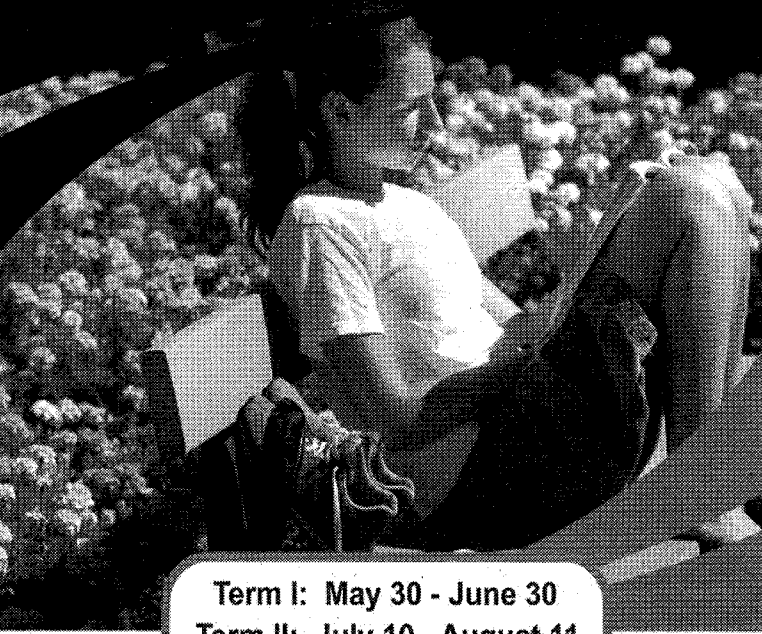
Marqita Delgado, who opted for backing music on her rendition of "Hero," yielded the most praise for her stage presence, and succeeded in delivering one of the most upbeat and professional work of the day. The competition's only male, Michael O'Brien, received praise for his vocal control on, "In the Still of the Night," with one judge saying, "Your control is absolutely amazing." O'Brien has auditioned for the "Idol" TV show once in the past, and the judge from Idol Magazine encouraged him to try again. Stephanie Meng performed the "Colors of the Wind," from Disney's "Pocahontas." Although she nailed most of the song, the few moments, during the chorus, when the song crept out of her range tarnished her review.

Two of the most captivating performances of the afternoon were courtesy of Kristen DeRosso and Michelle Schroeder, who were accompanied by their acoustic guitars. DeRosso won the judges praise for executing an original song, "Here with You." The judge from American Idol magazine was so impressed with the folksy pop tune that she advised DeRosso to send her work to a record label. Schroeder, singing from

