

Hope not Hate: A Focus on US- Muslim Relations



Rabbi and Imam sit down together at Stony Brook.

Will James/ Statesman

By WILL JAMES
News Editor

On Thursday, September 14, Americans for Informed Democracy, a non-partisan activist group, hosted "Hope not Hate," a forum on the future of U.S.-Muslim world relations. A large part of the forum was dominated by discussion of the Israel-Palestine conflict, and American foreign policy.

The event took place in the SAC auditorium at 8:00 P.M. Three panelists gave short introductory speeches, and then answered questions from the audience. The panel featured Rabbi Joseph Topek, the Director and Jewish Chaplain of Stony Brook Hillel; Markus Dressler, an assistant professor of religious studies at Hofstra University; and Ghazi Khankan, the former Executive Director of Council of American-Islamic Relations in NY, and a current Senior Advisor.

The event was designed by Kiran Siddiqi, the President of the AIDemocracy chapter at Stony Brook, and Radeyah Hack, the Vice-President, and the regional Director for AIDemocracy in New York. According to Siddiqi,

AIDemocracy, "seeks to create a new generation of globally conscious leaders."

Rabbi Topek kicked off the forum, speaking in length on America's domestic security progress since the attacks on September 11th, 2001, eventually concluding, "Not a lot has been learned by the 9/11 commission." On U.S. foreign policy, Rabbi Topek said, "I don't support President Bush's notion that we can liberate a country, and force it into democracy for its own good."

At one point, Topek said, "Most Americans do not understand Islam or the Muslim world." Later, he said, "I see American Muslims struggling with the same issues that Jews did 50. or 100 years ago." "We thought he would be able to articulate the Jewish-American point of view," said Hack, of the Rabbi.

Dressler was chosen to provide an objective, academic point of view, according to Hack. According to Dressler, religion is a topic that largely obscures the various ongoing conflicts in the Middle East, citing other motivations as the roots of violence. This

is a point that all three panelists essentially agreed on.

At the end of the forum, Rabbi Topek said, "I'm in complete agreement with the other two panelists' assessment of the Middle-East conflict, that it's not about religion, the Israel-Arab conflict. It's not a war between Judaism and Islam. It's about land, it's about power, it's about politics, it's about a lot of things."

The ability of the panelists to remain civil in their disagreement was in jeopardy at certain points.

During his introductory speech, Khankan, a Muslim Imam, said that Jerusalem is three times as important to Muslims as it is to Jews and Christians. He continued to say, "We'll not accept it to be occupied, militarily." He proceeded to read a poem, inspired by Martin Luther King's philosophy, about the three Abrahamic religions existing together in peace.

Khankan blamed the American education system and media for misconceptions of Muslims, and called for more focus on the

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FIRE SAFETY, YES!

By JOSH SEIDMAN
Contributing Writer

College is a time viewed by society when each student should be devoted to discovering where his or her future is heading. While this outlook is encouraged by the faculty and staff of the University, they wish that during this period of exploration the students guard themselves and their peers from fire hazards.

In this millennium alone, 89 people have been killed by on- and off-campus fires. One of the most effective methods in preventing these catastrophes from affecting our community is by educating the student body on the methods used to minimize the occurrence of fires.

September has been declared Campus Fire Safety Month by the State of New York. The University has decided to display its support by hosting its own Fire Prevention Week. During this week The De-

partment of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S), along with several other departments, has taken steps to teach the students on campus about the causes of campus fires, and how to maintain laboratory and campus residence safety.

When a group of people is confronted with an emergency, the person who has the best chance of avoiding injury and panic is the one who has planned ahead. This past week the EH&S set up various activities to help promote fire awareness.

On September 12 and 14, several EH&S members held a live demonstration that taught the public how to use a fire extinguisher and how to respond in case of a fire. This past Wednesday, September 13, the EH&S hosted a fire exposition and fair outside the Student Activities Center.

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COLUMBINE REVIVED AT DAWSON

By TEJAS GAWADE
Editor-in-Chief

In what appears to be a repeat of the Columbine shootings, Dawson College has suffered a similar tragedy. The College located in Montreal, Quebec was home to 25-year-old Kimveer Gill until he killed a young woman and injured 19 in a shooting spree. The incident took place on September 13, the same day that Gill was shot by a police bullet. The Canadian police maintain that the bullet was non-fatal, and Gill died of a self-inflicted wound.

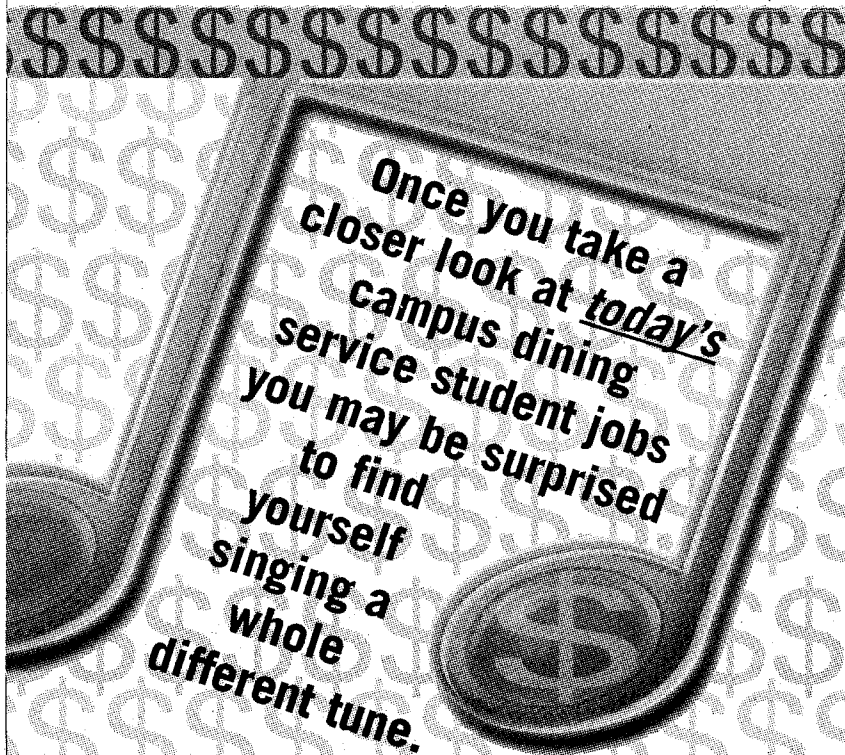
Gill's motivation for committing this crime is unknown. "There is no racist connotation whatsoever...This is not re-

lated...to terrorism," said Yvan Delorme, Montreal's Chief of Police. However, Gill's profile presents a confounding case. Gill, a self-proclaimed Goth, maintained a blog on vampirefreaks.com. He referred to himself as Trench, and called himself the "Angel of Death." He wrote that his ambition was to die in a hail of bullets.

Gill entered the school cafeteria with three weapons and fired random shots. He was dressed in military boots, a trench coat and had a Mohawk hair cut. According to local resident, Michele Bismuth, "there are two shopping

Continued on page 4

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Behind the Scenes: An Interview

With Shirley Strum Kenny

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

Walking around our Stony Brook University campus today, many of us can appreciate how far along SBU has come within the past 10 years. Even though most of the current freshmen probably never set foot at SBU before 2005, those who have been here for longer will certainly say they see a difference.

Gone are the days when students handed cups of mud to university officials outside the administration buildings. We have arrived at a time where we see the fruits of SBU's makeover.

This past summer, SBU was featured in The Chronicle of Higher Education primarily for the immense array of changes that have occurred under the leadership of President Shirley Strum Kenny. While The Chronicle affirms the general consensus that improvements have been made, it must be made clear that much is being done to further augment the campus.

Here, President Kenny reflects on some of the projects that are in place behind the scenes and offers a positive outlook on some of the 'potential problems' that have crept up in recent months.

Among the major items that Kenny reported: Construction. According to Kenny, "We continue to focus on rehabbing and upgrading the buildings that exist. Lots of funding has been put into the Chemistry,

Physics and Math [buildings]."

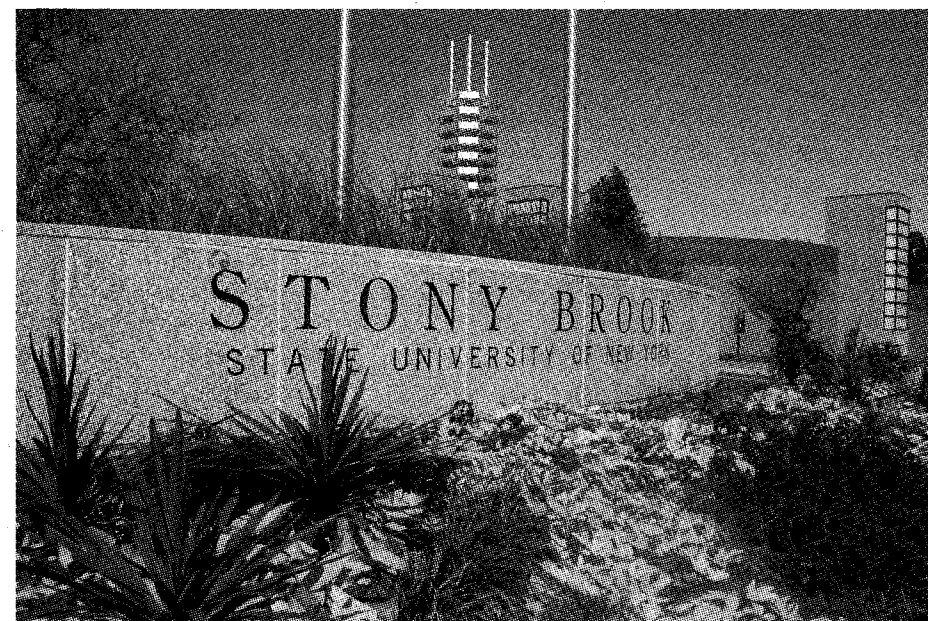
It was mentioned in The Chronicle that many of the buildings were made in this "neo-penal" style, outwardly facing the parking lots. Anyone who has ever walked through the Chemistry, Physics and Math buildings can attest to the similarities between them.

As one of the Statesman staff writers humorously described, "You can pretty much describe them as overarching, dark brown, brick buildings at least 5 stories in height."

Continuing the focus on construction, Kenny did mention that a new recreation center was to be built between the athletic center and the Student Union. This project, however, according to Kenny, "is still in the design phase." Another project in the design phase is a new building for the Bio-medical Engineering (BME) department.

Construction is in the works to accommodate the increasing student body. Believe it or not, with approximately 15,000 undergraduates on campus and approximately 7,000 graduate students, the campus is still growing. Thus, the need for new campus housing has been made a priority. Some people may have heard that the University is looking to create a conference housing facility to house attendees of summer conferences who currently get housing in the campus dormitories.

According to Kenny, however, "Confer-



The renovated Stony Brook University sign welcomes visitors.

Tia Mansouri/ Statesman

ence housing is really not on the agenda."

With the increasing influx of students, it seems judicious for the university to focus on the growing needs of the students with more campus housing. In addition, Kenny reported that there has been an increased focus on recruiting students from out of state.

Kenny affirmed, "We have 13.2% students from out of state this year. Having more students from out of state does add to the diversity of the campus."

A recent statement by the University reports that currently 8% of the freshmen are from out of state up from 6.5% with the incoming class in 2005. International students have remained for the past two years at 2 percent of the incoming class. The goal reported by the University is to have 30% of all students from out of state within the next 5 years.

Among other projects currently being

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SBU's Red Hot Fire Safety Week



Officers conduct Fire Expo activities at the SAC Plaza.

Munirah Hasan/ Statesman

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There was a plethora of intriguing displays, along with several exercises that depended upon direct participation from the students. Among these were the Fire Education Trailer, which simulated the conditions found in real fires and taught the students how to navigate themselves around a house that had caught ablaze. "The Burning Stove" demonstration coached students on how to properly manipulate a fire extinguisher.

The Director of EH&S at Stony Brook, Gary Kaczmarczyk, stated that his primary goal in having this event is "to increase the level of awareness and involvement among the students on campus." He said that he "want[s] the students to realize that in a fire every second

counts and by understanding this they could be making the difference between life and death."

There are many incidents that can trigger fires. However, with each of these incidents there are measures students can take to remain safe. The most prominent six causes of dormitory fires are arson, cooking related incidents, smoking, halogen lamps/candles, overloading electrical outlets, and alcohol related incidents.

One of the things that you as a student can do to prevent a fire in your living quarters is to never overload outlets with multiple plugs. In addition, you can refrain from using extension cords, never cover light bulbs with paper or clothing, and avoid using candles in your dormitory. Another simple act that students can practice is to

immediately respond to fire alarms when they sound. If you hear a fire alarm, evacuate! It is that simple.

When you're in a laboratory conducting an experiment there a few vital bits of information that you should be knowledgeable of in order to avoid a fire. For instance, you should handle all materials with care and be sure to know how each material is meant to be used. You should also be able to locate the fire extinguisher, emergency eyewash, and emergency shower. Also be sure to properly store all of the materials you used during the experiment.

Fire safety requires the involvement of every individual here on campus. If each person does his or her own part we can make our campus free from the fatalities of fires.

Rabbi and Imam Discuss US- Muslim Relations at SBU.

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positives of Muslim civilization. He said, "The present situation is based on the ignorance of the past, concerning the Muslim world." At one point, he told the history of the Arabic numeral, as an example of Islam's contribution to society. During the question-and-answer segment, Khankan said that the Jews who colonized Israel were terrorists. He continued to say, "There is nothing Islamic about terrorism. There is nothing Jewish about terrorism. There is nothing Christian about terrorism."

He also said, "U.S. foreign policy has made things worse by supporting the Israelis." There was one moment of tension between Khankan and Rabbi Topek, over their views of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, sparked by a question from the audience. However, the situation diffused itself after a moment.

"Hope not Hate" ended after about an hour and a half, when Dressler had to leave to catch a plane. Debates between the audience members, however, continued outside the SAC auditorium after the event closed down. "At least we inspired dialog," said Hack, later in the week. "I think it's great that we had an Imam and a Rabbi sitting down together," she said.

According to Hack, Stony Brook's AIDemocracy chapter has a packed calendar, this semester. On September 28, they're planning a seminar about international trade system reform. On October 16, they're hosting an event about the spread of deadly weapons. Future events include a forum about America's relationship with the U.N., and a seminar on World AIDS day. Later in the year, AIDemocracy will be working with "One Voice," a non-profit organization that is designed to inspire dialog between Israel and Palestine.

Shooting Haunts Montreal

Continued from page 1

indoor malls and they were evacuated...cell telephones were not functioning. Before the shooting the city is always animated - people going for lunch, and it is always so peaceful." The college remains closed until Monday for further investigation.

The young woman who died was recognized as 18-year-old Anastasia De Sousa. According to Montreal General Hospital spokeswoman, Sheila Moore, six of the victims are in a critical condition in their intensive care unit. She has said that two are in a "very critical condition."

In response to the shootings, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper said that they are "a cowardly and senseless act of violence ... our primary concern right now is to ensure the safety and recovery of all those who were injured during this tragedy."

Vampirefreaks.com own-

ers have taken down Gill's web page. In response to the incident, they have released a statement saying "[Gill] was actually a member of other sites such as myspace, yet somehow our site is the only one being named. Many people do not understand our scene and would like to point the finger at us, but the Goth scene is a very friendly, nurturing, non-violent community."

The last known Canadian college shooting took place in 1989, when 25-year-old Marc Lepine killed 14 women at Ecole Polytechnique. The Montreal resident then killed himself. Gun laws were tightened since then. However, the current conservative party wants to cancel the current gun registry. The registry keeps a record of every firearm owner in Canada. It has been criticized for being expensive and bureaucratic. Mr. Harper said that he will not roll back any of the tightened gun laws.

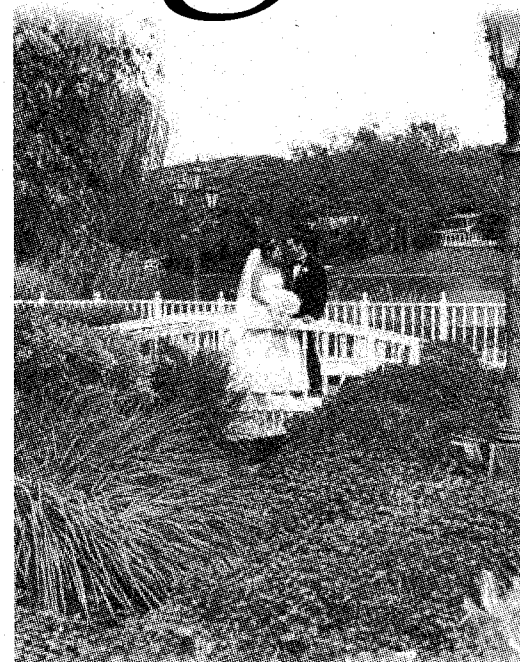
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A THOUGHT from RABBI ADAM



The Hebrew month of Elul is a month that began on August 25. How does one maintain faith – especially after a tragedy? After all, one can never prove that there is a G-d from which all that happens is for the ultimate good. For the world is designed such that there will always be room for doubt. But yet on the other hand, one can deny the truth of almost any intangible reality. For instance, does “humor” really exist? For after all, can one ever prove a joke to be “humorous”? Similarly, one could also deny that there is such a thing as “music”. For maybe “music” is really nothing but a mere manipulation of notes? The fact that it may happen to appeal to one’s senses is another matter. Along these lines, a person could even deny the reality of “love”. For after all, there has never been established a scientific theorem upon which one can base their decision for marriage. Therefore, although one may not readily be able to prove the existence of humor, music or love, one could nevertheless say this: You can live your whole life without humor; you can live your whole life without music; and you can even live your whole life without love. Similarly, you can choose to live a life without G-d. However, it is going to be a life that is so much more shallow, so much more impoverished, and so much more narrow. Therefore, the great men and women of faith throughout the generations, whenever faced with the challenge of tragedy, always lowered their head and humbly said, “I just don’t know”. For it is specifically through such humility will one be able to go above and beyond the puny perceptions of man, and instead, maintain a very powerful and real sense of G-d. For in doing so, one’s life will be all the more deep, all the more enriched and all the more expansive. (based on “An Eliyahu Ha’Navi in our midst”, BeisMoshiach.org)

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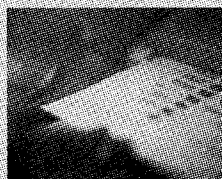
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Statesman production meetings are held throughout the day on Wednesdays and Sundays in Rm 057 in the basement of the Student Union. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newspaper is welcome to attend these meetings.

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Stony Brook, NY 11790

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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Montreal Resident Opens Fire Who's Responsible?

Why do people commit heinous acts of violence? Is there some rationale for taking innocent lives? Why does it seem that certain people feel the need make themselves known through acts of destruction?

Kimveer Gill decided to relive the Columbine Massacre. People may point fingers at the Canadian gun laws and the Canadian police force for not enforcing these laws. Pointing fingers, however, will not bring Anastasia De Sousa back to life. Pointing fingers will surely not alter the critical state of 22-year-old Leslie Markofsky or another bystander.

Gill referred to himself as the "Angel of Death." On his own website, Gill displayed pictures of himself holding various weapons. While our society and the Canadian society does allow for such freedoms of expression, it seems that this massacre at Dawson College was a side effect of having institutions in place for freedom of expression. People today go about doing whatever they want thinking that they are entitled to think and do as they please.

Rather than nitpicking at the gun laws, Canadian police should be focusing on individuals who violate certain "ethical and moral standards" of society. Knowing that there are individuals out there who embrace violence, police should work to shutdown people who display such destructive information online, and people who propagandize this type of lawless behavior.

Canadian police describe the situation as not being related to terrorism or racism in any way. With nineteen people injured and one person dead, this is certainly an act of terrorism. The Massacre of Dawson College was an act of hate against every human being on our planet.

Today, we constantly hear about wars in the news, governments fighting over small strips of land. If we don't do something to crack down on individuals who exceed the boundaries of living in a civilized society, we will continue to accept such acts of terrorism by individuals like Kimveer Gill as normal.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Commentary: "Newsday was WRONG, SBUMC Defends."

By ALEXANDRIA IMPERATO
Psychology Major

As a psychology major, the one concept I have been bombarded with constantly is that statistics, while they can indeed be informative and helpful, can also be misleading. In fact, statistics are often a tool used to manipulate people.

When reading this week's cover story, "Newsday Was Wrong, SBUMC Defends," I was intrigued how SBUMC's defense of their pediatric cardiology program was one firmly rooted in statistics. They cited the average death rates for other comparable hospitals and emphasized how Stony Brook's rates of patient mortality are below average.

However, what is inherently wrong about this defense is that the issue here is not necessarily how many patients died, but in the manner in which they did. To use an analogy: Say in a certain poverty-level neighborhood, over the course of one month, three people were fatally shot in robberies. In another

neighborhood, home to a senior citizen assisted living community, eight people pass away from natural causes over the course of the same month. The mortality rate of residents is significantly higher in the second neighborhood, but one would hardly be able to argue that the first neighborhood is safer purely because less people died. That is, it is not the number of deaths, but the manner in which they occurred.

In 2002, Stony Brook University Hospital was fined \$54,000 by the state of New York when a 6 day old infant was administered 10 times the prescribed dose of potassium chloride following heart surgery and subsequently died. (<http://www.newsday.com/news/local/longisland/ny-libaby-234753295may23,0,2215646.story?coll=sns-ap-nationworld-headlines>).

Dr. Irvin Krukenkamp, who successfully sued the university hospital for over 3 million dollars, pointed out that the pediatric cardiac surgeon was only at the University hospital once a week. He also pointed out that the

hospital was extremely indignant whenever their activities were questioned. It is difficult to believe that his case was unfounded, as he was paid such a large sum of money. It was a poorly run pediatric cardiac surgery unit that was to blame for these infants' deaths. Landscapers should be on contract, not pediatric heart surgeons.

In short, while Stony Brook may indeed have a lower mortality rate than other comparable hospitals, this is hardly the entire story. Infants died because of mistakes on the part of Hospital staff (another young infant nearly died in 1995 from an overdose of morphine), mistakes which could have-and should have-been prevented, and from an overall lax and shoddy structure of crucial medical departments.

President Kenny and Drs. Greene and Fine can throw around all the statistics they would like to, but it seems that both the state and the federal government were concerned enough to launch investigations- and they are unlikely to be deterred by a few numbers.

CORRECTIONS

In "USG Elections..." (9/14/06) USG elections take place before November, not in November.

In "Newsday Was Wrong ..." (9/14/06) SBUMC has applied for a MAGNET designation, not MAGNA designation.

In "New Dining Opportunities..." (9/1/06) Angela Agnello was misquoted. She actually said "We have about 2.3 million [dollars] ... we routinely invest about \$1 million each year in dining service facilities anyway."

First USG Senate Meeting: Reform Party In Control

By ESAM AL-SHAREFFI
USG Senate Recording Secretary

Dear Editor,

My name is Esam Al-Shareffi, the USG Senate recording secretary. I shall attempt to provide the reader with a weekly overview of the state of the student government; in the hopes of bringing some much needed light on this important but often neglected subject.

Having served twice as a Senator, once as President Pro-Temp, and also having chaired the Senate at various times in the past, I believe that I can give the reader a unique and knowledgeable perspective.

The USG Senate had its first meeting on Tuesday, September 12, 2006, and from all accounts it has gotten off to an excellent start. Almost every Senator was in attendance; a rarity for USG, and the body gave off a relatively polished performance, save for a few areas, which I will get to presently.

The Senate elected its President Pro-Tempore (PPT),

essentially the leader of the legislative branch and a person who works closely with the Chair to make the Senate move efficiently. On a vote largely along party lines (though we cannot be sure, since it was done by ballot,) Senator Robert Romano was elected as PPT.

In his speech, he promised to deliver a timely budget and essentially took responsibility for the Senate, ensuring students that the Senate will assert its position and tackle serious reforms. With a majority of Senators, the PPT, and the President of USG all of the same party, as well as a friendly Supreme Court, the Reform Party has an excellent opportunity to fulfill its campaign promises and make this year a great one for students.

On the other hand, however, the party will have no one to blame should it fail to succeed, but I for one am optimistic about their chances and wish them the best of luck. Senator Romano and his party have already proposed some legislation, such as the "Financial Policies and Procedures," which while important fail to address the fundamental concerns of students, namely, what USG is doing for them, and what tangible benefit they will receive from it.

Instead of tying up a great deal of meeting time in a presentation which I would wager most Senators failed to understand (and your humble correspondent barely remaining awake as it agonizingly proceeded,) students will instead be clamoring for real action on matters that affect their campus, such as the Reform Party's campaign promise to expand meal points to off-campus locations.

Hopefully the reform of internal USG mechanisms and documents will be dealt with swiftly, so that matters of greatest interest to students are discussed. Towards the end of the meeting, a concrete matter was considered, in the form of a proposed resolution protesting plans to turn the entire Stony Brook campus into a smoke free zone.

These are the kinds of issues that generate interest and debate, as they matter significantly to students. It seems that except for these few minor items that USG is off to an excellent start and I eagerly await the opportunity to update the reader on what happens next.

Respectfully yours,
Esam Al-Shareffi

Staller Art Exhibit Cont'd

Continued from page 9

tool used to fight for that very same sense of culture. Lujan's video presentation titled "I Look at Indians I Look at Myself" raises thought provoking questions such as "How do I fit into the global scale and am I interchangeable?" He examines identity, and one's place in society, both his own and that of his people.

Lloyd E. Oxendine's (Lumbee) piece has fifty chief-heads, lined ten across and five down. His piece is titled "Indios-Adios," or "Goodbye Indians." He states, "The heads themselves are hand-made kitsch representing the commercialization and stereotyping of Indians, Indian Art, and Indian Culture. Many contemporary Indian artists are rebelling against this in an attempt to define and articulate their "New Indian Art." I however, have chosen to use this and create a piece, a configuration which speaks of the many dead Indians and the genocide of our various Indian cultures in the U.S. The piece addresses the simultaneous rejection

and co-optation of Indian culture that has occurred after the Holocaust. It also explores the on-going Indian dilemma: "What is Indian craft? Vs. What is Indian Art? "And, more importantly, does it have a place in American culture?" Oxendine's work brings to mind the childhood Indian song that goes, "One little, two little, three little Indians . . ." The Indian chief heads resemble trophies, and this is among the symbolism which is at play in this piece. The fifty chief heads may also represent the 500 years of colonization or the 500 nations at the time of discovery.

Sarah Sense's artwork consists of digital prints woven together. Like the other artists, she explores stereotypes of Indians. She says, "These works are an exploration of the conflicts between tradition and assimilation affecting contemporary American Indians within the broader American culture. I am part German, part French, part English, part Choctaw, part Chitimacha and was raised in California with an influence of Hollywood idealism. I digitally manipulate photographs

of my reservation, Hollywood imagery, mass produced Indian posters, and of myself acting out cultural stereotypes of my heritage." From these, Sense creates Chitimacha basket patterns. The layering in the artwork complements that in the other artists' works, and is definitely worth a see. The odd use of materials to create traditional works is also interesting. The presentation of industrialization is also evident, although subtle.

Lorenzo Clayton (Diné- Navajo) examines identity through his artwork, which use silkscreen images and lithography. The piece is in collaboration with George Sidebotham, a professor of Chemical Engineering. "This print [Accrued Gravity] is a partial study of a broader concept that investigates articulating human emotions through mathematical equations. The inception of this idea occurred several years ago after I became interested in the writings of the philosopher Rudolf Steiner," says Clayton. The three images comment on culture and issues surrounding identity.

The images show a gradual progression in emotional volatility. Clayton blends mathematics to comment on identity. The first impression one gets is that of utter chaos and instability. There is layering in these pieces as well, with mathematics as the background and thoughts and other expressions of human behavior, almost spiritual, in the foreground.

The mix of tradition and modernity does not always result in a pleasant outcome, but "Paumanok" is certainly inspiring. The art is thought provoking, and addresses issues that are relevant to the Native American community, but also to everyone else. Questions of stereotypes, identity, both of the individual and of the community as a whole, are worth pondering. Art that evokes emotion and confusion has accomplished what its creators had originally intended.

Special thanks are owed to the curators, Stephanie Dinkins and Athena LaTocha, and to the director of the University Art Gallery, Rhonda Cooper, for their time and help.

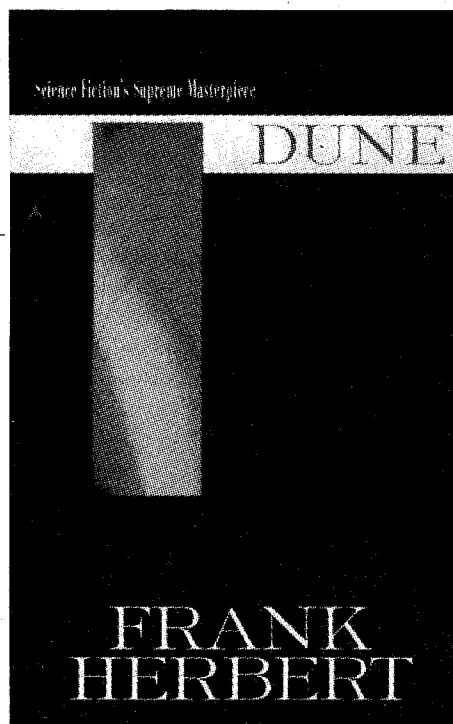
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Courtesy of Amazon.com

BY JEREMY FALLETTA
Staff Writer

What J.R.R. Tolkien did for the fantasy genre when he published the Lord of the Rings saga, Frank Herbert did for science fiction with *Dune*. Herbert has created a world apart: a world where there are different rules, both natural and manmade; a world where water is the most valuable commodity; a world that resembles our own in some ways and departs from it entirely in others. *Dune* is a tour de force.

This book tells the story of Paul Atreides, a young boy of 15 who must become a man far ahead of his time. His mother, member of an ancient order of highly-trained women, unwittingly births him to be the final link in an enduring chain of breeding and selection intended to produce the Kwisatz Haderach – or “the chosen one,” to simplify. Paul, who is eventually to become Muad'Dib, adheres to his fate with nary a question. He understands that he has a “great and terrible” destiny, and does not shirk his duty. Just as in Lord of the Rings, this sense of fantastic purpose is the strongest driving force behind the story.

Each chapter in *Dune* is preceded by an excerpt from one of the many works of the Princess Irulan, mostly biographical works on Muad'Dib, such as “Manual of Muad'Dib” and “A Child's History of Muad'Dib.” Although the princess is hardly a major character herself, the reader is led to believe she has researched Paul's life at a time after the conclusion of the novel. She may, therefore, figure more prominently in the numerous sequels in the *Dune* series. Her excerpts are often articulate, and always insightful:

You have read that Muad'Dib had no playmates his own age on Caladan ... But Muad'Dib did have wonderful companion-teachers. There was Gur-

ney Halleck, the troubadour-warrior. You will sing some of Gurney's songs as you read along in this book. There was Thufir Hawat, the old Mentat Master of Assassins, who struck fear even into the heart of the Padishah Emperor. There were Duncan Idaho, the Swordmaster of the Ginaz; Dr. Welling Yueh, a name black with treachery but bright in knowledge; the Lady Jessica, who guided her son in the Bene Gesserit Way, and – of course – the Duke Leto, whose qualities as a father have long been overlooked.

Coming to the planet Dune, Paul, his family, and his companions encounter a desert the likes of which they have never seen before. Paul's father is quick to understand that they must harness what he calls “desert power” in order to maintain an edge against the Harkonnen, enemies of the Atreides house. Treachery forces Paul into the desert, where he seeks out the native Fremen, and learns their way of life in order to survive, and, eventually, revenge himself upon the Empire (not the same as in Star Wars). His journey through his late adolescent years transforms Paul into the venerable Muad'Dib, and empowers him to seek out his destiny.

Dune has a full glossary in the back, which you will find yourself using quite frequently if you choose to explore this literary treasure. Many of the terms that Herbert uses will be entirely foreign at first, as they are of his own creation and are unique to the *Dune* universe. This feature lends a degree of reality to the story, and is definitely a welcome addition.

Though a bit long, this novel is certainly worth consideration. It is an essential read for any science fiction fan, and I'd wager it will be thoroughly enjoyed by someone new to the genre as well. Have fun.

SB Bytes:

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Courtesy of Google Images

BY JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Technology Correspondent

When most people hear the name “Google,” they think innovation, easy-to-use products, and the famous corporate motto, “Do no evil.” I do not. When I try to use the myriad of services that Google offers, of which many are buried and obscure; I find myself wondering what the big-wigs at this multi-billion dollar company think when they roll out with new products.

Take Google Video for example. The interface is sloppy and navigation is difficult. Did you even know that they offer videos for sale? If you didn't, that's okay—I don't think many Google employees do either. If they did, they'd make it a bit less frustrating to peruse their video collection and buy what you so please. While the idea of Google Video is great, it is light-years behind competitor YouTube.

People rave about GMail, and I must say, it isn't a bad service. It was the first free online mail service that I can think of to offer over 1GB of space, which is now up to well over 2GB. The interface, while clean, isn't optimal for everyday use. Yahoo Mail Beta, on the other hand, has an interface that is both advanced and familiar, bearing a great resemblance to mail programs such as Outlook Express and Apple's Mail. While GMail isn't bad, it certainly isn't great. I expect some of the smartest people in the IT industry to do a bit more research and to come up with a truly great interface that blows the competition out of the water.

According to Marissa Mayer, Google's Product Manager, Google tries its hand at a wide array of applications, and the popular ones get tweaked and made better,

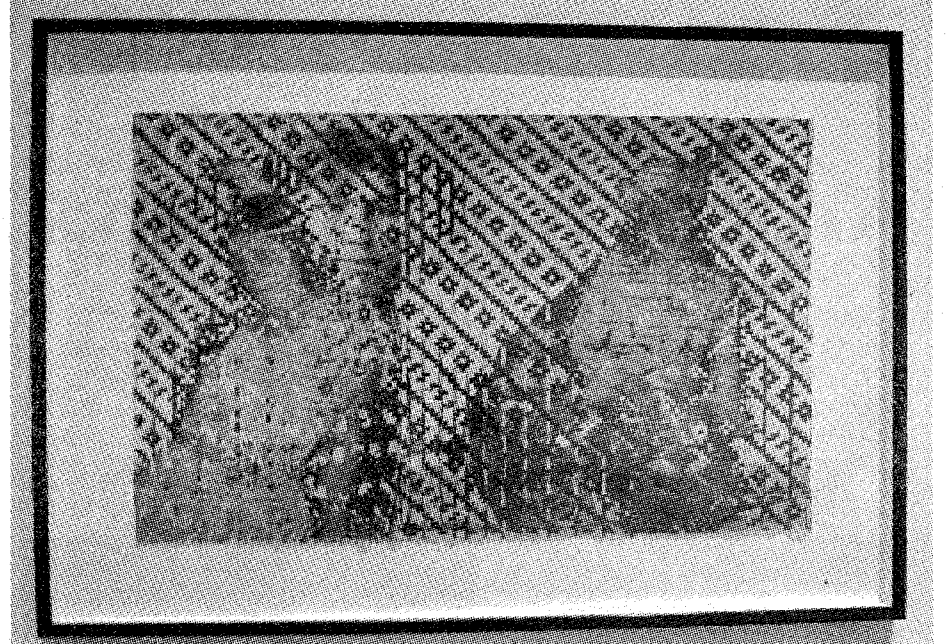
while the poorer ones are let to die. While this is a very interesting business model, I see it as less than optimal. Again, even though I bring up Apple frequently, it is an opposing model that I believe it much better than Google's. Rather than roll out with a myriad of software programs and hope that people use at least some of them, Apple puts all its eggs in one basket with each product launch. I wish this was Google's way. If they truly cared about beating the competition when it came to Google Video, we would see a robust design team on it that would produce a truly great interface, and not one that is tainted by the philosophy that searching for things is better than a hierarchical representation.

To be fair, there are products that Google makes that simply blow everybody else away. Google Desktop is a perfect example. In a small sidebar on your desktop, Google managed to beautifully package weather reports, a scratch pad, recent emails, and many more customizable features, all while building a searchable database of your entire hard drive in a way that no rival has done since. But some of Google's other products, including Google Talk, Froogle, Google Finance, and Google Local are obscure and cannot gain traction against heavy competition.

All in all, I think it's a far better philosophy to take each product seriously and make the UI and feature-set well out of reach of the competition. Each failed product that Google launches only dilutes its name, even if it expands its user base. Take a page from some of your competitors—don't enter a field unless you are prepared to dominate that field. That way, Google's name will be tied with excellence for years to come.

SBSTATESMAN.ORG

Paumanok: *Land of Tribute*



Top: "Cowgirls and Indians #4" (2005) by Sarah Sense

Left: "State of Emergency" (2005) by Jeffrey Gibson

Photo Credit Munirah Hasan

By NANDITHA DAS
Staff Writer

"Paumanok" means "land of tribute," and was a Native American name referring to Long Island. It is ideal then, to have this as the first exhibit of the fall semester at the University Art Gallery, located in the Staller Center. The art being presented is the work of six Native American artists from New York City: Lorenzo Clayton, Jeffrey Gibson, Jason Lujan, Alan Michelson, Lloyd E. Oxendine and Sarah Sense. The exhibit runs from September 12, 2006 through October 18, 2006. The curators are Associate Professor at Stony Brook, Stephanie Dinkins and M.F.A. student Athena LaTocha.

With "Paumanok," the artists, who have used a wide range of materials and media, hope to re-introduce Native American culture and tradition and encourage its study and examination. The exhibit has, for example, paintings, digital prints, and mixed media installations. The artists have provided a unique blend of contemporary and traditional art. In other words, traditional art has been created through the use of contemporary materials.

Alan Michelson's (Grand River Mohawk) piece, called "Permanent Title" is from 1993. He started as a painter, and was later influenced by European landscape art, as well as American landscape art. He says, "I perceive a temporal dimension to landscape that is inseparable from the spatial dimension, and I have experimented with different ways of rendering it. Mostly, I look not only at a site or landscape, but into it, for traces of its experience. European or Euro-American landscape artists painted views. A view is an act not only of perception but of interpretation." His piece consists of eleven waxed cloth sacks on which rubbings, of headstones for example, were made. These waxed cloth bags were

once used as body bags. As clearly put by the curators of the exhibit, the piece "memorializes the past." All the rubbings were taken from locations along Broadway, which was an old Native trail used to cross Manhattan. The piece discusses the transition of the economy over the past 500 years.

Michelson's other work, titled "Mespat," consists of digital video and sound, provided by Michael J. Schummacher. The video is of a waterway and trade route that has been transformed in 500 years, like the trail across Manhattan in Michelson's other piece. The video is interestingly projected onto a screen made of white turkey feathers. These feathers evoke a sort of memory or stereotype of Indians, who are usually associated with headdresses, feathers and beads. The music played as part of the piece is trance-like, with sounds like running water and fog horns. Michelson focuses on the industrialization, but doesn't present it as a commentary, but rather suggests it. And as the curators have pointed out, the projected images urge you to look beyond the landscape, and through it rather than at it.

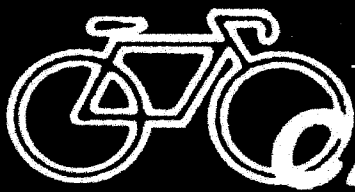
Jeffrey Gibson's (Mississippi Band of Choctaw) piece consists of two paintings: "All That Matters," where a mother and her child are depicted, and "State of Emergency," where two men are about to kiss. "I wanted the people in this land to be uninhibited and enjoying the pleasures of the land and each other, nothing more. This may sound simple and escapist, but I felt it was important for me to visualize what this kind of environment looked like and imagine what happens there in order for me to begin to push further into less idyllic visions of developing society. As a native person, the idea of utopia was important for me to explore because of the perception that pre-contact tribal life was idyllic and harmonious with the land. This is a simplified version of history that I have learned since I was a child. With

this series of paintings I wanted to imagine this utopia for myself."

Gibson's paintings were the most striking to me amongst all the other pieces in this exhibit, not simply for their vibrancy, but because of the emotional effect you get from viewing it. Made with oil and pigmented silicone, texture plays a large role in these paintings, as they do in all the pieces in "Paumanok." Gibson presents two relationships, one between a mother and child, and another between two men. One is "expected" and the other is not. "All That Matters" uses blues, greens and violets as the primary colors, which are natural to life. The image evokes a sense of tranquility. "State of Emergency," on the other hand, has red and orange as the primary colors. For long, the color red has signified passion as well as danger, warning, volatility, and instability. By presenting the artwork in this way, I believe that Gibson too was examining stereotypes within society, but my interpretation may be skewed as a result of the very stereotypes that are under scrutiny here.

Jason Lujan's (Chiricahua Apache) work consists of selected pages from "The American Indian Activist Handbook." He has compiled his own survival guide for Native American activists. Lujan says, "This project re-contextualizes U.S. military training manuals such as the U.S. Army Ranger Handbook, and other U.S. government publications, and transforms it into a training manual for Native American political activists (acting under the guise of Homeland Security.) The publication and doctrinal terms are changed so that the chapters may imply that the "good guys" are American Indians, and the "enemy" or "terrorist invader" is the United States government." Combat is shown on two levels: first, as the tool for murderous removal of culture and second, as a

Continued on page 7

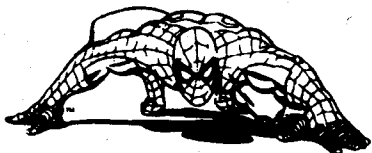


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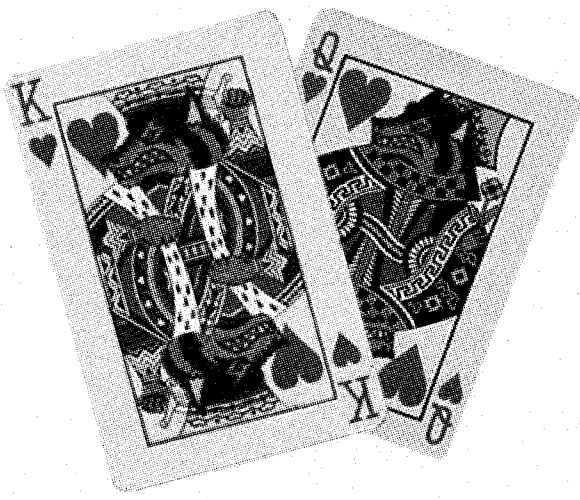
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Start at a beautiful ocean beach in the Hamptons and run a course along the bay and through hedge-lined estate streets before heading back to the beach for a stunning finish. A DJ will be on hand before the race to get the crowd warmed up with help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

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

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



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Out of Town Update

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

Football

The football team dropped their third straight game this past Saturday when they played New Hampshire at Cowell Stadium. Stony Brook got blasted by a score of 62-7 by the Wildcats. In the first quarter, New Hampshire dominated the scoreboard until the last minute of play.

In their last possession of the quarter, the Seawolves drove forward for a total of 79 yards. In the final play, with less than a minute left on the clock, freshman Anthony Hamilton received the snap and pushed up the field ten yards for his first collegiate touchdown.

But in the second quarter, the Wildcats completely shutdown the field, scoring on all five of their possessions in the first part of the quarter. The teams headed into the locker-room with the scoreboard reading 41-7 at the half.

The Wildcats came back to complete the annihilation, totaling 417 rushing yards on 55 carries for a total of 62 points over the two halves. Stony Brook was led by quarterback Josh Dudash, who completed 10 of 17 passes for a total of 112 yards. Steve Austin led the Seawolves on the ground with 67 yards on 10 carries.

The Seawolves continue their road trip on Saturday against UMass.

Volleyball

The Volleyball team traveled to Milwaukee for the

Marquette Challenge this past weekend. Friday night, they played an exhibition against Manitoba, which they won 3-2, which broke their downward spiral. Unfortunately, when the pressure was on, the team couldn't come through.

Despite great offensive runs by Morgan Sweaney and Gulce Nazli Dikecligil, the Seawolves dropped two matches against San Francisco (3-0) and Marquette (3-2). Sweaney totaled over 50 kills in the three matches, maintaining her lead in the America East Conference for total kills.

The team is back in action next weekend when the travel to the St. Francis Invitational to play St. Francis, Princeton and Coppin State.

Cross Country

The Men's Cross Country team placed third at the recent Boston College Invitational behind Providence and Boston College. Brian Farrell led the Seawolves with an eighth place finish, followed by Alex Felce, who finished twelfth.

On the Women's side, Dana Hastie led the Seawolves to a number one finish at the Fordham Invitational this past Saturday. Hastie took the individual title, helping Stony Brook top Sacred Heart and St. John's.

Soccer

The Men's Soccer team took a loss against Missouri State in overtime on Friday night, dropping their record to 1-6. The Bears struck first, scoring in the 72nd minute,



The Seawolves took a beating on the road

Adhip Karmaker Stateman

but the Seawolves even it up in the 86th minute with a goal by freshman Oscar Leis. From 22 yards out, the ball sailed over the goalie's head and straight into the net.

The rest of regulation remained scoreless, but in the 7th minute of overtime, Missouri's Joe Welch scored with a cross off a Stony Brook defender.

The Seawolves try to answer back with a game at home on Tuesday against Adelphi.

New Buildings, More Students A Look at SBU's Future

Continued from page 3

implemented is a new Research and Development Park. This new facility will include the new Center for Wireless Technology, as well as, facilities for Computational Neuroscience and Alternative Energy. The new facility for advancement in alternative energy, as Kenny mentioned, was made possible by the New York Senate and the Long Island Senate Delegation.

Further plans are in store are for the development of the Stony Brook Southampton campus. Unlike the SBU Manhattan campus, which features classrooms and conference space, SBU Southampton will have actual dormitories for students. Buses will go back and forth from the main campus to the Southampton campus. Some of the major programs that students will be take advantage of at Southampton are the programs in writing, marine sciences, social welfare, health technology and management.

Although there is positive progress on the campus in an attempt to further augment the university, there are various problems that cannot be avoided for the President.

Many Research Foundation (RF) workers have been organizing themselves into a union. One of the organizers

for the proposed union, who wished to remain anonymous, claimed that the University is not allocating its funds properly. The union organizer further stated that money which should have been going to research foundation workers was used for other purposes, such as the maintenance of campus grounds. Several other principle investigators on the campus have mentioned that they would like to see more control of the money they bring to the University.

When asked about these allegations, Kenny responded quite promptly, "There are two parts of a federal grant. There is direct cost funding, and indirect cost funding. The indirect cost funding allows the university to heat the buildings, and fund the maintenance of the facilities."

While Kenny did seem somewhat agitated by the questioning, she continued, "If the workers want to form a union, I have no problem." Kenny cited the fact that she deals with other unions on campus as well, one of which is the United University Professions (UUP).

Another large headline in the news has been the recent debacle concerning the pediatric cardiology department at the Stony Brook University Medical Center (SBUMC). A recent Town Hall Meeting was called to make clear that the allegations purported by Newsday were incorrect.

Kenny claims, "An investigation was put into place because of the 19 violations mentioned. It is the job of the Department of Health to investigate if anyone complains." Kenny continued, "None of the cases that were involved have been directly related to the pediatric cardiology surgical unit." Apparently, according to Kenny, the pediatric cardiology surgical unit was shutdown as a result of standard operating procedure for the investigations to take place.

Both Kenny and Patrick Calabria, a media relations officer for President Kenny, affirm that a new surgeon has been hired to oversee the pediatric cardiology surgical unit. SBUMC is currently being reviewed by an accrediting body for hospitals. Every three years, all hospitals accredited as teaching institutions are reviewed in an unannounced visit. The results of the current review will be announced in several weeks.

With so much happening at SBU, the campus surely needs good leadership. As highlighted in The Chronicle, Kenny has led our University for the past 12 years, since 1994. Hopefully, the students, staff, and faculty here will only see more improvements in the months and years to come.



SPORTS

Stony Brook Marching Band Preps For Debut

By WILLIAM LAHTI
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook's new marching band is hard at work in preparation for their home debut at the halftime show of the homecoming game against Albany. So far, the university community has only gotten a brief glimpse of a small band in August at the New Student Convocation, following a 3-day "band camp." On Friday, they held a rehearsal in advance of their trip to the Seawolves football game in New Hampshire the following day. The constantly growing band currently has "around 39" members, according to Shayna Corapi, one of the band's graduate assistants.

The idea for a band was first conceived over this past winter. A committee was formed, which included Dean of Students Jerrold Stein and Athletic Director James Fiore. A great deal of research was done into the matter, and Long Islander John Leddy was hired as the Director of Athletic Bands in June, and started in July.

He talks of being "excited to get here," and has been to the campus many times over several decades.

Shortly thereafter, the band's instruments and uniforms started to be ordered. They continue to take delivery of materials and equipment, and some were assembling instruments, delivered only an hour earlier during the rehearsal. Most of the band, having their instruments, practiced their growing repertoire, including "Let's Go," "YMCA," "We Will Rock You," and "SBU."

Due to the band's relatively late creation, the opportunity to recruit during the spring semester was lost. However, Leddy said that this did have the upside of allowing the band to start small. He did say that one year from now; he hopes to have around 100 members, with a color guard and flags. In the meantime, there will be a new, formalized pep band coming this basketball season.

Leddy has said that the only setback the band has experienced has been weather-related. For

instance, he intended to take the band outside on Friday, but those plans were foiled by pouring rain, which wouldn't be good for the equipment. They did, however, practice in the stadium during the 3-day band camp, despite terrible conditions caused by tropical storm Ernesto's remnants.

He says that he is "terrified" about their coming debut, mainly because the band is new, but says that he is "blessed with super students." Leddy also says that everybody he's talked to can't wait for the band's performance. He also feels that this will bring the new "sense of spirit and identity" the project seeks to create.

They've already been asked to perform at university events other than football games. President Shirley Strum Kenny wants them to perform at the opening ceremony for Southampton College, recently acquired by Stony Brook. They've also been asked to perform on October 25 during the Campus Lifetime period in a parade commemorating domestic violence awareness month.



The Stony Brook Marching Band makes its debut at Homecoming

University of Nevada, Reno

Seawolves Receive Multi-Media Exposure

By CANDACE ISHMAEL
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves have more eyes on them than ever before. The 2006-07 season marks the beginning of the most comprehensive multimedia coverage in the team's history.

The athletic department's website, goseawolves.com, has always been a source of information for those wishing to know more about the various varsity teams. Now, however, the website has been expanded along with outside resources.

Besides coach and player bios, game write-ups, stats and team rankings, the Seawolves website also offers Gametracker. This feature allows the game to be com-

pletely broken down online with up to the minute stats and a visualization of every play made. Gametracker is available for football, men's and women's basketball, baseball, men's and women's lacrosse, volleyball and men's and women's soccer games.

As part of the All-Access package, live video coverage for the football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, and lacrosse home games are available online. All-Access is presented in partnership with College Sports Television (CSTV), which is a 24 hour channel dedicated to college sports.

Along with an All-Access account, fans can also purchase a membership to TEAMLINE, which provides radio broadcasts of all eleven games in the Seawolves football season. The broadcasts are available via members' phones

during game-time.

In addition to online coverage and real-time phone broadcasts, The Stony Brook Sports Report has returned for a second season. Last year saw the introduction of the weekly broadcast which features coaches and student athletes. The 2006-07 season will span both semesters, with a total of 30 weekly episodes.

Carl Reuter hosts the 30 minute segment which airs on Cablevision Tuesdays at 7:30 in Suffolk County and 8:30 in Nassau County. Reuter has spent 25 years covering New York sports, including time at News 12, Fox Sports NY, and Fox 5-WNYW.

The show will also be archived on the goseawolves.com website and streamed live as part of the All-Access package.