

State of the University



President Kenny Addresses the University

Tia Mansouri/ Statesman

By **EROL RUZEHAJI**
Contributing Writer

This year SBU has welcomed its largest incoming freshmen class in its 50 year history. Hundreds of millions of dollars are flowing into new projects here at Stony Brook. There will be new buildings all over campus in the next few years. Stony Brook will finish its acquisition of the Southampton Campus. Our University is also inducting a new faculty of over 100 people and incorporating 50 new tenure positions this year.

On September 20, President Shirley Strum Kenny gave her State of the University Address at the University Convocation in the Staller Center's main theatre. New projects and achievements were mentioned in the address. Stony Brook is scaling itself to achieve recognition with the ranks of ivy leagues and many other internationally renowned universities. The motive is ambitious and the initiative is momentous.

The Convocation took off with the topic of the new freshmen class of 2006-2007. During the last academic year, the

admissions office received an unprecedented number of applicants in the University's history - roughly 21,000 applicants. This was a 17% increase from last year, or 3,000 more applicants.

Kenny continued to expand on her analysis of the freshmen class. Nationally, SAT scores have declined. Despite this fact, the average SAT score of the Stony Brook freshmen class has risen. Stony Brook's admissions have become more selective. The percentage of students selected for admission decreased in a trend for the last 3 years, from 58% to 48%.

Stony Brook is largely known as a scientific research institute. Its aim is not to fall short of this goal, despite federal budget cuts into research programs across the nation. Stony Brook is funding new programs and buildings for research.

The proposed projects are a new medical center located on the hospital's campus, a 100,000 square foot "Center for Excellence" building for research, a \$22.5 million Center for Computational Science and Stony Brook's own \$25 million supercomputer that will be situ-

ated in Brookhaven Laboratory and will be used for research in particle physics, weather, and medicine. Stony Brook will complete its acquisition of Southampton campus this October. The Southampton campus will provide programs in health science, nursing, rehabilitation and possibly a marine biology program.

Some of the University's projects reach beyond the borders of academia. Stony Brook has completed renovations in its dormitories.

Kenny also mentioned constructing new dormitories. A point of excitement at the Address was the announcement of a proposed recreation center, which will be constructed within 3 years. The project is to be situated between the Sports Complex and the Stony Brook Union. There are also plans and designs for a new dining center.

Kenny went on to cite some achievements of Stony Brook's medical faculty. A toddler was run over by an SUV, and the doctors of Stony Brook Hospital were able to save the child and prevent brain damage. Another

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Tapping Feet to a Different Beat

By **SYBIL BABY**
Contributing Writer

On September 14, the curious and the adventurous alike came together to witness and experience the complex and beautiful world of the classical Indian dance, Bharatnatyam. The program, known as Chandrashekar, Master of Dance: Understanding the Form in Classical Dance was quite an event especially for beginners who had no experience with the Indian arts.

Held in the Wang Center Theatre, the class of AAS 212, along with instructor Malini Srinivasan (who organized the event), Wang Director Sunita Mukhi and anonymous others, gathered to hear respected dance guru and distinguished professor C.V. Chandrashekar, along with wife Jaya, gave a lecture and introductory workshop in the art and history of Bharatnatyam

and other various Indian dance forms.

As spectators and students of all ages donned cotton tights, yoga pants and t-shirts in the dim theatre waited, 72 year old Prof. Chandrashekar strode in with his lovely sari-adorned wife, and all eyes were on him. It was hard not to pay attention to his confident erect posture in Indian garb being followed by a small throng of admiring students, who obviously were all aware of his accomplishments.

After a brief introduction by both Mukhi and Srinivasan, Chandrashekar took control of center stage along with Srinivasan's class and a curious few others. Although remaining audience members were invited to take part in the workshop, improper dress apparel and extreme shyness kept them from treading on the loom-

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SB SUPER-COMPUTER MAKES DEBUT

By **SURAJ RAMBHIA**
Editor-in-Chief

On September 25, 2006, Stony Brook scientists of all ages gathered in celebration at the Heavy Engineering building to welcome the Seawulf Cluster, a supercomputer that will greatly increase the appeal for computational science at SBU. The Seawulf Cluster is powered by 235 Intel Dual Core 3.4 GHz Pentium Xeon processors.

Josef Sipek, one of the undergraduate students on the Seawulf Cluster's hardware support team, helped to assemble the computer.

When asked if he could put

the total computing power of SBU's new supercomputer into perspective, Sipek was at a loss for words. He said, "Simply, if you take a standard 3.4GHz processor today, any computer, and put 235 of them together, you get this supercomputer."

Sipek is a computer science major here at SBU. He continued, "Its basically using a network of individual computers to collaborate and solve a problem."

Among the notable Stony Brook scientists who attended the event was Professor James Glimm, the Director of the Department of Applied Mathematics.

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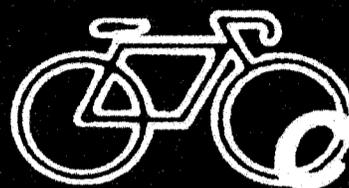
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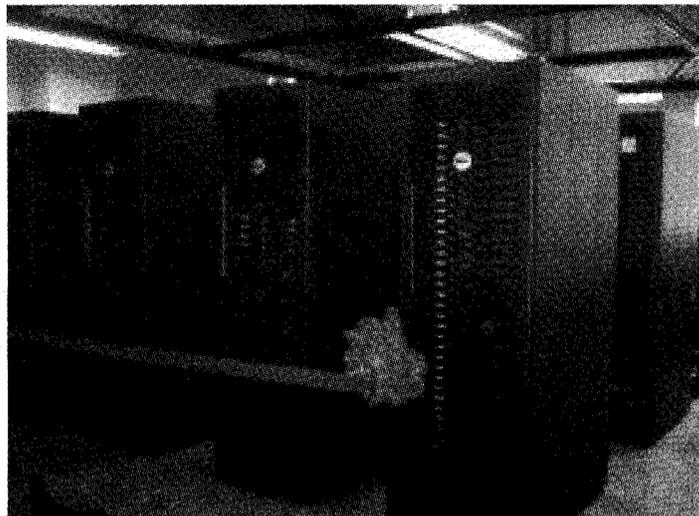
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SEAWULF CLUSTER MAKES DEBUT



The Seawulf Cluster flexes its muscles

Suraj Rambhia/ Statesman

Continued from page 1

ics and Statistics. Glimm gave a brief view into the vast array of interdisciplinary research that would be made possible through the Seawulf Cluster. He commented, "Climate, astrophysics, biology, fluid dynamics, and many, many diverse areas of study will be helped right here on campus."

When asked what the overall purpose for the machine would be, Glimm responded, "It is for the general use for the university." Interestingly enough, as Glimm gave his introductory remarks for the celebratory event, he did mention that the Seawulf Cluster would be used as training facility for professors, graduates, and undergraduates to prepare for an even bigger and more power-

ful supercomputer to be unveiled at Brookhaven National Laboratory six months from now.

It is the hope that the new supercomputing facility will attract other scientists to come to SBU, not only for the prospect of having the their basic or applied science research aided by the power of the Seawulf Cluster, but also to continue to build up the collaborative 'computing department,' so to speak, on campus.

Both Glimm and Provost Robert McGrath made lofty statements of the benefits the Seawulf Cluster would have for researchers. In addition, Yacov Shamash, the Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences expressed great relief as he commented on the length of time it took to make the idea of having a supercomputing facility at SBU a reality.

Shamash commented, "We always hear about seeing light at the end of a tunnel. We see the light now, but we still are just at the beginning."

PRESIDENT ANNOUNCES BIG CHANGES

Continued from page 1

patient had lost both his hands in an industrial accident, and the medical staff was able to successfully reattach both of his hands.

"After years of bare bones budget, Stony Brook has obtained a balanced budget...this is the best budget in years," Kenny said. Listing these projects and endeavors. Stony Brook has steadily increased the amount of scholarships awarded from \$1.9 million to \$9.1 million a 479% increase.

Professor Mario Mignone, the Director of Center for Italian Studies, completely agreed with the new proposal of projects. According to him, the influx of finances will not only serve to strengthen Stony Brook's science research foundation, but the money will spread to all

departments. Mignone said that "We are very fortunate to have a president with a vision and energy." Mignone also hopes to start a PhD program in European Literature and Culture.

Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mr. Robert McGrath said that "Stony Brook University is changing very dramatically for the better. Why?!" He offered several reasons, such as Stony Brook's great faculty, and its reputation as a research university. This creates opportunities that other schools lack.

Stony Brook has grown from the bridge that used to connect the Library to the Union, and the days of monumental concrete that stood in the place of the grass amphitheater in front of the Staller Center. We are now witnessing the evolution of Stony Brook.

An Enchanting Dance, Taught to Man By the Gods

Continued from page 1

ing smooth dark floors glistening in the bright stage lighting.

The program started with Chandrashekar demonstrating basic poses of all Indian dances. After a brief overview, he got the class to plie (like in ballet) with hands at the sides supporting the small of their backs. After a few nervous people got the hang of the structure, Chandrashekar went on to teach them movements associated with Bharatnatyam. Most learners lingered towards the dull lit area on the back of the stage, and seemed afraid to let the audience get a view of their inability to keep up with the rhythm set by Mrs. Chandrashekar hitting a wooden block. The brave and those who lost their space in the back took front stage with a storm, thaka thaing with their feet, while trying to keep up with Chandrashekar. However, there were an impressive few, who seemed to have had previous experience.

As time progressed, so did the movements and the rhythm. Students soon saw that the art form wasn't as easy as Chandrashekar made it look. He even joked through the choreography that he "felt like [he was] seventeen once more". The toll the bending and stamping took on the knees of some students made it evident that one really needed stamina, discipline and practice to keep dancing

on. After a grueling 45 minutes passed, students were allowed to rest their weary legs as talented instructor Srinivasan was asked to continue the demonstrations of startling rounding knee twirls and extensive foot jumps.

But the real treat of the evening came about as Chandrashekar demonstrated a piece of his act to his wife's melodic voice. His form and jumps captured the essence of the vocal's faltering tones. The audience, taken aback by the performance, clapped with admiration in their eyes.

The last 30 minutes of the program dealt with a lecture on the history and meaning behind the dance of Bharatnatyam. Perhaps named for the Indian sage Bharata, this is the oldest of classical Indian dances. The dance, supposedly taught by the gods to mankind, was performed in the ancient days for common folk as a portrayal of religious stories for their own understanding; it was a translated version of the fifth Hindu Veda created by the supreme Hindu god, Lord Brahma. Performed solely by female artisans known as devadasis in its earliest years, the South Indian dance has evolved very little, and is performed by both sexes as hobby and performance art entrenched with religious history.

Chandrashekar made a great emphasis on hand, face and body gestures; all three were necessary in the meaning behind



Prof. Chandrashekar, 72, captivated his audience

Sybil Baby/ Statesman

the dance. Students awkwardly practiced surprised looks, and hand poses indicating sunrises and deep thought as he explained that the dance was a language in itself. The dance not only entertained, but all components of the body, including music and vocals, added to the story being told of angered gods and pleased goddesses; this seemed similar to Hula dancing. As Chandrashekar said, "dance is a universally understood language; [...] Bharatnatyam is a highly emotive dance; without expression

of emotion, all meaning is lost."

All who gathered applauded the revered Chandrashekar, as some walked offstage on blistered heels. An anonymous student, who was seeing Indian dance for the first time, found himself more interested in the art and had hoped to catch Chandrashekar's performance on the following Saturday, only to find it had been sold out. For those who didn't get tickets to the Saturday show, they knew they were missing out.

SBUMC GAINS DUAL PRESTIGE

BY LYNN HSIEH
Contributing Writer

Magnet Review Ends On a Positive Note

Last week, from September 18 to 20, Stony Brook University Medical Center (SBUMC) underwent a site survey as part of the final phase of the "Magnet Designation" process. The Magnet Designation is a prestigious award granted by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) that recognizes health care organizations that provide the finest in nursing and quality patient care. SBUMC applied for the Magnet Designation in the winter of 2003/2004. By 2005, the Magnet document was written and submitted to ANCC in March of 2006.

According to the American Nurses Association, the Magnet designation "helps consumers locate health care organizations

that have a proven level of excellence in nursing care." It goes on to say that although the Magnet designation specifically recognizes nursing care and quality, it also represents the hospital's overall quality and a culture of empowerment, pride, respect, teamwork, and integrity.

This designation is awarded to select hospitals following a rigorous application process, intensive review of documentation, data, and clinical practices. A site survey process is conducted to ensure that the institution provides the best quality health care. Currently, there are 209 health care organizations from 42 states that have earned this status.

On September 20 after the last site surveyor had finished their inspection, there was a celebratory gathering by the nurses and doctors associated with the project. In the midst of thunderous applause, the speaker at the MAGNET meeting beamed

about the experience. She said that although it would be six to eight weeks before a definite answer, "[the site surveyors] left the building smiling."

Lance Armstrong Foundation Awards Cancer Grant

The Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) announced the awarding of nearly \$1 million in grants to 27 community, non-profit organizations across the country for programs that help cancer patients' deal with the emotional, physical and practical challenges of cancer. In order to receive this grant, each recipient had to undergo a rigorous application process. Cancer survivors and cancer community experts and advisors were part of a selection committee that viewed the proposals. Stony Brook University is one of the organizations receiving this grant.

Suzanne Kho, the director of grants at LAF, said "We are pleased to expand our support of community-centered, cancer survivorship initiatives through the awarding of 27 new grants this year... Together, we are helping to improve the quality of life of people affected by cancer at all stages of the survivorship continuum."

The LAF awarded grants concerning five issues: cancer pain, palliative and end-of-life care; practical issues of cancer survivorship; physical activity and nutrition; survivorship education; and emotional support for people living with cancer. In addition, the LAF Community Program also provides financial support and counseling to community centered initiatives that addresses the challenges of cancer.

Since its inception in 2001, the LAF Community Program has awarded more than \$4.8 million to non-profit organizations across the country.

Navratri Celebrated at Pritchard Gym

BY CHLOE SULLIVAN
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, September 23, Stony Brook University celebrated the Indian festival of Navratri. It was held in Pritchard Gymnasium at the Sports Complex. Around 80 SBU students and members of the Stony Brook community attended the celebration.

Navratri, the longest Hindu festival, is celebrated for nine consecutive nights in praise of Lord Rama (the protagonist of the Indian epic, Ramayana) and Goddess Durga. It takes place from the end of September to early October. The celebration featured a devotional dance called Garba in praise of Durga, followed by a prayer to the Goddess.

Participants best enjoyed a dandiya ras, a type of dance where men and women move in circular formations while holding small sticks in their hands. The dance starts out slow and progressively gets faster and faster until all of the individuals in the dance cannot keep up the pace. The participants used two sticks that were struck with the beat of the music.

The celebration ended around midnight. Navratri, a holiday routinely celebrated with dandiya ras and prayers for a total of 8 days, is now gaining widespread popularity all over the United States, especially on college campuses.



Dandiya ras at SBU.

Chloe Sullivan/ Statesman

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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.

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Evil Politics Plague World Affairs

By LAURA POSITANO
Columnist

The devil is our President, according to President Chavez of Venezuela. He said this to an audience of the United Nations General Assembly on Wednesday. The United Nations is a diplomatic forum representing 192 of the world's countries. The fact that diplomats and leaders uproariously applauded and laughed after he joked that our President is the devil, is astonishing but noteworthy. It was in the opinion of not only Condoleeza Rice but other world leaders who were asked for their feedback about Chavez's verbal dagger, inappropriate language for someone in a position of leadership, conversing in an international diplomatic forum.

Indeed, it was wrong, impolite and undignified for Chavez to call another leader, Bush, the devil. Yet, as Chile's President Michelle Bachelet said in a recent conversation with journalist Charlie Rose, while those words were slanderous and undignified, the reason behind those words of Chavez's message, seem to have been disregarded. The Latin American region, filled with developing nations with worse poverty than the United States, is but one of the areas in the world that has an ambivalent situation with America.

Latin American leaders, such as Bachelet, appreciate the trade that their countries have with the United States that helps their economies. They also are united against terrorism, according to President Bachelet. Yet, as she pointed out, when terror is fought through unsavory "illegal" means (i.e. torture of terror suspects, which violates international law),

this can exacerbate terrorism and reduce the credibility of the nations (i.e. the U.S.) that act in such ways.

America, the world's remaining superpower, is a great democracy, but the holes in its integrity undermine America's image in the views of less powerful and still developing countries. Thus why so many applauded the vitriolic joke of Chavez—he was reflecting, in the viewpoint of Bachelet and other international leaders, the opinion that American foreign policy within the past six years has been dominated by selfish hegemony. America the beautiful is getting ugly; thankfully, checks and balances are returning after a near-requiem triggered by a rubber stamp Congress. So perhaps in a year, should Chavez or someone similar to him make a similar remark, they will not receive standing ovations.

Bush isn't evil incarnate; he just does not think much of the time about how his rhetoric and actions will be viewed by the rest of the world. Ignorance is arguably to blame for the leader of the free world's foibles.

So too with Pope Benedict XVI, the leader of the international Catholic Church, as well as the Vatican, which is a landmark city that represents Christians as a whole to many in the world. In a scholarly speech last Saturday (the Pope formerly was a theology professor), he quoted from a Byzantine fourteenth century text that calls the religion of Islam "evil and inhuman" at Germany's Regensburg University. He assumed that, like his days working in the academia, only a healthy dialogue would be triggered among people of differing viewpoints.

What resulted instead was an enormous

outrage on the part of Muslims, who viewed his citing of an archaic text to be an indictment of Islam by a major leader representing one of the sects of Christianity. His effigy was burned by angry Muslims in the Middle East, and churches were fire bombed. He should have stated in his speech whether he agreed with the Byzantine emperor's remark which he cited; he only was smart enough to say that he was quoting. Otherwise, the Pope just ignited more flames of hatred and misunderstanding towards Christians.

When he went on to say that the Islamic concept of jihad, which he defined as holy war, was "violence in the name of religion that is contrary to God's nature and reason", those were his words. Such lamentations with no mention of the Crusades, a time when both Christians and Muslims killed each other in the name of God, and a source of disturbance still between the two faiths though it was centuries ago, was not too smart.

The Pope later apologized for offending Muslims, and many Muslim leaders, accepting his apology, have condemned acts of violence towards Christians in response to his words. The Vatican's diplomatic relations with the Muslim countries of Yemen, Somalia, and Morocco were hurt after his speech; his repeated apologies may engender hope for diplomatic mending, but now his life may be in continuous danger from radicals.

The Pope has to realize that these are tumultuous times; radicals of both Christianity and Islam want to have a second Crusades, jihads of their own. He needs to really keep this in mind—ignorance is never bliss if you're an international leader.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

RE: Digital Trash Piles Up

By F. JASON TORRE
University Archivist

Dear Suraj Rambhia:

Thank you for your important commentary on the hazards information management in the digital world. You've highlighted an issue that archivists have been concerned about for many years. The digital world has brought to us many beautiful and wonderful things. Ideas can be shared in the blink of an eye across thousands of miles and without ever leaving the safety of your office or home. Information exists everywhere for the grabbing, some of it well thought-out and meaningful and other bits not worth the keyboard they were typed on.

Librarians and archivists seek to sift through all that is created, providing a careful, studied eye to the value of the information contained within documents and records created in our everyday lives. The multitude of

the digital world has made this task even more difficult as you alluded to in your commentary but we have no relented.

Currently, archivists on many levels of government and industry have been and are working alongside traditional IT departments to appraise and capture what truly needs to be saved for business application and posterity, and it is no different here at Stony Brook.

While it happens behind the scenes, there is a true effort to provide guidance and assistance to people in determining what needs to be kept and what does not. This is something the library has been doing (our own cooperative work together to microfilm and scan The Statesman and preserve older photographs from your photo morgue is just one example) for many years and will continue to do well into the future.

F. Jason Torre,
University Archivist

got something to say?
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Critic Voices Concerns Over Campus Journalism

By BRIAN SCIOS
Concerned Reader

Recently the University has added the School of Journalism to its long list of concentrations for students to choose from. I can't think of a better time for this to be offered.