Continued on Page 4

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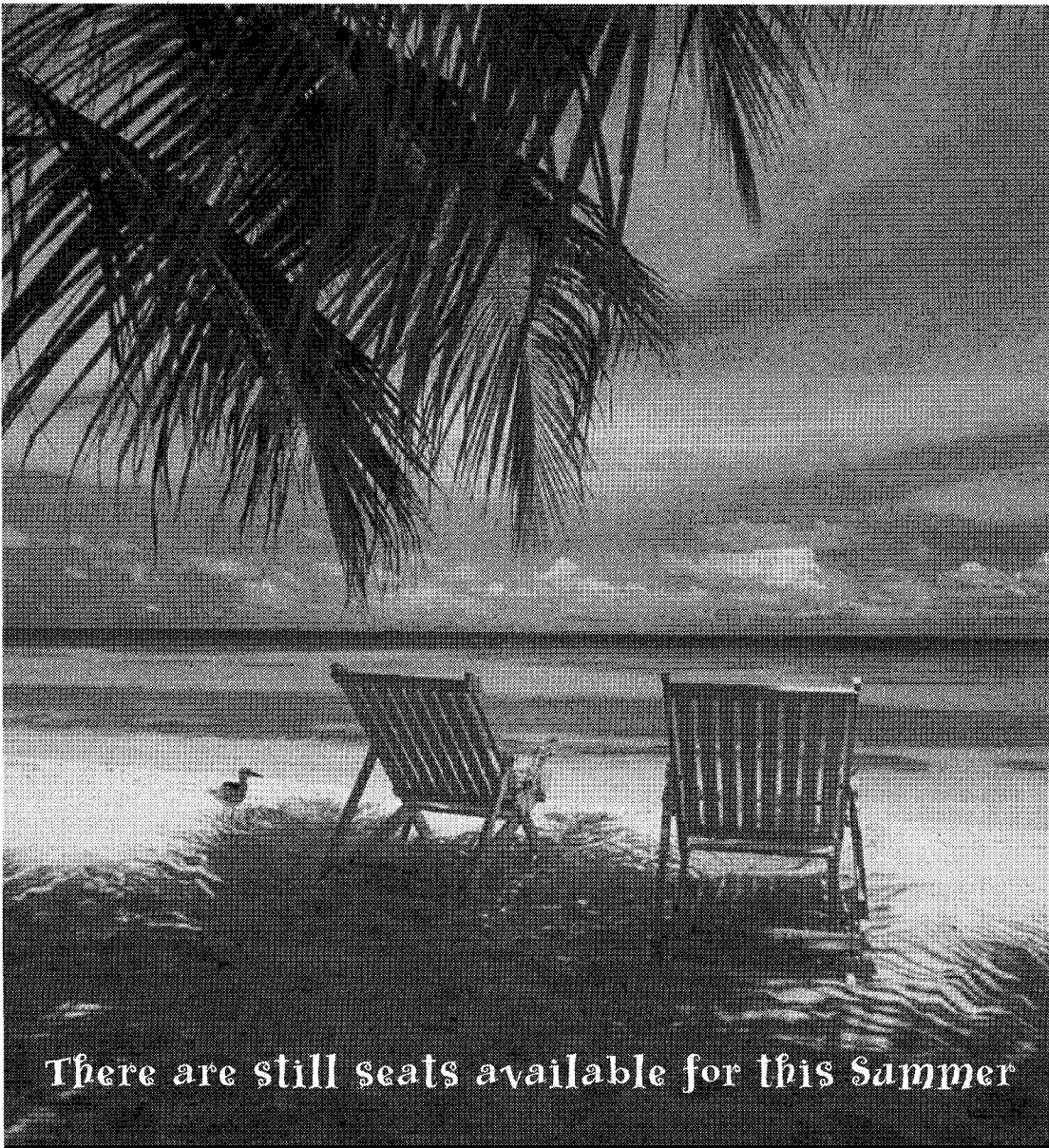
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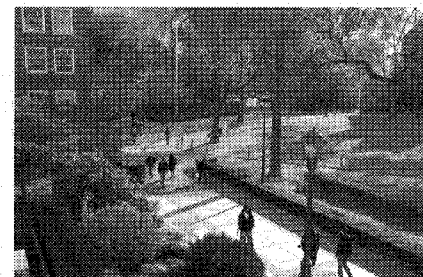
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Pataki Vetoes Funding for Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)

By STEPHEN CHEN
Staff Writer

Governor George E. Pataki flexed his executive powers, making 202 vetoes to the legislature's state budget. The vetoes cut funding for public programs across the state, including support for higher education.

The original state legislature budget was described by a New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) as "[The] best budget for higher education in a generation" in a news release. "It was the most student friendly budget in a decade," said Kate Contino, NYPIRG project coordinator at Stony Brook. "It was awesome." The budget would have increased funding for Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) and would have restored the governors TAP cuts. The budget would also have provided an additional \$167 million for SUNY and CUNY operating aid.

Governor Pataki's vetoes stop an additional \$119.5 million in funding for TAP. The governor's vetoes mean that students have to take 15 credits rather than 12 to qualify for TAP awards. A student enrolled with 14 or fewer credits would receive a 20% reduction to their TAP award. Colleges would also have to pre-finance

TAP awards for first time applicants without high school diplomas, gaining reimbursement for the costs after the student completes 24 credits. Additionally, students in default on any federal student loans from any lender would be ineligible for TAP; presently only students that are in default loans by the Higher Education Services Corporation (HESC) are ineligible for TAP. In addition to the vetoes on TAP funding, Governor Pataki also vetoed several other funding acts, including 56.667 million for SUNY operating assistance.

