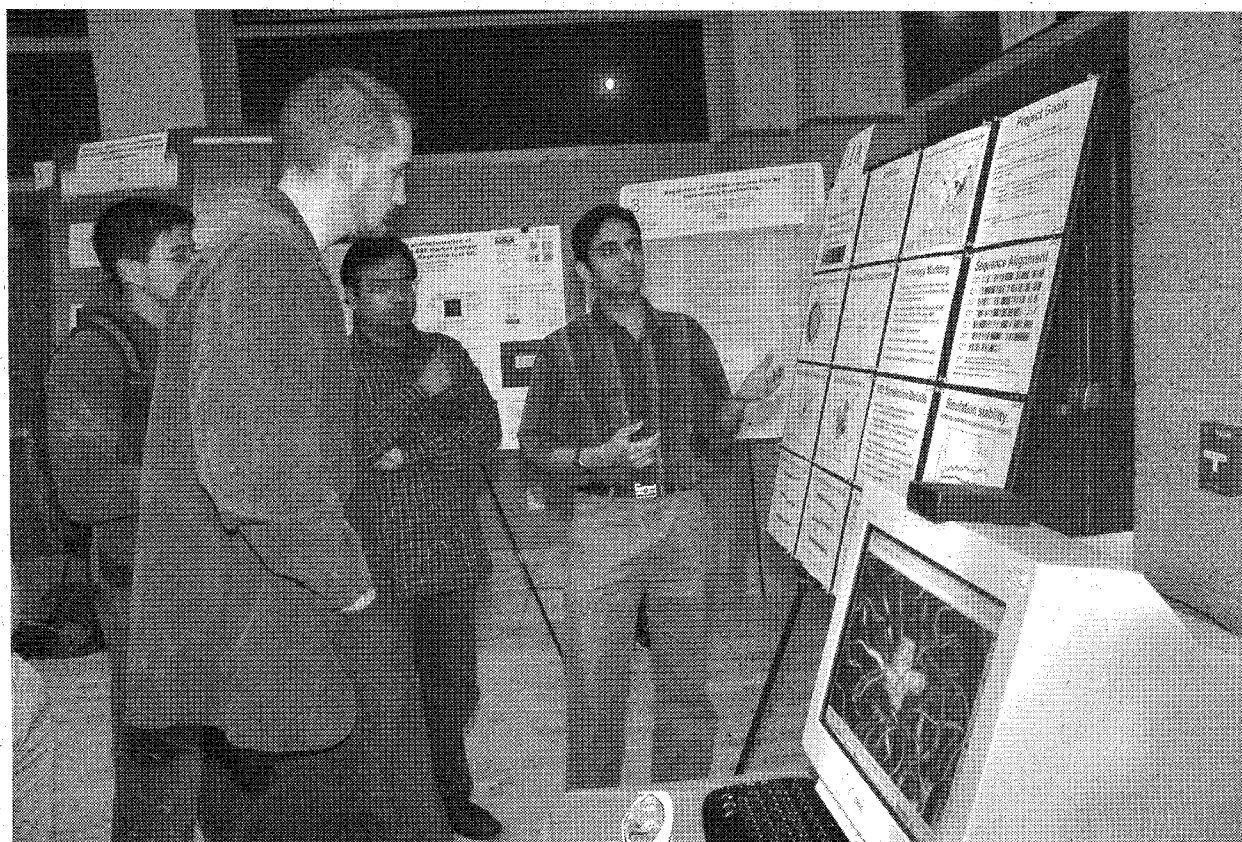


Campus Wide URECA Celebration Impresses All



In its 5th year, the annual celebration of undergraduate research and creativity was held last week. URECA Celebration photos: ©John Griffin/Media Services Photography, Art Show photos: ©Jeanne Neville/Media Services Photography

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
News Editor

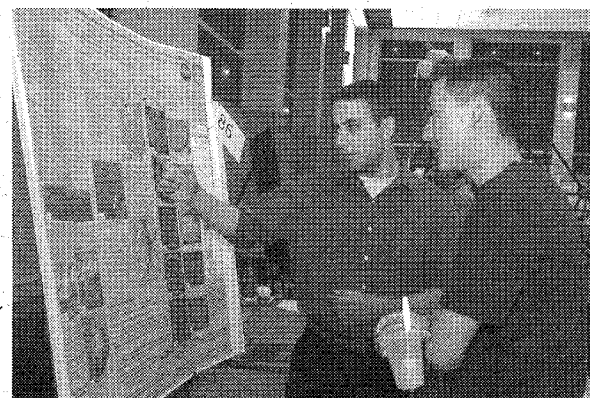
Last week, students had the opportunity to attend the annual SBU Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creativity. The event featured the work of students involved in undergraduate research as well as activities in the arts. According to a recent press release issued by Karen Kernan, the Director of Programs for Research and Creative Activity (as a part of the Office of the Provost), there were over 225 abstracts compiled in this year's book of Collected Abstracts.

These 225 project descriptions represented over 300 undergraduates in the various departments of "Anesthesiology; Applied Mathematics & Statistics; Biochemistry & Cell Biology; Biomedical Engineering; Business, College of; Chemistry; Child & Family Studies; Computer Science; Dermatology; Ecology & Evolution; Electrical & Computer Engineering; European Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; Geosciences; Hispanic Literatures & Language; Linguistics; Marine Sciences Research Center; Materials Science & Engineering; Mechanical Engineering; Medicine; Molecular Genetics & Microbiology; Neurobiology & Behavior; Pathology; Pediatrics; Pharmacological Sciences; Physics & Astronomy; Physiology & Biophysics; Preventive Medicine; Psychology;

and Sociology." Kudos goes to the Department of Biomedical Engineering, which had the greatest number of abstract submissions, 25 in total.

The main event of the Celebration was an all day poster presentation session where students and faculty were able to see type of research that goes on across campus all throughout the year. Some of the other featured events included symposia held concurrently by the Departments of English, History, and Psychology involving student oral presentations. Also, the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences held its annual senior design conference comprising the two best senior design projects from each of the four major engineering departments, Biomedical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. URECA also showcased, with the aid of the Departments of Art and Music, a two-week art exhibition at the SAC Gallery.

