

Students Organize Against Coca-Cola

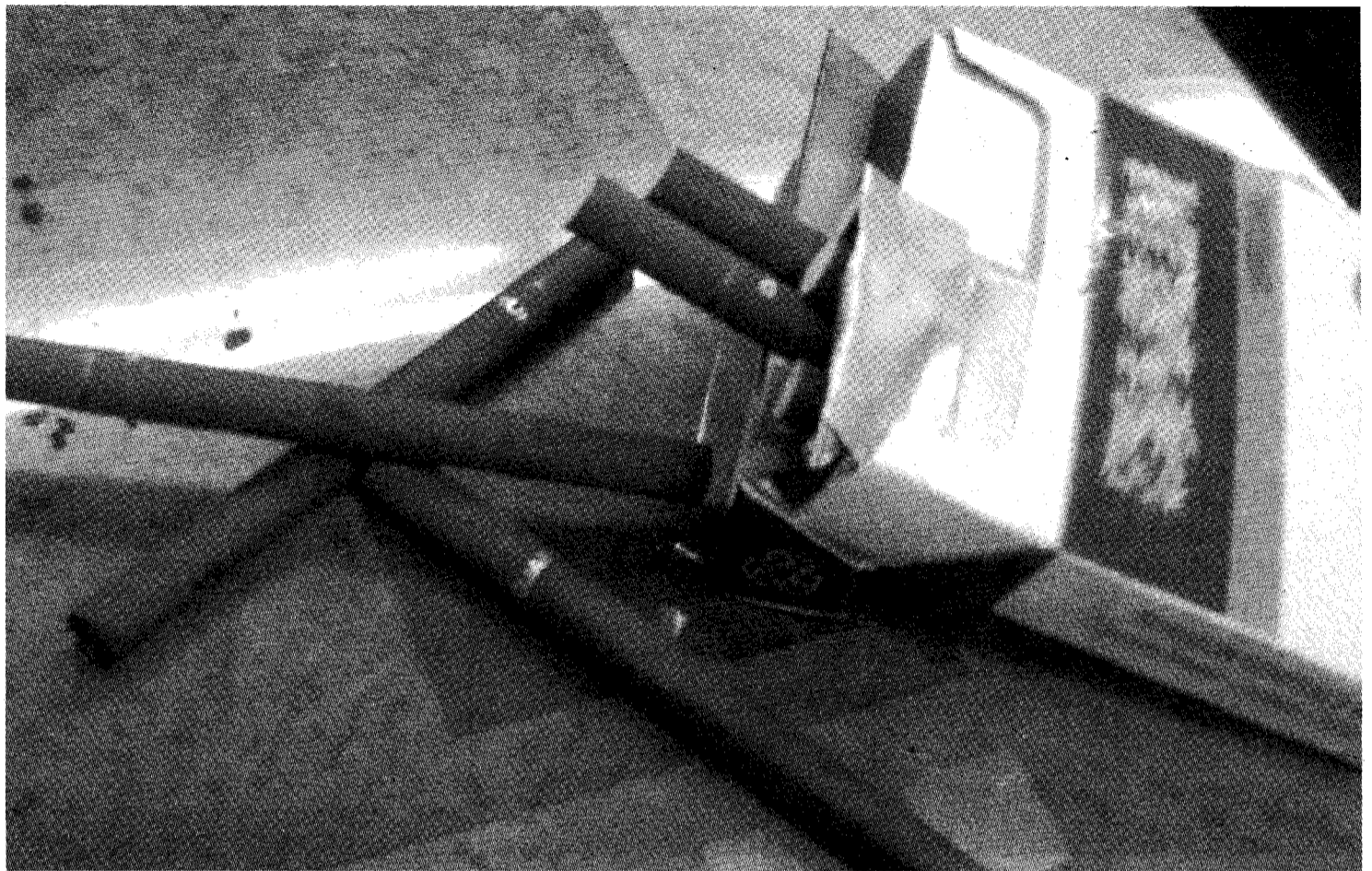
BY ISAAC SHEDD
Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, Jan. 25th, the "Campaign to Stop Killer Coke" called on a day of action, as 16 schools from around the country, including Stony Brook University students, voiced their opposition to the purchasing policies of their institutions. The campaign is part of a world-wide effort by students at hundreds of schools to shed light on several unethical practices used by the Coca-Cola Company. To date, 14 U.S. schools have cut their ties with all Coca-Cola products, Swarthmore being the latest to join in.

Labor unions in Columbia, whose workers are employed in Coke's bottling factories, have charged the corporation with complacency over kidnappings, death threats and murders. Last year over 150 trade unionists were murdered in Columbia. The story has received little attention abroad until recently, when a trade union called SIN-ALTRAINAL alleged, in court, that one of the world's largest multi-national corporations was involved in the killing and persecution of union activists.

In a Miami court, the Union is suing Coca-Cola and some of its bottling partners in Columbia, arguing that the defendants hired, contracted or otherwise directed Para-military forces in kidnapping, murdering or silencing union leaders whose goal was to defend workers' rights. SINALTRAINAL Vice President Juan Carlos Galvis has said, "If we lose the fight against Coca-Cola, we will first lose our Union, next our jobs and then

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This ubiquitous set of cigarette packs will not be seen in residence halls of Roosevelt and Kelly Quads, where smoking is currently allowed, starting July 2007.

Trisha Barua/Statesman

SUNY Board of Trustees to Ban Smoking

Effective July 2007 in all Residential Halls

BY LYNN HSIEH,
TEJAS GAWADE
News Editor and Managing Editor

On Thursday January 11, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees adopted a policy that will ban smoking in all the remaining residence halls that allow smoking, effective July 1, 2007.

The policy will affect the remaining nine percent of SUNY residence hall beds where smoking is currently permitted, primarily at Stony Brook, Morrisville and Buffalo State, according to a statement released by the SUNY Board of Trustees. In addition, the policy will also prohibit smoking in campus vehicles as well as all residence halls and apartment buildings owned or operated by SUNY while establishing designated areas, up to the discretion of

campus presidents, "an appropriate minimum distance from residence halls and apartment buildings, particularly entrances to such buildings, within which smoking is prohibited."

The policy also asks campus presidents to review current awareness education methods regarding the dangers of smoking and second hand smoke as well as cessation programs, in coordination with the school's student government. One such outlet on campus at Stony Brook is the Student Health Service, who already have cessation programs for students.

The smoking ban will establish a uniform set of requirements and apply to the entire residence hall in the SUNY system, with over 72,000 beds in 64 campuses statewide.

SUNY first discussed this new policy at the June 27, 2006

Board of Trustees meeting when Chancellor John R. Ryan directed the SUNY's Office of Student Life to develop an implementation plan. Prior to adoption by the Board of Trustees, the resolution was reviewed by the Student Assembly as well as the Student Life Committee of the Board of Trustees.

Many students and faculty were optimistic about this decision. Student Trustee Alyssa Amyotte, president of the Student Assembly and co-chair of the Student Life Committee, said, as quoted from the Board of Trustees press release, "This policy will go a long way to enhance the overall health and education of SUNY students. I am especially pleased that the Student Assembly had the opportunity to be involved in its development and will continue to be involved at the campus level

during its implementation."

Other students, including Sophomore Maryanne Lagunzad, disagreed and argued that, "As long as you have consent of the suitemates, it shouldn't be an issue. This university has allowed it for too long to just ban it so suddenly out of nowhere. It makes no sense- people are going to do it anyways."

However, according to Dr. Laura Valente, the Director for Residential Programs, "This decision was made by the SUNY Board of Trustees in Albany, not Stony Brook, itself. This discussion also started years ago. Four years ago, I was a representative for Stony Brook council and was asked why smoking wasn't banned in Residential Halls [at Stony Brook]... This decision was a long time coming."

