

# USG Vice-President Resigns

## Senators Angered by Thomas

By LYNN HSIEH,  
TIM McHALE  
News Editor and Contributing Writer

After a month long storm of controversy, Ralph Thomas, the Vice-president of the USG, resigned this Wednesday, March 7 before the impeachment trial could begin. A general consensus among many of the senators felt that Thomas' actions were irresponsible. According to Senator Shapiro, one of the prosecutors representing the case, "I think it is unfortunate that it was drawn out this long. If he had resigned earlier a lot of this could have been avoided. He went so far to get the judge prepare this trial....it was a waste of resources."

Senator Antoneilli added that "It would have been easier had he resigned earlier since there was work that needed to be done that could have been done earlier."

Ralph Thomas chose not to comment.



Senator Shapiro gets ready to prosecute Ralph Thomas.

David Stevens / Statesman

## Shapiro Appointed Prosecutor in the Impeachment of Thomas

By TIM McHALE  
Contributing Writer

Senator Nathan Shapiro appointed himself as Special Prosecutor in the impeachment trial of Vice President of Clubs and Activities, Ralph Thomas. The appointment was passed on the Senate floor 15-0-1 on Tuesday, Mar. 6, 2007.

The job of prosecuting impeachment, as written in the USG Constitution, belongs to the position of District Advocate, currently filled by Alex Ovtcharenko. Although it is important to note that Ovtcharenko was appointed under a hail of corruption charges and ethical inquiry. He was accused by Senator Antonelli of proposing to forge papers that

would have more funds allocated to the College Republicans. These funds come directly from our own student activity fees. Senator Shapiro said, "if he is willing to stretch his ethics in his own club, maybe the judgment of the nominee isn't right for this position." It was also revealed by Senator Shapiro that the Senator who appointed him, Senator Romano, actually lives with him in the house Mr. and Mrs. Ovtcharenko own. It's safe to estimate the Senator's feelings on the man he replaced after such a scathing testimony.

It is Senator Shapiro's opinion that the Senate should represent itself in court, and not have a member of the executive branch

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## "Weaving the Tenets of Success" Tiki Barber Comes to Stony Brook

By SURAJ RAMBHIA  
Editor-in-Chief

On March 7th, Tiki Barber, the recently retired NFL running back for the New York Giants, spoke to SB students, staff, faculty, and community members about his life, the meaning of excellence, and his motivation to succeed. Barber's speech was followed by a question and answer session and was the first installment of the Undergraduate Student Government Lecture Series.

Barber's premise for the lecture was the idea of excellence, and how he defines it. He spoke, "Excellence is state of being superior...what you do when now one is watching...how you respond to

mistakes...making other people excellent."

He emphasized the influence his mother had on him growing up such as how he was not allowed to play sports unless his homework was finished first.

Barber repeatedly mentioned his drive to improve himself as a football player and a person. He summarized his own views of the relationship between opportunity, success, and luck with a quotation from Thomas Jefferson, the former president of the United States. Barber, who graduated from University of Virginia, said, "I am a great believer in luck. The harder I work, the more luck I have."

Barber described, along the lines of the Jefferson quotation,

"Luck comes at the crossroads of preparedness and opportunity." He emphasized, "You have to be prepared for your opportunities." For many individuals in the audience, many of whom are members of the local community, meeting Tiki Barber is a dream come true. One individual spoke, "I'm an old school Giants fan, and I just wanna say, I love you Tiki."

A mother in the audience made her 14-year-old son stand up next to her. She asked Barber to tell her son, who was going to be on his high school varsity football team in the coming year, the importance of school work. Barber answered by restating

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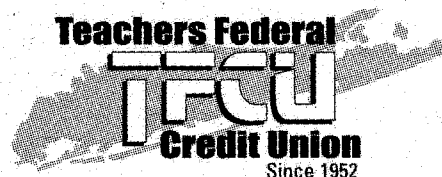
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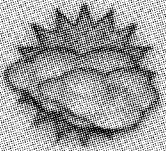
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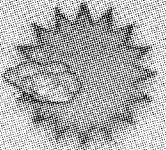
# Student Forecast:

Mar. 8 - Mar. 14

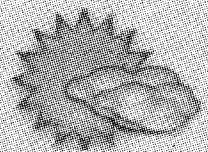
by Jamie Waller



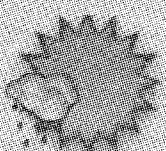
**Thursday:**  
High 31/Low 14  
Mix of sun and clouds, windy.



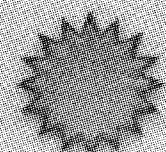
**Friday:**  
High 31/Low 10  
Partly sunny.



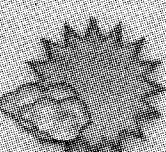
**Saturday:**  
High 45/Low 22  
Increasing clouds, milder.



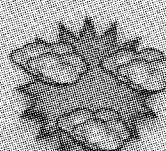
**Sunday:**  
High 48/Low 33  
Cloudy with a 30% chance of rain.



**Monday:**  
High 47/Low 36  
Mostly Sunny.



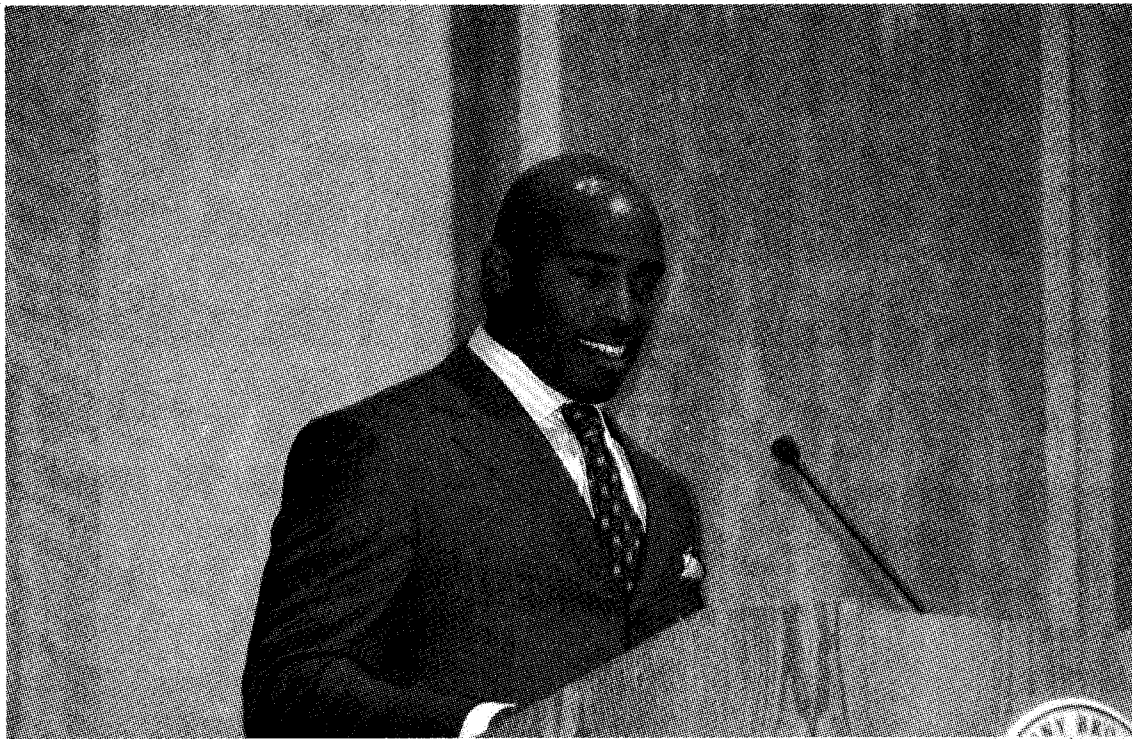
**Tuesday:**  
High 51/Low 34  
Partly cloudy and warm.



**Wednesday:**  
High 52/Low 35  
Partly to mostly cloudy.

## Behind the Numbers

After yesterday's clipper system passed by, a light coating of snow has now covered the ground. Thankfully, this will probably be the last time we see snowfall, as temperatures will be rebounding nicely over the next several days. A mix of Sun and clouds will be present in the region for the next 48 hours. By the weekend, more clouds will cover the sky, while temperatures will climb into the upper 40's. Our next chance of rain will come at the end of the weekend, on Sunday, into Monday. By Tuesday, clouds will diminish, while temperatures will continue to climb, possibly into the lower 50's. Check back on Monday for an update on the week ahead.