"[Pataki] has the most powerful executive office in the nation," says Contino. "He has an unheard of power over the budget." Contino also says that Governor Pataki's claims of the importance of education and higher learning are not shown by his actions. "The vetoes cut the rug out from under students."

Governor Pataki has defended his vetoes, calling the budget drawn up by the legislature, "fiscally irresponsible". Governor Pataki has also found many aspects of the budget unconstitutional. Pataki has declared that he will not be running for a fourth term as governor, and is known to be considering a run for president.

As the legislature gets back from their spring break, NYPIRG is looking to gain support for overriding Gov-

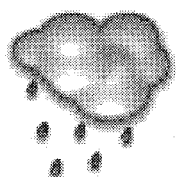
ernor Pataki's vetoes. "We're optimistic that we have enough support," says Contino. Stony Brook's NYPIRG chapter has been active in working to increase funding for higher education by several means, including post-card drives, email drives and having students traveling to Albany to argue for more funding.

Contino urges students to call, email and write to their assemblymembers and senate members. "Just a two minute call could save you [or] a brother or a sister," said Contino. "In order for this to work... your representatives need to hear from you."

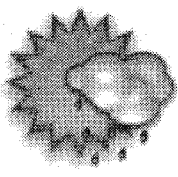
Students living on Stony Brook's campus are represented by Assembly Member Steve Englebright and Senator John J. Flanagan. Students off campus can find their assembly members on <http://assembly.state.ny.us/> and their senate members on <http://www.senate.state.ny.us/>.

Students can also request to speak with their representatives by calling 1-877-255-9417, then pressing 2 to get to the senate operator or pressing 3 to get to the assembly operator. For more information on NYPIRG you can call 1-631-632-6457, email ccontino@nypirg.org or visit their office in the basement of the Stony Brook Union, Room 079.

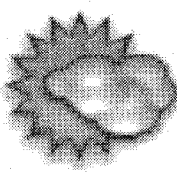
Student Forecast: April 24 - April 30 By Britta Merwin



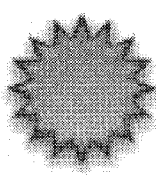
Monday:
High 64/Low 46
Overcast with a chance of rain all day.



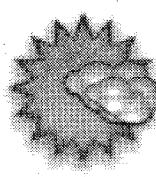
Tuesday:
High 70/Low 45
Cloudy with a possible evening shower.



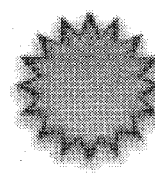
Wednesday:
High 60/Low 41
Partly cloudy with a breeze.



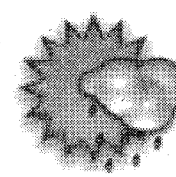
Thursday:
High 61/Low 42
Mild with lots of sun.



Friday:
High 60/Low 42
Pleasant sun with passing clouds.



Saturday:
High 62/Low 41
Mostly sunny.



Sunday:
High 64/Low 44
Nice day with a possible last afternoon April shower.

Police Blotter

Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman
4/18 - 4/21

Fireworks

On 4-18-06 at 2:22 PM, fireworks were reportedly seen at Roosevelt and Wagner College. Fireworks were gone upon arrival of the police.

Marijuana

At Hamilton College, the smell of marijuana was reported on 4-19-06 at 4:37 PM, and two students were referred to the police. At Baruch College, the smell of marijuana was reported on 4-19-06 at 6:42 PM, and four students were referred to the police.

Smoke Bomb

At Eisenhower College, a smoke bomb was reportedly thrown onto the balcony on 4-18-06 at 11:54 PM.

Thefts

On At the Computing Center Building, one paycheck was reportedly stolen on 4-19-06 at 2:45 PM.

Skateboarders

At the Math and Physics Building, three male skate-

boarders were reported and advised to leave the area on 4-19-06 at 4:19 PM.