Continued on page 3

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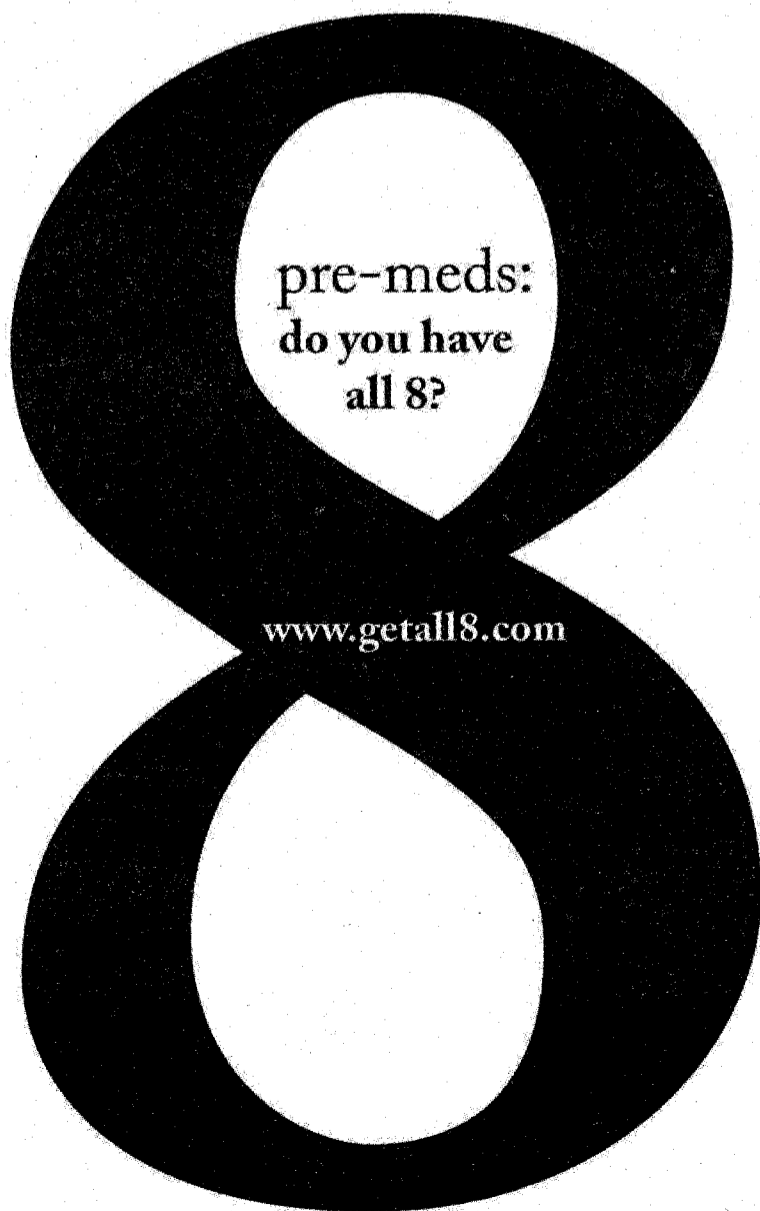
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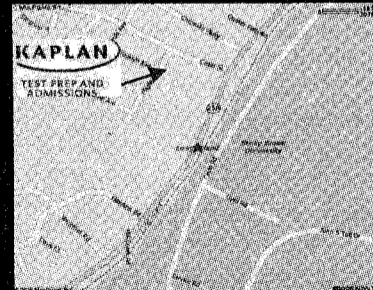
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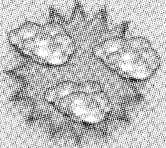
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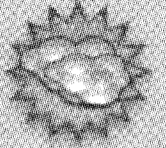
Student Forecast:

Jan. 29 - Feb. 4

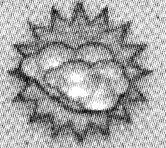
by Jamie Waller



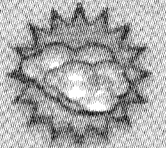
Monday:
High 34/Low 25
Scattered Clouds,
Windy.



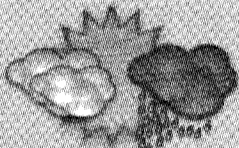
Tuesday:
High 32/Low 16
Partly Cloudy.



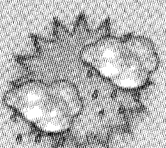
Wednesday:
High 33/Low 19
Partly Cloudy.



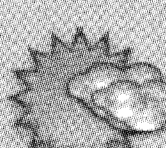
Thursday:
High 34/Low 20
Partly Cloudy.



Friday:
High 40/Low 23
Cloudy AM,
Cloudy w/ Rain PM.



Saturday:
High 38/Low 29
Cloudy w/ Scat-
tered rain showers.



Sunday:
High 30/Low 20
Cloudy by PM, cooler

Behind the Numbers

The beginning of the week should bring fair conditions to our area. The first half is looking good, with temperatures around average. Partly cloudy skies will dominate the region, as a ridge of high pressure will be in control. Models are not as accurate in the long term, but currently, an area of low pressure will develop along the gulf coast states. Depending on the high for Friday, precipitation will begin falling, probably as rain and continuing overnight as snow. By Saturday, the low will move into New England, while winds of 20-25 mph will blow in our area. Skies will clear by midday Saturday, but highs will drop into the lower 30's for Sunday.

Smoking Prohibited in Dorms at SBU

Continued from page 1

Opponents to this ban, like New York City based Citizens Lobbying Against Smoker Harassment, CLASH, argue that the numerous bans are a violation of our civil rights that is reminiscent of the Prohibition era, the period in the early 20th century in which alcohol was banned.

Dr. Valente, when questioned whether the student's civil liberties were at stake replied, "We are confident this is not a violation of civil liberties. All Residential Halls are community living. It is not the same thing as private living in private colleges or off campus housing. This is another step to ensuring the healthiest environment for the community."

Still, she also maintained that although the current policy allows for smoking in certain residential halls as long as the consent of all suite or room mates agree, certain medical reasons prevail that supports the ban. "One important thing to note is the buildings are technically smoke-free unless everyone in the suite or room agrees [to smoking.] Why not keep it? One problem is that the smoke stays in fabric and carpeting, even if everyone agrees this year, new students next year may be sensitive or have asthma and this can make it difficult for them. Even with agreement policy, people

living next door can be bothered by it."

One such student who agreed with this idea, senior Jennifer Sandtorv, said "I agree with this [the smoking ban decision]. If they want to smoke, they should do it outside. I had neighbors who smoked and it was a bad experience."

Some proponents to the ban even suggested that this is a predictable trend which caters

regard it but eventually they will realize that we are serious about this." Amy Haskel, the RA of Cardozo College, even mentioned, "It might reduce the cost of maintenance because the walls won't have to be repainted all the time."

It is important to realize that SUNY is not the first school to enact such requirements. In two states already, Connecticut and Wisconsin, all smoking within public school residence halls are banned. In addition, private schools also maintain a smoke free environment in either residential halls or all over campus; Harvard University, Princeton University, Boston College, and Carleton College, to name a few. In 2005 the state of New Jersey enacted a radical approach by

banning smoking within all public and private school dormitories. Illinois soon followed in May 2006, also banning smoking in public and private dormitories. Other colleges such as Clark College in Vancouver, Washington have banned smoking all over campus, including the parking lot.

Megan New House-Bailey, former student and a current TA for CHILL Peer Health Educator Program mentioned that "In terms of the dorm situation,

Continued on page 13

"I think the non-smoking within residential halls is a good idea because it is for the comfort of the students and there are a lot more students who are non-smokers than smokers."

- Adiasha Richards, Wagner College RA

to non-smokers preference over smokers. According to Sophomore Adiasha Richards and the RA of Wagner College, Roosevelt Quad, "I think the non-smoking within residential halls is a good idea because it is for the comfort of the students and there are a lot more students who are non-smokers than smokers. It is a preference for non-smokers and already most of the rules bend towards non-smokers." She also mentioned that in terms of enforcing this policy, "In the beginning, it will be harder to enforce because people will dis-

Police Blotter

Jan. 22 - Jan. 24

Credit Card Theft

Grand larceny occurred in Stimson College when there was unauthorized usage of credit cards at 4:19 PM on Jan. 22.

Wallet?

Another case of grand larceny occurred when a wallet was stolen from a dorm room in Benedict College at 7:54 PM on Jan. 22.

Fire

An accidental fire was set in the Staller Center of the Arts due to construction in Room 2037 at 8:30 AM on Jan. 23. The Stony Brook Fire Department was notified and there were no further issues.

Cooking Fire

There was another accidental fire in the Life Sciences building due to cooking at 11:39 AM on Jan. 23. There were no further problems and the Stony Brook Fire Department was notified.

Another Wallet

On Jan. 23 grand larceny occurred when a wallet was stolen on campus.

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Two motor vehicle accidents occurred on campus on Jan. 23, one in the Administration Overflow Lot at 6:11 PM, and another at 6:28 PM on West Drive near the Kelly Dining Hall.

Stolen

Petit larceny occurred on Jan. 23 when a jacket was stolen, along with an iPod, headphones, and \$20 at 6:24 PM.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

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Inside

The Commuter Connection

Campus Life at Your Convenience!

Thursday, February 1, 2007

Commuter Commons, SAC Room 144

9:00 am to 10:30 am

This Month's Topic:

"Stony Brook Traditions"

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For more information, contact Lincois Anderson, Wells Fellow for Commuter
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Channel 20

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

	Mon - Wed	Thu - Sun
2:00PM	SBU Sports	Seawolves Sports
2:30PM	USG Senate	
3:00PM		
3:30PM		
4:00PM		
4:30PM	World Business	World Business
5:00PM	Think Talk	Think Talk
5:30PM	Ski & Snow	Ski & Snow
6:00PM	Zip	SBU Sports
6:30PM		SBU News
7:00PM		USG Senate
7:30PM		
8:00PM		
8:30PM	SB Spotlight	Seawolves Sports
9:00PM	IndiFilm	
9:30PM		
10:00PM		
10:30PM	SBU News	Zilo
11:00PM		
11:30PM	Seawolves Sports	
12:00AM		
12:30AM		
1:00AM		

**Come One,
Come All**

USG Leadership Day

**Saturday, February 3 2007
10 AM - 4 PM
SAC Ballroom A**

**MANDATORY FOR ALL CLUBS' PRESIDENTS,
SECRETARIES, AND TREASURERS**

Is an Academic Minor Right For You?

By SARAH KANTHARIA
Staff Writer

When trying to make your academic career at SBU as fruitful as possible, there are many available options. Preparing yourself for the future is an endeavor that can, understandably, require much planning and preparation.

Making your resume attractive to prospective employers and professional schools is all up to you, the student; this means building a resume by studying a field that you are passionate about, doing career-related internships, participating in campus activities and clubs or volunteering. Any of these options can help you develop a well-rounded background in preparation for your future.

