

NYPIRG: "Vote Mandatory"

By WILL JAMES
News Editor

This week, as part of this year's USG elections, Stony Brook students will be able to choose whether or not they will have to pay their student activity fee, which amounts to \$94.25 per semester.

The student activity fee is currently, and has always been, mandatory for Stony Brook students to pay. The money goes to fund the Undergraduate Student Government, which is responsible for managing and funding campus clubs, organizations, and events. As mandated by the USG constitution, students must be able to vote on whether the fee is mandatory or voluntary every two years.

A voluntary student activity fee means that undergraduates will be able to choose whether or not to pay the extra \$94.25 with their tuition.

"A voluntary student activity fee is tantamount to no student life," says Kate Contino, a project coordinator with NYPIRG.

NYPIRG, the New York Public Interest Research Group, which has an active branch at SBU, has been working with the

USG to campaign for a mandatory student activity fee.

According to Contino, "A mandatory student activity fee is ensuring a year's worth of activities on campus." The student activity fee is the prime source of

has reared its head yet." She continued to say, "The prevailing opinion that I've heard is that students want the fee to be mandatory, because without it there's no life on campus."

All SUNY schools are required to offer their students the choice of a voluntary fee. "Oppositions have been mounted at other schools," said Contino, but, as far as she knew, none had ever succeeded.

NYPIRG fears that voter apathy may endanger the referendum – even though most students appear to favor a mandatory fee, its unclear how many of them will vote. "Stony Brook students are so fortunate," said Contino. "Some schools are still doing ballot votes."

Stony Brook students will be able to cast their votes via the Solar System, from any computer, and by way of voting stations in the SAC and the Union.

In the mean time, NYPIRG will be busy trying to mobilize the student body. As well as putting up fliers and posters, they will be actively speaking to students on the street. "We will be out and about all next week," said Contino.

"A voluntary student activity fee is tantamount to no student life."

- Kate Contino, NYPIRG

funding for almost every club on campus, and the force behind many of the special events that occur on campus throughout the year. The money also goes toward LEG, which organizes events at campus residence halls, and CAS, which is the equivalent for commuter students.

Although there remains the possibility of individual dissenters on campus, Contino said, "No opposition movement

SBU Pulse: Southampton Agreement Finalized

By JOSEPH WEN
Staff Writer

Southampton Purchase Finalized

In a step forward from last Fall's general agreement, The State University of New York and Long Island University boards have reached a final agreement allowing Stony Brook University to purchase LIU's Southampton property for \$35 million. There, classes are slated to commence this September, with an initial group of about 200 students taking upper-division courses focusing on environmental sustainability and related political and social issues. An increase to 2000 students over the next five years is projected.

Stony Brook has been active on the Southampton campus for some time, leasing marine science facilities. LIU will maintain a smaller program at Southampton, offering online courses in homeland security, continuing education courses, and graduate education programs, per the terms of the agreement.

SBU Medical Researchers Receive Grants

Five cancer researchers affiliated with Stony Brook have

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Statesman Internationale

*Curing the Disease
Spreading through Universities
(Venice Part One)*

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Stony Brook *In Vogue*

White: Spring's Hottest Essentials

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SBU Pulse: Southampton Purchase Finalized

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received \$50,000 grants apiece to aid their efforts in unraveling the causes of breast cancer at a molecular level. The grants were awarded by the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund, established in 2006. Since its founding, the Fund has provided \$2.6 million in 52 grants to Stony Brook researchers. The recipients were Edward Chan, M.D., Janice Lu, M.D., Ph.D., Dafna Bar-Sagi, Ph.D., W. Todd Miller, Ph.D., and Ken-Icci Takemaru, Ph.D.

SBU Hospital Utilizes New Heart Assist Device

The Stony Brook University Heart Center has recently begun operation of the recently received "TandemHeart" system, which provides circulatory support to particularly ill patients. Used in the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, the system is used in a minimally-invasive procedure that affords additional time for the treatment of high-risk patients with symptoms such as coronary artery disease or primary cardiomy-

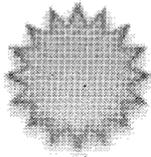
opathy. Blood flow is increased, allowing a weakened heart to rest.

The small-sized TandemHeart unit is a system of two tubes, a pump, and a microcomputer.

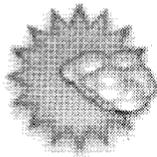
The unit is placed next to a patient's thigh, and one tube is inserted through a vein in the leg into the left side of the heart.

The other is inserted into the femoral artery, and the microcomputer regulates the pump. The TandemHeart system can provide cardiac support for up to a month, if necessary.

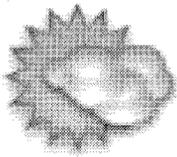
Student Forecast: March 20 - March 26 *By Britta Merwin*



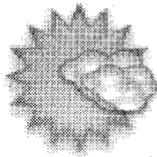
Monday:
High 53/Low 31
Mostly sunny, a beautiful spring day



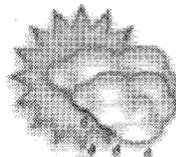
Tuesday:
High 52/Low 32
Partly cloudy, but nice.



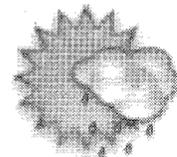
Wednesday:
High 53/Low 39
Mostly cloudy.



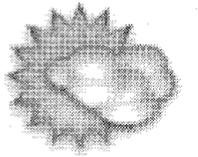
Thursday:
High 57/Low 42
H pressure brings an awesome, warm day with some clouds



Friday:
High 58/Low 44
Partly cloudy with a high chance of showers overnight



Saturday:
High 59/Low 45
April showers on April Fool's Day - no joke



Sunday:
High 54/Low 40
Showers dry up early in the morning

Police Blotter

Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman

3/22 - 3/24



The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 27, 2006

Lost and Found

In Greeley College, one iPod was reportedly stolen on 3-22-06 at 1:57 PM. In the Health Sciences Tower, an engagement ring was found on 3-22-06 at 10:40 PM.