Lost and Found

At Baruch College, a meat cleaver was found on 4-19-06 at 7:22 PM.

Suspicious Package

At the Health Sciences Center, a suspicious computer bag was reportedly seen on the thirteenth floor on 4-20-06 at 3:10 PM.

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GET INVOLVED

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:

Stony Brook Statesman
PO Box 1530
Stony Brook, NY 11790

phone: (631) 632-6479
fax: (631) 632-9128

Email us at:
comments@sbstatesman.org

To view previous issues, extra material, and to learn about how to get involved with the Statesman, visit our website at sbstatesman.org.

For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632-6480.

WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Socolian" 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.

Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman. All content Copyright 2005.

Are you good enough to sing with the best?

Continued from page 1

a chair, performed a singular version of "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," that was described by the judges as both "folksy" and "jazzy." Although one would think that her seated performance would lose her points in the way of stage presence, the sheer clarity and power of her vocals proved to be overwhelming. In the end, Schroeder was selected as the day's champion, and the recipient of a brand new iPod shuffle.

Throughout the short proceeding, the Staller lawn was abounds with students, and Wolfie, who was passing out Stony Brook t-shirts. Stony Brook Idol proved to be even more successful than most campus sporting events; the crowd was multifarious, large, and involved, clapping and cheering tirelessly throughout. Each and every singer helped to prove that Stony Brook is in possession of a level of talent and personality thought uncharacteristic of such an infamously stark and studious school. The Shirley Strum Kenny Arts festival will continue throughout the week. For more information, visit <http://www.sunysb.edu/sb/artsfest/>.



Kristen DeRosso performed a song that she wrote herself. Will James / Statesman

SBU PULSE: Donors Honored

Continued from page 1

public sources.

A recipient of a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy from the University of Texas, King joins the SBU community from the University of Colorado Foundation, where served as the Senior Vice President for Development and the Vice President of Corporate and Foundation Relations and Development Services.

NYC Gala to Honor Benefactors

Erwin and Cary Staller, longtime contributors to Stony Brook University's development, will be honored at the Stars of Stony Brook Gala on Wednesday, May 3, to take place at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan. This recognition of past generosity paves the way for SBU's formal celebration of its fiftieth anniversary this fall.

The Staller Center for the Arts was financed, in large part, by a \$2 million contribution from the Staller family. Both Erwin and Cary Staller are members of SBU's Board of Trustees.

The Stars of Stony Brook Gala is a major fundraising event, and has been credited as a significant factor in the roughly \$2.8 million increase in monetary awards available to students from 2000 to 2005.

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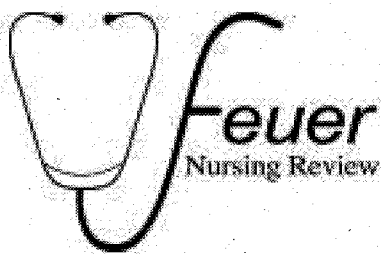
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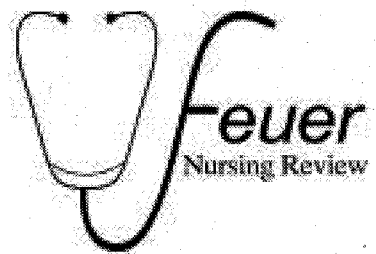
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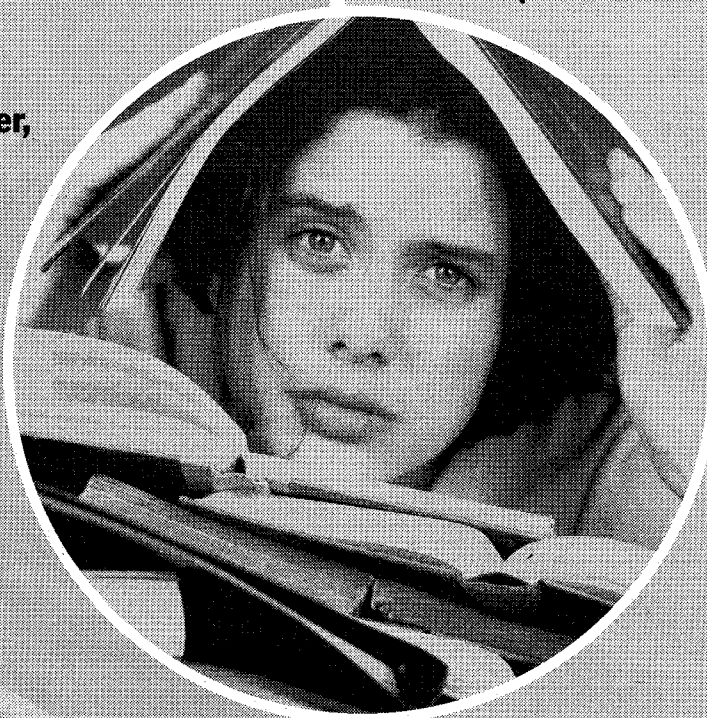
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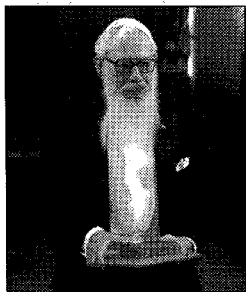
* To receive the \$150 sign-on bonus, a student must start work on September 1st and work daily through September 4th (Labor Day Weekend), remain employed with Campus Dining Services for a minimum of 10 consecutive weeks through November 10th, and work at least 100 hours during this time.

