

Strawberry Fest Draws Campus to Academic Mall



Students converge on Strawberry Fest 2006.

Nicole Dulmer / Statesman

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
News Editor

On Wednesday, May 3, 2006, students, staff, and faculty had the opportunity to take part in an SBU tradition: the Strawberry Fest.

In its 13th year running, the Strawberry Fest featured a total of eleven stations, each with a different type of strawberry dish. The eleven strawberry-based snacks that were available were, in no particular order of like or dislike, the strawberry shortcake, strawberry caesar salad, strawberry frutopia, strawberry candy, strawberry yogurt, strawberry vitamin water, nachos & strawberry salsa, Edy's frozen

strawberry bar, strawberry health shake, ice cream crepe, and straw "Berries-to-Go."

According to Lisa Hospital, the primary organizer for the Strawberry Fest, each different dining hall on campus divided the responsibility of manning the strawberry stations. Hospital, in her 5th year organizing the event, described the planning that is required each year. Hospital noted, "We had to start organizing about a month ago. Any items required for the strawberry stations were ordered two weeks in advance."

Tickets for the event were \$7.75 at full price. However, students were able to get a 50 cent discount by either purchasing tickets in advance or by wearing red SBU hats

to the event. Hospital did emphasize the fact that the proceeds from the event were going strictly to cover the costs of purchasing and distributing the food. Hospital commented, "The event is meant as a service to students."

Hospital actually provided several recommendations for dishes she found quite appetizing. She mentioned the newly added ice cream crepe and strawberry caesar salad. Several other students were accosted during the event as far as their opinions of the dishes at the event. Two freshmen, Tiffany Kataria and Brett Kugelmas both agreed on the superior quality of the ice cream crepe.

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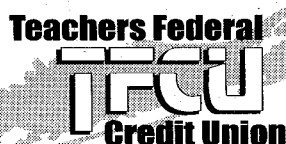


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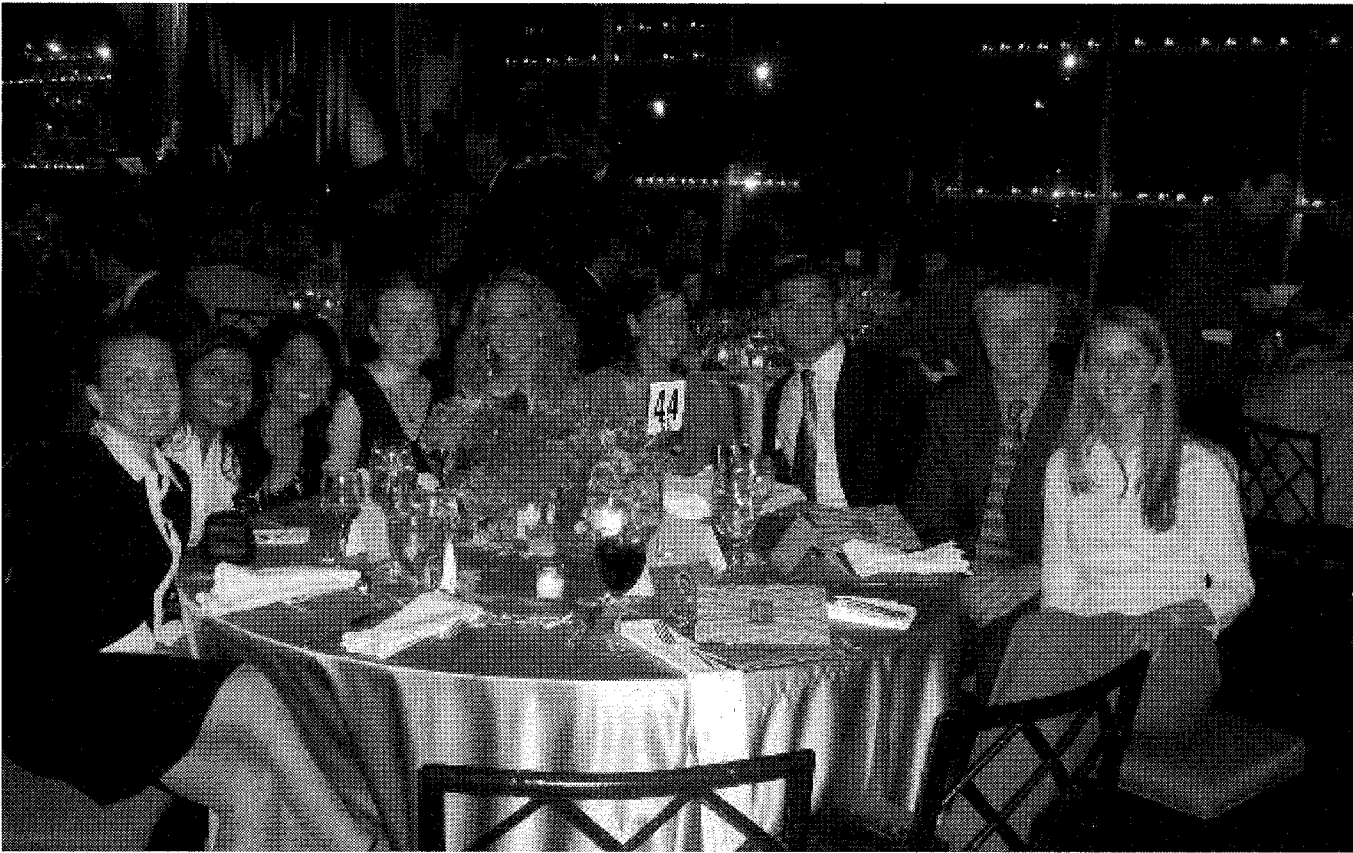
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Stony Brook Gala Raises Funds and Accolades



A number of scholarship recipients were honored at the Gala.

Tejas Gawade / Statesman

By TEJAS GAWADE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

In fifty years, Stony Brook University has risen from a small campus in Oyster Bay to a mega-educational institution that encompasses 123 buildings. In the last few years, it has added 246 acres to its 1,100 acres of campus for further research endeavors and has become home to approximately 23,000 undergraduates and graduate students. On May 3, the University's innumerable accomplishments were highlighted in a festive event at Pier Sixty, Chelsea Piers. The event, Stars of Stony Brook Gala, took place to honor Erwin and Cary Staller, who endowed SBU with one million dollars.

The Gala commenced with a cocktail hour at 6:30 PM that facilitated the mingling of the honored scholarship recipients with several alumni, faculty and philanthropists. Against the backdrop of a ship that sprouted red-, white- and blue-colored water, the Stallers; Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny, the President of the University; Dr. Robert Kerber, Professor in the Chemistry Department and Ms. Karen Kernan, Director of Undergraduate Research among others interacted with honored guests who had paid \$750 to attend this fundraising event.

The cocktail hour was followed by dinner at 7:30 PM, during which Mr. Richard Gelfond, Co-chairman of the Stony Brook Foundation and Co-CEO of IMAX Corporation invited President Kenny to say a few words. President Kenny highlighted the heights that SBU has covered, including a second Nobel Prize in the last three years, the National Medal of Science and the Marshall scholarship among several other honors.

The gala succeeded in being the second-highest fundraiser in its history. Quickly becoming a tradition, the previous six galas have raised over \$7 million for scholarships and other initiatives. In response to his reasons for being a part of this, Mr. Gelfond, who has endowed the Richard and Linda Gelfond Scholarship, has said, "As a student at Stony Brook it was a struggle to keep up with the academics and pay my bills. It's incredibly rewarding to be able to help talented undergraduates find their passion and to give back to Stony Brook." One recipient of this scholarship, Danielle Cavaliere, has stated "This scholarship helps me to manage my heavy financial burden and also gives me to confidence to continue to strive for all my dreams."

President Kenny also stated the reasons for honoring

the Stallers, as she said, "This is a time to look back with gratitude of the extraordinary generosity of the Staller family. But it also is a time to look to the future, as we begin our next 50 years, and the role Stony Brook will play in the region, the state, and the nation."

The University's Arts Center, named in honor of Max and Mary Staller in 1988, began the tradition between the Stallers and the University. Cary Staller, who has been on Board of Directors of the Staller Center for the Arts, was elected to the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees in 1998. Erwin Staller, who has been a member of the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees since 1983, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Stony Brook in 2001.

President Kenny's speech was followed by a musical showcase by the Stony Brook Jazz Trio. The gala ended with the presentation of awards to Cary Staller, presented by Dr. James H. Simons, President Kenny and Mr. Gelfond. An award was presented to Erwin Staller by David Finckel, President Kenny and Mr. Gelfond. While Cary Staller's speech generated several ovations, it was Erwin Staller's presentation of the award that generated the most emotion.

CRASH KILLS JUNIOR ON NICOLLS ROAD

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
News Editor

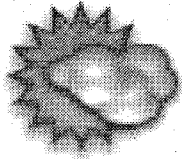
On May 5, 2006 at 6:45AM, SBU undergraduate Jeffrey Eng was presumed dead at SBU Hospital.

Eng, who was in his junior year at SBU, was found that Friday morning in severe condition by Suffolk County police. His car was overturned off the side of Nichols road between the South and Main entrances of the campus. The incident involved only his own vehicle as it appeared Eng had, himself, driven off the side of the road.

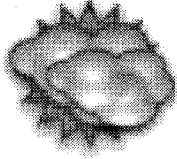
When asked about the cause of the accident, SBU Police Chief Douglas Little responded, "We have no concrete information as of yet. We aren't in charge of the investigation as it falls into the jurisdiction of the Suffolk County Police Department." Little did mention, "The accident had no witness as it happened early in the morning. It was a mystery crash."

Only time will tell the exact cause of Eng's death.