Fires

In Hand College, the fire alarm was activated by a burning candle on 3-22-06 at 6:45 PM. In Benedict College, paper in the hallway was set ablaze, creating a small fire that was reported on 3-22-06 at 9:50 PM. In West Apartments, a cooking-related fire created heavy smoke on 3-22-06 10:03 PM. The Stony Brook Fire Department responded, and the tenants of the room had to move to another dorm.

Graffiti

In the Earth and Space Sciences Building, graffiti was reported in the men's restroom at 6:28 AM on 3-23-06.

Missing Patient

In the University Hospital, a missing patient was reported on 3-23-06 at 3:09 PM.

Trespassing

Subjects were reportedly walking on the roof of the Javits Lecture Center on 3-24-06 at 12:57 AM.

Parties

At Mount College, an RA called the police for assistance with breaking up a party on 3-24-06 at 2:48 AM. One student was referred to the police for smoking marijuana through a pipe.

Disorderly Conduct

In Benedict College, a naked male was reportedly sleeping in the lounge on 3-24-06 at 7:20 AM. He was taken into custody.

Skateboarders

At the Javits Lecture Center, four skateboarders were reportedly seen on 3-22-06 at 3:28 PM but were gone upon arrival of the police.

WORDS FROM THE CANDIDATES

This week begins the USG voting process, and some of the candidates have spoken out on their platforms- this is what they have to say:

Amy Wisnoski - Running for Executive Vice President

How old are you? I'm 21 years old.

What class are you a part of? I'm a part of the junior class, class of 2007.

What is your major/minor/area of academic interest? My major is Political Science, with a concentration in American Government, Law and Public Policy.

What field do you want to go into? I plan to go into criminal law, and one day hold an elected office.

Are you a commuter or a resident? I'm a commuter.

Where are you from? I was born and raised in Patchogue, and I still live there now.

What clubs/organizations/sports/hobbies are you active in? I'm the founder of the SBU Debate Team, I volunteer for the Brookhaven Town Democrats, I've written for Gadfly and the Stony Brook Press in the past and I play with a softball team in the summer. I'm planning on joining women's Rugby in the fall.

What is your past USG experience, if any?

I'm currently the President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, which really just means I'm a Senator who chairs the meetings if the Executive Vice-President can't. I've written over a dozen pieces of legislation, including the one that created the voting stations you'll see in the SAC this year. I'm on the budget committee and I'm the chair of the legislative review committee. I'm also one of four delegates to the SUNY student assembly (it's the student government of all SUNY schools).

USG right now is like a state-of-the-art computer that no one understands how to use. It has a lot of awesome capabilities and features, but everyone involved with running it is guessing at how it works. The first solution on this problem is communication. Right now there is no communication between the three branches of government. I propose monthly mandatory staff meetings - one Saturday morning every month everybody in USG gets together and talks about what's going on. That may seem too simple, but this type of basic foundation is exactly what's causing a lot of the problems in USG. That's one idea I have on how to fix USG, but fixing USG isn't what most students care about. Most students aren't in USG. A major issue all students are concerned about is food prices. I have ideas on to make food less expensive. To name just two: a student run co-op and more competitive bargaining when the University negotiates its food contracts. Students should vote for me because I'm a problem solver who listens to what people want. It may sound unbelievable, but I sincerely want to help make things better, and I have the experience and the ideas to do that.

Samone Rogers - Running for Senior Class Representative

How old are you? 20 years old

What class are you a part of? I am currently a junior.

What is your major/minor/area of academic interest? I am a Political Science major with a minor in Business.

What field do you want to go into? I would like to be a corporate attorney.

Are you a commuter or a resident? I am a resident and an RA in Irving College.

Where are you from? I am from South Jamaica, Queens.

What clubs/organizations/sports/hobbies are you active in? I am an Irving RA, the Assistant Coordinator for the Residential Fitness Centers, Manager of Greeley gym, and a cultural officer for Black Womyn's Weekend.

What is your past USG experience, if any? I was a Senator during my freshman year.

One of the main issues that I believe USG needs to tackle is the lack of diverse programs. As the Senior Class Representative it would be my goal to provide activities and programs that cater to all and not just some. It is my wish that the class of 2007 experiences a memorable senior year. I would work to make sure that everyone is informed about upcoming senior events, programs and important deadlines. If given the opportunity, I would also like to create activities, such as a senior banquet, to make the senior experience that much more enjoyable. Students should vote for me because I am a very committed individual. I do not take my responsibilities lightly and, if elected, I would be dedicated to fulfilling the role that I have been given. A vote for me is a vote for a responsible and hardworking student.

Stephen Hui - Running for Executive Treasurer

How old are you? 19

What class are you a part of? Junior

What is your major/minor/area of academic interest? Double Major: Computer Science and Business Management

What field do you want to go into? Finance

Are you a commuter or a resident? West Apartments

Where are you from? Brooklyn

What clubs/organizations/sports/hobbies are you active in? Sleeping

What is your past USG experience, if any? Current Assistant Treasurer to Mr. Wu

One of the main issues facing USG is lack of communication between the agency and the students. As your Executive Treasurer, I will try to make sure all clubs are aware of budget-related matters so problems can be minimized. The budget process for the '06-'07 year was rather successful, but I intend to make this process more efficient for next year. I've fully enjoyed serving the student body as an Assistant Treasurer, and I intend to do more as the Executive Treasurer. I want clubs to know that if they come up to me with any problems, whether it be budget-related or not, that I will do the best of my ability to help them out.

Andrew Curran - Running for Senator

Hello my name is Andrew Curran. I am a senior here at SBU. I'm also a psychology major, and have been involved with USG for 4 years. I am the former president of Students Taking Aim at Challenges (STAC), and clubs that were for the interests of students with disabilities. I'm running for a seat in the USG Senate. Students should have a say in their government. I'm committed to enhancing your experience here at SBU. I will work with the administration to lower the food prices, as well as the meal plans. I will push for more activities and programs on the weekends. I believe that improving student life is the key and this will be my top priority. I will work toward reforming the budget process so that clubs and organizations receive the money they need and deserve. I look forward to working for you and receiving your ideas for reform. I would appreciate your vote. Please elect the entire USG Reform Party team - we will gladly work for you.