With the growing number of affairs involving our school, state, country and world, it's good to see one of the news outlets we rely on for information is tackling pressing front page issues such as the current problems with www.facebook.com ("Facebook Forcefeeding," Hsieh, Lynn. *Stony Brook Statesman*. Sept 21, 2006). Even as a current www.facebook.com member, I find this story not just unworthy of the front page, but also of our school paper in general.

Another option on campus is to read a periodical that considers the following quote "reporting": "Holmes was most clearly forced out of his student government position, most likely for his political activism" ("Accusations Prevent Student Gov Officials from Taking Office at SUNY New Paltz." *The Stony Brook Press*. Sept. 15, 2006).

I find myself torn. Do I read a paper that has a history of under-reporting serious issues and placing too much importance on frivolous topics or do I im-

merse myself in a periodical that voices its opinion disguised as news more often than reporting it directly?

The Society of Professional Journalists have many standards within their code of ethics including, "...distinguish between advocacy and news reporting. Analysis and commentary should be labeled and not misrepresent fact or context..." (<http://www.spj.org/ethics-code.asp>).

Whether we like it or not, the media has a profound effect on what issues we are exposed to and how we react to these topics. By exposing a group of people, such as the 22,000 students at Stony Brook, to particular stories and opinions disguised as news, the media is imposing its own views and placing importance on issues they deem to be most serious.

It's about time we asked our student run and funded publications to denounce mediocrity and be more responsible in their reporting to create a more diverse and informed student body here at Stony Brook University.

I have high hopes that the new School of Journalism can help accomplish this goal.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Scios

Hi Brian,

I do appreciate your comments.

Perhaps if you had read some of our other issues, you would have seen our coverage of the Hospital Investigations, new Journalism School, Proposed Smoking Ban, 9-11 Memorial Ceremony, just to name a few, maybe you would have found some actual news.

It's kind of like watching a television series. You like some episodes, you don't like others. I agree, however, that having a journalism school here will help us out.

Keep on commenting, we're always listening.

Suraj Rambhia

I had read your other articles. I read our school papers very often, almost religiously.

In the case of your publication, too much space is devoted to ads and meaningless topics, such as the one I had mentioned. Our school publications do little for our students and come off almost as a "hobby" for the staff/writers of them, not as an actual media outlet. It's scary.

As far as topics that have some meaning and substance, there is a case of under-reporting on the part of your writers/contributors. It's almost like a bad television show....you like a few of the jokes, but not the whole thing.

In the case of the Statesman, the majority of stories/articles I read involve a few poorly researched facts mixed in with what a lot of people like to call "filler."

Just words and sentences that really take the story nowhere and leave the reader in the same position he/she was before they read it...clueless.

I enjoy some of the articles I read and I know what it takes to run and write for a school paper (I had done so at my previous college and also in high school). I just feel that there can be much improvement for a school of our stature. It's almost as if I'm reading a high school paper when I read the Statesman. I do not claim to be a good writer, but I do no what good research and writing entails.

Best of luck to you and your staff this year. I look forward to seeing the improvements I had mentioned.

Brian Scios.

USG Senate Update: Hope for the Best

By ESAM AL-SHAREFFI
USG Senate Recording Secretary

Dear Editor,

I write to you today with a heavy heart. Despite some wonderful early signs, albeit mixed with some growing pains for the USG Senate. It now seems quite apparent that there is something rotten in the state of the Senate, and I feel it my sad duty to report to you what is going on.

First, the meeting started with a representative of the University Senate's "Environment Committee" who made a presentation defending his plan of making the entire University a smoke free zone in the next three years. Instead of informed debate and useful negotiation, the vast majority of Senators who took the floor rambled incoherently, often going on for several minutes before remembering that they were supposed to ask a question.

While it is important for Senators to show their opinions, even passionately, on issues of interest to them and to their constituents, their behavior was counter productive and will lead to nothing. Senators should have focused on the

issues and worked with the representative in order to revise his proposal before it is voted on by the University Senate on October 9th, and instead of doing their job and working to revise the policy, most Senators were merely content to shout and ramble, and in all likelihood this proposal will be adopted without meaningful student consultation as a result.

Second, the budget revision process for the roughly \$300,000 in surplus has already went ahead, and over a hundred thousand has already been allocated. Unfortunately, aside from those who keep a close eye on USG, the vast majority of clubs and organizations on campus have no idea that they can apply for extra money and the lack of proper advertising and publication of the excess funds leads to a process that is less than transparent.

Third, there is the question of the Senate's priorities. I find it rather odd that Cheryl Lynch, a concerned student but certainly not a member of the USG Senate, is doing the vast majority of the work on the "food co-op" plan to bring student run food services on campus, while the majority of the Senate's time and effort is spent on internal procedural matters, leading to unnecessarily heated debate on such is-

issues as the "Codification of Laws Act" and modifications to the "Payroll Adjustment Act."

While these issues are important, more of the Senate's time should be spent on proposals that will lead to tangible benefits for students. Finally, it seems as if some Senators are waking up to their responsibilities and are at last gaining the courage to make their own proposals and to question the most outspoken members who control the Senate floor.

Despite getting dirty looks and often losing votes on their proposals, some Senators finally recognize the need to voice their opinions and to take a critical look on proposals that are often rubber-stamped into law with minimal debate and scrutiny.

I can only hope that these Senators and others will join ranks and take their duties seriously, and on behalf of my fellow students I hope that they succeed in making the USG Senate an institution that students can be proud of having and can easily list its accomplishments and work to improve student life.

Respectfully yours,
Esam Al-Shareffi

Indie Flicks:

Wag the Dog



Courtesy of Amazon.com

By RACHEL BROZINSKY
Staff Writer

Slightly outrageous but altogether hilarious, *Wag the Dog* is a political comedy from 1998 that might be more relevant in today's post-9/11 world than it was nearly a decade ago. The film uses a screen of satirical humor to expose in an over-the-top series of events how the government can use images to manipulate the way we Americans think, act, and most importantly, vote.

Twelve days before the president is up for reelection, he is accused of having 'sexual relations' with a minor in a closet in the oval office. Sound familiar? Oddly enough, this film was written and made less than a year before the Lewinsky scandal shook the real White House.

Desperate not to let the accusation ruin the president's chances of a second term, head of press, Winifred Ames (Anne Heche), enlists the help of Conrad Brean (Robert De Niro), a spin doctor who has been diverting attention from presidential scandals since the Reagan administration. What does Brean have in mind to take the American people's eyes away from their Head of State's sexual misconduct? What else? A war... with Albania.

In order to fabricate this war, Brean joins forces with Hollywood producer Stanley Motss (Dustin Hoffman). Motss puts together an elaborate production, complete with a theme song and iconic war hero. When all of these elements are brought together, the American public pulls together in support of an administration that is shamelessly pulling the wool over its eyes.

Though overall the situations are outra-

geous and ultimately ridiculous, there's a certain truth to be found in the story being told. There were countless moments during the film that one could identify not only with the Clinton sex scandal, but with the Bush administration's handling of the current War in Iraq.

The movie does not make a target of either Democrats or Republicans, liberals or conservatives. The bull's eye is fixed on the forehead of a government that will go to any lengths to shamelessly fool its constituents in order to stay in power. So basically, the target is any government.

The film is full of fast-talking characters and quick-cutting camera shots. This not only sets the pace of the movie, but also draws the comparison between the handling of a completely fictitious story and the speed at which a government covers up its blemishes.

The ironic sensibility in *Wag the Dog* is not only sharp and funny, but ultimately thought provoking. Though the film is packed with notable actors from De Niro and Heche to William H. Macy, Dennis Leary, and a young Kirsten Dunst, Hoffman stole the show. He plays Motss with an overwhelming humanity that takes the comedic role and turns him into someone the audience can sympathize with. Yes, he's helping to conduct a sinister plot to hoodwink the American people, but for him, there is no political gain. For him, it is about the art, and Hoffman makes this not only understandable, but respectable.

Wag the Dog is powerful in its clever, irreverent criticism of the government as well as America's gullibility, or perhaps willingness to be fooled into submission. But on top of it being a wonderfully intelligent film, it's also good for a lot of laughs.

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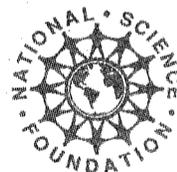
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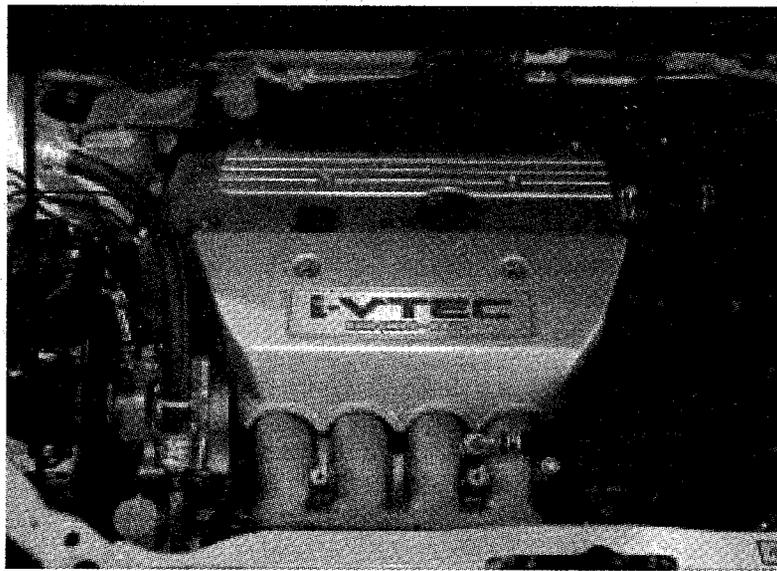
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V R R O O M !

Honda Crushes Competitors In New Engine Design



Courtesy of Google Images

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Car Analyst

I frequent a group of websites and magazines that are auto-related, and continually read a lot of hype regarding American cars. When Ford redesigned their 3.5-liter V6, it was as if an infant was taking its first steps. Finally, many wrote, Ford is taking a baby step in the right direction. When I caught wind of Honda's completed engine redesign efforts recently, it shows that American companies pale in comparison. Honda completed a redesign of their 2.4-liter I4 engine, overhauled their FlexFuel offerings, and built a new diesel engine from the ground up. I would wager any amount that these engines are going to be class-leading when they make their way into next year's models, leaving companies like Ford and GM in the dust.

Kenichi Nagahiro, Honda's head engine designer who developed the iconic VTEC engine, set out to build a diesel from scratch. Its latest incarnation, ready for production this month, is a diesel that is cleaner than, more powerful than, and more efficient than the rest of the competition. While VW and Mercedes though they had a lock on the market, Honda was quietly outperforming them in the laboratory. Now that we enjoy ultra low sulfur diesel in the US as of this summer, by 2008 it is conceivable that you could be driving an Accord with the most sophisticated diesel engine in the world.

Whenever a consumer puts FlexFuel (ethanol-based fuel) into a typical FlexFuel engine, the result is less power and less efficiency. Honda engineers set to combat this problem as well, as they revamped their FlexFuel system. They now have the

first FlexFuel engine that can run on anything from E10 to E100 while delivering the performance and fuel economy of a gasoline engine. Just in time for this global energy crisis, no?

Going back to the basics, Honda redesigned the VTEC engine, giving it more torque across the rev board while increasing fuel efficiency by 13%. That Accord 4-cylinder starts to look a lot more appealing, delivering well over 30 mpg. Aside from great specifications, given Honda's track record, I'm confident that their new 2.4-liter is going to be far more reliable than what powers the Chevy Cobalt.

Does this mean that Honda is the best automaker out there? I don't think so. They can't compete in the styling department, in my humble opinion. Given the choice between a Chrysler 300 and a Honda Accord for the same price, even though the Accord has superior engineering, my heart will take me to the Chrysler dealership. Maybe it's time to start really expanding on this whole globalist paradigm- imagine if Honda sold engines to Chrysler, or Ford or GM. Wouldn't you love to buy a Dodge Caliber with a VTEC engine? I would. They are so far ahead of the curve in this one area that it seems ridiculous not to have Honda engines available in every manufacturer's car. When Honda powered the Saturn Vue with a great 3.5-liter V6, I'm sure that was the best built Saturn you could buy at the time.

I look forward to the day when either the Accord and Civic are appealing to the eye, or when I can get a Honda engine in another company's car. Until then, we are forced to sacrifice taste for engineering- a choice we have had to deal with in the auto industry for decades.

“
You Can
Quote
ME

on the
‘Quote’
Unquote’
--Dane Cook

“He does all this and he stays anonymous. I think that's great. These days everyone is trying to be famous. But he has anonymity.”

--Brad Pitt (on Banksy)

“Every time you work, you have to do it all over again, to rid yourself of this dross. I suppose for a person who is not an artist or not attempting art, it is not dross, because it is the common exchange of everyday life.”

--Carl Andre

“The disciplines of storytelling require that I shape, out of the monotony and everyday life of espionage, something that has a beginning, a middle and an end. That's already contrary to the reality.”

--John Le Carre

“Music is supposed to wash away the dust of everyday life.”

--Art Blakey

Ask
Stella Star

By STELLA STARR
Advisor Extraordinaire

Dear Stella,

I have been dating this girl, Alice* for a few weeks now, when a hook-up of the past re-entered my life, Jenna*. Jenna and I had hooked up for a few months last semester, and then it ended over the summer. Before coming back to school, I had just met Alice, and we began dating. I really like Alice, but I still have feelings for Jenna. I'm afraid that if I keep hanging out with Jenna, those feelings might overcome mine for Alice. At the same time, I do not want to offend Jenna by not hanging out with her anymore. What should I do?

Sincerely,
Lost Lesbian

Dear Lost,

It seems that you're stuck in a pretty sticky situation here. Since your relationship is fresh with Alice, I think you should give it a chance and see how things go with it. Your feelings for Jenna may be phantom and basically reminiscent of last year, so they may not be sincere. You need to think before you make any definite choices for this one.

From what I understand, although your relationship is fresh, it seems that you guys have a pretty good thing going. It does not make sense to throw away something new for something of the past. Often things left in the past were put there and left there for a reason, and are not meant to come back.

It does not seem fair to Alice for you to like Jenna, but since she doesn't know at this point, it may be best to leave that alone and push your “feelings” for Jenna aside. Jenna should also be considerate enough to know you have a girlfriend, and to leave that situation alone. If you feel that Jenna is intentionally flirtatious or overly friendly, let her know, and make it clear that you only want to be friends. It does not seem fair to completely cut off the friendship with Jenna, but perhaps you'd want to take a break from hanging out excessively, in order to give your new relationship with Alice time to develop.

Sincerely Yours,
Stella Starr

*names were changed for confidentiality.

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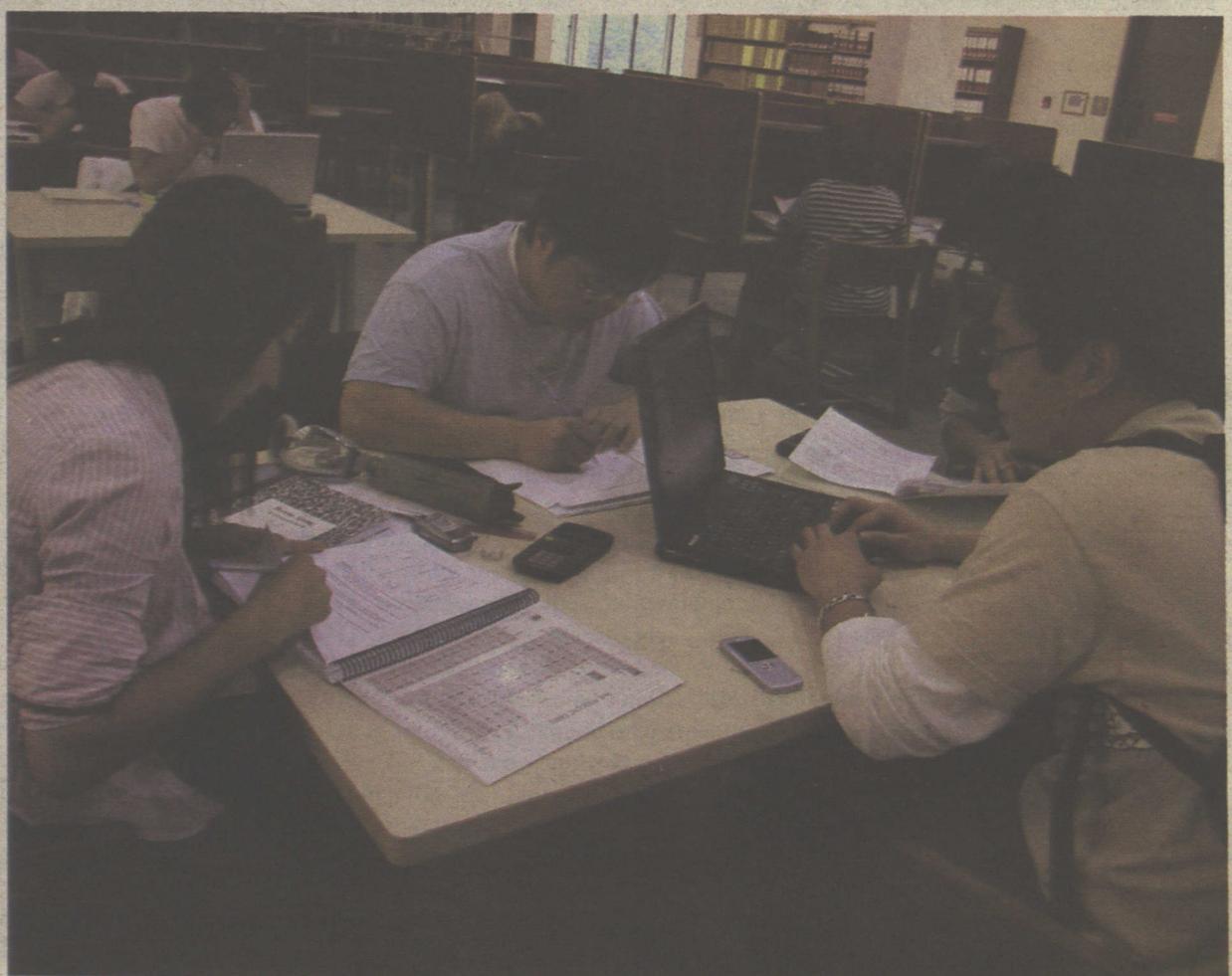
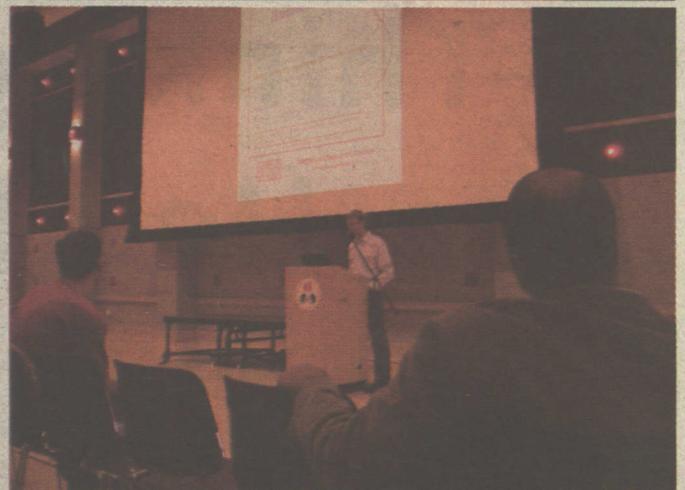
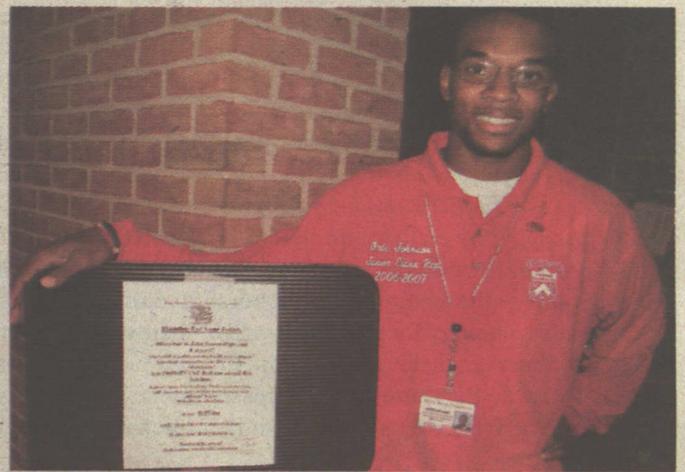
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Pages 12-13, *Statesman* writers explore life after undergrad years. What are the options? Which way should you turn? Prepare for your future today! Below, Academic Advising Day in Pictures. Photos by Tia Mansouri.



