

SBVAC Cringes as USG Cuts Budget

Stony Brook FD Chief Offers Congrats

By XIAOSU LIU AND SURAJ RAMBHIA
Contrib. Writer and Editor-in-Chief

Now stepping into its 38th year of service at Stony Brook, the Stony Brook Volunteer Ambulance Corp (SBVAC) has just suffered a budget cut by the Undergraduate Student Government Budget Committee. The annual funding request of \$104,000, a 200 dollar decrease from the previous year's budget allotment, was decreased by approximately 12% this year down to \$91,450.

This cutback could force members to reduce spending on new equipment and ambulance purchases, Ng said.

The USG Budgeting Committee cited certain expenses, such as the 13,000 dollars originally

allotted for an awards dinner for SBVAC members, as an "frivolous expense," Ng continued.

At the meeting, which covered mostly organizational and logistics for recruiting, members asked their executive branch and operations officers how they would fund the shortage.

In a separate interview, three ranking officers of SBVAC, Ng, Vice President George Stimola, and Chief of Operations Ahmed Belazi expressed their concerns about the USG Budgeting process.

Ng called it, "Heart breaking."

Belazi stated, "The money is going to have to come from somewhere. USG needs to be more forthcoming, its budgeting

process was not transparent."

As a comparison for the question about the funding for these dinners, Belazi commented, "The Setauket Fire Department spends about 100,000 dollars each year to thank its members."

Stimola commented, "We will be requesting the funds through the USG Fall Revision process." He emphasized the pain in hearing about the funding cut midway through summer, "Truthfully, we ask for what we need. We're going to tighten up and rethink where the funding is going."

The question of USG accountability circled through the minds of Ng, Belazi, and Stimola.

Belazi drew an analogy to SBVAC, "Anything we do is up to question. I'm not sure about the

logistics of USG, but they have to communicate."

At the general body meeting, Ng stated, "We get at around 1,000 calls every semester. Yes, we get more calls than most people would imagine, and we have heard all kinds of causes, ranging from stomach aches and shower falls, to motor accidents and alcohol poisoning."

A rigorous formal recruiting process, involving two interviews, allows SBVAC to find students who are fit for the job. This year, recruiting sessions will be held on the evenings of September 9th, 10th, 11th, and 16th. The first round of interviews will be on the Sept. 19th, and those who pass will have to go through a second round of interviews.

To become a member of SBVAC, probation officers must go through a period of intensive, professional training and serving on shifts at the mean time. The training includes patient care, CPR certification, and eventually you may be qualified as an EMT, Emergency Medical Technician.

Christopher Mehrman, Chief of the Stony Brook Fire Department also was present at the meeting to give a short speech, thanking the hardworking SBVAC team with a plaque of appreciation for their collaborative efforts.

USG Officials will be contacted in the coming days to provide an explanation of the Budgeting Process in this ongoing investigation.

*"Truthfully, we ask
for what we need.
Now, we're going to
have to tighten up
and rethink where
the funding is
going."*

-George Stimola,

Vice President of SBVAC



Christopher Mehrman, Stony Brook Fire Department Chief offers his congratulations to SBVAC President Patricia Ng and SBVAC Chief of Operations Ahmed Belazi.

Courtesy of SBVAC

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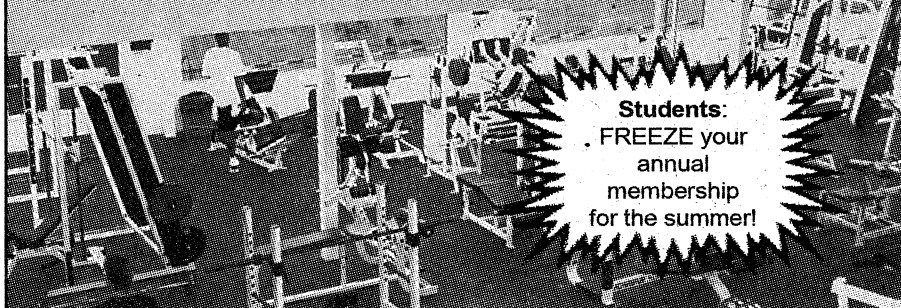
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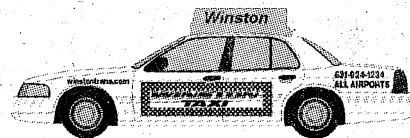
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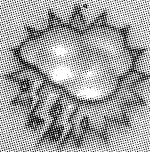
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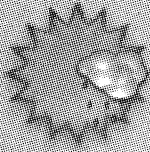
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Weather Forecast:

Sept 10 - Sept 16



Monday:
High 80/Low 65
Scattered T-Storms



Tuesday:
High 76/Low 61
PM Showers



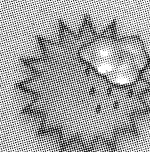
Wednesday:
High 75/Low 57
Sunny



Thursday:
High 73/Low 62
Sunny



Friday:
High 73/Low 64
Few Showers



Saturday:
High 70/Low 54
Scattered Showers



Sunday:
High 70/Low 56
Sunny

Weather report
courtesy of
www.weather.com

Avram Theater Gets a Makeover

By TEJAS GAWADE
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Stony Brook Southampton's Avram Theater, considered to be the biggest and best in Eastern Long Island, is currently under renovation and will not open until June 2008. The renovations began this summer after the culmination of the annual Sustainable Pleasure music series.

The Theater, which currently houses 433 seats, has been host to a variety of artists since its beginning in the 1980s. The Avram Theater and the adjacent Avram Family Art Gallery were named after Dr. Morrell Avram and his wife, Mrs. Maria Avram in 1998 to recognize their generosity to SB Southampton.

In a University press release, Stony Brook University President Shirley Strum Kenny said, "The Avram Theater has a rich legacy as a host for the world's top performers and their audiences. It deserves a makeover, and it is getting one." In 2006, when SB Southampton was acquired by SBU, Kenny had pledged a cultural revitalization of the campus.

Specific renovations include, "New seats, new carpet, some lighting and sound equipment, perhaps some renovation to the stage itself," said Linda Merians, Chief of Staff in the President's Office. The press release also cited "backstage renovations and modifications to make the theater fully accessible."

The renovation was made possible by a multi-year gift at an undisclosed amount by Dr. and Mrs. Avram. Other fundraising efforts have also been instituted, which include "special events, such as the August 15 wine tasting before concert, to acquaint people

during intermissions," according to Merians. Merians further stated that Southampton and Manhattan residents have come forward upon cultivating fundraisers that were held in the past.

In the press release, Kenny said, "We are so grateful for the Avram family's continued commitment to this wonderful theater. The Avram Theater has long been associated with the arts and important cultural and educational events on the East End. With support from Mike and Maria and their family, it will once again become an unparalleled destination for outstanding performances, lectures, and discussions of issues that matter most to the people of Long Island, the nation, and the world."

The Theater will also be supported with a Theater Manager, Leonard Ziemkiewicz. Ziemkiewicz is "in charge of making sure space is equipped for each recital," said Merians. "He has done everything from painting the stage to working the lights ... and is very much a part of guiding the renovation."

Merians further said that people can go to Ziemkiewicz to book space. There is also an arts committee in place that is led by Dean of SB Southampton Martin Schoonen. Other members in the committee include Bob Reid, Alan Inkles from the Staller Center, Christine Gurke, Ziemkiewicz and Merians herself.

As for the prospect of timely renovations, Merians said, "We will have the Sustainable Pleasures recital series again, and we will also rent the theater out to groups like Pianofest (we rented to this group this summer)" Pianofest is a series of concerts by internationally-acclaimed classical musicians.

Honors College Has a New Face

By VICTORIA MUNOZ
Contributing Writer

The Honors College at Stony Brook welcomes two new members to its administrative staff this fall. Joining the Honors College's diverse union of professors and administrators will be history department veteran, William Miller, and faculty director and administrative director Gabrielle Tobin, from the Provost's office.

New perspectives are what Miller and Tobin hope to bring to the Honors College. Although they approve of the current organization of the Honors College, both said in an interview last week that they hoped to invite a varied array of guest speakers and professors to the Honors College.

Miller said that he was currently in the process of finalizing a diverse list of professors that will teach this semester's Honors College mini courses. Mini courses are one-credit enrichment courses that honors students take as part of the Honors College curriculum. Topics for these courses range from the arts and humanities to science and mathematics. The list of Fall 2007 mini courses will include such topics as "Consumerism, Citizenship, and the Mediascape", "The Science of Science Fiction", "Right Relationship", and "Medieval Murder Mysteries".

The new directors of the Honors College also hope to enrich students outside the classroom. Tobin explained that one of her principle goals this year is to invite Honors College alumni back to the campus to speak to current students about their experiences. She encourages representatives from campus organizations to speak to students about extracur-

Continued on page 15

Police Blotter

Sept. 5 - Sept. 7

Car Accident

Around 11:00AM on September 5th, a motor vehicle accident occurred in the Old H Quad Parking. No injuries were inflicted.

Car vs. Pedestrian

Another motor vehicle accident occurred in the Kelly Quad Parking lot around 1:15PM. One person was hit but no major injuries were inflicted.

Fire

A small mulch fire occurred near the Union at 3:40PM on September 5th. A Fire Marshall was summoned who extinguished the fire.

Swerving Car

Around 5:20PM a suspicious car was found near the West Campus South Entrance. Police were notified and found an elderly male swerving back and forth.

Criminal Misdemeanor

A car was found with a cracked windshield after it was vandalized in the Engineering Metered Lot.

Another Car Accident

Another motor vehicle accident occurred in the North Parking Lot around 6:10PM. No passengers were injured.

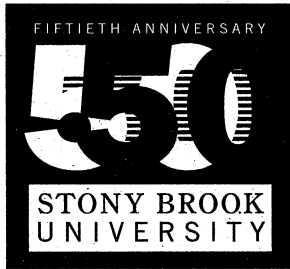
Suspicious Person

A suspicious male was seen in James College around 2:45AM on September 6th. He was arrested for possession of marijuana and additional two referrals were made for other students.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

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Inside



An invitation to students, faculty, staff,
and our friends in the community.

CELEBRATE OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

WED., SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

Join President Shirley Strum Kenny
for her Annual Convocation
at 4:00 pm at the Staller Center Main Stage.

Our Red Hot Marching Band
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STALLER CENTER: Who Doesn't Love Chocolate?



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

By AMANDA SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

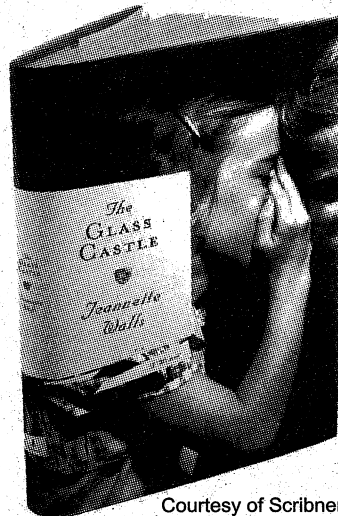
Last week to celebrate a new school year, the Staller Center for Arts hosted "Movie Under the Stars." A large screen stood in front of the building and a projector showed *Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory*. The steps were packed with new and returning students enjoying an old favorite. Many cheered and clapped when Charlie found the golden ticket. This event might have been a rare opportunity to see this movie on the big screen and not on a TV.

Willy Wonka is probably one of the most respected and beloved adaptations of a novel; popular author Roald Dahl wrote the children's book. I, as many of you, loved this movie as a child and into adulthood. The characters, the set design, the situations, and the songs are so well remembered and appreciated, it is considered to have reached the status of cultural icon.

Gene Wilder's performance is so genuine it goes unmatched by Johnny Depp's eccentric interpretation. Wilder's great talent for comic delivery is a gem in the business. Director Mel Stuart's projects had mostly been documentaries. His experience with nonfiction blends the boundaries of dreams and reality. The result is an isolated world of creativity and imagination rooted in Charlie's home life of struggle and misfortune. Wonka himself initiates the golden ticket contest to prepare his own retirement because he was struggling to keep his wonder-world alive and thriving.

Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory is the *Wizard of Oz* of the latter 20th century. Both movies and its principle characters express their hopes for a better life to come. For Charlie, "somewhere over the rainbow," is a candy factory. Just as Dorothy had to "follow the yellow brick road," Charlie had to "press on" to reach the ultimate prize.

Get Your Read On:



Courtesy of Scribner

THE GLASS CASTLE

BY JEANNETTE WALLS

PUBLISHER: SCRIBNER
(JANUARY 9, 2006)

By QUDSIA HUSSAIN
Contributing Writer

It was while babysitting my neighbor's son that I stumbled upon Jeannette Wall's *The Glass Castle* laying on a coffee table. At the time, I picked up the book as a way to tune out a nine-year-old boy screaming at the top of his lungs while playing video games. Now, after reading Walls' acclaimed best selling memoir, I know that I had struck gold that afternoon.

It is with this very opening line that Walls grabs the readers' attention and pulls them into a heart wrenching story that will not allow you to put the book down:

"I was sitting in a taxi, wondering if I had overdressed for the evening, when I looked out the window and saw Mom rooting through a dumpster...I was stuck in traffic two blocks from the party where I was heading. Mom stood fifteen feet away. She had tied rags around her shoulders to keep out the spring chill and was picking through the trash. It had been months since I laid eyes on Mom, and when she looked up, I was overcome with panic that she'd see me and call out my name. I slid down in the seat and asked the driver to turn around and take me home to Park Avenue."

Currently, Walls is a ritzy celebrity journalist living in New York City. The world is astonished when Walls overcomes her shame and reveals her compelling story of a tragic and impoverished (to say the least) childhood. She does not seek pity nor does she make her parents and all of society out to be villains, instead she simply tells it as it is in vivid detail and the reader instantly falls in love with the valor of the Walls children.

Rex Walls and Rose Mary Walls are clearly unfit parents. Rex has a serious drinking problem that hinders him from holding any job. Rose Mary is a hippie artist who believes restrictions are the devil's spawn. Together their ideals concerning rais-

ing children are recipes for disaster. They believe that neglecting their children even in the most precarious situations is a means to make them stronger.

At the age of three, Jeannette is left alone to boil hot dogs while standing on a chair. She burns herself to the point where she is hospitalized for a week. Her dad "rescues" her from the hospital by helping her escape even though she is desperate need of medical attention. Even more appalling than the incident - her mother allows her to continue letting a three-year-old cook over a stovetop.

At one point Jeannette is accidentally hurled out of the family's broken down station wagon onto railroad tracks due to her dad's reckless driving. She is forced to nurse her own bloody wounds. It takes a significant amount of time for her parents to realize that she is missing. At the age of five, she is thrown into a deep geyser in the middle of the desert with out any how-to-swim skills. The water burns her throat and she drowns but she manages to stay afloat. Her father tells her that he had to push her into the water because that was the only way his "mountain-goat" was going to learn how to swim.

Day after day the Walls children dig through trash bins in school to find scraps of food in hopes of putting an end to their aching stomachs. They move from one broken-down house to another because their dad convinces his family that secret FBI agents are after them, when in reality, he is referring to bill-collectors.

Jeannette's father is stubborn and manipulates every situation to make it seem as if the Walls' family has the better end of any and every deal in life. It is evident that he loves his children especially Jeannette. They share a special bond that her father takes advantage of time after time. Jeannette works full time and he takes her money for booze because he knows she doesn't have the heart

to decline. He even puts her in a situation where she is almost molested by a middle aged man and later justifies it by saying he knew she could get away-he just needed a distraction to steal money from the man.

Walls chose the name of her remarkable novel with keen insight. Since Jeannette's alcoholic father cannot earn a steady income he assures his children that he is constantly working hard on a blue print for the Glass Castle. The Glass Castle is a fantasy house, a false hope for a better future, and medicine for the pain of being "left-out." Jeannette's siblings slowly but surely realize their father is full of lies.

When asked in a recent interview by World Vision Report if she considered herself poor she responds, "We were beyond poor...I wanted us to fit in but at the same time I did sort of buy into my parents dreams, and their hopes, and their aspirations and I honestly think that in some ways set us apart from the other kids...Despite whatever we didn't have my parents did believe in education and I believe that they gave us a sense of self-esteem. Everything seemed so easy compared to what we had been through." When reading this novel, it is almost too easy to change perspectives on Jeanette's parents and their motives.

After a while it is easy to become frustrated with the generosity of the Walls children. There are times when one wants them to seek foster care for a superior life however, at the same time one can't help but admire their perseverance and their ability to look out for each other. It's almost as if Jeannette's past did shape her into becoming the professional writer she is today.

The Glass Castle is gaining popularity so quickly because of its ability to touch hearts and give others strength through trying times. It gives the reader the ability to feel an ounce of the weight the brilliant Walls children carried on their shoulders every day. It is truly a must-read novel.

You are invited again!

Please include your name, the movie title, and a short review. All submissions must be in by Friday Sept. 14 to be published.
- Amanda Shapiro, Staff Writer

TV Nation

Your Guide to Fall TV



BY PRIYA MADHAVAN
Staff Writer

Reaper

The television series "Reaper" produced by ABC Television Studio portrays the life of a blue collar worker whose soul is pledged to the Devil. This comical drama premieres on Sept. 25, 2007 on the CW at 9:00 pm. Through out his life, Sam always wondered why his parents were easy on him. Much to his surprise on his 21st birthday he discovers that he must serve as a bounty hunter for Satan. Even though he is hesitant at first, he begins to feel good about these new-found missions. His obligation to retrieve souls that escaped from Hell with the help of his goof ball friends and his day job at a home improvement store gives the touch of comedy to the show. It is a simple story characterized by relatable and likable characters, special effects and big laughs. It is a show an individual of any age group can enjoy and watch how a loser can turn into a savior of the world. We too can watch Sam with his vessel of the week as his weapon takes on his destined role as the "reaper."

Pushing Daisies

This romantic drama premiering on Oct. 3 on ABC shows the unique life of a man named Ned who can bring dead people back to life with the power of a simple touch. With his touch, a dead being can stay alive for a mere one minute. However, if that person does not die, then someone else nearby them will

die. With his supernatural ability, he decides to solve crime by bringing murder victims back to life and finding out who killed them. Problems start when he brings to life his childhood love and doesn't want to send her back. The series created by Bryan Fuller is said to share some aspects with the sci-fi series *Dead Like Me*. The show's quick witted comedy mixed with dark emotions will surely capture the hearts of its audience.

Friday Night Lights

Football is back in season on NBC every Wednesday at 8:00pm. This returning series first premiered on Oct. 3, 2006. It is about a first time high school football coach, Eric Taylor, who finds himself training a team that has a chance of making it to the top. In the midst of the Dillon Panthers gearing up for the state championships, everyone is wondering if Coach Taylor will leave his team to take his dream job at Texas Methodist University. The stakes are higher and the reward sweeter. This show, which is targeted for the younger audience has all the drama that is associated with high school. Now watch and see if the coach can take his team all the way while keeping their morale and spirit intact.

Life is Wild

Every Sunday night gather around to take a journey through the plains of South Africa. "Life is Wild," premiering Oct. 7 at 8:00 pm on the CW, is a drama about a family adjusting to life in South

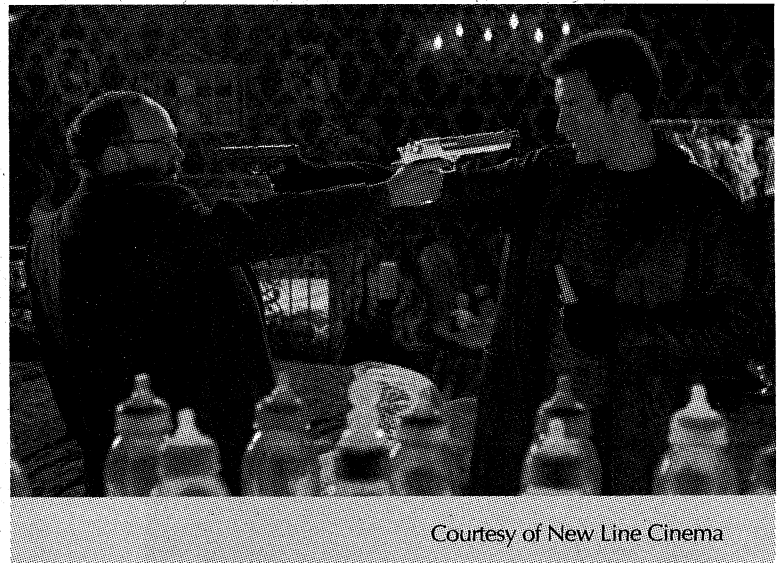
Africa. The story depicts the life of a teenager, Katie Clarke, who has had a rough time over the past three years. Her mother dies and her father remarries, adding to the family a stepmother, step-sister and a weird stepbrother. Just as her life is getting back to normal with her friends at Manhattan High School, her family decides to move to a South African reserve where her veterinarian father decides to help fight livestock disease. It seems to have characters that the audience can relate to and is a new type of storyline. It maybe something that everyone of any age group can watch and become educated about the reality of what happens to the animals in the wild game preserve. The series is based upon a British series, *Wild at Heart*.

Survivor: China

Yes, it is back again! *Survivor: China* is set to make its debut on Sept. 20. In its fifteenth installment, the adventure/drama reality series shows a group of contestants stranded on a remote region of the world. In this region they must find a way to fend for themselves and their basic needs, such as food and shelter. They must also compete in various challenges and avoid being eliminated. In the end one lucky individual will be eligible to win the one million dollar prize. Shows like this after a while tend to get boring and lose their popularity. They are, however, trying to bring back the show by setting up new challenges and appealing to the audience's changing taste.

REEL DEAL

Shoot 'Em Up



BY TEJAS GAWADE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

played by Paul Giamatti (*Lady in the Water*).

Last Wednesday, I had the rather odd opportunity to review *Shoot 'Em Up* at Island 16 in Holtsville. As soon as I entered the theatre hall, I sensed an unwelcoming rush of testosterone. Needless to say, the screening was received by a predominantly male audience. The movie's beginning affirmed one of my worst public moments - being stuck watching a violent action thriller. Think of it as a guy being stuck watching a chick flick. Fortunately, I left the theatre satisfied with the memory of 80 minutes of complete entertainment.

For starters, those who watch movies to extract some sort of profound moral, this one isn't for you. But if you come from the type that likes movies like *Talladega Nights*, or are simply easily amused, then don't miss this one. And while we are at the point where I give discreet warnings, here is another one. Don't walk into this movie expecting action sequences that make sense. Sure, they are cool, but they run with no logic. So, leave your thinking hats aside when you watch it.

Clive Owen of *Children of Men* plays Mr. Smith. Smith is carrots way too occasionally, and his detached demeanor does not prevent him from getting himself entangled in fights to save a stranger's baby. With the mother dead and no one to care for the newborn, Smith must now depend on a lactating prostitute, Donna, played aptly by Monica Bellucci. And he must also stave off hundreds of gunmen led by their crime leader, Hertz

Now, Smith is on his own to save the prostitute and the baby, who he has now begun to consider his family. This is probably the movie's sore point. For the directors to make a plot out of what is obviously the most ludicrous everlasting action fight that takes place over loud heavy metal music is a stretch. In a movie where an umbilical cord is severed using a bullet and Smith is able to multitask a heavy-duty bed session with Donna and a shooting spree at a multitude of gunmen with ease, and where a bus just takes you to "wherever," there is little room for a logical story.

This is not to say that the movie is a coarse deal. If it were, I would have left it quite early. There are some great references, whether it is the Looney Tunes one picking on Smith's carrot habit and Hertz's reference to him as a "silly rabbit," or the Mr. Smith action sequences reminiscent of *The Matrix* and *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*. There is pun, sarcasm and goofs all rolled into one. In one sequence, Smith blows up letters from a lit factory sign to spell out, "F--- U," to which Hertz blows some more to spell out "F--- U TOO." Obviously, there is enough swearing, violence and nudity to keep families off bay.

In the end, the movie falls short of proper beginning and end, although it does have one heck of a climax. Because of this, it is probably in your best interest to wait for the DVD. Although, if the beginning of a school year has already taken its toll, I say, why not take a ride to wherever!

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email manage@sbstatesman.org

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12:50-2:10 PM

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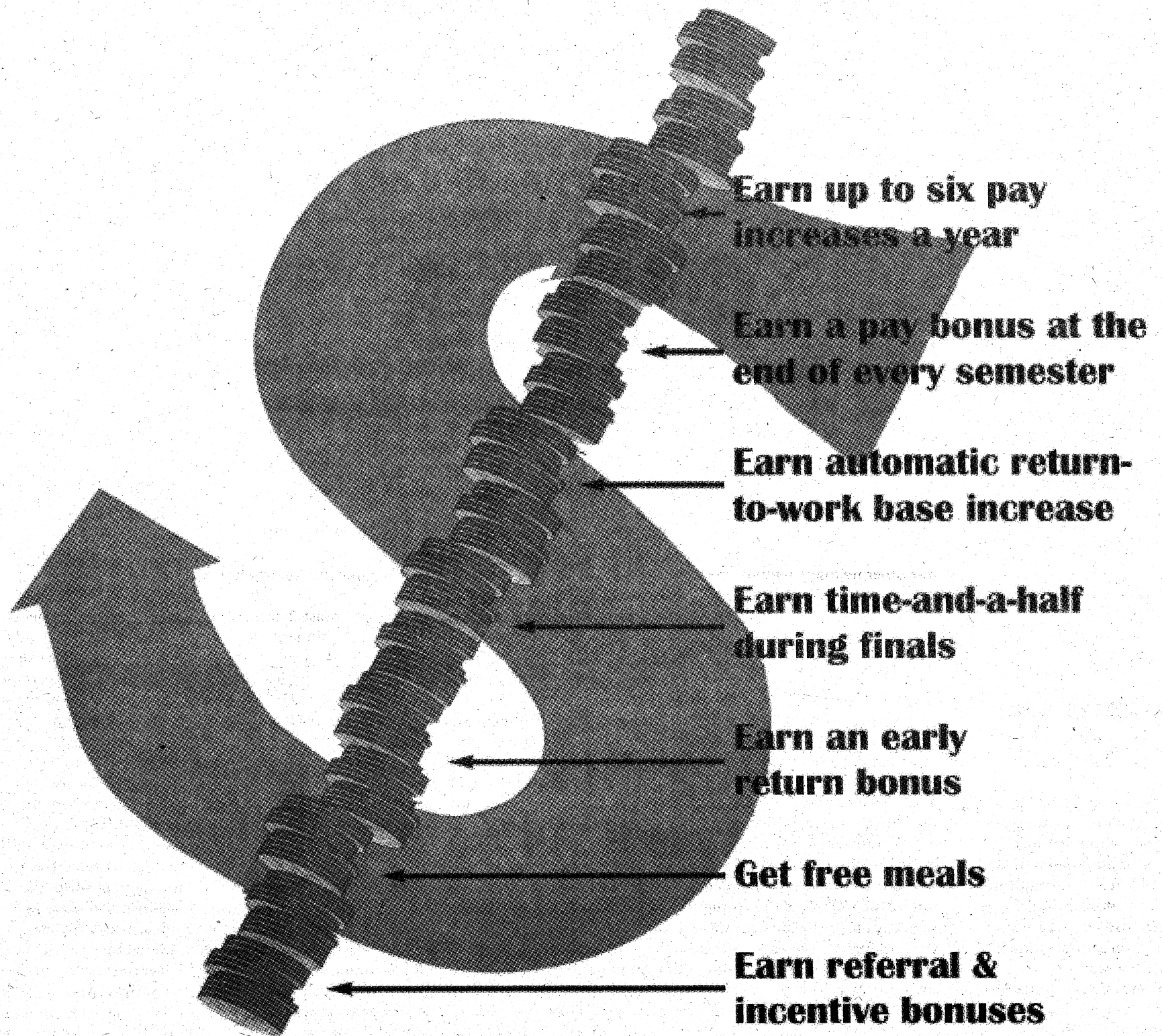
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A Grief Remembered

Continued from page 13

turning point in our country. I love my country but I've grown to despise the absolute disregard for morality, self-control, respect and discretion. I'm not all doom and gloom, guys and gals. There is goodness and glory in this country as well, like the vast plains of the Heartland, the rolling mountains of the Northeast, the beautiful Pacific ocean, the Grand Canyon...when we look upon these wonderful sites, let's not forget to remember that we have the freedom to do so only because we have men and women like the New York City policemen and firefighters who are willing to run into harm's way and banish the evil workings of mad men. When the time comes for us to be still and silent this coming September 11, let's bow our heads and remember the people who died, remember the reason why we're so proud to call ourselves Americans.

Gabe Faraci

University Police
Public Safety Division
Officer #567
Gabesthinktank@
yahoo.com

"Your accents are wicked!"*

Continued from page 13

advice is this- grab any opportunity to explore another place. We have a whole world right here. Just 2 hours away is the city. And a ferry ride and bus take you to Boston. We're not really isolated in Long Island. And once you get there, explore. Go to the museums, yes, but do the random things. If you don't do them now, I don't know when you ever will, because college is all about grabbing your opportunities. So unless you can cough up a few grand within the next year to take 12 credits at Oxford (which all of us seemingly did, and then proceeded to spend more money on food and drink than any other possible entrance fee in England), take the time to stand in line at the SAC for a subsidized LIRR ticket, and then spend an entire day in the city, roaming anywhere from Tribeca to Brooklyn. Better yet, get an amazing friend to road trip with you to Boston and experience the Oxford of our land-Harvard.

* A direct quote from a British schoolgirl (and her friends) who heard us talk; why oh why would she think that? Oh well, no complaints here.

RE: EVERYTHING WE PUBLISH

Continued from page 13

train, waiting on the side tracks, would not splatter you over (a big issue back then). Did tragedy cause this change? Once on the other side, you would wait for the shuttle bus that was never there to meet the train. Of course, 3 minutes up the hill or halfway to the SBU, the bus would show up. Sounds familiar? What amazed me at this juncture was how mature the campus had grown, flora-wise that is. You see, back then you had a clear view from the train station all the way to SBU. Now, stately trees obscure this view. This is important to me because on my first arrival at the Brook, it was like a revelation as the Land of Oz lay out before me. At the risk of boring you to death, I should digress a bit here. The summer of '75, I met two special people who would later be instrumental to my existence. One is still here (the driver) and the other no longer with us. Not only was the latter a good friend but I was certain it was deeper than that (more on this later). At his invitation, in order to do in-person registration (is that still being done?) I arrived with no preconceived expectations. As a CUNY student living under not so good conditions with relatives, I was looking for an alternative and SUNY seemed to fit the bill quite nicely. I immediately filled out a transfer application. In typical institutional fashion, I was not aware I had been accepted until 2 weeks before the spring semester of '76. I made what was then a long-distance call to the Brook. After several agonizing on-hold minutes, the person stated, Why yes, did you not receive the letter? (sound familiar?) I was on my way to Long Island in seconds.

My arrival at Hand College was not without controversy. In those days housing was at a shortage (sound familiar?). And for some dumb luck, I found myself in the same suite as my benefactor, as the two-room suite had vacancies in each room. Naively, I expected the other two students to room together while I and my benefactor would share, NOT! Luckily for me, my roommate had a girlfriend elsewhere

on campus and I managed some unexpected freedom. Life was good and got better after that semester when the bozos in each room decided to move out. We were now set in what was at the time, upper-classmen residence only. This notion was shattered in a split second when across my suite, horror struck. Six freshmen had been allowed to move into Hand (was it because one of them had a State senator as father?). We upper-classmen were aghast at the thought of sharing our 'home' with a gaggle of freshman. Turns out, they were the best fun Hand had seen in years. To this very day I'm in touch with four out of six.

On the plane ride back to Oakland, CA, my home for the last 28 years, I read all the SBU rags I picked up at the bookstore. Not only did I read every single article including advertisements, I also read the names of the contributing staff for each publication. I must say that some articles were very well written and insightful, while others seemed as if remedial English was skipped by the authors (you know who you are). Nevertheless, I found the plethora of stories interesting enough to write this letter. Testimony to those current articles, the Brook was not without similar controversy back then. It seems that the same disdain for the Office of President remains. In my days it was Toll (yes, the very same one the campus street is named after) and his successor, Pond. Gripes about over-priced nasty food, housing shortages and the bookstore rip-offs are exactly the same 30 years back: nothing has changed. Back then, we only had Tabler, Roth, Kelly, H Quad and Stage XII (was that renamed to something else?). Not sure about Mendelsohn, is that a new name? The Lecture Center (now Javits center) was as ugly then as it is now. But what really is noticeably missing is the Bridge to Nowhere: the icon of our days. Without it, it feels that "There is no there, there." It was the heart and rallying point of the Brook; it now seems disjointed with the SAC having taken over from SBU. I'm not sure I like that. Meandering though campus trying to relive my past, good with bad, I

eventually ended up at Hand College. My heart was racing as I got nearer and nearer, not because of what I would find but because I'm 52 years old. Still, the mess around campus is just as bad today as when I arrived in 1976. I proceeded to the front entrance trying to recreate my yester-years in 10 minutes. I was marveled and saddened by what I saw. In my days there were no locks or electronic keys or any sense of security issues. Hand College gave the appearance of the 'projects' in a 'hood in any of the boroughs. I was shocked to see that Security actually carries guns.

As an RA during my last year I:

- Was never put in the position to challenge security issues with my flock,
- Never had any attendance problems during hall meetings (I know nothing about the joints passed around during that first meeting),
- Take the fifth on who broke into Tabler cafeteria to use the oven to roast 2 turkeys for Thanksgiving dinner,
- Witnessed my suitmates get nabbed by Security for growing pot on the window sill (the plants were confiscated but no charges ever brought up, humm!),
- Do not know how a Christmas tree mysteriously was set up in our hall, or the tree stump sticking out in Tabler parking lot, or how it fell out the window after the holidays were over (I saw nothing, heard nothing and said nothing),
- Was unaware of our cleaning lady almost passed-out and came looking for me with scrub-brush in hand (I was tipped off) because some of the female students had naked men pinned on their bathroom walls.
- Know nothing of the nitrous oxide tank gone AWOL from the HSC which somehow ended up on our floor.
- Know anything about our college 'warden' sleeping around with members of the Security force,
- Know nothing about the water-logged carpets after a night of heavy water balloon fights between Hand 1B and Hand 3B,
- Know EVERYTHING on who was sleeping with whom, male

or female.

Anyway, I don't want to bore you anymore with my memory-lane stories. You may wonder, or not, who the hell am I. Well, I guess I'm one of those few people of my time who made education work, not because I'm a smart-ass fuck, but because I cherished the values I was fortunate to obtain while at SUNY-Stony Brook (yes, that is what it was called back then). Mercifully, I found and was at ease with my sexuality at Stony Brook, and have been in domestic partnership for 27+ years (get a clue you yahoos who think otherwise). I am one of several vice-presidents at a bank in San Francisco. My husband and I travel the world every chance we get, from Maui to Buenos Aires, from Seattle to Istanbul, and from cruises in the Baltic to the Caribbean. In short, I'm just an average gay guy who is thankful for the education, tolerance, acceptance and idealism Stony Brook offered me. I'm happy to state for the record that I've benefited from my Stony Brook years devoid of the stupidity, hypocrisy and screwed-up lives of assholes like Haggard, Craig, Foley, Swaggart and other bible-thumping morons.

In reading your rag(s) articles, I laughed, I cringed, even shed half a tear. To those who have nothing better than to complain about your current status, be blessed with what you have. My worst year in life was the year I graduated and delved into the real world. Even though I had worked since high school and part-time during a semester at SB commuting to NYC three days a week, I was not prepared to confront reality. This is why I am class of '78 and not '77. I miss those days very much; I miss my flock, my boyfriend, my carefree days and the sense of idealism. With this visit, I close an important chapter in my life which had swirled in my mind for many years. Life goes on, and so should you.

Please enjoy the Brook for what it is. I wish you the very best success now and in your life after the Brook.

Victor Rosario

Oakland, CA

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WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sycilian" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975 "The Statesman" was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student-run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography staff are student volunteers while its business staff are professionals.

The Stony Brook Statesman is published twice-weekly on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the fall and spring semesters.

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A Grief Remembered

By GABE FARACI
University Police Officer #567

This September marks the sixth anniversary of the worst terror attack on United States soil in American history. Six years ago, the very essence of freedom and free will was torn to shreds like an old cloak. Not only were two beautiful buildings completely destroyed but almost two thousand people were viciously murdered. The worst of humanity became evident on that crisp September morning and has echoed continuously throughout our lives. The hope of humanity's struggle to abolish terrorism and hatred seemed to dwindle before our very eyes.

I've been told that I shouldn't include what I'm about to write. I was told that many people on this campus come from various backgrounds and upbringings. Many have different views on the spiritual realm, but that's exactly why this country is so adored. As an American I have the right to speak my mind; as a writer, I have the obligation to stir your souls and form questions that many of us dare not ask. But I would not be totally honest with you if I beat around the bush, and if you read my article this past May, you know that I'm not the type of person to sit back and take things lightly. When I read the newspaper I want to be challenged. I want to say to myself, "Hey, this guy doesn't give a hoot and tells it like it is!" That's the type of person I am, and that's the type of writer I long to be.

I'm not easily amazed, but my faith in my fellow man was restored on the day after September 11, 2001. A line of American flags adorned my neighborhood, grown men cried, children were silent and women prayed for strength on this darkest of days. At once the beliefs of our forefathers sprung up all around the country to remind us that God is watching out for us no matter what the situation might be. I'm not a theologian and I don't claim to be. I've tried to come to grips with what happened on that day and wondered why a benevolent God would allow such a horrific plan to unfold. But I don't have that answer and honestly folks, I'm not sure if my finite mind could even begin to understand why it DID happen. Whatever the answer is, I loved my country the most on September 11,

2001.

I was proud of my fellow New Yorkers because we stepped up to the plate and made the best of a dire situation, we looked evil in the eye and for the first time our hearts and minds were opened to the belief that immorality is invading our culture and our lives. We knew that evil in its purest form is the hardest thing to battle, to conquer and to eliminate. But we took a chance, broke the mold and dropped to our knees to pray for those lost souls in the Twin Towers, the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania.

But I'm ashamed now. Six years later and the majority of people have all but forgotten the sacrifices that were made that day. The pride and pain that we as a nation went through has been pushed aside and tucked over with mindless nonsense. Have any of you noticed that in six years so little has been rebuilt at Ground Zero? But no, we're so quick to build baseball stadiums and catering halls. All the crap that we (and myself included) think is relevant turns out to be pure muck. The idolizing of celebrities, sports stars and politicians overwhelms our youth and saturates our daily lives and nobody seems to do anything about it but watch. We hate and seethe, curse and mock when all we really need to do is follow the simplest of steps: Love one another, do good to those who hurt you, bless those who curse you.

I admit that my life was spent mostly loving myself, doing good things for myself and cursing the idiots on the Long Island Expressway.

There is no excuse for terrorism, there's no excuse for wars and famines. But honestly, don't we terrorize the weak and rage war with our pesky neighbors? When we pass homeless people on the street don't we allow them to wallow in their own famines? I'm no saint people, but where in heck have all the Good Samaritans gone? Where have we gone wrong?

Throughout history war and death has wreaked havoc on human civilization. Unfortunately, it's probably something that will never change. Ever since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden we've killed, lied, lusted and wanted what was not ours to have. These past six years should have been a critical

Continued on page 11

"Your accents are wicked!"*

By SANHITA REDDY
Contributing Writer

Summer. A time for lazy days at the beach, endless barbecues, and house parties that never stop. While a majority of Stony Brook was outside, cleansing themselves of all things academic, a rather remarkable percentage of the student body decided to take their summer break in a different direction: studying abroad. "Studying Abroad?!" you say, aghast. Who studies in the summer? But alas, I am one of the guilty few that undertook this interesting experience. I, along with 12 other aimlessly wandering Brookers, packed our suitcases once again-this time, for the motherland, England. And after 6 weeks of kebab-eating, British speaking deliriousness, I can truthfully sit down and type this on my computer-it was amazing. Our study abroad found ourselves at the center of education, at Oxford University. Not only were we taught by an admirable member of the Stony Brook staff, Dr. Femi Vaughn, but we also experienced first-hand Oxford tutors (both Irish, and both quite charismatic. Plus, we could actually understand what they were saying. You know what I mean.). It was amazing to learn about the history, and actually see where it happened. We were able to see where George Orwell lived while reading about his social politics.

Yes, the program was expensive, and yes, it is called a study abroad, but the information was never forced on us; and there was plenty of downtime to realize what England was really about. 12 Pubs, 3 lounges, 5 restaurants, 2 sandwich shops, and one 2-hour train ride to Stonehenge only to realize we can't take the bus up (the last ride was 1 hour ago), we were able to claim England as home. We are now completely jaded by English accents, know better than to ask anyone what is exactly in their traditional food, have an insane addiction for high tea and cookies, and will do anything for cheap drinks and ice cream (the pound to dollar ratio is 1:2-imagine that with a college student's budget).

I'm not going to bore you with my trip; I have the right suspicion to think that only those involved will understand the extent of enjoyment I had, but I will implore you with my humble advice. My

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RE: "MUCH MORE THAN POCKET CHANGE"

I'd like to add my two cents to the article "Much More than Pocket Change: Online Book Bargains Add Up." When I was an undergraduate at Stony Brook University (2001-2004), I very rarely bought my books from the on-campus bookstore. I would find out the ISBN numbers of the books I needed. Then I used the site www.campusbooks.com. It searches all of the major online book retailers and shows you the lowest price. Be careful though. If the search comes up with a retailer whose price seems too good to be true do some research on the customer satisfaction of that company. Also verify via e-mail with the company that you are indeed buying the correct version and that it is new or used. I hope that helps this year's undergraduates.

Chris Hoppe

Class of 2004

RE: EVERYTHING WE PUBLISH

With great expectations and angst, I arrived at the Brook the day before Labor Day. I've been looking forward to this day for quite some time now. You may think, "LOOOSER!!!" but I'm not a freshman nor a transfer nor a returning student, I am an alumnus. With emotions running high, I was transfixed at the changes around me, yet after 20 minutes everything seemed the same. You see, I've not set foot on campus for almost 30 years. I am part of the class of '78, actually class of '77, but more on that later. For this return, I intended recreating my arrival the same way I did in years past, on the Long Island Railroad. But a friend insisted on driving us from New York City. Not wanting to miss out on the experience, I guided him from 25A to the LIRR parking lot; at least this way I could fulfill part of my yearning. At the precise moment of exiting the car, the sense of changes kicked in, but yet so familiar the surroundings were.

You see, back then, there was no elevated train platform. You alighted and dashed across the tracks hoping the outgoing

Continued on page 11

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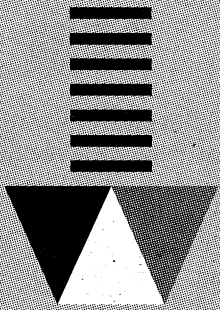
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MOURNING: Eiko & Koma, and Tan

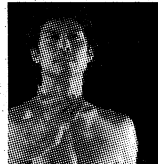
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Wednesday, November 7,
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New Face of the Honors College

Continued from page 3

ricular activities.

As the new school year gathers speed, Miller and Tobin accept their new posts with the aspiration that they will create a comfortable, productive, and happy environment for Honors College students. "I am here to facilitate their academic experiences. I would like to create an approachable open door policy. Stony Brook is a treasure trove of opportunities and I want to help students find those opportunities," Miller said.

Women's Soccer

Continued from page 16

The team Head Coach, Sue Ryan, a graduate of Cortland in 1983, is entering her 22nd season with the program. During her tenure the Seawolves have risen from a Division III school all the way up to Division I.

After a rocky 2005 campaign, the team rebounded last season and is looking to continue improving in order to compete at the top of the America East conference. Conference play begins Sept. 30 against UMBC, and the schedule is rounded out with 7 more conference games. The teams next home game is Sept. 16 versus East Carolina, with kickoff scheduled for 12:00 PM.

Rough Starts for Michigan and Notre Dame

First Two Week Expose Football Powerhouses

By BRIAN MORGAN
Contributing Writer

The first Saturday of the college football season started off with two major upsets, with fifth ranked Michigan falling to Appalachian State, and powerhouse Notre Dame's loss to underdog Georgia Tech. Both Michigan and Notre Dame lost at home and put a damper on their young season. Michigan's loss to Appalachian State, a member of the championship division (formerly known as Division I-AA) was the most shocking, especially since Michigan, a team with far superior in talent and depth was vying for a national championship. The Wolverines were an overwhelming favorite to topple the visiting Mountaineers, but fell short of expectations in just the first game of the season. The game remained close until the final horn; after an amazing completed Hail Mary pass, Michigan found themselves back in the game within field-goal range. With the time expiring, the Wolverines brought out their special teams, and for the second time in the game, had their 37 yard attempt blocked by Appalachian State. Had it converted, Michigan would have likely taken the lead (35-34) and the win.

Despite the close score, this 34-32 Michigan loss is now considered by many to be one of the biggest upset in sports history. With the return of stars Mike Hart (running back) and Chad Henne (quarterback), Michigan's juggernaut offense was bound to carry them to a national championship bid. Last year the Wolverines finished the regular season 11-1 with Hart and Henne leading the way; their only loss coming at the hands of number one ranked Ohio State in the Buckeye's house, in the season finale. Had this showdown been played at Michigan, Michigan would have likely taken the win.

Despite their loss, many still believed Michigan deserved a shot at the national championship last year. With Mike Hart and Chad Henne returning, and combined with their strong recruiting class, they were a strong contender to win it all this year. However, their loss to an unranked team and a team that has no chance of playing a bowl game virtually eliminates Michi-

gan from playing for the national championship.

Appalachian State, the Division I-AA champions for the previous two seasons has been a consistent force throughout their history. However their match was still considered a David vs. Goliath contest, mainly because Michigan is college football's most successful program in the sport's history. To top it off, Appalachian State's hometown of Boone, North Carolina's entire population of 15,000 people can only account for a little more than 10% of Michigan's, which can hold 110,000 people.

The other upset, with Georgia Tech defeating Notre Dame (33-3) received considerably less coverage, but still shocked the nation. Though Notre Dame wasn't ranked in the top 25 like Michigan, the loss is still considered a huge slap in the face to the Fighting Irish. The had high expectations with signing of coach Charlie Weiss before last season, but his tenure has been disappointing thus far, and the season outlook is grim especially after being blown out by the Georgia Tech.

The Yellow Jackets have to be excited, but this victory can't be too much of a surprise. They finished a respectable 9-5 last year, and had a successful season until losing the last three games of the season to Georgia, 16th ranked Wake Forest and 10th ranked West Virginia. With these three losses each only by a field goal, their 9-5 record is misleading. Georgia Tech, unlike Appalachian State, has the ability to recruit great talent and despite their loss last of Heisman candidate Calvin Johnson to the NFL, they return a strong team led by Tashard Choice. Choice ran for 2 touchdowns, with 196 yards on 26 carries (7.5 yards per carry).

Notre Dame also lost a Heisman candidate in Brady Quinn, going to the NFL, but unlike Georgia Tech, they don't have a returning superstar to carry the team. This year's squad must rely on freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen, announced as Notre Dame's starting quarterback after the loss. Clausen was highly recruited, but can't be expected to play at the same level as Brady Quinn in his first season as Notre Dame's quarterback.

The first weekend of college football saw a major upset of a na-

tionally ranked Michigan program, while an underrated and emerging Yellow Jacket team dominated an overrated/ young Notre Dame team. Ultimately, Georgia Tech's victory wasn't a surprise, but when considering Notre Dame's past as the second most successful team in college football history, this was a major defeat that is still worth noting.

The second week was no different for Michigan or Notre Dame. Michigan's Head Coach Lloyd Carr might as well be fired, in order to begin a rebuilding process. This most recent loss (a 39-7 blowout to Oregon), against another team outside Michigan's Big 10 Conference, is pathetic. Carr's job was in question even before their abysmal season started after Michigan's disappointing loss to USC in the Rose Bowl to finish last season. This weekend's blow out was magnified by the fact it was played at home. To make things worse, star quarterback Chad Henne may not play next week after hurting his leg in the second quarter of the game. Michigan's season is looking bleak.

Notre Dame's week was not much better. They took a beating at Penn State, but their loss wasn't as bad as the 31-10 loss made it seem. The game was close for a long period of time, with the offense led by the freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen. Therefore, Charlie Weiss' job should be safe, although will he will still be under a microscope for the rest of the season.

Penn State who was ranked #14 coming into game, had revenge on their minds after losing to Notre Dame last year. Their defense led the way allowing 0 yards rushing to the Fighting Irish, and limiting Clausen to only 144 yards passing. After today's performance, Joe Paterno's team showed that they are a forced to be reckoned with, and it will be interesting to see if the long time Nittany Lion coach still has the ability to take his team to a national championship.

This was the first time both Michigan and Notre Dame, who respectively are the top two teams success-wise in college football history, have started 0-2. This was also the first time Michigan has started 0-2 at home in a season since 1959.

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SPORTS

Women's Soccer Outlook

By GENE MORRIS
Staff Writer

Although the team fell 3-0 to George Mason on Friday afternoon, Women's soccer is primed to improve on last seasons 8-7-2 record.

The team opened the season with consecutive home shutouts over Iona and Siena before traveling to Fairfax, Va. over the weekend to take part in the Mason Tournament hosted by GMU.

Last seasons top two scorers, Brooke Barbuto and Tiffany Fasullo, return this year to lead the offensive attack. Barbuto, a junior forward from Syracuse, led the team last season with 6 goals and 13 points. Fasullo, a senior midfielder from Setauket, had 4 goals and 3 assists last year.

Marisa Viola, the sophomore goaltender who played every game for the Seawolves last season as a freshman, is back in the net. Last season she had a .883 save percentage. Her strong play anchored the teams first 2 victories of the season. She made 3 saves in the win over Iona, and had 6 stops during the game against Siena.

The team features 11 freshman, including Danielle Tena-glia, a forward from North Reading, Mass. who scored the only goal in the 1-0 blanking of Siena. The team also features 7 seniors.

Seawolves Bash Bucknell Bison Off to Best Start in 4 Years



The Seawolves offense dominated Bucknell with over 420 yards, with three passing touchdowns to compliment a strong running game.

David Stevens/ Statesman

By WILL LAHTI
Managing Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves football team is now 2-0 to start the season for the first time since 2003 after a dominant 48-20 victory on the road over the Bucknell Bison. 48 points is the most the team has scored in a game since a 49-14 win against St. Francis at Homecoming 2003.

The game got off to a slow start, with neither team's initial drives getting very far. Bucknell finally broke through with two minutes left in the first quarter, scoring a touchdown. Stony Brook had the game tied 16 seconds later, when Conte Cuttino returned the kickoff for the touchdown. SBU's next three drives would end in touchdowns, with Bucknell put-

ting up 13 points of their own, with the Seawolves going into halftime up 27-17.

Bucknell started the second half with the ball, and picked up a field goal. This would be their last score of the night. SBU would score three more touchdowns, one of which came on a blocked punt return by junior linebacker Andre Jean-Pierre. Once the score got to 48-20 in the fourth quarter, SBU chose to pull QB Josh Dudash in favor of junior Dan Sweeney, as well as pulling many other starters, in the interest of protecting them from injury. No more points were produced on either side, and SBU was on its way to another win.

The SB offense totaled 429 yards to Bucknell's 279. They

scored three touchdowns with the passing game, including a play featuring a backward pass from Josh Dudash to Steve Austin, who threw to Lynell Suggs. SBU also produced an average 27.3 yards per kickoff/punt return, including the touchdown, compared to 19.2 for Bucknell, with no scores. SBU's biggest weakness was their seven penalties for 50 yards to Bucknell's 2 for 10. SBU also lost two fumbles in the fourth quarter, after the backups had come in. Bucknell couldn't produce any point from those opportunities.

SBU's next game will be in Ohio, against Youngstown State, one of the top teams in the Football Championship Subconference. Kickoff is Saturday at 4PM.

Volleyball Shines on the Road

By SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

The SB women's volleyball team played in three matches this past weekend, facing Fairfield, Seton Hall and Pennsylvania. The Seawolves managed two wins, taking advantage of Fairfield and Penn but fell to home team Seton Hall. Morgan Seany, Jackie Ahlers and Noelle Bay led the Seawolves in their successful 2-1 weekend on the road in South Orange, NJ.

On Friday, September 7th, the Seawolves swept three straight games from Fairfield, winning 30-23, 30-24, and 30-23. Morgan Sweeney starred for SBU, dropping 13 kills and 16 digs.

On Saturday, September 8th, the Seton Hall won in three straight matches for the win, with the three games ending in 30-24, 30-28, 30-28.

The Seawolves would bounce back in their third match, also on Saturday September 8th, winning over Penn in dramatic fashion. The Seawolves dropped the first two matches by scores of 29-31, 17-30, before mounting a comeback with three wins, 30-22, 30-24, 15-9. Both Ahlers and Bay recorded over 25 kills each in the comeback win over Penn.

The Seawolves remain on the road next weekend. They travel to Lewisburg, PA for a match against Saint Francis. Tip off is at 6:00 PM on Friday, September 14.