Nathan Shapiro - Running for Senate

I am Nathan Shapiro and I am running for the Undergraduate Student Government Senate for the College of Arts and Sciences. I am running on the USG Reform Party ticket because I am dedicated to their goals of reforming the USG and improving student life. My experience with the USG has revealed to me that many members of the body do not take their roles seriously, either by not showing up, or worse, by violating the laws to push their personal agenda. As a political science major, I know how serious the rule of law is. It is those rules which protect the student body's funds from poor management and frivolous use. I intend to use my understanding of constitutional laws, which is my field of interest, to help reconstruct the USG, to make it more effective in carrying out its role in improving the student life on campus. I hope that my reforms will not only make the government run smoothly, but also restore its integrity and try and get the student body interested in the USG and what it does because student participation is essential for the USG to getting many university policies changed for the betterment of the student body.

Sheena Joseph - Running for Senator

My name is Sheena Joseph; I am 20 years old and a sophomore Chemical & Molecular Engineering (CME) major. I am a member of the Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) Program. I am treasurer of the Chemical Engineers' Society (CES) and a constituent member of the USG Reform Party. I am running for the CEAS position in the USG Senate as a USG Reform Party candidate.

With the help of my party, I believe as part of the Senate we can make reforms to the current USG system. My first priority is that there be equal and fair distribution of the student activities fee to member clubs and organizations of the USG. I see that some clubs receive exorbitant funds because they did not update their line budgets while others' accounts become frozen due to late receipts. There needs to be better monetary dispersal and as senator, I can help that happen.

So long as students are paying the student activities fee, they should all be able to see where their money is going. Thus, it is necessary that club line budgets be made accessible online to the general student public. Clubs and organizations must be notified of the budget process with guidance (if necessary) and advance notice (i.e. in the fall semester of the academic year so that there is sufficient time to plan and organize budgets). As senator, we will see improvement in USG legislation.

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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.

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

WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Succollian" 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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Elections Board Extends Timeline in Controversial Decision

By WILL JAMES
News Editor

This past Monday, March 13th, the USG Elections Board voted to extend the petitioning deadline from Monday, March 6th at 5PM to Thursday, March 9th at 5PM by a margin of 3 in favor, 2 against. This had followed a rollercoaster week in the USG where it was not certain if we would even have presidential candidates running for office this Spring. The controversy began on Monday, March 6th when the former Elections Board Chair, George Surgaladze, arbitrarily extended the petitioning period from 5PM to 6PM. This decision was meant to cope with several candidates who did not believe they would be able to get their petitions in on time, and is a testament to the Chair's best intentions, as he was doing what he felt was right. However, this decision created more problems than it solved, and nobody could predict how it would all turn out in the final analysis.

The Chair's decision was enforced inconsistently right off the bat: the USG Administrative Secretary, Mary Howley, was not informed, and she turned more than one candidate away after the 5PM deadline as she sat at the front desk. Other candidates were given a different opportunity to hand in their petitions up until 6PM. This disparity compelled the Elections Board to meet afterward and vote by a margin of 2 in favor, and 1 against, to invalidate any petitions that were turned in after 5PM. The Board cited the proper guidelines for amending the elections schedule: it must be done by a majority of the filled seats of the Elections Board. The Board made the correct decision. As a former Elections Board Chair, the only way for the timeline to be amended is by a majority of the Board, and then majorities of the Executive Council and/or the Senate.

The controversy did not end there, though. In response to questions about whether there would even be any presidential candidates for office, and to complaints from candidates who had handed in their petitions after 5PM, the USG Senate voted to extend the petitioning deadline from Monday, March 6th at 5PM to Thursday, March 9th at 5PM. Several candidates who had handed in their petitions on time, myself included, spoke out against the "Petitioning Timeline

Adjustment Act", citing that the proper way to amend the elections schedule. Incidentally, the Senate also voted to add two new members to the Elections Board to aid the agency in advertising for the upcoming elections which take place March 27th through April 1st on SOLAR System.

The "Petitioning Timeline Adjustment Act" was a clear violation of the Elections Board Bylaws and its requirements for adopting an elections schedule, and also was a violation of the independent agency status of the Board itself enumerated in the USG Constitution. The Senate had overstepped the bounds which were already in place, and in response, myself and other USG Senate candidates for the USG Reform Party, Andrew Curran, Nathan Shapiro, Alex Borodkin, and Matt Maiorella filed a brief to the USG Supreme Court against the Senate's act, citing both violations of the Elections Board Bylaws and the USG Constitution. This could have created a situation where if the Senate did not like the outcome of the petitioning process in the future, they could just vote to have more days of petitioning. What was next? If they did not like the outcome of the elections (i.e. not "enough" voters, etc.), would the Senate then vote to extend voting?

By Monday, March 13th the Supreme Court met to decide this very contentious case. By then, Senators had already filed a respondent's brief against our own brief to the Court. Because of the time constraints involved (i.e. the ballot was due to be sent out the Division of Information Technology which operates SOLAR System balloting), the Court opted to hear the case in an administrative hearing, where no oral arguments would be heard. In a unanimous decision of 4-0, the Court struck down the "Petitioning Timeline Adjustment Act" as both illegal and unconstitutional. From the Court's decision: "The court has decided that the Senate did not have the power to pass the 'Petitioning Timeline Adjustment Act' considering the clear instructions regarding passing election deadlines outlined in the Elections Board Bylaws. The court has also decided that the Elections Board Chair had no authority to extend the petitioning deadline past 5pm. Therefore, the only valid petitions are those that were received before or on Monday, March 6, 2006 at 5pm. All petitions received

after this time are invalid."

But the story did not end there. By 5PM on March 13th, the list of validated candidates was posted by the Administrative Director of the USG and, as foretold, there were no candidates for President listed. The Elections Board met afterward, with a tremendous array of candidates and elected officials present, to determine if it would vote to extend the timeline as the Senate had done. The former Elections Board Chair, who was still present after announcing on March 10th that he would soon be resigning, heard from every single person in the gallery at the meeting, no matter how long it would take. Folks on both sides argued for and against extending the timeline. I argued against, advising the Board that it would set up a slippery slope wherein candidates would again return in the future to have deadlines extended when they should be invalidated, though I also reminded them that it was their decision to make and that they had full authority to proceed if they chose to do so.

And finally, in a monumental decision, the Board voted to extend the petitioning deadline as the Senate had done at their March 7th meeting by a margin of 3 in favor, 2 against. The newly appointed Elections Board members had tipped the balance in favor of the former Elections Board Chair, who also voted in favor of adjusting the timeline, and who has since resigned.

Myself and my fellow candidates of the USG Reform Party, have decided to support the Elections Board's decision, having achieved what we wanted by winning the Court decision: never again could the Senate nor the Elections Board Chair arbitrarily extend the elections schedule without the approval of the Elections Board. We were willing to lose our candidate off the ballot for President, Romual Jean-Baptiste, just to be sure that the rule of law was upheld. And now that the Elections Board has properly amended the elections schedule in accordance with the law, we look forward to a competitive Spring election: win, lose, or draw. We encourage you to vote on March 27th through April 1st, and to check out the USG Reform Party.

Robert J. Romano is a candidate for USG Senate and the Vice-Chair of the USG Reform Party.

AGREE WITH THIS COMMENTARY?

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SUNDAY
MAY 7,
2006

Walk route is 2.2 miles, with shorter routes marked for strollers and wheelchairs

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WALK: 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
CLOSING CEREMONY: 11:00 a.m.

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SAFE RIDE PROGRAM

Call 632-RIDE if you need a ride back to your quad after a late night at the library. Available from dusk to dawn.

www.stonybrook.edu/trafficsafety

Visit our Web site for more traffic safety information.

 **TOWN HALL MEETING**

regarding
PEDESTRIAN / TRAFFIC SAFETY ON CAMPUS

**All Students, Faculty, and Staff
are invited**

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Stony Brook Union Auditorium

to provide comments and ideas for action
about pedestrian and traffic issues on campus

Traffic Safety Consultants, Wiley Engineering, encourage your input to include in Stony Brook University's Traffic Safety Plan. Wiley Engineering has recently been on campus collecting data and surveying our pedestrian and vehicular traffic and is currently putting together the information to help develop a University Traffic Safety Plan.

BE PART OF THE PROCESS!

Tabler Center's International Film Festival *Knife in the Water*



Courtesy of amazon.com

BY CANDACE ISHMAEL
Staff Writer

This week's feature, *Knife in the Water*, is a work by famed Polish director, Roman Polanski. The film was introduced by Professor Izabela Kalinowska-Blackwood of the European literature and culture department. She told the compelling story of Polanski's journey from film student trained in the art of political propaganda to internationally successful director.

Knife in the Water was his first feature length film and was denounced by the official critics and government leaders of Poland, despite being approved for production. Outside of his home nation, the film was overwhelmingly successful. It was screened at the 1963 New York Film Festival and earned an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. The repression it received in Poland, however, led Polanski to leave the country in search of artistic freedom. He only recently returned to film the critically acclaimed movie *The Pianist*.

A couple driving along on their way to take their boat out on a lake for the day happens on a hitchhiker and decides to take him as far as the dock. When

they arrive, it seems only natural to ask him aboard. Tension arises between Andrzej and the hitchhiker as the trip continues until an unexpected twist ruins the relative calm that had pervaded the boat thus far.

Polanski makes use of dramatic angles and expansive scenery shots to draw the audience in so that the strange details needed to move the plot forward won't seem so out of place. The ridiculously macho conflict between the two men is at times annoying but also true to life. After all, hasn't everyone witnessed bit of "my horse is bigger than your horse" rivalry?

Overall, it is a film not to be read into, but rather to be enjoyed. While it was made under the communist rule Poland endured after the Second World War, it is neither reactionary nor governmentally motivated. The story is frivolously enjoyable and captivating with its surprising plot twists and engaging characters.

Next week's film is a work by director Lindsay Anderson called *If*. The movie tells the story of young men at a British boys' academy who discover the hidden horrors of school life and stage a violent rebellion when they become fed up with the abuse.

Statesman Internationale

Curing the Disease Spreading through Universities (Venice Part One)

BY CARRIE COTTON
Contributing Writer

Students who study abroad are returning to America with a disease that can only be cured one way: by going somewhere else. It is a disease that leaves students itching to go further abroad and explore other parts of the world. Unfortunately, college students cannot always satisfy that desire. They often have time to travel but lack the financial means. When at last the finances are there, people often lack the time they had in college. But traveling in college is a lot more feasible than it seems, especially while studying abroad.

Geographically speaking, America is not the best place to catch the traveling bug. It is extremely costly to leave the continent, and other countries are not all that close. Europe however, is another story. Countries are just train rides away, and even shorter (sometimes cheaper) plane rides away. With student rates and promotional offers you can fly to places such as Paris or Barcelona for as little as 40 euro roundtrip. Needless to say, it is a lot easier to see the world from Europe than it is from America.

Besides getting there the other cost to consider when traveling are accommodations. Although this is quite obvious, it is not simple. You could always stay in a hotel, but unless you are a Hilton heiress, chances are you won't be able to see too many places with such luxurious accommodations. For those of us who have a limited cash flow there are hostels. Now I know the name sounds frightening, and paints a picture of gross, dirty accommodations, but many are very clean and in prime locations in cities all over the world, and can be easily found on the internet with some research. Many sites such as hostels.com provide comments, ratings, pictures, and reservation services all at the click of a button to make the

task a little easier.

Acknowledging my current advantageous location and situation, I decided to begin my travels to another one of Italy's most popular cities: Venice. And although I didn't exactly go about planning it the best way, I definitely learned a thing or two about traveling through Europe to share with anyone who catches the travel bug.

The number one philosophy you must have when budget traveling: always expect the unexpected, and then expect it again. Always bring more money than you think you need, and try to plan ahead. Although spontaneity often enhances the sense of adventure, it doesn't always enhance your wallet. I decided to go to Venice last minute, as in days before. Buying a ticket for the Eurorail is no different from buying a ticket for the LIRR. You check the schedule online, and then buy your ticket from a machine, or a person in the booth at the train station. We went to the train station to buy our tickets and discovered that most people buy them well in advance. Due to this little unexpected discrepancy and lack of availability, our 2nd class 35 euro ticket turned into a 1st class 78 euro ticket.

When we finally arrived at the hostel, after getting lost for 45 minutes in the tiny Venetian streets, we were told that they had overbooked their rooms and had to send us to a hotel. Like I said, expect it again, and again.

When it all comes down to it, even with all the unexpected surprises that come along with traveling, it is imperative to take advantage of this opportunity that studying abroad offers. You have not only one country, but the whole world at your fingertips, as your time and money become invaluable and create poignant memories that will forever leave an impression on your heart and soul. At the end only one question remains: where to go next.

Stony Brook *In Vogue*

White: Spring's Hottest Essentials

By AMY DRAGANI
Staff Writer

Spring 2006 is all about white. White is one of my favorite clothing colors because it's so versatile. The different shades of white can be worn all year around: light white cotton and linen for warm seasons, and sophisticated white or cream satin or wool blends for cold seasons. For spring 2006, white has taken on multiple personalities by allowing for several different looks.

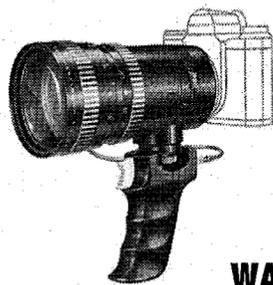
I spotted white on dozens of pages of *Vogue*, *Elle*, and *Bazaar* the past few months. White dresses varied from subtle and casual to formal and sexy. The simple choices are short to just about knee length in easy to wear cotton-like fabrics with a little stretch. Short sleeves paired with the tiniest hint of ruffle or hand-stitched design combine with the sheer simplicity of white to create the perfect balance. Another dress style is the shirt dress—a short, mid-length sleeve designed to look like a button down shirt complete with a matching belt worn tied around the waist. This dress can be found at Target for less than \$30.

The casual looks for white are endless. From tops to skirts to city shorts—white works with everything. The white tops for spring are short sleeved or sleeveless. H&M has a beautiful button up top, available in an off white (as well as a few other light shades) with capped short sleeves, and some subtle

lace design around the collar. I love this top because it can be worn with light jeans or a flowy skirt and look very feminine. White skirts and city shorts are another choice for the spring. City shorts are a longer length short, falling just about mid knee. I absolutely love city shorts paired with a matching jacket (Victoriassecret.com). It's practically a woman's suit, just with shorts instead of pants or a skirt. If you're planning on sporting city shorts, make sure you try on a few different brands in a couple of different sizes. City shorts need to be the perfect length—too long and they're capris, too short and you're Daisy Duke. Another word of advice: if you are short I would avoid city shorts with flats because you'll look really short (I know you didn't think it was possible to look any shorter, believe me I understand).

Accessories are also blossoming in white. A few weeks ago I mentioned small to mid-sized white or off-white handbags, white sunglasses (Jackie O style J), and white shoes. A white heel can be almost as great a necessity as a black heel; for the spring and summer, a white heel will carry you from the office to a night out and everywhere in between!

Fashion Tip Of The Week: Don't wear white too early! It's March and I know you're itching for a little sun but we still have some time before little white dresses will be appropriate. Mid-April or so will probably be a good time to start with your spring line!



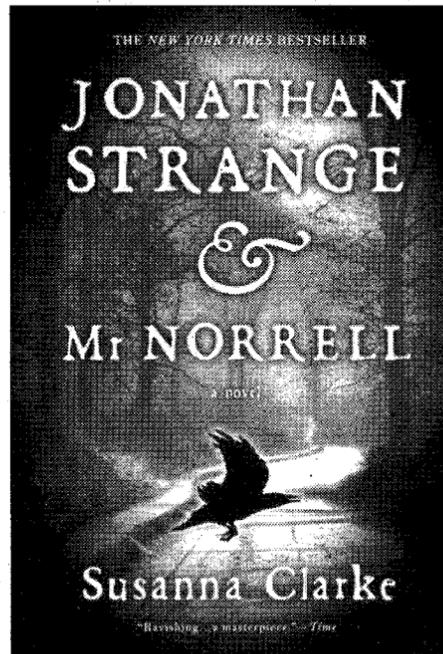
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By JEREMY FALLETTA
Senior Australian Correspondent

Susanna Clarke's first novel is a wonderful showcase of creativity and original imagination. *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell* reads as if it were a history of England; the only difference is that it allows for the existence of "English magic." Even so, it is entirely different from other "fantasy" stories due to Clarke's ingenious method of adding faux authenticity to her tale—she uses footnotes.

Starting in chapter one and continuing on consistently until the end, Clarke's fictional footnotes add an element to her story that, to my knowledge, has never been done before with so much success. Both ordinary facts and facts concerning magic are notated on the bottoms of the pages, referenced by superscript numbers in the text. Sometimes they are small, one-line affairs, but sometimes they can take up the better part of a page.

Early on, a particularly large footnote gives an extremely brief overview of the history of English magic, mentioning several generations of magicians: "The great masters of magic, those we term the Golden Age or *Aureate* magicians (Thomas Godbless, Ralph Stokesy, Catherine of Winchester, The Raven King) wrote little, or little has survived." These characters are all elaborated upon later on, especially The Raven King, otherwise known as John Uskglass, the greatest magician ever to practice. The footnotes are written in such a formal, historical manner that you can't help starting to take them extremely seriously as you plod through the 800 pages this excellent novel offers. They are a testament to Clarke's talent and originality as a writer.

The plot (or historical progression, really) is driven by the conflict that arises be-

**JONATHAN
STRANGE & MR.
NORRELL (800 PGS)**

**BY SUSANNA
CLARKE**

**PUBLISHED:
2004**

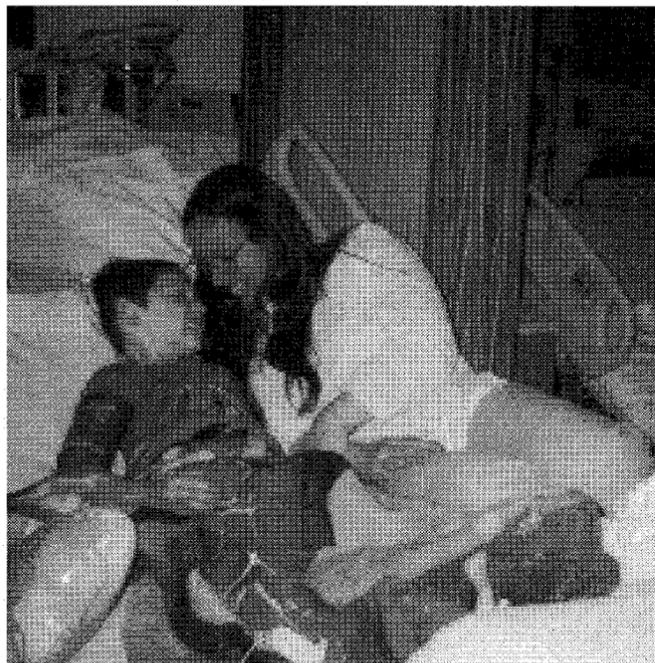
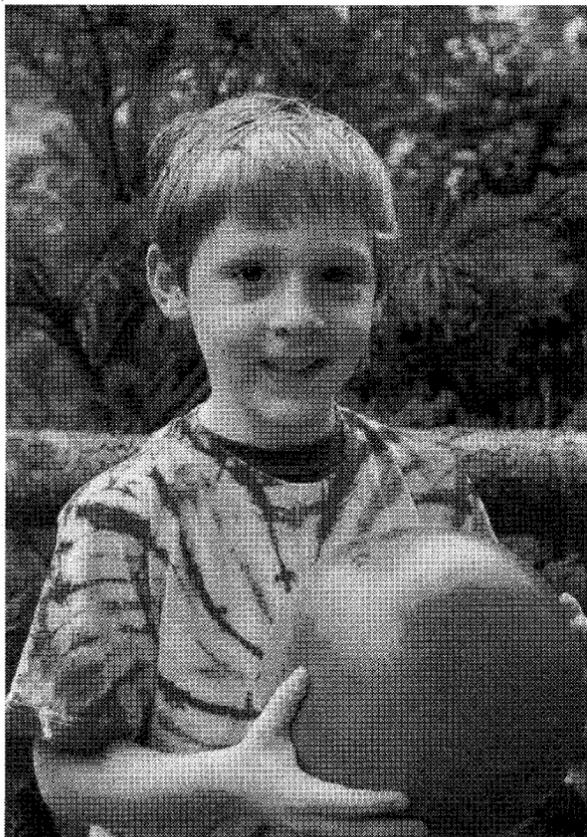
tween Mr. Norrell, an old, dusty, extremely well-read and extremely *proper* magician, and his apprentice, Jonathan Strange. As the only two practicing magicians known to the public, they are drawn to one another, but Strange, in fairly short order, sees fit to leave Norrell's tutelage—to the great consternation of the latter. Norrell attempts to foil Strange in his practicing of English magic from that point on, but public favor is largely held by the younger, dynamic magician. The narrator tells us that "London preferred Mr. Strange," largely due to his amiability. The conflict develops at a satisfying rate for the reader and does not disappoint.

Another of Clarke's strengths is her ability to write a tenderness into Strange that allows him to be extremely affectionate toward his wife, Arabella, who is quite a charming character herself. It is one more trait that sets him apart from the somewhat dastardly, but mostly reserved Norrell. And her ability to realistically characterize does not stop with the main players. Side characters such as the nefarious Drawlight and Lascelles, socialite pukes extraordinaire; the charlatan Vinculus, a phony street magician and Childermass, Mr. Norrell's mysterious servant, all help to round out this excellent story by representing various walks of life.

One last thing before I go. If you think that this book sounds cool, I urge you to check out not only the text but the audio book as well. I have experienced both and while the text is fabulous, the guy who reads the audio, Simon Prebble, is absolutely fantastic. Also, you might be able to get through it a little easier that way (it's massive!) if you don't have a lot of time to spend reading it right now. Either way, you are sure to like *Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell* if you have any inclination toward fantasy or historical fiction. Enjoy!

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Johnny Madonia (2000-2005)

Johnny Madonia (2000-2005) was diagnosed in August of 2005 with Stage III, T-Cell, non-Hodgkins, Lymphoma. Johnny responded well to treatment, but due to other complications he passed away on September 22, 2005.

During Johnny's stay at Stony Brook University Hospital the staff at the Child Life Room worked very hard to make his stay as pleasant as possible. The Child Life Program provides games, movies and entertainment to the children for the Pediatric, Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and the Children's Hematology/Oncology (Cancer) Ward as well as to their siblings. The Child Life Program also assists children with returning to the classroom after a hospital stay.

Johnny's father, John, has been a Facility Manager at the Student Union and the Student Activities Center for seven years and works regularly with students, faculty and staff on events.

Johnny's mother, Paula Peterson ('92) and John Madonia ('89) are both graduates of Stony Brook University. Paula is a Social Worker with Riverhead Mental Health Clinic.

Please consider supporting the following in memory of Johnny Madonia:

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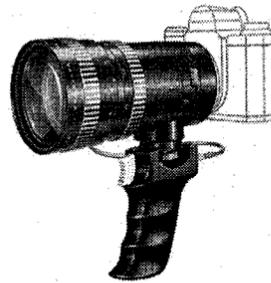
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CHARLES B. WANG CENTER

Presents for April 2006 Stony Brook's Asian Heritage Month

Mantra for Peace Exhibition

Opening: Thursday, March 30, 4:00 pm, Wang Skylight Lobby. Exhibition through April 30

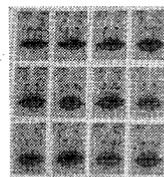


Image by Nicole Pemjean

This exhibition brings together in a single visual chant, a multiplicity of languages and visions that intone 'peace' as their mantra.

Co-sponsored with Musicians Alliance for Peace and the Department of Art

Sacred Spaces: Performance for Peace

Saturday, April 1, 1:00-4:00 pm, Wang Theatre

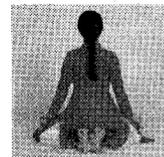


Image by Peter Sheer

Featuring Bharat Natyam dancer Malini Srinivasan, the dynamic drumming of the Korean ensemble DDKY, Kali, martial arts from the Philippines by PUSO, and others.

Co-sponsored with the DanceSpace at Stony Brook, the Musicians Alliance for Peace, and the Department of Music.

Both exhibition and performance are part of the University-wide Music for Peace Project, March 28 to April 2.

The Chinese Philosophy of Feasting

Wednesday, April 5, 12:45 pm, Lecture Hall 1

Customs and beliefs of what to eat and how to eat are as vital to the Chinese as are notions of food, health, and satisfaction. Chinese food historian Dr. Jacqueline M. Newman will explore the tastes, cultural significance, social meaning, and types of food prepared for lavish banquets, festivals, and even simple eating encounters. Reception to follow.

Co-sponsored with the University Libraries.

In Our Own Back Yard: Safeguarding Life, Liberty, and Justice for All Before Disasters Strike!

Thursday, April 6, 6:30 pm, Wang Theatre

In light of Tsunami, Katrina, the Avian flu, the Iraq war, and September 11 that have affected our lives, NIMBYism- "Not In My Back Yard"- is no longer an option. Featured speakers in this powerful symposium are Captain James Yee, Muslim Chaplain at Guantanamo Bay, and Gary Okihiro, Director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race.

Co-sponsored with Asian American Center Bridge.



Captain James Yee

Zanjeer (Chains)

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 pm, Wang Theatre

A police inspector (Amitabh Bachchan), suspended from duty, tracks down the killer of his family, with the help of a street-wise gypsy girl (Jaya Bhaduri), and a Pathan (Pran). (Prakash Mehra/1973/145 minutes/Hindi with English subtitles)

All Programs Are Free and Open to the Public.



STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

For more information on this and other upcoming Wang Center Asian/American Programs, call (631) 632-4400 or visit our Web site: www.stonybrook.edu/wang. The Charles B. Wang Center is located at Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY 11794, and is open to the public Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Jasmine serves Asian cuisine from Monday to Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Guided group tours available upon request. To be added to our mailing list, please e-mail us at wangcenter@stonybrook.edu. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. For a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-1944.

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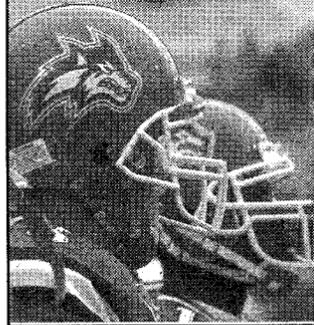
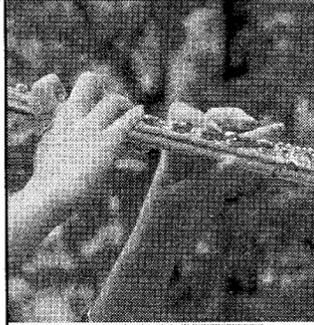
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 27, 2006

