

Bob Woodward, the compelling journalist who exposed the internal corruptions of Watergate that led to the resignation of former President Richard Nixon.
Michael Davidson/Statesman

FEATURE:

Pulitzer Winner, Bob Woodward, Speaks at Stony Brook

By EMILY GOVER
Copy Editor

Stony Brook University had a treat for its students and community last week. On Wednesday, Apr. 11, Bob Woodward, the multi-award-winning journalist and author of 11 non-fiction, bestselling books, spoke at the SAC Ballroom. The talk, titled "Bob Woodward: From Watergate to the War in Iraq," was presented by SBU's School of Journalism.

Woodward is considered a legend (and to some, a hero) in the journalism field. He is a Yale graduate (1965), and served in the U.S. Navy for five years before pursuing a career in journalism. After working briefly at the Montgomery County Sentinel in Maryland, Woodward soon joined The Washington Post. It was here that Woodward, through his reporting, changed the face of the U.S. government forever.

Continued on page 5

Stony Brook Dining Behind the Times

By LAUREN SARAKOS
Contributing Writer

While some U.S. universities are ahead of the trend when it comes to providing students with animal-friendly meal options, others schools, like Stony Brook University, are still a step behind.

SBU provides meal options for both vegetarian students with a meatless diet and for vegan students with a diet free of all animal products. But even with vegetarian and vegan counters at campus dining halls, SBU has some catching up to do when compared with other universities in America.

The dining services department at Clark University, in Worcester, MA, prides itself on its humane purchasing decisions. "We only acquire cage-free eggs and milk free of artificial hormones like rBGH," said Bryan Totel, the director of operations for Clark's dining services. Totel added that Clark only sells

chicken free of non-therapeutic human antibiotics, which promote rapid poultry growth and can lead to human bacterial infections.

Other universities have recently made similar changes in its meal plans. According to the website of an outreach program called Compassionate Action for Animals, schools including George Washington University, American University, University of Connecticut, Marist College and Vassar College have stopped using eggs produced by battery-caged hens.

Battery-caged hens are confined to a small cage, usually 16 inches wide, with several other hens. The animals are not able to spread their wings or stretch their legs for a year's time; after a year they are usually sent to slaughter.

Not only does Clark University have a vegan section in its dining hall, but it also uses color labels to denote foods that are vegetarian, vegan, or organic.

Clark University's food is provided by the Bon Appetit Management Company, a California-based company that operates in hundreds of U.S. universities and purchases only cage-free eggs and antibiotic-free poultry. According to its website, Bon Appetit strives to meet the needs of an ever-changing student population.

Chartwells, a division of the Compass Group company, serves SBU's dining halls. In a telephone interview, Lisa Ospitale, the campus dining marketing and communications director at SBU, was unable to provide information regarding the specific components of the meat and dairy served in campus dining facilities. But she explained that Chartwells does not offer such products as cage-free eggs or free-range meats.

"We have been working with vendors to carry those items, but they are currently not available

Continued on page 3

USG Scrutinizes Funding Proposed by Clubs

By LAWRENCE WAN
Contributing Writer

The Undergraduate Student Government met on Tuesday, April 10 to discuss the suspension of the Stony Brook Rugby team and its eventual lift. The issues addressed after this brief announcement were about the current budget and clubs that were not paying their dues for support. It was a thorough discussion on 62 clubs requesting increase.

According to a USG Senator, when a club requests money, the Senate looks at who would be eligible and which club is spending money wisely. Some clubs asked for \$10,000 to \$30,000. Those clubs that failed to do this do not receive any funds. According to the open membership clause in which clubs are supposed to break down events for the Senate, there were several complaints.

"Clubs receive increases but not everybody got their requests. Everybody was asking for an increase. We often cut from the original increases that are proposed from clubs," said USG President Joseph Antonelli.

The USG scrutinized the list of clubs that spent money in responsible ways and were able to provide precise information. All of this was in relation to the current budget issue at \$43,000.

"The approximate calculation of \$43,000 mentioned at the last meeting was just an error in the calculation of the planned budget breakdown for the 2007-2008 school year and is being fixed by the budgeting committee," said Senator Christopher Dolley.

"The Undergraduate Student budget is what funds clubs, organizations and USG. It is where undergraduate's Student Activities Fee ends up." The budget is based

Continued on page 15

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- Environmental and educational displays and exhibitors
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- Green Pledge ceremony at 12:15 pm
- Free Ice Cream Social at 3:00 pm
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*Provost Lecture by former Congresswoman,
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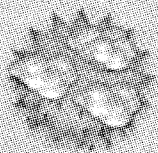
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Student Forecast:

Apr. 16 - Apr. 22

by Jamie Waller



Monday:
High 49/Low 42
Cloudy w/ scattered rain showers, windy



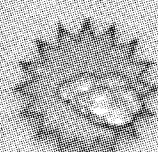
Tuesday:
High 50/Low 38
Cloudy but drier, slight chance showers



Wednesday:
High 49/Low 36
Cloudy and still cool



Thursday:
High 48/Low 35
Mostly Cloudy



Friday:
High 54/Low 35
Partly Cloudy and milder



Saturday:
High 55/Low 37
Partly Cloudy



Sunday:
High 57/Low 39
Partly Cloudy

Behind the Numbers

The nor'easter that has dumped many inches of rain in our area is going to be staying around for next couple of days, bringing with it rain and wind. Rain showers and wind will affect us today, but by Tuesday, winds will calm down and humidity levels will drop. Unfortunately, the clouds will remain until Thursday, while temperatures will try to climb out of the 40's and into more seasonable numbers. Better weather will arrive just in time for the weekend, as skies will clear and temperatures should reach the mid to upper 50's.

Discussion Ensues at Stony Brook on the War in Iraq

By KRISTINA KRYKHITIN
Contributing Writer

How do Americans perceive the war in Iraq? Do they understand the purpose of United States government in Iraq and its implications? These questions, as well as other issues were addressed by a panel of four academics gathered on March 28.

According to Michael Schwartz, Professor of Sociology at Stony Brook University, there is a civil war that is taking place in Iraq and the US military is supplying these destructive weapons. "The United States is producing the big time damage."

Eduardo Mendieta, a Professor of Philosophy at SBU, continued this train of thought when he explained that Iraqis cannot afford the expensive guns and explosives that "crumble cities." "The United States is not interested in preserving history and leaving peace," said Professor Mendieta.

The panel explained to the audience that there are many paths a country may take to avoid war and that the US did not bother with any of these steps. "You have to have a just cause" and "It is immoral to engage in war if there is a small probability of success," said Mendieta. In addition, the Bush administration also violated international laws by

going to war by their inhumane torturing of prisoners.

"Torture is not only a crime against humanity but a crime in war," said Mendieta. Since the Bush administration has been breaking the International laws of war, future American soldiers may face extremely violent war situations.

The panel also explained that in the 1950s, the CIA began a study to figure out the best human torture methods and in the 1970s, these practices were taught to the American military. "We develop these practices at home, deploy them abroad and they come back to bite," said Brady Heiner, a Philosophy graduate student.

Men who were taught to torture in a war came back home with this knowledge, continued Heiner. "If information extracted by means of torture becomes admissible and normalized in criminal courts... we'll find ourselves in a much more dire situation than we are."

Another panelist, Zaid Alrawy, came to America in 2004 as a participant for Department of Anthropology. As a native of Iraq, he has witnessed a portion of the war. He added with, "I'm an example of that society."

War is never a black and white affair as false perceptions are easily

Continued on page 15

Campus Food not Animal Friendly

Continued from page 1

for purchase," Ospitale said.

Similar problems exist at other public institutions in New York. The State University of New York at Buffalo does not provide students with what advocates would call compassionately produced meats or dairy, either. "The demand isn't as high here for special products as it is at other schools," said Steve Daniels, the executive chef at SUNY Buffalo.

"I can see us heading in that direction in the near future, though," Daniels added.

Although neither Ospitale nor Daniels doubt that such products would be attractive to student diners, cost is a factor. Daniels explained that there is a large price gap between factory-farm meat and free-range meat, which students would have to be willing to pay.

When these factors impeding the process, SB still remains behind other universities in providing animal-friendly products.

Police Blotter

Apr. 9 - Apr. 12

Skateboarders

Skateboarders were found trespassing in the Academic Mall on campus on April 9 around 9:00 AM. Skateboarders were gone on police arrival. More were found around 7:00 PM near the Earth and Space Sciences building, but were once again gone on police arrival.

Car Crash

A motor vehicle accident occurred around 3:00 PM in the Loading Zone for the Health Sciences Center. No injuries occurred and only minor damage was inflicted.

Grand Larceny

Grand Larceny occurred around 4:30 PM in Benedict College when a laptop computer, Playstation, and 3 DVDs were stolen from a dorm room. Items were never recovered.

More Skateboarders

Skateboarders were found on the steps of the Staller Center at 6:40 PM. All skateboarders were escorted to police headquarters.

Car Crash

A motor vehicle accident occurred around 10:30 PM in the Student Union parking lot. The second car was not positively identified.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

- Student to Student: Danielle Sarah Caviliere pg. 5
- On the Stage: Blackbird, pg. 6
- Farewell to Kurt Vonnegut, pg. 7
- Unbound: SB Arts Festival, pg. 7
- Re: Former USG Student Questions USG, pg. 11
- Editorial: Obligation to serve readers, not sources, pg. 11

Inside

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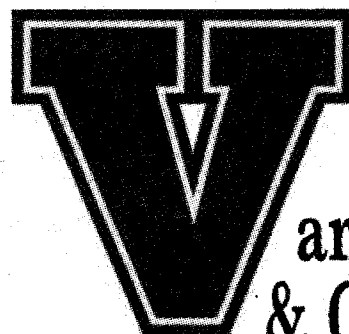
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Woodward Advises on Our Role as Students and Citizens

Continued from page 1

It was in 1973 when he and Carl Bernstein, both staff writers for The Washington Post, began investigating a break-in at the Democratic National Committee's headquarters at the Watergate Hotel. After much investigating and with the help of an anonymous source close to the Nixon administration, Woodward and Bernstein unveiled a scandal that resulted in former President Nixon's resignation in 1974.

Although Woodward is known to most people as the journalist involved with Watergate, he has continued his reporting since then. In the past five years, Woodward has published three books about the War in Iraq: Bush at War (2002), Plan of Attack (2004), and his most recent, State of Denial: Bush at War Part III (2006). His speech focused primarily on these books, seldom mentioning Watergate or his earlier years as a journalist.

Woodward went into great detail about his second book, Plan of Attack, calling it "an excavation of decision-making in the White House." While researching this book, Woodward was able to interview President Bush about the war in Iraq. Over the course of two days, he spent over three hours questioning the President. While gathering information for his book, Woodward asked Bush 500 questions, a substantial number for a presidential interview. He noted that researchers at The Washington Post discovered Woodward's interview for Plan of Attack was the longest interview a sitting President has given since George Washington.

The main question for Bush, of course, was why the U.S. decided to go to war in Iraq. Bush's reply was, "I believe we have a duty to free people." Woodward was surprised, noting that other countries may see this "duty" as "dangerous paternalism" on our part. Bush then became irritated, called Woodward an "elitist," and said that Americans have a "zeal to liberate people." According to Woodward, Bush has

idealist views and an "unwillingness to give into the reality of what the war in Iraq has become." The audience, with the majority being middle-aged or older, was mostly in agreement.

When discussing State of Denial: Bush at War Part III, Woodward's most recent and wildly popular book, he said the "title came from the material." Woodward obtained (for research) reports to the President and his cabinet that contradicted what the Bush administration has been relaying to the public. He provided a few examples.

In October 2002, five months before the war in Iraq was declared, the Pentagon assigned James "Spider" Marks, the chief intelligence officer for the war, to go to the Middle East and do some investigating on the chances of finding Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs). While overseas, Marks reviewed 946 folders he obtained from an intelligence agency on WMDs and Saddam's nuclear weapon program. His conclusion was that the intelligence was "no good." Marks was "consumed with doubt" if there even were WMDs in Iraq.

In addition, several months later in February 2003, just three weeks before the war in Iraq was established, Jay Garner, a retired Army general, was placed in charge of dealing with post-war Iraq. Former Secretary of State, Donald Rumsfeld, gave Garner a list of nine things he was "supposed" to do after the War in Iraq was over. Of these nine tasks, Garner told Rumsfeld and other Bush officials that four he could not do, including rebuilding the Iraqi government. Woodward then made an amusing comparison, saying that it was "[a]lmost as if someone passed gas - no one wanted to comment on it."

Four months later, on Jun. 18, 2003, Garner told Rumsfeld (in regard to the war in Iraq), "Already, our goose is cooked." Rumsfeld's

Continued on page 13

Student to Student

A Conversation with Danielle Sarah Cavaliere



Courtesy of Sara Goldgraben

By JESSE COZZETTI
Staff Writer

Where were you born?

I was born in Middle Village, Queens, and grew up in Commack, Long Island.

What are you going to college for?

A multidisciplinary major with concentrations in the pre-med curriculum, Child Family Studies, Africana Studies and a minor in Community Service-learning.

What are your goals for the near future?

In June, I will start my job and schooling in Boston Mass, at Massachusetts General Hospital for Neuroendocrinology and HIV studies.

What is your ultimate goal?

I aspire to become a doctor and an HIV researcher. I am in

pursuit of my MD/PhD.

What are some things you enjoy doing?

I love to volunteer, travel (I spent last summer studying art history in Italy) and hang out with friends. I also love to have a good time.

What are your inspirations?

I am inspired by people who have overcome personal tragedies and struggles, especially health ones. My mother passed away from Leukemia when I was a child. I now live with my father and adopted mother (who tragically also lost her first husband to cancer)...through their struggles.

What do you want to accomplish?

I hope to continue on my path and heal the most vulnerable under-served populations.

What awards have you won?

I just earned a Chancellor award, William T. Sullivan award and an Undergraduate Recognition Award.

What have you accomplished at Stony Brook University?

I am graduating with honors. I am a WISE student and an AMERICorp Student.

Have there been any bumps in the road for you?

Life hasn't been easy for me, I fell ill during my Junior Year, but thanks to the support from my friends and mentors I pulled through, and now I am continuing my pursuits to earn an MD/PhD...I value a good education.

What do you feel about Stony Brook?

I appreciate the financial and emotional support SBU and my scholarships have offered me.

On the Stage:

"Blackbird" Was Phenomenal

Naked Theater Explores Age, Sexuality and Abuse

By TEJAS GAWADE
Managing Editor

Ever indulged in the teen flick

"My Life as a Teenage Drama Queen?" If the answer is yes, you probably remember the demure girl (Ella) who outshone Lindsay Lohan's star role. The girl I am talking about is Allison Pill, who is performing a feverishly sexual role that matures so much more over the film genre that she began with. Accompanied by Jeff Daniels of "Good Night and Good Luck" fame, Pill brings justice and completeness to a performance that will overpower you with its intense dramatization.

"Blackbird" is currently playing at the Manhattan Theater Club. Directed by Joe Mantello, the 90-minute drama relates a gripping tale about the downhill transformation of a sexual relationship.

Don't get too excited - there is no pornography. In fact, the play doesn't even come close to porn because all that ever comes off is a coat and a scarf. But the feeling is still brilliantly translated to the audience.

The plot revolves around 40 year-old Ray (played by Daniels) and 12 year-old Una (played by Pills). You can now just imagine where this is heading. But before you dismiss this as another "Lo-

lita" saga, take a moment to appreciate the transparency of the characters. Mantello has not hesitated in leaving his actors com-

location or nationality. They both come from the same town - Ray living a few blocks from Una and her family. And then the

dark and dirty character of Ray. Una finds Ray's picture in a magazine and goes to meet him one unannounced afternoon.

and Daniels augments the intensity and tension of the drama.

What I thought was the best asset of the play was its one-dimensionality.

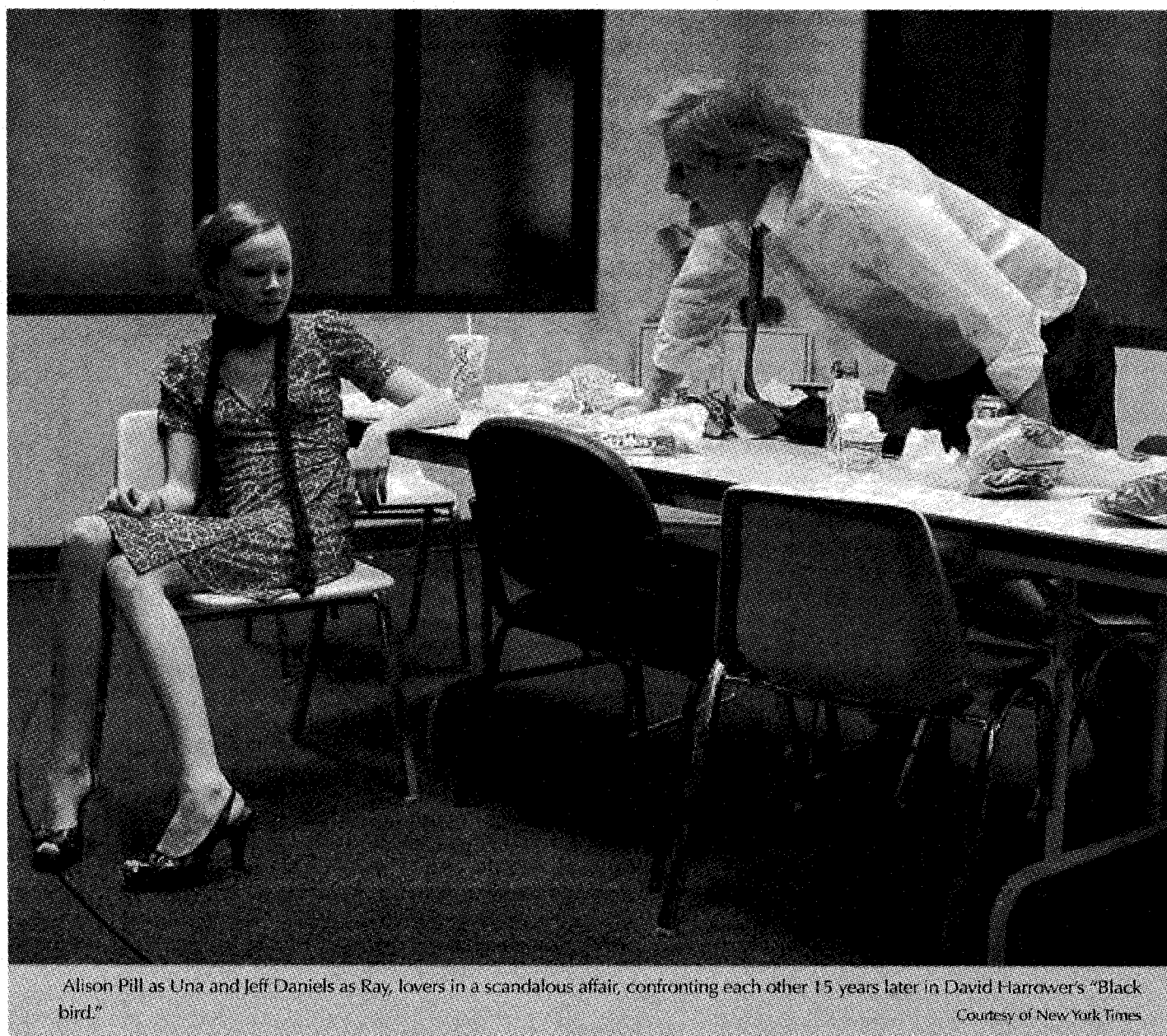
One man. One woman. One confrontation. One story. The oneness led to concentration of all the emotions so that they emerged with simplicity.

After all, it is so much easier and better to follow the story of say, Hilary Swank in "Million Dollar Baby" than to keep track of the multitude of characters in "Ocean's Eleven." Sometimes, the chopping and the pluralism becomes a bit overwhelming and, by avoiding that, this play outshines.

My only complaint with the play is that I felt it dealt with the main theme inadequately. The plot catalyst is the "abuse," but the play treats it as the central theme.

Instead, it is more of a motif and should have been treated like one.

The original play was written by a Scottish playwright and overtook such household names as Tom Stoppard (remember my review of the "Coast of Utopia?"). It won the Laurence Olivier award for best new play in London, which is quite an honor in a pool that competitive.



Alison Pill as Una and Jeff Daniels as Ray, lovers in a scandalous affair, confronting each other 15 years later in David Harrower's "Blackbird."

Courtesy of New York Times

pletely bare (figuratively speaking, of course). This new notion is actually not that new. Naked theater has been used for a while now, starting from productions of "Lolita" to "Anna Karenina."

As for the plotline, it is amazingly (yet creepily) universal. The characters have no specific

abuse starts for three prolonged months, ultimately leading to Ray serving a prison term. Of course, we don't see any of this.

Instead, Ray has started a new life in a new town and is now known as Peter. His bare office between bright sterile walls is in stark contrast to the

"Blackbird" succeeds in providing a drama with immediacy. The drama is heightened by Peter's colleagues who walk on- and off-stage with swift nameless motions. We are aware that they talk about him and this visitor. The successive and quick dialogue delivery on the part of Pills

Vonnegut Dies ... So it Goes

By WILL JAMES
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Where did Kurt Vonnegut think he would go after he died?

One could delve into a thousand pages of his writing and think "nowhere." This is the man who said he wanted to sue the tobacco companies for failing in their promise to kill him. This is a man haunted by his mother's suicide. This is the man whose defining moment came to him in an underground meatpacking plant during the firebombing of Dresden in 1945. How many charred bodies did have to pull from the rubble before his view of death - and life - blackened?

Kurt Vonnegut was often tagged as a modern Mark Twain, a reference to the black humor that permeated his 14 novels. In his book, "Fates Worse Than Death: An Autobiographical Collage," Vonnegut wrote, "Mark Twain finally stopped laughing at his own agony and that of those around him. He denounced life on this planet as a crock. He died."

In his last book, "A Man Without a Country," we can see Vonnegut undergoing a similar change. The book proved to be disturbing - in the collection of essays, he depicts a world so horrible that it stripped him, a black humorist, of his humor. You can guess what was left.

Vonnegut promised "A Man Without a Country" would be his last literary work. It was. He died in a Manhattan hospital on April 11 after a fall damaged his brain. He was a hero of the American counter-culture during the Vietnam War. He was a leader in the Humanist movement. He was an educator. He was a philosopher, a designer, a poet and

a playwright. He was loved and respected in academic institutions throughout the world.

And after all of his laurels and titles, he was still so proud of just staying alive. In one of his novels, "Breakfast of Champions" he converses with himself:

"This is a very bad book you're writing," I said to myself. "I know," I said. "You're afraid you'll kill yourself the way your mother did," I said. "I know," I said.

After attempting suicide himself in the 1980's, he shed light on the topic of mental illness and suicide in a number of papers.

But, amidst all of the absur-

or Pearls Before Swine," he wrote, "Hello, babies. Welcome to Earth. It's hot in the summer and cold in the winter. It's round and wet and crowded. At the outside, babies, you've got about a hundred years here. There's only one rule that I know of, babies - 'God damn it, you've got to be kind.'"

1997's "Timequake" proved to be Vonnegut's last of fiction. The character is Kilgore Trout, a regular of Vonnegut's literature since the early days - the writer and the character were both old at that point, and they had been through a lot together.

At the conclusion of the book

and beautiful new dimension to the universe, outside space and time. We exist to experience existence. Without us there to witness it, everything might as well cease to exist.

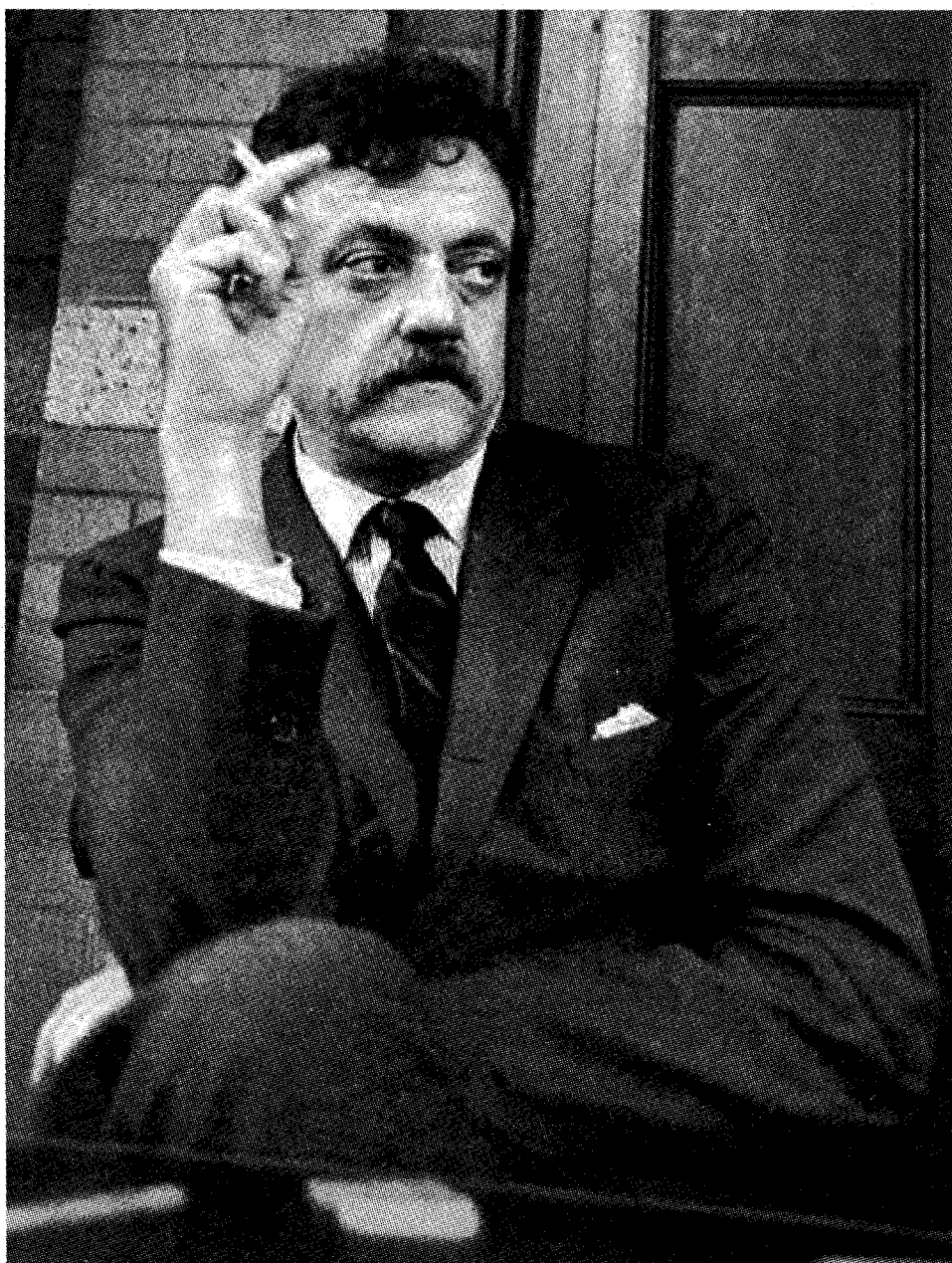
"Robert Kennedy, whose summer home is eight miles from the home I live in all year round, was shot two nights ago. He died last night. So it goes," Vonnegut wrote in "Slaughterhouse Five," his most famous novel. It's based on his experiences in Dresden. "Martin Luther King was shot a month ago. He died, too. So it goes. And every day my Government gives me a count

of corpses created by military science in Vietnam. So it goes." "So it goes" became a catchphrase of the anti-war movement in the 1970's.

What would Vonnegut say about his own death? Undoubtedly, "So it goes." It is simple, ironic. It crystallizes, in death, the absurdity he saw in life.

He also did drawings. One of them is on his official website. Check it out. It's a picture of an open birdcage, above "Kurt Vonnegut 1922-2007." It reminds me of something he once said. In 2006, he gave up on writing what would've been his last work. He said, "I've given up on it ... It won't happen. ... The Army kept me on because I could type, so I was typing other people's discharges and stuff. And my feeling was, 'Please, I've done everything I was supposed to do. Can I go home now?'"

That's what I feel right now. I've written books. Lots of them. Please, I've done everything I'm supposed to do. Can I go home now?"



Kurt Vonnegut observed when teaching literature at Harvard University

Courtesy of Harvard Square Library

dity and callousness Vonnegut saw in life, glimmers of hope shine throughout his works. In "God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater,

- the last ending of the last novel - Kilgore Trout describes a possible reason for being alive: our human awareness adds a vital

Unbound: SB Arts Festival

By APRIL WARREN
Contributing Writer

Throughout the Stony Brook campus from April 11-19 students will be able to see some very impressive and interesting pieces of art.

This artwork is part of the Shirley Strum Kenny Arts Festival Unbound, and ranges from sculptures of mythical figures to colorful collages. Unbound was founded by graduating senior Alton Falcone last year and who is curating the event this year with James Pearson, also a Stony Brook student. Professor Nobuho Nagasawa is the faculty advisor. The festival, open to any student, staff or faculty member consists of eleven pieces of artwork. The artwork is currently being displayed throughout the campus, with some pieces in the Humanities Building, Staller Center, and the Women's Studies Department. The displayed artwork can also be found in outside areas, including Alton's own work Broken Obelisk located outside the campus bookstore.

When asked what the objective behind the event is Falcone stated, "I want to see this campus transformed by the students to reveal their interiority and their vision. The entire campus is the venue - from an office to a tree outside." When walking outside the Melville Library one definitely sees the vision of Chloe Weil's Call Your Mom which adds an enjoyable splash of color to the bleak winter landscape, highlighted by colored ornaments hanging from a tree. Meanwhile Danny Loveridge's Initially Steel, a sculpture created out of steel beams creates a more demanding presence. Mika Hoshino's Zeus located in the Staller Center shows a very detailed and intricate effigy of a Greek God.

The primary goals of this event are best stated in Unbound's mission statement. These include bringing attention to the presence of the thriving art community, allowing faculty and students to present their work to Stony Brook students in a setting of their choice, and assisting students on the campus with their professional development by having them place their artwork in a public setting.

If the artwork displayed this year is any indication of what we will see in the future years, Unbound will undoubtedly captivate the entire community's attention.

Thank you Stony Brook University students
for taking a stand against Big Tobacco.



The student clubs below have signed a policy NOT to accept tobacco industry funding.

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GET INVOLVED

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

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

Stony Brook Statesman
PO Box 1530
Stony Brook, NY 11790

phone: (631) 632 - 6479
fax: (631) 632 - 9128

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WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucollan" 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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Obligation to Serve Readers, Not Sources

News writing has now boiled down to a hard science. It is so precise in presenting just the facts to avoid sounding even minutely subjective that it has lost the humane side of the story. Some might say that the Woodward/Bernstein expose of the Nixon scandal was news reporting at its peak. But it is the Statesman's stance that it simply brought back the ethical guidelines that reporters were always supposed to follow. What was unique of that era was that it made reporters more than story writers. It made them advocates, even pioneers of changes so that they could now stretch their arms beyond the cubicles and the typewriter. They could now actively participate in a fervent political atmosphere that could alter at the public's will.

One of the most well-known ethical statements that journalists

come across is "our obligation is to serve readers, not sources." The question is how do you decide. Everyone situation is different and as humans, we are afraid of subpoenas or public defaming, even stoning. The key is to treat every story separately. Calling fire in a theater cannot be likened to any national emergency. Yet, the purpose of journalism has always been for the majority. Hence, the readers become the prime beneficiaries and thus any news writer must remember that what we really do is work for the reader.

The preamble to the Society of Professional Journalists' Code of Ethics states: "...public enlightenment is the forerunner of justice and the foundation of democracy. The duty of the journalist is to further those ends by seeking truth and providing a fair and comprehensive account of events

and issues. Conscientious journalists from all media and specialties strive to serve the public with thoroughness and honesty. Professional integrity is the cornerstone of a journalist's credibility."

Are we serving the public interest with the utmost truth?

When we publish news, we ask this exact question (sometimes explicitly, but most of the times it circles in the back of every editor mind). When we fail, we learn and rise again. But it is when we succeed that we feel one with through-and-through journalists like Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein. We strive to be the advocates who can proudly claim to have been the catalysts for some revolutionizing change. But if the paper is able to make a 1000 people aware and motivate one to command a change, then it has truly done its job.

Re: Former Student Questions USG Decision

By: ESAM AL-SHAREFFI
USG Recording Secretary

Hi Christopher Sorochin,

My name is Esam Al-Shareffi and I was the person responsible for writing the USG Resolution. Let me first say that I for one deeply appreciate your letter and your unique perspective as a Stony Brook Alumna.

I share with you some of the sentiments you describe in your letter to the editor. There are many underage people I know who are very mature and intelligent with their liquor limits and there are also many adults who can legally drink but do so to great excess, to the detriment of themselves and those around them. The current laws on drinking are by no means

perfect and there is certainly need for greater study and reform, to possibly lower the drinking age to 18, which as you point out is the age in which people can serve in the armed forces and do many of the activities society typically assigns to adults.

The Rugby resolution, however, was meant to be a much more limited document. My intentions were to convey to the administration that the Rugby team as a whole did not participate in the underage drinking or partying and that they should not be suspended as a result. Tackling the wider issue in the resolution would not have been productive, because the administration does not have the authority to change the legal drinking age, nor would it have been helpful to

debate this more complicated issue at a time when fellow students were being denied their right to participate in a team sport they love because of the private actions of a few individuals.

In summary, I suppose that not mentioning the underage drinking issue altogether would have probably been more appropriate, but I hope that you and the student body are pleased that a resolution supporting a USG-funded club was passed, showing that USG will vigorously defend its students, and that the Rugby team is no longer suspended, and thus free to play and provide excellent entertainment for those who enjoy watching their games.

Sincerely yours,
Esam Al-Shareffi



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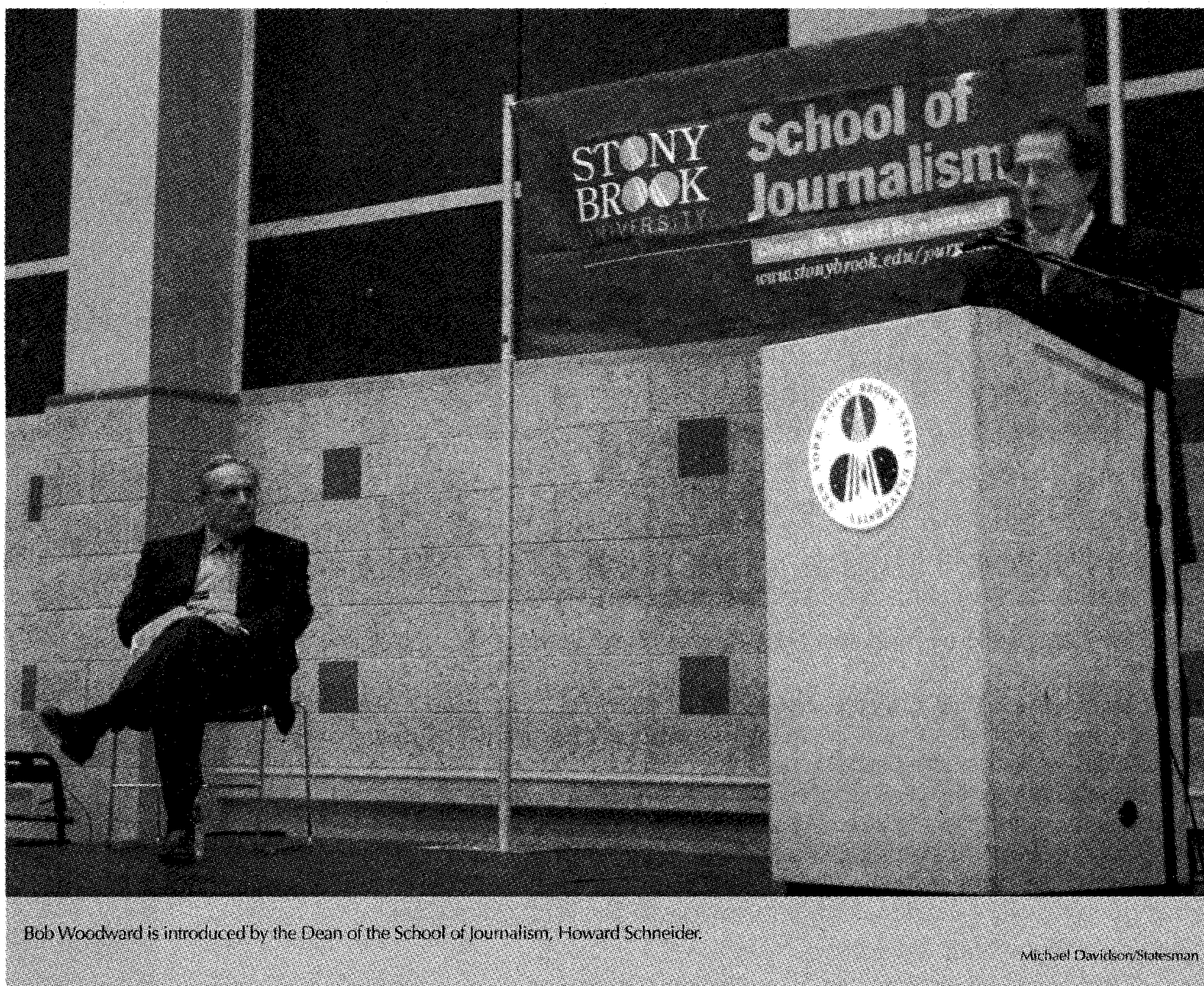
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Woodward Talks About War, Bush, and Lessons Learned



Bob Woodward is introduced by the Dean of the School of Journalism, Howard Schneider.

Michael Davidson/Statesman

Continued from page 5

response to this was, "We are where we are," and supposedly "laughed it off." Woodward continued to give examples from his book, including reports involving present Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice. His final words on this issue were, "The simple conclusion of this research is: We have not been told the truth."

Continuing on the topic of the war in Iraq, Woodward then spoke of what it is we, as citizens, should worry about. He noted that "the thing that will get to us is secret government...the failure to confront and say what [the war in Iraq] is really like." He related the situation to a favorite quote of his from a John Wayne film: "Son, life is tough, but life is tougher if you're stupid." The main issue that is at risk with a secret government

is that the President has lost his "moral authority," is toying with the "delicate matter of trust," and that all in all, President Bush "needs to be a 'truth-teller.'"

The talk then turned over to a question and answer session with the audience. The questions regarded the war in Iraq, how the Bush administration is currently handling it, as well as the relationships with reporters, editors and politicians. In reply to a question about politicians shutting reporters off when asked questions, Woodward said, "You have to convince people you really want to hear them out. If you do your homework, you can get around it."