So You Want to be a Psychology Major?

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Admissions Analyst

Psychology happens to be the second most popular major in the country, second only to Business Administration, according to the Princeton Review. This semester, there are an estimated 1,600 psychology majors at Stony Brook, according to the undergraduate advisor for psychology, Carol Carlson. This constitutes nearly 10% of the undergraduate student body. Of this group of students, many have plans to go on to graduate school, though much fewer aspire to a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology, a feat that is often compared in difficulty and prestige to getting into medical school.

After speaking with numerous faculty members in the psychology department, applying to anything less than 15 graduate schools is a foolish tactic if your goal is to be accepted by a clinical program in psychology (20 to be on the safe side). Dr. Nancy Squires, the chair of the Honors Program in Psychology for the 2007 graduating class remarked that it isn't unheard of to apply to twice that number to increase your chances. If that seems extreme, it is:

in comparison, many Sociology majors send out less than a third of that to their respective schools. While some programs may offer more attention and funding to its graduate students than others, the bar for all admission is set very high for all schools, with many programs accepting a half dozen students out of 500 applications. Dr. George Bouklos, a practicing psychologist for over 20 years, speaks highly of many programs in this country in general. "There isn't such a thing as a 'bad' clinical psych program," he said.

Given the intense competition in all programs, and the sheer amount of schools with Ph.D. programs in psychology (several hundred and counting), there is no reason to settle for a school that does not provide tuition reimbursement in addition to a stipend for research and teaching. Dr. Anne Moyer, Assistant Professor at Stony Brook, agrees, citing that the unnecessary burden of student loans can be easily avoided by focusing on schools that pay their students. In addition, programs that only accept as many students as they have money to pay for, including Stony Brook, often receive large amounts of federal and

grant funding. These schools often produce more research, garner more respect, and are more prestigious than universities that cannot secure adequate funding.

When applying to an undergraduate program, people make a point to not burden the admission staffers with any more paperwork than they require. This means keeping resumes short and letters of recommendation to a minimum. This is not the case when it comes to psychology graduate programs, however. While three is the minimum, it is by no means the maximum. It is recommended that you get three letters from faculty affiliated with psychology that know you well, in addition to one or two more letters from other sources. There is by no means a rule when it comes to recommendation letters, but five great reviews are better than three in most cases. Out of respect for faculty, give them adequate time to write their glowing remarks about you. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to pop in their offices and ask them for a favor.

One of the most important decisions when striving to become a licensed psychologist is location. While there are

states with reciprocity agreements, it is up to each state to grant licensure. Going to graduate school in Madison, Wisconsin with the expectation of practicing as a licensed psychologist in New York is unrealistic- it often takes years and many legal hurdles to attain licensure in a state different than the one you went to graduate school in. This does not affect your ability to use your Ph.D. in psychology in the private sector or in academia, but by law you are not allowed to practice therapy as a psychologist without proper state approval.

Lastly, research is key. Though not essential, having done research as an undergraduate shows admission committees that you are comfortable and familiar with research and are much more likely to fit their research-intensive curricula for the next five to six years. If you are currently a senior, it is probably too late to start now. If you are a junior or younger, now is the time to start putting in those applications to get into a lab. At the very least, you will know fairly quickly if research is for you- if not, you may want to reevaluate your plans to become a clinical psychologist.

Thinking Pre-Health?

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

Students who have chosen pre-health career path probably know all about the academic and pre-professional advising center in the 2nd floor of the Melville library. Having worked with their academic advisors for their first two undergraduate years, students who still plan to apply to medical school, dental school, or schools of osteopathic medicine are soon in touch with James Montren and Joane Maniaci, two individuals who spearhead the final stages of pre-health advising for the entire undergraduate student body on campus.

According to Montren, the number of applicants has climbed dramatically in the past several years. Just last year, 252 letters of recommendation were written for students on campus, while this year, Montren predicts that the number will reach about 375 students. He admits that the process of completing and sending out medical school applications is a tedious and exacting task. The process requires diligence from both the academic advisor as well as the student.

Montren offered some comments regarding his views of the future prospects of pursuing a career in a health profession.

Montren said, "Schools are looking for quality," referring to the vast amount of extra and co-curricular activities that

pre-health students participate in. He continued, "Students need something to show they are competitive."

Concerning the future appeal for the profession, Montren stated, "I think interest in the health professions is on the rise, especially in dentistry."

However, Montren did acknowledge that the system of healthcare administration is changing. Concerning the amount of money that is going into the healthcare system today, Montren commented, "The game of healthcare is changing. But people will get acclimated."

The field of medicine in particular, according to Montren, is still on the rise primarily because of the new technological and pharmaceutical developments coming up. Montren noted, "More specialties are coming up."

Students who choose to pursue a pre-health track must fill certain course requirements. These basic science courses are important for entrance examinations to medical, osteopathic, and dental schools, the MCATs and DATs. Other than these several requirements basic science and math requirements, students who choose a particular health profession as their goal are relatively free from constraints. For more information concerning pre-health advising, students should browse to <http://www.aamc.org> or Stony Brook's own pre-health advising page, <http://www.sunysb.edu/healthed/>.

Why I Chose Biomedical Engineering

By PRIYA MADHAVAN
Contributing Writer

Biomedical Engineering, or BME, is applying engineering principles to resolve the needs of society. It is considered to be one of the hardest majors in college. Well, then why do students opt for this major? In today's society, BME is one of the fastest growing fields. There is ample opportunity for BME graduates. You can work in a laboratory or clinical setting doing research or go on to pursue further studies such as medical school.

I decided to choose BME as my major because I wanted a profession that combined math and science. The research that I conducted in high school for three years was one of the experiences that inspired me to choose this major. After that experience, I knew that I wanted to follow a career which incorporated and depended heavily on research. This field can be broken down into six major areas: biomechanics, biomaterials, physiology, instrumentation, bio-processing and imaging, all of which provide generous prospects for research and development.

When someone would ask me what I wanted to do in college and I gave them my answer, they would respond by saying, "BME is a really good field to go into. You might end up becoming the next Kiran Majumdar-Shaw." Kiran Majumdar-Shaw is a biotech entrepreneur and the richest woman in India. I must say that I didn't choose BME (BME) because of the zeros after the dollar sign. Even though this

may sound like a cliché or idealistic point of view, I want to help others and make a difference in another person's life. This field will give me the opportunity to utilize my knowledge in the different sciences and engineering fields to find cures for diseases and improve social healthcare.

After coming to Stony Brook University, I realized how much of a workload this major required. As a freshman, I not only needed to adjust to the new college environment, but also to the pace of the classes. Having 19 credits the first semester is a lot for an incoming freshman to handle.

Coming from my meeting with Dr. Molly Frame, the director of the BME program, I began to think of all the courses I needed to take to obtain a degree in this field. Besides that, I also needed to complete my DEC requirements. DEC stands for Diversified Education Curriculum, and it is meant to expose students to courses they wouldn't necessarily take as part of their major. It was overwhelming in the beginning, but I think that it will be worth the effort in the end.

BME is a great field to go into if you have an interest in Physics, Biology, and Mathematics. This is a relatively new field that is flexible and allows the individual to find an area that uses their talent and interest. In the world we live in today, we seem to rely heavily on technology. Biomedical engineers utilize this technology to bring about improvements in society. There is still more research to be done and more cures to be discovered in the future.

Life After Undergrad

By SHANZA MALIK
Arts and Entertainment Editor

So you're 21, 22 years old, you realize that you're eligible to graduate in the spring semester if you finish just 12 more credits. The only problem is: you don't know what you want to do, once you get that diploma. Growing up, your mother and father urged you to look at careers in law, and medicine. When you ignored their advice, your guidance counselors told you to pick a major in college that would support your application to graduate or medical school. You've even imagined yourself getting an advanced degree in childhood education. Basically, you've come to the end of your rope, and you need some help. What do you do? There are five things you can do:

Get a Job:

If you opt for this, you want to make sure it is a semi-permanent (you intend to stay there for over six months) full-time job. This will give you time to think about what you want to do for the long stretch (it may be working long-term for this company) along with providing you enough money to support yourself. This primary job will get you on your feet, make you more independent of your family and friends from college, and allow you to find out what type of practical work you want to do. There are several jobs you can find with only an undergraduate degree, check out www.monster.com for listings.

Start a Business:

This is often a very risky take on what to do after your undergraduate years. Starting a business often requires a stable state of mind, a decent sum of money, and a lot of time. Businesses are often trial and error options in the early years, since there are already a lot of ideas on the market. You

need to find something fresh, and be able to support it with a lot of cash flow and time. If your business fails, you need to be prepared to suffer the repercussions and recover from the deficit you may endure. If you succeed, then you should look into the next step for another money-making idea! Check out: www.sba.gov/starting

Write a Book:

This option is for people who are not concerned with money issues, and need a creative outlet. This option allows you to collect your thoughts on college, and life and general, or any experience that may have affected you profoundly in the past four years. If you have decided to opt for the "start a business" option and have succeeded, this may be a good opportunity to cash in by explaining your methods on becoming successful.

Travel/Become a Nomad:

This is another option for people who do not have any concerns for money or time. This option will allow you to explore the world around you (quite literally) and see it differently. Usually, people who travel after college take off a year and do European & Asian Tours. These tours are often life-changing and shape the person you will become in the next ten years. And who knows? You may find your calling in traveling. Check out: www.worldtravelguide.net

Volunteer for the Peace Corps:

This option is for people who need to "find themselves". This often requires a tremendous time commitment, and the resources to get around the country, and even around the world. This becomes a life-altering journey, and sometimes awakens you to something you never thought you'd like. Check out: www.peacecorps.gov.

WHY WOULD YOU NOT MAJOR IN ENGLISH?

By TEJAS GAWADE
Editor-in-Chief

"Why would you major in English?" All English majors will encounter this question at some point in his or her life. Unlike the Biology major, which will probably lead to a premedical education, or the history major, an indicator of future law education, a degree in English does not necessarily lead to a specific field. However, some people vastly differ on this viewpoint.

