Statesman

Reparations pg 9

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SBSTATESMAN.ORG

Students Disgruntled at Campus Dining



Students agonize over the quality of food services on campus given the limited variety and expensive prices.

Munirah Hasan / Statesman

Services Found Lacking

By LYNN HSIEH,

TEJAS GAWADE
News Editor and Managing Editor

While some degree of grumbling about school food is to be expected at any university, Campus Dining continues to stir significant controversy at Stony Brook with student claims of overpriced food, inadequate standards of service, and a lack of food options on the weekends. Campus Dining Services, in conjunction with the not-for-profit Faculty Student Association (FSA), has been given the authority by Stony Brook University to provide food services to the campus and to maintain the dining facilities.

A typical complaint by a student on campus has to do with the price of food. A bottle of Minute Maid juice costs \$2.10, a cup of fresh fruit \$4.20 and salad is charged by the ounce. Junior Joshua Greene, resident student and a frequent patron of the Kelly Dining Center, said "Everything is so expensive...I don't know how, but I always run out of money before the semester ends."

According to Lisa Ospitale, the Marketing Director for Campus Dining Services, a number of factors contribute to high food prices on campus, including dining employees' health benefits, relatively high wages for student workers at \$7.15 per hour, and a lack of storage that would enable bulk item purchases. "We are not like Costco or Wal-Mart and we don't buy things in bulk because we lack storage space. Hence, we don't buy and sell food as economically as them," said Ospitale. For comparison, a black and white cookie, individually packaged and sold at a retail supermarket, costs 99 cents, while the Union Deli charges \$1.60 for the same cookie. That constitutes a 60% difference in prices from a competing retail outlet, which is already in a higher

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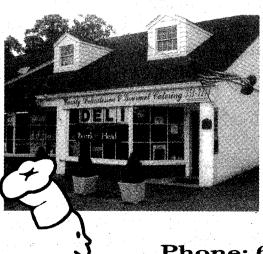
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Registration Deadline: Monday, February 26, at 5:00 pm

To register, visit the Office of Commuter Student Services, SAC Room 222, or fill out and submit the registration form which can be found on the CSS Blackboard site.

Limited to 25 spaces.

Between Feb.14 and Feb. 15, there were a lot of snow related accidents, including five motor vehicle accidents and a number of medical emergencies. On the morning of Feb.14, there were three accidents, including one in the South Parking Lot, one on South Drive, and one on Nichols Road, with one car leaving the scene. On the morning of Feb. 15, there were two more accidents, including one in the Stadium Parking Lot and one on Entrance Drive.

There were a number of medical emergencies due to ice and snow over the course of these two days, including two accidents in Tabler Quad, one in Sanger College and one in Dreiser College. There were also medical emergencies near the SBU Hospital and around the Chemistry Buildings.

Small Fire

On the afternoon of Feb. 15 there was a small cooking related fire at the West Apartments. The SB Fire Department responded and there were no further issues.

Party

On the night of Feb. 15. police were needed to help break up a large party at Whitman College in Roth Quad. No further issues persisted.

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday,

February

19,

Larceny

There were a few cases of larceny on Feb. 14, including a stolen credit card and a couple of other small items.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

Stony Brook Students Rail Against Campus Dining Services

Continued from page 1

Student

Forecast:

Feb. 19 - Feb. 25

by Jamie Waller

Monday:

High 27/Low 16 Sunny, Cold and Windy

Tuesday:

High 45/Low 23

Increasing clouds,

but much warmer

Wednesday:

High 43/Low 31

Slight chance of rain AM,

Clearing by PM

Thursday:

High 45/Low 28

Mostly sunny

Friday:

Saturday:

High 41/Low 26

Mostly clear AM,

Increasing clouds PM

High 44/Low 29 Sunny and still mild price class than a wholesale store, such as Costco or Wal-Mart.

A quart of milk is \$2.05 at the Union Deli, while a local off campus supermarket charges 84 cents. A 14 oz box of Lucky Charms cereal is \$6.15 on campus and \$4.59 at the same supermarket off campus. A 12 oz can of Skippy's peanut butter costs \$3.15 on campus and \$2.49 for an 18 oz jar off campus, which constitutes roughly a 23% surcharge for an item that is only 66% the size. 12 pieces of Ferrero Rocher cost \$8.99 on campus and \$3.29 off campus. A package of Raffaello costs \$8.99 on campus and \$2.99 off campus. A package of Nature Valley granola costs \$13.80 on campus and \$3.19 off campus, which makes the on campus price over 430% more than a retail

supermarket.

Food prices are set by a Resolutions Committee that decides the prices after comparing them with offerings from vendors in the Stony Brook community. The committee is comprised mainly of FSA mem-

Since each SUNY school must go through a bidding process to determine the best vendor fit, there are different vendors for different schools. Stony Brook employs Chartwells as its main vendor for most of the dining venues in West Campus. For instance, at SUNY New Paltz, all freshman students are required to have meal plans, but it is a carte blanche system, allowing unlimited trips to dining halls for \$1,340 a semester. New Paltz employs Sodexho as its main dining vendor. During students' second semester, they have

an all-you-can-eat policy with a basic meal plan that provides 14 meals per week in addition to a declining debit,

different so you can't compare us cheese slice and \$2.50 topping pizza at Stony Brook.

provide dining services in-house, bypassing vendors altogether. Geneseo University is one such school that has taken this route. The governing body

Continued on page 13

at the cost of \$1,260. The basic meal plan that Stony Brook offers costs students \$1,430 per semester. "Our standards of living are

with other schools from other areas. For instance, a school in Florida has different costs than we do," said Ospitale. Yet, a pepperoni pizza slice at the University of Buffalo costs only \$1.65 as compared with the \$1.70

Some SUNY schools opt to

Harvard Elects First Woman President

By MEAGAN O'CONNELL Contributing Writer

With the announcement of Harvard's first woman president, students and faculty at Stony Brook agree that higher education is on the road to change.

Drew G. Faust will become the 28th president of the oldest institution of higher education in the United States as of Jul. 1, 2007. With her appointment, women presidents will lead half of the eight Ivy League schools, including the University of Pennsylvania, Princeton University and Brown

Other universities look up to Harvard, said Megan Newhouse-Bailey, a Women's Studies major. She said that with Nancy Pelosi becoming the first woman speaker of the house and now Harvard electing its first woman president, it is a great change. "There are more female role models for not

only women to look up to, but for everyone to look up to," she said.

In the past, it was easier for women to become presidents of community colleges than research universities, but according to The Association of American Universities, times are changing. Of the 62 top research universities belonging to the association, two of which are in Canada, there are 13 woman presidents. SBU's President Shirley Strum Kenny became the third woman president in the association when SBU was elected to join

There is a prejudice that still exists against women's ability to excel in the math and sciences, Kenny said. Former Harvard President, Lawrence Summers, whom Faust will replace, resigned last year after he made controversial comments at an academic confer-

Continued on page 13

Faith & Science: A Common **Ground?**

By Kristina Krykhtin

Is there such thing as a peaceful world between science and religion? A discussion was held on Friday Feb. 16th, 2007 titled "Faith and Science: is there an Interface?' to help the public see the common ground between the two.

A very diverse group of people gathered to give their thoughts on the issue: Jeffrey Levington, SBU professor of Ecology and Evolution, Rabbi Joseph Topek, SBU Hillel director, Rev. Richard Edwards, pastor of SBU community church, Catherine Schuyler SBU pastor, Robert Crease, professor and chair of SBU Department

Continued on page 13

Sunday: High 39/Low 28

Mostly cloudy, chance of rain late

Behind the Numbers

If you have been tired of the leftover ice due to last weeks winter scene, ice due to last weeks winter scene, there is no need to worry. After Monday, temperatures around the area will be about five degrees above our normal high of 40. This is thanks in part to the jet stream, which will slowly move north of the area. A stationary boundary will help shift winds from West-Northwesterly to Southwesterly. Temperatures for the next six days will be in the 40's, melting ice and creating above average temperatures. With this scenario in place, do not expect to see snowfall for at least a week.

place, do not expect to see snowfall for at least a week.

We will, however, see a slight chance of rain on Wednesday, but nothing significant. The rest of the week will be mild and sunny, with overnight lows only dipping into the upper 20's and lower 30's. As of now, the first half of the weekend is looking good, while Sunday may bring more rain to our area. Check back on Wednesday for a better outlook at the weekend.

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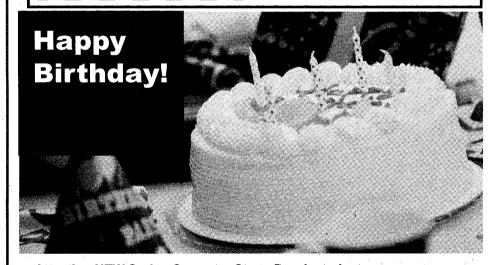
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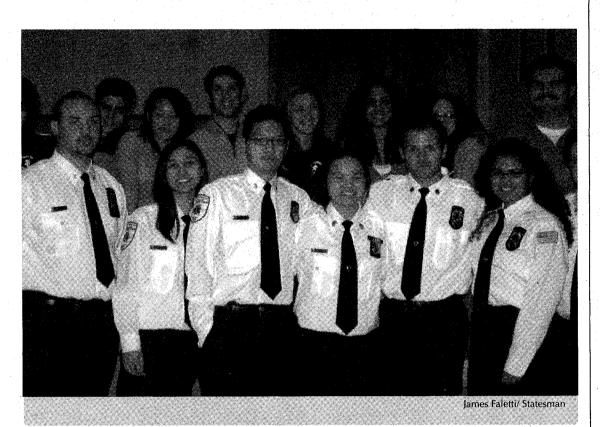
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SBVAC: A SMALL GROUP WITH A HUGE HEART



By James Faletti Contributing Writer

For over 30 years, Stony Brook Volunteer Ambulance Corps. or SBVAC, has been serving the Stony Brook community by offering top quality assistance to those in need. You may ask, "What makes this group of individuals different than any other am-

bulatory group?" The answer is that each and every member of this spectacular organization is not only volunteering their own time, but they are also students and members of the Stony Brook community. It is quite possible that the person sitting next to you in your math class or the gentleman who held the door for you could be one of these vol-

unteers for SBVAC. Bottom line is, anybody can be a part of this organization -and that's what is for SBU. On the contrary, they so special about them.

SBVAC was created in 1970 by a small group of Stony Brook University students, who were frustrated with the slow and extremely dangerous response time(s) from the local fire and health departments. In an effort to minimize their reliability on Blackout of 2004 and the attacks

other public services, SBVAC was on September 11. created. Today, employing over 70-90 dedicated volunteers and three operational ambulances, SBVAC provides aid to not only SBU, but to neighboring facilities alike when needed.

It is interesting when I started talking with other students and faculty members on campus about SBVAC, and the only idea which most people can muster

"It is important to exemplify superior leadership skills, not only while on duty, but off duty as well."

Tina Seecharan, President

up about the SBVAC is that they are just an ambulatory group are much more. Their influence and determination spreads out all over Long Island, filling in for local departments who need help or assistance when they are shorthanded, being placed on standby for local and national emergencies - like during the Northeast

I had the opportunity to speak one-on-one with Tina Seecharan, President of SBVAC, Tina Seecharan. When asked about her feelings pertaining to the organization, she stated, "Family...but a family can only work if everyone gets involved equally, so it is important to exemplify superior leadership skills, not only while on duty, but off

duty as well."

One big misconception which encompasses around SBVAC is its lack of credibility and responsibility due in part to its student involvement, but in all reality, these statements could never have been further from the truth. Andrew Rotjan - 2nd Assistant Chief stated, "When it comes to alcohol and drugs, this organization has

no place for it. When it comes down to it, SBVAC enforces a zero tolerance rule."

Amongst the many life saving and public serving action and events this group has performed, they still have time to give back even more to the community. During the spring and summer months, the dedicated members

Continued on page 13

Student Profile

Viraj Mehta, Student Leader and Activist



By Jesse Cozzetti

When asked about Virai Mehta, Urszula Zalewski, the Senior Career Counselor at the Career Center, stated, "He is the most dedicated and ambitious person I've ever seen in my life." Zalewski holds a high regard for Viraj Mehta (generally known around campus as Veer), 22, a highly involved Stony Brook University student and co-worker for two

Mehta is majoring in Multi-Disciplinary Studies focusing in Information System, Business Management and History. What makes Mehta unique is his ability to help other people. Mehta has worked for the American Cancer Society since he was a student at Suffolk Community College over 2 years ago, and is now the Campus Representative for ACS at SBU.

As a Campus Representative, Mehta is actively involved in promotions by trying to get other students involved in an ACS fundraiser called "Relay for Life." It's a 12-hour event where people walk to raise money for cancer and camp

out all night. There are plenty of games, food and music. Mehta says, "I enjoy spending the 12 hours during the event with some good friends, it's a great experience and should be given a chance by everyone." He believes ACS was for a good cause, and that is why he took the initiative to start it as a club. Zalewski believes Mehta "is a good example for [the] other students, with his leadership skills and his involvement in different activities on campus."

Although Mehta is a commuter student, you can almost always spot him on campus in the Career Center helping others, in the library studying for class or at the Jasmine Café chomping on some Indian food. He also "seems to know everyone on campus," according to his co-worker at the Career Center, Joanna Durso. Zalewski thinks Mehta would be "the perfect mentor for a freshman."

However, Mehta is due to graduate this May and plans on joining the work force, like the most of us desire. Mehta states, "I have a great opportunity to work with JPMorgan Chase as a full time technology analyst and I am looking forward to start working with them, as I know it will never be a dull moment, and if everything works out I might be back on campus to hire interns or full time analysts."

Mehta does want to eventually become a graduate student in the near future and keeps SBU close to his heart. "Stony Brook is a place where one can truly discover himself/herself and coming from a community college, Stony Brook had more opportunities that I could not have found anywhere else. I enjoy every minute while I am here and would not change any part of it."

As far as the future goes, Mehta plans on "taking whatever comes [his] way." According to his esteemed coworker Zalewski, 'I see him working for a huge company and being successful in whatever position he gets."

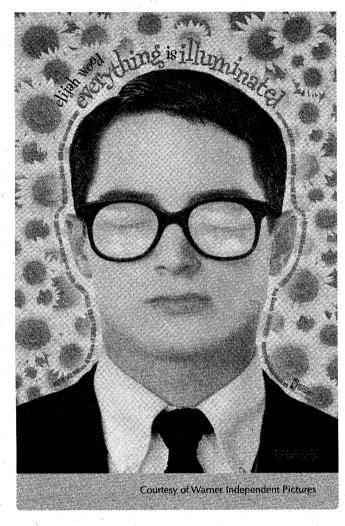
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EVERYTHING IS



By RACHEL BROZINSKY Staff Writer

"Everything is Illuminated" is a wellintentioned film, adapted and directed by Liev Schreiber, from the novel of the same name written by Jonathan Safran Foer. Unfortunately, good intentions do not necessarily make a good film.

This isn't the sort of movie where you would leave the theater wondering how you could have better spend those 10 dollars, nor will you recall how bored you were during the film's hour and fortyfive minute duration. Chances are you'll walk away from the film feeling absolutely nothing at all. Sadly, this story - that had so much potential - leaves the viewer with little material to have any sort of response, negative or otherwise.

The story follows the young and awkward Jonathan Safran Foer (Elijah Wood), who goes on a search for the woman who saved his grandfather's life during the Holocaust. He travels to Ukraine and enlists the help of Alex Perchov (Eugene Hutz) and his grandfather (Boris Leskin), who runs a business to help American Jews find traces of their ancestry in Ukraine. The three of them, and a dog named Sammy Davis, Jr., Jr., go on an adventure around the Ukrainian countryside where, of course, typically banal wackiness ensues. Were there not a tie-in to the Holocaust, this could have been any other bland buddy road trip movie.

The blandness of the film can be it leaves you feeling nothing at all.

greatly, and surprisingly, attributed to Wood's portrayal of Jonathan. Wood, whose youthfully innocent appearance would seem to lend itself to Jonathan's own odd naiveté, plays Jonathan with an almost disturbing detachment from the character. Jonathan comes across as hokey and insincere, which is off-putting from even the oddest of heroes.

The imagery in parts of the movie, in particular an endless field of sunflowers, is beautiful, but ultimately meaningless. These fantastic images (and the viewers) have only a superficial connection to the characters or events that are transpiring in this young man's life. It's frustrating to watch a film knowing that something greater lies beneath the surface, but no one took the time to aspire to reach that greatness.

The only redeeming aspect was the character of Alex. Hutz does a beautiful job of filling Alex with an inextinguishable light and life that makes him infinitely endearing. He transitions easily from a character of comic relief to one of deep and moving insight. His insecurity is trumped by his kind heart, and even though his English is not, as he says, "so premium," nothing that he feels is lost in the translation. You can read it on his face.

It's impossible to strongly like or dislike "Everything Is Illuminated," despite how it clearly tries to invoke some emotion. What that emotion is? I'm not really sure. It is unsatisfying because ultimately

Stony Brook in Vogue:



Size Up the Chill

By Amy Dragani Staff Writer

Is it cold enough for you? Just in case anyone thought winter overlooked Long Island, it has arrived in full force! The daily temperatures just looming near 25 degrees can only be battled with something warm and cozy - perhaps something

Oversized tops - meaning those that are ultra-long or even ultra-wide - are a fun choice, especially when it's frigid out. It's tempting to fight the ultimate chill by piling layer after layer of long sleeves and top it off with a heavy sweater you only wear skiing, however, one must keep appearance in mind just a little bit! For those icy days, a long sweater will keep you physically and aesthetically comfortable. My personal belief is that, because a longer-length sweater covers more of your body, there is less of a need to wear the heavy, thick fabrics (which are the ones that may be warm, yes, but the ones that also make you itch, itch, itch). Therefore, you'll find fantastic cotton and wool blends and, of course, who would turn down a little cashmere? Layer a long sweater over a cami or tank and you'll be

Long lengths are not the only way to sport oversized pieces. Don't be afraid of

tops that seem wider than what you are used to. Wider simply means more material which, in turn, means a warmer person under the sweater. Although oversizing can create sloppiness, it can be chic and feminine. It all comes down to the way you wear the piece. If you're going oversized on top, keep the bottom fitted. Skinny jeans and a slouchy boot or, when the weather lightens up a bit, a pair of flats.

When the weather does begin to finally warm up a little bit, don't shy away from the oversized shirts. Trade your big sweaters for some slightly oversized long sleeve tees. The basics are the same - the wider fit is very comfortable and allows for some layering. You'll find some fantastic tops with wide, round necklines, or deep v-necks - these are begging for a ribbed tank and a long necklace.

Oversizing is fun because you can try different looks and see what works for you. But be aware that when an article of clothing – especially an article as crucial as your top – is oversized, there will be a tendency to hide your curves and your waistline. This may be a wonderful way to distract from your less-toned parts, but since it's hiding a little bit of your physical femininity, make sure you work it. It's all about the way you carry yourself - if you have the right attitude you can pull off a



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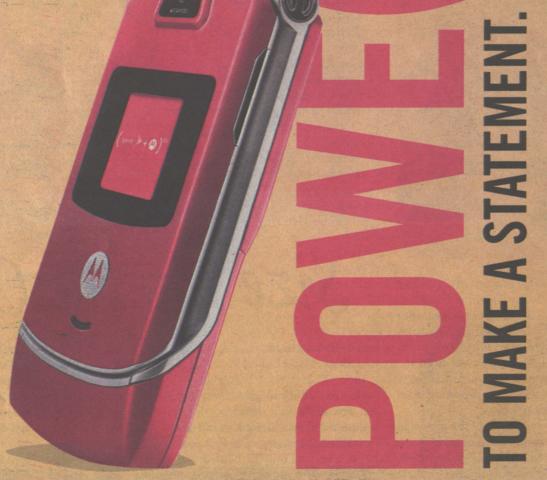
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REPARATIONS

By Nanditha Das Staff Writer

February is Black History Month, and many celebrations are underway to pay homage to those great individuals who helped shape Black history. From inventors and scientists to literary giants and theatrical geniuses, there are many who deserve to be lauded and appreciated for their contributions.

Racial issues are still relevant in our age. The high rate of criminal activity among minorities, racial profiling by police departments, and the racial disparity in wealth and prosperity; all have social implications that are worth discussing. Keith Miller, from the Student Union and Activities Department wrote, "Especially after Hurricane Katrina, racial issues are once again central to the American discourse about its social makeup."

Recently, an art exhibit was opened at Stony Brook, aimed to remind us of the long history of the Black experience in America, and the racial issues we still face as a country.

true, after all, that you cannot get something you do not ask for, and thus communication is most important.

rently being presented in the Student to many Americans, regardless of race. features Terry Boddie, Sheila Pree Bright, transmit an image of social ailment with Francks, Deceus, Stephanie Dinkins, William Downs, Kianga Ford, Jessica Ingram, Pindell, and WILPF.

is not necessarily novel, it is still com- strong voices.

mendable. Apart from the messages portrayed, the means of presentation were also remarkable. The photography was outstanding, and the size of the pieces added to their appeal. The photographs were so simple, but they conveyed a great deal. In addition, the juxtaposition of objects within the pictures worked to the artists' benefit.

For example, in Ingram's work, three large photographs (Untitled #15, #7 and #9) utilize shadows and mainly the colors white and black, representing an absence of color, to depict what I understood to be the disparity between races. The lack of color was a clever addition.

The other most interesting pieces of artwork were done by Downs, Maxwell and Bright. Downs' work, "Maybe," consisted of paintings done on manila folders in black paint. There were religious images with biblical undertones, including the Cross, interactions between people, water, chaos, darkness and explosions.

Maxwell's piece, "Pieta: How Long Will They Mourn Me," was the most captivating, again because of its large size. But it At the exhibit, a group of artists have was also the piece that evoked the most presented artwork with the intention of emotion. Created on five large columns, raising awareness about the inequities it shows a scene of a family, community experienced by African Americans, and to and society mourning the loss of a loved demand amends for the social injustices one - sadly it is too common a scene. It suffered by them throughout history. It is was very moving - easily the best piece at

Bright's "Road Through Midnight" was a picture of a quiet, deserted road, showing The exhibit, "Reparations," is cur- a very modest home and lifestyle, familiar Activities Center Gallery until Feb. 28. It Nevertheless, the picture could be seen to race at its base.

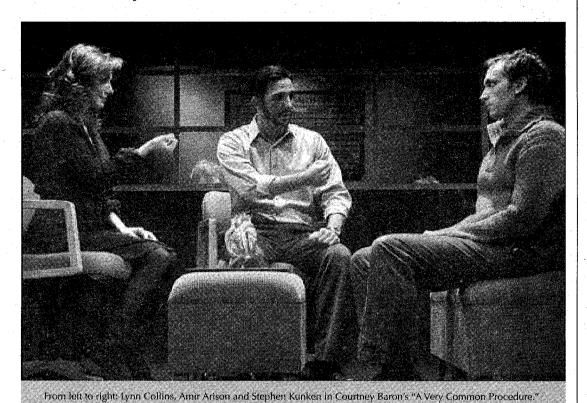
"Reparations" is a precious attempt to Satch Hoyt, Brookie Maxwell, Howardena claim justice for all the injustices leveled upon a minority - a minority that realizes Although the idea behind the exhibit power comes in numbers and through



The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, February 19, 2007

Stony Brook Statesman Monday, February 19, 2007

On The Stage: A Very Common Procedure



By TEJAS GAWADE Managing Editor

As a pre-medical student, a play catalyzed by a medical dilemma was undoubtedly my first choice this week. What made the evening even more memorable was the expert execution of 80 wholesome minutes of heightened drama. Courtney Baron opened "A Very Common Procedure" this week to treat audiences to a platter of deliciously serve-able actors. While the overzealous use of direct address dictates the play's actions, it is the marathon delivery of human emotions sweeping the stage that saves it from complete ruin.

The play narrates the chopped-up life sequences of a young couple, Carolyn Goldenhersch (played by Lynn Collins) and husband Michael (Stephen Kunken). The couple is distraught over the death of their premature baby and the failure of their doctor, Anil Patel (Amir Arison), to save it. It was obvious from the beginning that Baron sought people's sympathy. After all, who won't feel sorry for such tragic figures?

Unfortunately, the expected drama at this point is a little misplaced and cold. There is too much narrative history and too much explanation. Essentially, Baron has done all the thinking for you so you might as well forget having intellectual discus-

sions about some unexplained of Michael and Carolyn's marmetaphor when the play ends. ried life before the delivery, and

Words onstage are a powerful resource. In fact, I wholeheartedly support the path that Baron has chosen. For example, when "Procedure" begins, Carolyn shocks you with "I masturbate to the thought of having sex with the doctor who killed my baby." Of course, I would rather hear this than watch this, not just because it's less disturbing, but also because hearing it out loud makes it more of a confession than an act.

The only sore point is that the play even recounts emotional reactions that would have reverberated more had they been evoked than talked about. Furthermore, one of the most moving exchanges and rare instance of wry humor is when the couple is trying to name the baby, which is, of course, a very common procedure. At a loss, they name it Baby Goldenhersch and Michael sighs, "Like she was going to go straight from life into a 1940s slapstick comedy." We don't actually see this conversation enacted. Instead, we hear a conversation about this conversation much to our exasperation.

Transitions are always harder on stage than say, in movies. Devoid of the special effects, director Michael Greif impresses us by dynamically moving his characters on and offstage. This really lends to the juxtaposition

of Michael and Carolyn's married life before the delivery, and Carolyn's flirtatious encounters with Anil after the delivery.

"Procedure" could have been a contemporary miracle had Baron built on Carolyn's perverted attraction to Anil. The psychological implications of a Freudian mess would have greatly complemented Collins' core acting abilities. Arison, who was given some of the most intriguingly tasteful words ("I keep thinking that ... you're going to pull out a knife or something and kill me.") is a little unconvincing in justifying his character's impulses. Kunken's multidimensional character is not used as it potentially could have been, possibly because of the predominance of the two other characters.

In the end, since "Procedure" was presented on such a literal level because of Baron's choice of direct narration, it failed to illuminate the bigger picture. Why do we give into such irrational impulses? Why can't our actions be explained? Are all humans capable of this? At the end of the play, I couldn't find answers to these questions because there were no real symbols to interpret and no metaphorical actions to analyze.

"A Very Common Procedure" is playing through March 10 at the Lucille Lortel Theater.

Opera Review: GREEK



By Joelle Middleton Contributing Writer

When was the last time you've been to the opera? For those of you that have a baffled look on your face, that can either mean one of two things: you have never been to one, or it has been so long that your brain is frying just trying to remember it. Either way, I think it's about time for you to go out and see "Greek."

On Feb. 9 at 8:00 PM in the Tabler Center for the Performing Arts, Stony Brook Opera presented Mark-Anthony Turnage's "Greek," which is based on Steven Berkoff's adaptation of "Oedipus the King" to a modern setting of the Thatcherite East End of London.

Oedipus, who was the mythical king of Thebes and son of Laius and Jocasta, unknowingly killed his father and married his mother. Prejudice, hostility and mass unemployment appear as metaphors for the plague that consequentially afflicts London, and forms the background of the story of the main character in the opera, Eddy.

The opera opens on a desolate stage with Eddy, played by Carlos Conde, who is contemplating the boozy grass nightlife of the East End. Eddy is bored and wants more from life. We then meet his family, which is stuck in a common rut of toasty breakfasts and nagging. His dad, played by Evan Rainey Bennett, informs him that a fortune-teller once told him that Eddy would murder his father and marry his mother. Eddy decides that he is fed up with all this nonsense and decides to leave home. Once he leaves, the Oedipus myth unfolds. Eddy goes through many trials and tribulations before finding out that the fortune-teller

One of the highlights for me gets my recommendation!

was the duet of the Sphinxes, played by Christine Free and Risa Renae Harman. They were wild, sexy and, most importantly, evil! There were other great performances from the assembled cast. Each actor portrayed his or her characters flawlessly. According to director Andrew Frank, the cast was chosen for "vocal range and voice quality."

Overall, this adaptation was an excellent production of an exhilarating and dramatic work. As for the outcome of the show, Frank said that he was "very happy, although [he] wish [the cast] had had more time to rehearse."

Frank, who has directed over 100 plays, musicals and operas, said he chose "Greek" because "It was the most challenging piece [Stony Brook Opera] could get our hands on."

For those who are still unconvinced by the idea of seeing an opera, Frank said, "They should laugh their way over to the theater and see the show. There were a few funny moments. Some scary ones, sexy ones, and dramatic ones as well."

Whether you thoroughly enjoyed this production or missed it, you can look forward to several more. According to Frank, "Up next is 'Orfeo' by Montiverdi - It will be on the main stage at Staller and should be fantastic!"

"Greek" combines jazz and classical traditions. The opera contains both sung and spoken dialogue, and is far-off detached from any form of naturalism. The stylized spoken dialogue, with its exaggerated tone of "boldness," becomes another aspect of the music. It moves from the rhythmic disharmony of the football chant through snatches of jazz and rock to passages of real lyricism. "Greek" is a success. It certainly gets my recommendation!

Statesman

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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 vol-unteers while its business staff are professionals.

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The Attitude is Contagious

Uncaring Students Lead to Apathetic Administration

It must be quite an operation to burn. to manage the food services of a major university such as Stony Brook. Recruiting competent workers, dealing with employee pay and benefits, trying not to get ripped off by vendors, all the while trying to keep prices reasonable and stable must be quite the juggling act, and thank God the FSA is up to the task. However, there are certain practices by campus dining facilities that are simply unacceptable, and greatly detract from the good work that the FSA does for the campus.

Milk should not cost twice as much in the Union Deli as it does in the local Waldbaums. Mediocre pizza should not cost significantly more than good pizza does at local pizzerias. Most importantly, under no circumstances should specialties, including chocolates, be sold for many times what they retail for at supermarkets at the end of the semester, when students have the most points available to them

When you are in the thick of something, doing your best to stay above water and deliver basic services, it is very easy to lose sight of the bigger picture. There is nobody on the staff of the Statesman that believes that top FSA brass is out to steal money from starving college students. Rather, by the time all the minutiae of running such an elaborate organization is taken care of, there is little to no energy left at the end of the day to focus on the shortcomings of

We are a captive audience on campus and will eat at the SAC regardless of whether or not the prices are reasonable. Without constant and forceful feedback from students and faculty, it is only natural that the prices of food will rise and the quality will fall to the level that people will tolerate. While the state of dining on

Continued on page 13

Future Face of Globalization:

Environmental Destruction

By AnaMaria Rivera Contributing Writer

As globalization reaches its peak, Multinational Corporations (MNCs) race to the finish line. All these corporations have the same goal - money! These money hungry business moguls are so focused on achieving this great wealth that they disregard the underlining threats affected by their decisions. For years, environmental and social destruction have been incorporated into this process.

Don't run to the government for help. MNCs will just move their business to under-developed nations where government officials are just waiting to be apart of the project in order to get their "kickbacks". Meanwhile the world is left with toxic water, contaminated air, endangered species, and social

In 1989, Exxon had one of the most devastating environmental disasters the world has seen. The Valdez oil tanker struck a reef in

Alaska resulting in 11 million gallons of oil spilling into the Prince William Sound. After Exxon's delayed response, the clean-up took 3 years to complete, and the water is still toxic.

In Papua, New Guinea, the Ok Tedi copper and gold mine was developed in 1970. This mining project, since its initial year of development, has dumped 80,000 tons of tailings and 100,000 tons of mine waste everyday into the Ok Tedi River, which flows into the Ply River, the Torres Strait Islands and the tip of the Great Barrier Reef. This development, like so many others, is also abusing human rights and threatening food security of the local people.

MNCs, including Mobil, Chevron, Shell, Elf, and Agip are preparing to extract oil in Nigeria. Protests have been held to over throw the corporations, but they are being met with violent actions. These corporations are backing the

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A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letter to Student Media Organizations

By Nathan Shapiro

An Open Letter To the media organizations of Stony Brook University:

I have seen that many campus publications report that the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government does not focus its time on efforts relating to issues of student life. Rather, we spend time debating internal management of the USG.

I respectfully disagree, and contend that this perception is inaccurate because it only takes into consideration actions that take place at our weekly Senate meetings, which are a mere two hours, while some senators spend up to ten hours per week or more serving the students.

When someone's perspective on the Senate results from watching Senate meetings, I can understand why it may appear

nal politics. We do spend a lot of time debating bills that, at first glance, do not seem to directly impact students. But consider the fact that the Senate's powers are strictly limited, and largely reside in the management of the student activity fee and the funding of clubs and activities.

Determining the budget and what funds clubs and activities will receive does directly affect the lives of students, but it's dealt with in committee, and not the Senate floor, leading to the misperception that senators do not address the needs of students.

The Senate Budget Committee dedicates more time to serving the students than many other members of the government, which is often overlooked in the media's reports on the Senate. While we have only had two Senate meetings this semester, members of the Budget Committee and the Treasurer have organized three that we focus solely on our inter- budget workshops and have be-

gun the arduous process of holding hearings with every single club applying for funding.

To demonstrate the amount of time these hearings consume: I myself spent a total of over six hours in the Senate office on Monday, Feb. 12, starting at 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, drudged myself through the ice and snow at 9:30 AM, on Valentine's Day for another marathon of hearings, and again did the same on Thursday.

Other Senators on the Committee have likewise spent hours in this process. To put this into perspective, when all is said and done, the budget process for this week alone will require more hours than the total number of hours we will spend at regular Senate meetings this semester. This is not to say that I believe what does take up the time at our weekly Senate meetings is not important, or that it doesn't affect students.

In fact, the debates in the Sen-

ate are often over what policies we will follow in funding clubs or how the government is to be managed in order to best serve the student body and not waste the student activity fee we are entrusted with.

For instance, the Senate recently debated and passed new bylaws for the USG Student Activities Board. Although it may look like mere internal management, it is actually extraordinarily important to students. The changes made to the bylaws will make the board's actions more transparent and less prone to bad decision-making, insuring that it can put on the best activities for the students.

Furthermore, it changed the rules of the Board so that it is more welcoming to outside students wishing to participate, and automatically gave each club one vote at general meetings to en-

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Religious Faith Put to Test **Against** Science

Continued from page 3

of Philosophy, Alfred Goldhaber, SBU professor of physics, and Katy Hinman, director of Georgia Light and Power. These individuals gave their perspectives on how there can be common ground between religion and science.

According to the panel, science and religion seem to be polar opposites. People are drawn to either science or religion. The panel carefully addressed the issue and provided examples of both. In science, you go through a scientific process, which the ultimate goal is to find the truth and to improve the world. In religion, people of faith are out to find the truth to improve one self. The correlation between the two is what should bind people. Ultimately people are interested in improving and should share interests in both

According to Crease, people learn to trust science just like religion. If one can focus on the process instead of the laws, that's when the common ground can be sustained. The issue itself depends on how people perceive it. Two individuals can read one thing but can interpret it completely opposite just like science and religion.

Goldhaber explained that just because we have gravity doesn't mean we can fly, which holds true with religion and science. One member of the audience pointed out that ever since the theory of evolution was published, religious groups learned to despise science.

Panel member Rev. Edwards addressed why such distrust exists, "It cuts at the heart of Salvation".

Although Darwin's Theory of Evolution created tension among religious groups because it questioned the very core of many religions, many scientists believe that there is actually a common factor between the two.

Hinman is an example of this combination of ideas. She has been going to church ever since she was a little girl but she studies ecology and evolution. According to Hinman, people can find common ground through the constant searching for answers. The constant search for truth is what

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Continual Hike in Food Prices Angers Students

Continued from page 3

at Geneseo utilizes a national comparison to set prices competitively. According to Ginny Geer-Mentry, the Associate Director of Campus Auxiliary Services at Geneseo, their prices are "fair and in line with restaurants in the area." While prices at Geneseo have gone up over the years, the increases have largely matched inflation. Students there enjoy a carte blanche system as well as a declining balance.

Following in this vein, the Stony Brook FSA owns and operates the food services at the Health Science Center (HSC). Many of the meal choices at the HSC are less expensive compared to other campus outlets and are greater in variety. "HSC targets a different set of audience including patients, doctors and HSC students. But on-campus we serve a different population," said Angela Agnello, Director of Marketing and Communications at FSA.

In addition to high food prices, students continually raise con-

campus, complaining of stale pizza at the Kelly Dining Center and hard sushi offered at the Student Activities Center (SAC). There is also a lack of diversity in food offerings on campus, according to many students.

"They have the same things everywhere...at the SAC, Kelly or Union. The only place that is different is at Jasmine but they close early and is so much farther [from Baruch]. I always end up getting the same things at Kelly," said a sophomore resident at Baruch College, in Kelly Quad.

Refuting the lack of variety on campus, Ospitale offered, "You really have to look at the campus as a whole. You've got your H-Quad which serves Taco Bell and you have the SAC, which has a lot of health options including the salad bar and subs. You also have Dunkin Donuts at Tabler and Roth has Chinese cuisine at Deng Lee's."

cerns regarding the quality of the on campus, Agnello said, "You also food offered at different venues on have to realize that with renovations comes variety. We always listen to student's concerns and improve our services based on that. The Caribbean Night in H Quad, for example, was planned because students wanted this. HSC around 2-3 years ago underwent major renovation and that is why you see such an improved service." The FSA also plans to add a Starbucks in the Fireside Lounge and renovate the Bleacher Club, both in the Student Union, greatly expanding the offerings of the latter to include Caribbean food and a chicken and gyro station in place of the current Halal offerings.

Chartwells, a subsidiary of Compass Group USA, is the current food provider of all the campus dining centers at the West Campus since 1998. This does not include Jasmine at the Wang Center, which is under a different contract with provider Café

On the future of food offerings Adam Peck contributed reporting.

OP-ED CONTINUATIONS

Campus **Dining Deserves Benefit of** Doubt

Continued from page 11

campus is far from dismal, it is equally far from optimal. The FSA relies on you, the student body, to constantly let it know what goes right and what goes

The Statesman recognizes student discontent on campus regarding food prices and availability and urges students to contact those who have the power to effect change. The FSA is here to serve the campus community in the best way possible. Without hearing your concerns and your praises, serving us becomes that more difficult.

Before you think that Campus Dining Services is the Man to be railed against, give them the benefit of the doubt and you will find them to be more accessible than you think. With constant feedback and encouragement, we can go from a campus that gouges students to one that is more sensitive to our needs.

Globalization Makes the Future Look Bleak

Continued from page 11

military to harass, even kill, local people who continue to prolong their project.

Although there are many policies made to correct the damage that has been done, as well as future damage, there are only a few corporations actually taking into account the devastation these various projects have and will entail. This is partly due to the political structures of participating nations. Developing economic and political systems allow these corporations to utilize costs where they can benefit. These developing nations either lower regulations or avoid writing new laws in order to keep, and bring in investments.

The responsibility of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is to deal with the rules of trade between nations. Their goal is to "help producers of goods and services, exporters, and importers conduct their business," and that is exactly what this international organization is doing. The WTO fails to address the problems of conductivity within multinational organizations, and continues to let them do all this damage. It holds closed debates and refuses to let the public and the media sit in. An organization which was founded on the principle of conducting trade in a positive way, is one of the main contributors to the problem.

In 1999, the former United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan, proposed the Global Compact. This was formed to bring corporations together with UN agencies in order to support environmental and social principles. Many nations throughout the globe have joined the pact. The problem is that it's voluntary.

Soon people will have to come together and fight for social and environmental degradation. The protectors of trade and commerce are only protecting corporations. Our ecosystem is slowly dying and human beings are in the middle of the process. Globalization should be a wonderful gift, not something that will leave our world in shambles with future generations to clean up the mess - if there is anything left to clean up.

Another Shove Against the Glass Ceiling?

Continued from page 3

ence that gender differences might be the reason why more women don't rise to the top in math and science. "I hope that my own appointment can be one symbol of an opening of opportunities that would have been inconceivable even a generation ago," Faust said in her thank you address.

According to Kenny, research universities were not as willing to accept women into administrative positions years ago. "There was a glass ceiling in that level of institution," she said. In 1994, she became the first woman and first humanist president of SBU.

Female leadership differs from male leadership, Kenny said, adding that women tend to be more collaborative and less competitive with each other. "I think the world is certainly better off because we have university presidents of both genders," she said.

According to a survey by the American Council on Education, the number of women university presidents has increased from 9.5 percent to 23 percent from 1896 to 2006. Growth has slowed in more recent years, however, as 21.1 percent of university presidents were women in 2001.

Women account for only a third of all executive, administrative, and managerial positions in all American institutions, according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

As for members of the Association of American Universities, the average percentage of female, fulltime faculty is 33 percent-also the percentage for SBU. In addition, the average percentage of female employees of universities belonging to the association, excluding working hospitals, is 50 percent. SBU falls short at 48 percent.

Since Kenny's arrival, SBU has seen an increase in events regarding women's issues. Under her leadership, the Department of Women's Studies was created and more women administrators were hired. There are three women vice presidents in Research, Administration and Facilities and Services, as well as two female deans of departments.

"Leadership does not come in just one flavor," Kenny said.

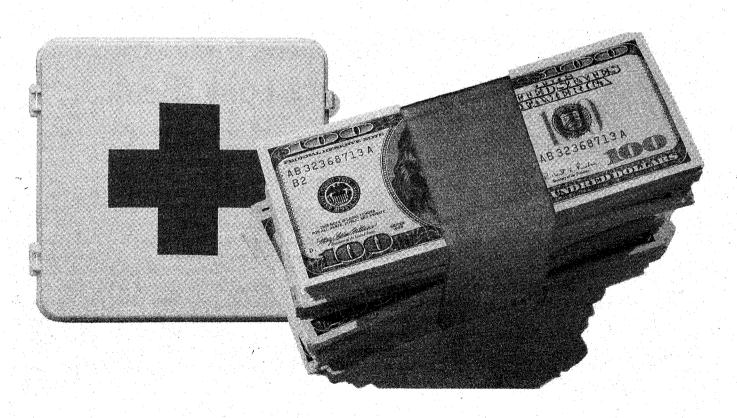
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LETTER TO STUDENT MEDIA

Continued from page 11

courage our diverse array of clubs and their members to become more active in event-planning for the student body. These types of policies enacted by the Senate, in addition to the budget process undertaken by its Budget Committee, demonstrate the dedication and effort senators put into serving the student body.

It's not fair to judge the Senate only on the portion of hours senators spend per week at our regular meetings when it's miniscule compared to the time spent on policies directly impacting student life on campus.

Respectfully, Nathan Shapiro,

Senator of the Undergraduate Student Government.

Current members of the budget committee are Senators Joseph Antonelli, Jonathan Hurst, Sheena Joseph, Matthew Maiorella, Robert Romano, Nathan Shapiro and the USG Treasurer Stephen Hui.

The USG Student Activities Board By-laws Act referred to above was passed 20-2 by the Senate but subsequently vetoed by President Romual Jean-Baptiste.

The Senate has not yet met to consider overriding the veto. The USG Senate meets every Tuesday in SAC Ballroom B from 8:15-10:15 pm, unless otherwise posted.

Hello Senator Shapiro,

Thank you for your letter, and I agree with you wholeheartedly. Our coverage of USG is primarily based on the weekly Senate meetings. I did have the chance to attend one of the three scheduled budget workshops and did see members of the Budget Committee putting in the time to actually serve the student body, educating members of other clubs and organizations about the yearly budget process.

I am sorry to say that our coverage of USG has largely focused on these senate meetings, where, as you have mentioned, much of the time is invariably devoted to the correction and improvement of internal USG matters.

However, I hope you understand that as members of the student body, and of campus media, we do hold the USG Senators, Executive Council Members, and Judiciary to a higher standard. We feel it is only fair that the student leaders of our USG are put under

greater scrutiny than would be expected from any other club or organization.

While the Senate has cited past "victories" in legislation as the PASS and ALIRRT Acts, and while current news of the impeaching of Executive Council Vice President Ralph Thomas shows that the Senators are providing the necessary check on power against the executive branch of USG, the bringing of charges against any student leader in USG shows that improvements have to be made.

USG elections still face low voter turnout and an overall lack of student interest. At the Statesman, we hope that more acts such as PASS and ALIRRT will be set in place to show the student body that the USG Senate and the entire governing body of the USG is truly giving its best to the campus.

Once again, thank you for your letter.

Respectfully, Suraj Rambhia Editor-in-Chief

comments@ sbstatesman.org

Women's Hoops Wins, 71-64

Continued from page 16

team appeared to wake up and they returned to their first half form. The Seawolves went on a 14-2 run which gave them back control of the game. New Hampshire fought hard to close the gap that was created during the SBU run, but the closest they came was 57-54. Ultimately, the Seawolves held on for another win in the America East Conference.

Getz, named the America East co-player of the game, and Ford both finished the game with 16 points. Kelly Watson contributed with 12 points while Jessica Smith added 10 points. Danielle Clark scored 25 points and grabbed 10 rebounds during the contest. Her performance got her America East co-player of the game honors.

The Seawolves will look to continue their winning ways next Wednesday, Feb. 21, when they go on the road to square off against a tough Binghamton squad. Tip-off is set for 7:00 PM.

Swimming Wins at America East

Continued from page 16

What was impressive was the following fourth place finish of Raphael Labour in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:54.03. The men placed in the top-16 in the same event, notably Ruslan Safarov, and Ray Sato.

Others who placed in the top-16 in the 100-yard freestyle, were Chris Pai, Alex Kissel, Matt Descovich, Dan Piastuck and Omer Ozcan. Vladimir Sreckovic, who has had little competitive time this season, finished sixth place in the 200-yard breastroke with a time of 2:09.09. Both Sigurosson and Eben Coenen also posted points in this event.

Overall, the men's team has had a stronger showing this season. But with the notably improved performance of the women's team, a lot of future wins are expected. The loss of Lewandowski, who will be graduating this year, might prove an impediment in reaching this goal. But given the young status of the team and its consistent improvement, better meets are in store. As for the men's team, their prospect of placing first in the next Championship is definitely a possibility.

COMIC

SBVAC SERVES CAMPUS

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of SBVAC run its annual Teddy Bear Clinic at the local Day Care Center. Understanding that during an emergency situation, EMT and Paramedic personnel may be a little alarming to children, the organization sets up a series of day-long events with the Day Care Center to instruct and instill trust and information with all the children. Volunteers place bandages on the stuffed animals and talk one-on-one with all the children. This awesome act of charity and compassion is not just informational, but fun for all the children and adults alike.

For more information about SBVAC, you may check out their website at WWW.SBVAC.ORG.

Common Ground Between Faith and Science

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binds science and religion. She says that through science people can understand the world and can help improve environmental dilemmas.

Schuyler said that in both science and religion, the goal is to obtain information and the more they learned, the easier it is to realize the depths of their own lack of knowledge.

Topek pointed out, the purpose of either science or religion is to understand the world we live in.

The bottom line, according to the panel, both groups of people are interested in knowing how the universe came to exist and should learn to preserve it.

By Talia Eapen



See your comics here.
Submit to SB Union RM 057.

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, February 19, 2007



Stony Brook Swimming Finishes Big at America East

By Tejas Gawade **Managing Editor**

The Stony Brook women's swimming and diving team placed sixth with 264 points in what appeared to be a lengthy 2007 America East Championship meet on Feb. 11. Held in Boston, the Championship witnessed the prowess of some surprising players, including Rebecca Sayles and Lucy Liu who have each faced some difficulty this season in placing first consistently.

Sayles and Liu placed 10th and 12th in the 200-yard backstroke. As always, Hailey Lewandowski continued to grab the audience's attention by dominating diving and finishing fifth in the 3 meter dive with a score of 246.90. Brittany Whipple, who has had an impressive record this season, finished fourth in the 100-yard backstroke. Courtney Teague, who has competed less frequently but still successfully, placed seventh in the 100-yard freestyle.

The men's swimming and diving team, which has been the stronger contender this season, finished third overall with a score of 506.5. The SBU Athlete of the Week, sophomore Jon Sigurosson, broke his 100-yard backstroke record from last year. With a time of 56.04, Sigurosson brought the Seawolves closer to a victory. Sigurosson had earlier broken his 100-yard breastroke record of 56.33 from last year by finishing with a time of 56.04.

In the longest match of 1650-yard freestyle, SBU's Bryce Cullinane and Patrick Dolan brought home some points.



Kelly Watson takes a free throw in the Seawolves' 71-64 win over New Hampshire

Women's Basketball Continues Impressive **Conference Play**

By Josh Seidman Staff Writer

Stóny Brook women's basketball inside the Stony Brook University no different." (SBU) Indoor Sports Complex. Wildcats by a score of 71-64.

Seawolves' record improved to 14- Ford, the Wildcats were able to 10 overall and 10-2 in the conferclose the half on a 10-2 run and ence, while the loss dropped New went into the intermission only

in the conference.

"I was pleased with the way While the campus grounds we played defense tonight," said their 10-11 performance on the were freezing over with ice, the head coach, Maura McHugh. foul line kept them in the contest. "Conference games in February team was turning up the heat are always tough and this game was

Four different players scored in game, SB dominated both ends of double figures as the Seawolves the court. With 5:09 remaining in the timeout, the Wildcats took defeated the New Hampshire the half, Leah Getz scored a layup which put the Seawolves up 30-17. With this victory, the team's Despite a combined 22 first half 10th in their last 11 contests, the points between Getz and Mykeema

Hampshire to 8-15 overall, and 3-8 down 32-27. New Hampshire shot only 25 percent from the field in the first half, but the late run and

The Wildcats came out ready to play when the game resumed as they scored the first two hoops of For the first 15 minutes of the the half which led to a Seawolves timeout. Immediately following their first lead of the game at 33-32, when Chrissy Hall sank two free throws barely three minutes into the half.

After SB lost their lead, the

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Women's Lacrosse **Opens** Season With Win

By WILLIAM LAHTI Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves women's lacrosse team won their opening game on Saturday, beating the Colgate Raiders 11-10, in Hamilton, NY. Colgate had put themselves up 10-8 with 8:22 to play, but SBU responded with 3 unanswered goals in the last 5 minutes to score the win.

The game was defined by 3-0 runs on both sides. Colgate struck first, scoring a goal within two minutes. The teams would go back and forth, tying the score at 3 with 12:22 to play in the 1st half. Then, Stony Brook went on a 3-0 run, with two of the goals coming from Carlee Buck. Stony Brook would go into the half with a

Colgate came out of halftime strong, scoring 3 unanswered goals in the first 6 minutes of the half. The teams would again exchange scores, and Colgate opened up their lead to 10-8, until Stony Brook scored 3 times to snatch victory from Colgate's reach.

Sophomore Kaitlin Leggio would lead Stony Brook in scoring with 4 goals and one assist. Goalkeeper Jan Sandtorv made 16 saves in the effort, to 10 for Colgate's Sara Drexler.

The Seawolves will travel to Maryland to face Mount St. Mary's on February 25. The game starts at 1PM.

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