Tiki Barber lectures to Stony Brook students, staff, faculty, and local community members.

Vilan Trub/Statesman

## Barber Inspires Community

Continued from page 1

how his mother would not let him play football without doing his homework. Barber continued, speaking directly to the woman's son, "You have to be a good student to play football, especially in the NFL. You have to be smart and disciplined." For all aspiring football players in the audience, Barber advised, "Have fun playing and learn the game."

At age 31, Barber has now retired from the NFL and will be a broadcaster for the NBC's "Today Show." In addition, Barber and his twin brother Rondo have started their own series of children's books. Three books have already been published with two books still in the making.

Barber is considered by many as one of the greatest running backs in New York Giants history. In his 10-year career, which concluded with the 2006 season, he rushed and received for over

Continued on page 7

## SB Pulse: Mock Interview Day, Ne-Yo, Year of the Pig, and Mind/Brain Lecture

By LYNN HSIEH  
News Editor

### Mock Interview Day

The Career Center will host a Mock Interview Day on Friday, March 9, to help prepare students for the professional world. Students will have a chance to practice their interviewing skills with representatives from a variety of companies. Students are encouraged to ask questions during the interview so that company representatives can provide feedback.

Students will be selected based on the quality of the resumes submitted (students were expected to submit resumes a couple of weeks earlier). The event will be located at the SAC Ballrooms A and B and will last from 9 AM to 3 PM. A networking session will also be held where students will be able to

meet representatives from various companies.

### Famous R&B singer Ne-Yo Performs at Stony Brook

Ne-Yo, the R&B singer/songwriter, will perform on March 11 in the Pritchard Gym. Ne-Yo is a nationally acclaimed artist who has penned some of the biggest radio records in history, 189.5 million listeners in one week, and has been #1 on the Billboards R&B charts for several weeks. Ne-Yo has also worked with multi-platinum artists such as Mary J Blige, B2K, Faith Evans and Musiq.

Tickets will be sold on Wednesday and Thursday for \$15 to students. They will also be sold from Friday to Sunday for \$20 to students and \$30 to non-students.

Continued on page 7

# Police Blotter

Mar. 2 - Mar. 5

## Parking Lot Assistance

On March 3rd assistance was needed in the Roosevelt Quad parking lot around 5:45AM. Reason is unknown.

## Car Accident

Around 1:00PM a car accident occurred in the Grad Chem Parking lot. No injuries occurred and vehicles sustained minor damage.

## Auto Theft

Multiple accounts of auto theft occurred on the afternoon Mar. 3, including tires stolen from a vehicle in the Administration Garage, tires stripped from a vehicle in the University Hospital Garage, and stripping of hub caps of other cars in the University Hospital Garage.

## Bad Driving

Around 11:00 PM, a Red Toyota was found driving dangerously down Roosevelt Drive. The vehicle was never located by the police.

## Car Accident

Another car accident occurred around 2:46 AM on Mar. 4 on Nicoll's Road near the main entrance. The University Police assisted with injuries on scene and the SB Volunteer Ambulance Corps was notified.

## Burglary

A burglary occurred in West Apartments E around 3:20AM also on the 4th. The door to the room was found kicked in.

## Suspicious Person

Around 11:45PM on the 4th a suspicious person was found around Wanger College. The male fled from police when attempted to be questioned to Dewey College, and was gone on arrival of police.

## Another Car Accident

Another car accident occurred around 3:00 PM on Mar. 5 in the South Drive Parking Lot. Both cars sustained injuries and all personnel were transported to the University Hospital via the SB Volunteer Ambulance Corps.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

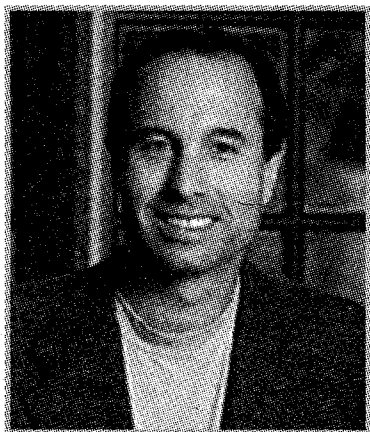
- A Walk Through Albany Day '07, pg. 5
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- String Theory: The Virtue of Selfish Singers, pg. 10
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Inside

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The Swartz Foundation sponsors the Mind/Brain Lecture Series in cooperation with Stony Brook University. Visit [www.stonybrook.edu/sb/mind](http://www.stonybrook.edu/sb/mind) or [www.theswartzfoundation.org](http://www.theswartzfoundation.org) to learn more.



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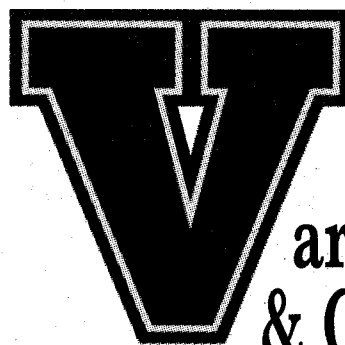
reported on the Albanian refugee crisis in Kosovo, the US intervention in Haiti, the Unabomber story and "cold" civil rights cases, just to name a few.

Pinkston is the recipient of two Emmy Awards for local news coverage at WCBS-TV and three for network news coverage - Outstanding Coverage of a Breaking News Story ("Death of Princess Diana"), Outstanding General Coverage ("TWA 800 Disaster"), and the Edward R. Murrow Award for Outstanding Investigative Reporting ("CBS Reports: Legacy of Shame").

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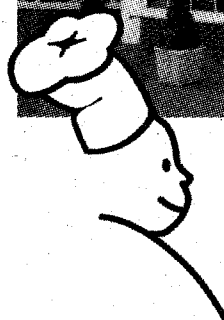
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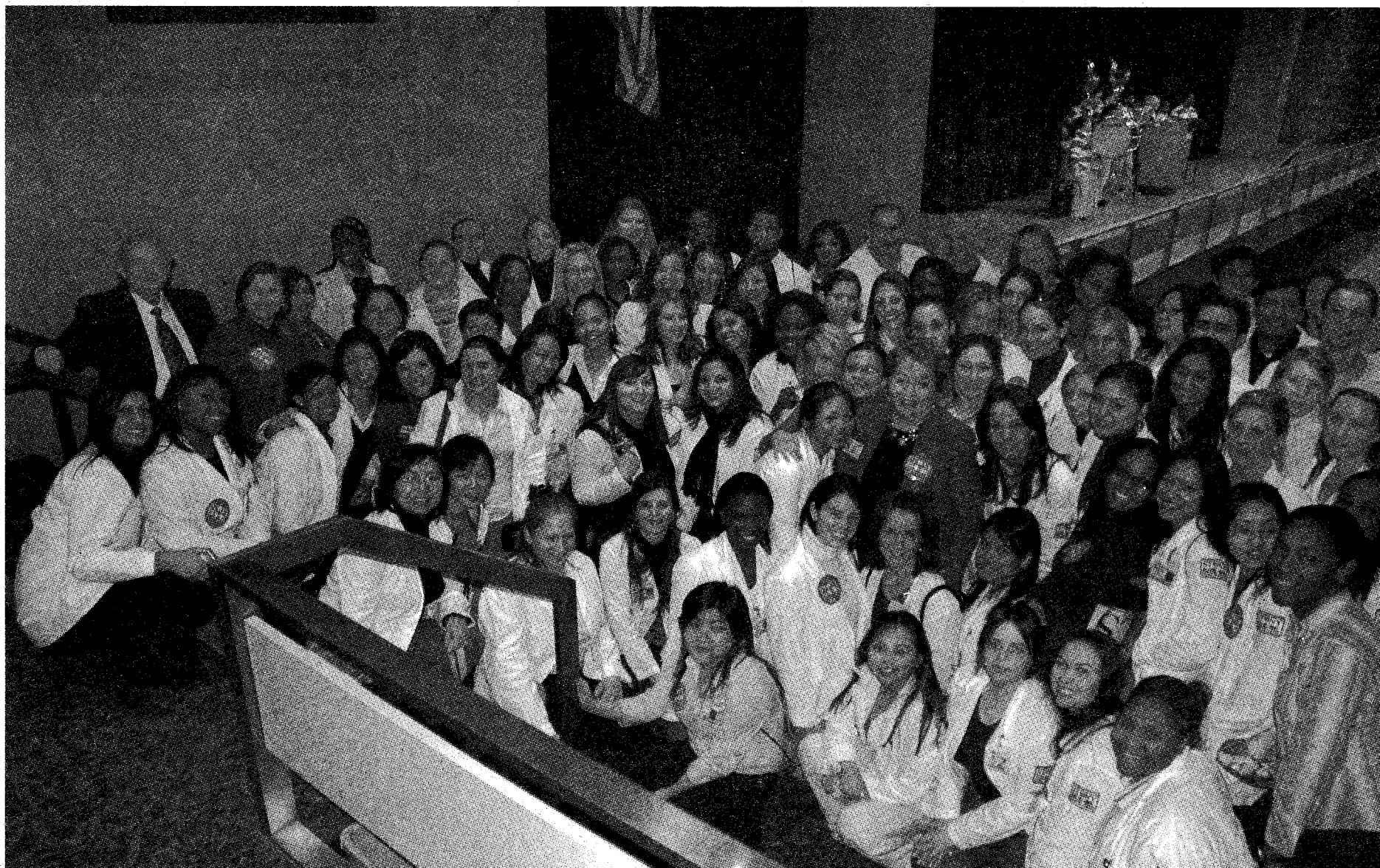
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# A WALK THROUGH ALBANY DAY '07

