

## Student Loan Controversy Stirs at Colleges

By TEJAS GAWADE  
Managing Editor

The New York State Attorney General's Office is currently conducting an investigation that involves a conflict of interest and illegal conduct in student loans. The Office has issued letters to several universities and colleges throughout the country to inform them that they might be involved in this. It is not currently known whether SBU is under investigation.


In the letter, the Office has expressed concerns that include, revenue sharing and referral fees. The main concern is the Apreferred lender@ programs, which could involve deceptive practices. The letter lists several of these practices, including, "Agreements between particular lenders and schools for services, benefits, or payments in kind without disclosing the terms to potential borrowers; these include Apreferred lender lists@ where schools reap various benefits for Asteering@ student loans to certain lenders; and in such cases, the schools= benefits may be at a cost to the students."

Some of the lenders were offered or were solicited to offer, financial and other benefits to the school and its borrowers to be included in the list. In addition, some of the lenders were found to have agreements with each other to sell loans and were otherwise related.

The letter further discloses other problematic practices, such as, not informing parents and students about the basis for selection and specific benefits of using their preferred list of lenders. Some of these benefits comprise of competitive upfront rates, repayment benefits and services. Lenders were also recommended without informing the students and their parents that advertise repayment benefits do not travel with a loan it is sold on the secondary market.

According to the letter, the stu-

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[REDACTED]	USG REFORM PARTY	<u>Statement</u>
[REDACTED]	SUCCESS PARTY	
[REDACTED]		
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USG controversy overshadows student elections.
Snapshot of Voting Panel on SOLAR

# USG President Jean-Baptiste Impeached for Hate Crime

By TIM MCHALE  
Contributing Writer

Undergraduate Student Government President Romual Jean-Baptiste and Junior Class Rep. Michael Cohen were impeached on Tuesday night, the resolutions were passed unanimously. They were accused of planting campaign posters under the guise of Senator Joseph Antonelli, Jean-Baptiste's opponent in the presidential race. These posters made Sen. Antonelli appear as a racist and misogynist, and it was the opinion of the Senate that these posters were used in a malicious manner to discredit the Senator and to bring possible physical harm and racial backlash unto him. Senator Antonelli later stated that he was confronted and accused in a Senate meeting for creating these flyers and since then has been a source of much emotional duress.

The President's power over the Senate has recently been waning.

His last two vetoes were overridden with overwhelming majorities. The VP of Academic Affairs Chinelo Onochie called the character of Junior Class Rep. Cohen into question, "no one that STUPID should be able to hold office." Also an elected USG official who prefers to remain anonymous said Cohen threatened his life "He told me 'It's a good thing we're both in USG 'cause if I saw you outside I would demolish you and break your f---ing neck.'"

There were two fliers printed. One in which portrayed a picture of the President next to a chimpanzee with the headline "DO YOU WANT THIS TO BE YOUR USG PRESIDENT? VOTE JOE, VOTE SUCCESS", as President Jean-Baptiste is an African American, one can understand this may bring about controversy. "I believe there was malicious intent, that is a hate crime, comparing a black man with a chimpanzee is a hate crime" said Senator O'Connor.

The second flier was of the third candidate in the presidential election, Chinelo Onochie. The flier contained a photo of her posing in a provocative position wearing skimpy undergarments. Senator Romano admitted to have been told by the President his intention to create such fliers and distribute them.

Based on the testimony of President Jean-Baptiste, it was impossible for him to have distributed the fliers, although he did not deny that he created them. It was made clear by Chinelo Onochie's testimony that the President created the fliers and Michael Cohen distributed them. "I think he is very manipulative, sorry you are ... Romual used his power to manipulate him [Michael Cohen] ... He already apologized [Romual Jean-Baptiste], why would he apologize if he didn't do it," said Onochie.

The impeachment hearing was a chaotic scene. The gallery was filled to the brim with press, police

officers, detectives, the two parties under questioning, both their supporters and antagonists, and it was remarked upon by Executive Vice President Amy Wisnoski that this was the first time in the semester that the senate was in full attendance.

Both President Jean-Baptiste and Junior Class Rep. Cohen refused to answer questions. During Cohen's testimony this especially maddened Senator Nathan Shapiro. As Sen. Shapiro questioned Cohen, Cohen would cut him off saying "next question." This happened multiple times and ended in Sen. Shapiro calling "Lady Speaker I move to hold in contempt!" The gallery giggled and one voice called out "Can he do that? And hold where?"

Cohen quickly stormed out of the room muttering under his breath about Senator Shapiro,

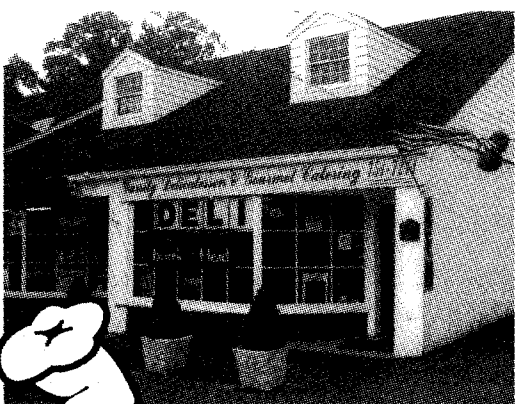
Continued on page 5

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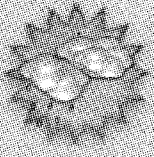
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Mar. 22 - Mar. 28

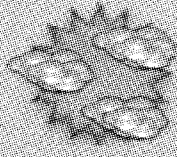
by Jamie Waller



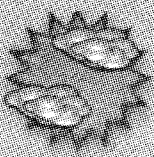
**Thursday:**  
High 53/Low 35  
Cloudy w/ scattered  
rain showers, breezy



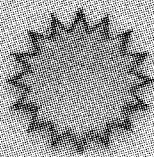
**Friday:**  
High 57/Low 45  
Rain showers possible,  
clearing by evening



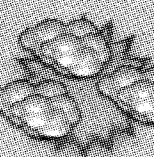
**Saturday:**  
High 48/Low 37  
Mix of Sun and Clouds



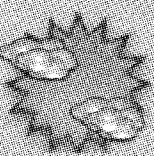
**Sunday:**  
High 48/Low 33  
Partly Cloudy



**Monday:**  
High 53/Low 38  
Mostly Sunny



**Tuesday:**  
High 51/Low 39  
Mostly Cloudy



**Wednesday:**  
High 55/Low 39  
Partly Cloudy

### Behind the Numbers

Spring has finally arrived, and has brought with it seasonably average weather, including mild temperatures. Unfortunately, spring is also associated with rain showers. Cloudy skies and scattered rain showers will surround the area on Thursday, with clearing by Friday evening. On the flipside, the weekend is looking great so far, and temperatures should hover around 50. The last week before spring break will begin with a mix of Sun and clouds, and no rain is forecast for first half of the week. Check back on Monday for an update on next week, as well as a sneak peak into next weekend.

## NY State Investigates Student Loans

Continued from page 1

dent and/or their parent's choice of lender was denied or faced impediments, such as, "misleading prospective borrowers that they are required to use a lender recommended by the school through counseling or other means, unnecessarily delaying certification of a lender not recommended by the school."

The letter pointed out that not every college or university practices this. However, it stressed the importance of informing students and the parent borrowers of the necessary information so that they don't accumulate unwarranted loan debt and are able to make informed choices.

The letter added that schools should comply with The Higher Education Act, the Truth in Lending Act and other relevant federal law so that there is New York Executive Law ' 63(12) and General Business Law ' 349 and 350 and other relevant state laws are not deceptively or illegally violated.

Because most loan negotiations are made in the spring, the letter offered suggestions so that any conflict of interest or illegal conduct could be remedied immediately. It suggested that students and parents should be completely informed about the construction of its Apreferred lender@ list. This obligates the school to inform of any financial benefits it has received for placing the loan vendors on this list.

Most significantly, the letter said, "Students and parents

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## Testing on Live Animals: Debate at SB

By LAUREN SARAKOS  
Contributing Writer

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) states that more than 85 percent of American medical schools have discontinued using live animals in their laboratories. Stony Brook University's Health Sciences Center (HSC) and the School of Medicine are not part of that 85 percent.

PCRM, which is made up of both doctors and laypeople devoted to compassionate and effective medical practices and research, lists the HSC and the School of Medicine as one of 14 medical schools in the United States that use live animals to educate their students about basic human physiology, pharmacology or surgery concepts.

Comparatively, PCRM lists 111 U.S. medical schools whose curriculum does not include live animal laboratories.

Thomas Zimmerman, the director of the Division of Laboratory Animal Resources at SB, described the bulk of the University's current experiments with live animals as being basic research projects to help understand how humans and other organisms function.

Animals used in medical laboratories at SB are primarily rats and mice, Zimmerman said in a telephone interview. The school also houses frogs, pigeons, turkeys, snakes, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs and rabbits for research purposes.

"My job is to make sure the animals are treated humanely," said Zimmerman. He added that "We offer training so that students are properly instructed before they do any experiments with animals."

Yet, according to PCRM, it is not necessary for students to have their training on live animals to

become successful physicians.

In a telephone interview, Jorge Velasco, the Director of Laboratory Animal Facilities at the State University of New York at Buffalo's School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, said that "We don't need to use live animals to train our students anymore." Additionally, Velasco said, "We encourage the use of computer simulations, tissue cultures and other techniques instead."

The American Anti-Vivisection Society lists various resources, such as mathematical models, computer simulations and human cell and tissue cultures as alternatives to using live animals in research experiments.

While SB does use technological alternatives to live testing, the University has not abolished the use of live animals for medical student research as its fellow SUNY schools have. Zimmerman explained that by using the University's new equipment, students can use the same animal more than once in experiments, before it is euthanized. "We have dramatically decreased the number of animals needed in research," Zimmerman said.

Matthew Rammelkamp, a SB alumnus who voices his concerns for animal rights in the SB community, said he objects to having live animal laboratories available to medical students. "You are training students before they enter the medical field that animals are a commodity," he said.

Yet, Zimmerman said that the University rarely meets opposition on the issue of live animal laboratories. "I think a lot of people here, since they are in the science field, understand that it is a necessary thing to do to advance science," he said.

## Police Blotter

Mar. 19-

Mar. 21

### Marijuana Smell

On March 19, complaint of a smell of marijuana at 9:57 PM was unfounded.

### Medical Emergencies

On March 20, a succession of medical emergencies occurred at the Long Island State Veterans Home. At 6:46 PM, in the medical emergency unit 2B, a 88-year-old unknown male suffered a medical emergency. The exact nature of the condition was unknown and Emergency Medical Services were not notified. At 7:28 PM, in unit 3A, a 73-year-old unknown male suffered another emergency whose exact nature was not determined. At 7:40 PM, in unit 1A, a 75-year-old male also suffered another emergency. EMS was not notified in either case.

### Grand Larceny

On March 20, a grand larceny occurred at the University Hospital's level 1 at 4:53 PM. A laptop and a car stereo was stolen.

### Car Trouble

On March 20, a car registered to NY was found honking in the parking lot next to the Social and Behavioral Sciences and the Administration building at 6:25 PM. The car was blocking another car with a NY license plate that was parked in the handicap parking lot. The situation was corrected.

### Lost Earring

On March 20, a earring worth \$3,000 was lost in the pool at the Sports Complex at 8:50 PM.

COMPILED BY TEJAS GAWADE

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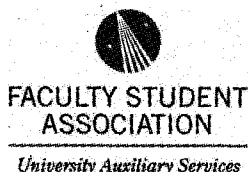
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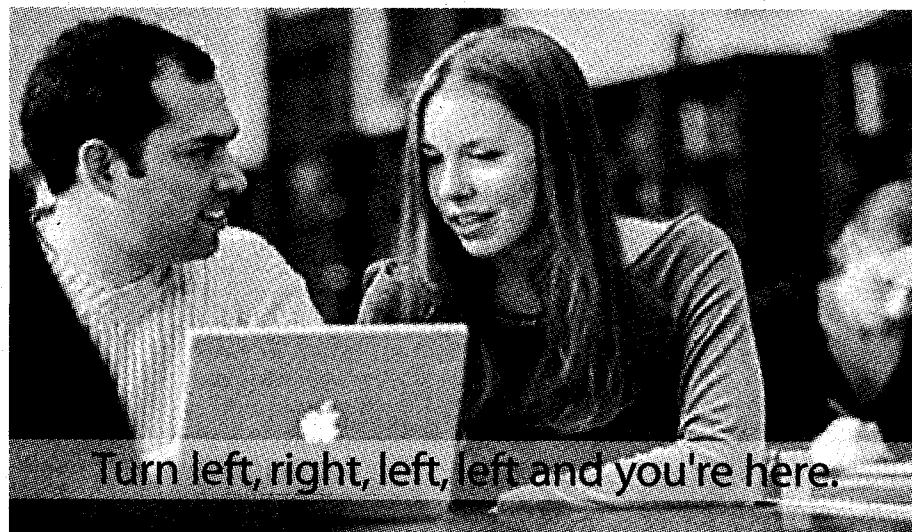
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# Deceptive Practices in Student Loans

Continued from page 3

should be able to comparison shop ... without necessarily limiting research to the school's list of preferred lenders." The letter also added that students have the right to the lender of their choice when they complete a Master Promissory Note for a student loan. Students and parents should also be able to guarantee their "back-end" benefits, which include discounts for a certain number of consecutive timely repayments, even after the agreement is sold to another lender. Both the school and the students and parents are strongly advised to get this in writing.

Lastly, the letter also recommended that "students and parents should be informed that Assignature@ loans from a school (Aschool as lender@) may be repurchased by a lender. Moreover, the school cannot require the student to use the school as his or her Federal Family Education Lending Program (AFFELP@) lender."

The Office is currently distributing a pamphlet informing students and their parents about student loans B, including preferred lending B. The pamphlet is available to college guidance counselors around New York State and can be obtained from the Office's website at [www.oag.state.ny.us](http://www.oag.state.ny.us).

# Jean-Baptiste Impeached

Continued from page 1

"This guy is a fag." A return from an executive member in the gallery "you're the one with a tan in midwinter." With each emotionally charged comment came hoots and hollers from the crowd, with a return threat from presiding officer Amy Wisnoski "I have the state police here and I will ask them to escort you out."

Senator and Pro-Tempore Robert Romano led the opposition, although he admitted to seeing the fliers himself and heard the President's intention to distribute them. He mainly touched on the fact that the evidence was hearsay and could not be admitted in court. Senator Borodkin was scathing of Senator Romano "I cannot believe our leader in the Senate is urging us to take no action" and later "THE LEADER OF THE SENATE KNEW TWO WEEKS BEFOREHAND OF THE DEROGATORY FLYERS CONCERNING A FELLOW USG COLLEAGUE AND DID NOTHING. Politics trumps ethics in the USG. At least in senator Romano's mind."

As Senator Jonathan Hirst put it, "A sad day for USG, but we cannot allow the actions of one man tarnish our image."

# MISS CSO PAGENT 2007

By JESSICA LAFOREST  
Contributing Writer

"The show must go on!" This proclaimed to be the attitudes of many of the hardworking members of the Caribbean Students Organization and pageant contestants. The frigid snowstorm that plagued the campus did not stop the vibrant tunes and melodic rhythms that sang inside the ballroom. "We were definitely against all odds, the weather was one factor, and the projector wasn't working but despite the setbacks for the show, Donnie, Stephanie and I improvised and used our talents on the spot to keep the crowd entertained", stated Ejiroghene Gdenedio, one of the hosts who is also known as "Edgy". The carnival theme of ocean sprays and island fun brightened the stage and the energy of the audience. As soon as you entered you were hit by the Caribbean pride as the wave of flags graced the audience. Colors of reds, blues, greens, blacks and yellows flooded the event throughout the night. Students representing Haiti, Jamaica, Dominica, Grenada, and Trinidad chanted, as the beautiful

Caribbean contestants graced the stage.

The pageant contestants, Chrystal Hunter (Grenada), Janel Gooden (Jamaica), Danielle Taylor (Trinidad), Fayonne Hypolite (Haiti) and Wenyla Williams (Dominica) represented their countries with elegance and poise. Segments included talent, business attire, swimwear, unity, and the question & answer portion. Each Caribbean beauty held their unique charm and distinct cultural accents. The music ranged from Reggae, Kompa, Solka, and Calypso, as well as Hip Hop. The unity dance, gave the audience a sample of the rhythmic dance moves from each country. The snow storm didn't seem to hinder the spirits of the crowd who remained energetic and supportive throughout the evening.

Despite the delayed start, the show ran smoothly. The three hosts, Donnie Daal, Stephanie Chung, and Ejiroghene Gdenedio (Edgy) entertained the crowd in between segments. The cultural diversity flourished the ballroom and each contestant truly provided

their own Caribbean herbs and spices, providing a real taste of the Caribbean. The suspense grew as the event neared to an end. Eager supporters waited in anticipation until the newly crowned Miss CSO 2007 was announced. After a tough competition and a brief deliberation the judges finally made their choice.

An ecstatic Fayonne Hypolite, representing Haiti, was crowned Miss CSO 2007. She shockingly broke down in a tearful joy after being presented with her new title and crown. Fellow Haitian supporters, family and friends danced and cheered. Taking home first and second runner up were Chrystal Hunter and Danielle Taylor. That night each contestant was also a winner, taking home awards for best smile, most eloquent, best cultural wardrobe, best talent, and most poise. "For what is worth, it was a great night", says Donnie. "I Love CSO!" The event allowed for all cultures of the Caribbean to come together and celebrate diversity, allowing each audience member a first class trip around the Caribbean.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# REEL DEAL Vertigo

By AMANDA SHAPIRO  
Staff Writer

"Vertigo" is not just the title of a popular U2 song - it is also an Alfred Hitchcock masterpiece released in 1958. It stars James Stewart as John Ferguson and Kim Novak as Madeleine Elster/Judy Barton. This film is packed with originality and purpose. It is a must-see for any film buff.

When every scene is predetermined, it means that nothing is supposed to be an accident. Every element is manipulated to give the viewer a greater understanding of the story. Nothing was the result of a production "magic moment."

James Stewart was chosen because of who he is to the cinematic American public. As a young man he had the "gee-wiz" and "aw-shucks" attitude. He was also very tall, which played an important role in relation to the title of the film. In "Vertigo," Stewart was hired by an old college friend to watch over his wife, Madeline, and make sure she did not commit suicide. John was chosen on pur-

pose because of his fear of heights. This acrophobia was the key to his friend's plan for Madeline. In the second half of the film John is obsessed with needing to see Madeline again, and even confronts a stranger that resembles her, Judy Barton. Their relationship takes a sinister turn and the ending will affect you.

While John is falling for Madeleine, he still has a friendship with a jealous ex-fiancé, Midge. She is unappealing to him because of her motherly caring persona. John is more interested in Madeleine because she is vulnerable and weak, while Midge is independent and mentally strong. John needs to have a certain level of control in his relationships.

Hitchcock set the story in San Francisco because of its varied landscape and location opportunities. The road hills are like a labyrinth and the monuments make John appear much shorter. The Golden Gate Bridge, art museum, towers, and Redwood trees all have great height. John's vertigo only occurs when he is very high

up, but one can become naturally dizzy by just seeing the subject matters' scale.

Usually, green is the symbol for jealousy and envy, and gray shadows are the signs of darkness. For much of the film these two colors are used to represent different emotions. Green was more for secrets and desire, such as how Judy was not who she claims to be. Gray was for neutrality and balance as two people are in one body.

The musical score was composed and arranged by Bernard Herrmann who was also responsible for the score in "Psycho." The score for "Vertigo" was haunting and threatening. It sounded similar to that of "The Twilight Zone," which Herrmann actually wrote for a few episodes. Like "Psycho," as the movie progresses, the main character changes into a monster and puts innocents in danger.

This film played at the Tabler Arts Center's American Film series. "The New Yorker" film critic, David Denby, came to give a lecture about American cinema and about the film.

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 22, 2007

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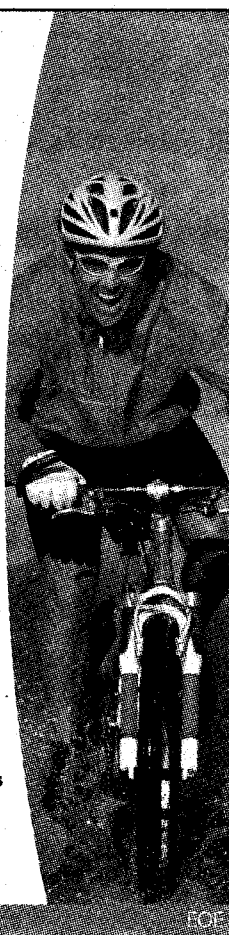
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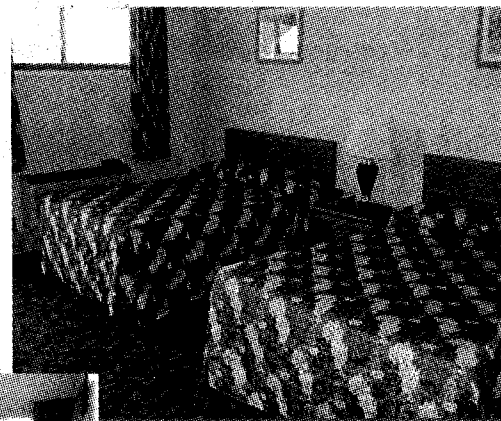
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# Tuning In...

## WUSB 90.1 FM

By Yi-Jin Yu  
Staff Writer

Stony Brook University is home to a wide variety of media outlets. One of these includes the on-campus radio station, WUSB 90.1 FM. The studio is located at the Stony Brook Union in Room 240. WUSB, one of SBU's long-standing student-run clubs, first signed on air on June 22, 1977 at 5:00 PM. It is a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) licensed educational and noncommercial radio station that, according to the club's mission statement, was established to "offer the Stony Brook University community cultural and entertainment radio programming."

WUSB is part of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, the National Association of College Broadcaster, the National Federation of Community Broadcasters, the National Association of Broadcasters and is partnered with Pacifica, Associated Press, C-SPAN, Longhorn, and Public Radio Satellite Extended Service networks. The SBU administration, Undergraduate Student Government, Graduate Student Organization, underwriters, and listener donations all help fund the station. Staffed by over 160 volunteer students, community members, faculty, staff, and alumni, the 3,600-watt station operates around the clock and broadcasts over the airwaves and through online streaming at <http://www.wusb.fm>.

WUSB's free-form system, which allows disc jockeys to program their own shows in accordance with University, station, and FCC policies, offers over forty genres of music and an extensive array of original, local, and nationally syndicated cultural, drama, news/political, public affairs, sports, and talk show programming. Music shows generally play at least 25% new music. Tune in to WUSB and you might discover anything from the jazzy undertones behind bluegrass to the fast beats of thrash

metal, or the raucous debates on "Democracy Now."

Other featured shows are the mixed talk and music program "Marvelous Party" that focuses on theater productions, musicals and soundtracks, the first University-hosted podcast show, "Unfinished Business," as well as "In Focus," a new student-run program hosted by Lauren Bojack and George Agathos. Other student clubs and community groups are especially encouraged to form their own programs, too (e.g. "China Blue"). Station programming runs for three seasons in the fall, spring, and summer and start on the first Monday after the start of the Fall/Spring semesters and the first Monday after commencement for the summer term.

Behind The Scenes: Daily responsibilities for DJs include checking in all the CDs that come into the station, keeping a playlist of all songs played, operating the sound board, answering listener e-mails and phone calls, publicizing important school announcements and checking studio readings, such as checking to see if the transmitter is operating at the right level, which is currently located in Farmingville.

Most of the music transmitted on air arrives at the radio station on compact discs; the radio station maintains both a vinyl and CD Library. DJs also play music from cassette tapes or by downloaded mp3s.

The station offers informational and training courses during each semester to interested students and prospective community members. General Manager Isobel Breheny-Schafer and station staff - including Program Director Vincent Michael Festa, Music Director Nick Fox, Business Manager Danny Rosen, Office Assistant Kathy Dor and Chief Engineer Frank Burgert - oversee these sessions. For the Spring 2007 season, one class has already been held, but those wanting to still get involved are encouraged to do so.



WUSB radio is currently offering training sessions for those who want to get involved.

Yi-Jin Yu / Statesman

[sbstatesman.org](http://sbstatesman.org)

# BENGALIS UNITE

## Pride in Cultural Art, Traditional and Modern

By TEJAS GAWADE  
Managing Editor

On Sunday, March 18, the Bengalis Unite Club of Stony Brook University held its annual cultural show. The event, which took place in the SAC Auditorium, ran from 6:00 PM through 11:00 PM. Sponsored by the Long Island Bengali Community, the show was a successful night of entertainment and cultural education for a noticeably diverse audience.

Hosted by BU members Nashid Islam and Mimi Rahman, the show set off on a musical and nationalistic tone. The Bengali national anthem, "Amar Shonar Bangla," was followed by an introductory speech by the Club's President, Shafayet Reja and Vice President, Hridi Saha. The entertainment was to follow later in the night.

After several speeches, the stage really shone with "Hridoye Bangladesh," which means "Bangladesh is in our hearts." In classic New York City style, SBU students performed poetry in motion to convey the emotion delivered by the title.

For the Bengalis in the auditorium that night, it evoked patriotic feelings as both on- and off-campus students swayed to the rhythm. Saha, who created and choreographed this segment, did a splendid job providing such a visual and artistic dance form for the audience.

This was then followed by a poem, "King Kong Ain't Got..." by another SBU, Nobin Miah. Miah's poem was blunt and explicit in content. Although students were able to catch on to the euphemisms and double entendres and laugh about it, the older generation in the room appeared lost.

The night also hosted some entertaining short plays. The first was a parody of a traditional Bengali story. Titled "Prem Keno Bedona," which translates to "Why Love Is So," the play was written and directed by Saha. The play centers around the lives of a couple, Kadhambari and Shohan. According to the program, "the most critical performance" will be played by a tree (Rakibul Hoque), who undoubtedly cracked a smile on everyone's face.

One of the most memorable performances that night included the youngest performer, Orna Khan. The 10 year-old danced to traditional Bengali music with the grace and expertise of a profes-

sional. The audience encouragingly clapped for her throughout the performance and, not surprisingly, delivered a standing ovation.

Other dances that stuck out that night were "Bhalobashar Rinik Jhinik" or "Love's Chimes" performed by Zuma, Nusrat and accompanied by Faisal and Shohan. The dance uniquely combined hip-hop and modern dance to cater to the younger half of the audience.

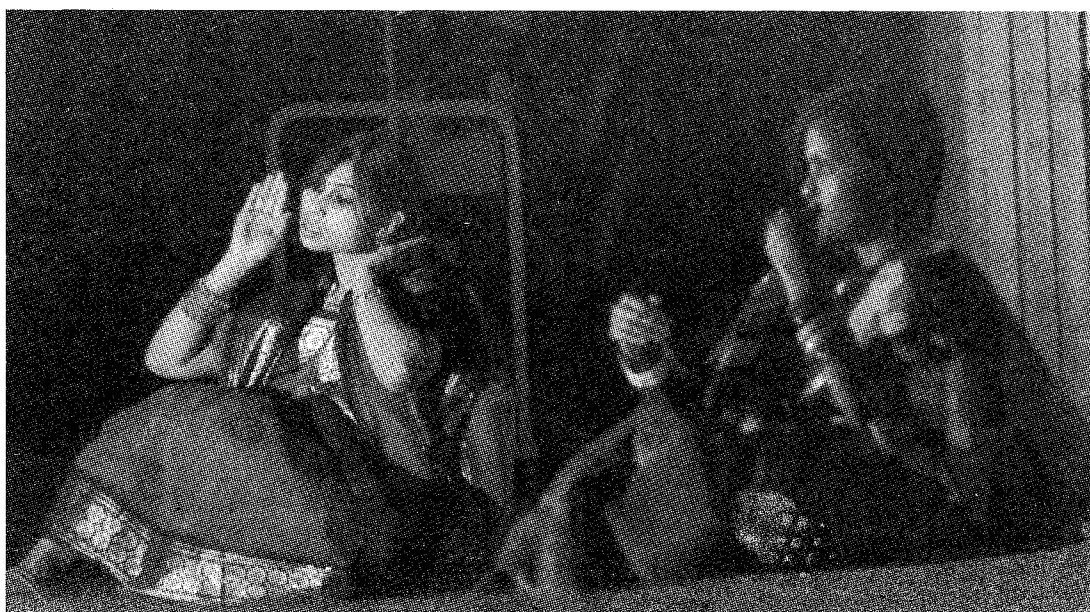
Another dance, created by BU secretary Trisha Barua, featured hip-hop and pop music. It narrated a story about the life of a girl starting anew and a guy learning a lesson. It combined interactive audio and phone conversations and featured several Bengali songs in sequence choreographed by BU Event Coordinator, Maurin Huq.

The night also featured some impressive bands. The first to come on stage performed "Krishno Pokko," a song originally by a Bengali band, Bangla. The song was sung by Fahmida Sheuly and was accompanied with great synchronization by Manaf Assassin on the acoustic guitar, Kerman Mehta on the electric guitar and Tinath on the tabla, a percussion instrument.

The other band that really took hold of the stage was the off-campus group, Blazin Annex. Blazin Annex is an independent Bangla hip-hop group consisting of Dee Corter, AashiQ, Isiac, BangGully and Ah-Murda (Cholis Chor). The band performed from their album, "The Takeover," while incorporating SBU in the words.

The show ended on a pleasant note with a fashion show that featured traditional Bengali clothing, from sarees to salwaars for women and sherwanis to kurtas for men. The show was followed with a Bengali feast. The number of audience members never trickled down as around 400 people made their way to Ballroom A for the dinner. The show was a huge success simply for the hours of large-scale entertainment.

Photos by  
Adhip  
Karmaker.





# Ne-Yo

## Rising Star's SBU Performance "Short but Sweet"

BY JOELLE MIDDLETON  
Staff Writer

Frigid temperatures were the least of fans' worries last Sunday evening. On Mar. 11 at 8:00 PM, singer and songwriter Ne-Yo performed at the Pritchard Gym at Stony Brook University. The long lines outside the Sports Complex might have had some passers-by confused, if they were out of the loop, but the magnitude of the event was evident. Fans waited more than two hours just to catch a glimpse of Ne-Yo and sing along with him.

"I'm freezing!" one fan waiting in line proclaimed as her friend suggested they leave. But once the doors opened, everyone had forgotten about their toes and fingers being numb. Fans from off campus and on campus were anxious to see Ne-Yo.

Once Ne-Yo was on stage, the crowd went crazy as he opened up with "Sign Me Up," one of my personal favorites from his "In My Own Words" album. He performed with nearly all of his

songs from the album and even gave fans a treat by performing his new single "Because of You."

A couple of lucky ladies got a hold of Ne-Yo's sweat towels - I don't know how appealing that exactly sounds, but I guess if you are a Ne-Yo fanatic it is a dream come true. For those who don't know too much about Ne-Yo, let me give you the inside scoop on him. And for those of you that think you know all there is to know about Ne-Yo, maybe - just maybe - you don't know everything.

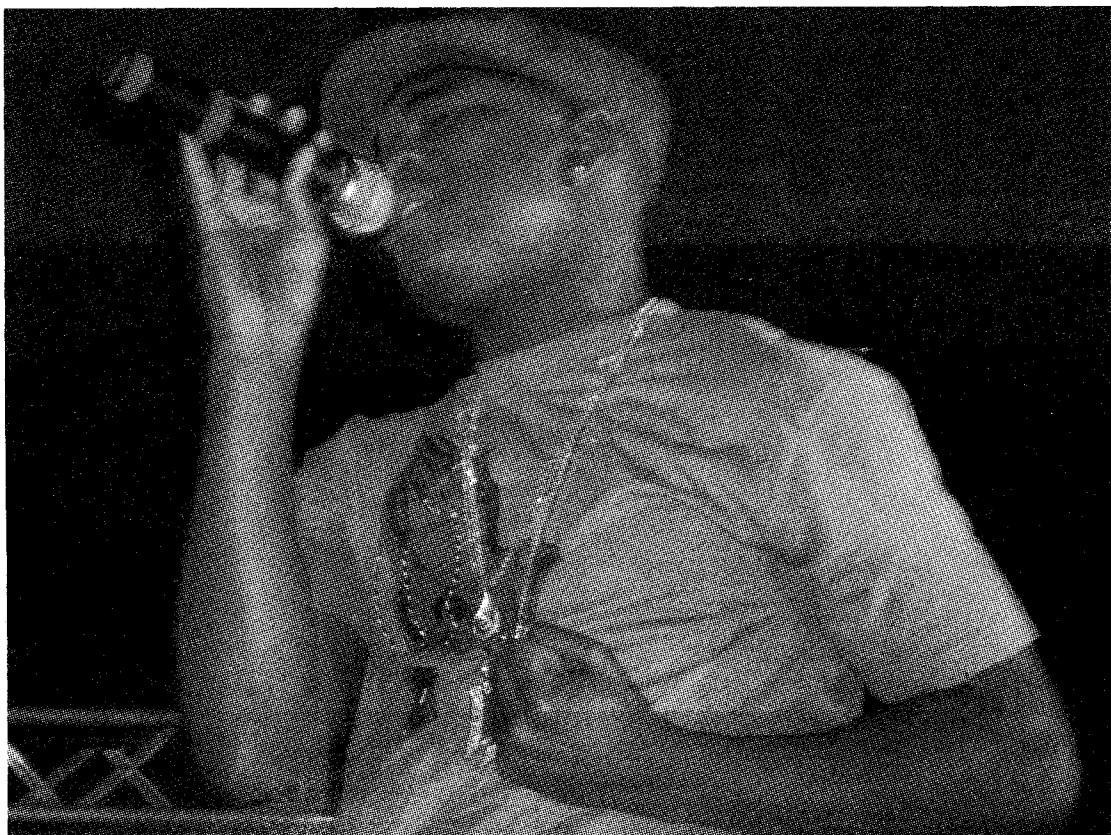
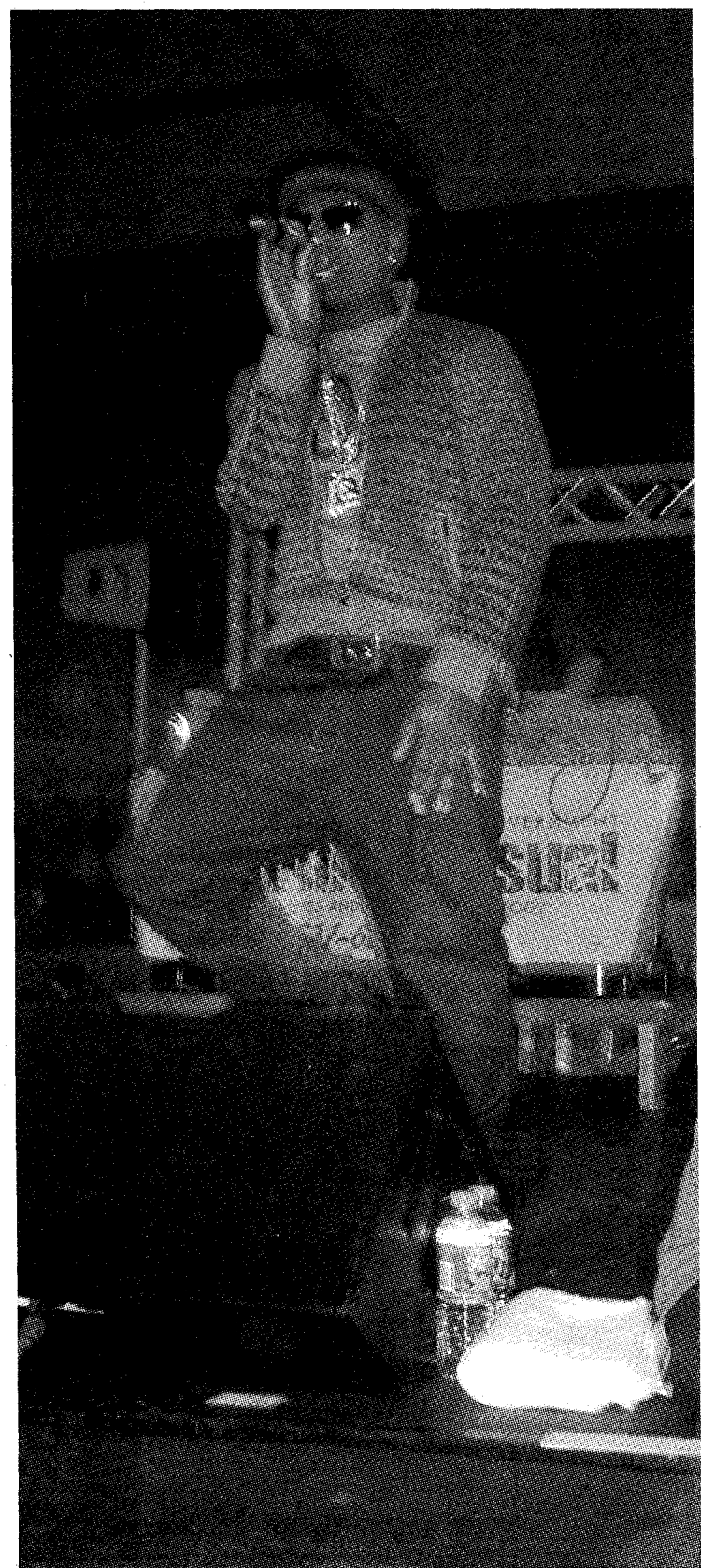
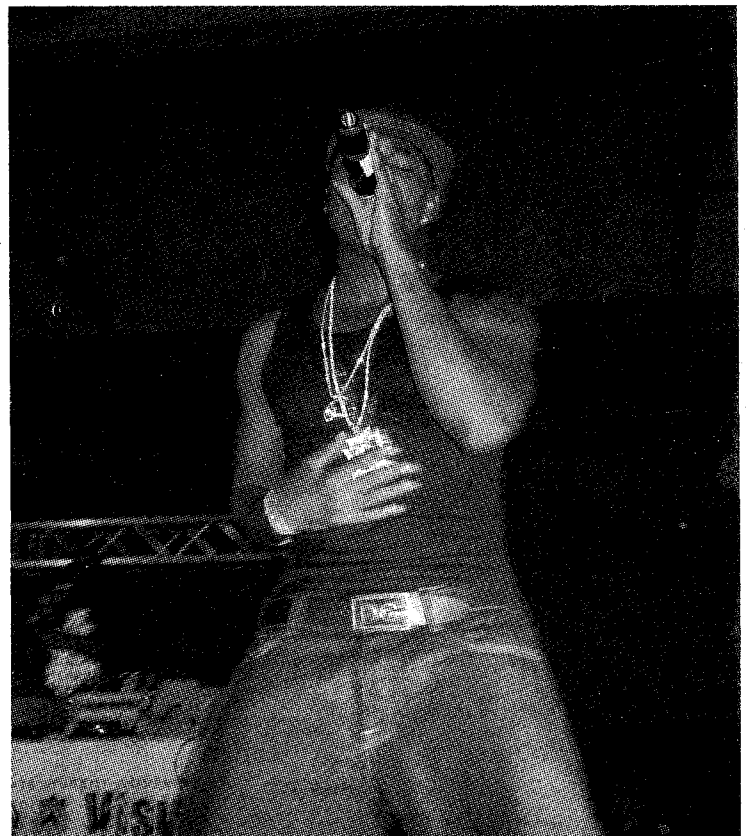
Born in Arkansas into a family of musicians, Shaffer C. Smith (Ne-Yo) was raised by a single mother. Ne-Yo's mother relocated them to Las Vegas, NV, where he began pursuing his passion for music. According to his Def Jam Record label, Ne-Yo has been writing since a very young age. He has written songs for artists such as Mary J. Blige, Mario, Beyoncé, and he has even been asked to produce with Will.i.am on Michael Jackson's upcoming album. Ne-Yo was a nominee at

the 49th Grammy awards and is only 24 years old.

Ne-Yo has taken the music industry by storm. His songs are not only romantic and soulful, but he also has upbeat tunes that you can move to. His songs are filled with passion and an intensity that puts you into a zone. The best thing about Ne-Yo is that he writes and produces his own work, which illustrates his creativity as an artist. Ne-Yo's performance at SBU definitely reflected all these attributes up close and personal.

After the show, one SBU student, Ursula Kowalik, said that she "enjoyed the show, but it could have been longer." Raphael Cheron, a senior at SBU, said the same thing.

Cheron added, "For the amount of time we waited for him to come on, he could have at least performed a bonus." Although there were many other complaints about the amount of time the performance lasted, fans overall, including myself, still enjoyed the show.



Students waited a long time to see Ne-Yo's sing a very short set - It was still worthwhile.

Photos by Jennifer Stark

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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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# A Day Which Will Live in Infamy

By ESAM AL-SHAREFFI  
USG Recording Secretary

Dear Editor,

It does not bring me an iota of pleasure, dear reader, to report to you the most shocking and vile scandal to hit the USG in recent memory. Quite the contrary, this is a sad day for our student government and I fear that this latest scar on our political body will never heal, that this most recent damage will never be repaired. I am of course referring to the disturbing revelations unveiled in the USG Senate meeting on Mar. 20, 2007, which saw the impeachment of USG President, Romual Jean-Baptiste, and USG Junior Class Representative, Michael Cohan.

The charges presented stem from the current USG elections campaign for the office of USG President. The Senate was told of how Jean-Baptiste allegedly designed two despicable "Elections Fliers," the first portraying a picture of Jean-Baptiste next to a chimpanzee, with the words: "Do you want this to be your USG President?" and also containing the words, "Vote Joe, Vote Success," in order to give the false impression that Joe Antonelli, a candidate for USG President, and the SUCCESS party, were behind this act of blatant and shocking racism.

In addition, a second flier depicting Chinelo Onochie, another candidate for USG President, was printed in which three pictures of her in provocative poses were portrayed, a similar question regarding her suitability for the presidency posed, and also contained the caption "Vote Joe, Vote Success." The Senate alleged that Jean-Baptiste then called on Michael Cohan to hang up these fliers, and it was further alleged that a security camera tape was used to identify Mr. Cohan as the perpetrator.

The evidence included the written testimony of President Pro-Tempore Robert Romano, which states that Jean-Baptiste had shown Romano the provocative pictures of Onochie and told him of the possibility of making fliers using those pictures, with the aid of the Junior Class Representative. The evidence also included the oral testimony of Antonelli, to whom Cohan allegedly confessed and apologized to, the testimony of Onochie, who described the President as "very manipulative" and to whom Jean-Baptiste also

allegedly confessed and offered an apology. Onochie described it as "nonchalant" and not heart felt.

Obviously these accusations are incredibly serious. If true, and there seems to be a great deal of evidence supporting them, they would indicate that Jean-Baptiste and Cohan engaged in deliberate fraud and struck at the very heart of our democratic system of government, by illegally discrediting a fellow candidate by making it seem that he endorsed racist views.

Furthermore, the campaign flier in which Jean-Baptiste was compared to a chimpanzee is deeply insulting to all human beings. It degrades our shared humanity, undermines the strides that we continue to make in order to promote racial equality and it harkens back to a sordid and terrible past in which such comparisons were seriously made, opening up old wounds. I am personally disgusted, dear reader, by that flier, and absolutely outraged that anyone would resort to such sordid tactics for electoral gain.

Almost as enraging as these charges is the behavior of both Jean-Baptiste and Cohan at the Senate hearing. The current USG President refused to answer questions posed to him and deprived his constituents and the legislative branch of any meaningful explanation as to his involvement in the allegations, while Cohan apparently thought that the meeting was a joke, as evidenced by his consistent smiles throughout the proceedings, as well as the numerous cheerful pictures he took for members of the campus media.

Both of the accused were given the opportunity to answer questions related to the accusations, in an attempt to provide clarity as to what involvement, if any, they had, or to give them a forum with which they could apologize and express their regret, were they indeed guilty. Unfortunately, both of the accused obstructed the course of justice and the revelation of the full truth.

Faced with enormous evidence, the Senate had no choice but to impeach Jean-Baptiste (with a vote of 19 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstaining,) and Cohan (with a vote of 19 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions.) Their impeachment trial will now be held in the USG Supreme Court, where both defen

Continued on page 13

# Duty Bound: How Politics Trumps Ethics in USG

By ALEXSANDRA BORODKIN  
USG Senator

In November of 2006, the current president called me into his office. He had a bright idea and Senator Romano, who was my vice-chair at the time, had given him his endorsement. Romual wanted to hire Sam Darguin in order to help Ralph Thomas, who at that time was VP of Clubs and Organizations. Romual thought it was a great idea, hiring a former political adversary in order to gain votes in this upcoming election. Senator Romano thought it was a great idea. I was going out of mind with anger.

I had spent practically the whole election season campaigning against Sam Darguin and filing a brief against him in court (which Senator Romano was one of the petitioners for) for campaigning in the office. Sam Darguin had violated USG law. The current president saw no problem with allowing him access to the USG office. Senator Romano saw no problem with the proposal either. I decided to resign as party chair that day.

Good government meant more to me than political victory. President Pro-Tempore Romano continued to defend "his" President for the next three months against what he saw as unjust and unorthodox attacks from myself and my fellow senate colleagues and former USG Reform Party members. His defenses of the President's practices seem to have no bounds.

On Mar. 20, the Senate met to consider the impeachments of both the President and the Junior Class Representative. Instead of helping the Senate with the effort to clean up government, weed out corruption, and disrupt unorthodox and hateful practices and the blatant abuses of power, Senator Romano decided to help out "his" President once more. He complained of the supposed "lack of evidence" concerning the resolutions calling for the impeachments of the Junior Class Rep. and the President, even though the Senate is not a court of law and there is no burden of proof beyond a reasonable doubt, and the resolutions provided

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## OPINION

# The Broken Glass

By KHALIL ROBINSON  
Staff Writer

In this decadent country, overflowing with alleged opportunities and unrivaled splendor, one realizes that things are not always as they seem. This fine society has been at war with itself for quite sometime. However, this is not acknowledged and in all actuality, it is swept into the dustbin of history. This fierce battle has taken many forms. There have been vast casualties, and the innocent are rarely spared. They are dragged, reluctantly, right to the front lines without even realizing it and they suffer the same fate as the armed combatants.

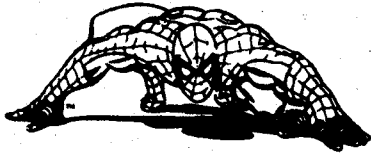
This battle is being waged by the powerful on the general population. The elite offer many options to the population. The society is offered a helping of liberty and democracy, with an overabundance of poverty and

despair. They offer the public and the world in general a mouthful of equality served eloquently from a Wal-Mart shopping aisle. They have even altered the models to fit specific regions, continents, ethnic groups, and classes.

Latin America was rewarded with the neo-liberal model while the Middle East was granted the boots-on-the-ground model. Africa was given the model of extreme neglect and abandonment while Europe could have a taste of competition. Domestically consumption, poverty, corruption, and aggressive competition seemed to suffice. They have told the world and their own citizenry that either the glass is half full or half empty; pick your choice and accept it.

Yet, there is a domestic combatant force that has emerged in the last few decades and it is

Continued on page 13

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# A Day Which Will Live in Infamy

Continued from page 11

dants face the maximum penalty of removal from office and being permanently barred from partaking in any office or position within the USG.

The scene at tonight's meeting was hugely irritating and at a blow has the potential of destroying all of the significant progress that the USG has made. Perhaps the saddest part of all of this is the shocking irresponsibility and hubris expressed by Jean-Baptiste and Cohan. As Alexander Pope once said, "to err is human." I doubt that anyone reading this has not committed some error in his/her life, and for many, myself included, we have made some serious mistakes. Yet the first step after an error has been committed is to acknowledge it, to accept responsibility for it and to apologize for the error and strive to never do it again. We would expect this from anyone who has erred, and doubly so for an error as huge, as damaging, and as painful as the one alleged today.

Our expectations for taking personal responsibility are even greater for leaders, especially the President and the Junior Class Representative, whose actions are supposed to be an inspiration to all of us students, and whose offices

represent the student government. Leaders who take responsibility and who hold themselves accountable to the public do not refuse to cooperate in the investigation of the facts and they do not smile as serious accusations are laid against them.

I beg the culprit parties involved to prove me wrong. I beg them to show some small shred of personal responsibility, to display an iota of compassion for the harm they have allegedly perpetrated, to salvage some tiny bit of dignity and honor in this whole affair and to resign immediately before the matter is tried in the USG Supreme Court. I beg them to apologize to the student body whom they have let down and whose trust they have betrayed, apologize for their racist behavior, and beg Antonelli's forgiveness and Onochie, whom they have so painfully wronged. Only then can we students fulfill the second part of the Pope's famous quote, "to err is human, to forgive divine." Do not let this wound fester by dragging this out in front of the Supreme Court. Do not allow this sad chapter of our once proud student government to close. Do not let this sad state of affairs linger forever.

Sincerely yours,  
Esam Al-Shareffi

# The Broken Glass

Continued from page 11

warring with the establishment and the general population as well. This group isn't quite easily defined (well neither is the first group), but it consists of a vast array of counter-cultural movements, organizations, and individuals.

We should all remember in 1999 when the anarchist movement had effectively ruined the WTO meeting in Seattle. That may be merely a prelude to the "clash of civilizations" domestically: corporate greed against citizen participation. During that same year we should also remember the Columbine massacre. However, I doubt people realize that from 1998 till 2006 there were at least 29 school shootings in America.

People do realize the endless gang related violence plaguing the inner cities. This violence has also reached astonishing levels to which almost anyone living in certain cities may fall prey. According to the FBI, in 2005 there were 1.4 million violent crimes, yet we can be certain that not all of the crimes were recorded or reported. In 1997 alone, there were 18,209 murders and this was

recorded as an achievement.

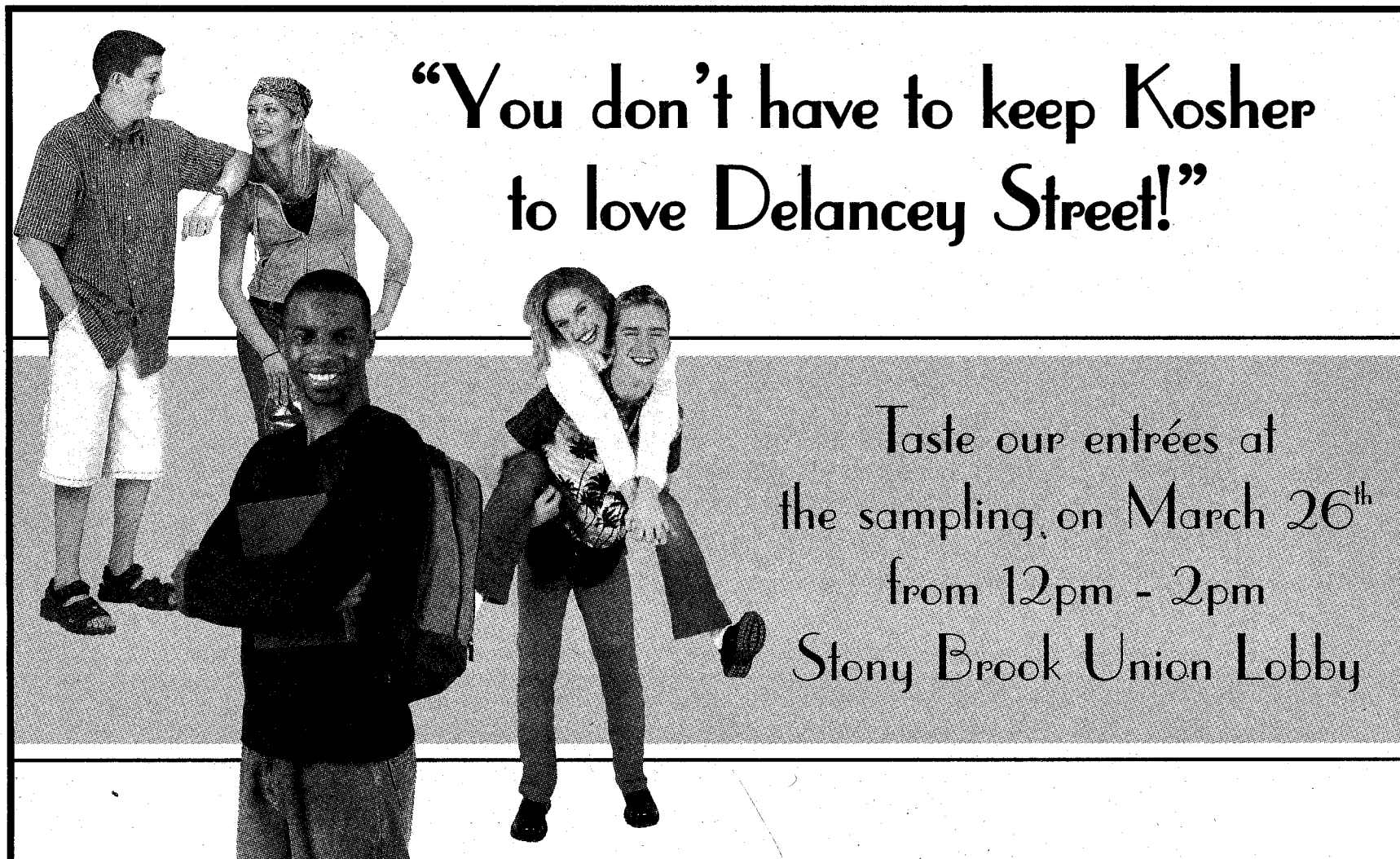
Activist and author Tim Wise remarked, "What affects the urban 'ghetto' today will be coming to a Wal-Mart near you tomorrow, and unless you address the emptiness, pain, isolation and lack of hope felt by children of color and the poor, then don't be shocked when the support systems aren't there for your kids either." We see that coming to fruition at a rapid pace and the citizens don't even seem to realize it.

The youth of this nation are in an active revolt against society as a whole. In the inner cities the clichés hold some truth; there is a lack of family structure and people have become hopeless. People seek immediate gratification, don't plan for the future, and continue to have children while their lives are unstable. This leads to the situation we have today. In the suburbs, people have become so alienated from each other and isolated from the greater society that the youth don't quite understand where they fit in. They struggle to rebel against everything and everyone, which leads to further Columbines, drug addiction, and other forms of violence. In turn,

both groups have received a half empty glass regardless of socioeconomic standings.

Nationally and internationally, people are revolting against these models. Internationally, it appears, that people are quite aware of what it is they are revolting against. Different societies have distinct cultures; they have pride, and a heritage they can embrace. They can also compare the Wal-Martization of their societies with their past and choose which is better.

Domestically people don't seem quite as fortunate. They are stuck with a dead culture. They are stimulated by greed and consumerism. McDonalds, the latest purse, or drunken vacations are what they yearn for. Yet, there are those who are rebelling. The overall population just doesn't seem quite sure of what they are actually rebelling against. The youth has been offered the same options: the same models. Either the glass will be half full or half empty. Nevertheless, we can all remain with a small sliver of hope because some realize this is a trap. The youth are offered this cup. Some of them take a quick drink, some destroy the cup, and others search for the spigot.



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

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

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

Hours: Monday - Friday 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM

The **End of the Bridge** will undergo a Summer 2007 renovation to become **Starbucks** and **Wolfie's Wings & Things**, a restaurant with big portions, great taste, and a super value.

Hours: Monday - Friday Lunch 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM and Dinner 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

The **University Café** will be the home of **Fusions Cuisine** - a lunch concept featuring gourmet panini and salads. In addition, beginning Fall 2007, the University café will begin accepting meal plan during lunch hours.

TO VIEW HOURS OF OPERATION FOR ALL DINING UNITS VISIT [WWW.CAMPUSDINING.ORG](http://WWW.CAMPUSDINING.ORG)

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# Ethics in USG Continued...

Continued from page 11

enough evidence concerning individuals willing to testify against the President.

Senators Shapiro and Antonelli provided first hand testimony of conversations involving admissions of guilt and VP of Academic Affairs Onochie made a plea in the senate asking for the impeachment of the President saying that though he apologized for the creation of the flyers, she did not believe that he was remorseful. One of the flyers depicted her in an unflattering manner.

VP of Academic Affairs Onochie has informed the writer that she will be willing to testify in court concerning the allegations she laid out in front of the Senate. None of the testimonies of the senators, VP of Academic Affairs Onochie or evidence laid out in the resolutions, sat well with President Pro-Tempore and to add insult to injury, the Senate leader suggested that the charges should not proceed in USG Courts.

Senator Romano's argument was that this type of offense would best be handled in the non-academic judiciary. In other words, the USG should not discipline its members. So much for accountability in government, President Pro-Tempore. Senator Romano also submitted testimony concerning his knowledge of flyers depicting Vice President of Academic Affairs, Chinelo Onochie in an unflattering manner to the sen-

ate: "As an elected officer of the USG Senate, I am duty-bound to testify as to my direct knowledge of circumstances surrounding the impeachment charges with are being brought against Presidential Romual Jean-Baptiste and the Junior Class Representative Mike Cohen. About two weeks ago, the President invited myself and my fiancé into his office to, among other things, to show us pictures of the Vice President of Academic Affairs Chinelo Onochie in lingerie. The President stated his intention to have flyers made of the pictures and distributed around campus with the help of the Junior Class Representative."

THE LEADER OF THE SENATE KNEW TWO WEEKS BEFOREHAND OF DEROGATORY FLYERS CONCERNING A FELLOW USG COLLEAGUE AND DID NOTHING. Politics trumps ethics in the USG. At least in Senator Romano's mind. What has he been waiting for? My colleagues and I left at the mere notion of corruption. Senator Romano still continues to defend the President and dodge questions concerning his inability to act on the matter concerning the flyers beforehand. Senator Romano would not have come forward with such a testimony if the President's role in the scandal had not been discovered by fellow senators. A man who had even a shroud of decency would have resigned by now.

Senator Alessandra Borodkin

# Football Joins Big South In 2008

Continued from page 16

Virginia Military Institute.

The football program intends to continue moving up, and will play a Division I-A program every year beginning in 2011. Over the next few years, their non-conference schedule will include games against some of the high-caliber programs in the northeast, including the University of Massachusetts, who they played in 2006. They'll also continue to play local rival Hofstra, as well as Albany, and Central Connecticut State University, the team which ended their championship chances last season.

The move to the conference also carries benefits for recruiting. Head Coach Chuck Priore said, "In the past two years, we've had to recruit with 'we're gonna be there'. Now we've arrived." As Fiore put it, "You need animals to have a circus."

Fiore also commented on the future for athletic scholarships. By the time they begin playing I-A teams, they intend to be up to the maximum of 63 scholarships. As per the Title IX requirement that women's sports get equal treatment, they will gain as many scholarships as the men's teams, including football, gain. The money for the scholarships will

come from revenue generated by the Athletics Department, from things such as donations and ticket sales. He added that there are no plans to add or drop any women's sports.

Another financial concern was the increased travel, as SB will have to make several trips to the south each year. Fiore said that financially, this was accounted for, as travel was going to increase anyway, with the NEC adding Duncane, a school in Virginia. Where the team has taken a bus to games, they will now often find themselves flying to away games. Fiore said that there won't be negative effects on the players, and that their welfare on and off the field is always the first thing Athletics thinks about when making decisions that affect them. Priore feels that despite the fact that they'll now be flying, and getting home much later, the "opportunity outweighs the negatives."

Priore said, "SB's vision is to be nationally exposed." The move will help them there, in that Big South schools have appeared on ESPN's family of networks four times. Last year, the five teams in the conference averaged over 6,800 fans attending each game. Last season, Coastal Carolina earned an FCS playoff spot, becoming the first team in the conference to do so.

# Men's Lacrosse Wins Again

Continued from page 16

close out the first quarter with a 4-2.

The Seawolves' win brings their record to 3-1 overall, while keeping Marist (0-5) without a win this season. The Seawolves trail only #4 Albany in the America East conference, which is undefeated at 5-0.

Entering the second quarter, the Seawolves continued to out play the visitors and get a goal from both Senior Larry Cerasi and Freshman Tom Compitello. The remainder of the game was highlighted by Brendan Callahan's 9 saves in the fourth quarter.

The Stony Brook Seawolves look to extend their streak to 4 games against upstate rival Lehigh. The game is at 4:00 at the Laval Stadium.

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# the stony brook Statesman

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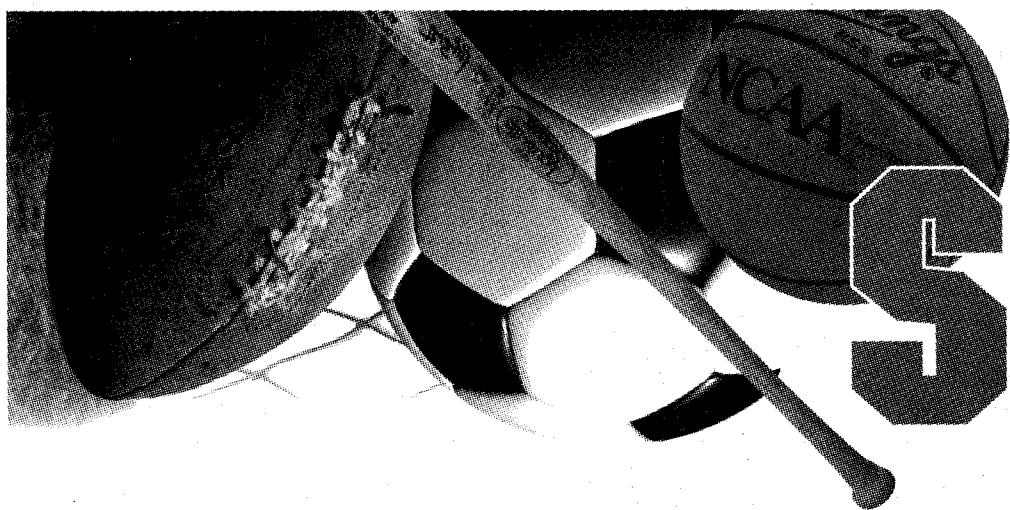
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# Statesman SPORTS

## Women's Lacrosse Wins 12-6

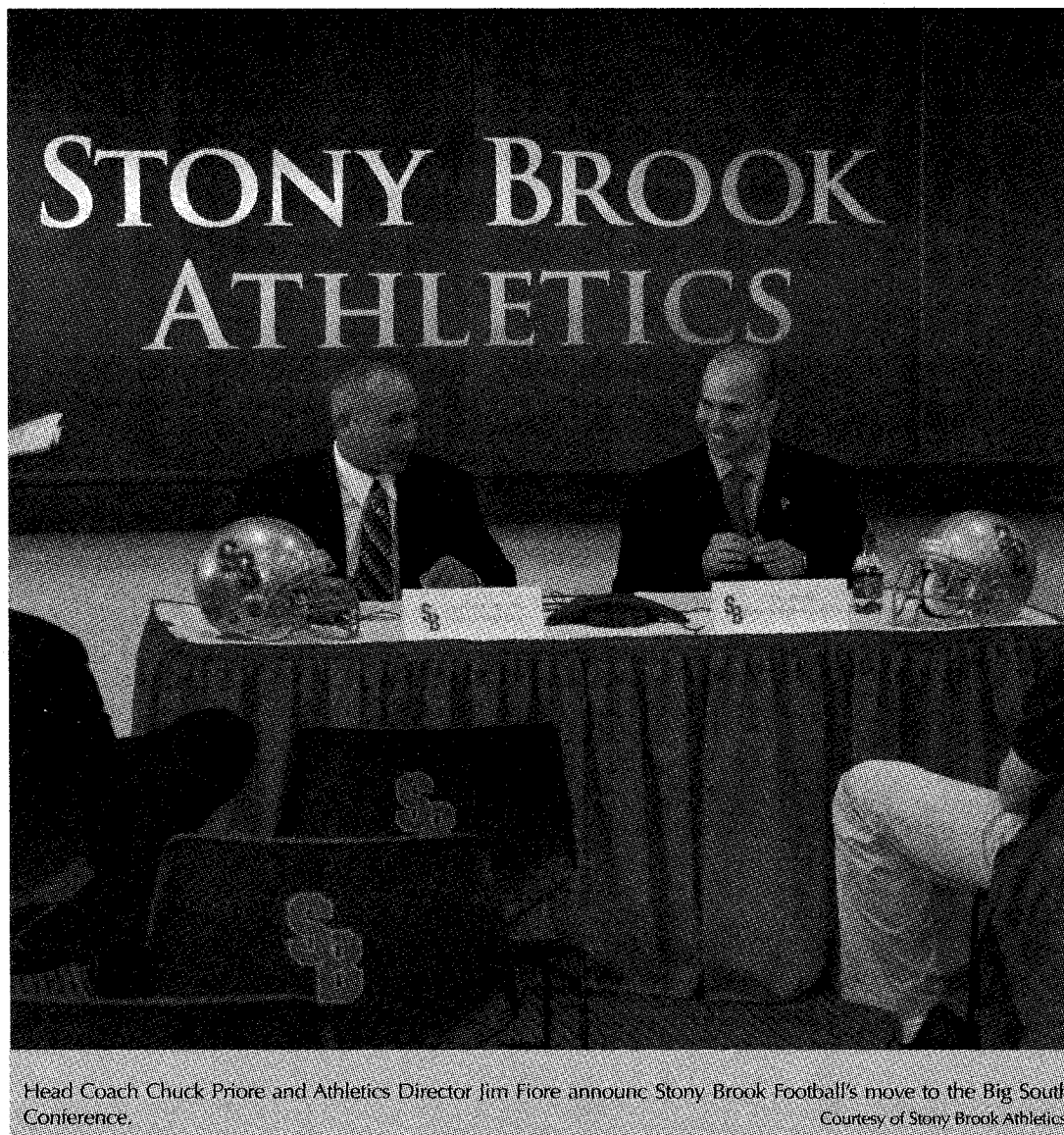
BY JESSICA LAFOREST  
Staff Writer

As the energetic seawolves entered the second half, the girls displayed consistency, which led them to their 5-1 win of the season against the Hawks. Jenna Celano, scoring five total goals for the game, opened the second with an unassisted goal at 27:26 on the clock, leaving a score of 7-4 on the board. Emily Jaissle, held defense in the first, with a free position shot. Sustaining the lead throughout the rest of the first, the Seawolves played their game. Carlee Buck, with an assist to Celano, gave the team a 6 point lead with 16:22 on the clock. The game, which was originally scheduled for Saturday, took place at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium on Sunday at 1:00 PM.

At the opening of the second, breaking the five unreturned goals, Katie Degen of the Hawks, scored with 9:03 on the clock, leaving the score at 11-5, with the Seawolves at a continued advantage. Two of the five unanswered goals, coming from Jennifer Celano, were assisted by Kaitlin Leggio, and Carlee Buck, sustaining the Seawolves's lead to victory.

The Seawolves, with a 12-6 victory over Monmouth, had a superior defense plan throughout the match. They gained momentum after the first and continued throughout the long haul. Coach, Allison Comito stated "The first half started slow but with twelve minutes left we came alive, which we had to do to stay in the game. We scored when we needed to score. It was an overall good showing from my girls."

Leggio ended the match with three goals and one assist, while Amy Hallion recorded two goals. Goal tender, Jennifer Sandtorv contributed to the victory with a total of fifteen saves throughout the game.



Head Coach Chuck Priore and Athletics Director Jim Fiore announce Stony Brook Football's move to the Big South Conference.  
Courtesy of Stony Brook Athletics

## Football Joins Big South Conference, Sets Sights On Future

BY WILLIAM LAHTI  
Sports Editor

On Tuesday, Stony Brook's Athletics Department announced that the football team will be joining the Big South conference as an associate member, beginning with the 2008 season. The initial agreement runs for four years, is renewable, and contains a buyout clause, for an undisclosed amount. The deal first came together with the Big South contacting SB, having heard that they were "thinking about upgrading," according to Kyle Kallander, the Commissioner of the conference.

SB had been a member of the Northeast Conference (NEC)

since 1999, and left the conference following a second-place finish last year. They won the championship in 2005. SB will play the 2007 season independent of any conference.

SB will continue to compete at the NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) level. The FCS was formerly called Division I-AA. SB's 19 other teams will continue to play in the America East Conference.

The Big South conference has sponsored football since 2001, and will grow to six teams with SB's addition. It will gain another active member in 2011, when Presbyterian College makes the

transition to the FCS level. To be eligible for an automatic bid into the FCS playoffs, a conference is required to have six teams playing together for three years. SB's addition moves up the eligibility from 2013 to 2010, provided the system remains the same. The conference has become more competitive with each year, and had two teams ranked in the top 25 simultaneously last year for the first time. The other schools in the conference are: Charleston Southern University, Coastal Carolina University, Gardner-Webb University, Liberty University, and the

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## Men's Lacrosse Nationally Ranked

BY WILLIAM LAHTI  
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves Men's Lacrosse Team was ranked #20 in the nation in the latest USILA Coaches and the Nike/Inside Lacrosse Media Polls. This is the third consecutive year in which the team broke into the national rankings.

## Men's Lacrosse Wins Third Straight

### Seawolves Rack up 11 Goals Against Marist

BY SHONTO OLANDER  
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook, NY- In their first game as the 20th ranked team in the nation, the Stony Brook Seawolves lived up to their high billing and pulled out an 11-7 victory. SB was paced by 3 goals from Larry Cerasi, along with Brian Adams 2 goal, 1 assist effort. Goalie Brendan Callahan managed 16 saves on the 37 shot effort by Marist.

Marist would first draw blood with an unassisted Pete O'Hara goal at the 13:18 mark. It would take only a minute for SB respond, with junior attack Rob Trenkel's solo effort to tie the game at a goal a piece. This sparked a 3-0 run by the Seawolves that helped them

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