For information:

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Stony Brook *In Vogue*

One Step Ahead

By AMY DRAGANI
Staff Writer

The hottest footwear for the spring varies from casual flats, simple flip flops, and super sexy (super high) heels and wedges!

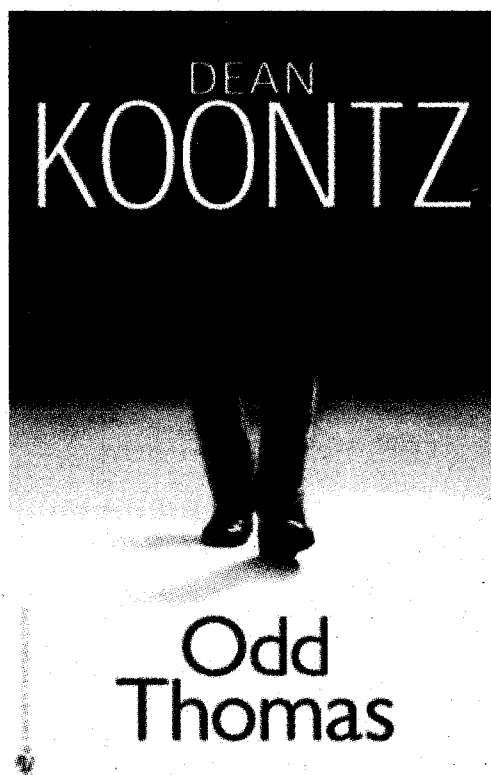
Flats for this season have evolved from last year's styles. Last year featured the slipper: thin, possibly backless, with a great deal of color and sparkle. This season simplicity is the key: solid colors, comfortable fabrics and easy-to-wear materials. An adorable pair of flats can be found everywhere from DSW to Macy's to Payless. DSW carries a line of Keds (yes, Keds as in the barely there white shoes you wore with leggings and a sweatshirt on gym days in elementary school) called Grasshoppers. They are laceless and made of a somewhat sturdy canvas. Keds makes them in a variety of colors and a few prints as well. These flats are a little bit more conservative-perfect for a casual spring skirt or dress. Only word of advice: these particular flats require a bit of "breaking in" time. Sturdy canvas is a colorful way of saying "these shoes are really tight", so be patient.