## Through the Eyes of an Undergraduate Student



Members of the School of Nursing attend Albany Day with President Shirley Strum Kenny.

Glenn Jochum/Office of Communications

By **JESSE COZZETTI**  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook students paraded their "red hot" patriotism in Albany's Legislative office building by wearing red SBU buttons and backpacks for Albany Day. The Convention hall was filled of SBU students cheering on the institution with conga lines, a band and singing the school anthem. As many as 866 students, from all different fields, collectively came together in hopes of persuading the State Assembly for funding requests.

A few specific talking points were maintaining or increasing TAP and other financial aid, smaller class sizes, hiring more full time faculty, improving classroom and residence hall facilities, greater support for the LI State Veterans Home, and increasing the spaces in nursing and other

programs.

In the nursing program, many of SBU's nursing students argued for funding and more faculty in the program. Yuliya Kulbanskaya, 22, a nursing student stated, "I am here today to request more nursing staff, there was recently 300 applications submitted to the nursing program and only 24 were accepted, something needs to be done about the nursing shortage." Kulbanskaya hopes the State Legislature will hopefully give nursing "a slightly bigger piece of pie" for its program.

Jennifer Kolar, 35, another nursing student claimed, "The waiting list is ridiculous." Although, Kolar was concerned with a different issue than Kulbanskaya about the nursing program. "Campus housing is only allowed on campus for four years, but it takes three years to just get the core requirements done. So in

the fifth year, students will have to seek housing off campus," she said. However, the core requirements should only take two years to complete, not three, but according to Kolar the classes are usually filled and many nursing students have to wait. In order to alleviate the problem, she suggests more faculty for the nursing program. Kolar expressed concern over the aging nursing faculty. She said, "47 is the average age of a nurse and soon they will be retiring, why disregard the 276 qualified students that don't get accepted, because they just might be our future faculty." According to Dwight McKenzie, 27, a nursing student, "We have seniors now who have no idea where they will live next year."

The nursing area is just one area of concern for students on Albany Day. Every year hundreds of SBU students, faculty, and

staff descend upon Albany. Students are determined to be heard by their Assemblymen/women on whatever issues concern the school.

At 5:30 AM, students entered the South P lot where 16 buses were parked and ready to leave for Albany. Students grabbed a quick bag of morning snacks and a coffee or tea and headed for the buses, which departed at 6 AM. The buses did not arrive in Albany until 10 AM. As students entered the Legislative office building, they were directed to the Convention Center past the security check point. There, students hooked up with their assigned groups and went off for their legislative appointments.

In the midst of students, Leo Kamenetskiy, 19, a Business Economics student, waved a sign that read, "Group 42." The group, headed by Professor Maynard

and Christina Mazzo, organized students who waged issues on the health science program, more financial aid for students, more full-time faculty, and more funding for the Veterans home.

As the students crowded in State Legislature offices, they waged issues of concern. Teofilia Acheampong, 21, a Health Science major, voiced concern over the Radiation Technology program that was recently shut down. She said, "Those students who were in that program were just forced out, imagine if they were about to graduate?" Acheampong hopes SBU can get more funding so a lot of programs like this won't shut down. Tara Dieterle, 24, a Psychology student, lobbied for more full-time professors in the math department.

Even faculty had issues to

Continued on page 13



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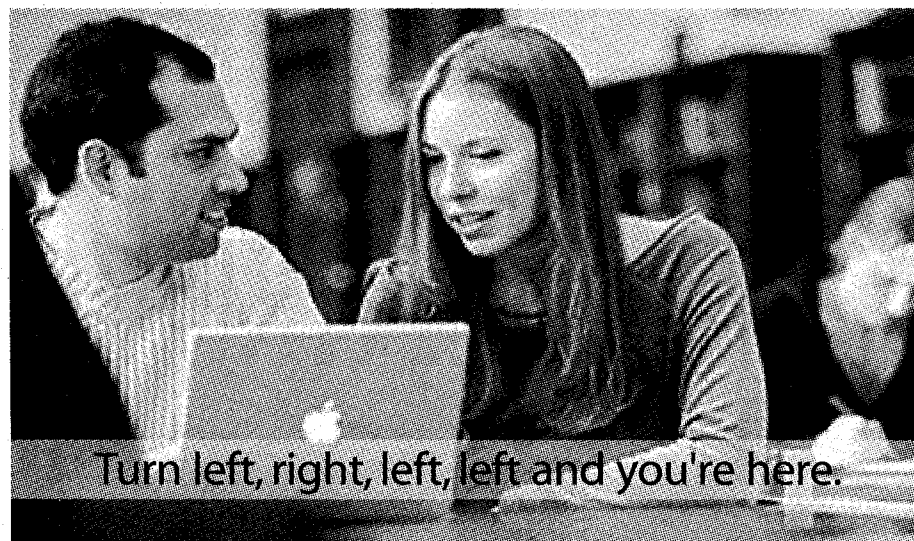
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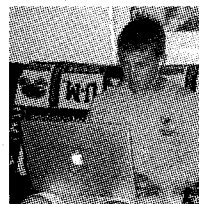
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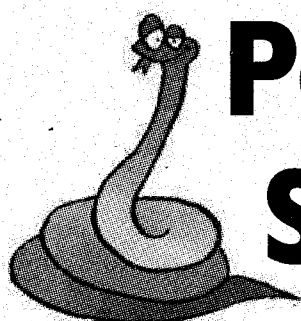


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## District Advocate is Accused of Corruption

Continued from page 1

do it for them. Senator Shapiro laid the ground work of his argument, "It sets forth in our articles . . . that we are impeaching an officer in the name of our [legislative] body. It is not the executive branch impeaching one of their members." He goes on to say, "It does say in the Constitution the District Advocate will represent the government in all cases . . . but, what does the government mean?" For all the non-political science majors out there, government does not mean all three branches in a parliamentary system, it includes only the executive branch which executes policies, as Shapiro will later state. The District Advocate works for only the executive branch, ipso facto the Senate has the right to appoint its own council.

The Senate shared the opinion of Senator Shapiro. Senator Jonathan Hirst said, "I don't think we should appoint the District Advocate as our special prosecutor . . . if he had any interest he could have come to tonight's meeting . . . I think Senator Shapiro should be our Special Prosecutor."

## Tiki Barber, Former NY Giant, Motivates Students

Continued from page 3

15,000 yards. He played all 10 years with the Giants, after they chose him in the 2nd round of the 1997 NFL draft. Barber became the starting running back within a year. He struggled in his second year, but was back in form by 2000. His play was relatively mistake-free, with only 21 fumbles lost in 10 years, including only 1 in each of the past 2 years. He was selected for the Pro Bowl in each of his last 3 years. His identical twin brother, Ronde, still plays for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

William Lahti contributed reporting.

## SB Pulse: Events to Look Forward To

Continued from page 3

This performance is hosted by the USG and SAB.

### First Asian American Cultural Festival

The Year of the Pig starts off with a bang, as the First Asian American Cultural Festival of Long Island will be hosted at the Stony Brook Student Activity Center on Sunday, March 11 from 1 PM to 9 PM. The festival will offer a wide variety of family oriented activities including Multi-Cultural Booths with Crafts, Live Music, Literature and Costumes, a Children's live interactive show, a traditional Tea Ceremony and Cultural Displays by the Tzu Chi Foundation, and several small group performances and lectures. In the evening, the celebration continues with a classical stage performance by Asian artists, a VIP awards ceremony, and a delicious Asian-Fusion buffet styled dinner for guests. The Cultural Festival will end with a raffle drawing.

The Asian American Cultural Festival, under the auspices of the Chinese Cultural Programs, Inc., a not for profit organization based in Manhattan and Long Island, was created to promote diversity and awareness on Long Island. According to Stella Shieh, one of the organizers of the event and a member of the Suffolk County Asian-American Advisory Board, as quoted from a press release, "I am so pleased to see a dream fulfilled... This is a

milestone for all the members of the LI Asian community, as we reach out to one another and to non-Asians as well to share our traditions with each other and celebrate diversity."

The Cultural Festival is sponsored by a number of organizations including the Suffolk County Office of Minority Affairs, the Asian-American Advisory Board, the Taiwanese-American Association on LI, the Asian-Pacific American Association of Brookhaven National Laboratory, the Charles B. Wang Center, and the Korean-American Association of LI.

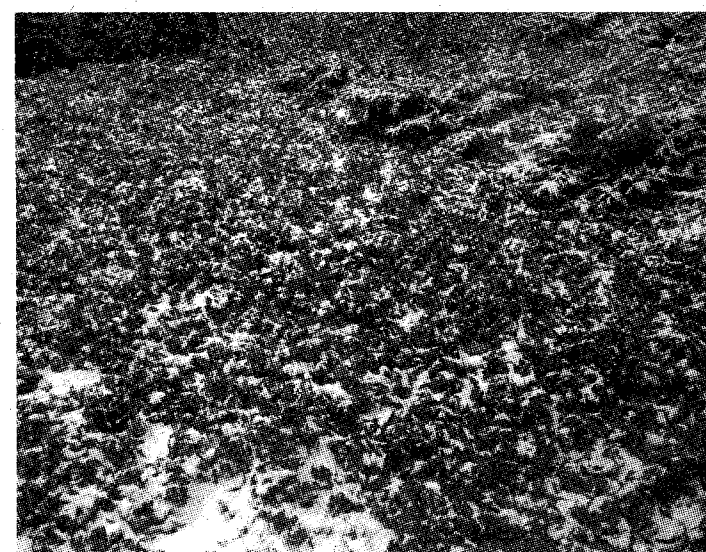
### 11th Annual Mind/Brain Lecture Series Continues

The 11th Annual Swartz Foundation Lecture, How the Brain Decides: Uncovering the Secrets of Cognition, will be held on Monday, March 12 at the Stellar Center for the Arts. Dr. Michael Shadlen, a Professor of Physiology and Biophysics at the University of Washington, will discuss recent discoveries made in the field of neuroscience such as new behavioral, electrophysiological and computational techniques. The Swartz Foundation was established in 1994 to explore the application of physics, mathematics and computer engineering principles to neuroscience.

The Mind/Brain Lecture Series at Stony Brook has been an annual tradition since 1997. The lecture starts at 4:30 PM and is intended for a general audience.

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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 8, 2007



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# Indie Flicks

## THE GREAT NEW WONDERFUL



The film is packed with indie stars like Maggie Gyllenhaal.

Courtesy of First Independent Pictures

BY RACHEL BROZINSKY  
Staff Writer

It's never an easy thing to know when it's too soon to talk about a horrific event. When it came to 9/11, filmmakers didn't waste any time. Movies like "World Trade Center" and "United 93" hit screens barely five years after the terrorist attacks on New York, and bombarded viewers with graphic images of the events, as if we didn't all watch them a thousand times on CNN the first time around. "The Great New Wonderful" is another post-9/11 film, but of a completely different variety. This graceful and sensitive film addresses not the event itself, but how the terrorist attacks affected the everyday lives of every breed of New Yorker.

The five main storylines of the film seem completely unrelated. An older woman is tired of her tedious day-to-day routine. A seemingly happy man is being reviewed by an enigmatic psychologist hired by his employer. Two young parents try to manage a difficult child. A high society pastry chef fights for an important client. A body guard makes a bad personal decision.

What ties all of these individuals together is how 9/11 has awoken in all of them some sort of dissatisfaction or restlessness. Their

commonality as New Yorkers is that they have suffered a great and overwhelming tragedy, and there is solidarity in that. What's more, they suffer in silence.

This concept is masterfully illustrated in a simple yet imperative scene. A member of each storyline enters an elevator. At first it seems like the average awkward, slightly crowded elevator ride. But in a moment, that all changes when the elevator stops abruptly and the lights flicker ominously. No one says anything; no one moves. It is painfully clear, however, that everyone is thinking and feeling the same fear, the kind of fear that would never have crossed any of these individual's minds before September 11, 2001.

Therein lies the genius of this film. It is without a doubt a 9/11 film, but it is its sub-

tlety that makes it so effective, so meaningful. The words "World Trade Center," "September 11," or even "terrorist" are never uttered in the film. The clarity of the filmmaker's intentions is unwaveringly powerful. For instance, the audience knows everything it needs to when a man stops what he is doing to watch a plane fly across the sky.

Every character has a moment when it is clear that 9/11 has had an intense impact, and it is amazing that each one, in spite of the trauma, somehow manages to reach a catharsis in his or her life. What's so human about their stories is that for all of the changes that they put into effect, it still doesn't magically fix everything. But it's progress, and that's something.

Every member of the cast

masterfully portrays his or her player in "The Great New Wonderful." This eclectic group is comprised of indie darling Maggie Gyllenhaal, comedians Jim Gaffigan and Stephen Colbert, "Monk"'s Tony Shalhoub, and the brilliant Olympia Dukakis. This is just to name a few. Though most of these individuals never interact with one another, they have a fascinating indirect chemistry that pulls together the central ideas of the film.

As the camera pans across the island of Manhattan at the end of the film, reminding us gently of what is no longer there, we know that the moral of the story is not about mourning, but about change. It's okay to be sad, and it's good to grieve, but it's more important to acknowledge this sorrow and move forward. And just knowing this, well, it's a start.

## A Different Kind of 9/11 Movie

"The words 'World Trade Center,' 'September 11,' or even 'terrorist' are never uttered in the film."



The Manhattan skyline is a powerful tool of imagery in the film.

Courtesy of First Independent Pictures

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 8, 2007



# STRING THEORY:

## The Virtue of Selfish Singers

BY WILL JAMES  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Before the Bowery Ballroom crowd on March 2, Conor Oberst is cheerily drunk. He's talking to us, even joking. I'm relieved; I was nervous after a Canadian blogger reported the singer was moody and cold earlier on the Four Winds tour. As Bright Eyes ripped through tracks from their upcoming release, "Cassadaga," my mind was far away, churning through songs from their past while my eyes were on Oberst. I was looking for some sign that he was the total jerk he claims to be.

On the train to Manhattan I had been trying to jolt myself into the proper state of mind to be utterly blown away by the night's performance. In other words, I was listening to album after album in an effort to feel thoughtful and vaguely nostalgic. What struck me, though, was a reoccurring theme in Oberst's lyrics; criticism and self-mockery in the face of his own selfishness.

What comes to mind is the "selfishly sick and self-absorbed" Oberst described in "Padriac My Prince" from 1998's "Letting Off the Happiness." Or how Oberst "thinks about himself too much

and ruins who he loves," as told in "Gold Mine Guttled."

Young punks love to gripe about Oberst's perceived self-absorption; they call it whiny. I recall one blog entry brilliantly refer to Bright Eyes' sophomore album, "Fevers and Mirrors" as "Fevers and Meeeeeeeeeeers" amid five hundred words of streaming expletive. To them, he's the worst kind of pop star; everything evil about the archetypal narcissistic lead singer wrapped up in tight jeans, neatly emo-cropped hair (alas, no more), album after album of tearful, ultra-personal storytelling, and an army of teenage girls with equally dumb haircuts.

However, that's too easy. They fail to acknowledge the complexity of Oberst's character, and so their criticisms fall flat. Throughout all of his "whining" he openly acknowledges his selfishness; he anticipates the argument. Or maybe he's just genuinely unhappy with himself. Either way, the acknowledgement forces us to view his music in a different light - it creates an attitudinal undercurrent behind the sob-story, and changes its context. He is sobbing and, at some level, he's ashamed of it. It provides a strange kind of immunity; to call Oberst's music self-indulgent is simply to agree with a secondary message of the music itself, perhaps.

Oberst might tell his critics, "Some sad singers, they just play tragic," like in "Lover I Don't Have to Love," from 2002's "Lifted." A brutal kind of honesty is at the heart of his defense.

Honesty, after all, is the scintillating beauty of Bright Eyes; maybe selfishness is behind this one too. Maybe Conor Oberst is so good at singing about himself because he's so good at *thinking* about himself. He has turned self-absorption into a talent - it spawns within him an acute self-awareness. Coupled with his poetic genius, it makes him the powerhouse songwriter he is.

The fact that he knows himself so well is what allows him to communicate so effectively to some part of us. The choice is ours to either shy away guiltily, ashamed of his emo croon, or joyfully indulge. Or guiltily indulge, just like Conor Oberst.

Does anyone know what I'm talking about? Just how wrong am I? Email me at [arts@sbstatesman.org](mailto:arts@sbstatesman.org)

# The Book of James

## Revelation VII:

## We Could All Learn A Lesson From Scooter.

BY JAMES BOUKLAS  
Senior Columnist

In this day and age, chivalry is a hard thing to come by. Gone are the men who lay their coat on puddles to save the feet of their women; gone are the days of standing up for what you believe is right; and gone are the days that men of great power take a deliberate nose dive in court to save their superiors. I am proud to say that, despite the moral decay of today's society, Scooter Libby's actions show us that blind and undying loyalty may not be dead after all.

Friends and associates of Scooter have referred to him as quite possibly the smartest man alive. He wouldn't forget what he ate for breakfast three years ago, or the waiter who served him, his associates fondly remember. What an act of courage, then, that he would walk into a courtroom, look the jury right in the eye and lie that he had no recollection of speaking with one of the most influential journalists of our day! This man doesn't deserve jail time - he deserves a Medal of Freedom.

It's no wonder Dick Cheney stands up for Scooter's character, calling him a "good man" whenever he gets the chance. As it turns out, Cheney wasn't even the source of the leak; Libby's boss wasn't even the one he was protecting. Karl Rove was the chief architect of the outing of CIA agent Valerie Plame for political revenge. That good ol' Scooter entered court with one thing in mind - to make the most amateur defense in modern history, all to protect friends of his boss. If that isn't true valor, then I don't know what is.

I think we all remember a certain Vice President who played

deaf as his Commander-in-Chief sounded the alarm. When Bill Clinton was taking a roasting by the Republicans in the late 90s over having an affair in the Oval Office, Al Gore was nowhere to be found. Not once did Al Gore lie

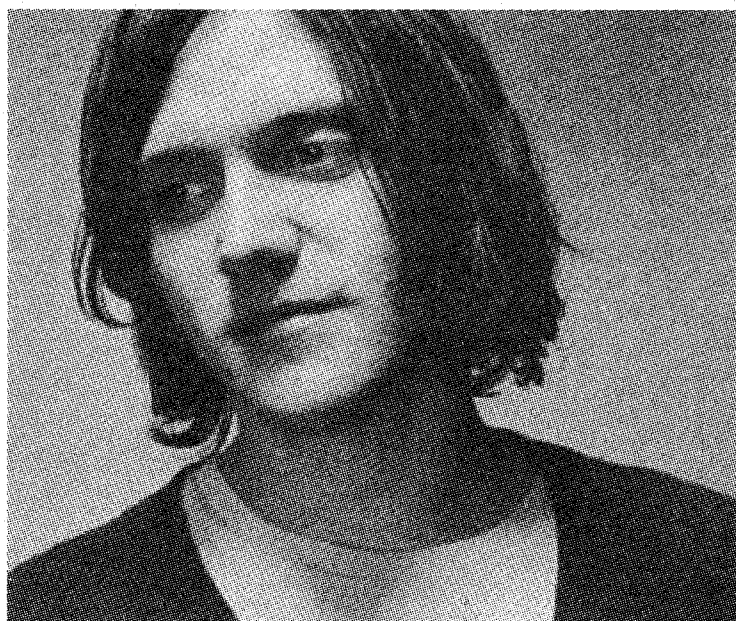
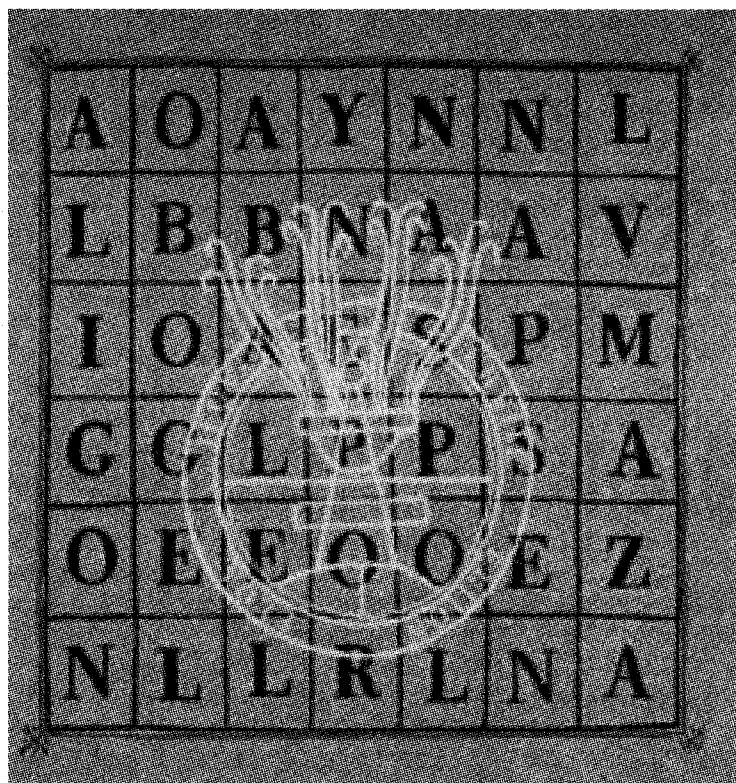


Scooter Libby: American Hero  
Courtesy of the President's website.

to save his boss. Not once did Al Gore jeopardize this nation's security by leaking classified information to reporters. And not once did Al Gore step up to the plate to be a true American Hero.

When the impeachment hearings are called for George W. Bush for fabricating pre-war intelligence, we will all get to see Dick Cheney, mentor to Scooter, fall on his sword for his boss, the President of the United States of America. Then, and only then, will the American people know what truly good men run this nation, right up to the very top. God Bless America, and God Bless Republicans.

*The Book of James is the musings of columnist and former Editor-in-Chief of Statesman James Bouk拉斯. This column appears weekly in Statesman. To send in your feedback for the Book of James, feel free to email us at [bookofjames@sbstatesman.org](mailto:bookofjames@sbstatesman.org).*



Above: Some kind of encoded message on the cover of the Four Winds EP?  
Below: Conor himself, looking introspective.

Courtesy of Saddle Creek Records



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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:

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#### WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucoian" 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.

*Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman. All content Copyright 2007.*

# News at 11

## A Government Official Questions Another

BY JONATHAN HIRST  
USG Senator

I must first apologize to my fellow students here at Stony Brook University. As our "chief servant" so poignantly pointed out, I did deceive you in my last article, "Understanding Campus Cash." It seems as though Dominos Pizza and Subway, according to our "chief servant," do not offer a 10% discount currently. I actually went to Subway tonight for dinner, and he was in fact correct. I offer my humble apologies.

However, to the educated reader, everything that I mentioned in my article, sans the 10% offering, was all true. Our "chief servant" began to mince words and add content that was not relevant to my original argument. The argument, and I repeat, the only argument that I laid out was the fact that there was a misquote from the article "Excessive Campus Meal Plan Options Restrict Students," which had stated that students would be allowed to "allocate" money to their "Campus

Cash" account. The quote was as follows: "Students will be able to allocate a certain amount of money to an off campus debit account that can be used at approved vendors." My only motivation in writing my first article was to clarify and to correct. I then added my opinion, as it was my right in an OP-ED piece. For shame, I have wandered outside of my bounds as a USG senator, and spoken out against our "chief servant."

To be sure, I am angry. I am very angry that my attempt to educate and inform was met with slander and jargon. Nowhere in my piece did I attempt to neither misinform nor mislead my fellow SBU students. It was simply a point of clarity. One that our "chief servant" understood, yet chose to ignore, and instead filled the article with facts, that once again, did not pertain to the original article. It stated that you can use "Campus Cash" for laundry. Hurray! You can now use it to purchase snacks in vending

Continued on page 13

# "THE WIND FROM BELOW"

BY KHALIL ROBINSON  
Staff Writer

In April 1964, the CIA commented that "Cuba's experiment with almost total state socialism is being watched closely by other nations in the hemisphere and any appearance of success there could have an extensive impact on the statist trend elsewhere in the area." The Americans were correct in this assessment, but one could not have imagined the impact the Cuban revolution would still have on the world today. A quick glance at the recent news coverage displays that Latin America is becoming, to borrow a phrase from political author Tariq Ali, an "axis of hope."

In the United States the notion of democracy is a pathetic joke, with rich elites vying for power every few years offering no real promise of change. However, when we look south we see something completely different. The

electoral victories of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela have given the region a reason to look towards a brighter future. His Bolivarian plan is in complete contrast with the Washington consensus. Furthermore, the North Americans neo-liberal dominance has been severely discredited. It appears that no leader can even win an election in South America without openly shunning Washington's economic agenda.

Adherence to the neo-liberal model is now synonymous with poverty and failure. Initially Cuba was the primary opposing model, but now there are others as well. Venezuela and Argentina have both become noteworthy models.

What is exactly happening is completely unique in the hemispheres' history. Since the Spanish conquest, Latin American nations have always been effectively separated on colonial grounds with

Continued on page 13

# RE: USG Campaign Finance Reform Now!

BY ROBERT J. ROMANO  
USG Senator

Dear Editor,

In a recent letter to the editor entitled, "USG Campaign Finance Reform Now!" Senate Recording Secretary Esam Al-Shareffi mischaracterized current Undergraduate Student Government law in his support of a bill entitled the "Campaign Finance Reform Act," which was recently halted in the Elections and Referenda Committee of the USG Senate. In doing so, he misled readers into believing that student activity fee funds may be used for direct campaign donations to candidates, and that current law gives political clubs and organizations an unfair advantage in the USG electoral process. Despite being repeatedly informed on the Senate floor of what current law actually states, Al-Shareffi never lets the facts get in the way of his arguments.

In his letter published in the Mar. 1 issue of "The Statesman," he stated, "[O]rganizations like the College Republicans have a distinct unfair advantage over all other clubs and organizations because of their ability to financially support candidates..." This however, is an incorrect interpretation of the Article XIX, Section 6 of the "Elections Board Bylaws," which states in part that "[n]o funds appropriated by the USG on behalf of any club or organization may be utilized for the purpose of making campaign donations to candidates..." With this clear prohibition, no club, including the College Republicans, may make direct campaign donations to candidates by cutting checks whatsoever under any circumstances. Additionally, since this was already the case under law, the "Campaign Finance Reform Act," which sought in part to prohibit financial support to candidates from student activity fee funds, was in fact a redundancy and unnecessary to reiterate in the form of a bill.

Next, the "Campaign Finance Reform Act" articulated a broad restriction on material support of candidates and campaigns in Section 3(a): "No part of the Undergraduate Student Activity Fee, from any source except as disbursed by the Elections Board, shall be used to provide ... material support to any candidate or campaign in elections of the Undergraduate Student

Government." This restriction would, despite the claims of the bill's author, prohibit not only political clubs, but also media organizations from supporting candidates, making endorsements, or providing free advertising to any candidate - which is in fact material support - since campus newspapers such as "The Statesman," "The Press," or "The Patriot" are all funded by the student activity fee.

This proposal also conflicts with the second part of Article XIX, Section 6 of the "Elections Board Bylaws," which states, "[N]or shall any funds appropriated by the USG on behalf of a club or organization be used for campaign fliering or printing publications pertaining to the Elections unless supporting candidates for office, making candidate endorsements, or reporting on the outcome of the Elections is a specifically enumerated or implied purpose of the club or organization recognized."

This protection and prohibition allows political and media clubs and organizations to carry out their missions and to influence the outcome of elections here on campus, and disallowed other clubs from doing so that do not have a political or media purpose, respectively. So, for example, a campus newspaper or political club may use student activity fee funds to print endorsements of candidates, but an athletic club could not, because the athletic club does not exist for political or media purposes.

Current law as articulated in the "Elections Board Bylaws" and the USG Constitution protects the freedom of speech and of the press of political and media clubs and organizations. They allow clubs and organizations that have a distinct political or media mission to do precisely what the "Campaign Finance Reform Act" seeks to prohibit, which is to print fliers, advertisements, or publications which seek to influence the outcome of elections.

As it relates to the Constitution, Article II, Section 3.C. states that "[n]o Club, Organization, or entity recognized by the Undergraduate Student Government and guaranteed the right to funding shall be denied the right to use its funding to carry out its mission, goals, and activities." This means that clubs, when they

Continued on page 13



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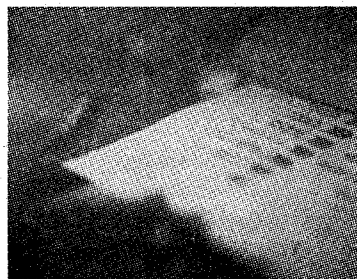
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# News at 11

## A Government Official Questions Another

Continued from page 11

machines. Fantastic! You can also use it for printing machines in the HSC Library. Awesome! At any one point did our "chief servant" refute how you can use it off-campus? I didn't see it.

I can see that our "chief servant" put a lot of time into the program. He mentioned it so many times that I lost count. His summer, which constitutes the end of May until the end of August, was dedicated to this program. However, it is now March, and this program is still not off the ground, though he assured it would be "sooner rather than later." It was worked on over the summer, huh? Time sure moves slowly around here. It is my right as a student to criticize my government when and where I see fit. It is also my right to criticize my "chief servant" where I see fit, the First Amendment guarantees it. So, again, I'm terribly sorry to have offended.

I think it is also worth noting that I commended our "chief servant" by spearheading this initiative. That obviously fell on deaf ears. The only thing that our "chief servant" seemed to focus on was "the waste of time

and energy." In my opinion, and yes, I am entitled to it, time and energy was wasted. I was not alone in my thoughts, and many other students that I have had lengthy conversations with agree with me. I don't feel the need to start a pissing match with my "chief servant," but did he actually converse with students to get their opinion? Did he explain at lengths as to how the off-campus portion of "Campus Cash" works? I don't know, nor will accuse him of not doing so. I can only speak of my personal experiences.

I believe that the students of SBU, the readers of this paper, are intelligent enough to know what's right and what's wrong and when they are being misled. I don't believe our "chief servant" intended to mislead, but perhaps not tell the entire truth. It happens, my only wish is that when they're called on it, they can take it as it is. We don't need more pieces like "Response to Understanding Campus Cash." It is unnecessary and irrelevant. But, then again, everybody has their own opinion.

Jonathan Hirst  
USG senator

# Albany Day 2007

## Continued...

Continued from page 5

address to the Assembly. Sandy Johnson, an information technology computer specialist at SBU said, "To have visiting professors come and use our outdated computers, like the arts and sciences equipment, is old and needs to be improved." Johnson stated SBU needs "more funding in that area." Professor Maynard stressed the importance of more full-time faculty. Maynard said to Assemblyman Michael Spano, "Being able to find more full-time faculty means a better educational value."

As the group jumped from State Legislature offices of Nancy Calhoun, Michael Spano, Richard Brodsky and Susan John, the students were able to talk one on one with the people that have a large effect on SBU campus.

Albany Day was a success in the eyes of Senator John Flannigan, whom at the end of the lobbying spoke about SBU. He said, "I love the fact that you are here and am so proud to say I represent SBU and all the people affiliated with it. You being here is very important, and us listening to you is even more important."

# RE: USG Campaign Finance Reform Now!

Continued from page 11

are funded by the USG, cannot be prohibited by the USG from carrying out their missions as articulated in their club constitutions. So, even if the "Campaign Finance Reform Act" were enacted into law, it would be unconstitutional since it would violate the aforementioned section of the USG Constitution. And, even if the Act made exception for media clubs and organizations, but not for political clubs, it would be a case of unconstitutional viewpoint discrimination and a violation of free speech since it would seek to limit the speech of partisan groups on the basis that they are partisan.

The requirements of viewpoint neutrality, articulated in US Supreme Court decisions, the SUNY Chancellor's Guidelines, USG Constitution, and USG law, do not allow the USG to choose to fund some types of political speech, but not others. Just because a student-funded newspaper may be open to all candidates to write articles, or to utilize free advertising, does not offer it a wider First Amendment protection than partisan political clubs, since the First Amendment covers all political speech. In fact, it was enacted to specifically protect political speech. It is not the College

Republicans' fault that, for instance, the College Democrats do not seek to utilize USG funding, and nor should the USG be seeking to pass legislation which would prevent political clubs from carrying out their mission on the basis that only one partisan political club takes advantage of USG funding.

As to the contention that political clubs would have an "unfair advantage" to influence the outcome of elections under current law, what of the media organizations, that can and do print thousands of newspapers with student activity fee funds during election time and make influential candidate endorsements? What is the substantive legal difference between a flyer with a candidate endorsement and a newspaper with a candidate endorsement? How could one be protected under the First Amendment but not the other? Does newsprint possess magical properties that allow media organizations to act politically? It does not, both are in fact protected, there is no substantive legal difference between the two, and there is no reason that media organizations should be allowed to use the student activity fee to act politically and not partisan political clubs that in fact have it right in their mission to support

candidates materially.

In addition to the fact that the "Campaign Finance Reform Act" violated the "Elections Board Bylaws," it was killed in committee because of all the other aforementioned reasons, and the authors of this legislation should instead propose amendments to the "Elections Board Bylaws," which the Senate and the Executive Council share a role in amending. But even then, Senators should be aware that attempts to prevent USG-funded clubs from carrying out their missions are unconstitutional and will be challenged in the USG Judiciary if and when they are enacted. Finally, I have brought the Act, the "Elections Board Bylaws," and the USG Constitution before the USG attorney, and he has confirmed the legal validity of the arguments I have made. So, bring it on.

Most Sincerely,  
Robert J. Romano

Robert J. Romano is the current President Pro Tempore of the USG Senate, the current USG Elections Board Advisor, the current Long Island Regional Vice Chairman of the New York College Republican State Committee, Inc., the former President of the SBU College Republicans, and the former Chair of the USG Elections Board.

# "THE WIND FROM BELOW"

Continued from page 11

quite a few exceptions. There have been calls for unity, but most have not worked well in the past on a continental scale. The previous supporters of continental integration, Simon Bolivar and Che Guevara, had attempted this but they did not succeed. In memory of them, South America is finally achieving liberation from northern exploitation.

For the first time as well, the indigenous populations are actually gaining concrete achievements. In Bolivia they have elected the first indigenous president, Evo Morales, who has closely aligned himself with Chavez and Castro. Rafael Correa has been elected in Ecuador with promises of removing the U.S. military base from the country, possibly defaulting on the nations "debt," and

strengthening South American integration. Nestor Kirchner of Argentina, Lula Da Silva of Brazil, and Michelle Bachelet of Chile are also left-leaning presidents with common socialist goals for the region. In Central America, Daniel Ortega from the Sandinista party was re-elected as well, making it the first Central American nation involved in this bloc.

All of these electoral victories have been occurring in the background of very significant popular social movements. In the past they were crushed with extreme violence occasionally resulting in guerrilla struggles. But those days of state and Washington supported terror seem to be over. The unsuccessful U.S. supported coup attempt in Venezuela may be the last time they attempt to overthrow a regime in South America with that traditional method.

Lula, for instance, would not have been tolerated in the 1960's, but times have changed drastically.

If patterns persist in the current mode one can honestly assume South and Central America may be the most hopeful place on the planet in coming decades. Subcommandant Marcos, spokesman for the Zapatista Movement in Mexico, had written in 1994, that, "The storm is here. From the clash of these two winds the storm will be born, its time has arrived. Now the wind from above rules, but the wind from below is coming... The prophecy is here. When the storm calms, when rain and fire again leave the country in peace, the world will no longer be the world but something better." The storm has finally arrived, and it appears something better is in the horizon.



# Student Profile of the Week

Melissa McCarthy Coordinates the  
First Annual SBU Poetry Slam



Courtesy of Melissa McCarthy

According to her colleagues and friends,  
"Melissa is a ray of sunshine when things  
seem to get too gloomy."

By JAMES FALLETTI  
Staff Writer

Melissa McCarthy has a lot to be proud of. Besides having her health and happiness, Melissa also has hope, honor, and achievement. Not only does Melissa shine in personality, but she is able to shine in her academics and her extra curriculum activities as well.

McCarthy is a student here at Stony Brook University, currently enrolled as an English Major in the BA program. Her English career does not simply end with the academics, but continues due to her involvement in Alpha Nu Zeta or ANZ, the English Honor Society. Melissa is presently holding the position of New Membership Officer. According to her colleagues and friends, "Melissa is a ray of sunshine when things seem to get too gloomy, and believe me, there have been many times when her presence were needed."

Currently, Melissa is coordinating a 1st Annual SBU Poetry

Slam, which is going to kick off its debut on April 18th in the Fire Side Lounge of the Student Union Building at 8:00 pm - 10:00 pm. Melissa is attempting to breathe life into poetry by allowing students to present their original works and pieces to an audience in a "safe and secure environment." By this, Melissa is hoping that more students, faculty, and friends will want to partake in this event knowing outright that no one will be offended; all the while allowing presenters to speak their mind about issues dealing with the government, environment, gender issues, poverty, sexual orientation, war/peace, and race.

The 1st Annual SBU Poetry Slam is a direct reflection on Melissa McCarthy's personality and her attempt to create a community on campus who are aware of the outside world, and the necessity of unity and camaraderie amongst all races, creeds, classes, genders, and sexual orientations.

## Campus Dining Holds Annual Food Show

Photos by Trisha Barua





# Softball Goes 3-2 Over Weekend

Continued from page 16

UNC-Wilmington, they were down 2-0, and were down to their last 3 outs. Sara Cerone started the inning with a single. The next batter was hit by a pitch, and Jade Clare came up as a pinch hitter. She singled to load the bases. The next batter walked, to put SB on the board. Two more RBI singles would end the game, with Stony Brook on top.

The next game, against tournament host FIU, went to an eighth inning. The game was scoreless until the sixth, with an FIU solo homer answered by an SB RBI single. The seventh inning was scoreless, requiring extras. FIU was able to end it in the 8th.

On Saturday, SB played 2 games with Mount St. Mary's. They won the first game 6-4, and lost 2-1 in the second game. The win was another last-minute come-from-behind victory for Stony Brook, with a 5-run 7th inning.

SB had a rematch with FIU in the tournament consolation game on Sunday. Sarah Hoffman threw a shutout. Both of SB's runs came in the 5th.

The softball team returns to action on Friday when they go to Moraga, CA for the St. Mary's Tournament.

# Mixed Results for Tennis

Continued from page 16

matches. SB won the last 2 matches to take the victory. Sunday's match with Cornell was much more of a struggle, with SB getting swept in the doubles match. They won the first singles match in straight sets, but that was the most they would get.

The Women's team laid waste to Colgate on Saturday, shutting them out 7-0, with most of the points coming in one set. The following day, SB got only two wins, both involving Claudia Sanua. One was a singles match, the other a doubles.

Men's tennis returns to action Saturday against Princeton, and the women on Mar. 24 with Holy Cross/Army.

# Track Newcomers Stand Out

Continued from page 16

making this her best performance of the season and qualifying her for the final round along with eight other athletes. Voltaire earned ECAC All East Honors in her final race with a time of 2:55.34.

Felce set a school record during his qualifying race with a time of 2:25.74 for the distance, coming in third. In his final race, Felce earned IC4A All East Honors placing 5th with a time of 2:27.64.

# Baseball Drops Three Games to College of Charleston

By GENE MORRIS  
Contributing Writer

The Seawolves traveled to Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, on Mar. 3 and lost all three games of a weekend series with the College of Charleston Cougars.

In the first game of a doubleheader on Mar. 3, the Seawolves fell by a score of 10-3. SBU put the first run on the board in the third inning after freshman catcher Michael Stephan led off with a single to right and later scored on a groundout by shortstop Keith Fier. That was the only lead the Seawolves would have in the game.

The Cougars came right back in the bottom of the third with two runs of their own. They managed to score the runs without recording a single hit. Back-to-back walks by SBU starter Tom Koehler, followed by a double steal put runners on second and third with only 1 out. After designated hitter Stuart Haywood scored and center fielder Clay McCord advanced to third on a wild pitch, the Cougars got their second run across after a sacrifice fly by right fielder Gabe Marchant. Koehler stuck out eight Cougars over 6 innings and allowed only four hits, but was charged with seven earned runs.

After throwing a scoreless fourth, Koehler allowed three runs in the fifth, all on a three run home run by Marchant. In the sixth, third basemen Ben Lasater hit a two run homer to put the Cougars up 7-1.

Senior right hander Nick Chigges, the Cougars starting pitcher, was finally knocked out in the eighth inning after SBU got two runs across. Jeremy Nowak led off the inning with a double, and scored when Brian Witkowski doubled him two batters later. Witkowski came around to score on a pinch hit single by Steve Leggett off of

reliever Curtis Dowling.

The Cougars put up three more runs over the final two innings to make the final score 10-3. Chigges, who pitched over seven strong innings allowing just two earned runs, picked up the win for the Cougars, moving him to 3-0, while the loss for Koehler dropped him to 0-2.

The second game of the doubleheader was started for SBU by Mike Errigo. It began well for the Seawolves, but ended the same as the previous five, with a loss. This one came by the score of 13-3.

SBU jumped out to an early 1-0 lead after a leadoff double by Witkowski. He scored two batters later on a sacrifice fly by designated hitter Robert Leonard.

They held the lead until the bottom of the third when Marchant hit his second home run of the day, this time a solo shot. In the bottom of the fourth, the Cougars loaded the bases with no outs after a walk, a single, and another walk. Errigo worked himself out of the jam after allowing only one run to score. The Cougars scored the run on a fielder's choice. That left runners at the corners with one out. The Seawolves then cut down an attempted double steal, nailing the runner Lasater at the plate as he attempted to score. Errigo then struck out McCord to end the inning.

After the Seawolves went down quietly in their half of the fifth, the Cougars unloaded in the bottom part of the inning, scoring nine runs on six hits. The inning was highlighted by a three RBI triple by shortstop Oliver Marmol. Marmol then came around to score on Marchant's third home run on the day, and second in the game. Errigo was only able to get the first out of the inning. He then allowed the next four hitters to reach base before being relieved by junior

righty Gary Novakowski. He did not fare much better. Before he was able to record the final out of the inning, he was charged with 5 earned runs, after giving up 3 hits and walking two.

The Cougars added two more insurance runs in the sixth with a pair of solo homers. Alex Garabedian led off the inning with a home run off of Novakowski. Michael Kohn then hit another shot off of reliever Robert Leonard to cap the scoring for the Cougars.

SBU put up two runs in the top of the seventh, including an RBI single by Witkowski. On the day the Seawolves managed eight hits, including six off the Cougars starter Michael Bunton. Bunton pitched seven strong innings on the day, striking out four Seawolves in the process.

The third and final game of the series was much closer than the first two, but the Seawolves lost again by a score of 4-1.

SBU scored first for the third straight game, but failed to hang onto the lead. They also failed to capitalize on a very good start by Kurt Jung, who gave up the four runs over more than seven innings of work. Witkowski scored the Seawolves only run when he scored on an RBI single by Michael Tansey.

The Cougars answered back in the second inning with a solo homer run from Michael Harrington. That was followed by a double by Lasater who came around to score on a single by Haywood. Haywood also had a run scoring single in the fourth inning. The final run for the Cougars was scored in the eighth when Chris Campbell scored on a Jed Cordisco single.

On the day Witkowski was 2-4, and he finished the three game set 5-12 while scoring three of the Seawolves seven runs.

The Seawolves season continues next weekend, Mar. 10 and 11, against Nicholls State.

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 8, 2007

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# Statesman SPORTS

## Softball 3-2 Over Weekend Seawolves 3rd at FIU Blue-Gold Tournament

By WILLIAM LAHTI  
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves softball team had a mixed outing last weekend, and finished their trip to Miami 3-2. Their record for the season is now 6-3. They split doubleheaders on Friday and Saturday, and won their only game on Sunday.

In their first game, against

Continued on page 15

## Tennis Teams Have Strong Saturday, Poor Sunday

By WILLIAM LAHTI  
Sports Editor

The Men's and Women's Tennis Teams each went 1-1 last weekend. They both won on Saturday, against different schools, but both fell on Sunday, against Cornell.

The Men's team squeaked one out against Buffalo on Sat., with a 4-3 come-from-behind win. They lost the doubles match, and exchanged wins in the first 4 singles

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Senior midfielder Amy Taylor scores one of 3 goals in Stony Brook's 10-9 win over Brown.

William Lahti/Statesman

## Women's Lacrosse Beats Brown

## Seawolves Still Undefeated

By JESSICA GRAHAM  
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook's Women's Lacrosse team took the win against Brown this weekend, in the last minutes of game play with a 10-9 victory. The Seawolves were down 9-7 with 10:42 left in the game. Senior, Carlee Buck, gave the Seawolves a second chance by scoring her second goal of the game with 8:17 left to play.

A minute later, Buck assisted sophomore Katlin Leggio with another goal.

With a heart-pounding 2:12 left in the game, sophomore, Jenna Celano was given a free-position shot where she connected with Katie Savino, who scored a game winning shot.

Amy Taylor scored three times during the course of the game. Buck and Celano trailed with two goals and one assist each. Leggio

had one goal and two assists. Goalie, Jen Sandtorv had a total of 10 saves, including an amazing save on Brown's, Mimi DeTolla with 23 seconds left in the game. Sandtorv picked up her second straight America East Defensive Player of the week.

This win against Brown gave the girls a 3-0 record. Their next game will be held at home against Denver on Mar. 11. The game will start at 12 PM.

## Rookies Come Out on Top in Last Weekend's Track Meet

By JESSICA GRAHAM  
Contributing Writer

At this weekend's track meet, two freshmen both came in 5th place in different competitions in the ECAC Championships held at Boston University. Lisa Voltaire placed 5th in the 1000m and Alex Felce came in 5th in the finals of the 1000m.

During Voltaire's qualifying round, she placed third with 2:52.61 for the 1000m distance,

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## Athletics Offers Free Trip to Tournament

By WILLIAM LAHTI  
Sports Editor

The Athletics Department is offering free busing and tickets to each Seawolves game in the America East Conference Women's Basketball tournament, in Binghamton, NY. The first game is Friday at 12PM against UMBC. If they win, there will be a game at 5PM Saturday, and then at the same time on Sunday if they win on Saturday. The Friday bus leaves at 6AM from the Indoor Sports Complex, and return in the evening. The Saturday and Sunday buses will leave at 11:30AM, and return around midnight. The deadline to reserve a seat on Friday's bus is Thursday at 5PM. A free ticket will be given with a Stony Brook ID card. Interested parties should contact Eric George at 631-632-9556, or email him at [eric.george@stonybrook.edu](mailto:eric.george@stonybrook.edu). The team is seeded #2 in the tournament.