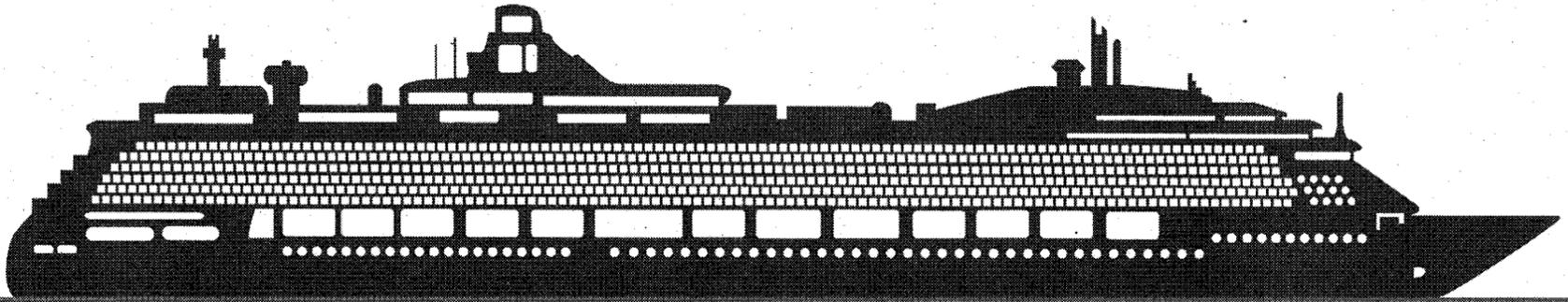
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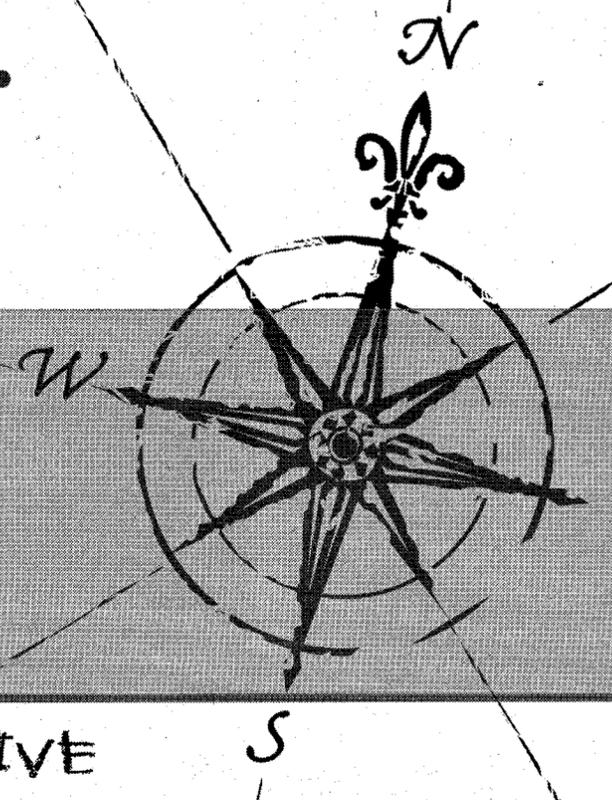
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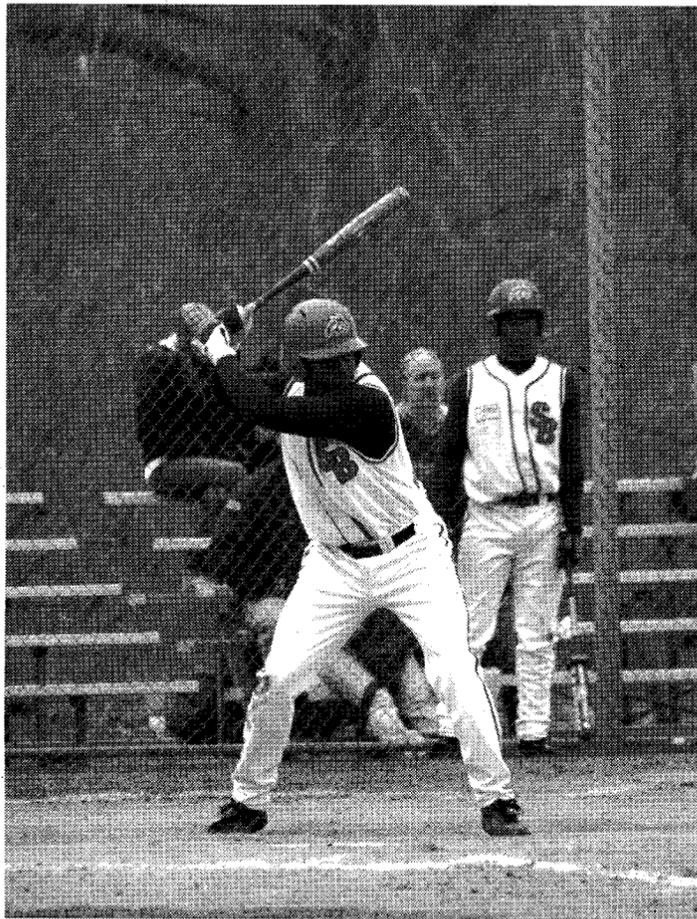
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SPORTS

— Baseball Sweeps Sunday — Doubleheader Against Bucknell



Stony Brook, N.Y. - The Stony Brook baseball team swept a doubleheader over Bucknell on Sunday at University Field. The Seawolves opened the day with a 5-2 win and had their bats wake up in game 2, winning 10-6. With the two wins the Seawolves move to 3-14 on the season and Bucknell falls to 6-12.

Stony Brook got things going in the second inning of game 1, as Isidro Fortuna ripped a lead-off triple. Peter Milani followed with an RBI single to give Stony Brook the early 1-0 lead. The Seawolves added another run in the third, when a Chris DiBiaso double scored Keith Fier from second base. The Seawolves would open up a five run lead in the fourth, when Rob Leonard tripled in a pair of runs and later scored on a DiBiaso ground out.

Bucknell chipped away and added runs in the sixth and seventh, but Gary Novakowski came out of the pen to close out the seventh for his first save of the season.

Kirs Bakey (1-3) picked up his first win of the season, striking out six in 6.1 innings of work. Leonard finished the game 1-for-3 with two runs driven in and one scored.

In game 2, the two teams combined for a total of 22 hits and 16 runs. Stony Brook opened the scoring in the second, when Jon Pasioka delivered the two-out RBI single.

Bucknell answered in the top of the third, with a sacrifice fly off the bat of Kyle Walter. The Sea-

wolves added three more in the bottom of the frame, when Andres Perez ripped a two-run double to the right-field gap and later scored on a Milani RBI single.

Stony Brook broke the game open in the fifth inning, as the Seawolves were able to plate four runs. Chris Sipp opened the inning up with a double to right and scored the next at-bat off of a Perez double. With one out and the bases loaded, Pasioka dropped down a sacrifice bunt to plate Perez and DiBiaso followed with a two-RBI single.

Bucknell scored three in the seventh to make the game 9-6, but Stony Brook added another insurance run in the eighth when Fier roped an RBI double to plate DiBiaso. Nick Abel threw a perfect ninth as Stony Brook held on for the 10-6 win.

Tom Koehler (1-2) picked up the win for Stony Brook, as the hard-throwing righty gave up six runs in 6.2 innings of work. Abel picked up his first save of the season, throwing 2.1 innings of hitless baseball, striking out two.

DiBiaso paced the Stony Brook offense in game 2, going 3-for-4 with two RBI and two runs scored. Perez finished the game 2-for-4 with two doubles, three RBI and two runs scored.

The Seawolves return to action on Wednesday, March 29 when they travel to take on Fordham. First pitch is scheduled for 3:00 P.M.

Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics

