

Yosef Kedmi, an Israeli youth leader; Aya Hejazi, a Palestinian youth leader; and Miriam Asnes, the International Program Director for OneVoice, addressed the SAC Auditorium last Tuesday night.

Jake Hayman/OneVoice

ONE VOICE FOR PEACE

By EROL RUZHAJI
Asst. News Editor

There was a large mixture of Muslim and Jewish students in the SAC Auditorium on Tuesday night, November 7. The event, "The Palestinian-Israeli Conflict: Forget What You Have Been Told," was intended to be an objective and informative dialogue between a Palestinian, Aya Hijazi, and an Israeli Yosef Kedmi.

President Shirley Strum Kenny of Stony Brook University gave the formal introduction for the evening event. Kenny described the Palestinian-Israeli conflict as an "emblem of clashing world religions and civilizations." The floor was then transferred to Adam Osman, the president of the Muslim Student Association that co-sponsored the event, along with the Hillel Foundation for Jewish Life, Hillel Student Club, Focus Israel, Islamic Society, and College of Global Studies.

Soon, Miriam Asnes, the moderator of the event, and a member of the OneVoice Movement, began to address the audience and offered background information about the organization.

The OneVoice Movement is a grassroots organization founded in 2002, which was the height of the second and current intifada. The aims of the organization are to amplify the voice of moderates on both sides of the conflict who want peace. OneVoice wishes to achieve its aims through democratization and nonviolence.

The crux of OneVoice's efforts has been to encourage Israelis and Palestinians to vote and participate in community events that promote cooperation. With its efforts, OneVoice has also played an active role in pursuing the full disengagement of Gaza Strip that occurred from August 15 to Sept. 12 of last year.

The discussion began with Hijazi. Hijazi gave a brief background of her life. She stated that she was born in Al-Khalil and raised in Ramallah, both towns residing in the West Bank. Hijazi received her education from a Quaker American School in the West Bank.

Hijazi soon moved on to talk about her experience of violence

"Swallow This!" Runs Through Nov.

By AISHA AKHTAR
Staff Writer

Celebrating its 11th year, the theatrical production of "Swallow This!" has begun to put on shows around campus. For every Wednesday in the month of November, the show will be held at various locations around campus.

"Swallow This!" is a show of 10 skits that educate and motivate students into making safer decisions. Alcohol abuse, family alcoholism, date rape, smoking, safer sex, abstinence, and drugs are common issues that are presented every year. The show is performed by students without the use of props, costume, or set. The show relies more on pantomimic skills.

"Theatre gets an audience to feel vulnerable or empowered to make a different choice," said Kathleen Flynn-Bisson, health educator from the Student Health Services. Flynn-Bisson started the show in 1995.

"I had gone to a conference and saw something where there were stories of substance abuse and improv of campus stories," Flynn-Bisson said. That was where she got the idea from.

"Swallow This!" is made possible by the Theatre Arts class, Special Topics in Performance. This full-year class is for upper division students, offering three credits per semester. Class enrollment is based off of auditions that are held the previous spring in order to cast for the following year's "Swallow This!" production. Those auditioning are required to present themselves in improv situations, and portray their personality by answering some questions about their personal lives.

Flynn-Bisson mentioned how there is a need to include people of various backgrounds. "Choosing a diverse cast is part of our decision making process," said Bisson.

Continued on page 3

NYPIRG Rallies Voters for Midterms

By WILL JAMES
News Editor

SBU's branch of NYPIRG campaigned in recent weeks to get students to vote in Tuesday's midterm elections. Scott Zotto, a NYPIRG project coordinator, said that the campaign was three-pronged. It involved the creation of a website weeks before the election, a rally on Monday, Nov. 6, and student support on the day of the election.

On Tuesday, 560 SBU students voted in SAC ballroom B, according to Zotto. This fall, NYPIRG registered campus residents to vote there.

The website, groups.myspace.com/candidateinformation, outlined the basic platforms of 37 candidates in 13 different races. NYPIRG tried to research every position in every candidate's platform in an effort to not appear partisan by selectively including or omitting information; just in

case, the designers of the website included the personal websites of each candidate. Matt Abrahams, a NYPIRG project coordinator, said it took a couple of days to compile all of the information for the website.

"We don't just want bodies in the booth," said Zotto about the creation of the website, "we want minds behind the lever."

The day before the election, a group of four NYPIRG members called over 1,000 voters that registered with NYPIRG, reminding them to vote, said Zotto. It took about six hours.

Zotto said he came to the SBU at 6 a.m. on Tuesday to ensure the voting machines were set up properly. From 6:45 a.m. to 8:30 a.m., NYPIRG members chalked messages on blackboards in classrooms throughout the campus, reminding students to vote.

During the day, NYPIRG had

Continued on page 13

Continued on page 13

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Student Forecast:

Nov. 13 - Nov. 19

by Britta Merwin



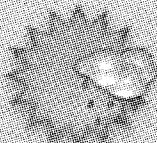
Monday:
High 60/Low 50
Rainy Day



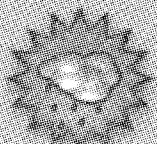
Tuesday:
High 61/Low 46
Chance of AM Shower,
Clearing Late



Wednesday:
High 58/Low 49
Partly Cloudy and Mild



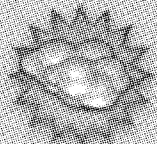
Thursday:
High 59/Low 47
Chance of PM Rain



Friday:
High 55/Low 44
Good Chance for Rain



Saturday:
High 53/Low 42
Mix of Sun and
Clouds



Sunday:
High 54/Low 40
Pleasant but Cool

Behind the Numbers

Today will be a rainy day so don't forget to grab your umbrella as you run off to class! Although the skies will be dark, temperatures will be mild around 60 degrees for the beginning of the week and campus will dry out by Tuesday afternoon. The next system seems to hold off until late on Thursday, the overnight looks wet n' wild for anyone venturing out Thursday night. With this system, cooler air will flitter into Long Island dropping temperatures into the mid 50s for the end of the school week and the lower 50s for the weekend. So far the weekend looks cool but pleasant.

NATIONAL PROFESSORS CONVERSE ON CELL DEATH

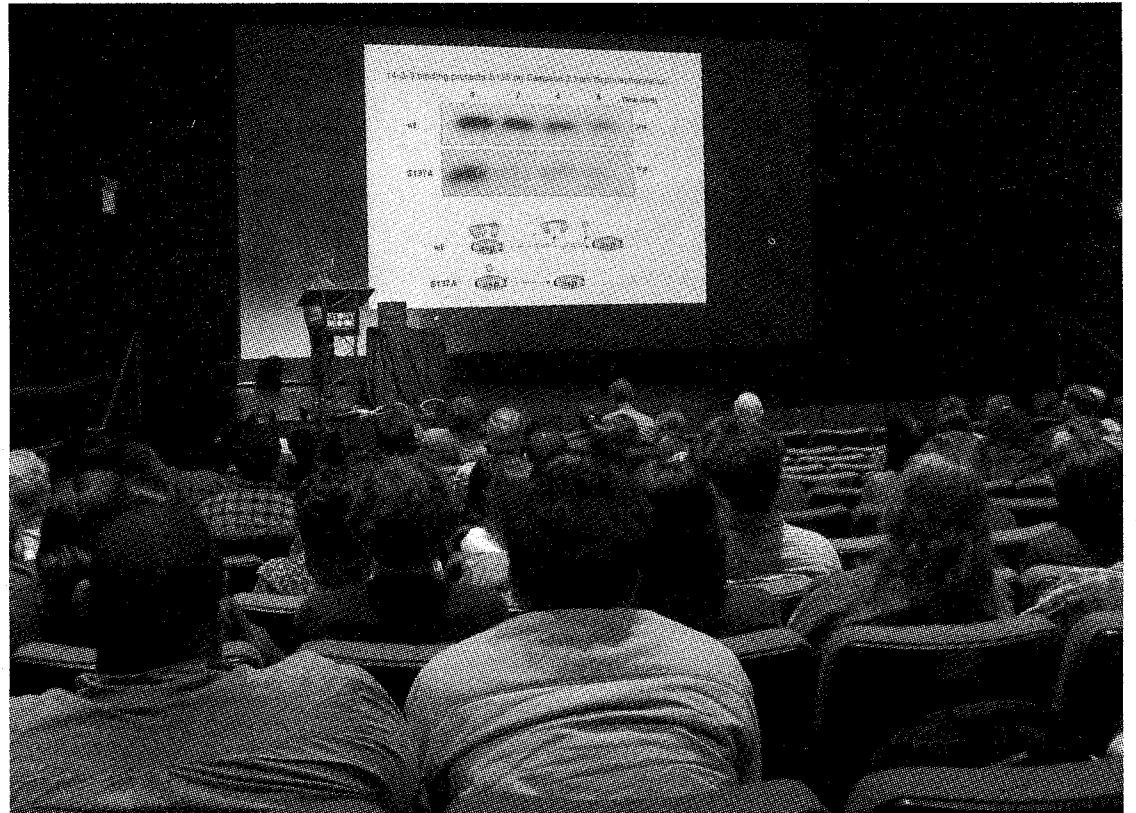
By BEN HAYASHI
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, November 2, Stony Brook's Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology held their symposium on cell death and human disease in the Wang Center Theater. The symposium lasted from 10am to 5pm, and had a variety of speakers discussing cutting-edge research taking place in the area of cell death and human disease. The symposium has been an annual event, hosted every year by the Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, sharing a variety of topics in their fields of study.

The symposium began after Jorge Benach and James Bliska, the event chairs, said some opening remarks about the even and the involvement from the participating members. Bliska also briefly explained some background information on cell death and the different reasons why there has been much interest in this area.

Scott Lowe, from the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, began the first lecture - discussing the dissection of tumor suppressor gene networks in vivo. Lowe explained the reasons for interest in this area, as well as the work he has been completing on cancer and the use of this process to control tumors.

At 11 a.m., Sally Kornbluth from Duke University discussed



Sally Kornbluth, from Duke University, spoke at the Wang Center.

Ben Hayashi/Statesman

the death in oocyte and its links between metabolism and apoptosis. Following was Harvard's Junying Yuan's discussion on her research on the mechanisms of cell death.

After a small lunch break at noon, the symposium began the second session with Gerard Evan, from the University of California at San Francisco, explaining cell death in cancer. John Reed, from

the Burnham Institute, talked about ER stress and cell death regulation. Following Reed was Craig Roy from Yale University discussing the control of Legionella infection by cell death.

The final session commenced with Eileen White from Rutgers University discussing the role of Autophagy in cancer. The symposium was wrapped up after Craig

Thompson from the UPenn talked about programmed cell death and Apoptosis, Necrosis, and Autophagy.

Although it was a rainy day, the symposium attracted many people and was enjoyed by much of the audience.

"I think all of the speakers are pretty good," said Juin Su, a Graduate Student at Stony Brook.

Behind the Scenes at Swallow This!

Continued from page 1

Usually between 10 and 15 people are chosen where half are male and the other half are females. This year's "Swallow This!" production features a cast of 12.

"The class is crazy," said senior cast member Xavier Rodney. "We're trying to make [the show] more different and new than the other shows." One way this year's show varies from other shows is by the addition of singing.

"This year we've had a very motivated group," said Elizabeth

Bojsza, director of education in theater arts. "We have very talented singers this year, and that brings a lot of energy to the performance; it's something unique." This is Bojsza's third year involved with the show and teaching the class.

The skits feature actual experiences by Stony Brook students. The stories are extracted from a database which contains stories submitted by students from various classes on campus. The cast members are required to read the stories over the summer and choose which stories they want to act out.

"I get to write my own material," said sophomore cast member Natalie Allen. "I get to have that produced. I get an opportunity to direct, I get the opportunity to interact with other actors."

Cast member Tiffany Rodriguez recalls the first show this year on Nov. 1. "We were so nervous, but then after getting on stage we all got comfortable and it was great," she said. While the fall semester is focused more for on-campus events, the spring semester will include more road trips to other Long Island universities, high schools, and

middle schools.

Highlights from this year's play include a skit about drinking, where the only word that is used for dialogue is "beer." Another skit is a monologue about a girl suffering from anorexia, and a musical act to the song "It's a Hard-Knock Life" in reference to family alcoholism.

The skits have helped out cast members in their personal lives.

"Thanks to the show, I was more aware of what was going on around me," said cast member Felix M. Ceballo, when talking about a party he had recently attended. "When I go to campus parties, I see things differently and make healthier choices," said sophomore cast member Charisse Hardy.

Why is the show called "Swallow This?" The phrase refers to "swallowing" the information that the show puts out. As junior cast member Claudy Bince explained, "Because before you swallow that (alcohol, tobacco, other drugs), you got to swallow this."

Inside

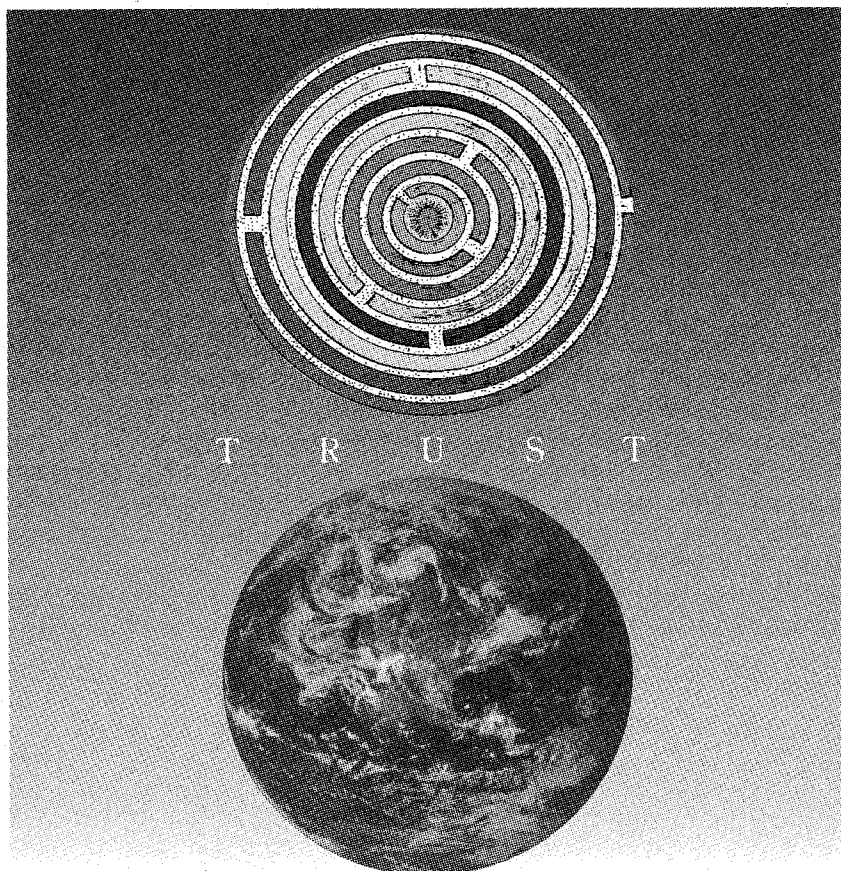
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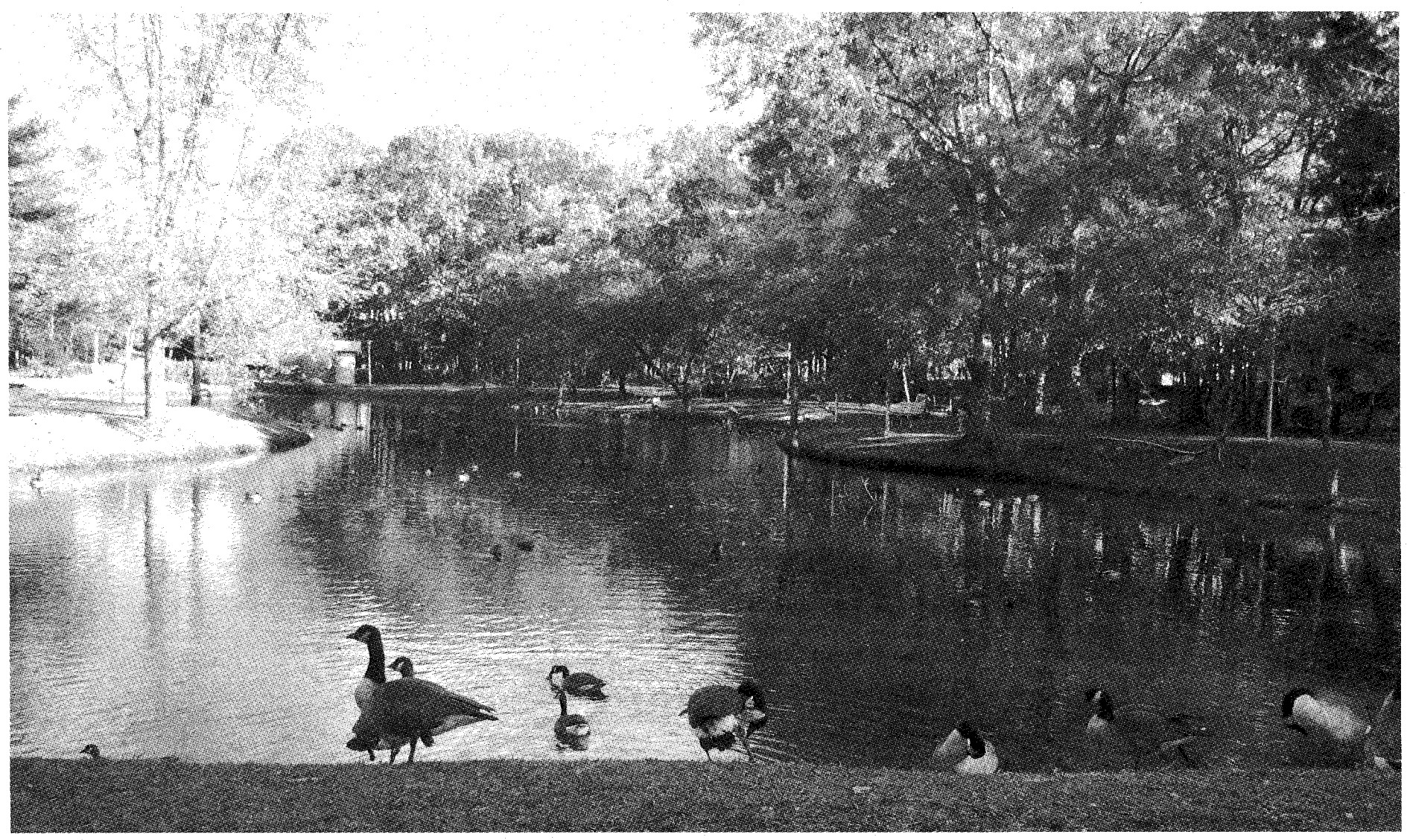
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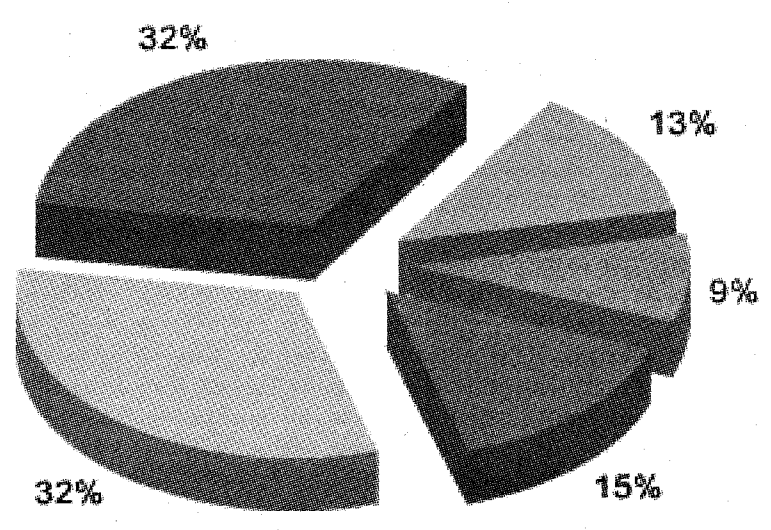
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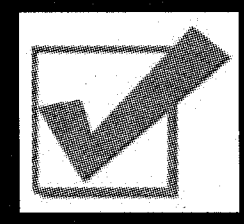


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The Statesman encourages readers to submit opinions and commentaries to the following address:

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WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucolian" 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 2006.

Take DEC L!

Ask Your Advisor Today

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

Many of you all already know, course registration is just around the corner. Students have already received their enrollment appointments, and are actively contemplating what courses they should pursue for the Spring 2007 semester. While it is important that students choose the right courses for the completion of their respective degrees, I feel that many students place too much importance on raw academics.

Academic learning, for the vast majority of courses on campus, requires attending lectures, doing homework, or reading books. Most of the classroom-based learning is straightforward material that any student in middle school or high school can memorize and regurgitate on an exam. Students attending a university should aspire to expand their horizons beyond textbooks and lecture notes.

A prime example of this lack of

student activity beyond the classroom setting can be seen right here at the Statesman. We are a paper that is run largely by pre-medical students. However, with the recent opening of the School of Journalism, the increased number of students taking Journalism classes along with those students who have already declared themselves Journalism majors, you might expect a distinct rise in student interest and the number of contributions to the paper as compared to past semesters. This is not the case.

Rather than seizing the opportunity to gain some real world skills in reporting, writing, and editing, it appears that Journalism students just don't seem to want the experience. For all practical purposes, a student applying for a position for a newspaper or magazine needs more than just straight A's. I understand that the Journalism department, with its 127 credits required for graduation, does place a heavy burden on

students, but I do believe that we would be a much stronger paper if we receive more support from the student body.

It is important to note that the skills one can gain as a writer for The Statesman are transferable to nearly any discipline, any major on campus. Science and engineering majors may one day apply for grants from the government to fund various projects. Business majors who apply for graduate school would definitely benefit from experience in management. Media arts and photography majors could add to their repertoire of skills by editing photographs and contributing to our layout. Furthermore, the interpersonal skills students can gain from interviewing and meeting faculty, staff, and other students across campus will not go unrecognized in an actual interview for graduate or professional school.

Again, the ability to communicate effectively is a skill that is necessary for success in any work

environment. Those who can present themselves and their ideas, have a clear advantage that cannot be obtained from simply reading books.

I have always believed that a college essay should be mandatory for all students applying to SBU. The requirement of an essay would immediately set our campus apart from other SUNY schools and truly catapult our standings among other highly reputable universities across the nation.

However, until that happens, it seems that some type of continued writing exposure should be recommended for students. This type of writing would be specific to journalism writing, not the type of writing already mandated in WRT classes. This new DEC L, "Writing for the Statesman," would give students of all majors the opportunity to contribute directly to the campus community and gain the intangible skills needed for a promising career in a field of their choice.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Narrow Votes and Close Elections

By ESAM AL-SHAREFFI
USG Senate Recording Secretary

Dear Editor,

As always, I write on what has happened during the most recent USG Senate meeting, in this case, the November 7, 2006 session.

The Senate welcomed four additional members during this meeting, who join the Senate ranks following their victory in the recent USG fall elections. It is entirely too early to judge their impact, both in terms of the what issues they will vote for and what new ideas they can bring to the table, but I am optimistic that these Senators will take the opportunity to get involved fairly quickly, and I hope that I will be able to report to the student body on their future achievements.

In terms of the bills and motions debated in the Senate, there is little encouraging news to report. The Senate spent a great deal of

time considering revised constitutional amendments to put forward for consideration in a "Special Election," and while many Senators agreed that the proposed changes would deal with important USG issues, others were unhappy with the timing of the vote, arguing that the amendments would be voted upon by a small minority of students, arguably even fewer than the 6% or so who voted in the fall election. After much confusing rancor, the amendments were placed on the ballot, but the Executive Council may yet act to block them from consideration.

Speaking of elections, the Senate's Elections Committee issued a report regarding the recent elections; the major conclusion reached was that the greater number of candidates, the more students voted in the ballot. While this is a valid point, based on election data for the past three years, I was disappointed that the com-

mittee did not have any real ideas on how to increase turn out in the future.

For instance, the committee did not follow up its conclusion on the impact of more candidates with any strategies on attracting more candidates for elections. Arguably, the greatest issue revealed by the most recent elections is the apathy of students when it comes to their student government, a problem that this government must address seriously if it is to have any legitimacy or influence.

Equally troubling is the Senate's failure to address the narrow rejection of the proposed decrease to the student activity fee. Instead of spending much of the meeting in confused debate, the Senate should take this opportunity to use surplus funds to fund programs and allocations in the best interest of the student body. If the USG Senate continues to be obstinate in using these funds to the benefit

of the student body, then pressure must be exerted in order to demand this take place.

I don't know the opinion of every student, but this correspondent believes that it is best to use every penny of our student activity fee in order to fund clubs, events, giveaways, and programs that can benefit students, including getting the money and the organization together for a series of strikes against the campus dining services to demand lower food prices.

Doing anything with this money would be preferable to keeping it in the bank, never to be used for this year's students, the ones who paid the student activity fee, and I believe that we could spend this money responsibly and make a real impact if we demand that our Senators take their responsibilities seriously and work for benefit!

Sincerely yours,
Esam Al-Shareffi

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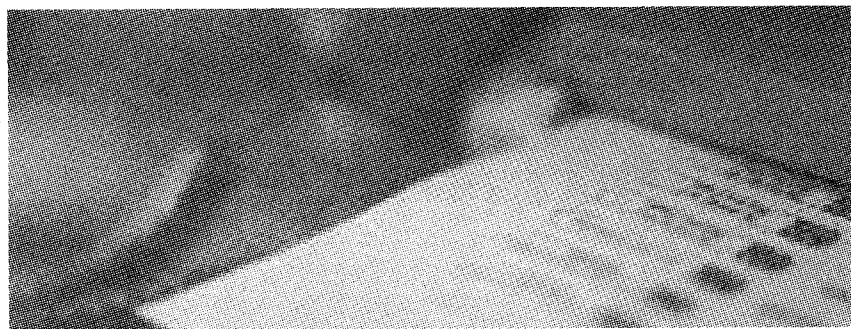
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Get Your Read On:

CHOKe

293 PGS

BY
CHUCK
PALAHNIUK

PUBLISHED:
2001

BY JEREMY FALLETTA
Staff Writer

Chuck Palahniuk is, of course, best known for his blockbuster novel *Fight Club*, later turned into one of the biggest instant cult classic movies our generation has seen. But not everyone knows that Palahniuk has published a plethora of other novels. *Choke* is a great place to start. Though not quite as satirical as *Fight Club*, this book certainly can stand on its own two feet.

Palahniuk provides the uniquely cynical voice of Victor Mancini to tell this story. He is a fairly despicable character, and yet, somehow, he manages to evoke the reader's deepest sympathies. I found myself entirely in Mancini's corner, even as he was manipulating people, thieving, and using every trick in the book to get some action. Palahniuk aptly describes him as an "antihero."

In order to generate an income, Mancini routinely dines at upscale restaurants and begins choking on large pieces of food. When some rich tart who fashions him or herself a hero saves the day, a savior complex develops, and Mancini is able to extract money from this individual for quite some time. He says:

Somebody saves your life, they'll love you forever...For the rest of their lives, these people will write me, send me cards on the anniversary. Birthday cards...They call you on the phone to find out if you're feeling okay. To see if you might need cheering up, or cash.

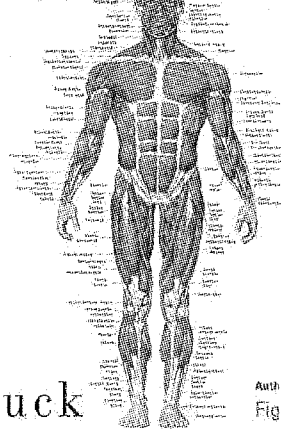
When he's not pulling Heimlich-inducing stunts at fancy dives, he works at "Colonial Dunsboro," a simulated 1734 town-ship, to make ends meet. He reports:

[C]hickens stagger around Colonial Dunsboro, chickens with their heads flattened. Here are chickens with no wings or only one leg...Blind chickens without eyes. Without beaks...Defective...There's an

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

Choke

A Novel



Chuck
Palahniuk

Courtesy of Amazon.com

invisible line between science and sadism, but here it's made visible.

It is here that he commiserates the sad human condition with his friend, Denny (who is constantly winding up in the stocks), and attempts to get lucky with schoolteachers chaperoning field trips. His casual approach toward random sexual encounters is as intriguing as it is appalling. The fact that he is successful more often than not in his endeavors is probably the most disturbing aspect of the charade.

Palahniuk is, of course, known for galling his readers. At his public readings, less durable listeners have been known to pass out with a fair degree of regularity. If that doesn't make you want to read *Choke*, then you can probably stop reading here.

As with any of Palahniuk's works, religion is just as much of a target as the society that embraces it. Mancini repeatedly asks himself, "What would Jesus not do?" He believes that God, if he exists, has generally abandoned the human race. In order to oppose Mancini's nihilism, however, Denny seems to go through a spiritual conversion of sorts as the plot approaches climax. Though this newfound spirituality is ambiguous and manifests itself in a downright strange manner, it serves to balance the novel. Palahniuk is a master of making the obscene or outrageous seem appropriate, and *Choke* is no exception.

Coming in at fewer than 300 pages, this is a great book to read on the fly. Chapters are short, and easy to bookmark right before class starts. There is a fantastic twist in the plot, though I won't give away anything more than that about it. Check out *Choke* today. It'll most likely drive you straight to *Fight Club*, if you haven't already experienced that.

PS: If you feel like getting a taste for Palahniuk's style before picking this book up, try Googling the phrase "Chuck Palahniuk Guts." I will warn you though: prepare to be disturbed. Happy reading.

Indie Flicks:

Me and You and Everyone We Know



Courtesy of meandyoumovie.com

BY RACHEL BROZINSKY
Staff Writer

Me and You and Everyone We Know is a movie about human connections. It is a simultaneous waking up, while breaking down. It irreverently tackles the questions of closing the gaps in one's life during transitional periods in life. This eccentric tale of intertwining experiences cleverly maneuvers through the highs and lows of picking oneself up by the bootstraps and achieving great things, big and small.

The central storyline is the romance between Christine Jesperson (Miranda July), a struggling performance artist who doesn't quit her day job as a driver to senior citizens, and Richard Swersey (John Hawkes), a newly separated shoe salesman who recently set his hand on fire in a moment of panicked desperation. While the two seem well matched, they must (somewhat typically) overcome their fears that can often overshadow the joys of a potential relationship.

Me and You and Everyone We Know is an ensemble film in which all of the characters are somehow related even if their stories and subplots (of which there are many) are not directly connected. Richard's sons, Peter (Miles Thompson) and Robby (Brandon Ratcliff), each find themselves in peculiar sexual situations. Fourteen-year-old Peter becomes a practice object for two of his classmates, who want to gain sexual experience. Robby, who is six, becomes involved online in a disturbing sexual discourse with a mysterious individual, which leads to an unexpected reveal at the movie's end.

It is rare to come across a film so unwilling to make sacrifices just to be safe and inoffensive. Miranda July, who not only starred in but wrote and directed the

film, is clearly committed from beginning to end to presenting her version of the universe.

Diving head first into issues varying from an innocent child's ventures into the terrifying world of online intercourse to a man trying to move on with his life after a painful divorce, the film does not falter in creating a sense of being lost and helpless. But what is so bracing is that the sentiment of the characters, of this whole universe, is never hopeless.

Though the ideology of *Me and You* remains constant, the stream of consciousness does not, and it is easy to get lost while watching the film. Its major fault is that the points that the audience could probably infer for itself are constantly stated and restated by the characters while the decipherable intentions of the characters are left up to impossible interpretation. This ultimately leaves the viewer with a sense of heavy-handedness from July.

The problems don't stop there. At times, characteristics of the players such as the apparent hyper-innocence of Christine or Richard's airy obliviousness come off as obtuse and contrived.

It seems to be either hit or miss with July. There are quite a few missed marks throughout the film. However, when she gets it, she really gets it. When she finds a balance between quirkiness and depth, July is chillingly on point. There are a handful instances in the film when the characters will say or do something that intensely embodies the perspective of an individual experiencing a powerful change. Ultimately, despite its faults, *Me and You and Everyone We Know* is a strong first full-length feature attempt and, more often than not, a moving portrayal of the mundane and outrageous search for human understanding amidst all the mayhem.

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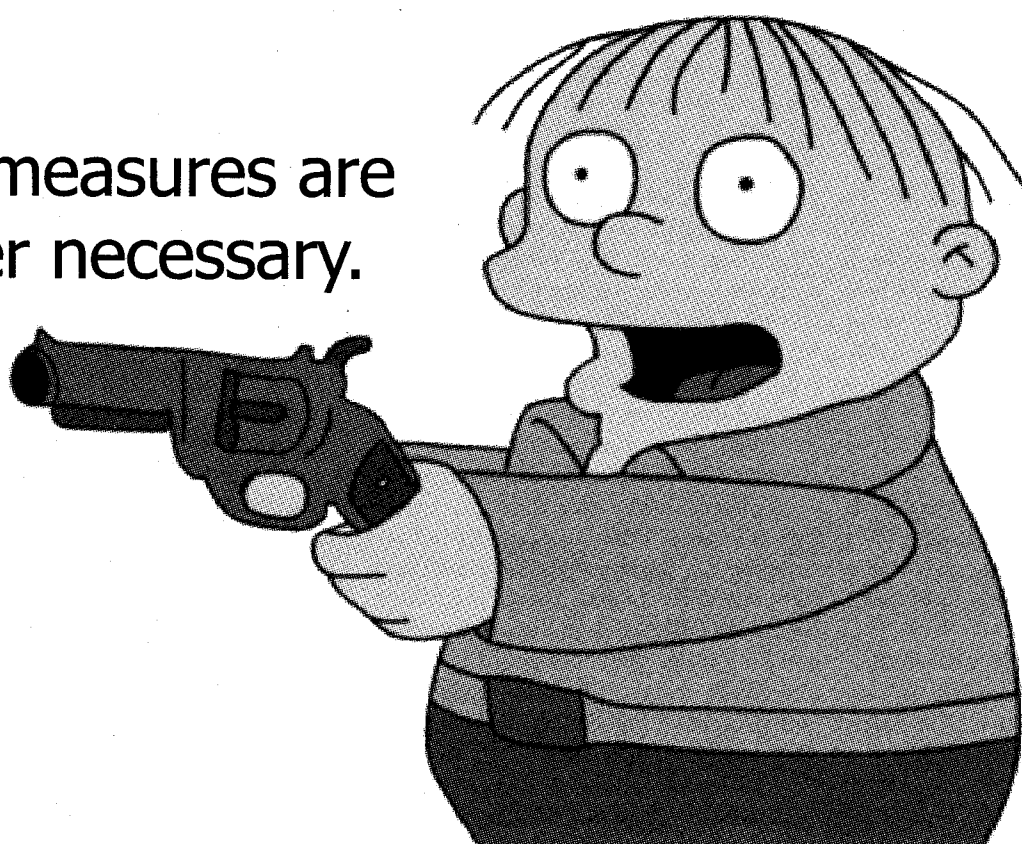
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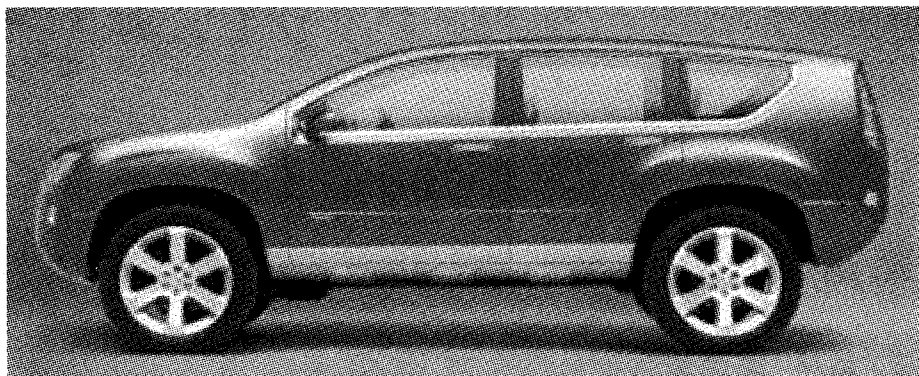
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VRROOOM!

Why We Should Consider a Bail-Out



GM's latest hybrid prototype—don't expect to see one on the road soon, or ever. Courtesy of GM

By JAMES BOUKLAS
Senior Automotive Analyst

As Ford and GM close plants and putting Americans out of jobs, Japanese companies, such as Nissan, Honda, and Toyota are opening new ones in the US. Just months after GM will debut yet another plug-in hybrid prototype, Toyota will roll out with its third-generation Prius, a plug-in hybrid slated for market next year. For every failure an American automaker racks up, the Japanese add another success. Putting the morality of a bail-out aside, I think it is high time that the federal government consider an intervention into this crucial market; American automakers are dying slow deaths, and we need to decide as a country whether or not we can live without a strong domestic automotive industry.

There are great reasons against a bail-out from both liberals and conservatives—liberals argue that feeding more money into big businesses is plain unfair, while conservatives shudder at the thought of the government trying to meddle in the free market. We need to leave our ideologies at the door and keep our eyes on the prize, which is a vibrant auto industry in this country.

Current problems that plague Ford and GM include "legacy costs" and misdirected R&D funds (Chrysler is a unique case and therefore outside the scope of this article). "Legacy costs" refer to health and pension benefits that Japanese companies are not responsible for, given their less worker-friendly histories. The American automakers argue that they are trying to compete with a several billion dollar disadvantage, since they have to deal with impossible unions and benefits that simply are not sustainable.

While I am not necessarily advocating that the government should use taxpayer dollars to cover the entire burden for Ford and GM, it is obvious that some real arbitration needs to take place to keep these unions in line. I support worker rights as much, if not more, than the next guy, but the fact is that union leaders are being unreasonable. They won't even entertain the notion of eliminating generous benefits for future employees, let alone paring pensions down to size for current retirees.

If at the end of a real negotiation proc-

ess, with good concessions made by both sides, Ford and GM still find themselves with an unbearable legacy cost, then it is entirely reasonable that the federal government give a one-time bail out to keep our companies competitive. Nobody made a fuss when the airline industry received a multi-billion dollar bailout after 9/11, only to have several of its companies declare bankruptcy months later. Why should this be any different?

In addition to eliminating the problem of legacy costs for our auto makers, the government should consider working with the auto industry on research and development. Producing fuel efficient cars has become less of a market need and more of a policy need. I firmly believe that American will be able to afford to drive gas-guzzling SUVs for many years to come, though I'm not so sure the environment can take it. We can wait it out, letting consumer pressure work on automakers for the next two decades until real change is made, but I don't think we as a nation can afford to let things go so far. If this government is serious about preventing climate change then it needs to put its money where its mouth is. I propose generous government grants, real goal direction, and technology sharing to achieve the aim of reducing our dependency on fossil fuels.

I envision a government agency that will coordinate development goals and implementation deadlines for new technologies. A real discourse needs to go on between GM, Ford and the government, and concrete deadlines need to be hammered out. At the end of these talks, American automakers need to realize that by 2012, their cars, from the largest SUVs to the smallest compacts, need to get 30MPG in the city, 40MPG on the highway and run either biodiesel or ethanol. There are going to be real costs associated with such a rigorous timeline, and everybody needs to chip in.

With the buying power of the government and the pure will of the American people, we can achieve our goal of a revitalized American auto industry that produces the most efficient cars in the world in just a few years. By investing in and charting new directions for the auto industry, we can finally be proud of the car in our driveway, built in the US of A.

TV nation

UGLY BETTY



Courtesy of ABC.com

By PRIYA MADHAVAN
Staff Writer

"Ugly Betty". The name itself is suggestive of the clichéd plot about an ordinary girl trying to find herself in an image driven world. This television comedy-drama series, produced by Salma Hayek, runs every Thursday at 8:00pm on ABC. Based on the popular Colombian telenovela *Yo Soy Betty la Fea*, the show follows the daily life of a frumpy young woman working as an executive assistant in a fashion magazine called *MODE*.

Betty Suarez, a woman from a struggling Latino family, is unattractive with huge braces and is made fun of by her co-workers. The series looks at how Betty copes with the demands of the superficial fashion world and her family back home.

The episode titled "After Hours" starts out with Betty Suarez, who is played by America Ferrera, having to write a review on a posh hotel. Without having a clue of how to act in such an environment, she makes a complete fool of herself. The setting of the hotel is very futuristic. When she wears a blue Cinderella-like dress for dinner with her boyfriend, the viewer can only pity her. It is clearly seen that Betty doesn't fit into this presumptuous world. At the end of the day, she finds herself alone and realizes that she is just an average girl from Queens.

While watching this show, the viewer may get confused when it jumps from one scene to another. For example, at one point we see Betty falling off the chair at the hotel, and then the scene shifts to a serious tone with Betty's sister asking

her gambling ex-boyfriend for money. At some points, the scenes become a little inappropriate to watch with individuals making out or scenes inside a strip bar. It is not fit for everyone to watch.

However, this series presents some aspects of life that are true. We do live in a society that is very much governed by image. Betty represents the average girl who wants to be the perfect model on a high rise billboard. It points out how sometimes we get lost in the process of following and pursuing our dreams that we forget who we are. This is apparent when Betty's boyfriend tells her that she is "pretending to be something she is not." When Betty looks into the mirror, she realizes who she is and that she doesn't need to be a thin, gorgeous model to achieve her goals.

Compared to other television shows such as "Gilmore Girls" or "Heroes," it presents a different subject matter. This show is not about a select group of individuals having superhuman powers to save the world or the mother daughter relationship. It is about the simple life of a girl trying to mark her presence in a competitive fashion environment.

The plot of "Ugly Betty" may not novel. However, it is one of the few shows on television that focuses on the subject matter of image. This is an issue that we encounter everyday of our lives and so we are able to relate to the show. At the end of the episode, Betty's review is rejected by *MODE*, but then the author, Sofya Reyes, played by Salma Hayek decides to publish the article. The happy ending gives the viewer something to look forward to and see what happens in the next episode.

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“GLOBAL COOPERATION BEGINS ON AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL.”

ADAM OSMAN, PRESIDENT OF MSA

Continued from page 1

and her opinions of solving the conflict. Hijazi vividly described her home being shelled by Israeli tanks when she was in her mid teens - her first experience of war. Hijazi went on to describe how some of her close friends had died as a result of the conflict.

Hijazi described her experience in coming to the United States for her studies and peace efforts. She attended an international camp in Maine that is run by the international organization Seeds of Peace. It was there Hijazi made many Israeli friends. The life impact of this camp was realized when Hijazi was hospitalized back in the Middle East due to a car accident. Many of her Israeli friends showed up to see her in the hospital when her closest relatives and friends were unable to because they were in the West Bank.

Soon, Hijazi's counterpart, Kedmi, took the microphone and described his experiences. Kedmi is in his early twenties and has been studying law and politics with one year left to complete his studies. Kedmi stated that he was raised in a very "incited household". Kedmi also declared that his father was the founder of an organization in Israel that

called for the deportation of Palestinians. Adding more fuel to his flame was when Kedmi's cousin had been injured in a suicide bombing. Afterwards, Kedmi went to England to continue his studies, which would change his attitudes and views.

In England, Kedmi recounted his experience of meeting a Saudi Arabian man "who didn't have horns." From his stay in England and onward, Kedmi decided that "there is no reason to continue to butcher ourselves and future generations."

What began to emerge was the convergence of both party's views. Hijazi had stated that "violence is not the best direction," which Kedmi agreed with. The dialogue assumed a constructive path and proposed solutions to the conflict.

OneVoice, which is politically neutral, seeks only to codify and represent the views of moderates on both sides. There was no bickering as to what the solutions should be. In fact, it was stated that a majority of Israelis favored a two-state solution, which the Palestinians yearn for. The problem there lay in the continuation of violence.

The current government of the Palestinians is dominated by Hamas - recognized

to be a terrorist organization by the United States and Israel. The election of Hamas by the Palestinian people was more of a response to the incompetence of the former Fatah government. Due to Hamas' unyielding adherence to its principles - not to recognize Israel and not to put down arms - it has stifled any peace attempts.

Daniel Baez, a Jewish Student, said, "It's nice to see groups come together." Baez was, "worried about engrained beliefs of violence."

When asked of opinions from several Muslim students in the audience, it seemed as if some of the Muslim students didn't absorb the theme of the dialogue. Some Muslim students, at the lecture, were concerned with the welfare of Islam itself in Palestine rather than prospects of peace. There were others, however, that did believe the dialogue was productive. One Muslim student stated, "Our Prophet used dialogue and our religion is a religion of peace."

Osman said in his address, "Global cooperation begins on an individual level."

"No person who could say they're religious and a follower of God would ever kill another person," said Daniel Baez.

NYPIRG Getting out the Vote

Continued from page 1

a table set up near SAC ballroom B. They had pamphlets from every candidate on the ballot, and information about the Board of Elections. They helped students who had issues with their identification, and helped commuters look up their voting location, and reminded students to vote.

"I have to commend the voting site here," Zotto said. "Stony Brook is a student-friendly voting site." Zotto added that some SUNY schools make voting more difficult for students.

Last Monday night, NYPIRG hosted an entertainment event featuring 12 performance acts. Between acts, NYPIRG members encouraged students to vote, and told students the history of voting in America.

On Wednesday, Zotto and Abrahams said that Election Day at Stony Brook went smoothly, and that they were happy with the turnout.

FUN AND GAMES

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4	8	6	2	7	5	1	3	9
3	5	2	6	9	1	4	8	7



Wednesday, November 15th
The Stony Brook Union from 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Live music by Glass Houses

A Billy Joel tribute band.

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Crafts & giveaways plus a children's activities from 2 - 4pm!

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**Vegetarian/Kosher/Halal entrée options will be available*



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 your ticket for just \$4.00!**

Presale tickets can be purchased at Kelly Dining Center, Roth Food Court, Campus Connection @ H-Quad, the Student Activities Center Food Court, the Union Deli, the Bleacher Club, and the Administration Cart. Tickets will be on sale Wednesday Nov 1st to Tuesday Nov 14th.

Brought to you by Campus Dining Services, the Faculty Student Association, Jasmine, and the University Bookstore.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Women's Basketball

The Women's Basketball team opened their season with an 82-72 loss to Marist Friday night in Poughkeepsie. The Seawolves headed into the locker room at half time down by eleven after making only 35 percent of their shots. On the other side of the court, the Red Foxes took full advantage, as junior Sarah Smrdel drilled in a career high of 24 points over the two halves.

Stony Brook tried to take back control in the second half with an 18 point scoring drive, but it was not enough to hold off the dominant Foxes. Junior Dana Ferraro pulled down six points to bring the Seawolves within 43-40, totaling twelve points in the contest. Mykeema Ford racked up 14 points and Jessica Smith added 23 points with 12 rebounds to kick off her season with a bang.

The Women's Basketball team hopes to recover from the loss Friday when they travel to Chicago to take on Illinois State.

Men's Basketball

The Men's Basketball team took down Colgate in their season opener Friday night. The 65-59 win marks the first time since the 1996-97 season that the Seawolves have won their first away game of the season. Stony Brook came back from a 24-19 deficit at the end of the first half, shooting 67 percent in the second half.

The Seawolves relied on Mitchell Beauford for a twenty point game, showing off the offensive skills that placed him on the American East Pre-season squad. Newcomer Ricky Lucas rounded out the offense, matching Beauford for twenty points.

Stony Brook takes on Cornell Monday night on the road as they hope to build a winning streak leading into the heart of the season.

Volleyball

The Stony Brook Volleyball team went 1-1 this past week as they were swept by Albany, but came back the next day to take a win against Hartford. The win evened up their conference record at 6-6, keeping the Seawolves in the running for the conference title.

The match also marked the last home appearance for seniors Sarah Bauer, Claire Lindner and Kelli Sams. They were honored before the game for their contributions to the team.

The team awaits results from this weekend to determine whether or not they will be granted a berth in the conference tournament.

COMPILED BY CANDACE ISHMAEL

CCSU Ends Seawolves NEC Title Bid

By WILL LAHTI
Staff Writer

The Central Connecticut State University Blue Devils defeated the Stony Brook Seawolves by a score of 35-32, despite a career day for Josh Dudash, last week's SBU Athlete of the Week and NEC Offensive Player of the Week. Monmouth, Albany and Stony Brook had been tied for the conference lead, until the loss, combined with Monmouth's 19-0 win over Albany handed the title to the Monmouth Hawks.

CCSU literally hit the ground running, charging up the field throughout the first half. They would gain a total of 380 yards on the ground, and had a 14-7 lead by the end of the first quarter. CCSU would score another touchdown late in the second. They then had an onside kick, which they

recovered, and converted to a touchdown on the next play. Stony Brook struck back when Dudash found Steve Austin for another touchdown. However, a botched snap cost them the point after touchdown (PAT), and they went into the break 28-13.

Stony Brook came on strong in the second half, scoring a touchdown on a Dudash pass to Lynell Suggs to move them to 28-19, following another botched PAT. CCSU scored another touchdown before the end of the third to make it 35-19. Stony Brook scored in the fourth on a pass to Dwayne Eley to make it 35-25, following an unsuccessful 2-point conversion. With just over 2 minutes to play, Dudash threw his fifth touchdown pass of the day, this time to Mike Cosentino, to make it 35-32. The ensuing

onside kick would go out of bounds, and CCSU ran the clock out to end the game, and the season.

Throughout the game, both teams made aggressive calls. Stony Brook, at one point, decided to decline a penalty on CCSU's offense to force 4th and 2, instead of pushing the team back to a third-and-out. CCSU went for it, as they did multiple times during the game, and eventually scored a touchdown. Stony Brook was also willing to attempt a fourth-down conversion, as they have in other games this year.

Head Coach Chuck Priore said, "it wasn't meant to be," on the loss of what would've been a second straight conference championship. Stony Brook finishes the season 5-2 in conference play, and 5-6 overall.

Men: 146-91, Women: 148.5-87.5

Continued from page 16

breaststroke and 200-yard butterfly. The men's diving team, which had only one diver, was not as impressive as the women's diving team. SBU came in fourth place with Alexander Demin earning a score of 157.28 in the 1 meter, and a score of 161.60 in the 3 meter. First place in both dives was earned by Donato Callaro, who earned a score of 242.03 in the 1 meter, and

231.60 in the 3 meter.

Fordham came into this meet with a record of 2-0 in the women's division, and 1-1 in the men's division before it faced the SBU last week. Fordham stands at 3-0, and 2-1, respectively. SBU currently stands at 0-2 because of its loss to UMass early this season.

The men's and women's swimming and diving teams face Maine next. The away meet is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 12 at 11:00 AM.

Championship Ratings Drop

Continued from page 16

that week. When that happens, all is lost.

The leagues must also straighten up their management. Baseball isn't being helped by the steroid allegations that plague virtually any "good" player. Furthermore, the ratings haven't been the same since the 1994 series was lost to a strike. But they have shown recently that they are capable of reaching a labor agreement without a work stoppage.

Labor issues have also affected the NBA and NHL rat-

ings, with the NBA not having reached pre-lockout ratings, and last season's Stanley Cup ratings, in the first year since the lockout, were even more abysmal than usual.

The one other issue to consider is placement of the entertainment during a game. Pre-game performances are a must, but more is needed. For the NBA and NHL, the answer is obvious: halftime, or intermission, respectively.

For baseball, however, this is a problem, as the game doesn't offer any break for a performance. The most you could

hope for is to get somebody to sing "Take Me Out To the Ballgame" during the seventh-inning stretch. Creating a break between innings would cause pitchers to tighten up, and this would break the cardinal rule of sports entertainment: you can't disrupt the flow of the game (much). It's sad to say, but the World Series may not be commercially suitable for primetime.

One thing is clear, though, for all three troubled sports: whatever it is, something must be done if they wish to avoid obscurity.

SCHEDULE

Nov. 14 - Nov. 18

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

IONA & ST. FRANCIS

Nov. 16, 2006

6:00 PM

Brooklyn Heights, NY

MEN'S BASKETBALL

PENN STATE

Nov. 17, 2006

7:30 PM

University Park, PA

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

ILLINOIS STATE

Nov. 17, 2006

5:30 PM

Chicago, IL

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

AMERICA EAST
TOURNAMENT

Nov. 17, 2006

TBA

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

DE PAUL/YALE

Nov. 18, 2006

TBA

Chicago, IL

CROSS COUNTRY

ECAC/IC4A CHAMPIONSHIP

Nov. 18, 2006

10:00 AM

Bronx, NY

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

AMERICA EAST
TOURNAMENT

Nov. 18, 2006

TBA

SPORTS

Beyond the Brook

The Championship That Nobody Watched

By WILL LAHTI
Staff Writer

An unfortunate trend in recent years has been the declining ratings of post-season play for many major professional sports, most notably, Major League Baseball. The recently concluded World Series had the lowest rating in history (St. Louis beat Detroit in 5 games). The NBA and NHL have had similar issues with declining ratings. However, the NFL's Super Bowl still thrives in the ratings, with half the country watching the game every year.

The NFL's success boils down to a simple fact: they understand what sells today. They've realized that entertainment is what gets viewers to tune in. Where they originally featured local marching bands during halftime, they shifted to a night full of celebrity appearances and performances, what we've now become accustomed to. The brevity of the championship, only one game to decide it all, is also a major advantage.

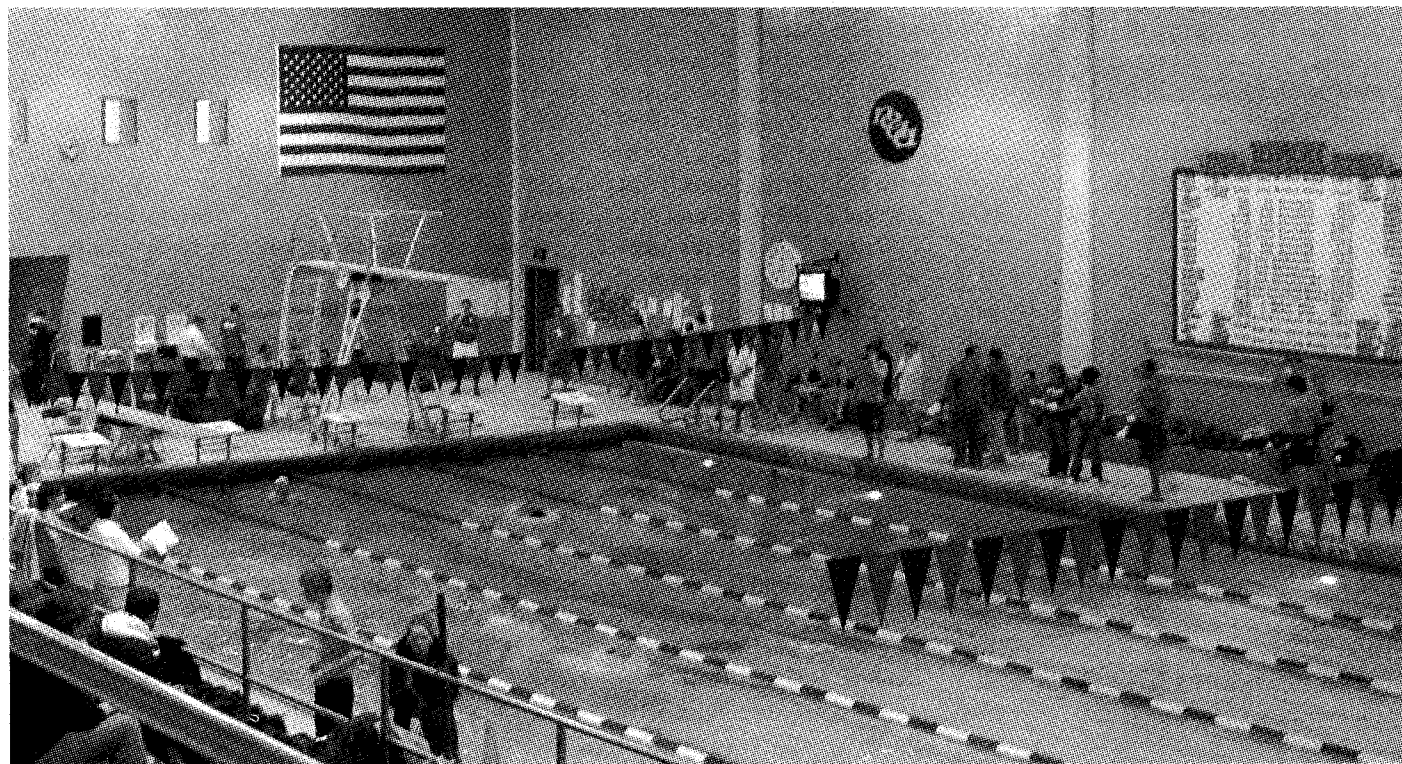
It is the entertainment, above all else, that generates the NFL's astronomical ratings. People who don't watch any other game in the season still tune in, and they aren't even necessarily watching the game.

They're watching the highly amusing (and expensive) commercials, and they're watching the celebrity performances before the game and during halftime. This is basically a requirement if you hope to generate high ratings in primetime, as you'll need non-regular viewers of the sport. They'll need a reason to watch the game, instead of *Lost*, or *Desperate Housewives*, or one of those CSI shows.

Traditionalists won't want to hear this, but the NBA, NHL, and MLB should probably shorten their series to no more than 5 games, maybe even 3. Today's audiences don't want to devote an entire week of viewing to a long series, especially if their team, or a major market's team, isn't in it.

The lack of celebrity entertainment doesn't help much, either. They must also act quickly, as it is only a matter of time before the other networks decide the Series is insignificant, and decide to air new episodes of their regular programming instead of the re-runs they air now during

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The crowd gathers to cheer on Stony Brook against Fordham.

Munirah Hasan/Statesman

Swimming and Diving Falls to Fordham

Lewandowski Sweeps Women's Diving

By TEJAS GAWADE
Editor-in-Chief

SBU's men's and women's swimming and diving team competed against Fordham University on Nov. 8. Fordham swept a win with 148.50-87.50 in the women's division, and 146-91 in the men's division. The men's team had several close finishes, while the women's team lost some key events.

In the 400-yard women's relay, Fordham's teams 'A', 'B', and 'C' took first, second and third place. SBU's team 'A', composed of Maeve Leong, Jessica Peters, Angelica D'Esposito, and Brittany Whipple, came in fourth with a time of 4:30.71. Fordham's team A was 27 seconds ahead with a time of 4:03.10.

SBU combated this by taking first, second and third place respectively in the 400-yard women's relay. SBU's team 'A', composed of Courtney Teague, Autumn Griggers, Lucy Liu, and Rebecca Sayles came in first with a time of 3:45.85, 13 seconds ahead of team 'B', which was made of Krista Klicpera, Kym Sgrignoli, Jayme Burns and Kari R. Albery.

Whipple lost her first race because her goggles fell off. She did redeem this performance by winning the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:33.71, and tying for first place in the 50-yard freestyle with Kristin Colton of Fordham who had a time of 25.91. SBU monopolized its win in the

200-yard breaststroke, as Shelby Mirabelli, and Rebecca Porteus finished second and third, respectively.

The Women's Diving team was the highlight of the night, with Hailey Lewandowski sweeping first place in both the 1 meter and 3 meter dive. Lewandowski earned a score of 213.90 in the 1 meter, followed by Fordham's score of 194.70. In the 3 meter dive, Lewandowski earned a score of 216.73, followed by Fordham's score of 196.73.

Even Lewandowski and Whipple's winning performances did not muster a victory. Fordham's women's team dominated most of the events. They took first, second and third place in the 1000-yard, 500-yard, 200-yard and 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard Individual Medley (IM), and 200-yard butterfly. SBU's Rebecca Sayles was five seconds short of winning first place in the 200-yard backstroke. She lost to Fordham's Caitlin Napoli, who came in first with a time of 2:09.56.

On the men's side, SBU's team 'A', composed of Rafael Labour, Jon Siguroson, Alexei Smirnov and Omer Ozcan had a close win with a time of 3:32.16 in the 400-yards relay. Fordham finished second, just six seconds short with a time of 3:38.13. Labour came through for the team, winning first place in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 47:30. Ozcan followed with a time of 49:72 to earn second place, and

Eldor came in third place with a time of 50:14. Labour finished second in the 200-yard freestyle to Fordham's Ryan Coombs by three seconds, who won first place with a time of 1:45.32.

Ozcan came in second with a time of 22.45 to Fordham's Richard Woyma in the 50-yard freestyle, who won first place with a time of 22.43. In the 200-yard backstroke, Ruslan Safarov came in first with a time of 1:59.26. Ray Sato followed with a time of 2:01.41 to earn second place, a second before Fordham's Benjamin Marzolf who placed third with a time of 2:02.59. In the 200-yard IM, Sato lost second place to Fordham's Kyle Silbernagel by an extremely close 0.35 seconds. Silbernagel came in first with a time of 2:05.05, followed by Sato who had a time of 22:05.39.

The men's team took first, second and third place in the 400-yard freestyle relay. Team 'A' composed of Smirnov, Siguroson, Eldor, and Safarov came in first with a time of 3:18.43. Team 'B' followed seven seconds later with a time of 3:25.67, and team 'C' followed 20 seconds later, with a time of 3:45.49.

Fordham's men's division, like their women's division, dominated most events by taking first, second and third place in the 1000-yard freestyle. They took first and second place in the 200-yard IM, 200-yard

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