Throughout the entire day, the sight of students, faculty mentors, and other visitors coming together to recognize the dedication of the students who had put countless hours into their projects. Towards the end of the Celebration, seniors who presented humanities based projects and students who competed in the CEAS sponsored senior design competition awaited the results of prior judging. While the results certainly brought



the day's events to a close, the purpose and scope of the Celebration of Undergraduate and Creative Activities was clear.

Dr. Robert McGrath, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Mark Aronoff, Deputy Provost and Professor of Linguistics delivered the welcoming and closing remarks, respectively. In both their remarks, McGrath and Aronoff applauded the students for their efforts, emphasizing the University's push for events that highlight the strengths of its student body, bringing the students themselves closer together. Aronoff, looking in awe at the SAE Mini Baja next to his podium, reflected on the day's events. He said, "This was a day for the students...truly a remarkable experience."

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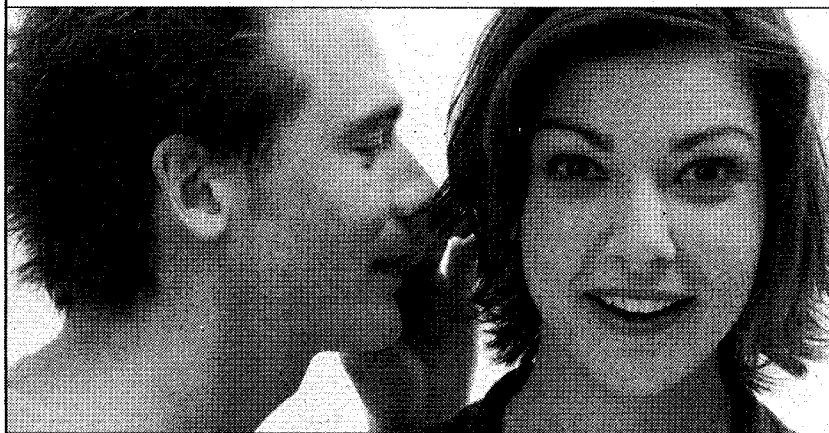
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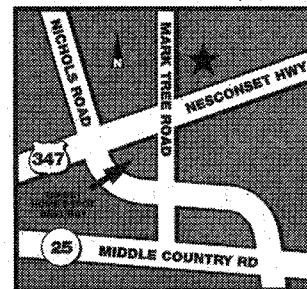
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FINAL SENATE DEBATE: CAMPUS SECURITY AND THE BUDGET DEFICIT

By CECILIA J. KIM
Staff Writer

The Senate was presented with a budget update during their last meeting of this spring semester. The budget committee, represented by Senator Al-Shareefi came before the Senate to announce that an extra \$40,000 had been added to the budget, leaving a \$40,000 deficit that would have to be accounted for.

The budget committee being came up with three solutions to fill the \$40,000 gap: (1) Review a dozen clubs with a 200% increase in budget and cut a relatively substantial amount of funding, (2) take about 10% to 12% of budget allocated to any club with an increase in budget, and (3) take a flat cut from all clubs which

will be uniform lower percentage.

Senators voiced their support for, mainly, the second and third options. Supporters for the second option stated that cutting funds for clubs that already have budget increases won't cripple the club since they have managed with lower funds in previous years.

Senator Wisnowski pointed out, "Whatever we cut from the clubs they will probably get back anyway. They just need enough to survive the first couple of months before we allocate funds from next years surplus." Senator Peluso said, "The clubs will still be getting roughly a 90% increase. We shouldn't burden clubs that have no increases or even clubs with decreases - that will affect the club's ability to survive." However, club leaders

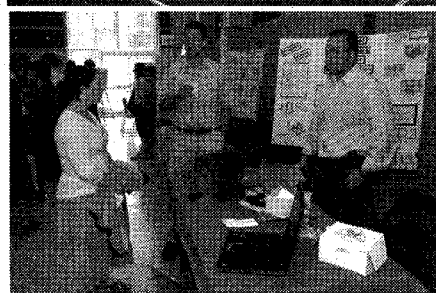
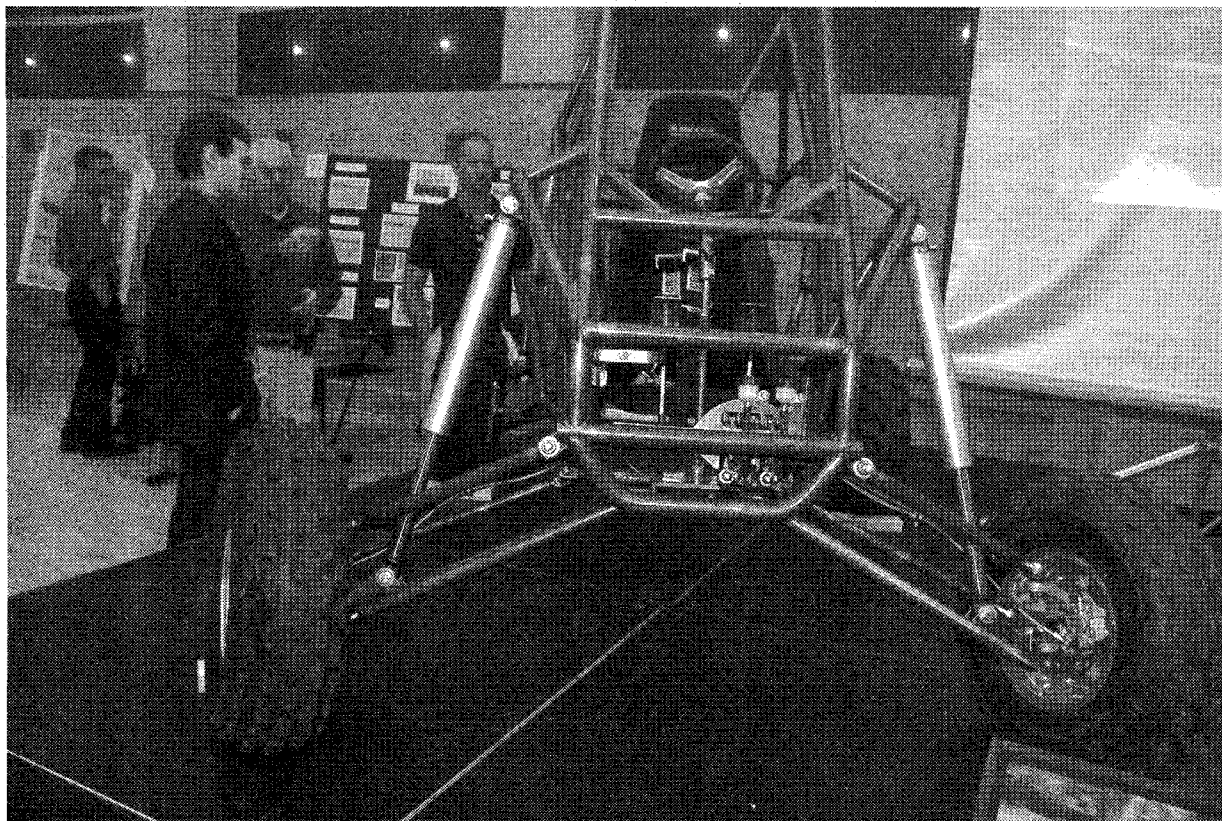
and members of the gallery asserted that a 10%-12% cut from the expected increase will prevent the clubs to plan ahead of time for their events next semester.

Advocates of the third option supported a flat cut that will reduce the funding for all clubs by approximately 5%. "A lower, uniform cut for all clubs is unbiased and raises no questions," said Sharon Weiss, a gallery member, as she agreed with other supports of the third option. Senator Robert Romano urged his fellow senators to see that the flat cut is, "the fairest thing and selectivity is wrong."

Senator Caroline Ortiz, who is also a member of the

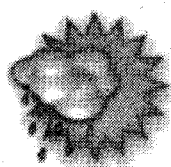
Continued on Page 4

URECA Celebration 2006, In Pictures

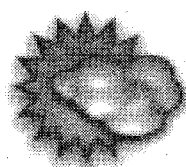


URECA Celebration photos:
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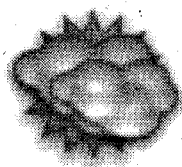
Student Forecast: May 4 - May 10 By Britta Merwin



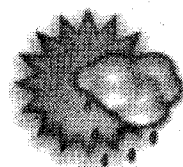
Thursday:
High 70/Low 50
Chance of a morning shower turning into a pleasant day.



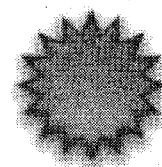
Friday:
High 73/Low 51
LAST DAY OF CLASSES
Nice day with passing clouds.



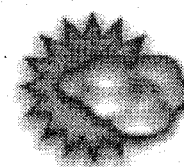
Saturday:
High 65/Low 49
Mostly cloudy and breezy.



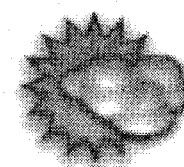
Sunday:
High 60/Low 45
Partly cloud with a chance of showers.



Monday:
High 63/Low 44
Mostly sunny.



Tuesday:
High 64/Low 41
Partly cloudy.



Wednesday:
High 65/Low 40
Mix of clouds and sun,

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

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

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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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FINAL SENATE DEBATE

Continued from page 3

budget committee, was frustrated by the debate and explained that she felt the Senate was making an uninformed decision, saying, "You guys have no idea which clubs were cut and why. I don't understand why we're making this decision if we don't have to." The Senate has no actual jurisdiction in the approach to filling the deficit, but the options were presented before the Senate so that one will be fully supported by the unity of the Senate. With Senator Wisnowski endorsing of the second option, the Senate voted and the motion failed, causing a problematic division on the last possible day of voting.

In a separate matter, Senator Romano came before the Senate to propose the Safety and Security Act. The act calls for an agency that will promote safety programs, inform the Senate on safety issues biweekly, and will be expected to organize safety programs, as well as publicize safety issues and incidents that affect the safety of the University's campus. Although a number of senators agreed with the priorities of the act, some Senators did not see the need to form an agency, but rather thought it would be more productive to make already existing programs be more efficient in promoting the safety of the Stony Brook campus.

Senator Wisnowski questions the need for "another well-funded organization when we should just make sure that the organizations do their jobs and stop failing." In response to the concerns of Students Against Administrative Silence, the act will urge for a stronger proactive stance. However, after the debate, the issue will still have to be resolved next semester.

Police Blotter

Compiled by Eugene Tan/Statesman
May 1st to 3rd

Thefts

In the Health Sciences Center, a computer was stolen at 9:52 AM on 5-1-06.

Stolen Vehicle

At the Schomburg Parking Lot, a stolen vehicle was reported on 5-1-06 at 11:02 AM. The vehicle was towed and impounded.

Lost and Found

At the University Hospital, a Motorola radio was found at 8:10 PM on 5-1-06, and a purse with credit cards was found at 7:30 AM on 5-3-06. The purse was secured in an office.

Suspicious Person

At the Wang Center Lot, a suspicious male was reported at 11:59 AM on 5-2-06 but was gone upon arrival of the police.

Criminal Tampering

At West Apartments, an unknown person discharged a fire extinguisher 6:49 PM on 5-2-06.

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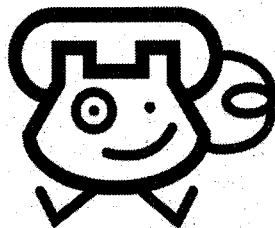
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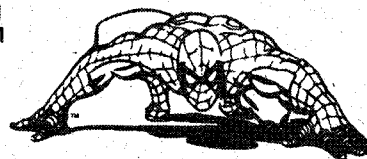
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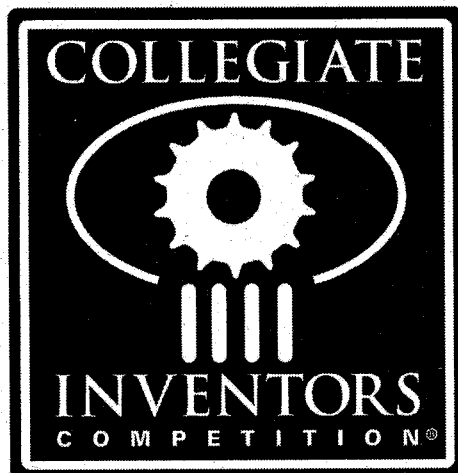
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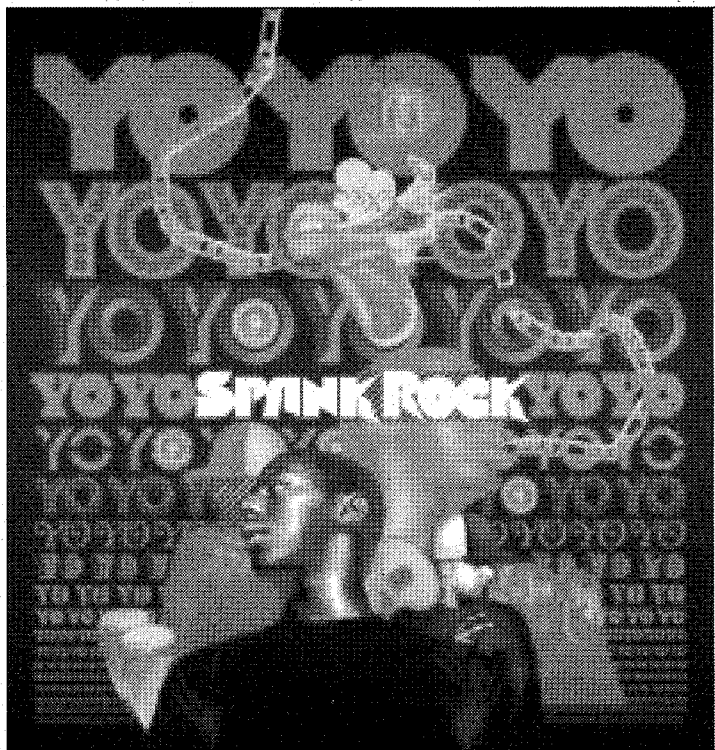
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Rockin' the Brook: YoYoYoYoYo



Courtesy of Spank Rock

By INUR MAMMOOR
Asst. Arts & Entertainment Editor

Artist: Spank Rock
Album: *YoYoYoYoYo*
Release Date: Big Dada, 2006

Listening to *YoYoYoYoYo* is like sneaking a chocolate chip cookie before dinner; you feel naughty but that feeling is laid to rest when your ears get a taste of the delicious sounds on this infectious debut. *YoYoYoYoYo* is a filthy album, in the best way, and much of its excitement is wrapped up in the shroud of dirty language. But once you get past Spank Rock's word choice, you find yourself immersed in a hip-hop goldmine.

YoYoYoYoYo's appeal is how old school hip-hop collides with rap and brushes shoulders with dancehall rhymes only to spawn a fresh new believable sound. And thus becoming the embodiment of a good time.

Yo has everything a good hip-hop album needs; creativity, fun, and intelligence. The album opens with *Backyard Betty*. It tells of an ass-shaking champion. *Backyard Betty* sets the stage for Spank Rock's wise-ass sense of humor which is much needed in hip-hop. It also introduces Spank Rock's specific, well crafted raunchy rap. With the help of back up singers the Typical Girls, Spank Rock pays homage to James Brown on *Sweet Talk*, an interesting fusion of industrial and funk sounds. *Rick Rubin* is another track which pays tribute and one which walks the fine line of experimental and

accessible.

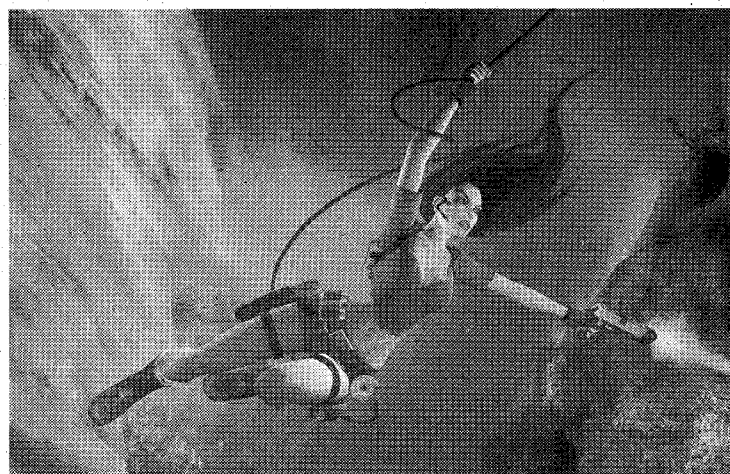
Spank Rock isn't just about making you blush through his dirty lyrics. *Far Left* is a track other artists envy because not only does it entertain but it suggests an understanding and mastering of the art which is beyond others. While *Far Left* wows in one way, *Bump* wows in another; by sampling Nintendo sounds. Sampling Nintendo sounds is not a new concept but Spank Rock's ability to reference those sounds in a fresh way is noteworthy.

Taking the B'more beats he claims as his roots and blending them with everything from Latin party music to Nintendo samples, Spank Rock has carved himself a niche in the music industry. *YoYoYoYoYo* brings hip-hop back to when it was fun and its done through tongue-in-cheek lyrics and amazing beats. No more blinged out grills and no more angry rappers, *YoYoYoYoYo* promises to put a smile back in hip-hop.

Spank Rock *YoYoYoYoYo*

1. *Backyard Betty*
2. *What It Look Like*
3. *IMC*
4. *Rick Rubin*
5. *Touch Me*
6. *Bump*
7. *Sweet Talk*
8. *Chilly Will*
9. *Far Left*
10. *Coke n Wet*
11. *Competition*
12. *Screwville, USA*

Gamers' Lounge Tomb Raider: Legend



Courtesy of amazon.com

By WILL WULF
Staff Writer

Let me be perfectly honest for a minute. I never liked any of the *Tomb Raider* games. I can understand why some people like them. It was one of the first games, along with *Super Mario 64*, to do 3D gaming right. Also, it introduced the planet to Lara Croft, the gaming world's first true sex symbol. But despite all this, I could never get into these games. I found the original Playstation games boring, and the less said about the first PS2 attempt, 2003's *Angel of Darkness*, or those Angelina Jolie films, the better. However, with the latest game in the series, *Tomb Raider: Legend*, game publisher Eidos has created a game that even I can enjoy, a whole lot.

One of the reasons I never liked any of the other games in the series is because I always felt like there was absolutely nothing to do. In this game, however, it feels like Lara is there for a purpose. Much like the *Prince of Persia* games, Ms Croft has a nice array of acrobatic moves at her disposal. You'll find yourself swinging, climbing, swimming, and much more. Levels are designed like one big jungle gym for you to play on. There are a lot of puzzles that have been intergraded into the level layout of the game. The puzzles are for the most part variations on the same concept (place Box X over Floor Switch Y), but each one is unique in their own right.