When asked to elaborate on the "special relationship" between editors and reporters, Woodward referenced a quote used amongst reporters in *The Washington Post*: "All good work is done in defiance

of management." He chuckled and continued, "The best reporters are a pain in the a--." As a reporter, one has to figure out the story and get it right; editors don't get out onto the scene, and thus rely on their reporters to get the truth. He also said that the best editors are not just defined by what they put into an issue, but by what is kept out. Woodward concluded his answer with a quote from former *Washington Post* editor Ben Bradlee, saying that a reporter needs to keep his/her "nose down, a-- up, moving slowly, forward, ahead."

Woodward was also asked to define the journalistic technique used by the Fox network, which was received with many laughs. Woodward replied, smiling, "It's easier to describe the creation of the universe," and added that "it's the First Amendment," and Fox's process is "fine." His final question

was about whether or not the War in Iraq will be solved soon since the Congress is now ruled by Democrats. He said that no one knows anything about the future, that the government needs "to have the political will to fight," and that the U.S. doesn't "have the political will anymore."

The talk ended rather abruptly, with Woodward and Journalism Department Dean Howard Schneider walking briskly offstage. Woodward was soon surrounded by enthusiastic audience members, requesting autographs and pictures, but was quickly ushered away. Although the number of students to adults was minimal, everyone was happy to be there, and welcomed Woodward with cheers and applause. It was an honor to have such an influential journalist come to SBU, and a privilege to see him speak.

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The Stony Brook Union - the *Red Hot* place to be!

The **Bleacher Club** will become the **NEW Union Commons** after a Summer 2007 renovation.

New concepts will include **Coyote Jack's** Southwestern char-grilled burger and chicken concept that offers Wild West condiments and dipping sauces, **Bamboo** featuring Asian wok favorites with tangy sauces, fresh tossed Asian salads and wraps, **Calypso** authentic West Indies Caribbean cuisine such as curried goat, mahi mahi, rum marinated chicken breast, oxtails and fried plantains, Callaloo soup and jerk chicken wraps plus Golden Krust products such as coco bread and chicken, beef or veggie patties, **Halal New York** will feature entrées and sides, grab-and-go sandwiches and wraps in addition to the **NYC Gyro Cart**.

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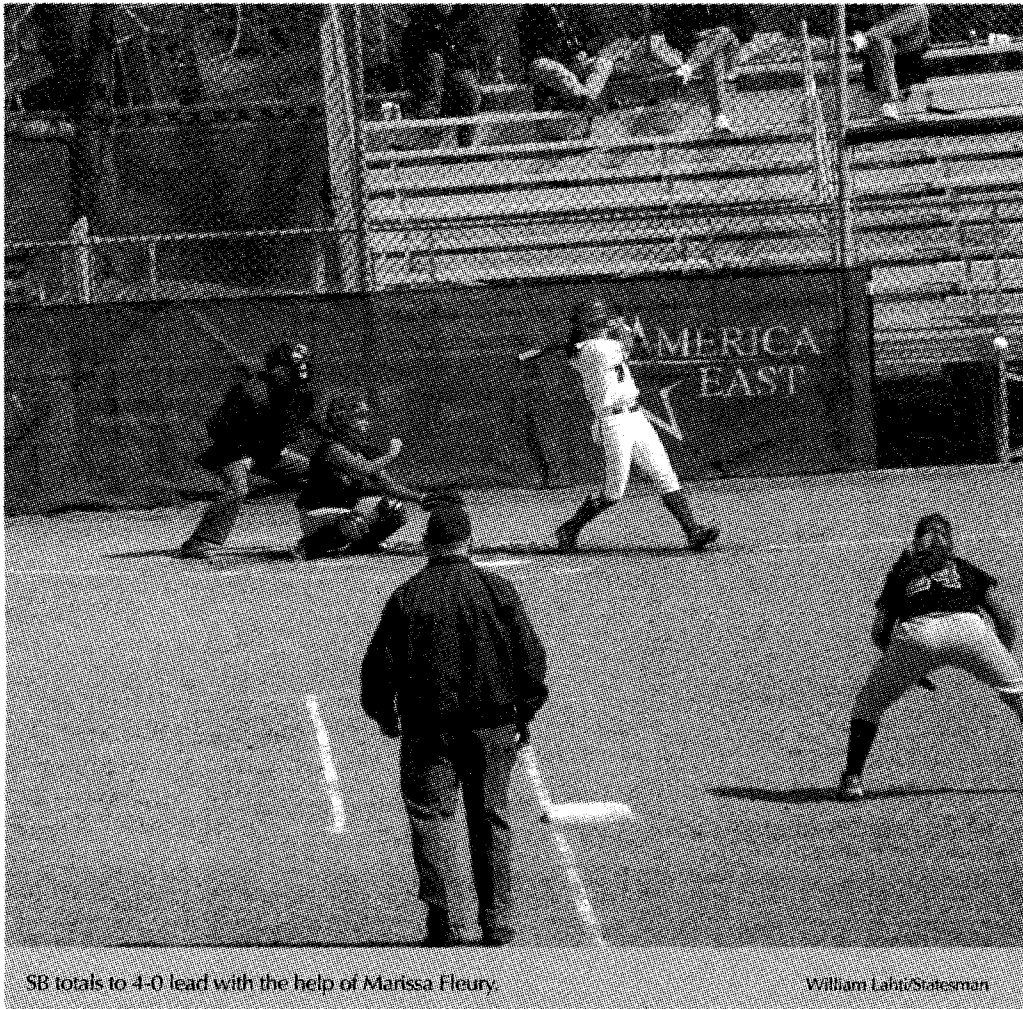
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Softball Splits With Boston University



SB totals to 4-0 lead with the help of Marissa Fleury.

William Lahti/Statesman

Continued from page 16

reversed the momentum that Boston University had gained after winning game one.

With the bases loaded and one out, Samantha Posey doubled to center field driving in Vicki Kavitsky and Kelsi Fanelli. Molly Kestranek followed with a single, scoring Marissa Fleury.

In the third inning, Fleury led off with a single. A form of

deja vu occurred when Posey came up to bat and doubled again, moving Fleury to third. Kestranek followed up the two hits with a sacrifice fly that drove in Fleury and gave SB a 4-0 lead.

The Seawolves added two more runs in the fourth when Fanelli singled up the middle, driving in Kavitsky and Ashley Westphal. SB added its seventh run in the sixth inning when

the game was firmly out of the opposition's reach.

For the season, Boston University has been among the national leaders in runs scored per game.

Yet, in the second game of this particular doubleheader, they were held scoreless by SB starter Christina Voth until the fifth inning when the Terriers scored a run. Voth went the distance, scattering seven hits

and just one run for her seventh win of the season.

Five Seawolves' players recorded two hits in this game: Westphal, Fanelli, Fleury, Posey and Kestranek.

In game one, Fleury hit her sixth home run of the season but B.U. scored four runs in the fourth inning and won, 6-2.

Fleury had four hits in the doubleheader and is now batting a team leading .414.

Women's Lacrosse Beaten by UMBC

Continued from page 16

to widen their lead to 5-1. Taylor scored her second goal of the game to make it 5-2. Dorr answered that goal to make it 6-2. SB then rallied with a 4-0 run of their own, with goals from 4 different players, to tie it at 6 all. UMBC scored once more before the half, to go into the break leading 7-6.

The second half was neck-and-neck, with goals exchanged between both sides. SB's Diana

Caroleo had 2 goals during the half, for a total of 3 on the day. SB was never able to gain dominance over the UMBC defense, never tying the game up in the half. Goalkeeper Jen Sandtorv played the entire 60 minutes for SB, and had 12 saves and 12 goals against. Her UMBC counterpart, Kate Quick, had 11 and 11, also playing the entire time.

The Seawolves go to Staten Island to face Wagner on Tuesday. The game starts at 3:30 PM.

#19 Men's Lacrosse Upset by Hartford

Continued from page 16

cob Eustice's unassisted goal at 9:20 in the first. SB would respond when Bo Tropodi fed Drew Werney to tie the game at 1-1 with 1:42 left in the first quarter. The remainder of the half would see both teams play tough defense and prevent any scores until the second half.

Stony Brook's 4 goals is their lowest output of the season and a sign that their offense needs a boost. In the last three games, the Seawolves

have managed only 5, 10 and 4 goals, respectively; two of these games have been losses.

In the third quarter, Owen Adams would find the back of the net for the Seawolves for their only lead of the game. Hartford would then go on a 4-0 tear, including Tom Harris' three straight goals to put the Hawks ahead 5-2.

Next Saturday, April 21st, the Seawolves host conference rival Binghamton in the LaValle Stadium. Face-off is at 7:00 PM.

USG Scrutinizes Funding Proposed by Clubs

Continued from page 1

on the student activities fee of \$94.25. Most of the meeting was spent sharing resolutions on how to resolve the budget. One option was to execute an across-the-board cut while still treating clubs fair and equally.

Clubs who did not provide information and squandered money to buy furniture or throw parties faced opposition.

"I have met with administrators about campus concerns and dealt with this budget," said Antonelli. "I can tell you quickly that the USG is in no debt and the budget issue is going to be resolved."

Panel Discusses the Iraq War

Continued from page 3

made. According to Alrawy, while he was in Iraq, he had a horrible perception of the American soldiers, and assumed that this was an accurate example of all Americans. However, this opinion changed when he came to the US. Despite this change in perceptions, Alrawy is adamant in his belief that the US government is not making things better in Iraq.

"Saddam was bad but he provided people with security and freedom," said Alrawy. "Now we can't go out of our house." Instances of American actions that made lasting impressions on him were when American soldiers bombed the electricity stations and stopped communications among Iraqis. "The normal life that everybody wish for we don't have right now."

The panelists ended the lecture with this resounding belief. The US involvement in Iraq was not based on humanitarian hopes but rather of profit. Alrawy said, "It's not about democracy and freedom, it's about oil," and "Religion is used as an excuse to have control." The panelists were adamant when the said, if the soldiers pull out the civil war will continue but with out such great loss of life as there is now.



Statesman SPORTS

#19 Men's Lacrosse Upset by Hartford

By SHONTO OLANDER
Assistant Sports Editor

West Hartford, CN- After their overtime triumph last week over Siena, the #19 Seawolves were looking to build some momentum heading into the final two weeks of the season. Playing this Saturday on the road to a struggling Hartford team, what should have been a sure win turned out to be a 6-4 loss.

The Hartford Hawks win, led by Tom Harris' natural hat trick, scored first off Ja-

Continued on page 15

Women's Lacrosse Falls to UMBC

By WILLIAM LAHTI
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Women's Lacrosse team fell to the University of Maryland-Baltimore County (UMBC) Retrievers on Saturday by a score of 12-11. This marks their first loss of the year in conference play, and the end of a 7-game winning streak.

Only 9 seconds into the game, UMBC took the 1-0 lead on a shot by Kara Dorr. Amy Taylor answered with a goal to put SB on the board. UMBC then went on a 4-0 run

Continued on page 15



SB had 7 hits in their 3-1 win over Hartford.

William Lahti/Statesman

BASEBALL SWEEPS HARTFORD

Overall Record at .500, Albany Next

By GENE MORRIS
Staff Writer

Behind two good performances from their starting pitchers, the SBU Baseball Team swept a doubleheader from Hartford on Apr. 14.

SBU won the first game 1-0, and the second 3-1. Gary Novakowski allowed only two hits and struck out two batters in the first game. Kurt Jung pitched into the sixth inning in the second game,

allowing only one run on 6 hits while striking out two. Jonathan Kalkau finished the game, striking out two while picking up the save.

The only run in the first game came off of a solo home run by Michael Stephan in the fourth inning. Stephan picked up two of the team's five hits.

In the second game, SBU took a 2-0 lead in the fourth inning. Robert Dyer singled with the bases loaded to drive in

Robert Leonard to score the first run. Keith Fier drove in Justin Echevarria with a squeeze bunt to get the second run across.

After Hartford got a run across in the bottom of the fourth, SBU answered right back with an RBI single by Echevarria. SBU managed seven hits in the game, and were led by Dyer's 2-3.

SBU continues their season next weekend when they host a four game set with Albany.

Softball Wins Second Half of Doubleheader

By JOSH SEIDMAN
Staff Writer

After falling to Boston University 6-2 in the first leg of a doubleheader this past Saturday afternoon, the Stony Brook softball team rebounded and was able to win the second game of the day by a score of 7-2. The victory was triggered by an early three run offensive outburst in the first inning.

Following the day's events, SB's record became 19-11 on the season, and 7-3 in America East Conference play. Boston University fell to 24-9, and 8-2 in the conference.

The Seawolves came out swinging in game two. During their first-at-bats of the day, the team was able to tally three runs which immediately

Continued on page 15

Sports Rained Out Sunday

By WILLIAM LAHTI
Sports Editor

The men's and women's tennis meets at home against Binghamton were rained out Sunday. The women's match was rescheduled for next Sunday, Apr. 22. The men's match was canceled outright. The rubber game of the softball team's series at Boston University was canceled. The baseball team's game at Hartford was postponed, with no make-up date announced.