One false assumption is that those who are undecided on a career path major in English. Another false assumption is that English is any easy major. However, English majors at Stony Brook University are required to major with 54 credits in courses ranging from history, foreign language to English literature. All English majors and minors are required to take EGL 204, or Literary Analysis and Argumentation. They also take coursework in Shakespeare and follow one of four tracks, which include British and American literature.

Many agree that the benefits of a major in English expand beyond classroom interaction. According to Craig Stormont, a former English 204 professor at SBU, an English major "automatically suggests that the individual with that degree can communicate well in writing." He believes that English majors bring these communication skills to whichever field they choose. Whether it involves public presentations, or written research papers, mastery of English is an asset to even medical and law fields.

In response to the recurring question of why you would major in English, the English Graduate Program Director, Joaquin Martinez Pizarro said that "English B.A.'s can go on to high school teaching or, with graduate training, to teaching at the college level." He also said that English prepares

one for a career in law, publishing, and public relations. Most importantly, the major does not limit you to one specific career. For example, a PhD student in English at SBU is currently working in the SB Hospital and is involved with the relation of ethics and medicine.

In relation to the undergraduate major, Stormont said that "SB requires English majors to write a thesis, [which] is an advantage; it's good preparation for graduate work." The graduate program in English certainly builds on the undergraduate experience. According to Huffman, it "prepares one to teach, whether 7-12 [grades], or college. The PhD program requires coursework, a series of exams, and the writing of a dissertation. At the end of that, the students apply for openings in other universities."

The Master of Arts in English is targeted toward those interested in teaching. Candidates are required to have tenure in secondary education. According to Bente Videbaek, the Director of the Undergraduate Program in English, "the MA [program] has recently been tightened. The thesis is now 30+ pages where it used to be 15." As for the PhD program, Videbaek said that "8-9 out of 10 of these students will likely be teaching community colleges and doing work as adjuncts. 1-2 will go on to a PhD-granting institution. A small number goes into high school [teaching] or fields like publishing." Current PhD candidates will be interviewing at the Modern Language Association (MLA) in December.

Clifford Huffman, an SBU professor who is currently teaching Shakespeare, believes that an English major benefits any informed citizen. He said that "the original idea of a 'liberal education' is that a free [or liberal] citizen should be able to make decisions for his/her self on the basis of reason." A major in English provides this and more.

Why You Won't Make It to the PROs

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

Every year, millions of people watch pro-sports and think, "I could do that." Some of them are little kids who dream of becoming the next big superstar. They join little league baseball, youth soccer clubs and football teams in the hopes that one day, they will be professional athletes. There are those that give up on the dream early on or realize that sports are only a hobby for them.

Then there are those who continue on to be star players in their high school's varsity lineup. They hope against hope for scholarships to the big Division I schools. They face rounds of scouts and compete against players across the nation looking for the same opportunities. And for those of them that make it to their dream schools, it may seem like their way to million dollar contracts is solidly paved.

Art Young of Northwestern Universi-

ty's Center for the Study of Sports in Society stated in a 1998 study that 1 in 50,000 high school athletes will ever become part of a professional team. While this statistic gives a general idea of the challenges facing prospective pros, it doesn't show the whole picture. Each sport has its own obstacles facing anyone who wants to break out on the professional stage.

In baseball, the minor league system provides stepping stones that prepare players for the majors. On the other hand, each level is another point at which players have to prove themselves before they can move on. In the last decade or so, that task has become even more difficult for homegrown local players as major teams look beyond US borders for future star players. One only has to look at this past summer's World Baseball Classic where players from the best teams in baseball weren't representing the United States team.

On the other hand, there is the sport of soccer. This season, America's Major

League Soccer celebrates its tenth season in action. But this year also saw the national team suffer an embarrassing appearance at the World Cup. The best teams are still in Europe and American players have a difficult time competing for spots even on second tier teams in those leagues.

Basketball provides an interesting situation completely unique to the National Basketball Association. While teams have looked to foreign players in the past few years, the annual NBA draft has taken a strange turn. While millions tune in to watch March Madness every year expecting to pick out not only the top team, but players headed for the big time, even these stars may not make it to the pros. In the last couple years, NBA teams have been leaning more towards potential than proven talent in their future stars with the signing of more players straight out of high school. This trend has reached the point where many officials in the NBA have talked about establishing an age limit for players

to be drafted. The premise is that players straight out of high school may not have the emotional or physical maturity to handle being on a professional team.

Finally, potential NFL players face their own challenges. One of the biggest hurdles to a pro career is injury, and football has the potential for hundreds of those. Everyone knows the story of the guy who was on his way to a pro career when blown knee or torn tendon put an end to the dream. Then there is the fact that there are thousands of college football teams across the country, from Division I-A to Division III. Not every team is going to have the same exposure to scouts and only Division I-A games get national coverage.

While it's easy to be discouraged by the odds and challenges of trying to become a professional athlete, there will always be that hope for little kids watching their favorite players on television. The point is really to have a plan to fall back on if and when the dream doesn't pan out.

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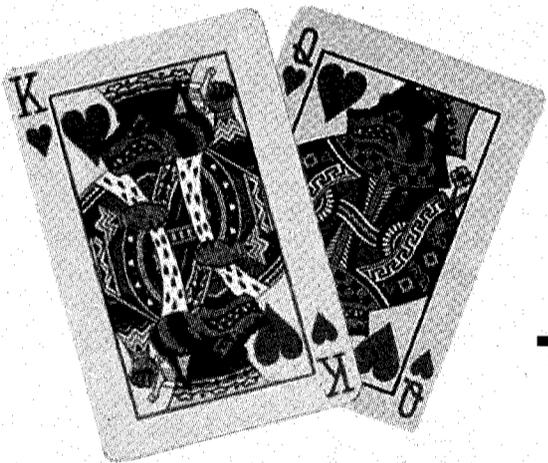
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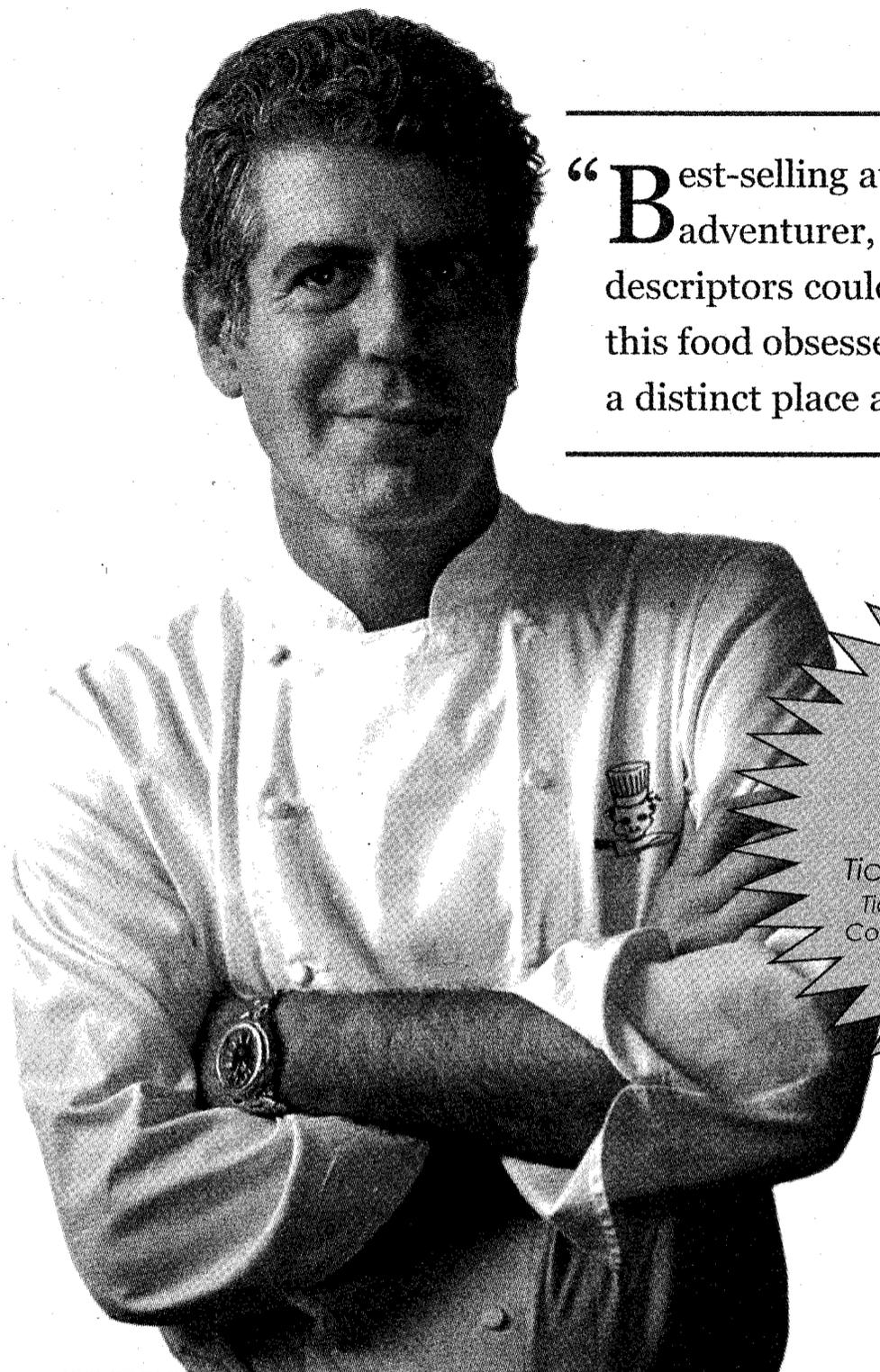
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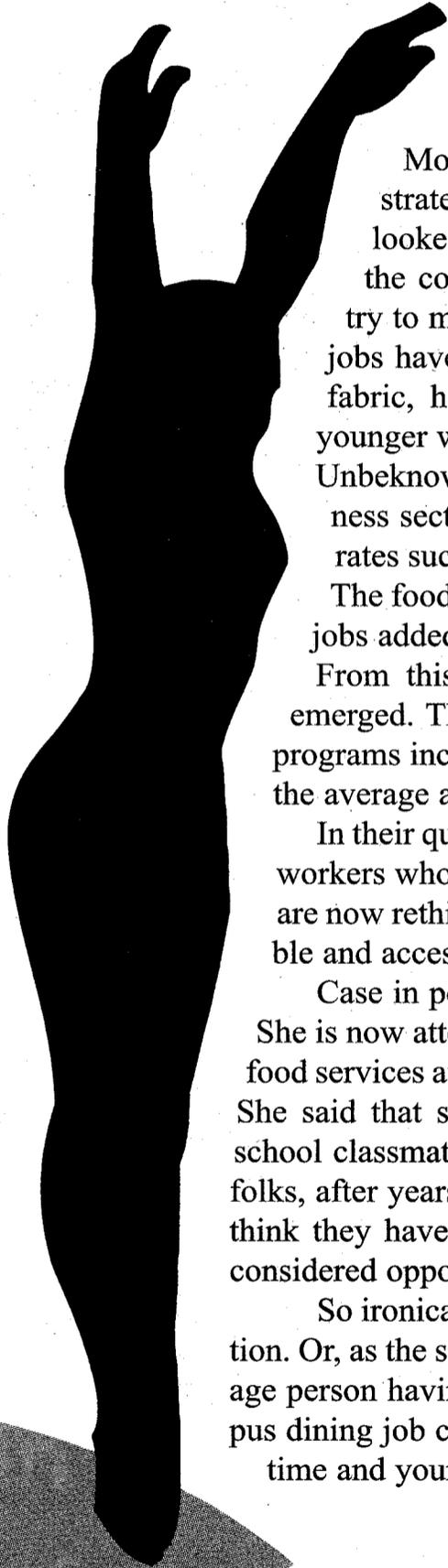
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Rolling Stone or Stepping Stone: A Surprising Springboard to Success



Most students today are using work experiences in college as a strategy to ensure employment after graduation. Not to be overlooked, is the role of the ubiquitous food services jobs, which are the cornerstone of employment opportunities for students as they try to make ends meet and gain some initial work experience. These jobs have become such an integral piece of the American workplace fabric, having practically evolved into a rite of passage for many younger workers.

Unbeknownst to many, this industry has become part of a larger business sector called the Hospitality Industry. This sector now incorporates such "hot" areas as hotels, tourism and travel and several others. The food services segment alone recently generated over 160,000 new jobs added to an industry that already employs 12 million people.

From this upsurge in employment, an interesting phenomenon has emerged. The Associated Press has reported enrollment at culinary arts programs increased almost 40 % with the median age zooming to 27 from the average age of 19 only twenty years ago.

In their quest for greater self- fulfillment and career actualization, many workers who went after the glitzy jobs, or for selling out to the big bucks, are now rethinking and redirecting themselves to careers that are more stable and accessible.

Case in point is, Amanda McDougal, who is a graduate of the UCLA. She is now attending a culinary arts program and was aiming for a career in food services after having served some time in the lucrative technology field. She said that she was surprised to find that many of her fellow culinary school classmates include former lawyers, teachers and salespersons. These folks, after years of dealing with the realities and pitfalls of the marketplace, think they have found greener pastures in something that they might have considered opposite of nirvana in their younger days.

So ironically, sometimes the stopover can become the eventual destination. Or, as the saying goes, "what goes around comes around". With the average person having an estimated 20 jobs in a lifetime, could it be that a campus dining job can offer the practicalities to bear fruits for your future? Only time and your efforts will tell.

To find out more about this phenomenon or for real life examples contact:

FSA Student Staffing Resources
Room 250 of the Stony Brook Union
Warren Wartell (631) 632-9306
Email: Warren.Wartell@stonybrook.edu

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CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Planning Committee for the 2006 annual Student-Faculty-Staff (SFS) Retreat is accepting applications from Stony Brook University undergraduate and graduate students who would like to be considered to participate in this year's event. Transfer Students are particularly encouraged to apply.

The Student-Faculty-Staff (SFS) Retreat is an annual Stony Brook tradition where select students, professors and administrators are invited to participate together as a "think-tank" to better understand and continue to improve our campus. Because space is limited for all parties, it is an honor to attend the Student-Faculty-Staff (SFS) Retreat.

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- * Help faculty and administrators understand the Stony Brook experience from your point of view.

The SFS Retreat is open to all students at the university - undergraduate and graduate, resident and commuter, etc..

**** Students application forms may be picked and returned to the Dean of Students Office, SAC Rm. 222 ****

Application Deadline: Friday, October 6 at 5pm



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A soldier marches off to war leaving behind his young wife and dog. Abject loneliness forces her to resort to desperate measures. Illicit passion, a cruel murder, a vengeful ghost, and the loyal dog. How does it end? This collaboration of Western and Eastern traditions tells this cautionary tale through stunning imagery, movement, and live music.

Tickets: \$10 for students and seniors, \$15 for general admission
 Also suitable for middle and high school students.

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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.

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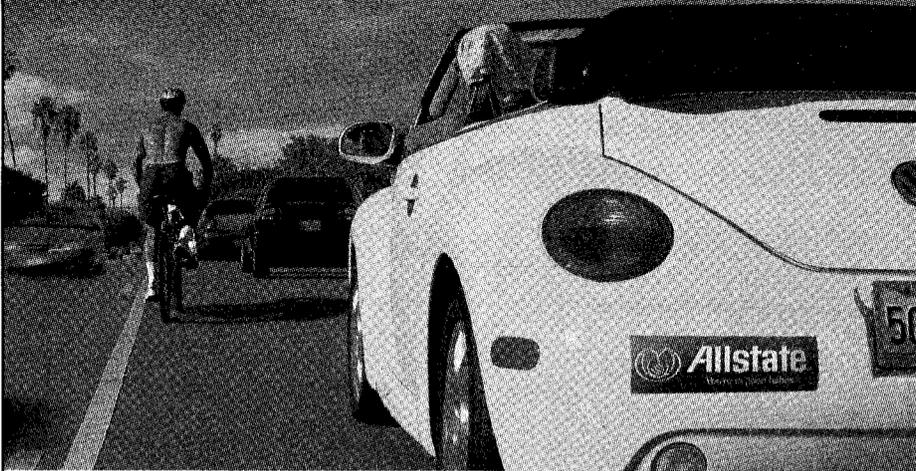
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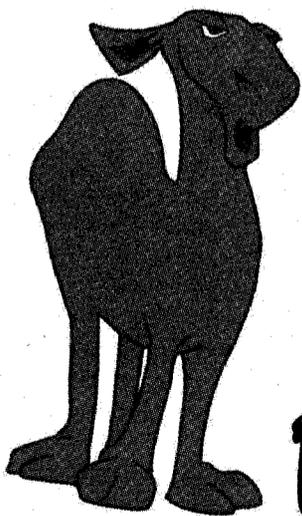
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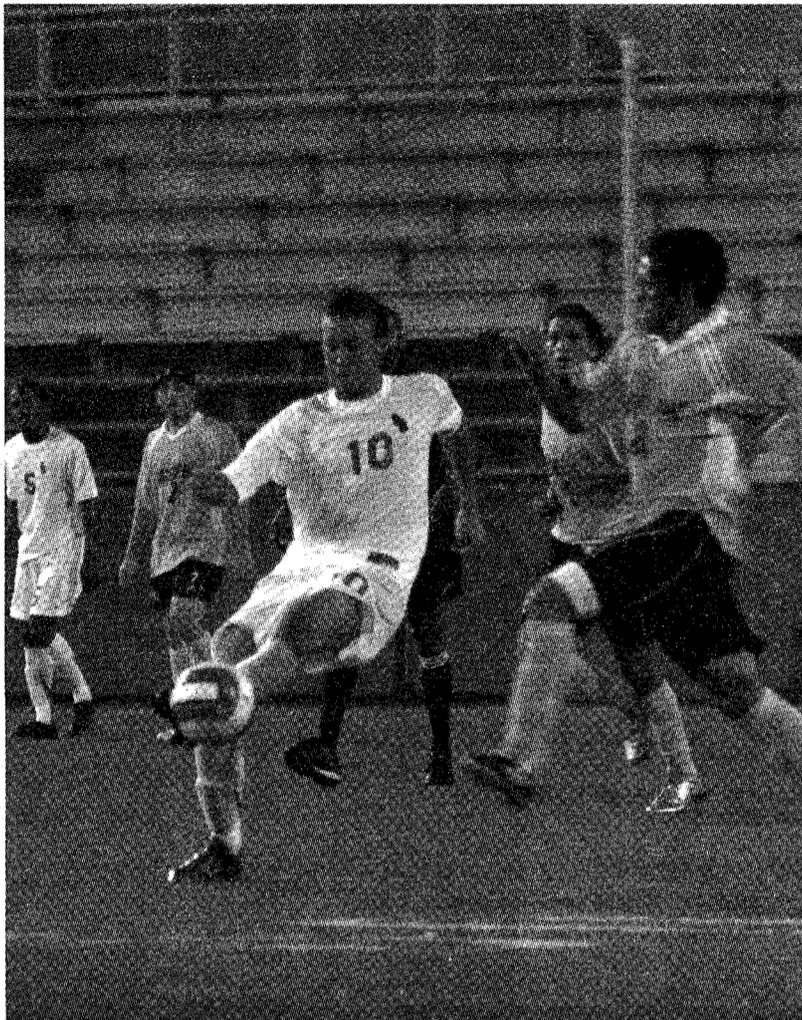
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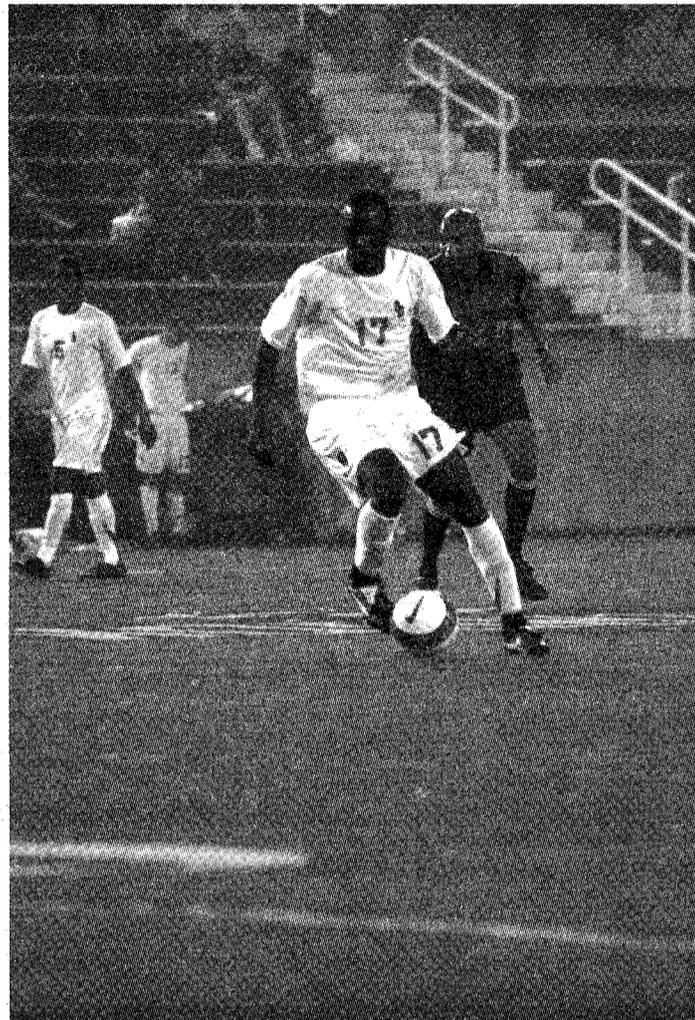
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Men's Soccer Shuts Out NJIT



Michael Palacio, #10, becomes the all-time career assists leader. Photo by Adhip Karmaker



Mahamadou Simpara, #17, anchors the Seawolves midfield to a 2-0 win. Photo by Adhip Karmaker

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Men's Soccer team closed out their non-conference season with a 2-0 win against NJIT last Friday night. The win lifts the struggling Seawolves to 3-7 on the season while NJIT slips to 1-7. This game evens the teams' career series record to 4-4-2.

The Seawolves took the lead in the 11th minute with a goal by freshman Oscar Leis. Leis took a pass from David Weisberger and tucked the ball into the far post where it rebounded into the net. The assist was Weisberger's first of his college career. The Seawolves had several more opportunities through the rest of the first half, but nothing came of it.

Stony Brook's defense held fast through the first half to keep their team on top going into the locker room. Junior Yahaya Musa shut down the right side of the field, forcing the Highlanders to attack from the opposite side, but they couldn't complete their shots. Play became rough as the half came to a close, with two yellow cards being issued to NJIT's Kevin Blanco and Stony Brook's Erion Qoku.

The second half opened with a few opportunities for the Highlanders off free kicks. Stony Brook needs to work on their defense of set plays. NJIT had too many opportunities to score because the Seawolves wasn't covering all fields. Stony Brook gave up the advantage in possession that they gained in the first half, with many starters taking a rest on the bench.

Leis almost made it two with a drive up field past the

Highlanders defense but the shot went wide. As the clock ran down on the Highlanders hopes of rallying for the win, Stony Brook put the nail in the coffin with a record setting assist by Michael Palacio. Palacio posted his third assist of the season, with a pass headed in by Tamer Mohamed in the 89th minute. The assist was the 19th of Palacio's career, making him Stony Brook's all time leader in assist.

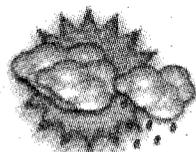
Goalie Rich Skoblicki posted a clean sheet in his first start of the season. He had excellent support from his defense, which did a good job of shutting down the Highlanders as they tried to drive forward.

The Seawolves take on Vermont and Albany as they begin their bid to defend their America East Conference title. The team heads back home on October 4th to take on UMBC.

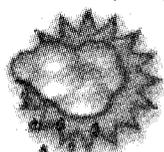
WEATHER

For more SBU student weather forecasts, visit <http://atmos.msrb.sunysb.edu/npages/sbmets.html>

Student Forecast: Sept. 28 - Oct. 4 By Britta Merwin

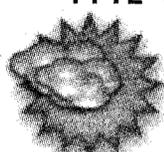


Thursday:
High 73/Low 55
Mostly cloudy,
rain overnight

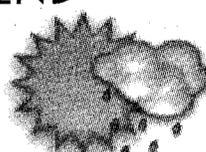


Friday:
High 70/Low 60
Rainy day

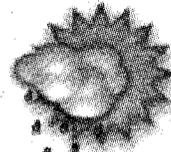
THE WEEKEND



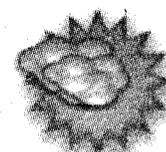
Saturday:
High 66/Low 48
Cool fall day



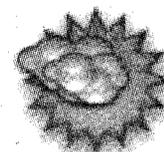
Sunday:
High 68/Low 51
Chance of rain,
mainly in the p.m.



Monday:
High 65/Low 52
Cloudy with
possible rain



Tuesday:
High 69/Low 50
Mix of sun and clouds



Wednesday:
High 71/Low 51
Partly cloudy
and pleasant

Behind the Numbers:

For everyone venturing out on Thursday night make sure you grab an umbrella! As a cold front pushes toward the east coast Thursday will feel a little warmer during the day but overnight the winds will pick up and by Friday morning the skies will be cloudy and campus can expect some rain. Saturday will provide a brief break with fair weather due to less moisture in the upper atmosphere. This pleasant weather will be short lived when the relative humidity increases due to an upper level trough digging into the northeast. The timing of this change looks to be Sunday night into Monday bringing yet another chance of rain.



SPORTS

Seawolves Slaughter Peahens

Seawolves Record at 5-3-1

BY CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Women's soccer team put together a first half worthy of the highlight reel in their win against St. Peter's last Wednesday night. From the first whistle to the last, the Seawolves dominated the offense, posting a final score of 5-0. The win boosts Stony Brook's record to 5-3-1 while the Peahens fall to 1-6.

The Seawolves didn't waste any time jumping out in front. In the third minute, Marissa Shibley took a pass from Tiffany Fasullo across the goal mouth, fooling the defenders, and slipped the ball behind the unsuspecting Peahen goalie. But the Seawolves didn't back off as they continued to put pressure on St. Peter's defensive

end.

Only two minutes later, Fasullo beat the offside trap and sailed a strong cross from the right side into the net. In the twentieth minute, junior Kristen Mishrell scored her first goal of the season with a header off Cait Frank's cross from the left side.

But the half wasn't over yet and neither was the Seawolves' offensive rally. With only four minutes left in the half, sophomore Samantha Roos launched a ball from the right side of the field that sailed over the goalie's head into the back netting.

The Seawolves charged out of the locker room with a 4-0 lead and no intention of giving it up. St. Peter's tried to battle back, but the Stony Brook defense shut it down. With the win in sight, Coach Sue Ryan was able

to showcase a few underplayed team members and give her starters a rest.

With the Peahens trying to spoil the shutout, star player Brooke Barbuto came back onto the field. Although she played well throughout the first half of the game, with aggressive drives through the St. Peter's defense, Barbuto wasn't in on the scoring run. Then, with five minutes left on the clock, she capped off the offensive domination with a header off a corner kick that buried the ball in the back of the net.

The win puts the Seawolves in good position as they go into America East Conference play. Stony Brook faces Boston University, UMBC, Maine, New Hampshire, Hartford, Albany and Vermont as the battle for the conference title.



Seawolves Midfielder, Marissa Shibley, attacks the goal in the opening minutes. Photo by Adhip Karmaker

Men's Rugby Teams Up With Seton Hall

Raises \$11,000 for Cancer Research

Submission By SB Rugby Team

Opening weekend for the Stony Brook Men's Rugby Team finished in defeat, but it was a weekend where no one lost. Proving that the sportsmanship in Rugby is like no other, Seton Hall University and Stony Brook University Men's Rugby Club raised an astonishing \$11,360.00 to donate to the St. Baldwick's Research Center for Children with Cancer.

The event featured head-shaving for charity and locks-cut-for love to show the support that both teams have for their community, loved ones, and those that are terminally ill. This season will be played in dedication to a team mother, Mrs. Isles who passed-away over the summer from Leukemia. The passionate and spirited mother refused to miss any games of the Rugby team and always provided half-time nourishment of oranges, thus the team will be sporting Orange socks and donating the

cost of socks to cancer research as well.

Upon kick-off of the game the Sea Wolf men scored within the first phase of the game. Winger Onte Johnson showed why he is one of the best wings in the Union by shaking a few defenders after a picture-perfect pass from Inside Center and Captain Dan Holzhawuer. Seton Hall quickly answered with a try of their own and everyone at the match knew it was going to be one down to the wire.

The forwards of Stony Brook fiercely dominated the game and set the tone in every aspect of the match. The pick em' up and throw em' down tackling of Jeff Carey proved to intimidate, interrogate and negate the play of Seton Hall. The back line proved to have the speed to beat Seton Hall, but early-season jitters lead to mistakes that would prove costly to The Stony Brook Men.

After loosing a front-row player to the sin-bin scrums went uncontested and the

Seton Hall Men finally had a chance to win their own scrums. After a silly penalty that led to the conclusion that the ref was blinded by the gleaming afternoon sun the Stony Brook Men now were down two-men and still showed the heart and determination that brought them a Union Championship in the prior season.

At times when kicking for points the team actually thought they were playing elementary-style Chinese football as the posts constructed by Seton Hall had less space than the Long Island Expressway on a the Friday night prior to Memorial Day Weekend.

For short, the posts seemed to be lacking a few feet on both sides which proved costly when you figure the score, 28-20. If the posts had the room needed to actually attempt a legitimate kick SB could of made all over their conversions, tying the game at 28. What a shame!

Although Seton Hall proved they are

tough competitors the films will show the dominated presence of the forwards scrum and line-outs and the mistakes that cost them this game. Simply put Head Coach Daniel Yarusso had said "No one will beat us this year beside ourselves." In the B-side game the Killer B's took on their first pitch experience with pose and athleticism. The play of newcomers at Prop and Outside Center (the tandem of 'Jasper' and 'Dave') will prove helpful in the coming game to fill in positions on the starting side.

The B-Side forcefully won their match. The Men have a tough practice week in head of them as they look the mend the bumps and bruises that cost them this game. The Men are still confident that they can win the Division after posting such a great match against the reigning Division Champions. The team looks next to take on Columbia University at home by notching a win and setting the tone for the rest of the season.