Also, another problem I had with past games was with combat. I always felt that it, for lack of a better word, sucked. Not anymore. While the game doesn't have the best combat system when compared to similar titles, it is ten times better than anything seen in the past games. For one thing the game offers two different ways of shooting. The first is a standard free form style seen in games like *Dead to Rights*. This is the style you will use the most for combat. It allows you to move around better and even give you a chance to get close enough to enemies to kick them down or do a back flip off their heads (which will then activate a slow motion effect, allowing you to finish bad guys off in the most unnecessary, yet cool way). While this style may work the best, you will find that the auto targeting isn't implemented very well, and you can't find cover behind walls like you can in the

other games. The other method of shooting is a quasi-first person shooter style, but because you can't move around, it's not very good for fire fights. Instead, that mode will be used for targeting other things that need to be shot, such as pillars or walls.

In addition to improving on the core aspects of a *Tomb Raider* game, motorcycle levels were added for good measure. These levels feature Lara riding a Ducati (and yes it does say Ducati on the bikes in the game) through various levels. While all these levels are basically the same (go straight, avoid obstacles, kill anyone who tries to kill you), they are entertaining, and you do go relatively fast, which adds a level of danger to the mix. Along with these levels, the designers have added interactive cinematics, similar to those in *Resident Evil 4*. During a cut scene, you may be prompted to hit a button to keep Lara alive. This helps to keep you on your toes because you never really know when the game will pull one of these out on you.

Graphically, Ms Croft has never looked better. The graphics for this game are stellar, with lush environments, great physics, and character models that are very nicely rendered, especially Lara. The audio is also well done, although there can be times when it's hard to hear your partners over your walkie-talkie.

The only real problem with the game stems from the controls. While it doesn't affect game play too much, it can be frustrating. The camera can sometimes be placed in a position where you can't see where you're going to jump, or sometimes zooms in too close. Also, there will be times when you'll have to throw your grappling hook (which can take a while because it doesn't auto aim like your guns) in a limited amount of time. This can be cumbersome and can cause you to slam your controller on the ground in a fit of rage.

While the game is fairly easy and kind of short, in the long run, it is very much worth checking out. This is coming from a guy who came into this game expecting to hate it like all the rest. If you've been a fan for some time, just got into the series, or just want a fun action/adventure game, look this title up. To all those who were disappointed with Lara Croft's previous adventure, have no fear. The queen is back.

Tomb Raider: Legend gets an 8/10.

Staller Movies

Memoirs of a Geisha



Courtesy of amazon.com

By REBECCA NEWMAN
Staff Writer

Memoirs of a Geisha is a beautiful film in a plethora of ways. The score, composed by John Williams, features cello solos by Yo-Yo Ma, which sonorously foreshadow the twists and turns of the plot. The sets are completely authentic to the film's time period of 1930's Japan. Beautifully directed by Rob Marshall, the cinematography is so exacting that sometimes the background in a scene is blurred to force concentration on the characters' emotions. The cast includes wonderful acting by Ziyi Zhang, Ken Watanabe, and Li Gong.

This film (adapted from the novel by Arthur Golden) tracks the life of a meek nine-year old girl named Chiyo. She is seized from her small, fishing village in 1929 and is sold to a cruel, harsh geisha house in the bustling, overwhelming city of Kyoto. Suddenly the timid Chiyo is separate from all she knows and is thrown into a daunting environment dictated by gender and power. She is noticeably intimidated by the cruel and beautiful head geisha Hatsumomo. From the beginning, there is an unspoken competition between the two of them. Although Chiyo is young, the women of her house can tell she is going to be very beautiful and talented. Her eyes are described to "have water in them".

The turning point in this movie occurs when Chiyo goes out into the city of Kyoto as a young teen. Timid and morose, she wanders the city but meets someone who changes her life. A tall,

proud, attractive man spots her and tries to cheer her up. He takes her under his wing and tells her not to be sad. He buys her food, and tells her she is beautiful. This Chairman becomes her love interest, and also a constant reminder of an easy, happy life. When Chiyo sees geisha she automatically links them now to happiness and security. After she meets the Chairman, he becomes her purpose. She wants to become a geisha only to see him again and be taken care of. This turning point really shows Chiyo's desperation and poor lack of care. As soon as she finds someone who is nice to her and takes care of her, she will do anything to keep that feeling.

Chiyo does end up becoming a beautiful, legendary geisha. She gets taken under Mameha's wing. While Mameha is motherly and kind to her, she also happens to be Hatsumomo's arch rival. Throughout the last section of the film, Chiyo grows into a gorgeous, charming, talented and demure woman. Mameha teaches her how to walk and sit, get men to notice her, and look pleasing to a man's eye.

It is extraordinary how a film set in 1930's Japan can relate to today's world. Women still do develop this dependence on men for security and happiness. Men will let them down as well. Innocence gets snatched away by men. Women are encouraged to be demure and charming to win their affections. However, this film shows that sometimes even those geisha-like actions can leave women depressed and alone. Maybe women are merely modern-day geishas, always looking for a man to rescue them.

Statesman

Internationale

The Week of Nervous Breakdowns

By CARRIE COTTON
Staff Writer

The library is as crammed as the useless information you have loaded into your head. The dark circles under your eyes make you look like you play for the NY Giants, and your hands shake from the endless supply of caffeine running through your veins. And so the week of finals begins.

Now I am not throwing a pity party or anything, but things can be a lot worse than 6 exams in 3 days. How you ask? You could have finals in Europe. I guarantee by the time you are done reading this you will be grateful when you sit down in a lecture hall with a number 2 pencil in your hand.

Europe is strange. Beautiful, but strange. Well at least to my American standards. The college education system falls into the strange category. And if you are taking finals there, it is uglier than... actually I really can't think of anything worse.

I was shocked the first day of class when I didn't receive a syllabus, but I brushed it off realizing how much I take for granted the schedule laid out by generous American professors (how many times have you heard that expression?).

The next epiphany I had was when I was told there were no papers to write, no quizzes, and no midterms. There are however, still those huge, and still expensive, textbooks to read. Sounds too good to be true, huh? Well things usually are and this is no different.

Finals are important on every continent and stressful in every language. But (and that's a BIG but), imagine if your entire grade was riding on your final exam. Maybe you think it is, but if a final is a ride, here it is off a cliff.