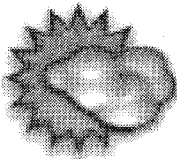
Student Forecast: May 8 - May 14 By Britta Merwin



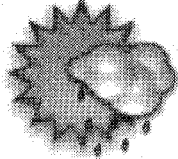
Monday:
High 62/Low 45
Partly cloudy, but pleasant



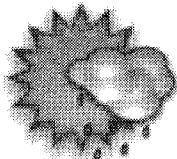
Tuesday:
High 59/Low 45
Cloudy with a slight chance of showers



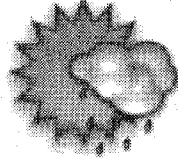
Wednesday:
High 62/Low 46
Mix of sun and clouds



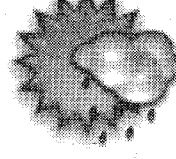
Thursday:
High 63/Low 47
Chance of showers and evening storms



Friday:
High 64/Low 46
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain



Saturday:
High 61/Low 47
Chance of showers



Sunday:
High 60/Low 45
Clouds with a chance of rain

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

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

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

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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Farewell Stony Brook

By M.M. ACKERSON
Columnist

I have lived on campus and attended class here for a meager year. Next year I will be transferring to another school, moving on, as they say, to bigger and better things. Yet I will never forget my time here. This is truly a great institution of higher education, but like everything else in this world it also has its flaws.

Particularly, the dorming experience.

Being as I am a light sleeper, booming music, people yelling in the hallway or outside, and (most hated of all) firecrackers exploding directly outside my dorm room window at two AM tended to significantly impede on my sleep. At such points of unwelcomed late-night disruptions or mid-day fatigue from lack of slumber, I felt nearly compelled to become a commuter.

My second major complaint would be the cleanliness of the bathrooms and the general appearance of the quads. Here, let me single out Roosevelt Quad, since I am a resident there and more intimately acquainted with it than the other quads. If you're not sure which one is Roosevelt, I believe it may jog your memory if I were to say it's the one that looks like the architect who designed it also designed prisons (rumor has it that he did!) and that around campus it is the quad most affectionately referred to as simply "The Ghetto."

That title is not far from the truth. The inconsiderate slob of my floor (you know who you are) choose to pollute and litter our bathroom in the most creative ways. But let's not go into more detail than that on the issue of bathrooms in case you are reading this while eating your lunch.

All students would have to admit that waking up each day to the lovely site of toilet papered trees, having to crunch back and forth across the glass-sprinkled terrace, and stopping sometimes to glance over the site of whole mattresses, large amounts of garbage, or even computers thrown out of the buildings from several stories up—it tends to dampen the academic spirit, on occasion.

My third and final complaint about living on campus would have to be the food. I am completely sick of the food here. If I had my car on campus, I would live out of my mini-fridge. The food on campus is not only repetitious, unhealthy, and, sometimes, just plain bad, but it is a big rip-off. Can you hear me Meal-Plan people? You are gouging us! \$4.25 for twelve ounces of smoothie is ridiculous. Over four dollars for a tiny, small, measly amount of sliced fruit is murder! Got it? If there are priorities to protest about anything on campus (cough, cough, yes, now I'm talking to you SJA and co.) this should be one towards the top of the list.

With that said, I want to now discuss the strengths and positive aspects of this University. Let me begin with President Shirley Strum Kenny. Dr. Kenny, you are a very personable and level-headed individual, and I know you are working hard to make this a better place to learn and live at each day. Also, I love your Texas accent.

To the professors and some of the very nice people working in the Academic Advising Dept. and in the Library: you give the prestige to this institution. After two semesters and thirty-four credits of classes, I have no complaints (except for possibly one teacher of Economics who forgot to show up to class

one day). All of my teachers have been very supportive and always showed the utmost concern for our intellectual development. To single out a few: Professor Dawes, you have a great sense of humor; Cynthia Davidson, Thomas Tousey, and Clare Frost of the writing department, you are fantastic and it would be a great loss to the University not to have you; and finally Mr. Westermann, who teaches a fiction writing workshop, you are a treasure chest of aphorisms and you inspire me sir.

The opportunities to get involved on campus are limitless. If you've only explored a couple of the options available out there, or haven't explored at all, then wake up! This is college, old chap. So it's time to get involved and contribute something. You'll regret it if you don't. Whatever you're interested in or passionate about, I guarantee you this campus has a club or an audience for it.

The credit for the most memorable part of my time at Stony Brook belongs to my peers, my fellow Brookies. I hope to remain close with the friends that I have made here for a long time. In an earlier article I wrote that the college experience is the people, and nothing else. I still believe that, and that it is especially true with Stony Brook. I doubt any of the Ivy Leagues have someone like Amberly Jane, or Geoff Grecynski, or Stan Adler. Because that's what makes us different from other universities and, in many ways, better.

I like to think of Stony Brook University as being a person, a unique individual. It is real and down to earth. It has a wealth of personality and an endless amount of knowledge to offer all those willing to seek it out. It is an old friend whose memory I will always hold near to my heart regardless of the flaws.

GRADUATION ANGST

By LAURA POSITANO
Columnist

Many of you know someone who will graduate soon. Perhaps you are graduating (or perhaps you wish you were).

Graduation evokes a cornucopia of reactions - happiness, and undeniable delight, are the emotions that many feel. Yet, concurrent with such optimistic feelings associated with upcoming graduation, there is also some pessimism - fears about the future, confusion about the right path to take, and ambivalence about leaving college. Leaving buddies behind, and along with them, your time of being able to be idiotic.. Going to the library in pajamas will become a wistful memory.

If such thoughts sound familiar, take heart; it's not just you. One can ascribe blame for a good chunk of the soon-to-be-graduating angst to society. It's not in your imagination. If anything, it's your sociological imagination.

Society's expectations are extremely powerful because, constantly, we receive these messages. Our peers, our families, and other social groups augment our awareness of what's expected of us, and how we're to behave. Institutions, such as the media and colleges, only amplify our awareness of what society dictates our behavior to be.

When we're in college, different groups that we interact with expect us to be different things. We're expected to be studious and ambitious by our professors and parents, especially wanting us to be nearly obsessive, come senior year, about entrance exams to get into graduate schools, and readiness for entry level jobs.

Yet, simultaneously, we're expected by the media and our peers to be goofy, horny, and materialistic, because we're young and hot, and don't have to worry about the real world yet. According to C. Wright Mills' sociological imagination theory, we don't live in an oblivious vacuum; our awareness of what's going on in society definitely affects us as individuals. Basically, our collective awareness of the divergent expectations of the social groups and institutions which we frequently interact with can lead to senior angst.

Being told by advertisers on college television that essentially we need to focus more on being ourselves, in honing our individual fashion sense and increasing our musical exposure to non-conforming musical styles - being yourself is funky and hip is their main message; and many of our peers agree. Stores in college towns like Greenwich Village overwhelmingly echo this rarely spoken message - being in touch with yourself and experimenting is what

being in college is all about. Vintage stores and boutiques selling quirky accessories like cigarette necklaces abound in such places, frequented by many a college student. Who wouldn't enjoy such forays into the funky fabulous world of the Village?

However, many a parent or professor will chastise us for being too individualistic; especially when you're a senior, it seems that all they know how to talk about is the need to be more serious and career-oriented. What will look good on the resume? "Do you understand that your days of being immature like this are limited?" is their underlying message. Conflict ensues between the call to be a nonconformist by our friends and the media, and striving towards conformity for success commanded by everyone else.

At twenty-one, I believe that I am entitled to be immature, sometimes. Friends of mine who are approaching the epoch of graduation, a semester earlier than me (I graduate in the fall) feel similarly. They're especially cognizant that jobs and resumes jump higher on the priority list in the back of one's mind, as graduation nears. I'm as serious as a twenty-something should be; downright too mature at times. I enjoy good laughs and benign pranks,

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Have Your Say Roth Regatta 2006

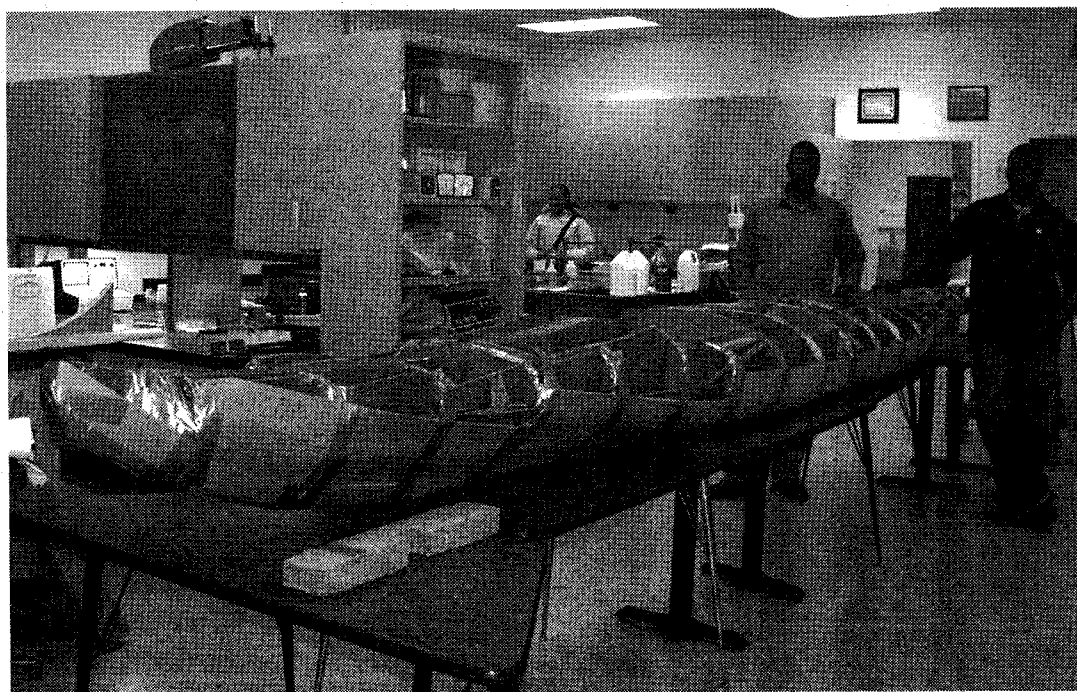
I have enjoyed joining our students in participation in the Roth Regatta since 2004. You provided some great photos and interesting comments.

During the race an attendee came to view our entry and commented that he thought our entry was a real kayak that was covered with duct tape whereupon I showed him photos of the internal construction. This claim was repeated by student William Shu and was reported in your article. I would like to set the record straight. The Laventer was built by a team of students from both the Clinical Laboratory Sciences and the Cytotechnology

program in the School of Health Technology and Management under my direction. They labored enthusiastically for over 200 hours to build a boat using 4 gallons of Elmer's glue, 32 rolls of duct tape and approximately 60 sheets of cardboard.

Further, I have willingly shared my design with any student who asked including our main competitor in the race. I sincerely hope that you give our students credit where they deserve it.

I am enclosing a photo of the internal structure as proof of the fact that it is not "cheap version of a kayak wrapped in duct tape" as quoted in your article.



“GRADUATION IS AN ENDING,
AND A BEGINNING, AS
COUNTLESS SPEECHES NOTE,
BUT ITS NOT THE END OF YOU.”

Continued from page 4

being totally idiotic and irreverent. Studying, not to mention other time commitments pertaining to college, demands much of my time, so the fun has a time limit. As the majority of upperclassmen can attest, being a student can be a full time job on its own (I say upperclassmen since seniors and juniors approaching senior year tend to have more studying than freshmen and sophomores). From what I've observed, in the four years I've been in college, is this: reconciling the two disparate ideals of behavior (the individualistic college student versus the student who's seriously focused on careers) is a challenge. Sometimes it's easier to be something for one group (your peers) and something else for

the older, arguably more demanding parents and professors. I've known people in college who just are so focused on being focused (on their research, classes, internships, etc.) that they only know how to be that way. Going out with friends or on dates are deemed encumbrances. In the eyes of the older generation who demand for us to be the best researchers, academics, et cetera, such people are the quintessential college students. Yet these people are hurt socially. The opposite extreme is that of people who just go to clubs, skip classes, and sporadically study. Neither of these commonly found extremes are healthy.

Graduation is an ending, and a beginning, as countless speeches note, but it's not the end of being you.

Higher Education Raises Both Brain Power and Salary Bar

By YICK LEE
Staff Writer

Abbreviated titles of professions are often symbols of a privileged and respected life for those who can give the general public professional advice. While most people know that M.D. stands for Doctor of Medicine and Ph.D. is a Doctor of Philosophy, it's not as clear to most how to obtain these titles. And, generally, students do not understand that these two prominent titles do not encompass all the professional routes students can follow if they want to continue their formal education. This article will expose students to some key information and ideas about graduate education of different fields.

What is Graduate Education?

Graduate program can be separated into three major categories: professional programs, master's programs, or PhD programs. Professional programs, including those of business administration, law, education and medical schools, are geared to provide rigorous training toward a specific profession or practice. These programs have a wide variety of time commitment depending on the area of specialization.

Time Commitment

Most MD and Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) program requires 4 years of training before the beginning of residency. A Juris Doctor (J.D.), or a degree in law, is generally a three-year program. While most Masters programs are 1 to 2 years in length, PhD programs can range from 4 to 7 years. Depending on the school and the particular department, Master's degree might or might not be a prerequisite for the application of a PhD program. Recently, more universities are offering more convenient and time-saving programs for students who want to pursue two different degrees at the same time. M.S./M.B.A. programs are offered by many universities who have established business schools. Prestigious programs such as Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) are supported by government funding to train students to be expert in basic science in clinical research through a M.D./Ph.D. program.

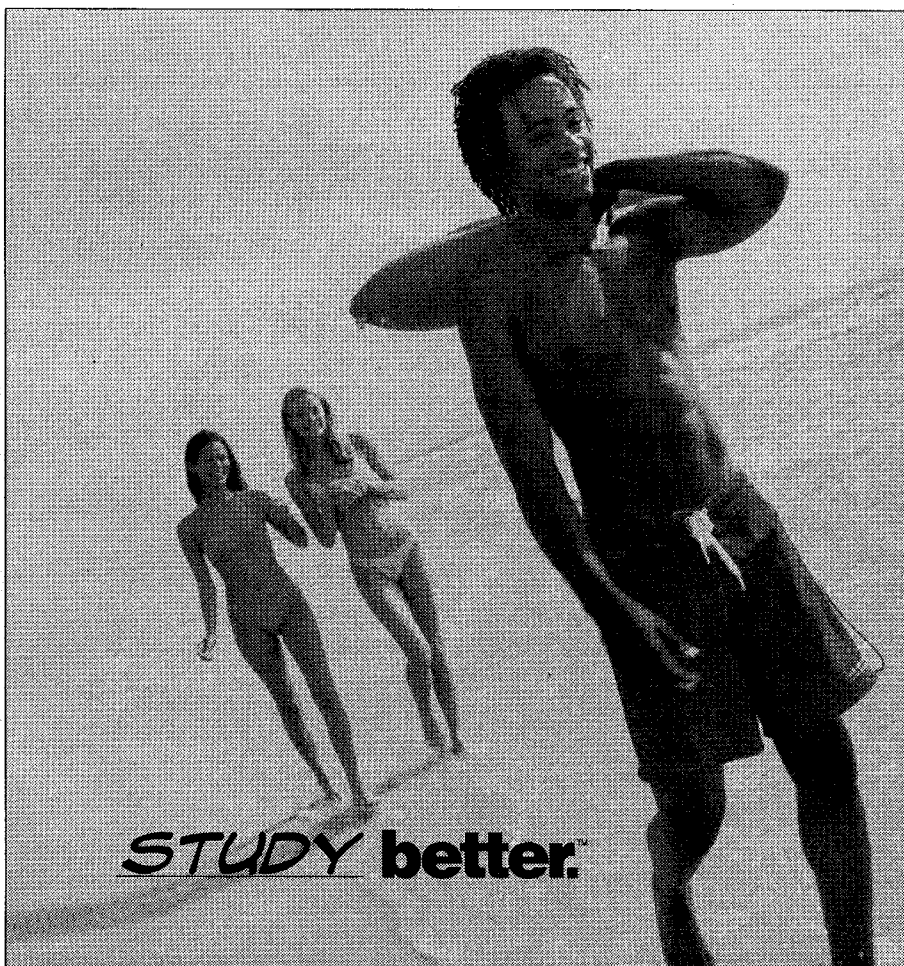
Usually, the time commitment of post baccalaureate education can impose a great financial burden to students who are not prepared for graduate education early on or if they have planned on contributing to their family's income. This is because the income of graduate students is generally lower than those who have full-time employment outside of the academic realm.

Earning Power and Benefits

However, Dr. John Gergen, Associate Dean of the SBU Graduate School presents the bigger picture of the benefits of graduate education: "If you look at statistics, students who had earned a post baccalaureate degree will have earning power that is significantly higher." Indeed, when a student browses through a job search engine, he or she can generally see that some jobs would require a higher degree in order to apply and the compensation is usually observed to be higher. It can be said that a Master's or higher degree is a person's "license to negotiate" his or her salary.

Another dilemma that students have to face is how to pay for graduate education. Luckily, this should be the least of their worries if they are planning to apply to a doctoral program. Most doctoral program in the United States would actually pay students to go to school in the forms of stipends and fellowships. These fellowships enable students to focus on studying instead of taking up part-time jobs for their basic needs such as housing and health insurance.

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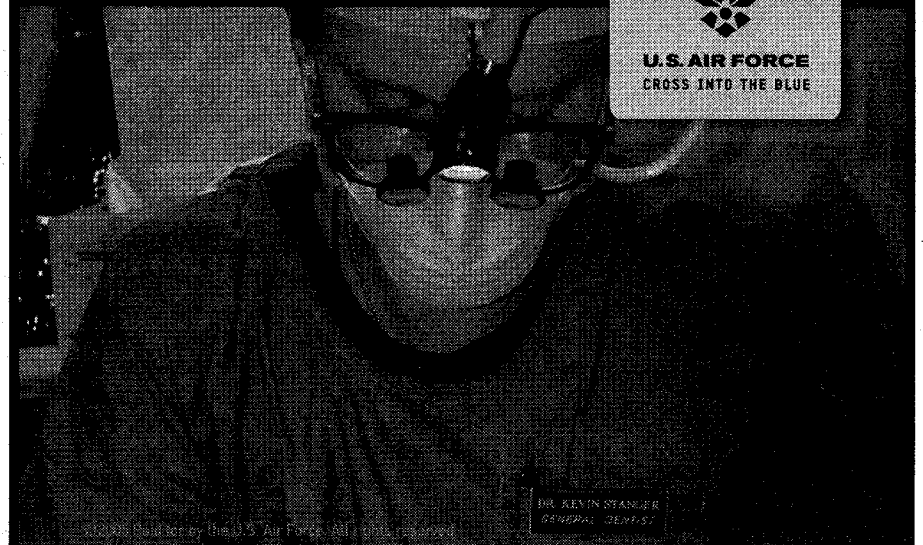
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"Finals Five"

By BILLY JEAN CALIXTE
Contributing Writer

It's too late to avoid the "Freshmen 15," but you can avoid that "Finals Five." That's about how much weight students can gain during finals week.

It is not just a myth that incoming freshman put on a few pounds in their first year of college. Studies have been done to prove this phenomenon.

However, when it comes to finals, we find out that students aren't just cramming information for their chemistry finals, they are also cramming their bodies with unhealthy late night snacks, of which is accounted for most of that "Freshman 15."

It's easy to gain that "Finals Five." This time of the year is when most of us are starting to run out of points. Instead of buying a solid healthy meal, we can only afford pizzas, fried chicken and fountain drinks. For those who already ran out of points, the 555 deal at Domino's Pizza seem to be a weekly meal.

It does not have to be this way because lucky for you, resources are available to help you cut away from those hips and belly fats

before you head back home this summer.

Take Advantage of Your Resources: As a Stony Brook student you pay a student activity fee, which allow you to use numerous facilities around campus for free. The Department of Campus Recreation provide students with more than 30 sports clubs, 15 group fitness classes, a fitness center in every quad, and the wellness center located on the third floor of the Student Activity Center.

"I don't think people are aware of how important Campus Rec is," said David Hairston (CQ), coordinator intramurals and sports clubs. "We have over 30 sports clubs, ranging from aikido to women's rugby."

In addition to Campus Recreation, Campus Dining Services has a Certified Nutritionist on staff Mondays and Wednesdays during working hours and later. The Dietician Darlene Pretoccone (CQ), meet with students and help them fine healthy choices on campus. She also has counseling sessions with them ranging from "weight loss, high cholesterol, and food allergy," she said.

Balance Your Choices: Dieting is all about choices. The truth is, there is a variety of healthy and unhealthy food on campus,

but ultimately it is up to you to pick what's best for you. "Instead of a bag of chips, you can have a bag of carrots," said Dennis Lestrangle (CQ), Resident District Manager at Kelly Quad and a former chef. He also suggests a fruit, saying "everyone has a fruit that they like."

A sheet titled "Eating strategies for Exam-Time," which Petroccione plans to post around campus, compiles a few tips for students who want to improve eating habits during finals.

"Make yourself get up to snack" is one of the tips. "Don't bring the snacks to your study place. Eat snacks away from desk." Bringing your snacks to your room leads to what she calls "mindless eating." It's "where your face is in the book and you're just eating away," she said.

Balance your diet. We have all ignored trail mix for the big bag of Cool Ranch Doritos. "There's no problem with someone eating a piece of cheesecake," Lestrangle said. "But you can't do it all the time." And if you are someone who must have your Doritos, consider the Doritos Mini Bites instead of the Costco mega value bag.

And then there's the ice cream that students love to store in their freezer for a stressful night. It is our favorite comfort food. Consider this the next time you go over to Kelly at 2:45 a.m.: a Haagen-Dazs (CQ) Triple Chocolate ice cream has 330 calories, of which 190 are from fat. An alternative to the Triple Chocolate is the low-fat chocolate Sorbet, also by Haagen-Dazs. It only has 130 calories, five of which are from fat, with zero saturated fat.

Be Proactive: Do not wait until the semester is about to end to start going to the gym and watching your diet. It will be too late. You will be so bombarded by schoolwork that not going to the gym because you have to study will seem like an acceptable excuse.

"Now is the time to get in the habit," said Campus Recreation Director, Dr. Susan DiMonda. It is the time to go out and take advantage of those free facilities and sports clubs. It's time to play basketball at the sports complex, or join an intramural softball team. Basically, "get involved right away," Dr. DiMonda said. "And stay involved."

Post-Undergraduate Education Helps Students Remain Competitive

Continued from page 5

Advantages

Besides monetary benefits and respect earned from the bonafide title, the most important aspect of a graduate education is that it is not just a training to do repetitive work. In a research-oriented program, students can learn critical thinking skills and do "original research that makes a contribution of knowledge." According to Gergen, graduate school is a place for people who like thinking and discovering the unknown.

Academia might not get paid as much as other places but a successful researcher can become a principal investigator who has his/her own laboratory. In Gergen's experience, he likes to get to be his own boss, "I get to think what I like to think about, and nobody tells me what I should do."

Between Master's and Ph.D.

In applying for graduate study, students often wonder what degree should one apply and where should one apply. The answer is very dependent of the individual's need, personality and choices. Communication with your program advisor is usually very important in exploring different options of a specific field. Students can also find general guidance on careers and schools at the Career Center.

Preparation

While some graduate education has no particular course prerequisites, others are infamous for their strict

requirements. Early planning is generally required for those who wants to be admitted to medical schools, pharmacy schools, and dental schools, as strategic course planning can determine the failure or success of completion of the application requirement.

Another basic step that is often overlooked by students is the development of interpersonal relationship with faculty. Two to three recommendation letters are usually required by graduate programs in the United States. It is very unlikely that a faculty member or an internship supervisor can develop a worthwhile academic relationship with a student overnight or in one week's time. It can be said that a great recommendation letter would only culminate through time and hard work.

An extension of networking within the student's current institution would be to develop relationships with faculty of prospective institution. This is especially helpful in a research setting. "E-mailing [professors] ahead of time is important because no matter what field you are in, you want to build a relationship with someone you are going to work with and you need to show [others] that you are independent, and being able to take your own initiative if you set your mind into doing something," said Adiba Ali, a graduate student of the Biomedical Engineering program.

Besides taking the required courses and developing interpersonal relationship, students must also check the "prospective student" section of the school's website in order to checkoff all the required tests. The most general test is the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), a series of tests required by most graduate program. Similar to SAT, it consists of a general test and subject tests. Other tests include Medical College Admission Test (MCAT), Dental Admission Testing (DAT), Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), Law School

Admission Test (LSAT).

Application

Generally, a student would apply to 5-6 different institutions for a science and engineering graduate program. Other programs, such as medical programs, would require a much higher number of applications. To make sure that all application packages are completed with transcripts and recommendation letters, students are recommended to draw out a schedule for each step of their application. A neat plan can avoid unnecessary mistakes and confusions.

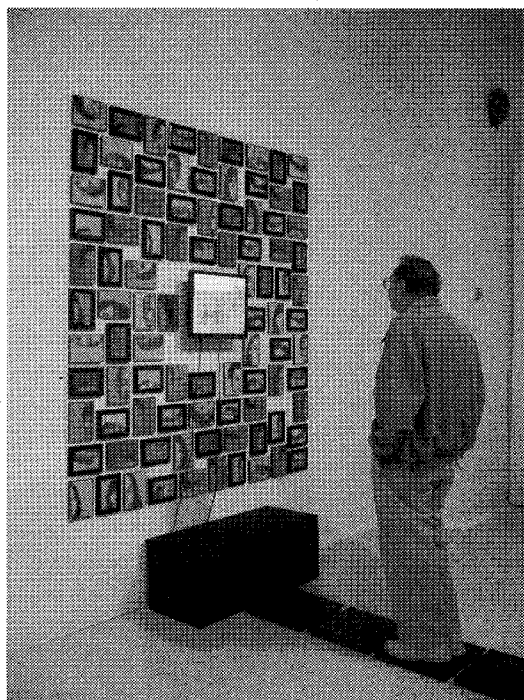
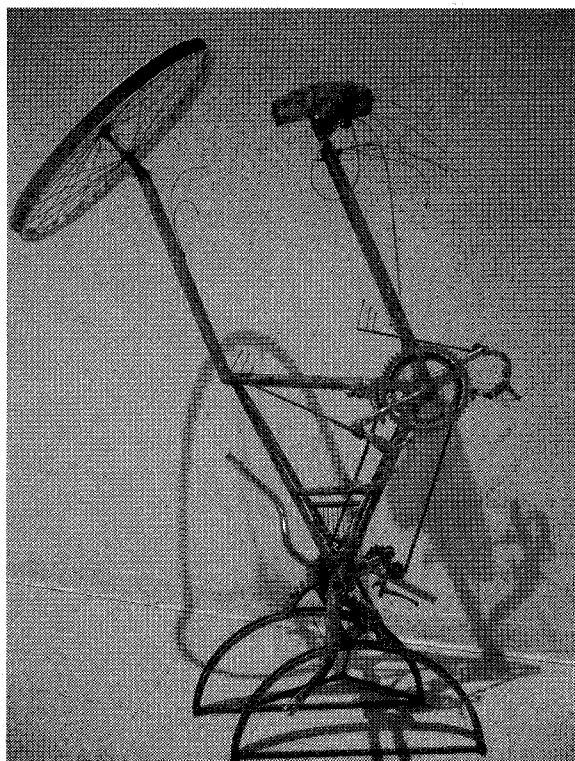
For more specific guidance, students can also talk to other successful graduate students for advice. Small details can be easily told by those who had just finished their application a year ago. First year graduate student Ali advised, "Relate your laboratory experience in your personal statement, and show [the admission committee] that research is really something that is very exciting."

Once You Are There

Graduate study may be very different from your undergraduate study or it may be very similar, but it will have a major impact on your life for sure. As Gergen explained, "By the time that you finish a PhD program in graduate school, you will be around 27-28 years old. Considering the current life expectancy, you will have 30-40 years of work ahead of you. [The decision of applying to higher education] is a question of where you like to work and not just punching the clock."

ART EXHIBITS

Senior Show 2006



Tejas Gawade/Statesman

BY NANDITHA DAS
Staff Writer

I have always felt that art should be dynamic. One of the greatest talents is to be able to say a lot without having to express a lot. Art that evokes emotion or confusion is simply more exciting than art that appears to be motionless. Extravagance is not necessary to accomplish this, however. Emotions do not have to be strong or negative for a piece of art to be effective. Art can be contemporary or traditional and still provoke the same kind of controversy or appreciation and approval. If the artist can get the audience thinking, then he or she has succeeded. The "Senior Show 2006" is a magnificent example of the great talent contained within the confines of Stony

Brook University.

The "Senior Show 2006" is the annual graduating senior exhibition of artwork. It runs this year from May 4 to May 17. A reception was held for the artists on May 6 from 7 to 9 pm. The exhibit was rather popular. Many people from the neighboring towns showed up to view the exhibit. Art is always something that transcends age barriers. Both senior citizens and young children can enjoy the "Senior Show 2006."

The "Senior Show 2006" features a wide range of artwork with a broad assortment of media, which include steel and other metals, acrylic and oil-based paint, resin, digital photographs, graphite, alabaster, wax and plastic, among others. Apart from the varying media, the artwork

addressed different topics. Some were social criticisms, while others were analyses of human behavior, or interpretations of life. All the artwork expressed ingenuity and creativity, and the expression of emotion was effective. The caliber of talent is evident to anyone who visits this exhibit.

Some of the art pieces were shown in the Student Activities Center before they were shown in this exhibit. The best pieces were shown in both exhibits. The best pieces were those that looked at everyday items differently. There was one exhibit, called *Cloud 9*, done by Leo Le, which had a digital media installation. He had used lottery tickets and fortunes from fortune cookies. Presentation and composition are everything. The media that an artist uses helps both composition and presentation.

The idea was appealing, and the size of the exhibit helped in the presentation.

Another piece that was really amazing was titled *Underwater* by Leslie Chong. It was an etching. The conspicuous sketching is evidence of the time and effort that this artist put into the work. It takes a lot of dedication, and patience, coupled with talent and luck. Inspiration comes at the most unexpected of times.

The exhibit is definitely worth a see, especially since it is open to viewing during finals week. If you feel like you need a break from studying, and you just want to clear your mind, just head over to Staller, and you can view the magnificent pieces of art. Perhaps the display of talent will be that hidden boost of inspiration that you need to succeed.

Stony Brook

In Vogue

A Few of My Favorite Things . . .

BY AMY DRAGANI
Staff Writer

Since this is the last issue of the *Statesman* for the semester and I know you are all in the finals frenzy, I put together a compilation of my favorite items from the past few weeks (and next few to come):

1. Bright colors. Shades of red, orange, and coral are staples in this year's warm weather styles--don't be afraid to stand out a little bit.

2. White. I've previously mentioned

that shades of white can create your entire wardrobe if you felt so inclined. White can be light and casual, or feminine and sexy. And white will look fabulous with your summer tan!

3. Casual dresses in light, comfortable fabrics. A simple lightweight dress can be the perfect choice for a hot summer day.

4. Leggings. I can't help but be intrigued by the return of the legging. Just make sure you feel comfortable in leggings--wear them with a long top and try wearing heels (heels will make your legs

look thinner by giving them a slimmer line). The same goes for skinny jeans a cigarette pants--try a couple things, wear what you like.

5. City shorts. Somewhat conservative, somewhat prep short style. Make sure they fall right at your knees. Try them with heels for sophistication or with flats for a casual daytime look (but only if you're semi-tall).

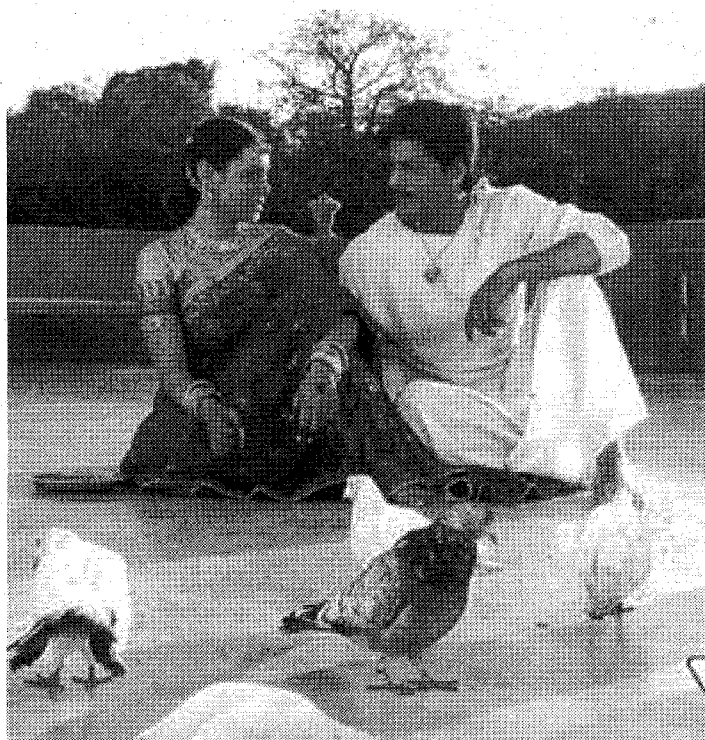
6. Natural hair. Flowy waves, loose ponytails, subtle highlights. Simple and beautiful--a summer best.

7. Healthy skin. Take care of your skin, especially in the sun. If you wear sunblock, you'll burn less and achieve a more even, longer lasting tan.

.....and the last summer style secret that will make or break your look...attitude, of course! I've become quite redundant with this but the most important part of looking good is feeling good. Be comfortable and stylish, make a popular trend your own--you'll look and feel gorgeous!

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!

Paheli Riddles with Awe



Courtesy of amazon.com

By TEJAS GAWADE
Arts & Entertainment Editor

If there were ever a movie for a non-Indian to feast their eyes on, it would have to be *Paheli*. *Paheli* is reminiscent of everything that traditional India stands for, from the ornate jewelry to the vibrant dresses and intriguing dances. A part of the Indian Cinema series of the Charles B. Wang Center this semester, this movie is worth watching simply for its colorfulness.

Directed by Amol Palekar, *Paheli* means a riddle. The movie itself is a riddle in that I couldn't place its purpose. Narrated in classic folktale-style, it is the story of woman's desperate need for her husband's love, whose interests lie in his money. Things get complicated when her love is reciprocated by a ghost who takes on the form of her husband. If you are not confused yet, let me tell you how it ends. The woman bears the ghost's child, and they actually live happily ever after.

Bollywood is strewn with movies that have very little to do with real life, and *Paheli* succeeds in doing that and more. However, where it fails in plot, it makes up in acting. The main character, Lachchi, portrayed by Rani Mukherjee, is done to almost impeccable perfection. As a demure, obedient housewife and a lover who slowly learns to speak her own mind, Mukherjee deserves accolades. Shah Rukh Khan, purportedly the King of Bollywood, does exceeding justice to his dual role as the husband,

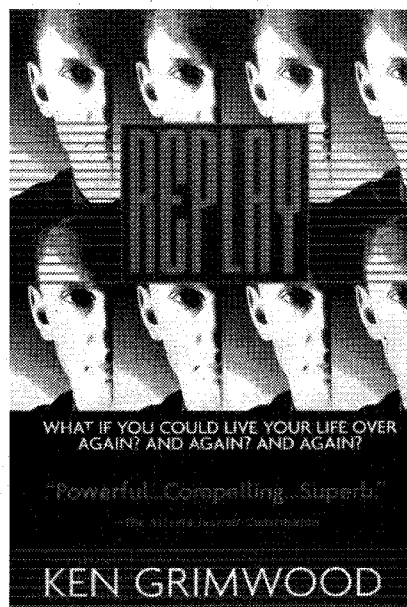
Kishenlal and the ghost, pseudo-Kishenlal. The actors' chemistry is enjoyable and serves well for the plot.

If there were a singular reason to watch *Paheli*, it would be the cinematography. The story is told in the simplicity, subtlety and beauty of a folktale. The film even manages to raise eyebrows by questioning a woman's right to decide the course of her life and her spouse, through the character of Lachchi. Ravi Chandran, the cinematographer, deserves an award simply for recreating magic to the likes of what Alfonso Cuarón did for the third Harry Potter movie. His depiction of rustic Rajasthan will leave the viewer in awe.

To me, the only irritating aspect of the movie, besides its somewhat outrageous plot, was its length. The first half is slow, but it is not painful because of the seemingly myriad songs that have been composed beautifully. Some songs to look out for are, Dheere Jalna, a mystic ensemble of flute, dholak and shehnai, it will appeal to most music lovers. For the traditional folk-essence, watch Kangana Re. I can guarantee you that the music will stay with you even after the movie.

The presentation and the narration offset any parts of the movie that I disliked. The characters speak in crude Hindi and Rajasthani slang and whether it Kishenlal's home, or the beautiful surroundings, a folk tale is captured. I would highly recommend this movie to anyone interested in watching a movie that has been masterfully directed.

Get Your Read On:



Courtesy of amazon.com

By JEREMY FALLETTA
Senior Australian Correspondent

Have you ever wished that life had a rewind button? That you could go back in time and fix something? It would be cool, anyway. Enter Jeff Winston, an involuntary "replayer" whose life keeps ending and returning him to the age of 18. Grimwood has, with *Replay*, created a powerful narrative about why replaying one's life might not be the best idea.

The twist is, of course, that you can't just replay once. I won't say much more about that, in the interest of keeping the book compelling for you, but I will say that Grimwood is as original as he is convincing with all the replaying business.

Jeff's knowledge of the future comes in handy; he is able to win massive sums of money betting on famous sports games, he attempts to stop historical disasters and he gets himself out of more than one tight spot with his insider information. These activities illustrate the mutating focus of Jeff's interest. He is seasonally interested in money, altruism, and eventually, self-exploration.

He begins to wonder, at some point, why the replaying is happening, and more specifically, why it is happening to him. Of course, no lonely hero can be lonely forever, and Jeff is not. He encounters a second replayer, Pamela, and they realize by degrees that they are both experiencing the same phenomenon. They begin to labor together toward answering the multitude of questions that they both have developed.

Any good novel has some kind of cancerous element festering in the plot from the beginning, and *Replay* does not disappoint. Grimwood inserts a complication into the tale very early on that turns out to be the most significant plot-driving device extant

by the end. The novel is also driven, in the latter half, by the love interest that develops. Pamela and Jeff seek each other out in each life. Part of a phone call between the two of them, which reveals their nostalgic form of affection, reads as follows:

"You really do remember all the things we went through, all those lives?"

"Every one of them. I was a doctor, and an artist...you wrote books, we—"

"We soared."

"That, too."

While I have praised many of the books I've reviewed in this column for their ability to allow readers identification with characters, this book deserves kudos for the exact opposite reason. Of course we can't totally identify with a guy whose life is replaying. But maybe, if we can master a willing suspension of disbelief, the events in Jeff's life can become the events in our lives for a few days. And what's more exciting than that? I wouldn't include this book in the fantasy or science fiction genres, but it certainly smacks of the unreal. It is the fusion between the mild sci-fi element of time travel (sort of) and the normality of the rest of the goings-on that makes this novel shine.

So, I'll admit it. I want to be Jeff Winston. I'm guessing that will wear off in a week or two, but reading this was certainly worth it. At 311 pages, it won't kill you, and it goes extremely fast, I promise. This is a book that I would recommend to a casual reader as the first stepping stone on the road to "avid." I'll leave you with one more quote from the book, actually taken from the Bhagavad Gita, which I find to be really superb:

"You and I, Arujna, have lived many lives."

I remember them all. You do not remember."

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Strawberry Festival: In Pictures





Nicole Dulmer/Statesman

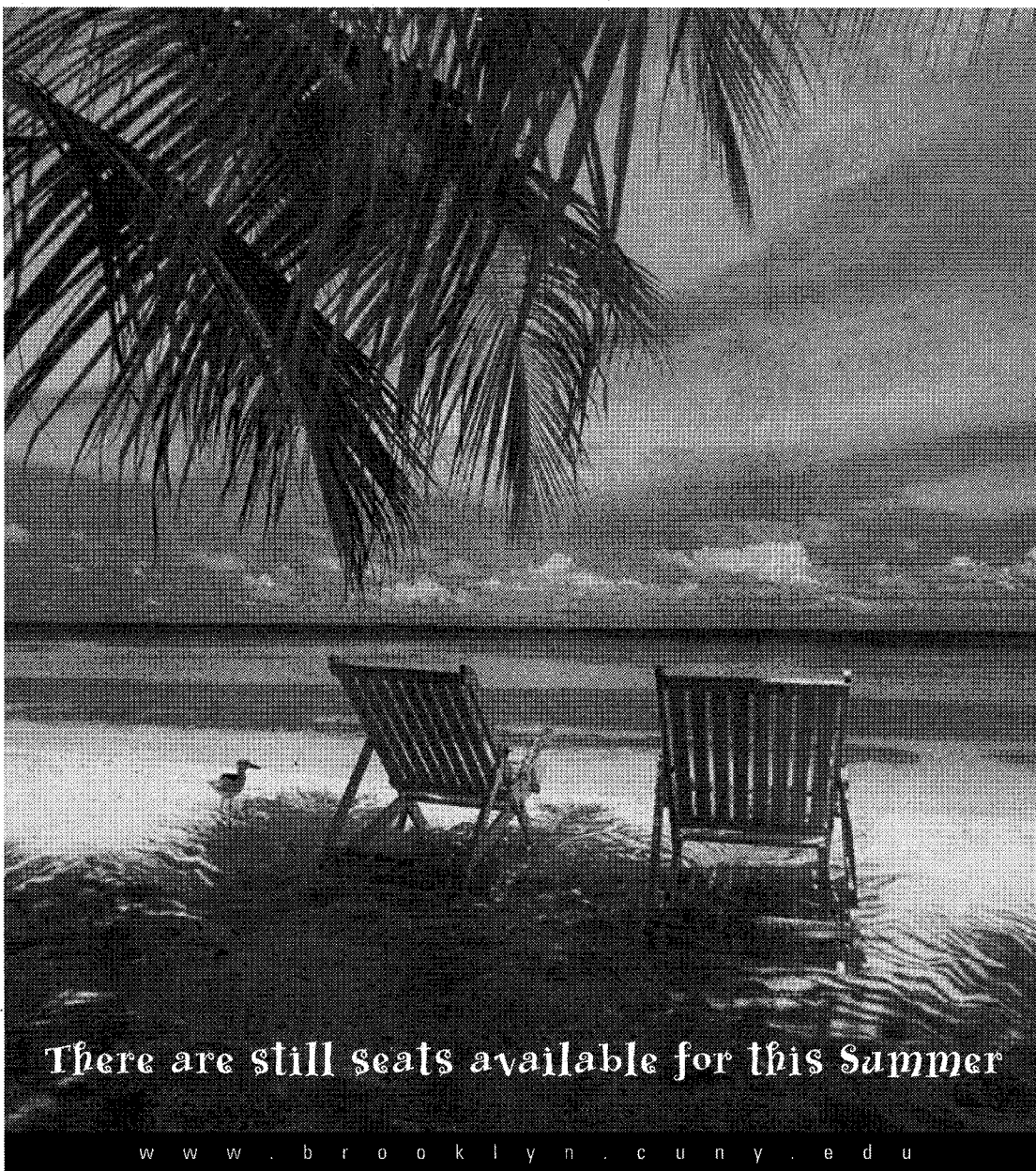



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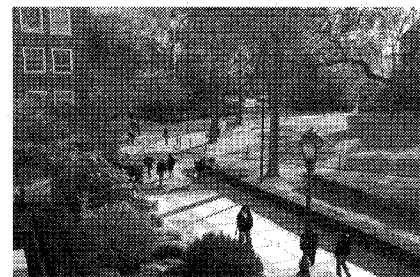


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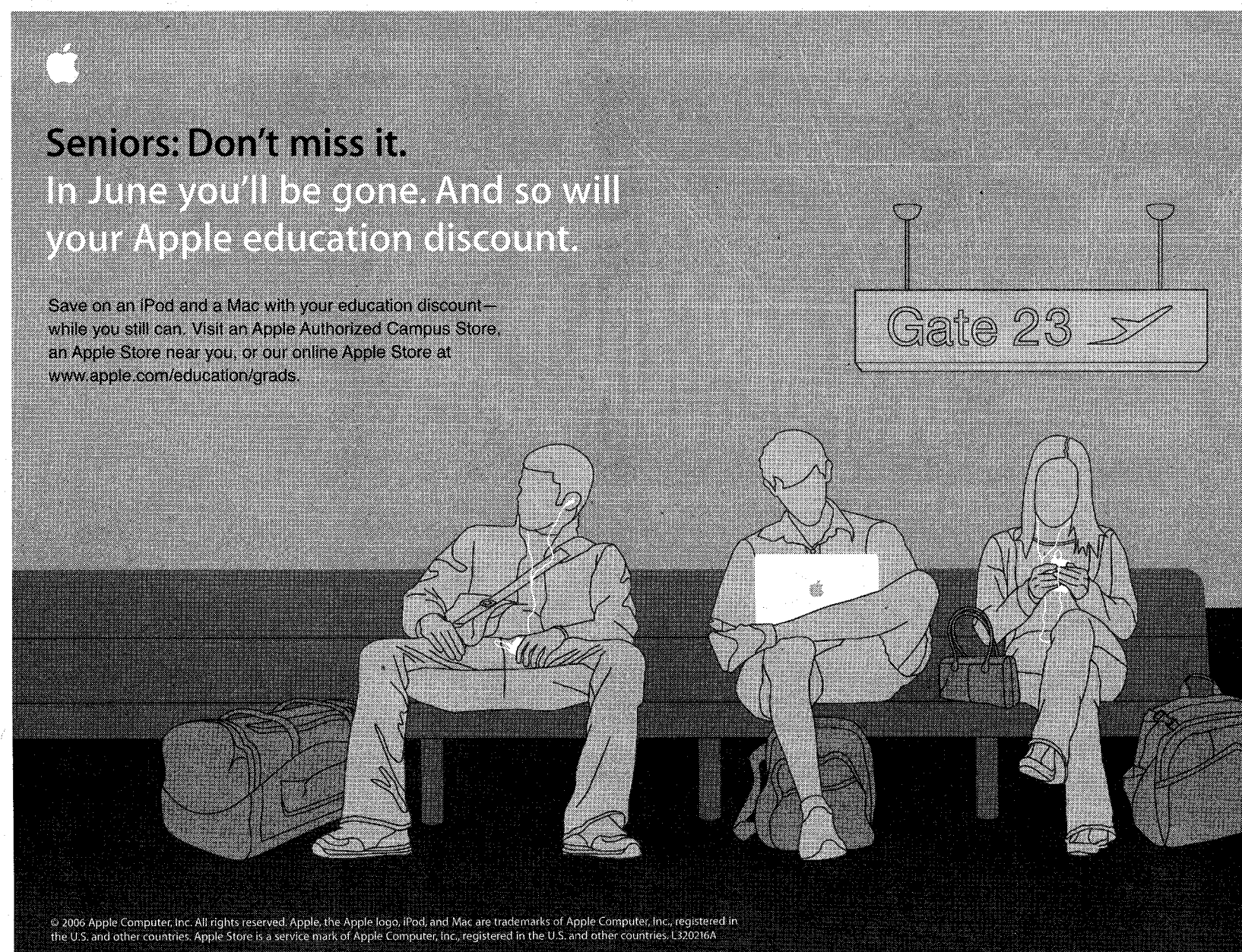
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Dawn Chambers

Vice President, Music for Peace

BY KEN WONG
Contributing Writer

If we were to bring together music and humanity--to squeeze out the emotions conveyed in every piece of music while discarding the rest, pureeing these essentials until thick and foamy, and slapping a human face on the final product, a blend of pure musical artistry with a hint of compassion--what would such a thing be like?

Perhaps it would look a bit like Dawn Chambers.

Unquestionably, the first thing one notices about Dawn Chambers, 49, is the mass of premature gray and white hair that like cobwebs, hang down past her shoulders. Her shimmering brown eyes seem almost out of place, two gems dotting her pale complexion. Wrinkles line her face, each line crying for its story to be heard. Her lips curl up at the corners to create a permanent smile. Any reservations are quickly erased by the first words out of her mouth, "Hello, dear. Would you like some tea?"

Chambers is vice president of the Music for Peace committee at Stony Brook, responsible for organizing Stony Brook's Festival '06, as part of the global Music for Peace Project, a worldwide effort calling for peace using music as a medium.

Chambers though, would rather not let her title overshadow the work of others. "Please don't call me [vice president]," she says. "Everyone here works just as hard as I do to put it together."

Over the past few months, Chambers and the committee members had labored to find adequate funding, participating musicians, and willing audiences for the upcoming Festival, which took place last week from March 28 until April 2.

Chambers, who is also a graduate student as well as an undergraduate instructor at Stony Brook University, admits to the toll the Project has taken on her time. "For the past six weeks, I've worked a nine-to-five day," she said. "From 9a.m. to 5a.m." How does she manage? "I don't sleep," she answers.

Such hours though had paid off. Funding for the Project steadily came in, said Chambers. "Everyone, from the president on downwards, to the NYPIRG, to the GSO, has been very supportive of our efforts," said Chambers.

Increasingly, groups of musicians have signed up. "At first, we were worried because we couldn't get anyone to agree [to perform], but lately, they've been showing up. Just yesterday, I had one call me, telling me they were also interested," said Chambers.

"The hardest part," she said, "is to get people to actually come." She is dismayed at the apathy present in today's society.

"When I was born, I was one of the last of the generation which was very active," said Chambers. "They went out and did things. Now, you have people who would rather smoke a cigarette and for the rest of the time..." She finishes the thought with a shrug.

Dawn Chambers was born January 5, 1957, in South London. Her father died while she was young and she and her mother, June Anita, returned to live with Chambers' maternal grandparents.

While growing up, music had always been a cornerstone in Chambers' life. As a little girl, no other instrument stole her heart quite like the bagpipe. "I literally loved bagpipes," said Chambers, excitedly.

Bagpipes were also a cause of conflict on Sunday afternoons. "You'd have me wanting to listen to the bagpipes on the radio, but no one else in the family would want to," said Chambers. "So every Sunday, there was always this one big polarizing fight--over bagpipes!"

When Chambers was selected to receive free recorder lessons taught at her primary school, her curiosity in music exploded. She begged her mother to allow her to take piano lessons, said Chambers. When June Anita finally gave in, little did she know how influential her decision would mean to Chambers' life.

"Since that first piano lesson, I was hooked. I knew I wanted to be a musician at that moment," said Cham-

bers.

Chambers would go on to enroll at the University of Birmingham in Central England, graduating in 1979 with a degree in B.Mus (Hons).

On why she would choose to pursue a career in music, Chambers replies, "No other job allows you to work for practically nothing, drawing chicken scratch on blank sheets of paper, making music that no one will ever listen to. And I love every minute of it!"

As an undergraduate instructor in SBU, her teaching style infuses energy into her students. Often, she plays music in class, providing her students with ready examples of all of music's nuances. She has her students clap rhythms as a class out loud, and stomps her feet to keep the beat. When flights of fancy take over, she loses control and proceeds to waltz around the room. One, two, three, one, two three.

Much of the playfulness found in her classes comes from her time spent teaching music to gifted children back home in New Mexico. "If it works, then that's what I'll do," said Chambers.

It's also in New Mexico where she for 18 years would live in a Navajo family. Her time with them would further enhance her understanding of other cultures, said Chambers.

Other than their Native American traditions, Navajos are just like all of us, said Chambers.

The similarity in cultures is why she believes people around the world are capable of understanding one another regardless of their diversity, she said. Her involvement in the Music for Peace Project is then simply a branching out of this belief.

"If we all worked together, life would be a whole lot better, for all of us," she said, "Music, then, can unite all of us."

It is an optimistic outlook. But then again, for someone who has immersed her life in music, what else would you expect?

The reporter is a student in Ms. Chambers' MUS 119 class.

"Synergy" at SBU: Strawberry Fest and Diversity Day

Continued from page 1

Upon reflecting upon her first Strawberry Fest experience, Kataria mentioned that she also liked the strawberry shortcake. However, both Kataria and Kugelmas did not have many positive words for the strawberry caesar salad. Kataria said, "It had an interesting taste." Kugelmas was more blunt in his review, saying, "The salad was just not good."

On another note, the success of the Strawberry Fest, according to Hospital, has been used to aid a relatively newer event at SBU, Diversity Day, an event spearheaded

by the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action. Diversity Day was held at the same time on Wednesday as the Strawberry Fest, during the extended campus lifetime hours of 11am-3pm. Dean of Students Jerrold Stein affirmed the benefit of having the two events run simultaneously, "These two events do act synergistically. It's a great campus community builder, really a win/win situation"

Stein did emphasize the continued effort on the part of administration to make SBU a campus where students can spend their time the entire week, not just during the weekdays. Various events highlighted by Stein em-

phasize this effort. Events in the beginning of the year, "Homecoming, the Involvement Fair, the Fraternity and Sorority Fair, have a similar theme of improving campus community life." Recently, students had the opportunity, according to Stein, "to participate in Earthstock 2006, SB Idol, and Roth Regatta." The springtime at SBU is also characterized by academic events, like the recent URECA Celebration.

Considering Stein's comments, it is likely that, along with the Strawberry Fest and other events that have been going on these past several weeks, SBU students are likely to see more improvements in the near future.

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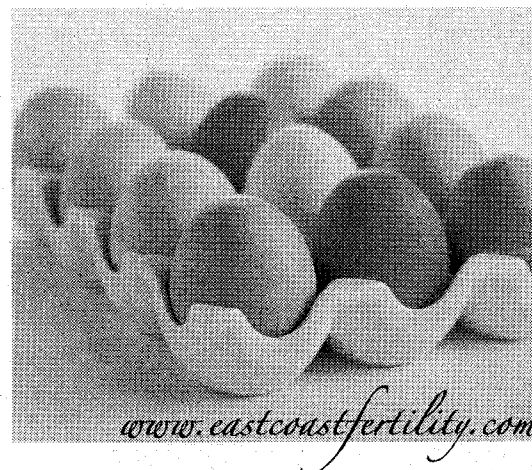
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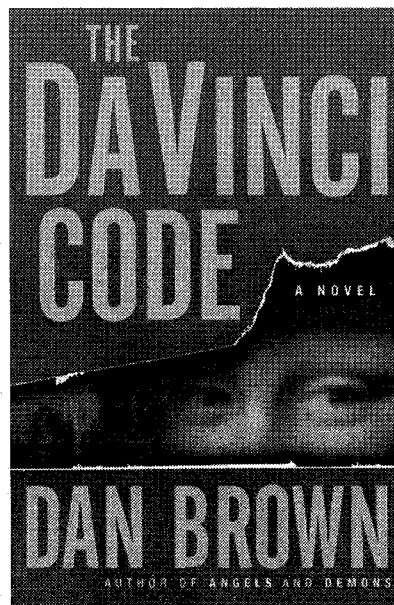
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Police Blotter

Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman
May 4th to 5th

Suspicious Package

In the SAC area, a suspicious package was reported on 5-4-06 at 9:25 AM.

Stolen Vehicle

At the Gershwin Parking Lot, a vehicle was reportedly stolen on 5-4-06 at 1:53 PM.

Skateboarders

At the Math and Physics Building, skateboarders were reportedly seen on 5-4-06 at 3:54 PM but were gone upon arrival of the police.

Motor Vehicle Accident

At the Old H Lot, a vehicle was hit by another vehicle that fled the scene. This occurred on 5-4-06 at 6:06 PM.

Stolen Textbook

At the Melville Library, a chemistry textbook was reportedly stolen at 8:13 PM on 5-4-06.

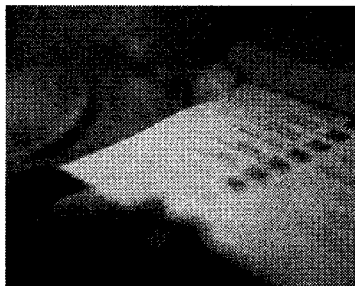
Burglary

At Keller College, two male suspects were reportedly tampering with a witness in an ongoing criminal investigation on 5-4-06 at 11:53 PM. The suspects fled the scene, but one was identified.

Calls for Assistance

At Schick College, calls for assistance were made regarding subjects knocking and banging on doors on 5-5-06 at 2:47 AM. Subjects were gone upon arrival of the police, and all appeared in order.

At Benedict College, calls for assistance were made regarding a student in the bathroom with an upset stomach on 5-5-06 at 6:39 AM. The student was escorted back to the room, and all appeared in order.



Where?

Statesman Office
Student Union
Room 057

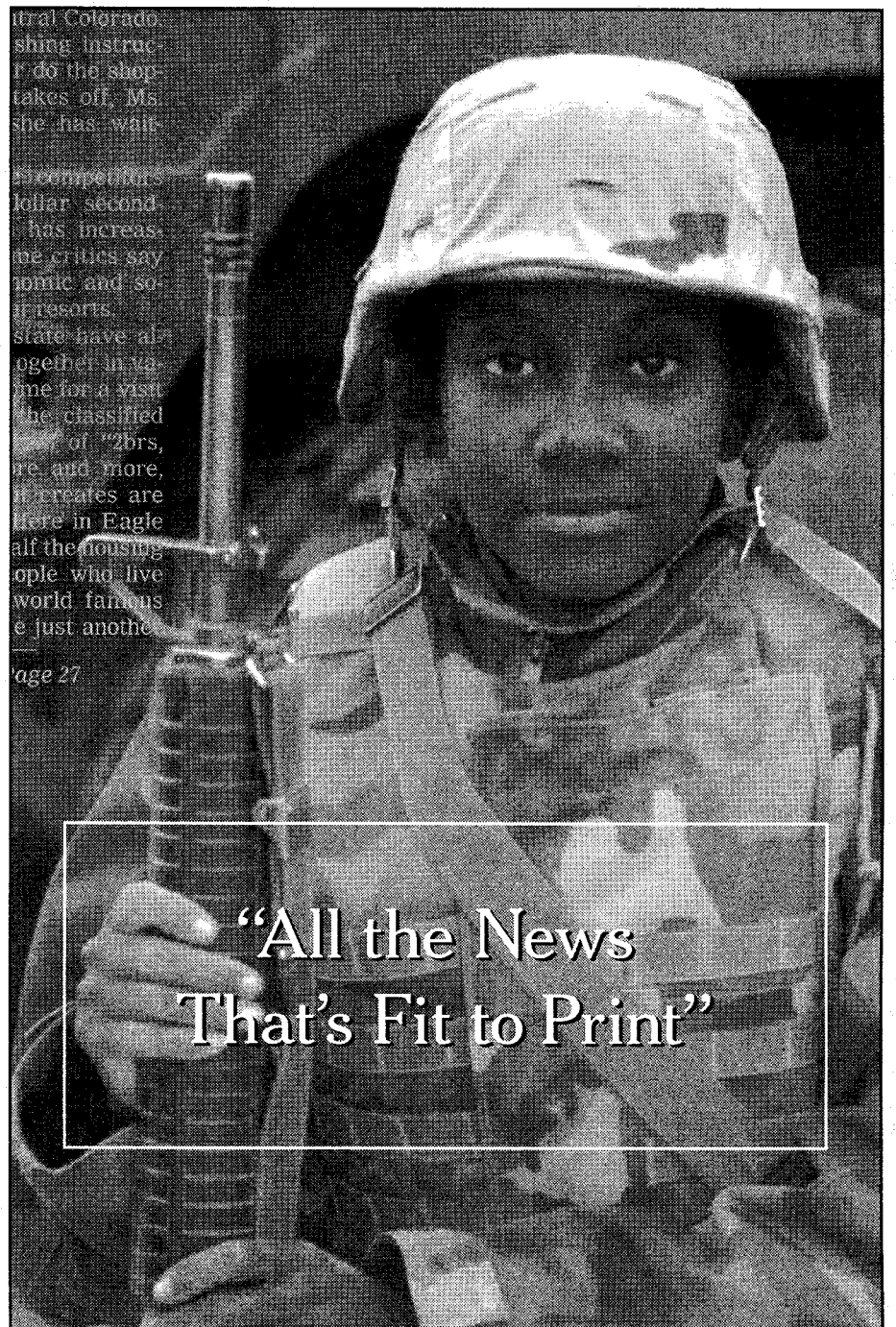
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A THOUGHT from RABBI ADAM



PURIM: Jewish morale was at an all time low. The Temple in Jerusalem had been destroyed by the Babylonians (486 BCE), the kingdom conquered, and the nation of Israel had been exiled to foreign lands. The Jews had hoped that the Persian conquest of Babylonia might herald in better times, if it was not for a man by the name of Haman, the Prime Minister of the empire. To emphasize the prestige of the Prime Minister, a royal decree was issued that all the must prostrate themselves before Haman. Mordechai, the leading Rabbi at the time, firmly refused to comply with the edict, saying that one should bow down G-d alone and non-else. The enraged Haman resolved to take revenge not only upon Mordechai, but upon the entire Jewish people. Haman convinced the king of the insubordination of the Jewish people and presented annihilation as the "final solution". Now Haman's plans would have worked, however "fate" would not have it. It so happened that the king got drunk and in his stupor, ordered the death of his wife, the queen. Not liking the life of a widower, the king took a young girl, Esther, to be his queen. "Coincidentally", unbeknownst to the king, Esther was a Jew. It so happened that the aforementioned Mordechai, uncovered a plot to kill the king. He informed the king, and was considered in high regard. And, "coincidentally", Mordechai was also Esther's uncle. So when Haman's decree about to be carried out, Mordechai readily brought the Jewish people's case to the queen, Esther. And Esther, in turn, told the king that she too would die under the decree, for indeed, she was a Jew. The king was immediately sensitized not only to the plight of his queen, but to the plight of the entire Jewish people. However, once a decree has been signed, it is never retracted. And yet, since Mordechai was already in high regard, the king appointed Mordechai to the position of Prime Minister with free reign to formulate a counter decree to foil Haman. And henceforth was celebrated the Jewish holiday of Purim, for "fate" and "coincidence" are truly miracles from Above. Celebrate Purim: Mon. night and Tues. 3/13-14

Rabbi Adam welcomes comments.
Email RabbiAdam@hotmail.com

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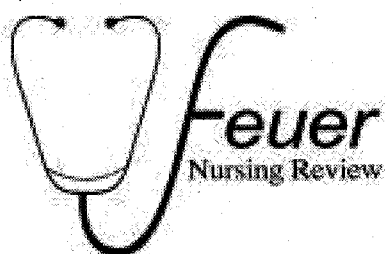
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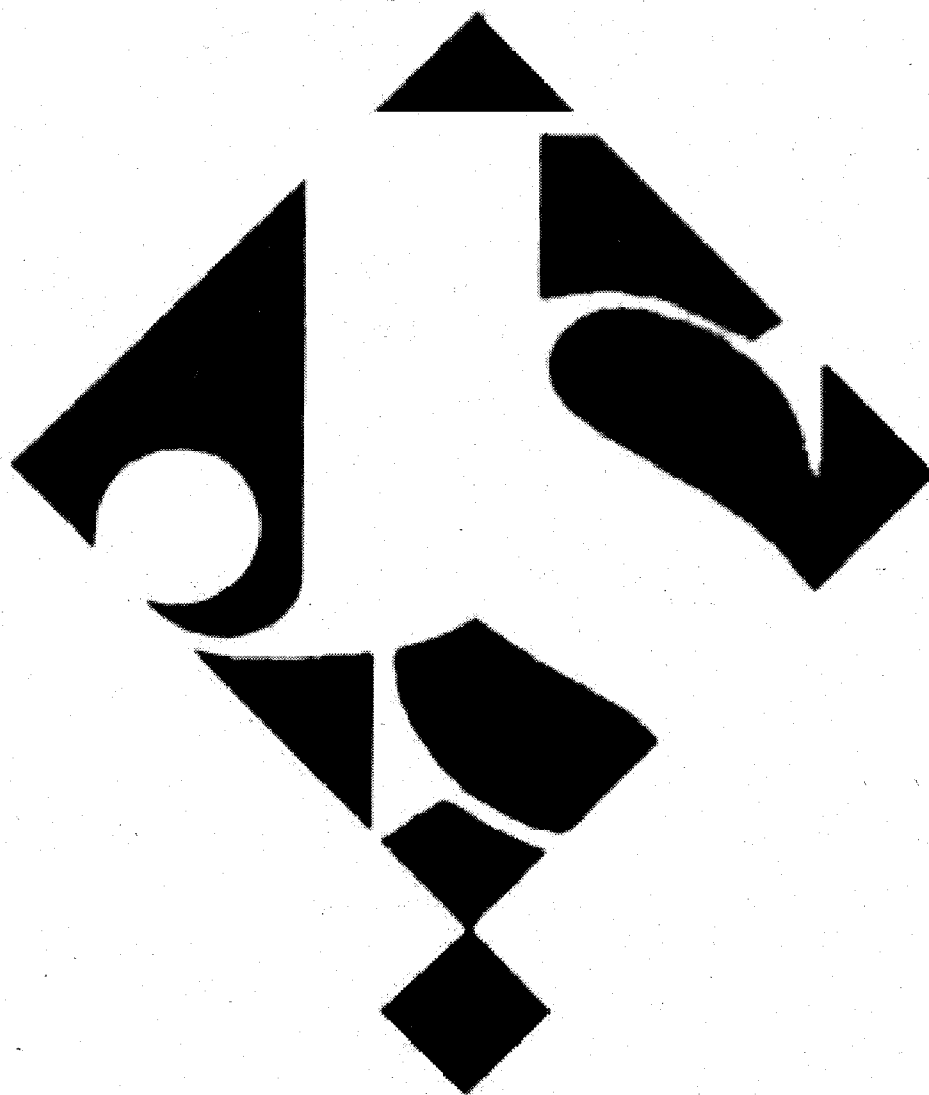
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SPORTS

Men's Tennis Wins America East Title

Mike Crooks rallied from a one set deficit to lift the Stony Brook men's tennis team to its first America East Title in program history. The Seawolves edged Binghamton, 4-3, on Sunday afternoon to claim the America East Crown. Crooks was named player of the tournament for his performance.

The match opened with doubles and the two squads split at No. 1 and No. 2, as the duo of Crooks and Tal Meir won at No. 1, 8-5 and Binghamton won at No. 2. With the doubles point on the line, the team of Dave Kortum and Youssef Fassi-Fehri found themselves down 7-5. The duo rallied to win four straight games and fought off two match points in the 9-7 win as Stony Brook grabbed a 1-0 lead with the doubles point.

In singles, Fassi-Fehri was the first off the court with the 6-3, 6-2 win at No. 4 and Kortum won at No. 6, 6-3, 6-4 to give Stony Brook the 3-0 lead. Binghamton rallied to win at No. 1, No. 3 and No. 5 singles to even the dual match at 3-3. After dropping the first set 6-4, Crooks rallied to win the final two sets 6-4, 6-1 to clinch the title for Stony Brook.

The Seawolves earn the America East automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament and will find out when and where they will play during the selection show on Wednesday night.

Stony Brook 4, Binghamton 3

Doubles

1. Meir & Crooks vs. Mourad & Martinez - W - 8-5
2. Advani & Robitaille vs. O'Conner & Dobrin - L - 8-5
3. Fassi-Fehri & Kortum vs. Gerard & Piro - W - 9-7

Singles

1. Meir vs. Mourad - L - 6-3, 7-5
2. Crooks vs. Dobrin - W - 4-6, 6-4, 6-1
3. Advani vs. O'Conner - L - 3-6, 6-3, 6-3
4. Fassi-Fehri vs. Martinez - W - 6-3, 6-2
5. Robitaille vs. Gerard - W - 7-6, 6-2
6. Kortum vs. Piro - W - 6-3, 6-4

Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics

