

SBU AND HOSPITAL TO SPLIT?

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

According to a recent article in *Newsday*, State Senator Kenneth P. LaValle has proposed legislation to split SBUMC from the university. If this piece of legislation is passed, the hospital would be renamed SUNY Hospital at Stony Brook. The CEO of the hospital, instead of reporting directly to President Kenny, would now be under a 15-member governing board. All of these 15 individuals, chosen by the SUNY Board of Trustees, would be Suffolk County residents, and four of them would be physicians.

LaValle commented to *Newsday* that the proposed split is not related to the recent press concerning President Shirley Strum Kenny's improper leadership of the medical center. LaValle also commented that he has been working on this piece of legislation for a while.

The medical center takes care of its own budget, so a split would not directly affect the finances of West Campus. However, an institutional break between the two bodies could affect the university in other ways.

This recent news brings about many questions as the current title for the hospital, Stony Brook University Medical Center (SBUMC), was just introduced in the past several months. Why, then, would the university pursue the expense of changing its name when its name would be changed again after another short time period? Does this motion to force a split between the university and the hospital reflect deeper divisions in the administration of the campus?

As of right now, there are too many questions, but too few answers. Expect more coverage from *The Statesman* in upcoming issues.



The award recipients from the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner.
From left to right: Michael Manoussos, Gene Mundie, Carole Weidman, Peter Remch, and Michael Zeitlin.

Courtesy of Sandra Skinner / Alumni Relations

Medical Center Scores Honors, Despite a Shaky Year

By BEN HAYASHI
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 8 Stony Brook University Medical Center received, yet again, full accreditation from Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). This accreditation is given by JCAHO after a comprehensive review of the safety and quality of care at the medical center. JCAHO is an independent, non-profit healthcare organization that is responsible for evaluating nearly 15,000 hospitals and other healthcare institutions throughout the nation.

This accreditation lasts a little over three years and evaluates the performance and improvement of hospitals. Unlike state health inspections or licensure, JCAHO is voluntary and focuses on improvement and consulting the health organization. Some of the main points focus on

the health care organization's operations and internal systems that directly impact the quality and safety of patient care.

The Medical Center has continued to change and update its facilities since the last accreditation. One of their main projects was the Major Modernization Project, which includes a 65,000 square foot building that will house the Department of Women and Infants' center, the Surgical Suite, and a new lobby, among other things.

This week-long review of Stony Brook University Medical Center took place from Aug. 21 through 25 and was reviewed by a seven member team from JCAHO. The accreditation, which lasts for 39 months, is crucial to the medical center's reputation in the community, and for the approval of Federal Reimbursement for care.

Continued on page 13

Feature:

What Our Alums Do For Us

By TEJAS GAWADE
Editor-in-Chief

Graduation is close, and the students who will leave SBU can soon proudly call themselves an alumnus of this institution. Being an alumnus bestows the power to give, but most importantly, it makes one a part of a tradition and a community that is larger than the campus itself. SBU's Alumni Association (AA) has played a critical role in connecting present and past SBU students. This semester, it contributed to programs ranging from Wall Street Day to Homecoming. SBU alumni are more than monetary contributors; they devote time and effort to a cause that makes SBU's network stronger everyday.

According to Sandra Skinner from Alumni Relations, "the Alumni Office organized Wall Street Day in conjunction with an alum, Steve Traum of

TIAA-CREF. Nine alumni came to campus to mentor students on Nov. 1 in a variety of finance industry related areas. Mark Saidens, Past President of the AA, said that "events like Wall Street Day and other informational or networking situations are needed, nurtured and expanded upon." TIAA-CREF meets investors' needs and offers advice to manage income through retirement.

John Lizzul, a member of the AA's Board of Directors, said that "most SB students need to become much more familiar with one of the world's most important industries, which is so critical to NYC; not to mention that the pay is outstanding. SB students do not have the benefit of mingling with other students, family, and even professors who have experience with the financial services industry. Exposure

Continued on page 5

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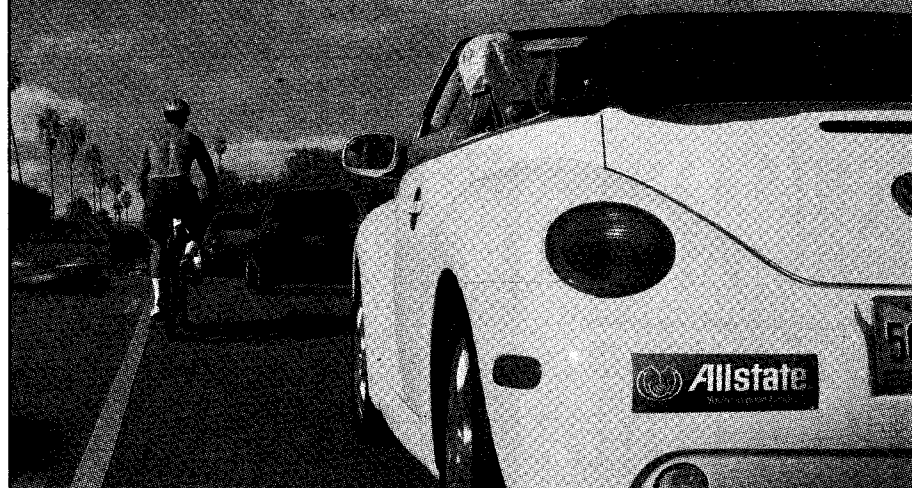
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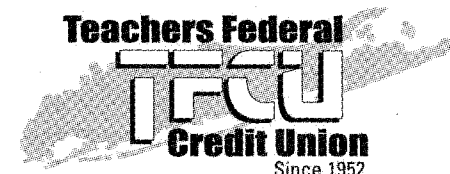
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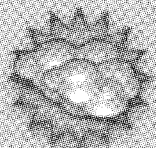
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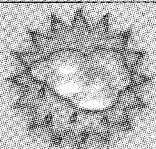
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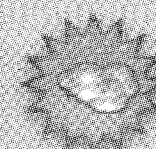
Nov. 30 - Dec. 6
by Britta Merwin



Thursday:
High 64/Low 50
Moist & Mild



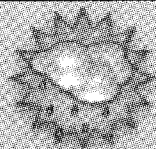
Friday:
High 65/Low 49
Warm with Rain,
Heaviest in PM



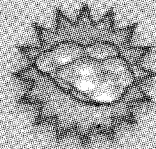
Saturday:
High 48/Low 35
Clearing Skies & Cooler



Sunday:
High 45/Low 30
Close to Average
Temperatures



Monday:
High 47/Low 32
Cold & Rainy



Tuesday:
High 43/Low 29
Clearing Out



Wednesday:
High 41/Low 27
Cooler than Normal

Behind the Numbers

Today will be a wonderful and mild day, with southerly flow pumping in warm and moist air, afternoon highs will push into the middle-60s! The mild temperatures will stay through the end of the week but misty conditions will turn to rain on Friday, the heaviest occurring in the evening and overnight. As this disturbance moves away from campus an Arctic high will build up bringing normal temperatures for this time of year with highs in the upper 40s and lows in the lower 30s. A coastal system will impact Long Island on Monday but unlike the previous system this will be a cold rain so bundle up! Skies clear up by Tuesday with cooler than normal temperatures.

"The World is Burning"

ALICE WALKER SPEAKS AT SBU

By SARAH MALLIK
Staff Writer

"Alice Walker, a womanist, an earth worshiper...a remarkable light in a time of darkness...the woman you have been waiting for..."

Amy Goodman spoke these words to introduce Alice Walker, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *The Color Purple*, to the SAC auditorium audience on Thursday, Nov. 16.

Dr. Olufemi Vaughan, Associate Provost and a Professor of Africana Studies at Stony Brook University, welcomed the audience to the 8th annual George Goodman Memorial Symposium featuring Walker, "a writer, activist, and social visionary." The Symposium was originally established by the Goodman family in honor of Dr. Goodman, Professor of Ophthalmology at the School of Medicine at SBU. After Dr. Vaughan's address, Amy Goodman, host of the news program "Democracy Now," officially introduced Alice Walker, who is also the first African American to win the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.

Walker began her lecture, titled "The World is Burning," with a childhood story about her mother. In her soft, low-toned voice, she described how she used to watch her mother, who would be tired from her daily chores, watch soap operas in the afternoons. Walker said, "It became distressing for me to watch my mother because she had so much to offer to the community, yet she was becoming absorbed in soap operas ... if she could use her wisdom and intelligence and experience, the world could be transformed...But she spent her life working and cleaning up after people."

Walker learned from her mother's experience and tried



Alice Walker, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Color Purple*, spoke at the SAC on Nov. 16.

Courtesy of Santa Clara University

to make a difference in present times. "We live in a time of such incredible distress, horror, hypocrisy, pain...what can we do?" She answered this question herself. "If we can create circles of people, we can use them," she said, "and times will get much better...we can have leadership to help explain we are part of a whole. We should not create pyramidal structures, but circles." Walker herself belongs to many circles, such as her women's council and her Buddhist study group.

In 2003, Alice Walker, along with other public figures, was arrested during an anti-war rally in front of the White House in Washington, DC. Walker

discussed why she joined the rally. "I knew war was not the answer," she said. "But, people have forgotten their humanity...It is an illusion that you drop bombs on 'other people.' There are no 'other people.' We have to join, survive together."

"We must change our society so more of us can belong to it. If we have circles we will not prevent Katrina, but we will be much more prepared if a Katrina strikes. We have lost our sense of community...We need to remake home, and this is important as more and more people lose their homes." Walker concluded her speech with an excerpt from her most recent collection of essays, "We are the

Ones We are Waiting for."

The audience had various responses to the lecture after it finished. Nicole Hosten, a senior at SBU, said, "It was my first time hearing Ms. Walker, and it was a nice lecture geared towards peace and harmony...I enjoyed listening, but I was not deeply moved." Lyndonna Marrast, a medical student at SBU, had a different opinion. "I thought it was inspiring," she said. "It made me feel that I can actually cause something to happen. Usually, we feel everything is way out of our hands, while people at the top handle everything, but Ms. Walker made me realize that we can actually do something."

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- Brides & Grooms Vows the Crowd: Club Om's Diwali Dhamaka, pg. 10
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Inside

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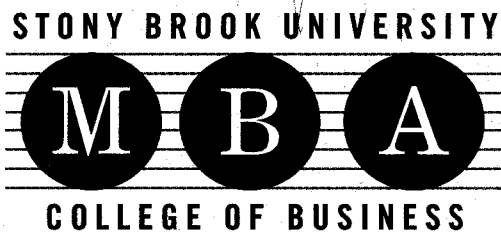
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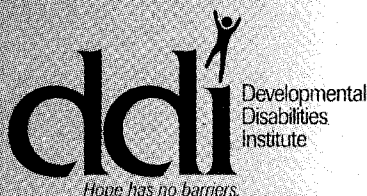
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Continued from page 1

to this field provides students with information to decide if this area is of career interest to them."

SBU's AA brings together more than 95,000 alumni worldwide. Established in 1965, the AA has sponsored and participated in innumerable events in the past, including the new student cookout, Homecoming, reunions, commencements, the Student Ambassador Program, home and away athletic games, Staller Center performances and even a "Stony Break" for students during finals week. The Association also holds an annual Distinguished Alumni and Faculty Awards Ceremony.

The 24th Distinguished Alumni Awards took place on Nov. 16. In relation to the awards process, Skinner said that "awards recipients are nominated by faculty, staff, and alumni, and are selected by the Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee which consists of AA Board Members." This year's five award recipients included Peter J. Remch, who received the Distinguished Alumni Award of Excellence, which is presented to an alumnus who is not only a philanthropist, but also a community advocate, supporter of the university and an overall achiever. According to Skinner, "it is in effect our Lifetime Achievement Award."

The Distinguished Alumni Benefactor Award was presented to Michael Manoussos. The award is presented to an alumnus who has made a substantial contribution, not only financially, but to help advance SBU. Benefactors are responsible for many of the wonderful initiatives and programs on campus. The award for University and Community Service was awarded to Gene Mundie. This award is presented to an alumnus who has dedicated his time to serving SBU and its surrounding community. Skinner said that such alumni "touch countless lives through their dedicated volunteerism and truly make SBU and the world, a better place."

The Distinguished Alumni Award for Innovation was awarded to Michael Zeitlin. It honors an alumnus who has developed a unique design that in every aspect improves the world around us.

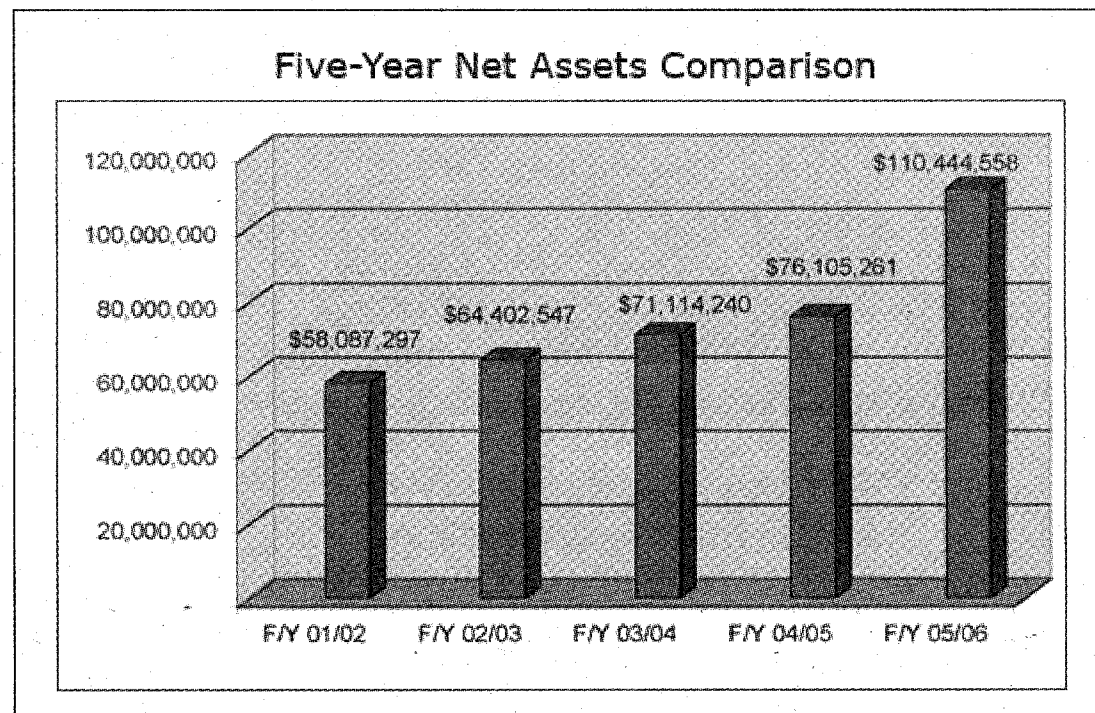
Zeitlin is the President of Magic Consultants Inc. According to Skinner, alumni who receive this award "are pioneers in groundbreaking advancements and leaders with their discovery." The Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Carole L. Weidman for reaching the pinnacle of success in her field. Skinner said that recipients of this award "have taken their education from Stony Brook, mixed it with a generous dose of hard work and determination, and became, quite simply stated, the best of the best."

President Kenny has said that "Investment in Stony Brook is investment in the highest level of academic and research potential." In response to this, Saidens said that "I welcome the opportunity to be able to give back to Stony Brook, for all of the doors throughout my professional career that were opened to me, as well as those doors that were prevented from closing on me because I was a Stony Brook Alum."

Saidens further added that "I consider myself extremely fortunate to have attended Stony Brook and I am very appreciative of all that SB President Kenny has done during her tenure as President, to bring Stony Brook to the level that it is, both as a world renown research institution, and simultaneously as a very special university where the tone, tenor and feeling is one of support for the students, and the entire SB community. In my opinion, she has been, and continues to be, an inspiration of what a dedicated and visionary University president is supposed to be and do."

According to a US News and World Reports' survey, the University as a whole only gains 3% of its revenue from alumni contributions. The number has supposedly risen in the last few years. The amount given by alumni to the AA is lesser because alumni donate directly to SBU Advancement and specific departments. The AA budget from funds outside the University is approximately \$400,000. At least 5% of this is reserved for scholarships, grants and other award-related purposes.

AA also maintains a Five Year Plan. The current one runs from 2005 through 2010 and outlines the planning and development of the University as a whole. The



Years ended June 30,	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Revenue:					
Gifts & Gifts in Kind	\$12,108,671	\$19,746,469	\$13,319,954	\$14,910,233	\$52,362,044
Non-Gifts	\$6,276,535	\$8,526,631	\$7,653,248	\$9,151,921	\$13,431,837
Total Revenue	\$18,385,206	\$28,273,100	\$20,973,202	\$24,062,154	\$65,793,881
Endowment Growth (net assets)	\$30,689,697	\$33,777,459	\$37,236,148	\$40,693,822	\$48,749,318
Endowment Rate of Return	1.9%	8.6%	10.4%	8.36%	14.85%

Summary of financial highlights from fiscal year 2001-2002 to fiscal year 2005-2006.

Courtesy of Stony Brook Foundation

plan was positively received by President Shirley Strum Kenny after it was worked together and synthesized by Christina Law, Vice President of the Executive Committee, and Mark Saidens, Past President of the AA Board of Directors. The current President is Scott Abrams.

The Stony Brook Foundation plays a vital role in ensuring that donations are properly circulated. More than 95 percent of non-endowed funds donated to the Foundation last year went directly toward the University. The Foundation helped to generate approximately \$3.8 million in scholarship awards for academic year 2004-2005.

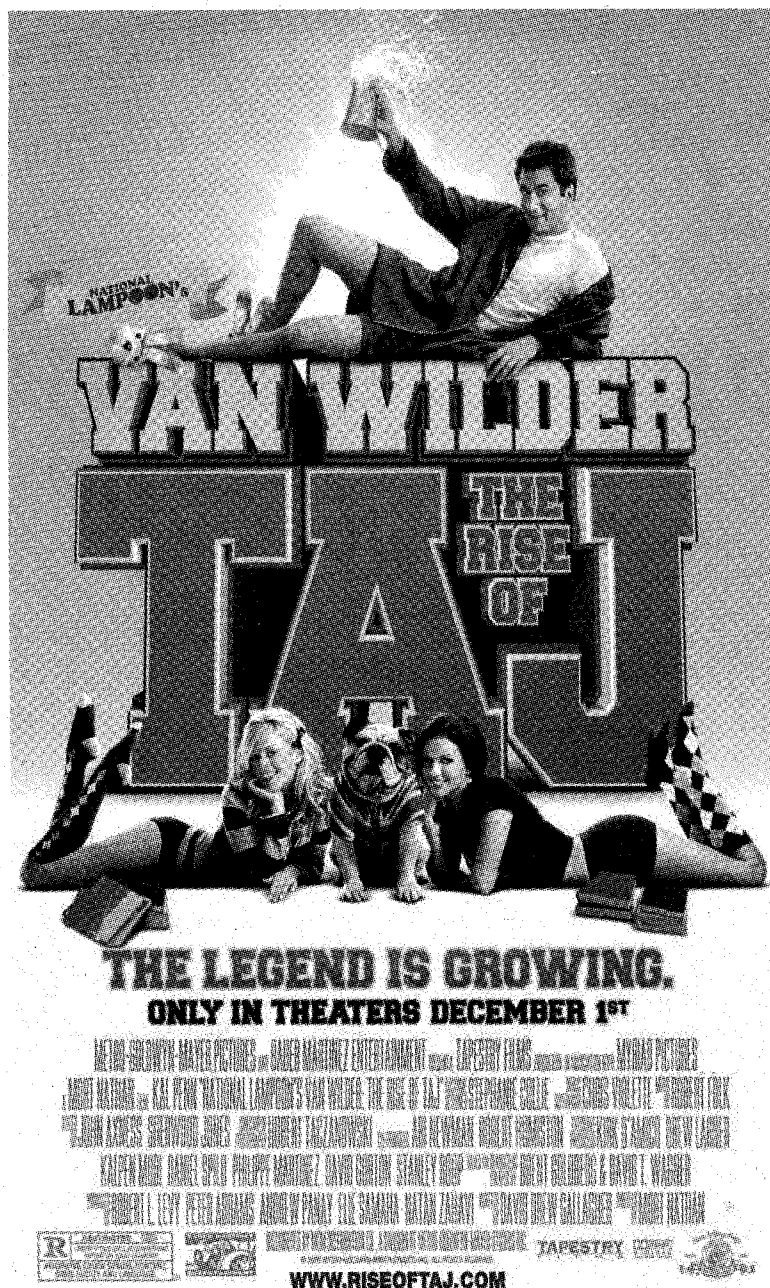
Undergraduate students continue to benefit through AA because of its coordination of scholarships. According to Mark Saidens, a special committee "composed of Alumni Staff,

Alumni Board Members and students - undergraduate Alumni Board member and a student assistant who works in the AA Office." Skinner elaborated on this: "The AA has a Student Awards program which offer both recognition of achievement as well as a monetary award. The AA also contributes \$25,000 to the University Scholarship fund. Since there are not many scholarships in place for continuing students, we have tried to fill this need by allocating our scholarship dollars." An amount in \$2,500 is awarded based on need to high performing students in their respective years - incoming freshman, sophomores, juniors, seniors and any class year on academic excellence.

As for alumni support to SBU, Skinner said that "While we are state school, the majority of our budget does not come from the

state, and therefore we rely on the generosity of alumni to support our school...[Our Alumni's] knowledge, real world experience, and understanding of the 'real' world in a practical sense adds depth to the education that students receive."

If with simply 3% of our support from alumni, SBU can organize so many networking events, imagine the possibilities with a lot more than that. The importance and meaning of giving, was probably best expressed by Saidens, when he said that "Giving" involves more than money. When people are able to facilitate networking and help SB students, this equates with investing in the future of the university. The linked legacies of SB grads and their impact, both as individuals and as global citizens, are part of what makes a great university even greater."



The New Heritage Inn

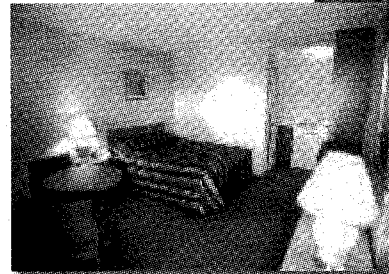
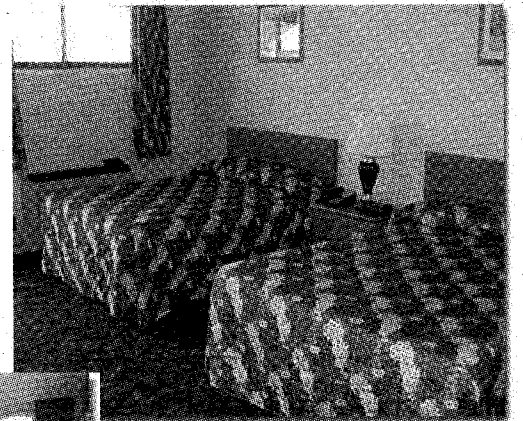
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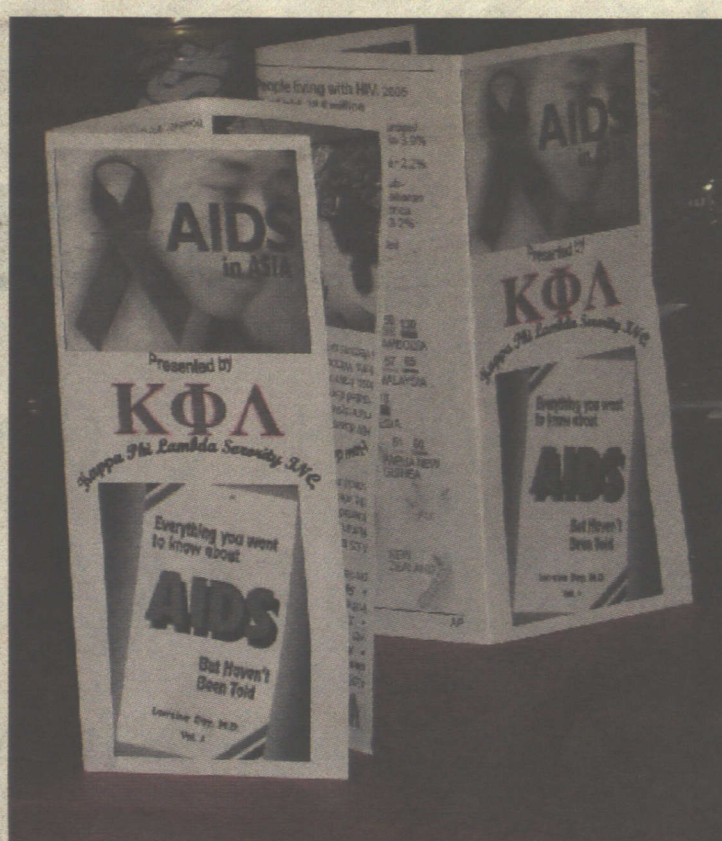
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Taking Off the Blindfold

Photos by Suraj Rambhia



Brides & GROOMS

VOWS THE CROWD:

CLUB OM'S

DIWALI DHAMAKA

By SHANZA MALIK
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The loud music and bright colors are not the only appeal of Indian cultural events. Hosted by Club Om, the Diwali Dhamaka 2006 and 'Dulha-Dulhan' Fashion Show was another fun and colorful event.

Most commonly known for their spicy food, colorful attire and catchy music, South Asians are typically labeled as bookworms who happen to have good taste in food and music. At the Diwali Show, there was anything but books out on the stage to present an evening of fast-paced fun to a bumping beat.

Although advertised to start at 6:30 pm on the night of November 19, it did not start until more than a little after 7:00 pm, validating a common South Asian joke: "Indian and Pakistani events never start on time." After much anticipation, the show began with a bang: flashing red lights, a colorful emcee, and intoxicating music. The emcee, Yash Shah, kicked off the event by doing a quick, yet exciting dance and promptly introduced the members of the E-board for Club OM.

Following the introduction, a brief speech by special guest Professor Narayan Hegde brought us all to awareness of the actual meaning behind Diwali and the cultural significance to people of Hindu background.

After all of the formal introductions and explanations were taken care of, the real event began, first with a musical guest, "Har Ik Zehr", which in Urdu, means "Every Single Poison". Their music was a blend of Pakistani and American Rock, the classic "East meets West" fusion. Lead singer Amish Dar captivated the audience with his unique sound and

hypnotic guitar.

The highlight of the evening was the 'Dulha-Dulhan' Fashion Show, arranged by Club Om, and presented by a group of South Asian students. 'Dulha', in Urdu and Hindi means Groom, and 'Dulhan', of course means Bride. The focus of this fashion show was to incorporate culture and the recent Westernization of Marriage Custom in the East. The show featured 28 couples dressed in colorful attire ranging from traditional to modern dress.

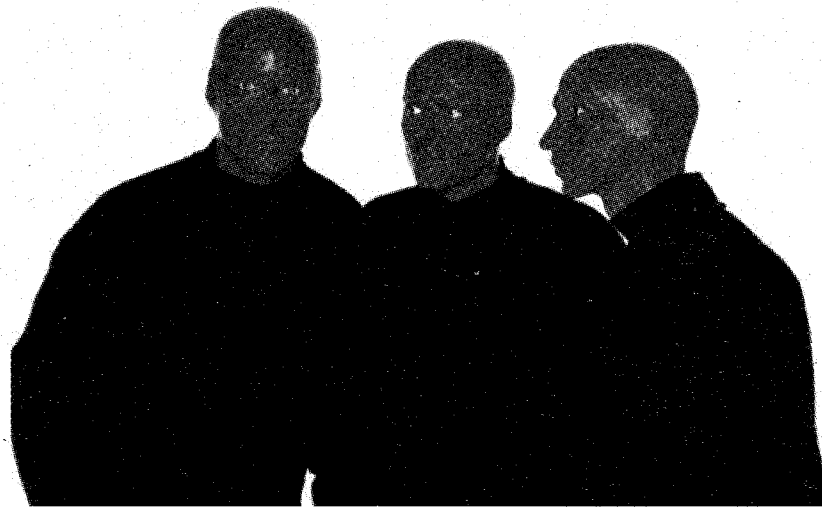
Couples "walked down the aisle", showing off colorful costumes, accompanied with traditional heavy jewelry. In traditional Indo-Pak culture, brides dress in a red dress, often heavily adorned with gold or silver trim, organza, silks, brocades, and other heavy fabrics. Grooms wear a matching shervani, an "Eastern suit" which is also decorated with similar gold and silver trim, and matching fabric accents. Although the entrances were poorly timed and often confusing, the event was a crowd pleaser and gave everyone a healthy dose of South Asian Marriage Culture, an often misinformed subject.

After the main event wound down, it was followed up with a few rousing rounds of addictive music and heart-pumping dance. The Stony Brook Bhangra team put on one of their best performances, and enticed the crowd to 'wow' and clap at the great traditional music. Followed up by Thillana, the evening was a hit, with only one minor costume malfunction on stage.

The evening wrapped up with a dinner of traditional Indian food followed by an open dance floor that featured both Eastern and Western flavors of music. A mixed crowd of South Asian and American students crowded the floor for a pumped up evening.

Going Blue:

BLUEMAN GROUP



Courtesy of bluemans.com

By MICHAEL J. LEAHY
Contributing Writer

The drumming is primordial. Darkness yields to bluish light as water swirls in giant glass test tubes. Darkness prevails again and the beats intensify. A silhouette emerges from the void revealing a drummer, frantically pounding. The tension increases as a second silhouette appears: drumming energetically: louder and faster. A taut audience watches the third shadow never expecting the cheap but funny sight gag that follows.

Welcome to Blue Man Group where performance art meets vaudeville. Watch the monitor, stage right, as a double helix heralds the arrival of a new life form: anthropomorphic aliens with blue skin and hairless heads wearing general issue black jumpsuits. Peering tentatively and quizzically at the audience and at one another, these aliens initially seem baffled by their new surroundings. This confusion passes quickly, however, and they soon become silent funnymen: alternately taking the piss out of modern art, pop musicians, internet isolation, and the information overload of their host community.

Never preachy or boring, the social messages are served up with original music (compliments of Larry Heinemann, Ian Pai, and a small group of talented musicians), shock-and-awe lighting techniques (designed by Matthew McCarthy), the clever use of video (thanks to Dennis Diamond), and lots of humor (writers Matt Goldman,

Phil Stanton and Chris Wink—who also provide triple-threat duty as the creators, producers and aliens).

Ever punctuated by sight gags, big-hammer messages, audience interaction, prop-abuse, seat walking, and continual media changes, the show is surprisingly smooth in its flow. With hints to progeny from

Thurber's Carnival, Laurie Andersen's Big Science, Philip Glass's score to Koyaanisqatsi, and most everything by Brian Eno, the creators and all of their collaborators deliver an entertaining production that almost ends too soon.

The show is worth a road trip so borrow the Civic from the guy down the hall, pile in, and head out to experience Blue Man Group. Depending on the road trip budget you can catch this show in New York, Boston, Chicago, Las Vegas, Toronto, London or Berlin. The cash-conscious will want to stick with the New York venue. Student rush tickets are usually available on the day of the show for \$25.00: a great price considering the full ticket costs \$74.00 plus fees. Tickets are sold subject to availability starting one hour before show time and are one-to-a-customer with student ID card. If you go to an evening show you can park the rag for free right in front of the theater starting at 7:00 pm.

Sunday nights are usually good for getting a carload of tickets but they may not all be together. No worries, though, ---when the theater goes dark and the drumming starts there won't be any opportunity for socializing.

Doodle Much? Submit your doodles:

arts@sbstatesman.org

BORAT: SUED!

By ELIZABETH SCISCI
Asst. A&E Editor

Some of the most successful comedic and politically poignant developments become overshadowed in today's world with the virtually impossible task of staying politically correct and uncontroversial. Despite the overwhelming success of his film *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, Sacha Baron Cohen, instead of receiving praise for inventing and facilitating a new type of comedy has faced constant lawsuits, suing him for exploitation of the victims in his film and for damaging the reputation of the central Asian country that serves as the fictional character's homeland.

Borat, the exaggerated stereotype of a Middle Eastern newscaster, originated on Cohen's sketch TV program "Da Ali G. Show," on which he interviews unsuspecting people as either Ali G., a mumbling, bumbling, self-proclaimed "gangsta" from a town outside London, the flamboyant fashion critic, Bruno, and, of course as Borat. Cohen stops at nothing to embarrass celebrities, government officials, and the average, innocent passerby by asking asinine questions, making them explain what should be obvious, and pretending to hide behind an imaginary cultural barrier and false ignorance. In short, while Cohen's characters may appear uninformed and ill-mannered to the people he meets, his aliases are only pretend; the way his victims respond awkwardly and comically is real. Cohen has mastered a new type of comedy, and should be congratulated.

But instead of receiving happy returns for such a high profitable break through, as his new movie grossing \$70 million as of November 16, Cohen is being criticized and sued. First, the new film was ridiculed for the rampant anti-Semitism expressed in the film, but what most people do not realize is that Cohen himself is Orthodox Jewish, keeping kosher, observing the Jewish Sabbath, and remaining closely tied to Israel, the homeland of

his mother before her immigration to England. He is mocking anti-Semitism itself, poking fun at how idiotic stereotypical perceptions can be as Borat accuses Jews of being money grubbing, violent terrorists.

And then there were countless lawsuits. A couple frat boys featured in a scene of the movie that takes place in their RV were the first to sue. They drunkenly make racist and sexist comments in front of the camera before accepting payment for their parts in the film and signing a release form allowing the footage taken of them to appear in a motion picture. According to CNN.com, the lawsuit claims that the film "made plaintiffs the object of ridicule, humiliation, mental anguish and emotional and physical distress, loss of reputation, goodwill and standing in the community."

Almost everyone in the movie has brought suit against the movie's production, including the government of Kazakhstan, who took offense when Borat was a mere television sketch. According to ABC news, Kazakh Foreign Ministry spokesman Yezhan Ashybayev said in a press conference before the release of the movie "we do not rule out that Mr. Cohen is serving someone's political order designed to present Kazakhstan and its people in a derogatory way. We reserve the right to any legal action to prevent new pranks of the kind." Nothing has come of the threats, as according to the Gannett News Service, embassy spokesman Roman Vassilenko dismissed those accounts in which Kazakhstan threatened to sue.

So is Cohen out of line, or is this world out of sense of humor? Well, some arguments of offended, candid costars of the movie seem somewhat justified. The beginning of the movie was shot in a poor Romanian village, where only four of the 1000 residents are employed and eagerly accepted the money being paid to them for being contributors in the film. Unbeknownst to them, Cohen names them prostitutes, "town abortionists," and replaces the arm of villager, Grandfather Nicu, with a sex toy. Nicu is quoted by Thisis-

london.co.uk as claiming not to know what the false arm really was and says "our region is very poor, and everyone is trying hard to get out of this misery. It is outrageous to exploit people's misfortune like this to laugh at them."

Also suing is the Behr's, a couple who owns a Massachusetts bed and breakfast in which the makers of the film superimpose cockroaches. Claiming it hurt their business, and mortified that some one would take advantage of genuine hospitality, they also plan to take legal action, as does TV news producer Dharma Arthur. Arthur claims that Cohen's antics on her news broadcast as Borat ultimately caused her to lose her job. During the scene in question, Borat refuses to stay within the frame of the interview, and attempts to kiss anchor Brad McMullan in greeting, interrupting Ken Johnson's live weather report on his way out.

According to the movie's director Larry Charles, the goal was "to make a hysterically funny movie." "The idea of exposing hypocrisy? Those were secondary agendas." It turns out there were some other byproducts of the film that they did not anticipate. But was the harm done to the movie's contributors intentional? Certainly not. Other than the production team's neglect in thoroughly explaining to the Romanian citizens the role they would play in the comedy, the other complaints seem trite considering all those featured in the film signed release forms and were paid for their time. The film would surely not be such a success without its star taking major risks, and let's face it, no one since Michael Moore has been so successful in manipulating people into saying unintelligent things.

And Cohen has faced personal losses, getting into a fist fight with a random spectator in a bar when he spontaneously decided to try his Borat act. His Saturday Night Live costar of that evening, Hugh Laurie stepped in to break up the fight. It seems Borat proves with his every appearance that successful comedy is really no laughing matter.

REEL DEAL

For Your Consideration

By AMANDA SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

The latest film from the mind of Christopher Guest opened to mixed reviews, which is the opposite of its plot. In *For Your Consideration* the 'in-production film' Home for Purim's lead actress, Marilyn Hack played by Catherine O'Hara, has been mentioned on a website for a possible Oscar-worthy performance. Wonder and excitement ensue and soon others in the business take notice that generates more Oscar buzz.

What sets *For Your Consideration* apart from *Best In Show*, *A Mighty Wind*, etc. is that this one is not in faux documentary style. There are interviews but not led by an objective party. This difference in narration does not allow the audience to have access to the character's separate and yet combined commentaries. None of the characters speak into or face the camera thus keeping a distance between the film and the audience. Instead of being right there with them we are merely observers.

While featuring its usual cast there are appearances by Rachel Harris, Sandra Oh, Richard Kind, and others who are not used to the best of their abilities. What pulls this movie down further is the lack of creation put into the characters. It was as if Guest did not know whom he would be working with. However, the group did take full advantage of their lines. The actors made the movie better than its script. Jennifer Coolidge was the most comical especially because of her hair, makeup, and clothing. Eugene Levy barely had any screen time but nicely portrayed a stereotypical agent.

Although very predictable it

points out the repressed truths of Hollywood. For example: older women are rarely attractive in their roles and thus do all they can to look younger in public. Marilyn's transformation from normal middle age to wannabe 20-something produces the greatest laughs at first sight. In its basic form a film is the visual adaptation of a script. Its meaning lies within the text and when compromised by a director, it changes. This was well expressed as Guest throws the script down in front of his actors and the writers jump to their feet in horror.

'For your consideration' is a phrase used in the film industry's magazines for suggesting a film/TV show or so-and-so for nominations. This movie makes fun of today's obsession with predicting the year's best. Wisely choosing to open the story by having Home for Purim in the midst of its shooting and far from its wide release date is symbolic of the world's rush to the red carpet. Further proof is in reality to enhance appeal and praise, advertisements must show positive blurbs from reviews but have you ever noticed their pattern? In January and February: the best new...of the year. In late May to early August: the best...of the summer. And then from late October to December all the dramas and holiday movies are rolled out to make the most profits. Every year this happens and people buy into it because they want to see what is so great before no longer in front of them.

For Your Consideration does not have the high level of crazy humor and resulting laughter as expected but it succeeds in properly portraying Hollywood. Unfortunately, I predict zero Oscar nominations.

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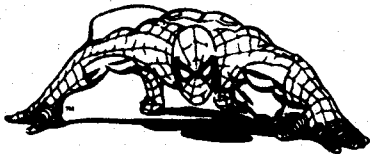
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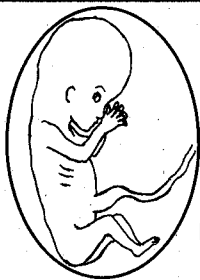
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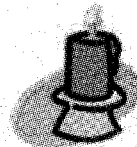
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4:00PM		
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5:00PM	Think Talk	Think Talk
5:30PM	Ski & Snow	Ski & Snow
6:00PM	Zip	SBU Sports
6:30PM		SBU News
7:00PM		USG Senate
7:30PM		
8:00PM		
8:30PM		
9:00PM	SB Spotlight	Seawolves Sports

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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.

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Re: Newsday Misreported, Says Administration

BY ALEXANDRIA IMPERATO
SBU Sophomore

For a school as enamored with the field of journalism as SBU is (in fact, Dr. Kenny also pushed for the implementation of a journalism program while president of CUNY Queens College), their treatment of a well-established newspaper like Newsday is, at best, unfair.

The administration repeatedly criticizes Newsday for failing to "...capture the subtleties of these cases..." (Media Relations Officer Patrick Calabria in reference to the infants who died while SBUMC patients) while failing to acknowledge that Newsday has not actually made any allegations; they have simply reported the allegations leveled by others. It was in fact the New York State Department of

Health that expressed concern over the recent incidents at Stony Brook University Medical Center, including the unprecedented action of appointing an administrator with no medical background to the role of a hospital's "governing body."

The report issued by the DOH specifically stated, "[t]he governing body does not ensure that the medical staff is accountable for quality of care provided to all patients." This was reported by Newsday, but Newsday did not level these allegations.

Health Commissioner Antonia Novello personally stated, "When I look at how this one hospital is allowing doctors to practice outside their scope and qualifications... Oh my God, oy vey," Novello said. "...I have a feeling they had a selective method, that whenever they had a

need for a person, they just found a person to do it...that is worrisome."

Once more, while these quotes were indeed printed in Newsday's November 5 article "Blame For Boss," they were verbatim quotations from the NYS Health Commissioner, not paraphrased interpretations of careless comments made by anonymous people on the street.

SBU continues to refuse to own up to the mistakes that have occurred in the Medical Center (including placing an administrator with no medical background in a position usually reserved for seasoned physicians) by launching counter-allegations that do not address the issue at hand.

For example, they have continued to criticize Newsday while

failing to acknowledge that the state's Department of Health actually issued the scathing report that criticized Dr. Kenny and the Medical Center. Despite the extensive "damage control" performed on the part of the University by Mr. Calabria, it is apparent that those beyond the artificial world of the University remain unconvinced.

From 2004 to 2005 (even before a majority of the allegations were made by the DOH), Stony Brook's Medical school dropped from 59th to 65th out of 123 in National Institutes of Health awards. Brookhaven Memorial Hospital Medical Center chose to become affiliated with St. Francis Hospital in Roslyn (some 30-odd miles away from Brookhaven) for cardiac services instead of Stony Brook.

Is SBU Getting Gypped on Thanksgiving?

BY NATASHA POHUJA
Contributing Writer

"Wake up and help me prepare this dinner!" If you have a parent or another relative who tells you to help out during Thanksgiving, this means you need a little more than just Thursday off. Because family is the first priority for many people, it is important that they pour their hearts out into the preparation.

A traditional Thanksgiving meal consists of cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, stuffing, eggnog, fruit salad, corn bread, pumpkin pie, apple pie, pecan pie, and most importantly, a large turkey with gravy, a clean house, a well-set dinner table, and lots of family.

If Thanksgiving was not at your house this year, lucky you! The hard work in preparing this intricate meal pays off when time is spent with family. Here at Stony Brook, many of us come to school expecting leniency in our lives, in exchange for devoting our precious years to this educational system, which is expected to make this world a better place.

There seems to be less tolerance at SBU for breaks, when compared to other schools. Why are we being treated different? Aren't we just as deserving as other college students to have a

longer break? If you are a student or faculty member here at SBU, you are probably aware of the fact that school was in session on Wednesday, Nov. 22, before Thanksgiving. Many students have travel plans to see their families.

This quick break seems especially unjust to students who live on campus. Most students residing in dormitories live at least 45 minutes away. One junior expresses her anger over Thanksgiving break, saying, "We have to pack up our f-----g things for like a brief period. I don't feel as if I have had an f-----g break. This system sucks...and I live out of state...a d--m eight-hour drive!"

Here is a list of a few schools with corresponding Thanksgiving schedules:

Brown (Rhode Island): No classes after 12 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 22.

SUNY Binghamton: No classes after 1pm on Wednesday, Nov. 22.

Keene State College (New Hampshire): No classes after Tuesday, Nov. 21.

SUNY Canton: No classes after Tuesday, Nov. 21.

SUNY Fredonia: No classes after Monday, Nov. 20.

Holy Cross College (Massachusetts): No classes after

Monday, Nov. 20.

University of Connecticut (Connecticut): No classes after Friday, Nov. 17.

All of these schools seem to have a much better deal than SBU. Ironically, many teachers canceled classes because they were aware that most students would take off early, regardless. I personally took off a day early, even though I don't like to skip my classes. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving was a very important day for me. I had an alumni breakfast to attend at my old high school. My family always has a head start in preparing our Thanksgiving dinner the Wednesday evening before. My daily schedule included a class until 8:40 p.m. on Wednesdays. I decided not to go to class that day. After having left early, I can proudly say that I have no regrets. This extra day was too important to overlook.

At a later point in time, many students expressed their feelings over our quick break. Some mentioned expectations from family to help out in preparation for Thanksgiving. Ashley Figueroa said, "It's not fair...I had to cook and clean so I needed at least another day." Basically, all I can say is that we need a longer break to make Thanksgiving all the more special.

Hospital Meets JCAHO Standards

Continued from page 1

Since the SBUMC's opening in 1980, it has had full accreditation from JCAHO.

"Above all, the national standards are intended to stimulate continuous, systematic and organization-wide improvement in an organization's performance and the outcomes of care," said Darlene Christiansen, executive director, Hospital Accreditation Program. "The community should be proud that Stony Brook University Medical Center is focusing on the most challenging goal -- to continuously raise quality and safety to higher levels."

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with other offers

All Month:
20% OFF any
1 logo item @ the
Seawolves MarketPlace
(Valid thru Dec. 22)
Excludes sale and
clearance items

1 Save 10% on all
red sweatshirts at
the University
Bookstore
Buy 2 slices of
pizza, get a FREE
small soda at
Kelly Dining Center

2 Save 10% on all
red sweatshirts at
the University
Bookstore

3 **All Month:**
Buy 6 donuts, get 6
FREE or Buy 25
munchkins get 25
FREE @ Dunkin
Donuts (Rte 25A

4 FREE 2 piece
Appetizer in
Chinese Section
from 3-6pm
with purchase
@ Jasmine

5 FREE Dessert with
purchase of a Small
Coffee @ the Kelly
Coffee & Tea House

6 Purchase a
deli sandwich and a
large fountain soda,
receive a FREE
apple at Kelly
Dining Center
FREE fountain soda
with purchase from
3-8pm @ Jasmine

7 FREE small
hot cocoa at
Tabler Café

8 Choose any side for
25¢ at Delancey Street
Glatt Kosher
Delicatessen Restaurant
Save 10% on all red
sweatshirts at the
University Bookstore

9 Save 10% on all
red sweatshirts at
the University
Bookstore

Stony Brook) All Month Mon-Fri: Get 10% OFF your entire check @ Uno Chicago Grill (Rte.25 across from Smithhaven Mall)

10 **All Month:**
Get 20% Off your
Meal @ IHOP (347 by
the Smithhaven
Mall) Mon-Fri: All
Day Sat & Sun:
After 4pm

11 FREE 2 piece
Appetizer in
Chinese Section
from 3-6pm
with purchase
@ Jasmine

12 FREE buttered bagel
at the Union Deli
from 8am-12pm
FREE Dessert with
purchase of a Small
Coffee @ the Kelly
Coffee & Tea House

13 Purchase a
pre-made salad and
receive a FREE
small fountain soda
@ Kelly Dining Center
FREE fountain soda
with purchase from
3-8pm @ Jasmine

14

15 \$1 Off any Lunch Combo
@ Bleacher Club
Save 10% on all red
sweatshirts at the
University Bookstore
FREE 2-scoop sundae @
the End of the Bridge

16 Save 10% on all
red sweatshirts at
the University
Bookstore

All Month Mon-Fri: Get 10% OFF your entire check @ Uno Chicago Grill (Rte.25 across from Smithhaven Mall)

17 **All Month:**
10% Off @
Strawberry Fields (Rte
25A Stony Brook)
All Month:
20% discount at
December Clothing Sale
at the HSC Bookstore

18 FREE 2 piece
Appetizer in
Chinese Section
from 3-6pm
with purchase
@ Jasmine

19 FREE Dessert with
purchase of a Small
Coffee @ the Kelly
Coffee & Tea House

20 Upgrade to
the next size soda
for FREE at Taco
Bell at Campus
Connection @ H-Quad
FREE fountain soda
with purchase from
3-8pm @ Jasmine

21 Buy one get one
FREE small fries
@ Burger King
@ Roth Food Court

22 Save 10% on all red
sweatshirts at the
University Bookstore

23 Save 10% on all
red sweatshirts at
the University
Bookstore

All Month Mon-Fri: Get 10% OFF your entire check @ Uno Chicago Grill (Rte.25 across from Smithhaven Mall)

24 **All Month:**
Get 10% Off @ Cold
Stone Creamery

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

All Month Mon-Fri: Get 10% OFF your entire check @ Uno Chicago Grill (Rte.25 across from Smithhaven Mall)

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SCHEDULE

Dec. 1 - Dec. 6

TRACK

Dec. 1, 2006

6:00 PM

Bronx, NY

MEN'S/WOMEN'S SWIMMING & DIVING

Dec. 2, 2006

1:00PM

Stony Brook, NY

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Dec. 2, 2006

3:00 PM

Stony Brook, NY

MEN'S BASKETBALL

HOFSTRA

Dec. 5, 2006

7:00 PM

Stony Brook, NY

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

TEMPLE

Dec. 6, 2006

7:00 PM

Philadelphia, PA



Statesman SPORTS

Seawolves Over the Break

By WILL LAHTI
Staff Writer

On Nov. 18, the Women's Basketball team defeated Yale 71-69 in a tough game. This was the consolation game in the DePaul Invitational, held in Chicago. They dominated first half of the game, leading by 14 four times. The lead was cut to 5 at halftime. Yale got as close as 1 point in the second half, but never lead after the early stages of the game. Jessica Smith and Cheri Davis lead the way, each scoring 12 points. A total of 5 players scored double digits for SBU. The Seawolves were near-perfect on free throws in the first half, and forced 31 Yale turnovers.

Meanwhile that day, the Volleyball team wrapped up 2006 on a sour note, falling to Albany in four games in Albany. They won game 3 after being down 2-0. They finish the season 13-17.

On Nov. 19, the Men's Basketball team fell to Navy 87-76 at the Indoor Sports Complex, despite 20-point games for both Mike Popoko and Ricky Lucas. Stony Brook had lead by as much as 11, until Navy came back to tie it up before halftime. By halftime, they lead, 34-29. The Midshipmen would score 53 points in the second half, going 22 for 26 from the foul line. Popoko was the America East Conference Player of the Game.

On Nov. 25, they traveled to New York City to face Columbia, and won by a score of 54-41. The first half was back and forth,

but a Mitchell Beauford jump shot at the end of the half gave Stony Brook a 27-24 lead at halftime, which they would not relinquish. Beauford would score 18 points, leading Stony Brook's effort. The defense was able to shut down Columbia, which came in averaging 72 points per game. The team is now 3-2.

On Nov. 28, the Women's Basketball team traveled to New Rochelle, NY to face Iona, where they picked up a 76-55 win, to improve to 2-2. Mykeema Ford led the way with 27 points, and Kelly Watson had 16. Stony Brook took the lead in the middle of the first half and never gave it up, leading by 13 at halftime. Iona never got close after that. Stony Brook's home opener is Dec. 2 against George Washington.

In football news, freshman sensation Cory Giddings became the first Seawolf to be named NEC Defensive Rookie of the Year since SBU joined the conference in 1999. The cornerback was also named to the all-NEC second team, and was the only freshman defensive player to receive that honor. He is the second SBU player to get a major conference award, with the first being Londre Blocker, who won Offensive Rookie of the Year in 2001. Giddings's season had many high points, including becoming the first player in NCAA history to return 3 fumbles in a game during the homecoming victory over Albany. Also getting honors were junior quarterback Josh Dudash and sophomore wide receiver Lynell Suggs.

In Pictures: Midshipmen Host Navy



Feng Bo / Statesman