Exams in Europe are oral. Remember those huge expensive textbooks? Anything in it is fair game. Any date, name, and miniscule detail in all 500 pages. Bet that number 2 pencil is looking pretty good, huh?

Picture this: You walk into your professor's office and sit down. He looks at you and asks, "What day was Pope Pius VII exiled from Rome, and what day did he return?" Now you panic because you met Pope Pius the first day of class and he was in the second chapter of a textbook you read months ago. The wheels in your head spin as you blank out all information except that this question could be the first in a series of 50 questions, or the last of one.

You look at the person across from you who lives for moments when people regurgitate their words. Did I mention he just so happens to be the author of your 500 page textbook? Your palms sweat as the thought crosses your mind that you could have completely misunderstood the question. A little misunderstanding with great power. A wrong answer that can destroy a semester of class time. Maybe you can make up for it, maybe you can't. Ready for the good part? It is in a language you have spoken for less than 5 months. Hello. Welcome to my nervous breakdown. Good luck with yours.

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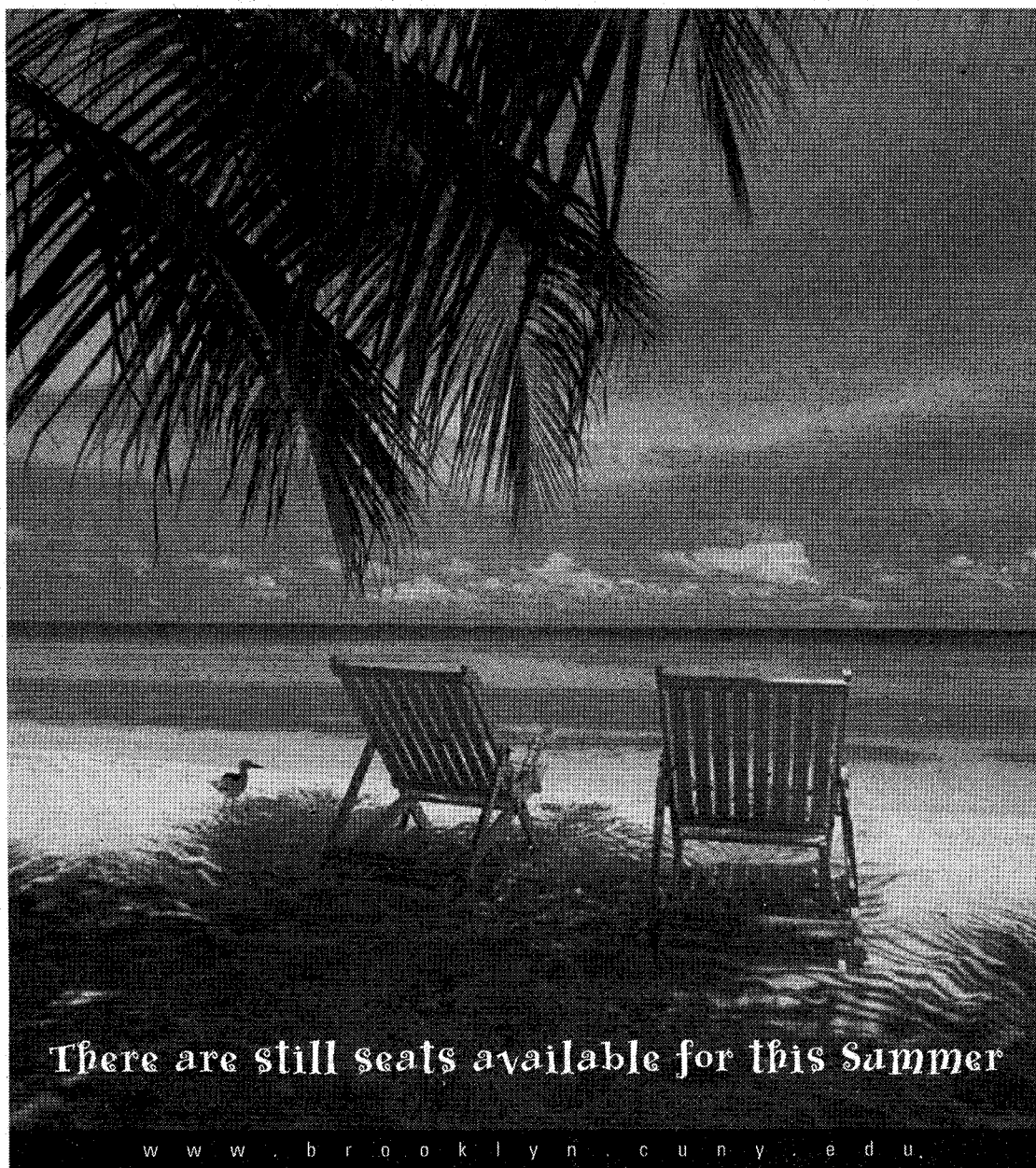
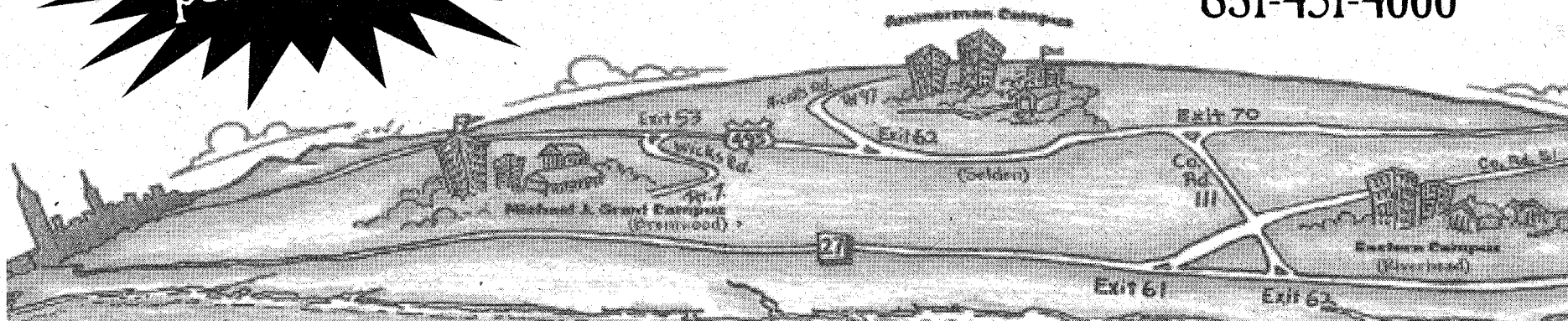
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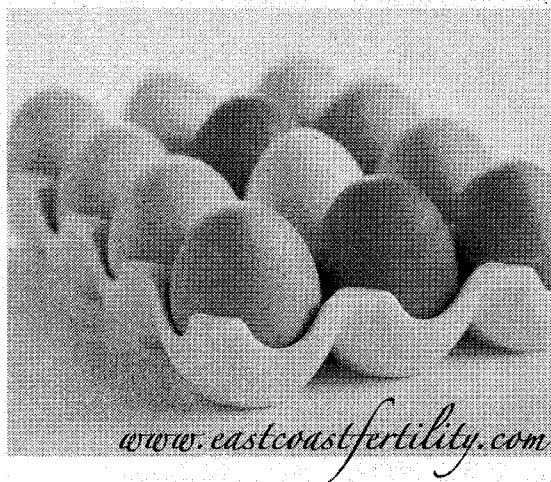
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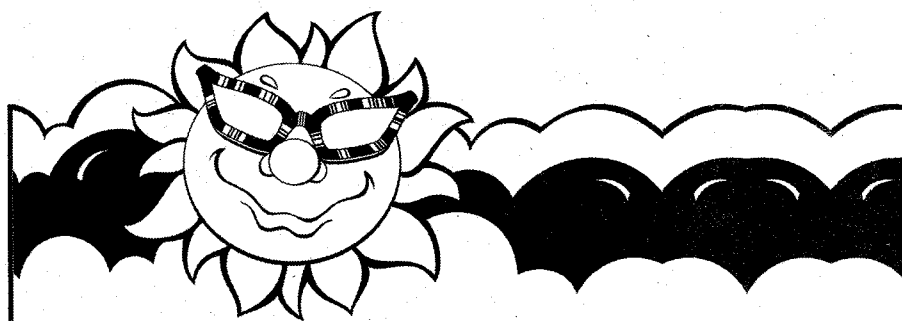
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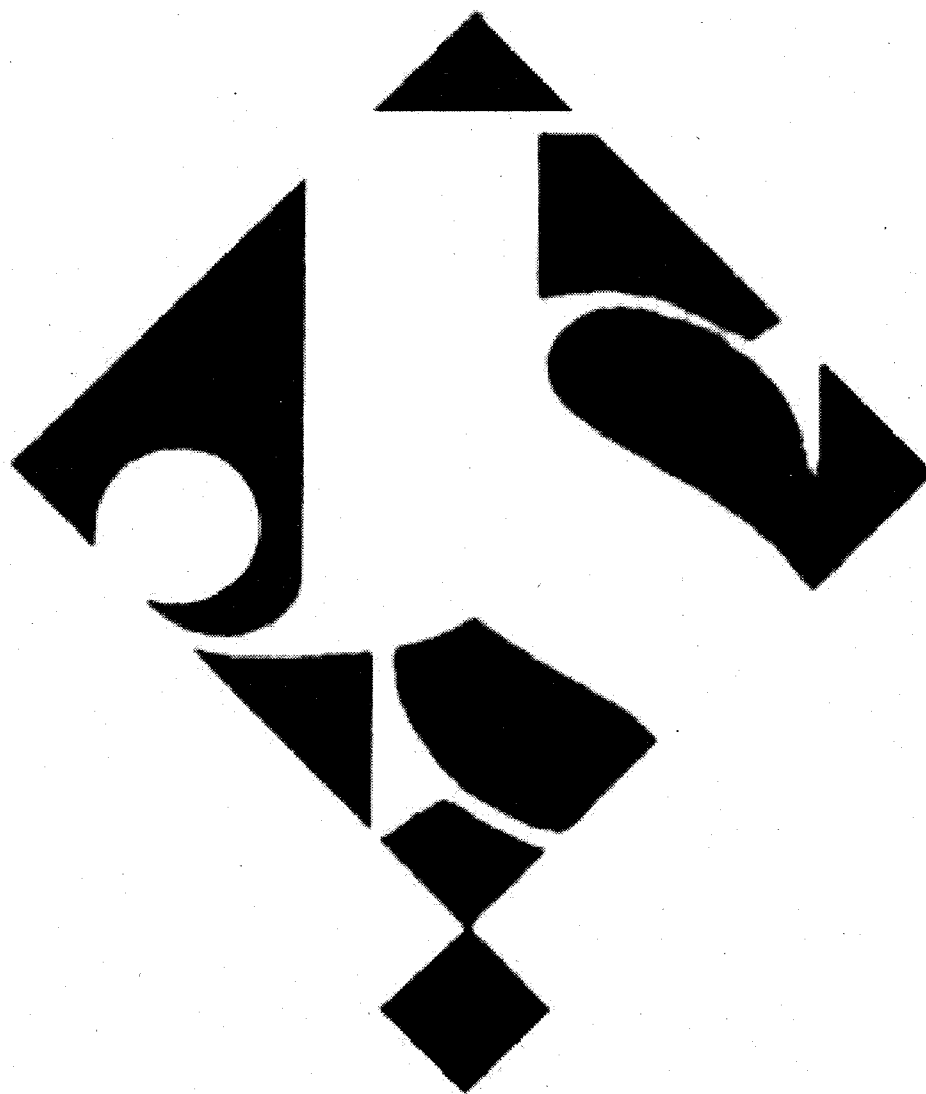
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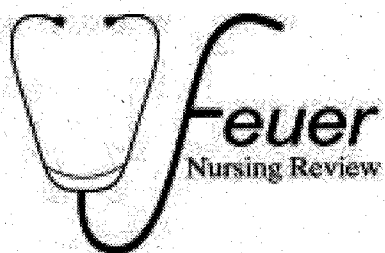
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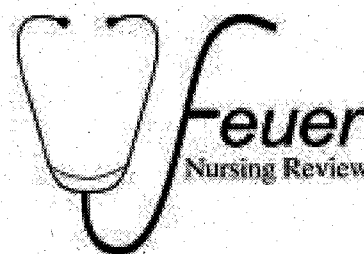
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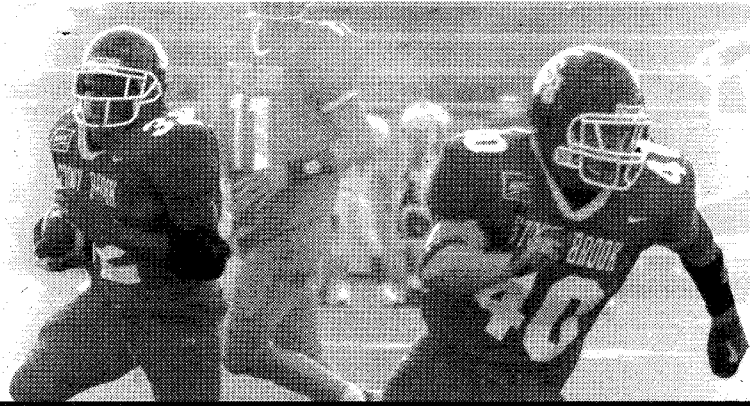
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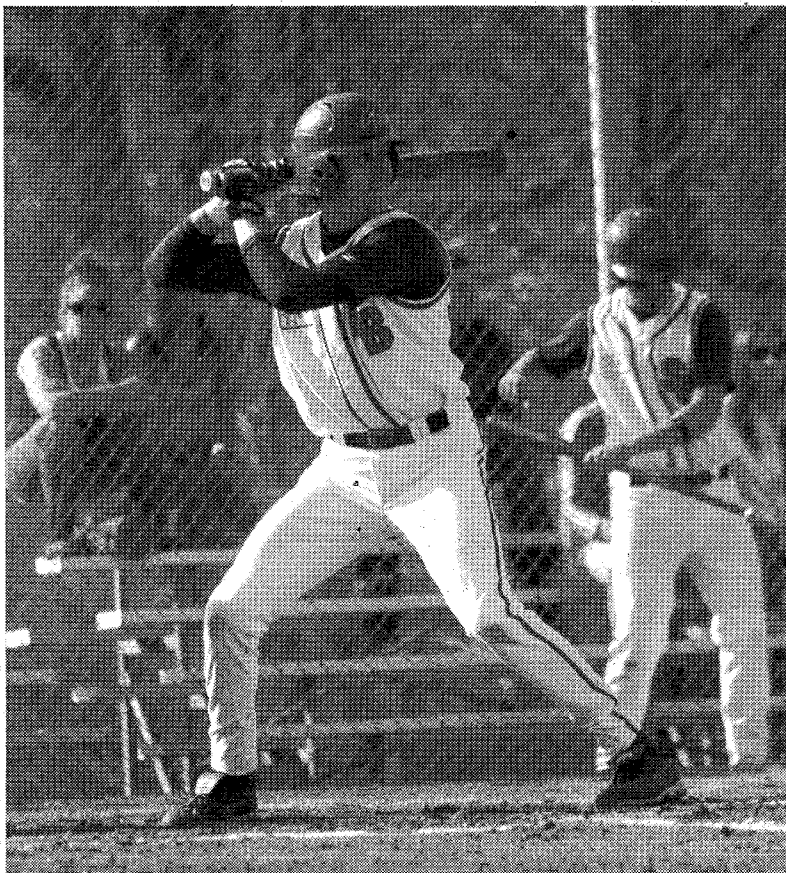
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SPORTS

Baseball Stumps Stags, 10-3



Stony Brook, N.Y. - Brian Witkowski drove in three runs as the Stony Brook baseball team defeated Fairfield, 10-3, on a rain soaked Tuesday afternoon. With the win the Seawolves improve to 16-22 on the season.

Fairfield jumped to a quick 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning as they scored two runs off of three hits. Stony Brook was able to get one back in the bottom of the frame, when Tom Pennino singled in Chris Sipp to make the game, 2-1.

Fairfield tacked on another run in the second when Albie DeSimone plated Adam Chireli on an RBI groundout to give the Stags a 3-1 lead. Stony Brook responded again in the bottom of the frame, scoring a run when Witkowski singled in Chris Cruz with a two-out single.

Witkowski delivered his second two-out RBI of the game in the bottom of the fourth to even the game up at 3-3.

The score would remain tied at three until the Seawolves were able to score a pair of runs in the sixth. Sipp came through with the game-winning RBI when he scored Cruz on a bunt single. Witkowski later scored on an Isidro Fortuna sacrifice fly to give Stony Brook the 5-3 lead.

The Seawolves broke the game open when they scored five runs off of six hits in the eighth to give them the 10-3 victory.

Mike Errigo (2-3), Kurt Jung and Nick Abel teamed up to throw seven shutout innings out of the pen. Errigo picked up the win, throwing 5.0 innings of two-hit baseball and striking out seven.

Witkowski paced the offense, finishing the day 4-for-5 with a pair of runs scored and three driven in, Sipp was 3-for-4 with an RBI and two runs scored, Jon Pasioka was 2-for-4 with two RBI and Robert Leonard was 2-for-5 with a run scored.

The Seawolves return to action when they travel to take on Vermont in a four-game set. First game is scheduled for a 7:00 P.M. start on Friday.

Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics

Softball Drops Series Finale To UMBC, 3-1

Sara Cerrone goes 2-3 in the contest

The Stony Brook University softball team dropped the series finale to America East foe UMBC this afternoon by a score of 3-1 in Baltimore, Md. Stony Brook could not overcome the Retrievers three-run first inning as the loss dropped the Seawolves to 23-22 on the season with a 8-7 record in America East play.

UMBC plated all three of their runs in the first inning as Dana Shepard hit a three-run shot to put the home team up 3-0. The Seawolves chipped away at the lead, scoring one run in the third to cut the lead to two.

Designated player Sara Cerrone singled up the middle and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt. With one out, left fielder Kelsi Fanelli walked and right

fielder Ashley Westphal singled to center to drive in Cerrone for the Seawolves' only run of the game.

Cerrone went 2-3 with a run scored while Westphal went 1-3 with an RBI. Hayley Durham accounted for the only other Stony Brook hit in the game.

Sarah Hoffman shouldered the loss for Stony Brook, as she scattered six hits while allowing two earned runs and striking out five.

The Seawolves return to action when they host America East rival Albany in a rematch of last season's America East Championship. First-pitch of the doubleheader is schedule for Wednesday, May 3, at 12:00 p.m.

Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics