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Newsday Was WRONG, SBUMC Defends.



SBUMC hosts Town Hall Meeting to rectify false allegations made by newspapers.

Tejas Gawade/ Statesman

BY TEJAS GAWADE
Editor-in-Chief

The Stony Brook Medical School hosted a Town Hall Meeting on September 11. This was to inform the Stony Brook community about the infant deaths at the hospital and the resulting probes. The meeting was led by Dr. Richard Fine, Dean of the School of Medicine; Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, President of the University; Dr. William Greene, physician at the Hospital; and Fred Sganga, Interim CEO of the Hospital. The meeting took the form of a formal presentation by Dr. Fine and Dr. Greene, followed by a question and answer session.

The meeting began with introductory remarks by President Kenny. Dr. Fine then discussed the medical details of the three cases surrounding the controversy. The cases include the death of 11-month-old Amee Martin, 6-year-old Tyler Poole, and a 23-week-old premature infant. According to Dr. Fine, the premature infant "was on 2

drugs and suffered from kidney, and liver failure. [The infant] also had a systemic infection." He said that the child was scheduled for litigation on July 5, but never received corrective surgery in time.

Dr. Fine said that the death of the 3 children was not connected to the pediatric cardiac surgery program as stated in Newsday. He also said that "Newsday, in multiple articles, has [wrongly] connected the three children with the pediatric cardiac surgery program, and with each other."

Dr. Fine also updated the largely faculty-composed audience about the ongoing investigations. He said that the Center for Medicaid and Medicare and the Department of Health conducted 5 day investigations. The Department of Health investigation was "very thorough, including two neonatal ICU's (Intensive Care Units), PDA's (Patent Ductus Arteriosus), and litigation cases." PDA is a condition where the normal channel between the pulmonary

artery and the aorta fails during infancy.

Dr. Fine then passed the podium to Dr. Greene, who as overseer of the Hospital's administrative affairs, delved deeper into the success rate of the Hospital's medical facilities. The audience was presented with a presentation and a print out highlighting the SBUMC's (Stony Brook University Medical Center) low mortality rate compared to other comparable facilities in UHC (University Hospitals Consortium). The Hospital, as a level 3, has an overall mortality rate of 0.623 (19 expired cases per 3,048 patients). Its peer hospitals have a rate of 1.731, while the overall UHC rate is 1.41.

Dr. Greene also mentioned that the Department of Health will end its investigation on September 12. The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JACO) found minor issues, which the Hospital will be rectifying. In conclusion, Dr. Greene said

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CAMPUS-WIDE SMOKING BAN PROPOSED

BY WILL JAMES
News Editor

On August 28th, The Campus Environment Committee came to the University Senate with a suggestion to implement a campus-wide smoking ban that would take effect in no less than three years. The proposed plan is facing energetic opposition from campus clubs like the Graduate Student Organization and NYPIRG.

Existing campus policy does not allow for smoking within a certain distance of the entrances of facilities. New York State law prohibits smoking within buildings.

The Campus Environment Committee's proposal suggests that smoking should be limited

only to pre-designated areas on campus, beginning this semester. It continues, though, to say that a total ban on smoking should be implemented within three years.

According to the recommendation, "A ban on all smoking resolves two problems within the existing policy; the varied size of the non-smoking radius at campus entrances (15 feet versus 50 feet), and the problems associated with smoking-related litter." Secondly, a campus-wide ban on smoking would help the university negotiate lower health insurance premiums for faculty, staff, and students, says the proposal.

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Measuring Satisfaction on a New Level

BY SARAH MALLIK
Contributing Writer

On a scale of 1 to 10, how satisfied are you with your life? If you have ever taken a survey, you may have been asked this question. What factors did you consider when you answered this? Did you consider how much money you have, how educated you are, or how happy you are with your relationships? Did you compare yourself to others?

Or did you answer the question positively because you were in a great mood after receiving an A on your test that day? Many aspects of your life probably influenced your answer to the question.

Stony Brook's Dr. Arthur A. Stone, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor and Vice-Chairman of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science, suggests that problems arise when researchers use general questions such as these to measure a person's happiness or satisfaction.

Dr. Stone wonders, "When people answer these questions, are they really happy with their lives or are they just happier at that moment?" A single answer to these general or global questions may inaccurately reflect a person's happiness. In an effort to "develop new ways of getting

Continued on page 3

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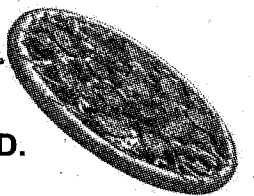
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Town Hall Meeting Sheds Light on Hospital Matters

HOSPITAL MORTALITY RATES

Average for Level 3 Facility	Stony Brook University Medical Center*	Comparable Facilities (Univ. Consortium)
1.731	0.623	1.41
*SBUMC mortality rate is based on 19 deaths per 3048 cases.		

Statistics presented by Dr. Greene at Town Hall Meeting.

Data Presented by SBUMC

Continued from page 1

"we provide the highest healthcare, especially when compared with institutions of higher learning."

On September 18, reviewers from MAGNA will be visiting the Hospital. The Hospital has applied for MAGNA status, an honor only 4% of all hospitals attain. Long Island alone has only 2 hospitals with such a designation, one of which recently lost it. The Chair of the Blue Ribbon Commission, one of the several investigative panels, will be visiting the Hospital on the same day.

The hour long meeting ended with a speech by the new Interim CEO, Fred Sganga. This was followed by a question and answer session. One of the audience members brought up the "irresponsible" way in which Newsday has presented the Hospital. She asked "is there something we can do to put pressure

on these newspapers?" Dr. Kenny responded to this by saying "my husband had triple bypass surgery [at the Hospital]. The care and excellence of all staff is amazing. [The staff] knows that medical procedures are about families and patients."

In response to one Dr. Fine saying that "we as an institution are the repository for all children in Suffolk, disproportionately." He also said that the Hospital has maintained complete transparency. He said that Amee Martin's mother, Judee Martin, was informed about the medical details causing her daughter's death in the presence of her attorney and a close family friend.

The meeting ended with an audience member raising the concern that "having good facts does not solve the problem." Dr. Kenny responded to this by saying that "if something is wrong, we fix it. If something is not wrong, we rest the rumors."

SMOKING BAN DRAWS CONCERN

Continued from page 1

The recommendation continues to say, "Along with the development of wellness programs the continuing tolerance of any smoking behaviors can no longer be justified."

At Tuesday night's Undergraduate Student Government Senate meeting, NYPIRG representative Cheryl Lynch came forward with a resolution authored by the Graduate Student Organization. The resolution suggests that a total, campus-wide smoking ban would illegally violate the rights of students, faculty, and staff. It continues to say that a smoking ban would decrease the daily efficiency of smokers within the student body and faculty, and that the proposed plan offers no viable means of enforcement.

The resolution concludes by saying, "Be it further resolved that in order to reduce the possibility of second-hand smoking on said campus, the University should allocate the necessary resources and take the necessary steps in enforcing the already-existing policy, which prohibits smoking within 15 feet from the entrance to buildings."

Continued on page 12

Money Brings Happiness? NOT TRUE, Says Stone

Continued from page 1

at how people experience life," Dr. Stone, in collaboration with other professors from Princeton University and the University of Michigan, has developed new and improved techniques which he has used in his recent research.

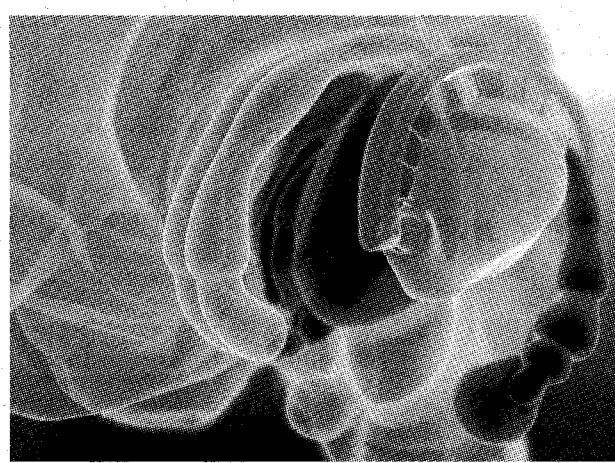
For years, Dr. Stone and his colleagues worked on developing technologies that would measure people's feelings but would not have the problems associated with global questions and retrospective questions. Retrospective questions ask a person about a specific period of time in the past, such as, "Over the last month, how has your pain felt?" Dr. Stone's team at Stony Brook developed the Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA), a technique that uses an electronic diary programmed to ask a person a question, such as, "How is your pain right now?" The question is asked several times a day for many days, and an average of all these answers is then calculated to yield a more accurate answer to the general

question, "Over the last month, how has your pain felt?" Dr. Stone's colleagues also developed the Daily Reconstruction Method (DRM), a technique that asks a person to reconstruct his entire day in detail so his responses can be rated. The EMA and DRM are more advanced than asking single global and retrospective questions. Global and retrospective questions reveal how a person is feeling at the moment he is asked the question, and researchers assume this answer properly reflects how he feels about life. However, Dr. Stone's new techniques take into account how a person feels at various points of time over a long interval, and the person's averaged answer is used as a measure for their overall happiness.

In June 2006, Dr. Stone's most recent research findings were published in an issue of Science. In his study, he used the EMA and the DRM to see if any connections exist between a person's wealth and his happiness. His new methods show that there is no significant difference in levels of happiness between people who have

high incomes and people who have low incomes. While other studies have supported this idea in the past, these previous studies used less accurate global and retrospective questions to measure people's satisfaction with their lives.

Dr. Stone's research is significant because it reaffirms, using new methods, that there is no significant link between money and happiness. However, even though a person's high income may not necessarily lead to happiness, Dr. Stone's research shows that people still want to increase their wealth. Dr. Stone explains this finding as the result of a focusing illusion. People tend to focus on one part of the future without considering any other aspects of the future. They look forward to becoming wealthy, but they do not realize how many aspects of their lives will not change if they do become rich in the future; they will still have the same relationships, live in a similar environment, and they may even experience more stress if they are continuously working to receive a higher income. Dr. Stone's



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study is one example of how his new techniques can be used to yield important results.

The methods Dr. Stone uses and the questions he asks about people's satisfaction "are not purely ivory tower questions ... They have a practical importance," he says. His future endeavors include applying his team's methods to a National Institute of Health \$25 million project which is creating new self-report methods in the medical system. He is also using his techniques to help develop new clinical interventions, a collaborative effort by many universities in the United States. Dr. Stone's future plans show how he is looking forward to "applying new methods for issues that have been around for a long time."

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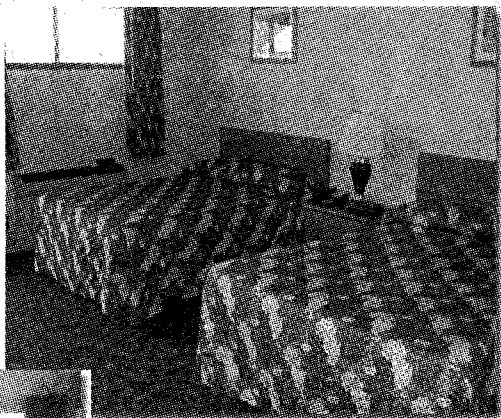
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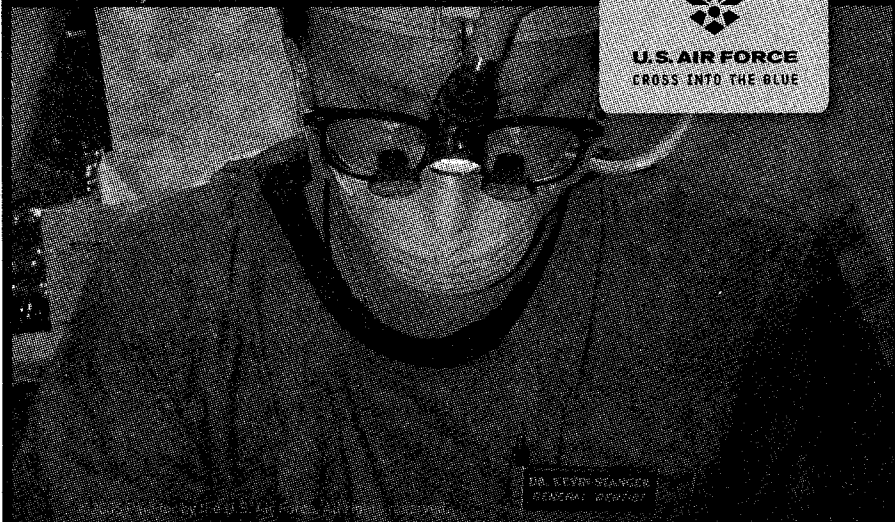
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The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucollan" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975 "The Statesman" was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student-run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography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

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I Remember ... And I Will Never Forget

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior News Analyst

Monday, September 11, 2006, marked the fifth anniversary of the devastation that was wrought upon the peoples of New York, Pennsylvania, Washington, and ultimately, the people of America. It is all too easy to revise history to paint the current American regime, the one that captivated our hearts and minds in the days after this terribly tragedy, as the saviors and bold men of this new era. ABC has done just that in that network's recent airing of "The Path to 9/11." While it may be comforting to believe that the Republican leadership is the competent hero in the face of the Democratic gang that couldn't shoot straight, it is the easy way out- I am not the one to take the easy way out. Unlike many Americans today, I read the news with a critical eye. I remember, not only the sense of admiration we all had for our president on that day five years ago, but the actions of our president since then.

There was a memorandum that reached the desk of President Bush on August 6, 2001. It was entitled "Bin Laden Determined to Strike in US." On September 11 of that year, he did. There was no cry to Congress to authorize more funds to combat terror. In fact, according to senior State Department official, in April 2001, "a senior State Department official [told] CNN the U.S. government made a mistake in focusing so much energy on bin Laden and 'personalizing terrorism'" (CNN 4/30/01). I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

The protectors of this country, the leaders of national security, met 100 times in the months that preceded September 11. Terrorism was the focus of two of those meetings (AP 6/29/01). Is that Clinton's fault? Was the specter of the previous Democratic government preventing you from properly handling your job? I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

Condoleezza Rice, then National Security Advisor, was scheduled to give a presentation on September 11, 2001, outlining threats to

this nation. Terrorism was not

on her agenda. She was to speak on "promoting missile defense as the cornerstone of a new national security strategy" (Washington Post, 4/1/04). To clarify, more than a decade after the Cold War had ended, the National Security Advisor to the President of the United States considered missile defense a "cornerstone of a new national security strategy." I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

After September 11, 2001, we fought a war in Afghanistan. Many Americans do not know that we are still fighting there. We are still fighting the Taliban. Donald Rumsfeld told Larry King on December 18, 2002, that in that Afghanistan, "the Taliban are gone. The al Qaeda are gone" (CNN 12/18/02). Opium exports are up several hundred percent since the invasion of Afghanistan. We are fighting a well-armed Taliban now, as we were in 2001. Are we winning the war on terror there? It would seem not. I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

There is no link between Al Qaeda and Saddam Hussein's regime. The CIA knew this all along, and the Senate just figured this out in a recent report it commissioned, backed by the Republican majority. And yet, time after time, as recently as this past Sunday, September 10, 2006, the Bush administration insists that there was. This is at the same time that they insist that they never made that claim. "There were ties between Iraq and Al-Qaeda," Secretary Rice told Fox News this past Sunday (Fox News 9/10/06). Vice President Dick Cheney has repeatedly uttered this lie in recent years as well. Saddam hated Al Qaeda as much as we did, for the simple reason that they threatened his regime. There was no Al Qaeda in Iraq before the American occupation. I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

It is now the year 2006. We check less than 5% of shipments that enter our shores. This government gave permission for a Middle Eastern-based company to take over American ports not one year ago. Our food and water supplies are left grossly unguarded.

A tiny fraction of the money spent on airport security made its way to mass transit security, per capita, leaving cities like New York vulnerable to further devastation. This is not on the Democratic watch. This is on your watch, Bush. I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

As many as six million illegal immigrants entered this country through our porous border with Mexico. That constitutes 5% of the total population of this country- they came in under the leadership of George W. Bush. When these illegal immigrants come in, without documentation and background checks, with the possibility of belonging to terror organizations, they write down false SSNs to obtain employment. At the end of each fiscal year, Bush's Treasury issues these illegals what is known as a Tax ID for the express purpose of allowing these men and women to file tax returns and get checks from the government. When law enforcement and the INS asks for the name and addresses of these people, they are denied that request. When you or I, as citizens of this country, are under investigation, this information is handed over without delay. I remember that, Mr. President. And I will never forget.

Citizens like me pose a threat to men like the president. We read the news and remember history as it happened. I am immune, I would like to believe, to the revisions and lies that are foisted upon us by trusted sources, who promise a fair, balanced, and accurate reporting of events as they unfold. As you finish reading this, I hope it leaves you unsettled about the current regime that has dominated American politics since the dawn of the 21st century. In the words of MSNBC anchor Keith Olbermann, one of the few journalists with a voice, "When those who dissent are told time and time again, as we will be, if not tonight by the president, then tomorrow by his portable public chorus, that he is preserving our freedom, but if we use any of that freedom, then we are somehow un-American; when we are scolded that if we merely question, we have forgotten the lessons of 9/11."

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USG ELECTIONS THIS NOVEMBER!

By ESAM AL-SHAREFFI
USG Senate Recording Secretary

Dear Editor,

I was a bit tired this afternoon. So, I decided to lie down on my raised pillow, enjoy the warmth and comfort of my bed with my feet neatly tucked under the sheets, and began to continue reading the original "Dracula," which although it was required text for one of my classes, had by now absorbed me greatly and I was reading for pleasure.

I kept the door open to let some air in and spent a few minutes enthralled with the Dr. Van Helsing and the gang going about curing the world from the "Un-Dead." Just then, a fairly animated conversation in the suite's common room had started to attract my attention, and with voices being raised yet higher, I began to ignore my book and concentrate on the discussion, which went something like this: Female voice (squeaky and whining): "I hate Bush."

It is people like Bush who make this world a terrible place. They let evil people like Cheney do whatever the hell they want as long as he looks good. What does he care? He doesn't care if the environment goes to the dogs or about poor people, because he's not one of them." Male voice (high pitched): "No. It's Cheney. He's the one with the evil ideas. We have to stop him!" and on and on it went.

And so I was being treated to an asinine discussion regarding who was worse, VP Cheney or President Bush, with their "evil" plans and all that. To be fair, had I been in

the company of others, I could have also had the honor to hear an equally animated discussion about "those f--king liberals" and their plans to do everything from legalizing same-sex marriage to "killing babies." Enough already!

It is no longer the rare idiot who is fanatically "blue" or "red," and it seems as if the political parties have found some way of making their foolish followers believe that they are saving democracy by bashing the other parties and exaggerating their agendas.

In reality, most people in the world are "purple", we all have liberal and conservative tendencies, favor moderate courses and do not believe that democracy is best when one group gets its way on every issue while the other is completely ignored. Democracy is not the "tyranny of the majority" nor should we spend most of our time debating what is minutia, leaving the important questions unresolved and unnoticed.

In life, we care about getting a good education, finding decent jobs, having adequate and affordable medical care, eventually getting a house of our own and perhaps a family to go with it, and to live in relative freedom and security, minding our own business and carrying on with our lives. Unfortunately, the political situation in this country has gotten to the point where conservatives have been fooled into caring more about unborn fetuses than about the starving poor, and more about teaching religious fundamentals and displaying the "Ten Commandments" rather than living

by their example and carrying out a moral and caring life.

Liberals for their part have forgotten the essential message of liberalism, which is leaving people to be free and independent in their own affairs, and have instead created a culture of no self-responsibility and have tried at every turn to expand government and its influence on our lives instead of tearing it away as much as possible. They care more about the well being of terror suspects than they do about the security and well being of their country.

Politics today is merely a horror show of extreme ideologies and the politics of division, fear, and paranoia, instead of unity, rational debate, and understanding. Sadly, for as long as people continue to support the Republican and Democratic parties, this atmosphere will continue and will only become more acrid. Politicians today are so secure of their positions that they now do whatever they wish, without fear of reprimand or oversight by the people whom they allegedly serve, as they draw their own gerrymandered districts, essentially carving out their own electorates and ensuring their positions for decades.

Not only do our two venerable parties pick their own constituencies, but their elites decide amongst themselves on who their candidates are, taking for granted that their party faithful will merely rubber stamp their decision and as a result those who are elected do not truly represent "the people" and their interests, but rather merely the whims and affairs of their own

party.

With pusillanimous (spineless) politicians owing their gilded government seats to corrupt party elite who raise funds for them, draw favorable districts for them to "lead" and campaign on their behalf, is it any wonder that the average voter is relegated to the dustbin and that our leaders are indebted to special interests, whose intent and policy is completely antagonistic to that of the average voter?

The only check on this monstrous situation is to resort to the power of the people to check their government. I am not asking you to put on a Guy Fawkes mask and rise up, "V for Vendetta" style, but merely to take seriously your duty to vote by researching all of the candidates (an easy task with the power of google and with candidates all too willing to get your vote by giving you information,) and most importantly to consider every decision you make, free of fear and coercion from the government and from those whose interests are not your own.

Happy voting this November!

Respectfully yours,
Esam Al-Shareffi

P.S. NYPIRG is an excellent resource on this campus to get you to register to vote. They are nonpartisan and are only too willing to help you register. You can find their office in the Union Basement, next to the SINC site. Now go vote and make a difference, before I move to Canada.

Calling All to Action: Environmental Activists Unite!

By CHERYL LYNCH
NYPIRG, Vice Chairperson

Student leaders from the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) called on the Long Island State Senate delegation yesterday, to pass legislation to update New York's bottle bill when they return to Albany this week for special session. Students from the NYPIRG chapters at Stony Brook University, Old Westbury College and Nassau Community College participated in the news conference at the Mineola Press Room.

The Bigger Better Bottle Bill (A.2517/S.1290), sponsored by Assemblyman Thomas P. DiNapoli (D-Great Neck) and Senator Kenneth LaValle (R-Selden), updates New York's 5-cent deposit law to include non-carbonated beverages like bottled water and iced tea. It also requires beverage companies to return unclaimed deposits to the state to fund recycling and other environmental protection programs.

The New York State Assembly passed the Bigger Better Bottle Bill by a two-to-one margin in May, with strong bipartisan support from the Long Island delegation.

But it has never been voted on in the Senate because of opposition from Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno (R-Albany). Senator Carl Marcellino (R-Syosset), who chairs the Senate Environmental Conservation Committee, has refused to put it on a committee agenda.

"This is not rocket science, it's just common sense," said Scott Zotto, Stony Brook Project Coordinator for NYPIRG. "The bottle bill is New York's most effective recycling and litter prevention program. Updating the bottle bill will make our communities cleaner and provide more support for recycling. The Senate should pass this bill when they return to Albany tomorrow, and Long Island senators should lead the way."

"Each year the Senate fails to close the 'litter loophole,' more than two billion bottles and cans end up in the garbage or polluting our beaches and communities," said Matthew Abrahams Project Leader for SB NYPIRG. "Our Long Island State Senators must send a strong message to Joe Bruno that this bill needs to get passed as soon as possible."

"Voters have a right to know where their

elected officials stand on vital issues such as this," said Odilka Santiago. "If Long Island Senators can't deliver the Bigger Better Bottle Bill this week, they should pledge their support for passage of the bill next year."

According to a new analysis prepared by the Container Recycling Institute (CRI) that was published on August 30th, about 8 billion beer and soda containers, or about 80% of those sold, were recycled last year through the state's bottle bill and curbside recycling programs (70% through the bottle bill, and the remaining 10% through curbside recycling programs). In contrast, only about 68 million water bottles and other non-deposit beverage containers were recycled, or about 22% of the 3.1 billion sold.

Litter surveys in New York have consistently documented that non-deposit bottles and cans litter beaches and waterways twice as often as those with the nickel deposit, despite making up less than 25% of the beverage market.

According to CRI's new analysis, most of the non-carbonated beverages sold in New York are packaged in plastic bottles. Recycling just 70% of these plastic bottles

each year would:

- o Keep 64,000 tons of plastic out of landfills and incinerators
- o Save almost 600,000 barrels of crude oil equivalent
- o Reduce greenhouse gases by 20,000 metric tons of carbon equivalent

Here's what you can do. Call Senator John Flanagan's office and leave a message for Senator Flanagan urging him to pass the Bigger Better Bottle Bill (S.1290) this Friday or if the Senate leadership fails to bring this bill up for a vote on Friday, urge him to pledge his support for the Bigger Better Bottle Bill prior to the November elections.

THAT'S NOT ALL: Join NYPIRG's team of volunteers as they participate in the American Littoral Society's 21st annual Beach Cleanup this Saturday, September 16th from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM.

For more information about this issue or to sign up for the beach cleanup, call the NYPIRG office at 632.6457. Shuttles will depart beginning at 1:30 PM from the stadium lot just behind the Stony Brook Union.

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University Convocation

Join President Shirley Strum Kenny
for the annual
University Convocation and
State of the University Address.

★
Wednesday, September 20, 2006
4:00 pm
Staller Center Main Stage
★

*All students, faculty, and staff are invited to attend.
Refreshments immediately following in
the Staller Center Lobby and outdoor Terraces.*



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V R R O O M !



Courtesy of carpictures.com

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Car Analyst

While Benz, in Germany, may have invented the automobile, it is distinctly American, as an art form, cultural symbol, and economic staple. Could the French have ever built the Mustang? Have the Spanish ever come close to our GTO? I think not. Americans took the concept of the horseless carriage and made it a thing of beauty, and it is up to us to once again regain our rightful place as the King of the Hill, so to speak, without having to rely on European intervention. It's just plain un-American.

I could only imagine what it would be like to travel back in time to 1960 and tell the Ford family that their company was in shambles, begging to be overtaken by a French automaker. My vision is that I would be tarred and feathered for such a suggestion, and rightfully so. For those of you who don't follow the auto field so closely, Renault, which owns Nissan, is currently in talks with GM regarding a merger. Ford wants in on this action, as former CEO Bill Ford went so far as to ask Carlos Ghosn, CEO of Renault, to take his job. The worst part of all of this is that many analysts agree that a merger between an American auto giant, either GM or Ford, and Renault isn't a bad idea. That's why I believe that analysts know nothing.

The focus of this article will be on a few basic steps that Ford can take to regain its position as Number 2 auto maker in the world. GM, I believe, is a far more complicated story, and is in some ways beyond help. GM's love affair with Europe and the East has too severely compromised its ability or will to build American cars for American consumption, as we can see by Opel's rise and Saturn's demise. Therefore, Ford gets my special treatment.

Step 1: Fire Your Design Staff

There must be literally hundreds to thousands of design students coming out of college every year these days. Even I, though I can't draw to save my life, could design a car that is more appealing than the Ford Freestyle or the Ford 500. Seriously, though, what were you guys thinking? At what point in the design or production processes did you say, "A bland station wagon! This is going to sell like hotcakes!"? As far as I'm concerned, the men and women responsible for such travesties are lucky to only be fired, and not sued for tarnishing the good name of the Ford Motor Company.

To reference my earlier article regarding design and Ford, don't be afraid to be bold. People buy your Mustang and they buy your F-150, two great looking automobiles. I can see the company trying to break out of its shell with some great concepts for the Lincoln brand, but more needs to be done immediately. It's gotten so bad that the Asian cars are getting the leg up on styling, especially Hyundai, Nissan, and even Toyota.

Step 2: Bolster and Consolidate Your Engine Design Teams

Why do you guys build a dozen V8s, and only a couple of them are good performers? The same goes for your V6s and I4s. Jaguar's 4.7-liter V8 is a bit too underpowered for it to compete with BMW, while the Mustang 5.0-liter is one of the best in its class. It's time to follow Daimler-Chrysler's lead

and do a bit of engine consolidation. That means only having three to five engines to choose from, plus variations that include hybrids and turbos.

Take all of your V8 design people and assign them to make a Hemi-killer. Give it a catchy name, like the Ford Bullet (that name just stands out for me, for some reason). It should produce at least 350 horses with a similar rating for torque. Invest in cylinder-deactivation technology, not just for your V8s but for the V6s as well. Your goal should be to beat Chrysler at its own game, and then offer this engine in any car it will fit into. So long as it's a standard part of the Ford arsenal, you won't have to worry about supply problems- the same engine will be shared by a dozen models, making production and consumption far easier to plan than today.

Take that new 3.5-liter V6 you spent so much time on and make it the only V6 you offer. That would simply supply issues and make your cars easier to sell, trust me. The same goes with Mazda's I4s that are used in the great Mazda3. Take the 2.0-, 2.3-, and 2.3-liter DI turbos and put them into every compact car you sell. They deliver great power with great efficiency, and you'll immediately see sales of cars such as your Focus go up.

Step 3: For God's Sake, Stop Laying Off People

How are you ever going to expand if you insist on contracting? Think big. Take those 30,000 jobs you want to cut in the next few years and put them to work. Build more Mustangs while you still control that niche. I went into a Ford dealership last year interested to buy a new Mustang. It had been out for a whole year by then. Do you know what the salesperson told me? There was a tight supply and I'd have to pay a few thousand above sticker. Rather than be stingy with your success, build upon it. Get those men and women back into Ford uniforms and have them produce cars as if you are a serious contender in the auto industry. Toyota builds new plants in America as you close them. For shame, fellas.

Step 4: Demystify Hybrids by Streamlining

Imagine this: On just about any Ford, you will be able to add a Hybrid Package for between \$2500 and \$3500 dollars. Start designing your powertrains to be able to handle a hybrid system that mimics Toyota's Camry Hybrid or Honda's Accord Hybrid. These are simple hybrid systems when compared with the Prius. They offer roughly 30% better fuel economy and more power than gasoline engines alone. You could make your failing SVT initiative a Hybrid initiative. Not only will customers pay for better mileage, they will pay for better performance. On the I4 engines, the performance gains will be modest with great gains in fuel economy, but on the V8 engines, the opposite will be true- Toyota has exploited this with its Lexus brand, and you can do the same.

In four simple steps, Ford can not only return to profitability, but also sell cars in the process. I know for a fact that even under new leadership, Ford will do none of this and will continue to throw us niche bones in the form of the Mustang and the failed Thunderbird. In the end, Ford might fail, and that F-150 you go to buy will be profiting a French company. The worst of it is that none of this has to be- Americans have lost the innovation that catapulted them to fame in the auto world, and I continue to mourn that loss.

Ask Stella Star

By STELLA STARR
Advisor Extraordinaire

Dear Stella,

I'm a freshman at Stony Brook, and I'm new to New York in general. I can't seem to get used to all the blatantly sarcastic people who go here. I don't want to make the blanket comment that New Yorkers are "mean," but we are certainly more friendly in Wisconsin. Do I sell my soul, so to speak, and try to fit in, or do I stick to my guns?

Please Help!
Abused in NY

Dear Abused,

As a Georgia native myself, I have noticed the sarcasm and blatant disregard present in New York. It took me some time to adjust to the trials and tribulations presented to me, however I did realize that most New Yorkers do have a softer side, when you take a second glance. I want to suggest to you to be a little tougher on the outside, and allow people to say what they may. Don't take everything so seriously, but remain polite with your own friends and family.

You're only here for school, and when you go home, Wisconsin will still be a nice place. Remaining true to yourself, and keeping up your own set of standards is important--especially in a place where change is cool, like college.

If you simply develop a tough exterior, and remain the same person inside, you will be successful in both New York and Wisconsin.

Sincerely Yours,
Stella Starr

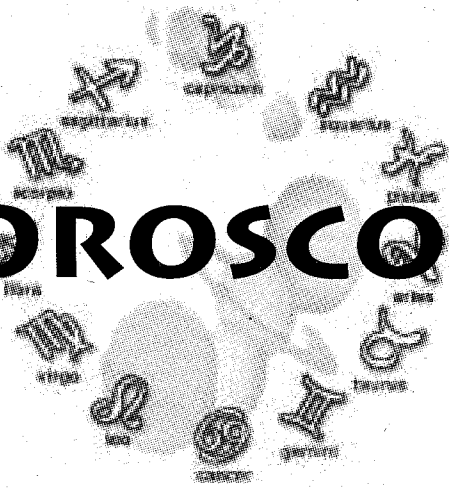
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HOROSCOPES



Courtesy of astrology.com

By JAMEY DONOVAN & AYDENNE ST. JAMES
Astrology Experts

Capricorn (Dec 22- Jan 19) – This weekend is a weekend of discovery, meeting new people. Every new friend you make this weekend will have something interesting to say about your style, and how unique you are. Capricorns are known for the skepticism and reproach, but if you let your guard down this time, you may actually have some fun; look out for bad news around the 20th! Mingling with a Virgo or a Leo might loosen you up a bit.

Aquarius (Jan 20- Feb 18) – Maybe now is a good time to reevaluate your life and rethink some things. Do you really want to remain a bio major? Is it time for a change? Don't let your uncertainties get the best of you, and remain focused. Try something new on the 19th, and take the chance to help someone out. This weekend, sit down and make a plan. Your best friends this time are Cancer and Scorpio.

Pisces (Feb 19- Mar 20) – This weekend is already looking bad. You just got out of a tough situation, only to hop into a tougher one. School is overwhelming you and people seem to be demanding too much of you. Maybe it's time to talk to an old friend or write a journal entry. Things take a turn for the better this Monday; there are some surprises in store for you around the 17th. People to avoid this weekend: Aries and Virgo. Try to open up with Capricorn or Leo.

Aries (Mar 21- Apr 19) – Boy are you angry! Your hot temper will get you nowhere this weekend. Demanding people to do your work will not get you anywhere. Try to be more sociable and ask politely. Your arrogance and ill-temper will put you in a tough spot this weekend, ask Gemini for help. School seems impossible no Monday, but by the 22nd, things are okay again.

Taurus (Apr 20- May 20) – Sugar coating your first paper or trying to coerce your ex to get back together will not work this weekend. This is a weekend to spend some quality time with new friends. Attend a party, finish that paper you're putting off. Avoid Cancer, and try to start a relationship/meaningful friendship with Aquarius this weekend. Things look good on the 20th.

Gemini (May 21- June 21) – People keep turning to you for advice and help. They appreciate your guidance, but do not realize that you have no idea what you are actually saying. This may be a

bad thing and cause more harm than good on the 18th. Befriend an Aries, and try to limit your advice. Things take a turn for the better when your friendship turns into something more.

Cancer (June 22- July 22) – There is nothing more you'd like to do then party hard this weekend. Although this may be a well-deserved break to a trying week of school, exercise some restraint. Do not pick a fight with Taurus this weekend, he or she is not looking at your best interest. Sagittarius and Libra are your best friends and will only offer you positive advice. Be wary of advice coming from Leo.

Leo (July 23- Aug 22) – Life is looking good, and you are pretty relaxed for the first week of school. You've been getting enough rest, although some things may be driving you wild. Watch out for people who may be fake and over friendly. Be careful around Aries, and keep an eye out for any strange happenings on the 23rd. Best people to hang out with: Virgo and Sagittarius.

Virgo (Aug 23- Sept 22) – Genial and outgoing, you are tired of your work and want to move onto a fresh new project. This week has made you grumpy and exhausted. Be careful around Capricorn this weekend, he or she does not have your best interests at heart this week. Day to look forward to next week: Wednesday; something big awaits you. Leo makes you calmer, and can always be trusted.

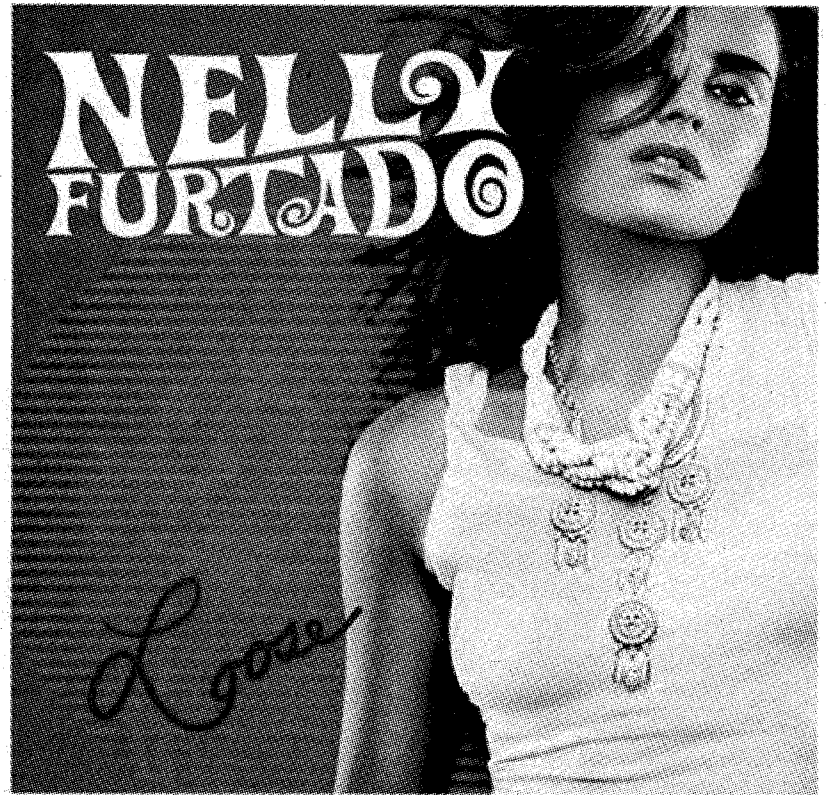
Libra (Sept 23- Oct 22) – Try to hang out with Sagittarius or Gemini this weekend. There are new opportunities on the horizon, and new things to try. Give up your grudges this weekend, and open up, have fun. There are big things in store for you this month, and look out for something great happening on the 30th.

Scorpio (Oct 23- Nov 21) – Try to be less vengeful this weekend, and have more fun. Sunday is a bad day for you; try to avoid fights with Leo or Pisces. New opportunities are springing up everywhere and you are overwhelmed with the possibilities. Try to maintain a sense of self, and stay confident. Things look better on the 17th.

Sagittarius (Nov 22- Dec 21) – This weekend is a trying one for you. You have exams and papers coming up everywhere, and people are just demanding you to get stuff done. Be careful of characters like Pisces or Taurus, they are not there to help you. Trusting people has become a big issue for you and confiding in Leo or Gemini might be a good idea. You will find a good friend on the 17th.

Fresh BeatZ

Nelly Furtado: *Loose*



Courtesy of amazon.com

By SHUCHIE JAGGI
Contributing Writer

The new hit song of the year is "Promiscuous," and it has many reasons for its success. The artist, Nelly Furtado, has deviated from emotional songs, such as, "Try," and "I'm like a Bird." She has diminished the stereotypical image that she has been labeled with in the past. Departing from her earlier set image as power-empowering for younger women or advice for teenagers, she has turned in a totally different direction in this CD. She has created a new distinguished CD, "Loose," which in many ways can be said that it was her attempt for commercial success.

Her new CD can be described in two words—ultimate hit. "Promiscuous" is a song that can be danced to with the beats hitting the spirits of teenagers. The songs of the CD are meaningless and makes the person feel out of place. The songs do not have any message in them like her previous songs and it definitely seems that this time her main goal was just commercial success, which she achieved through her uninspiring songs that she had collected in this CD.

Repetitive mention of sex in songs is the new business these days. If songs such as these are the ones that sell nowadays, it shows what our society has come to. But that is a different issue. However, through these types of CDs, "promiscuity" is promoted even more. For example, if a young teenager of age 14 is hearing this song and says I like promiscuous boys/girls just being "inspired" with this song, it seems that

Nelly Furtado is only trying to sell a CD rather than making a difference.

The form of art that existed in people before is lost nowadays and through CDs like these, art is slowly departing from our lives. The songs that should touch the soul are now only touching the hormones of teenagers. Though the songs are great they do not seem like that songs that came from Nelly Furtado as a beautiful medley of many instruments together.

Her songs used to sound like true melody, but some songs, such as "Say it Right" and "Man Eater" still bring out some of that melody that truly did used to exist in her music. These songs, however, are very far from where her songs used to be in the past. It is funny how this CD would not even know what it would be promoting and a much better CD could have been created by someone who is as gifted as Nelly Furtado.

Loose
Nelly Furtado

1. Afraid
2. Maneater
3. Promiscuous
4. Glow
5. Showtime
6. No Hay Igual
7. Te Busque Listen
8. Say It Right
9. Do It
10. In God's Hands
11. Wait For You
12. All Good Things (Come To An End)
13. Te Busque (Spanish Version)

Do you support the proposed smoking ban? Vote Online @ sbstatesman.org



Smoking ban has been proposed on campus.

Courtesy of www.notobacco.org

Continued from page 1

Within the USG Senate, four Senators spoke in support of the resolution, two of them smokers and two of them not, although a vote is not scheduled to take place until a later meeting. Senator Rob Romano said, "This is Fascist," in response to the proposed smoking ban.

The Campus Environment Committee cites a similar ban at SUNY Upstate Medical University as evidence that a ban at Stony Brook could work. However, Dan Woulfin, of the Graduate Student Organization, said that the size difference between the universities was too significant to compare the two, saying, "It's in-

credibly impractical here, we're too big."

According to Lynch, SUNY is considering eventually making all 64 campuses entirely smoke-free. Although the SUNY student assembly is resisting the measure, Lynch views the resistance at Stony Brook as a reinforcement measure, potentially inspiring other schools to pick up the fight.

Lynch said that Stony Brook already cannot enforce the smoking ban within 15 feet of entrances, and a more expansive law will not solve the problem.

More so, she was concerned with the personal liberties issues inherent in the conflict. "You paid state tax on cigarettes, and then you can't smoke them on state land," said Lynch. "On so many levels, the idea is just wrong."

**The Center for Study of Executive Leadership, the Center for Regional Policy Studies
at Stony Brook University, and Senator Kenneth P. LaValle present**

LEE EDWARD KOPPELMAN Planner, Educator, Author

The seventh symposium in the "Leaders in Government" series entitled
"The Planning Process: Long Island's Past, Present, and Future."

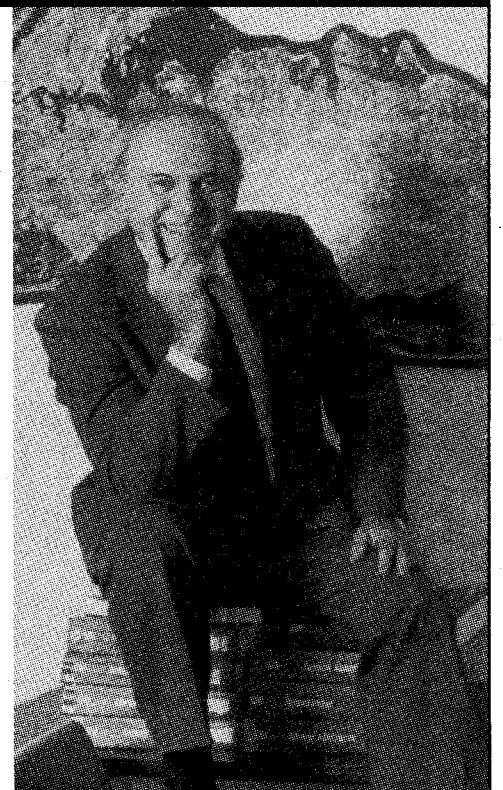
Thursday, September 28, 2006 • 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
Student Activities Center, Stony Brook University

The program will begin with registration/continental breakfast at 8:30 am, followed by panel discussions examining the role of planning in government, education, and the environment. The program is followed by a luncheon with a keynote address by Dr. Lee Koppelman.

Attendees are requested to enter the campus at the main entrance and park in the Administration garage. Parking tickets will be validated at the conference.

Registration required • Please call (631) 632-9020 or (631) 632-9021

If you need a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-9021 for assistance. Stony Brook University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.



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STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY
CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

Presents

Great Masters of Classical Indian Dance and Music

THIS IS THE ONLY NEW YORK PERFORMANCE!

Saturday, September 16, 8:00 pm, Wang Theatre



Sri C.V. Chandrasekhar and Sri Adyar K. Lakshman are two of the greatest living masters of the Indian classical dance Bharatanatyam. Chandrasekhar's graceful dance with Adyar Lakshman's soul-stirring voice and powerful rhythm enthrall. Srimati Shobana Raghavan on vocal, Sri P.K. Swaminathan on mrdangam, Sri V.K. Raman on flute, and Sri A.R. Balaskandan on violin.

Tickets:

\$50 **VIP TICKET** with reserved seating, reception, and free admission to master class
\$15 general admission
\$10 students and seniors

Reservations highly recommended. Please reserve your tickets by e-mailing wangcenter@stonybrook.edu or call (631) 632-4400.

Workshop: Understanding the Form in Classical Dance

Thursday, September 14, 4:00 pm, Wang Theatre

A beginner-level dance workshop introducing the student to the technique and practice of Bharatanatyam. Open to all dancers and the dance-curious.

Tickets: Free to Stony Brook students and VIP ticket holders
\$10 general admission (reservations recommended)

In collaboration with the Young Indian Cultural Group and the Center for India Studies.

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For more information on this event and other upcoming Wang Center Asian and Asian American Programs, visit our Web site: www.stonybrook.edu/wang. The Charles B. Wang Center is located at Stony Brook University, NY 11794, and is open to the public Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm. To sign up for our mailing list, please e-mail us at wangcenter@stonybrook.edu. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Educator and Employer. For a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-1941.

**Zach Braff
Jacinda Barrett
Casey Affleck
Rachel Bilson
with Blythe Danner
and Tom Wilkinson
The Last Kiss**

We all make choices.
What's yours?

From the writer of
"Million Dollar Baby"
and co-writer of "Crash"

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A LAKESHORE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION
A TONY GOLUWYN FILM "THE LAST KISS" ZACH BRAFF
JACINDA BARRETT CASEY AFFLECK RACHEL BILSON
MICHAEL WESTON ERIC CHRISTIAN OLSEN HARLEY SHELTON
HAROLD RAMIS WITH BLYTHE DANNER AND TOM WILKINSON
PRODUCED BY GABRIELE MUCCINO ERIC REID TERRY A. MCKAY
HARLEY TANNERBAUM PRODUCERS ANDRE LAMAL MARCUS VISCIDI
PRODUCED BY TOM ROSENBERG GARY LUCCHESI
BASED ON THE PLAY BY GABRIELE MUCCINO
SCREENPLAY BY PAUL HAGGIS DIRECTED BY TONY GOLUWYN



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September 15



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FLYING POINT 10K
for Autism Awareness

To benefit the Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities

Sunday, September 24 • 9:30 a.m.
Flying Point Beach, Water Mill, NY

Special guest WB11 News Anchor Jim Watkins

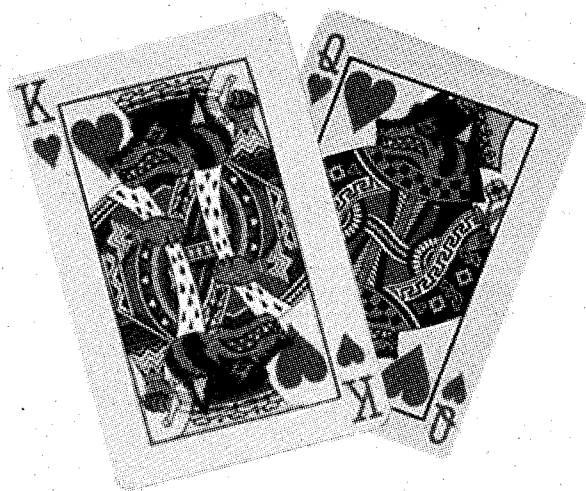
For online registration and information go to:
www.flyingpointrun.com

USATF sanctioned • chip-timing • DJ • warm-up with the pros • prizes • giveaways

Start at a beautiful ocean beach in the Hamptons and run a course along the bay and through hedge-lined estate streets before heading back to the beach for a stunning finish. A DJ will be on hand before the race to get the crowd warmed up with help from trainers straight from Hamptons Gym Corp.

The Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at Stony Brook University is providing **free bus transportation** to Flying Point Beach in Watermill, in the Hamptons, for runners who wish to compete in this benefit run. Runners who wish to ride the Stony Brook bus to Watermill must confirm with the Cody Center by September 20 by calling 632-8868 or emailing virginia.cover@stonybrook.edu

Same-day registration for Stony Brook runners is \$26. The bus leaves at 7 AM from the Student Activities Center circle and returns approximately 12:30 PM.



**FEEL THAT YOU ARE
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Apply to be Homecoming King or Queen!

Applications are due by Tuesday, September 19, 2006, at 5:00 p.m

**To be eligible, you must have completed a minimum of one semester at
Stony Brook and have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.25**

**Applications are available for download at
www.stonybrook.edu/homecoming**

or may be picked up at the Office of Student Activities, Suite 218, SAC.

For more information or disability-related accommodations, please contact the Office of Student Activities
at (631) 632-9392 or you can visit us in the Student Activities Center, Suite 218.

Seawolves Hold Out Against Providence

By NICOLE ROMANO
Staff Writer

The women's soccer game on Sunday, September 10th against Providence ended up being a heart-breaker. The last game of the Holiday Inn Express Invitational ended in a 0-0 tie for the Seawolves.

The game started off slow; with the Seawolves making a total of only one shot the whole first half. Providence only got off four shots. The second half brought some more exciting play. Many more shots were made on goal by both teams, with the Seawolves out-shooting the opposition by a 2:1 ratio. However, the real excitement was on the defensive end.

Goalkeeper, Marissa Viola made 15 saves during the match, beating her own personal record. Her phenomenal play throughout the game saved the Seawolves from defeat.

Fans got hopeful with a shot from Aria Tanzi, made with little more than one minute left in regulation play. However this shot ricocheted off the post and the Seawolves

were forced into double overtime.

Neither team was able to convert a goal in overtime. Frustratingly in the last game of the tournament, ended in a tie. This game brings Stony Brook's record to 4-1-1.

On a more cheerful note, three players from the Stony Brook team were named to the all-tournament team. Kristen Mishrell, Krista Shilts and Jackie Timms all brought this honor to the Seawolves. Three players from the Providence team were also named to the all-tournament team.

Marissa Viola also made the Seawolves proud when she garnered the title of America East Rookie of the Week. This marks the second week in a row a Stony Brook player was honored by the America East conference.

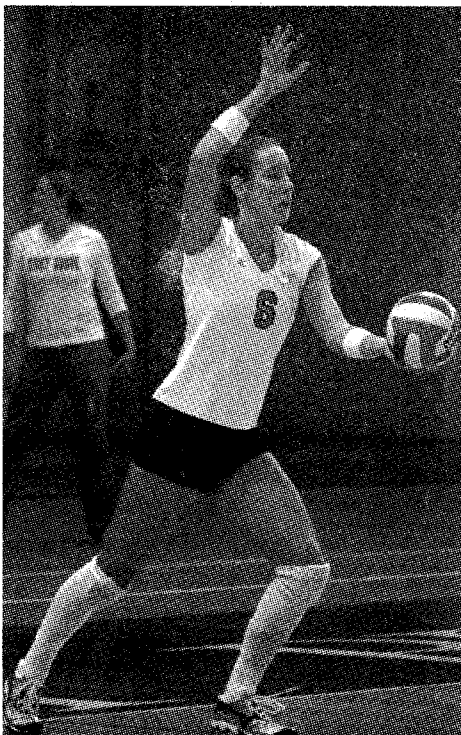
Brooke Barbuto was named Player of the Week last week. Viola was also named Women's College Player of the Week by bigapplesoccer.com and Stony Brook Athlete of the Week. Way to go, Marissa!

Fans who want to catch the Seawolves in action can see their next home game on Sunday, September 17th against Fordham.



Krista Shilts takes a goal kick while Marisa Viola looks on

Adhip Karmaker/ Statesman



Amy Oleksiej goes up for a serve

Adhip Karmaker/ Statesman

Volleyball Drops Another To Fordham University

*Still On Top of American East
Conference*

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

The volleyball team failed to stop their downward slide as they lost to Fordham in the Bronx 3-0. This was their sixth loss in a row, dropping their record to 5-7.

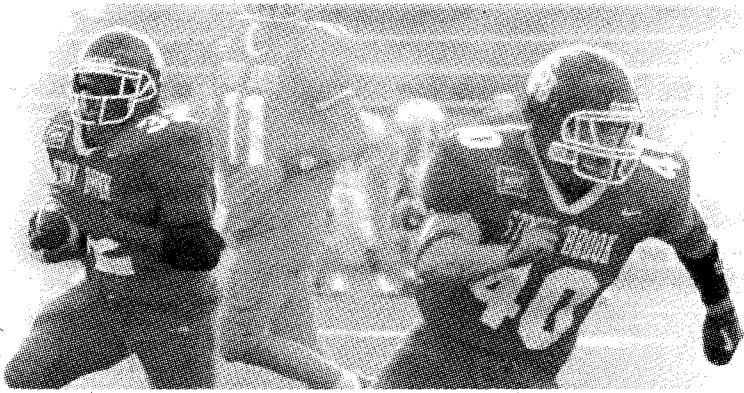
Even still, the Seawolves rest at number two in the American East Conference standings. Only Hartford stands between them and the number one standing, which they will be playing on October

15 at Harford.

In the match against Fordham, junior Morgan Sweaney totaled double digit kills. Sweaney ranks number one in the American East for total kills with 163, and second with average kills per game with 4.18. She also tallied the most points for any player in the American East.

The Seawolves hope to bolster their record when they travel to Milwaukee, Wisconsin for a double header against Manitoba and San Francisco on Friday and Sunday.

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SPORTS

Baseball Star Joe Nathan Honored



Joe Nathan - Baseball

Joe Nathan in his college days, playing for the Seawolves

Statesman Archives

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

During this year's Homecoming celebrations, Stony Brook will induct four new members into the Stony Brook Athletic Hall of Fame. Among the class of 2006 is Joe Nathan, perhaps the most successful player to come out of the Seawolves organization.

Nathan played baseball for the Seawolves in the mid-90s, when the team was still a Division III program.

During the 1994-'95 season, Nathan helped lead the Seawolves to a conference championship and the team's first NCAA tournament invite. The team finished with a season record of 30-8. It was the team's best showing until that time.

That same season, Nathan began to catch the eyes of various scouts. Although he played mainly at shortstop and was known for his line-drive hitting style, the scouts saw potential in him as a pitcher. They began asking Head Coach Matt Senk to put him in the line-up as a pitcher so that Nathan could showcase his strong arm.

To appease the scouts, Senk set up an inter-squad match-up and scheduled Nathan as the starting pitcher. Unfortunately, the game was rained out, but the scouts showed up anyway. They watched as Nathan warmed up and when he was ready to go, the scouts broke out the radar guns.

Nathan impressed the scouts so much that that same year, he was signed as the sixth round draft pick by the San Francisco Giants. He spent a year at shortstop in the Giant organization before being moved to the mound full-time.

Nathan struggled for a time in the lower divisions, making his major league debut in 1999, but in 2003, he showcased his potential with a record of 12-4 in relief for the Giants. After that season, the Minnesota Twins were so impressed with his performance that they traded their everyday catcher, A.J. Pierzynski to acquire Nathan.

The trade has become known as one of the most lopsided deals in baseball as Pierzynski lasted only one year with the Giants while Nathan has become one of the most dominant closers in baseball.

To date, Nathan has racked up a record of 38-16, moving from middle relief into the closer position. He's made a total of 119 career saves, including 31 throughout the majority of the 2006 season. With an ERA of 1.82, season and 3.23 career, Nathan clearly displays his dominance on the mound.

Even more impressive is the fact that he has given up only three home runs in 59.1 innings pitched through this season. With 465 strikeouts, including 82 this season, Nathan shows that his domination is in no danger of faltering. Although he is rarely mentioned at the same level as the likes of Mariano Rivera, Nathan has proved himself to be an invaluable addition to the Twins' pitching staff.

Stony Brook will honor Nathan in an induction ceremony to be held on Saturday October 7, in the Goldstein Family Student-Athlete Development Center. In addition to this ceremony, December 5 has been declared "Joe Nathan night". The Stony Brook Seawolves basketball team takes on rival Hofstra that night, and Nathan will be honored for his achievements.