One of the first steps to securing your academic and career prospects is deciding on what your interests are. An academic minor can help you do that.

Elena Polenova, career program manager of the Career Center, explains that a minor can be "important for exploration of a career interest." Choosing a primary field of study, or major, as well as a minor, or secondary field of interest, early in your career can help, according to Polenova, by "providing structure and framework during uncertainty."

Students who have already de-

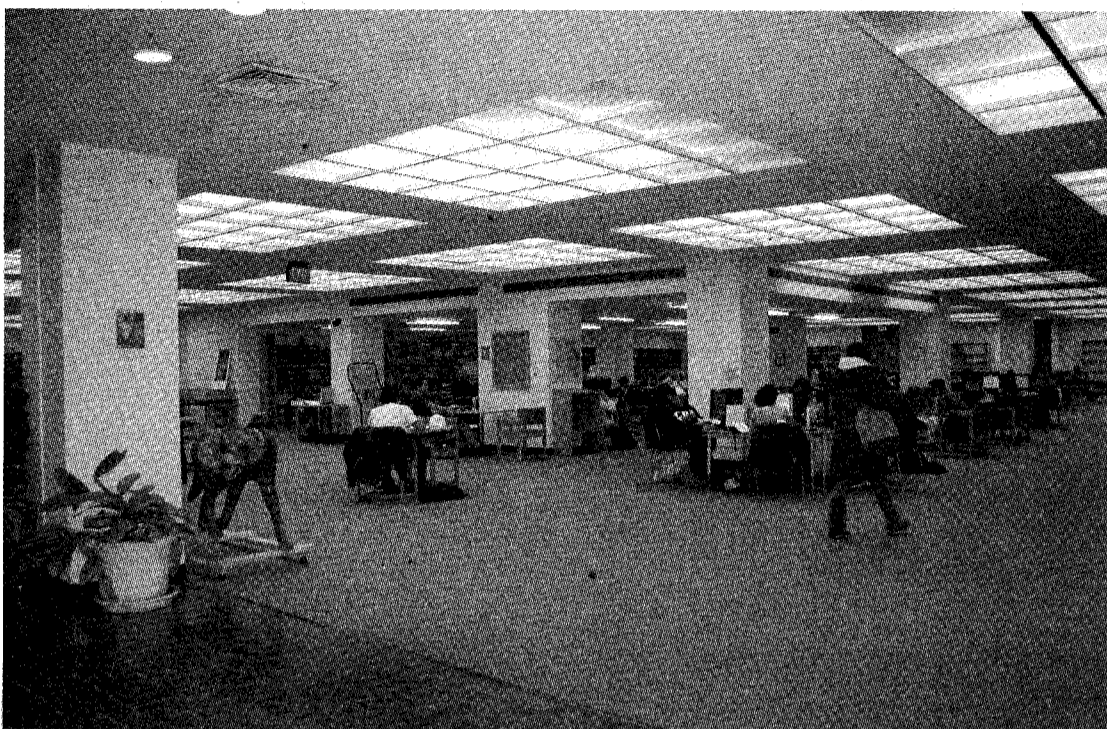
cided on a major as well as minor early on sometimes "flip their priorities," she explains. After some exploration these students turn their former minor into a major field of study. Therefore, considering a minor can give you a better grip of what your interests are.

Of the 12.1% of SBU students currently declaring minors, a clear student preference for a minor that is potentially practically useful is evident. The most popular minor, according to SBU's Institutional Research Center, with 745 declared students as of Spring 2007, is Business. Following as the second and third most popular minors on campus are Biology and Child and Family Studies, respectively.

The motivations of SBU students, however, who are taking or considering a minor varies greatly from student to student. Many choose a minor as a supplement to their majors. By choosing a secondary field of interest in an area related or complementary to their primary area of study these students hope to enhance their employment prospects.

"A minor shows an extra bit of ambition and puts me ahead of the curve," explains Mike Kamen, sophomore student double majoring in History and Psychology, about his Philosophy minor.

Continued on page 13



Many students feel that adding an extra major or minor will augment their resumes. Elena Polenova, from the Career Center, and Richard Gatteau, from Academic Advising, say otherwise. Above, students study in Central Reading Room at the Melville Library.

Suraj Rambhia/Statesman

A minor can "be interesting and help add an additional human dimension to an applicant's resume" but most importantly, insists Polenova, "it is beneficial if it provides a different skill set" relevant to his or her prospective career.

Student Profile of the Week

Antoinette Otoo on what it's like to be an RA



Courtesy of Antoinette Otoo

By RACHEL YOUNG
Staff Writer

Antoinette Otoo rarely has a free moment. The 23 year-old senior, a Sociology major from Ghana, lounges in her comfy computer chair, the door to her room propped so she is readily accessible to the girls on her floor. Otoo, who has been an RA, or Resident Assistant, at Langmuir College in H-Quad for one year, has the task of balancing school and extracurricular activities, including being a member of LEG, the student legislature, and Gospel Choir with her duties as an RA. Otoo's busy schedule is a small price to pay: "You get to be a role model through leadership and service," she says.

How did you come to realize you wanted to be an RA?

My RA in Schick College in Kelly Quad told me about the leadership qualities I possessed, and how good it would be if I became an RA. I decided to apply as one by filling out an application form, writing an essay that explained why I wanted to be an RA, and got two letters of recommendation from people I knew on a professional level. You must have a minimum cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5 to apply.

What qualities do the RA hiring committee look for when selecting students?

The current RA's and hall directors

of a college facilitate the interviewing process and check for communication skills, diversity, leadership qualities, and how you work with others.

What are some of your duties as an RA?

The RA is very involved in campus life, community building, promotion of diversity, leadership, and role-modeling. Campus Residences is big on diversity promotion through programming, with every month having a theme - for example, February is Black History Month. You're supposed to get to know the people on your floor - their likes, their dislikes,

Continued on page 13

"Let Each
Become Aware"

Statesman

Monday
January 21, 1985
Volume 28, Number 38

SERVING THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK AND ITS SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Report: SUNY is Over-Regulated

Advisory Commission Says College System is Crushed by Red Tape

By Howard Breuer

The State University of New York (SUNY) system contains the most over-regulated universities in the nation, according to a report released last Wednesday by an independent SUNY advisory commission.

The report entitled "The Challenge and the Choice" also said that SUNY's achievement is well behind that of leading public universities in other states and leading independent universities in New York. It said the best remedy for this would be to restructure SUNY as a public benefit corporation offering it semi-independence under the SUNY Board of Trustees.

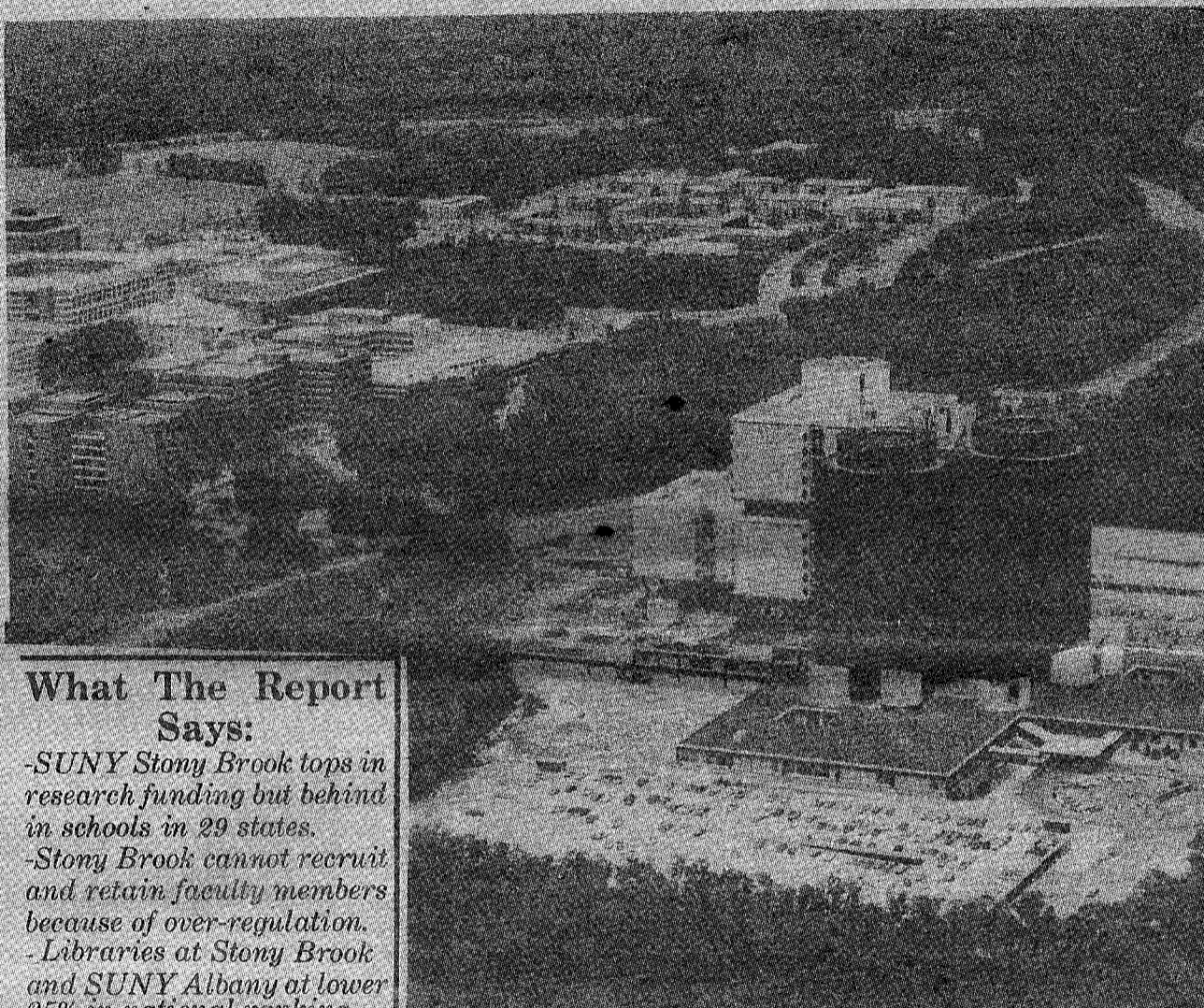
University President John Marburger said that the report understated the problem of over-regulation. "They could have been even stronger about the problem," he said. "But, it is a great report, and everything it said was absolutely right."

The report called Stony Brook SUNY's top campus in the area of federal research funding, but added that in 1982 there was at least one campus in 29 other states receiving more federal research funding than Stony Brook, which is leading New York in this area. The report recommended that Stony Brook should be developed much more energetically in the field of research, along with SUNY Buffalo - another university that the report said had demonstrated leadership in research and graduate offerings.

In pointing out the "costs of over-regulation," the report tells of the problem that Stony Brook recently had with SUNY's central administration in keeping a valuable faculty member here. Although his name is not mentioned in the report, the commission, according to Marburger, is referring to Dr. Paul Lauterbur, a chemistry professor who was given the Lasker award last semester for work he did with Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) scanning.

The report claims that Stony Brook lost the chairman of its Department of Microbiology and three other faculty members, along with their research grants, experiments, technicians and, it is likely, many of their graduate students and postdoctoral fellows for similar reasons of over-regulation. Given the opportunity to work in better facilities without regulatory restraints, and at higher salaries, said the report, the chairman and two of the faculty left for an independent university (from which two of them had come to Stony Brook two years earlier). Marburger said that it was only a coincidence that those people left at the same time that Lauterbur was given funds to remain.

The report also cited a recent comparison by the Association of Research



What The Report Says:

- SUNY Stony Brook tops in research funding but behind in schools in 29 states.
- Stony Brook cannot recruit and retain faculty members because of over-regulation.
- Libraries at Stony Brook and SUNY Albany at lower 25% in national ranking.

Libraries (ARL) which said that the libraries at Stony Brook and Albany were relegated to the bottom quarter in national ranking. SUNY Buffalo's library was ranked in the top third.

At present, SUNY lacks the flexibility to compete with leading universities in other states recruiting and retaining top faculty and administrative talents, the report said. Unanimously, the members of the commission have said they believe that no "great university" and no "very good one" has been built or can be built under the state rules that presently govern the administration of SUNY. "There is a clear choice before New York," the report said. "The state can decide that New York is not going to get a public university of high quality. Or it can change the rules."

By giving SUNY a new status, one of a public benefit corporation, the commission believes that SUNY's board of trustees, chancellor, and state-operated campuses will be given the responsibility and authority that a university requires and that their counterparts in other states possess. The Board of Trustees definitely doesn't have enough

power," Marburger said. "Everyone assumes that they do. They don't have the power to allocate and reallocate funds, which they should. No other state runs education this way. And this is the single greatest problem I have in doing my job."

In last Thursday's *New York Times*, Governor Mario Cuomo was quoted as saying that he accepted "the general idea of giving SUNY more discretion over its own budget." But, he added, "I'm not yet prepared to say that I agree that SUNY ought to be converted into some kind of quasipublic corporation" without further study.

Marburger wants SUNY to be made separate branch of government, with constitutional independence. "There was a convention started to do this back in the sixties," he said. "But it never got off the ground. California, Minnesota and Michigan are examples of state universities with constitutional independence."

SUNY has the potential to become one of the greatest of public university systems, said the commission, but it is not yet good enough. The commission

which was appointed by SUNY Chancellor Clifton R. Wharton was chaired by Time Magazine chairman Ralph Davidson and Ohio State President Harold Enarson and staffed by 13 officials from various national institutions and corporations, based its conclusions on:

-Assessment of post-baccalaureate education and research at SUNY compared with that of leading public university systems in other states;

-The fact that SUNY has not yet become the equal of other leading public universities in attracting industry and enhancing the tax base of its state; and

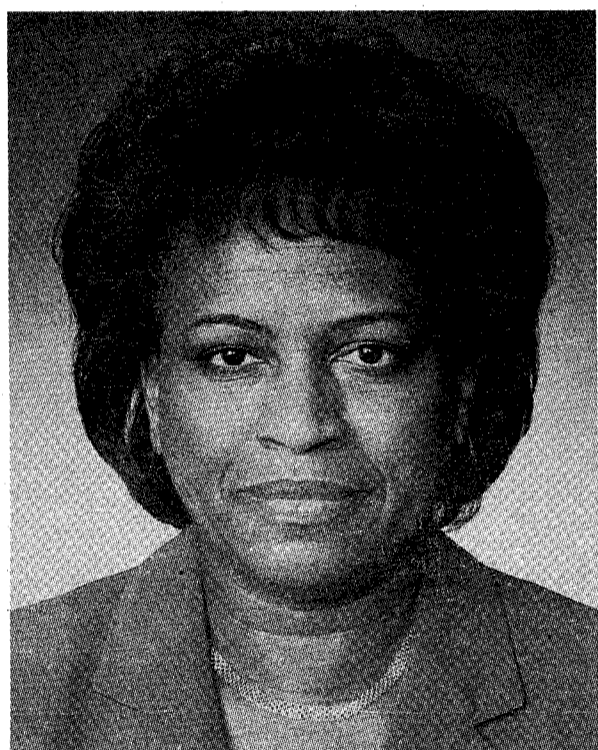
-A judgement that the future will demand even more from all institutions of higher education.

"The point is not that SUNY is failing to improve," said University of North Carolina President William Friday, one of the members on the commission. "Rather, it is that in the tough competition for research funds, and for exceptional faculty talent, other major public universities such as California, Texas, and Minnesota are advancing more

(Continued on page 9)

2007 BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BUILDING BRIDGES TO IMPACT, REVITALIZE, AND EMPOWER



**HOW DO WE ANSWER THE CALL
TO BE CHANGE AGENTS FOR
SOCIAL JUSTICE?**

V. ELAINE GROSS

PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER OF ERASE RACISM INC.

Black History Month Opening Ceremony

The campus community kick-off celebration for Black History Month, featuring student performances, display tables, and information about Stony Brook's Black History Month activities.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2007
12:40 pm to 2:10 pm
Student Activities Center Auditorium

www.stonybrook.edu/sb/bhm

Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

For more information, contact Cheryl Chambers, Assistant Dean of Students, (631) 632-9968.



Sponsored by the Black History Month Coordinating Committee.

Stony Brook University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer. For a disability-related accommodation, call (631) 632-9968.

Indie Flicks

By RACHEL BROZINSKY
Staff Writer

I had heard quite a bit about *Shortbus* before I had the opportunity to see it. I was expecting something sexually explicit from the descriptions from various sources, but I would be lying if I said I was completely prepared for the extent of the graphicness of the film. If writer and director John Cameron Mitchell's intention was to grab the audience's attention with shock value, then he certainly achieved his goal.

The level of sexual sensationalism in *Shortbus* is one of the obvious draws of the film. Unfortunately, the abundance of these provocative, and often pornographic, images take the focus away from what happens to be a moving and poignant story about a group of young New Yorkers searching for a balance between pure sexual desire and simple intimacy.

Initially, the film's unapologetic sexuality can be somewhat overwhelming. However, as the story unfolds, we become acquainted with a slew of fascinating, complicated, and most importantly, honest characters. They are utterly imperfect and frustratingly flawed, but we

come to care about them because of their sincere humanity.

The central couple of the film is James (Paul Dawson) and Jamie (PJ DeBoy), who have been together for five years and are considering opening up their



Courtesy of ThinkFilm

SHORTBUS



Courtesy of ThinkFilm

relationship. To help them make this decision, they go to see Sofia (Sook-Yin Lee), a sex therapist who has never had an orgasm. Sofia, in turn, befriends a dominatrix named Severin (Lindsay Beamish), who suffers from the inability to make significant connections with other people.

All four of these individuals are brought together in the underground sex club *Shortbus*, a place where, as the name suggests, all of the "special" people belong. The patrons seen passing through do nothing to contest this idea, and as Justin Bond, the club's cross-dressing hostess, explains, "It's just like the sixties, only with less hope."

At first glance, what Justin proclaims seems to be true. But upon taking a deeper look, it is clear that things are never quite as hopeless as

they seem for our troubled protagonists. For all of their faults and failures, the characters are consistently well intentioned. As with most people, their selfishness somehow gets in the way of the good that they want to accomplish. The character's shortcomings are what make them sympathetic individuals, and so their desires are understandable.

Though it is clear that some of the actors are more experienced than others, every single character is played honestly, overshadowing what might otherwise seem forced or stacy. Without fail, it is *Shortbus's* unfaltering honesty about the struggle between sex and intimacy in a relationship that makes its message so potent. Mitchell took a great risk by fearlessly presenting such carnal and impenitent sexuality, which resulted rewardingly in an offbeat and surprisingly poignant look at love and relationships.

On the Stage: THE WOMEN OF TRACHIS

By TEJAS GAWADE
Managing Editor

When you hear Greek tragedies, Oedipus the King is probably what strikes first. But Sophocles' genius extended beyond this unfortunate story to give us a tragedy about female empowerment. The *Women of Trachis* is filled with intrigue, sexual mannerisms and a plot that is so universal it could be happening right now with your next door neighbor. Hence, the urban backdrop combines Diet Coke and desperate housewives within the realm of a Greek tragedy.

The Ohio Theater is now hosting a contemporary adaptation by Kate E. Ryan. Directed by Alice Reagan and produced by Target Margin Theater (as part of its Hellenic Laboratory Series), this off-Broadway play will challenge your sensibilities. The unconventional twist that might leave a bitter lingering taste in some people's mouths is the very reason the play is not enacted that often.

The plot revolves around one central female, Deianira (played by Heidi Schreck) whose husband, Heracles, once shot a centaur who tried to rape her. When Heracles, the absentee father, leaves, the indigestible twist comes up as Deianira actually trusts the centaur to unite the couple through a magic potion.

Deianira, as the desperate housewife and the well-known wife, is dressed in a leopard-print dress. Her air-headed chorus, played with brisk immaturity by Birgit Huppuch, Jodi Lin and Rebecca Lingafelter, are adorned with pink dresses, flower bracelets, and Diet Coke from plastic coolers.

The play is adapted to modern, almost slang-like, speech and there are continual references to pop songs and computer paraphernalia, including computer games. As short as the production is (one hour), its cast is so incredibly upfront that the delivery of lines is both vigorous and drawing.

Audience members will consider the simplicity of the characters. What if the characters border on being mind-bogglingly one-dimensional? In fact, Ryan's portrayal of Heracles is frighteningly negative. Played by Todd d'Amour, Heracles, in the ending scene, when he discovers that the potion is really poison, comes off as a bad father, an incredible liar and adulterer with a disturbing passion for mutilating genitals. The point is that Greek tragedies are rarely about the emancipation of all characters. It is only the protagonist, in this case, Deianira, who has the fortune of getting an epiphany.

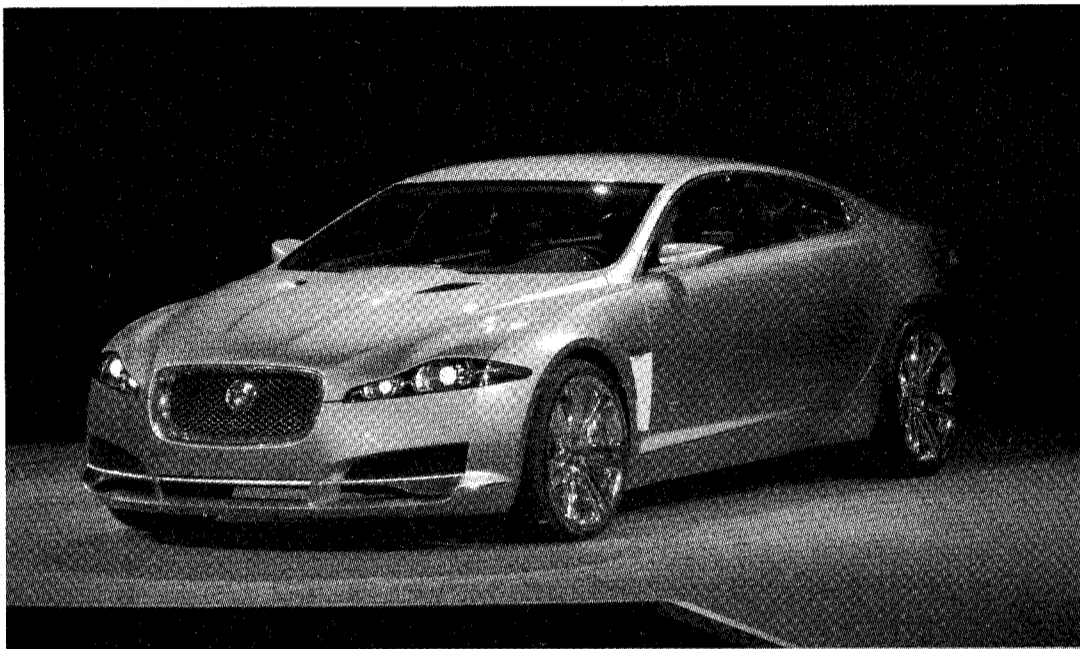
To see Sophocles' work enacted in such a light-hearted ensemble is an irony in itself. The idea of presenting it to an audience that might be snooty, or blissfully ignorant, and to recover a lost work with such appealing grace, makes it worth the effort.

As for the one-dimensionality, all I have to say is that what is crucial here is that the end satisfies, even quenches, our thirst. "*Women of Trachis*" leaves us with weighted questions, even as we exit the theater. A play that will stay with you past that hour - what more could you ask?

"*Women of Trachis*" is playing until Feb. 3 at the Ohio Theater in SoHo.

V R R O O O M!

Ford Will Make a Comeback in 2007



The concept for the new Jaguar XF.

Courtesy of Jaguar

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Automotive Analyst

Ford Motor Company recently reported a \$12.7 billion loss for the year of 2006, a record-breaking low for the domestic automaker. Of course, this comes in the wake of the news that GM made a profit of \$1.9 billion in the third quarter of 2006, and it is expected that they also turned a profit for the fourth quarter. What is GM doing right that Ford is doing wrong? The answer, as I understand it, is not much; with time, Ford too will turn a profit.

In the past year alone, Ford undertook two restructuring plans and laid the groundwork for a slew of new vehicles to be introduced, something GM did just a couple of years ago. What's worse, \$9.9 billion of that \$12.9 billion loss was the cost of buyouts and plant closures. It wasn't too long ago that Chrysler and GM were in the same boat, only to be much better off in the years to come.

Now that this bad year is behind us, Ford has a lot to look forward to. With a newly-designed 3.5-liter V6 and six-speed automatic transmission, Ford management is getting eager to put this new equipment in just about any car that will fit it, from the aging Freestyle to the Five

Hundred to upcoming Lincoln models. Speaking of Lincoln, Ford showed some exciting concepts at the Detroit Auto Show a few weeks ago, hinting at a revitalized line making its way to the market place by late next year.

Volvo, a Ford subsidiary, is wowing crowds with the redesigned S80 and new C30 sedans, and is close to releasing an inexpensive XC60 crossover SUV to compete with the likes of the Acura RSX. Mazda had a great year, leading a top reliability survey and selling a great number of Mazda3s and CX7s, both of which have been great hits with consumers and critics alike. Later this year, we can look forward to the CX-9 and a redesigned Mazda6, which promises more power for a car already praised for a tight ride.

Even Aston Martin is turning a profit. Jaguar, admittedly, is in a bit of trouble. But rather than providing the same old recycled designs that have failed Jaguar so miserably in the past decade, the XF concept (slated to become the replacement to the entry-level X-type sedan) is a bold and refined car that is finally adequately powered. Many pundits are hopeful that new cars like the XF could be the silver bullet that save Jaguar after years of languishing as a failed brand.

There is also talk on the

grapevine that the Ford Explorer, one of the company's best sellers, will change its focus and become a car-based crossover. A crossover Explorer, with decent gas mileage and a smoother ride, would definitely be a hit in today's changing market. It sold like hotcakes despite the fact that it rolls over, gets very poor mileage, provides a so-so ride, and has a notoriously horrible transmission that upshifts all too eagerly. If they actually built an Explorer that was up to snuff, I have no doubt that people will line up in droves to purchase one, as they do for Honda Pilots and Toyota Highlander.

2007 is going to be a great year for Ford, and I predict that late in the year, we are going to see profits for the first time in too many years. I argue that domestics are in fact not dying. They are simply making the organizational and product changes that they need to in order to survive with such harsh competition from their Japanese rivals. Not only will domestics make a comeback, they will do it with one hand tied behind their backs - Japanese automakers make an average of \$2900 profit per car more than their American counterparts, which can be explained almost exclusively by "legacy costs." America is back, and we're ready for action.

The Story Brook Statesman Monday, January 29, 2007

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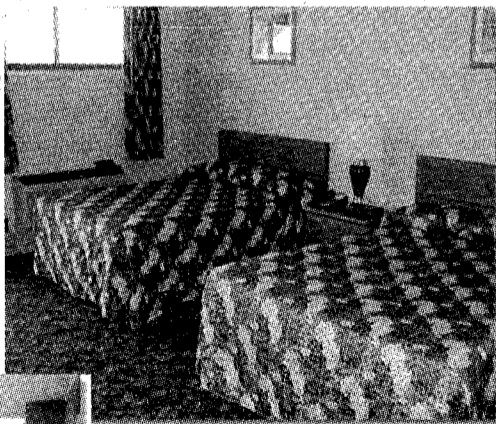
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WHO WE ARE

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

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If Students Will, Smoke Won't Kill

Beginning in the Fall of 2007, or rather as early as July 2007 for those staying in the summer, smoking will be prohibited in all residence halls. While the decision was purely made by the SUNY Board of Trustees, the University administration has chosen to implement it wholeheartedly.

The change is undoubtedly a blessing for most residents. Not only will this create a healthier living environment in our living spaces, but given the little objection, it will be received better and thus, truly enacted for all practical purposes. There will now be fewer cigarettes stuffed in building crevices, or cigarette burns in residence hall carpeting. In the long run, this policy will benefit the students as much as the administration,

with lower cost for building improvements. Most significantly, consider the appealing prospect of fewer fire alarms.

But while it is one thing to ban something, it is another to implement it. If administrators, including Residence Hall Directors, would make the effort to accommodate those who can't smoke indoors anymore, then perhaps we can see this policy in action. The University should provide outdoor smoking areas with benches and receptacles located within a certain distance of the residence halls. Let's accept it, when those who smoke can't smoke indoors, are they really going to give it up? Before they tamper with the smoking detectors, or fill the entrance to the residence halls with unwarranted smoke, let's

give them a space to practice their desires uninhibitedly.

Of course, this ban should be a starting point. The long term goal shouldn't be to simply please a large segment of the student body. Instead, it should be to raise awareness about the negative implications of smoking, notably second-hand smoke. The University has already taken steps towards this by instituting days, such as, Earthstock Day, Fire Safety Exposition etc. We shouldn't be too far from a Smoking Kills Exposition.

As for those who will complain that this is an infringement of their rights, they should simply ask themselves whether their act of smoking is an infringement on other student's rights. If the answer is yes, you know where you have to relocate.

A Win and a Loss for Women's Swimming

Continued from page 15

won the 200-meter freestyle in 2:06.96 and the 100-meter backstroke in 1:09.72. Her most unexpected win was the 100-meter fly with a time of 1:08.72.

Lewandowski did not perform as well as did against UVM. She placed second in the one meter dive with a score of 212.70, losing first place to Fairfield's Katie Yee who had a score of 244.90. Yee was a formidable opponent as she beat Lewandowski in the three meter dive at 229.95-235.65.

The meet ended with team 'A,' composed of Sayles, Whipple, Teague of Nyisha Green-Washington, winning the 200-meter freestyle relay in 1:52.25.

The team will now take part in the America East Championships hosted by Boston University on Feb. 8.

FUN AND GAMES

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		8	5				C		7		A
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Monster Daily Sudoku

medium

Sudoku!

solution:

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Student Profile: Antoinette Otoo

Continued from page 5

experiences you've had as an RA.

how you can cater to them and still make everyone feel inclusive. Programming helps get everyone involved in some way. Community building, which goes along with diversity promotion, is also important. By getting to know the individuals on your floor, you're able to cater to everyone's needs. That way, everyone feels like they belong to the floor.

What are some of the rewards of being an RA?

I like the fact that I get to know more people than I would as a regular student, and I learn more that way. You have the opportunity to meet faculty members you can later get recommendations from. Most of all, you get to make an impact in other people's lives by tending to the need of your residents, which you may or may not get the chance to do as a regular resident. You have the chance to be a role model and lead through service. Be it through conflict resolution or programming, you are impacting residents' lives and doing something they appreciate. It's not every day you get to do something that makes people say, "Hey, thanks a lot. I appreciate you doing this."

Tell me about some memorable

I've never had anything too crazy happen while I was on duty. One time I walked in the girl's bathroom, and a guy was in there. I was shocked, but I had to tell him he wasn't supposed to be in there. Luckily, he walked out immediately. There was another time I had to break up a party, and I dreaded doing it, because it was a resident I happened to be good friends with. She wasn't a student that got into trouble a lot, and I ended up having to document the situation, meaning she had to face judicial action. It was hard, but luckily she understood that I was just doing my job.

What advice would you give to someone who wants to be an RA?

Have a strong sense of what the job is about, and know what is required of you. That way, you can be very convincing in your application and the interviewing process. Once you become an RA, you will find it rewarding because you'll know what you're getting into, what the job entails. Exude confidence in what you're saying. Stand out by voicing your opinions - don't be shy. You're going to have to be proactive and assertive once you're a leader, and these qualities must be visible to the interviewers.

Thinking about adding a minor?

Continued from page 5

"I think my minors boosts my major and adds character to my resume," says Siuhaung Prom, a fourth year pre-medical student and Sociology major, of her Media Arts and Biology double minor. "It's an extra thing that could open opportunities for me."

Others regard a minor as a potential alternative to their primary field. "It could be a good fall back plan in case my major doesn't work out," suggests Leo Zhang, sophomore student, who is considering taking a minor.

Some students choose their minor as a way to safeguard their outside interests. "I am trying to keep in touch with an interest I developed as a child," says Cynthia Kong, third year student and Anthropology major, about her Music minor.

Others, still, do a minor because it is a convenient endeavor. "After taking classes during a study abroad trip I found that I only needed a few more credits to finish a South Asian Studies minor," says Asha Chacko, third year student and Psychology major. "I just fell into it."

Students may also use their minors as exploratory tools - as a way to discover their interests. "I really liked biology and thought it

might help me figure out what to do with my life," reasons Sophia Quadri, sophomore student and Psychology major in reference to her Biology minor.

For Rick Gatteau, PhD, director of Academic Advising, the decision of whether or not to undertake a minor falls into one of two distinct categories. "Students need to show the depth versus the breadth of their academic careers," he explains. "A minor provides depth in another subject area" outside of a primary academic goal, he says. However, "a minor may not be better than taking many courses" in an array of different subject areas which, Gatteau explains, would display the breadth of an academic career.

Whether a minor is practically useful for the future, according to Gatteau, depends on each student's individual situation. "If a minor helps develop a particular skill set, it can be useful for a student's career," he explains.

Polenova, paints a similar picture, from a career perspective. By minoring in a particular field, "students are looking for a skill set," she argues "in order to make them more attractive to an employer."

A minor can "be interesting and help add an additional human dimension to an applicant's resume" but most importantly,

insists Polenova, "it is beneficial if it provides a different skill set" relevant to his or her prospective career.

For example, Gatteau expounds, "choosing a language minor or one that fosters reading, writing and critical analysis skills in the student can be beneficial," depending on the career choice.

The decision to participate in an academic minor is one that requires some serious deliberation. "Students should do what they are passionate about and find classes they enjoy," says Gatteau. A minor is most valuable when it reflects your passion - if you do it for personal gain. Whether or not a minor is advantageous from a career perspective, however, all depends on you, as an individual, and your future plans.

"Many students don't plan ahead or ask [Academic Advising] when considering a minor," says Gatteau.

Polenova suggests that if a student has a question about the benefits of a particular minor for his or her future professional field, he or she "should consult with the Career Center."

When making any academic decision, such as deciding if taking a minor is right for you, it is important to stay true to your interests and always discuss it with an advisor.

No Smoking in Dorms

Continued from page 3

I transferred twice, and I had never been at a university where you could smoke. I was very surprised and thought it [Stony Brook] was behind the times compared to where it's happening everywhere else. So far, the New York State bans smoking in public areas and although dorms are private, NY State owns them."

In addition, there is also a proposal by the Campus Environment Committee which provides that no smoking will be allowed anywhere on campus. However, it is still in the decision making process and if accepted, will come into affect two years from now.

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

The proposed plan, however, is facing opposition from campus clubs like the Graduate Student Organization and NYPIRG.

Will James, Katharine O'Dette, and Suraj Rambhia contributed reporting.

Stony Brook Students Protest With Die-In

Continued from page 1

our lives."

The Columbian Government says Carlos Castano, leader of the Right Wing United Self-Defense group of Columbia, is the mastermind behind most of the killings. The ultra violent paramilitary group has around 12,000 armed fighters and is listed by the United States as a terrorist organization. Labor Unions such as SINALTRAINAL and social activists alike are seen as threats by the group, standing in the way of minimizing labor costs.

One of the group's objectives is to do away with rights that workers have enjoyed due to collective bargaining agreements.

Coca-Cola is not accused of direct involvement in the alleged crimes but the Union claims Coke is aware of the situation and has failed to act accordingly. Coca Cola has denied the allegations in an open letter saying, "The Company respects the laws of the countries in which it operates and requires its bottling partners to do the same. The union's effort is nothing but an effort to besmurge the company's reputation."

The Coca-Cola Co. has also been under fire in other areas of the world. In India, Coke's largest plant has been shut down, while thousands protest the company's pollution of scarce water resources and high levels of pesticides in

its drinks. Some note that Pepsi Co. has shown a similar disregard for human rights and working conditions.

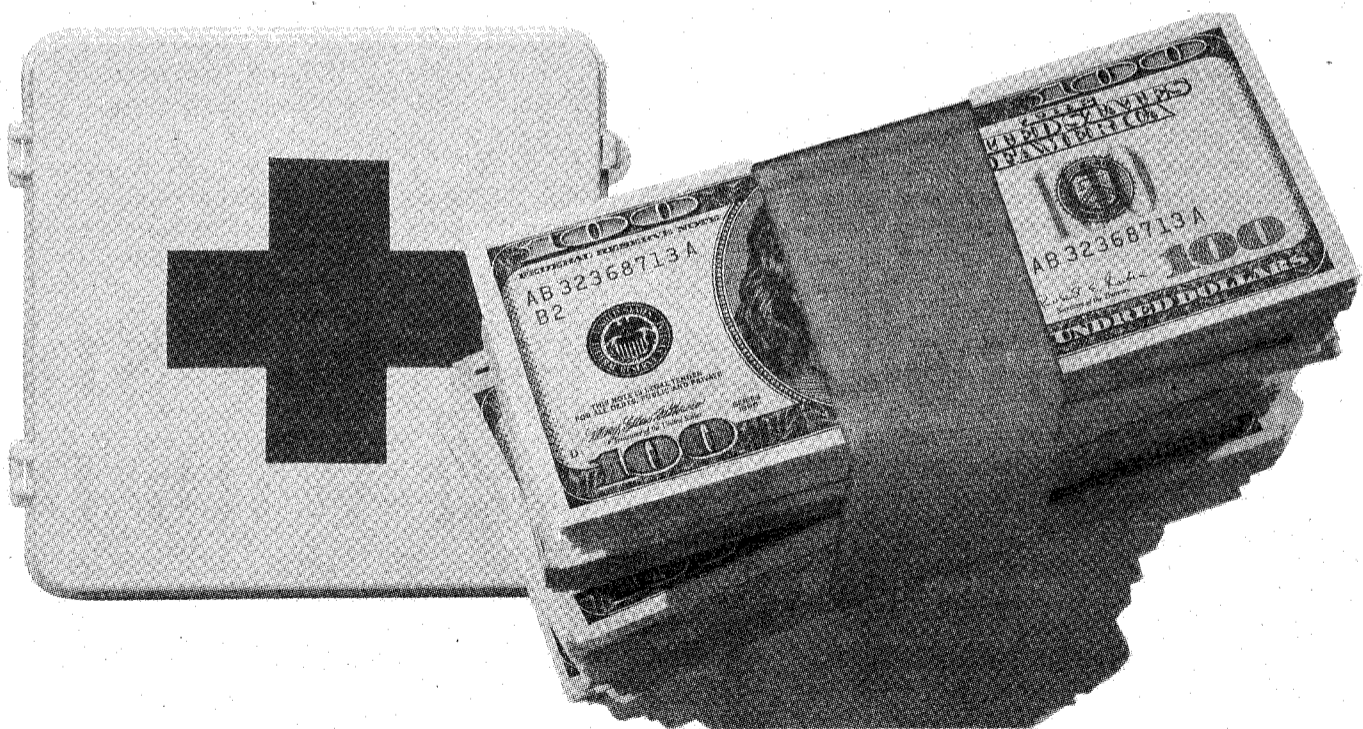
However, the fact remains that Coke is the world's largest beverage cooperation and so must set the standard of operations for other companies to follow. Stony Brook University officials have yet to take notice. Hopefully the on campus demonstration last Thursday, along with the recent surge in schools around the country banning Coca-Cola products will force them to take action. For more information regarding the Killer Coke Organization or the paramilitary in Columbia, visit www.killercoke.org.

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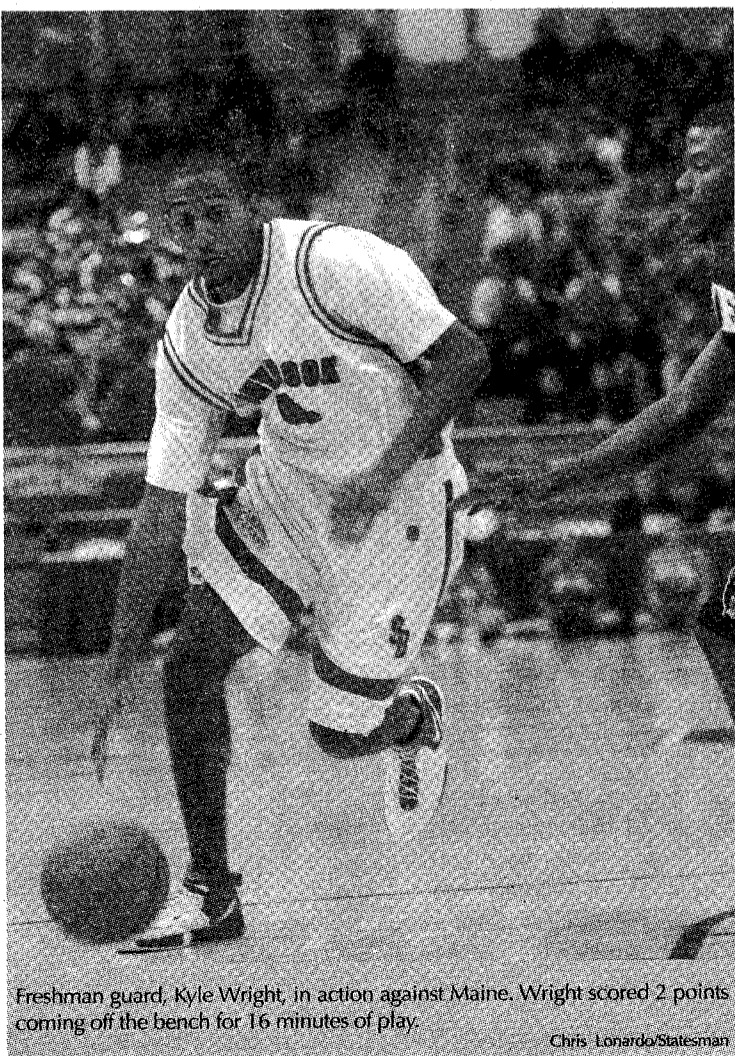
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SEAWOLVES IN ACTION!



Freshman sabre fencer Rebecca Au (left) defeats an opponent at December's NIVFA Christmas Invitational. Chris Lonardo/Statesman



Freshman guard, Kyle Wright, in action against Maine. Wright scored 2 points coming off the bench for 16 minutes of play. Chris Lonardo/Statesman

Maine Tops Men's Hoops 74-65

Continued from page 16

The loss drops Stony Brook to 7-13 overall and 2-6 in conference play, while Maine improves to 9-11 and 4-4 in the conference. The Seawolves are on the road against SUNY Binghamton this Wednesday, Jan. 31st. Game time is at 7:00PM.

Women's Hoops Wins 6th Straight

Continued from page 16

Brook only had 14 turnovers and hit 16-17 free throws in the second half to ensure the victory.

To start the game, Stony Brook allowed an early 17-7 advantage as Sherri Mikus connected for 6 points and dished out 2 assists. After a free throw by the Great Danes, Stony Brook would surge forward with a 12-0 run of their own before the visitors called a time out. The remainder of the half would play out as a series of mini-runs that eventually gave Albany a 45-38 lead going into the half.

The win gives Stony Brook a 10-9 overall and 6-1 conference record, while Albany falls to 7-13 overall and 3-4 in the conference.

Come see the Seawolves in action against Binghamton on Wednesday, January 31. The game starts at 7:00 PM at the Sports Complex.

Mixed Results for Women's Swimming

Continued from page 16

time of 4:13.23. Vermont's team 'A' swept ahead with a time of 4:06.72. Brittany Whipple came close to winning first place with a time of 1:10.99 against 1:10.07, but lost to UVM's Ashley Gillespie.

Teague, although failing to place first, came close to it in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 56.00 against UVM's Molly MacMillan's time of 55.35. She had previously placed second with a close time of 26.12 against UVM's Rachel Kent who had a time of 25.51. On the other hand, Liu who has struggled this season to win first place in the 200-yard backstroke, won it this time with a time of 2:14.84.

The Seawolves finally got a break through Hailey Lewandowski, the athlete of the week, who has continued to give consistent winning performance this season. Lewandowski placed first in the one meter dive with a score of 242.20, and first in the three meter dive with a score of 226.73. Teammate Lina Pachon

won second place by default as the four other UVM competitors were disqualified.

The meet came close to a losing, although clean finish. Rebecca Sayles ended the 200-yard Individual Medley (IM) relay with a first place win in 2:19.17. As in the past, Teams 'A,' 'B' and 'C' placed first, second and third place, respectively in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

The team then faced Fairfield at RecPlex on Jan. 27, making an impressive come back win by 152-143. They currently stand at 3-7 in the season.

The women's team started the match strongly by winning the 200-meter medley relay. Team 'A,' composed of Liu, Whipple, D'Esposito and Teague placed first with a time of 2:06.94.

Sayles kept her performance at an optimum by winning the 800-meter freestyle in a time of 9:38.93 and the 200-meter backstroke in 2:29.59. Liu, who couldn't have had a better day,

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Big Win for Fencing Club

Continued from page 16

the day was West Point. Through the first two rounds of weapons, it was neck-and-neck. However, West Point broke it open in the third round, in foil fencing, and won the meet 16-11.

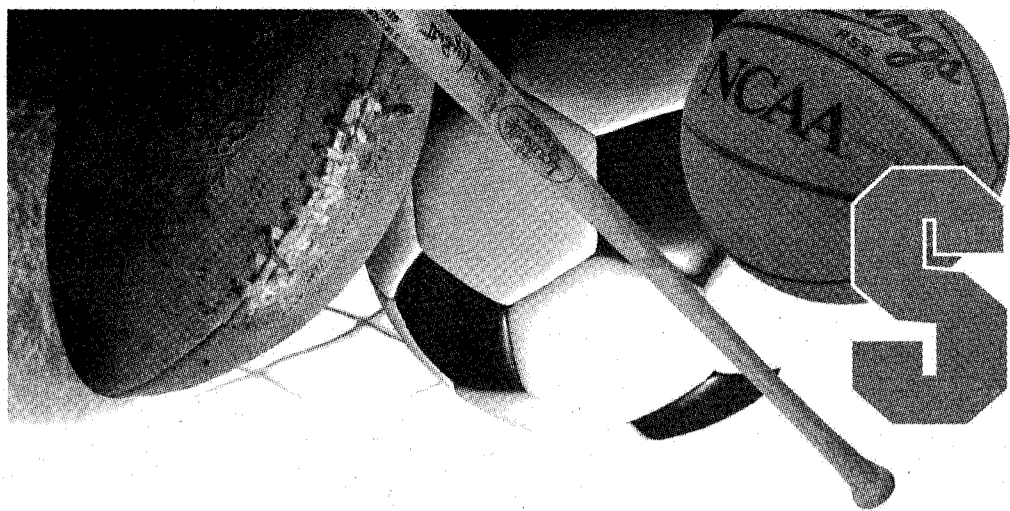
About the loss, team captain Chris Lonardo said, "The circumstances were not in our favor," and added, "It's move-in day at Stony Brook. Most of our team has not been able to train over Winter Break. We're missing Will James, a key member of our epee squad. Army got the jump on us, and we narrowly lost a lot of bouts. Everyone realizes that it's going to be a battle for the national title when we meet in

Indiana in April. We commend West Point on their victory and sportsmanship, and look forward to another close meet."

NJIT, now an NCAA Division I team, was crushed by a score of 25-2. Stony Brook earned a 9-0 shutout in the saber round, and was gifted one in the foil round, which NJIT was forced to forfeit due to transportation issues.

Hunter College, competing at the Division III level, was beaten 18-9 by Stony Brook, in a rematch of a meet in December, in which SBU won 22-5.

The team's next meet is in Charlottesville, Virginia for the South Atlantic Conference Championships, on Feb. 3 and Feb. 4.



Statesman SPORTS

Fencing Club Team Trounces Competition

By WILL LAHTI
Sports Editor

At the Mission Fencing Center in Rocky Point, NY, the Stony Brook Men's Fencing Club team came up big on Jan. 21, winning against NJIT and Hunter College. They came up short against West Point, the current national club fencing champions.

Fencing meets consist of 9 five-touch bouts in each of the three weapons: foil, epee, and saber. The team that wins the most bouts is the winner of the competition.

Stony Brook's first opponent of

Continued on page 15

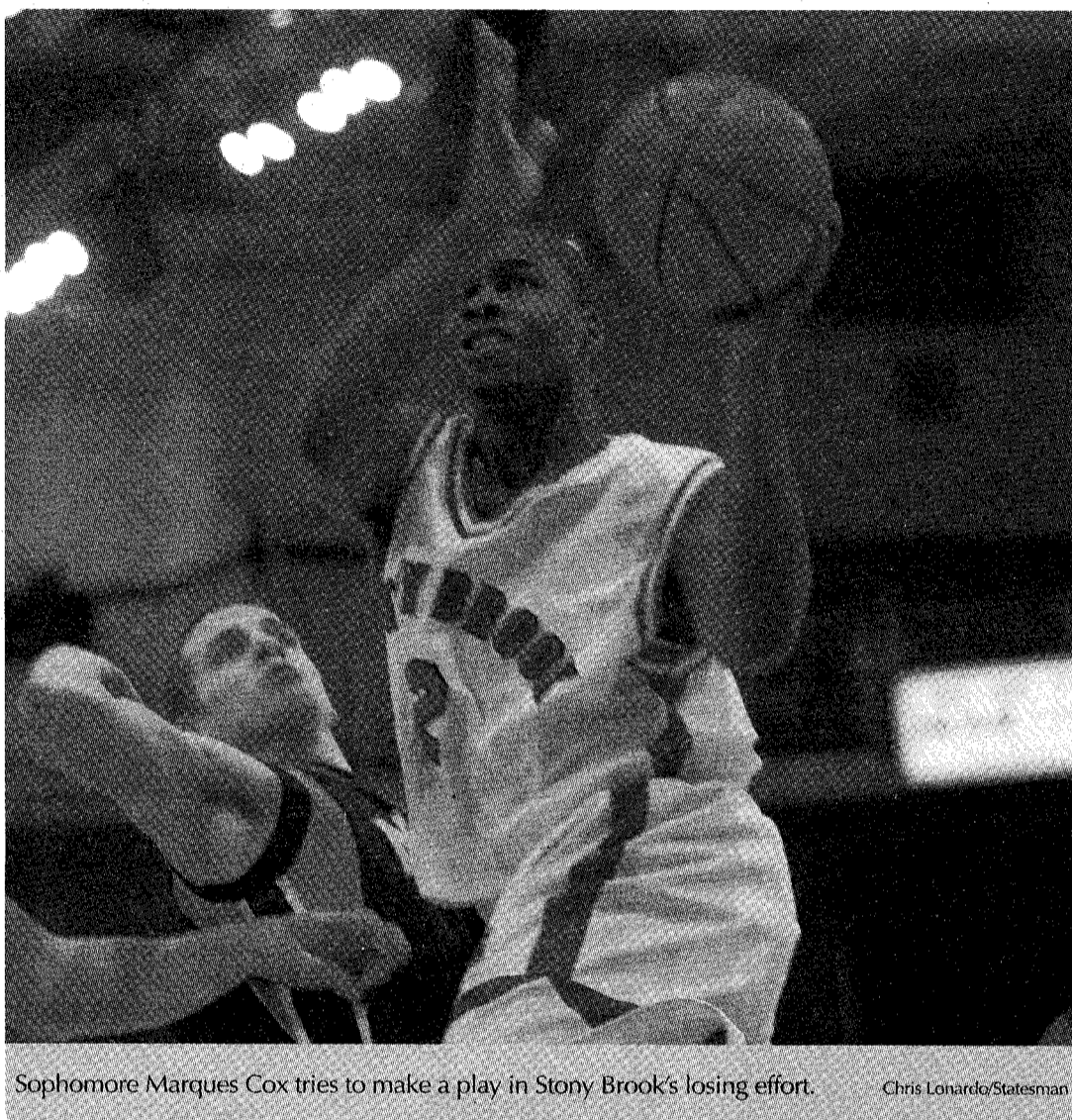
Women's Swimming Wins Over Fairfield

By TEJAS GAWADE
Managing Editor

The women's swimming and diving team went against the University of Vermont (UVM) on Jan. 20, facing another home defeat at 162-129. The Seawolves now stand at 2-7 in the conference. Vermont lived up to its reputation placing 10-4 in the conference.

The Seawolves struggled to take first place in the first five events. Team 'A' composed of Lucy Liu, Brittany Whipple, Angelica D'Esposito and Courtney Teague finished second in the 400-yard medley relay with a

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Sophomore Marques Cox tries to make a play in Stony Brook's losing effort.

Chris Lonardo/Statesman

Men's Basketball Struggles Against Maine

By SHONTO OLANDER
Staff Writer

In what looked like a repeat performance of their last home game, the Seawolves lost another home decision to a visiting conference opponent, at the hands of unconscious shooting in the second half. This past Thursday, Jan. 25, the Seawolves played host to visiting Maine University, losing 74-65.

Going into the second half, Stony Brook led 27-25, but allowed Maine to run wild and hit 65.5% of their shots. Stony Brook got out of the gate hot, leading 10-2 within the game's first few minutes.

Their lead would swell to 22-8 at the 9:34 mark, off of a layup by Mitchell Beauford that got the crowd into the game. With the game seemingly in hand for Stony Brook, Maine began to sink their shots and slow the Seawolves enough to close in with 2 points before the intermission.

Stony Brook's Ricky Lucas continued his strong play as of late with 22 points and 6 rebounds, battling Maine's Kevin Reed who netted 21 points and 5 steals. The Seawolves most impressive player however, was Junior Emanuel Neto, who had a career-high 16 rebounds to go with 13 points. His rebounding helped Stony

Brook control the boards in a game where their shooting and defense were lacking.

Stony Brook pulled down nearly as many offensive rebounds (27) as Maine's did overall (28). In the second half, Maine carried their momentum and took their first lead of the game with a 3 point play by Kevin Reed who was fouled after he sank a jumper. From this point on, with 19:48 remaining, Maine never relented or allowed Stony Brook to come within striking distance. Their lead would be as large as 14 points with only a 1:40 left in the contest.

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Women's Basketball Runs Over Albany

Seawolves Post 6th Straight Win

By SHONTO OLANDER
Staff Writer

In one of their most complete offensive efforts of the season, Stony Brook saw four players net double figures in their 82-73 win on Saturday Jan. 27th over visiting Albany. Led by Jessica Smith's 24 points and 12 rebounds and Mykeema Ford's 21 points, the Seawolves overcame a slow first half to take away the win.

Albany was led by guards Sherri Mikus with 17 points and Amanda Ward with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Gia Sanders came off the bench to score 14 points and 3 blocks. For the Seawolves, Leah Getz and Kelly Watson both had double figures, while Dana Ferraro scored 9 points and 10 boards.

With 9:54 left in the second half, Leah Getz' lay-in put Stony Brook up 59-58. Over the next three minutes Stony Brook would outscore Albany 9-2, giving them a comfortable lead which they never let slip away. Albany would threaten again when they got as close as 5 points with 2:40 left, but a jumper by Ford put a hold on the visitor's rally.

Albany did themselves in by turning the ball over 22 times and allowing the Seawolves to control the boards, who out-rebounded the Great Danes by 9. In spite of this, Albany managed to hit 51.9% from the field. Stony

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