The New York Times Style section featured an article about the unbelievable height for this season's heels. 5 1/2 to 6 inch heels seems to be the magic formula for the runway. Manolo Blahnik, Louis Vuitton and Chris-

tian Louboutin are just a few of the high fashion names blossoming this spring with new heel styles. Wedges are another heel trend for the spring. Wedges are different than platforms in that they're heel is just as height is just as distinguished as a classic heel, in other words you're foot is still on an incline. I love closed-toe wedges for a classy look (perhaps for the office or for formal wear). The closed toe creates a look very different from the traditional heel and can provide more comfort (usually the toe of a wedge shoe is more rounded, no squished feet!). I found gorgeous wedges once again at DSW Shoe Warehouse running for less than \$100.00. But this is a popular trend so styles can be found at department stores locally.

Lastly, flip flops are just a must-have. Why? Because when your feet are tired (from the stilettos, wedges and flats) they need a rest. What is better than a comfortable, soft, perfect flip! There aren't too many guidelines for the flip-make sure you have a good fit and make sure they are comfortable (some flips pinch). You can buy flip flops practically anywhere-Abercrombie, H&M, Forever 21, American Eagle, Walmart,-there are even more expensive styles like Rainbows (about \$40-\$50). So, go out find your favorite flip in your favorite colors and rock on.

Get Your Read On:



ODD THOMAS
(399 PGS)

BY
DEAN KOONTZ

PUBLISHED:
2003

By JEREMY FALLETTA
Senior Australian Correspondent

Although Dean Koontz is often regarded as a second-rate Stephen King, this columnist must beg to differ, today. While King's work is often far more horrific, Koontz offers an unsurpassed element of the macabre which, combined with his considerable flexibility as a writer, makes his work just as enchanting as the author of *It* and *The Shining*. In *Odd Thomas*, Koontz brings us a narrator so unforgettable that he has recently published a sequel, *Forever Odd*, claiming that it was entirely necessary to write more about him.

Odd Thomas is a young, unremarkable man from a small town. He stresses that he is not a celebrity, nor is he in any way affiliated with any celebrities, or have any hopes of becoming a celebrity. However, he can see dead people. With the help of the local police chief, a charming 400-pound recluse named "Little Ozzy" and Stormy Llewellyn, who he "love[s] more than life," he helps the dead let go of their former lives and move on to the afterlife. What's cool is that this book makes *The Sixth Sense* look cheesy by comparison.

In the beginning, Odd informs the reader that he is writing at the behest of Little Ozzy, who has asked him to write down "what happened." He says, "For reasons that will become obvious, this manuscript cannot be published during my lifetime, and my effort will not be repaid with royalties while I'm alive." He also says that there is a certain amount of trickery going on, which "has to do largely with the tense of certain verbs." He claims to be unreliable as a narrator, but in doing

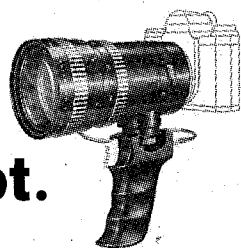
so, seems to be just the opposite.

Odd wins the reader over with the simple way he has about him. He is honest about his ability to see the dead, but he claims no special treatment because of it. "Although I employ no sleight of hand, though what I offer is truth glimpsed by supernatural means, I am aware not only of the magician's vulnerability, but also of the danger of being the boy who cried wolf." Aside from his easygoing, truthful nature, he is deeply in love with Stormy Llewellyn, which we as readers (or listeners! The audio book is *fantastic*!) hear about at great length. Odd's prose is exceedingly elegant and will make you long for someone to love you like Odd loves Stormy.

Koontz does an excellent job with describing environments, particularly those that are outdoors. The book takes place in the desert, so he has plenty of material to work with. There is continuous mention of the intolerable heat in Pico Mundo, and he paints a picture of the sun setting in your mind with tremendous skill. After reading a couple of his novels, I can firmly say that Dean Koontz is here to stay. He is also remarkably prolific, having written over 30 novels so far.

Now, I know I haven't told you what the book is about, but I've been hoping you'll have enough by now to go and check it out. If I start talking about the plot, I'm afraid I might give something away, and I don't want that to happen. I will say that if you like what you've read so far, you won't be disappointed by the rest of it. It's almost 400 pages long, so it might take you a couple-few weeks to read, but you'll probably want to go and pick up *Forever Odd* when you're done.

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MUSIC FOR GROWN-UPS

Springsteen Channels Seeger, Reinvents Folk Music

By MICHAEL KIMMEL
Contributing Writer

Bruce Springsteen: *We Shall Overcome – The Seeger Sessions* (Columbia).

I grew up listening to Pete Seeger. The first concert I went to in my life was a children's concert at Carnegie Hall in 1957.

And then at every single anti-war rally and protest march of the 60's and 70's, there was Pete, his hearty baritone soaring above his plunking banjo, still singing what I then thought were all those dorky folk songs. Going to college only a few miles from his home, he was a regular fixture at Vassar coffeehouses, and as the

music critic for the campus paper, I came to know and admire him even more.

Bruce Springsteen has inherited the mantle of American folk troubadour – first, from Woody Guthrie with *The Ghost of Tom Joad*, a hauntingly angry acoustic album of plaintive urgency about the plight of the common person, and now from Seeger with the release of *We Shall Overcome – The Seeger Sessions* (Columbia).

Not content to have been the virtual inventor of the classic arena-rock sound, Springsteen is also a folkie: he has always sung about the sad plight of the near-forgotten working man, his big band sound playing against his depressingly pained lyrics. "So much of my writing,

particularly when I write acoustically, come straight out of the folk tradition," Springsteen says.

When Springsteen worked up a version of "We Shall Overcome" for a Seeger tribute album a couple of years ago, he realized that much of Seeger's work remained vital and relevant today, and that many of America's timeless folk songs still had some political clout.

On this album, he's revisited some of Seeger's best loved songs, revised them, appropriated them, made them his own. And, in so doing, he's given them back to us.

But where Seeger used folk music to unite people all over the world, Springsteen's impulse is more like Guthrie's,

to use music to divide us, as a weapon of the weak, to further class struggle, to give voice to the voiceless. Seeger sang in other languages, creating a universal musical United Nations, but Springsteen's versions of "Old Dan Tucker," or "Mrs McGrath" or "My Oklahoma Home" are angrier, more raucous folkie renditions, more Pogues and Guthrie as Peter, Paul and Mary.

The result is powerful – these songs become both personal statements and cultural artifacts. And while I don't imagine my kid sitting around a campfire with Bruce strumming on the ol' banjo, I can see us all listening again – and anew – to the songs that have been the soundtrack to America's history.

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4:00 PM

Closing Remarks, Deputy Provost Mark Aronoff
SAC Ballroom A

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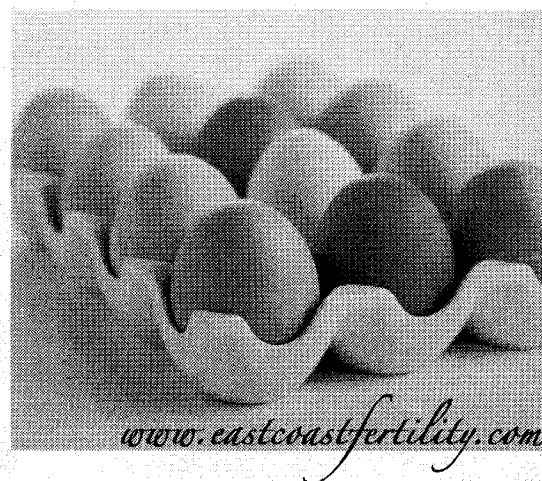
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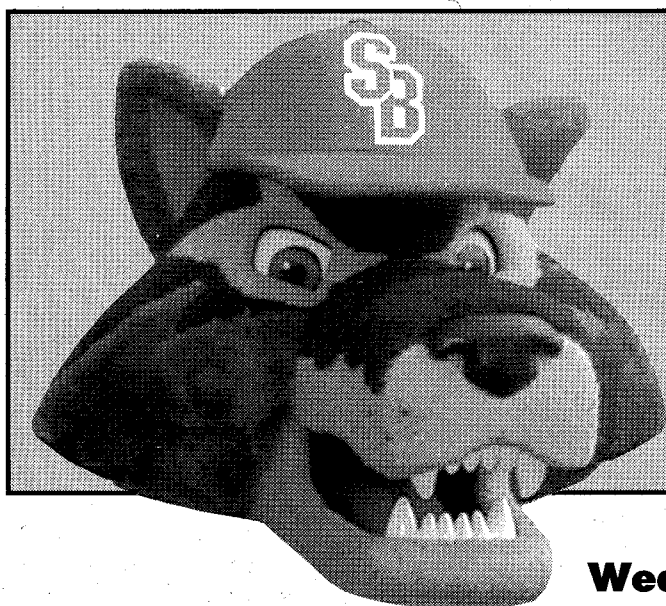
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SPORTS

Stony Brook Wins a Pair — Over Hartford —



Stony Brook, N.Y. - The Stony Brook baseball team swept a doubleheader on a soggy Saturday afternoon at University Field. The Seawolves utilized a pair of walk-off singles to claim both one run victories. Isidro Fortuna delivered the walk-off single in Game 1 as the Seawolves won 5-4 and then Tom Pennino ripped a walk-off single in Game 2 to lift Stony Brook to the 4-3 win. With the two wins the Seawolves improve to 14-20 on the year and 6-4 in America East play.

In Game 1, the Hawks opened up the scoring in the top of the first inning when they took advantage of a Seawolf error to plate an unearned run and jump to the early 1-0 lead. Stony Brook answered in the bottom of the frame, when Andres Perez scored on a Fortuna RBI ground-out to even the score at 1-1.

Hartford would reclaim the lead in the top of the third, when Frank Cippola belted the RBI double to plate Bryan Propst.

Stony Brook scored three runs in the fifth inning to grab a 4-2 lead, which started with a Perez bases loaded walk. Chris Sipp followed with an RBI bunt single and the Seawolves tacked on their third run of the inning when Perez scored off of a Hartford mishap in the field.

With two-outs in the seventh, Hartford strung together a rally, scoring a pair of runs off of three consecutive hits.

The Seawolves responded in the bottom of the seventh, when Fortuna ripped a single through the infield to score Perez and give Stony Brook the 5-4 win in Game 1.

Perez finished Game 1 with three runs and an RBI on a 2-for-3 performance, Sipp went 3-for-5 with an RBI and Fortuna went 1-for-3 with a pair of RBI. Gary Novakowski (3-1) picked up the win for Stony Brook.

In Game 2, the Seawolves jumped to an early 1-0 lead in the first when Perez led off the inning with a single, stole second and later scored on a wild pitch.

Hartford added three runs in the second, when they strung together three hits and took advantage of two Stony Brook errors.

The Seawolves evened things up by scoring two runs in the bottom of the third when Tom Pennino drove in Sipp with an RBI ground-out to shortstop and Fortuna crossed the plate when Rob Leonard reached base on a Hartford error.

The game remained tied through regulation and headed into the tenth all knotted up at 4.

In the top of the tenth inning, Hartford had runners on-second and third with nobody out following a Brady Stoufer lead-off single and a defensive miscue for Stony Brook. Stony Brook head coach Matt Senk called Nick Abel in from the bullpen, who struck out three straight batters to end the Hartford threat and take the game to the bottom of the tenth.

In the bottom of the frame, the Seawolves had Perez on third with one out. Hartford elected to intentionally walk Fortuna to face Pennino. Pennino delivered Stony Brook's second walk-off hit in as many games as the senior ripped a pitch to the left-field fence and Perez crossed the plate with the game winning run.

Novakowski threw 7.1 innings of shutout baseball for the Seawolves, striking out six in a no-decision. Nick Abel (2-1) picked up the win, striking out all three batters he faced in the tenth. Perez fueled the offense again, going 2-for-5 with a pair of runs scored. Pennino finished the second game going 2-for-5 with two RBI and Sipp was 1-for-3 with a run scored.

The Seawolves will return to action on Tuesday when they hit the road for a single game at St. Francis (N.Y.) for a non-conference game. First pitch is scheduled for 3:30 P.M.

Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics