

THE STATESMAN

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"I Love You Man?"

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Treats for Troops

The Student Activities Board (SAB) paid homage last Wednesday during Campus lifetime to US soldiers stationed abroad, by sending letters of encouragement and thanks.

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The Kepler Spacecraft

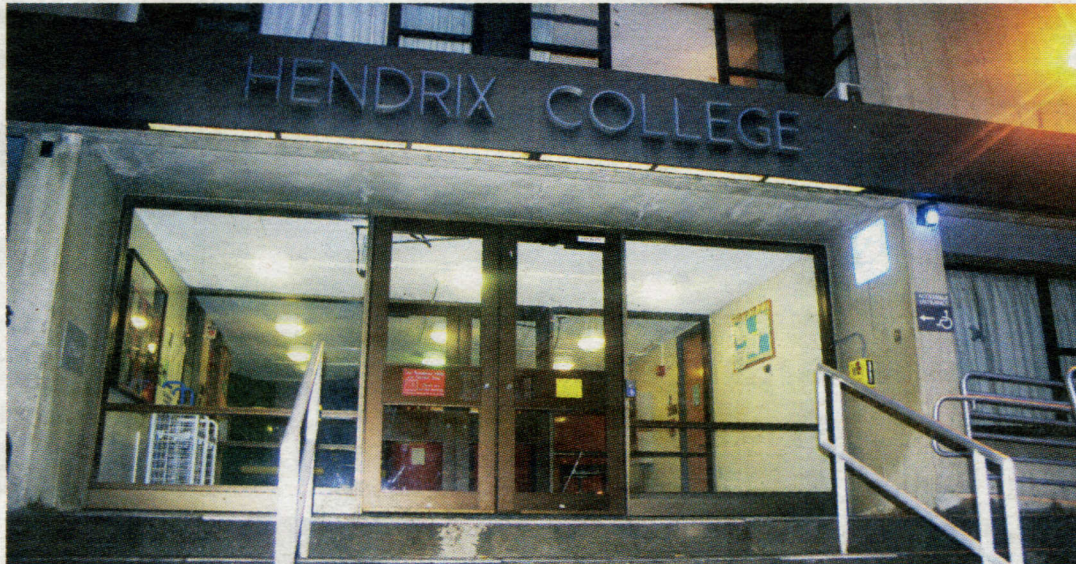
The spacecraft contains a telescope that's purpose is to search for Earth-like worlds circling stars within our galaxy. When the celestial spheres pass in front of their star's light, the telescope is able to identify them. Recent years have brought a wave of discoveries, and scientists are hopeful that the Kepler mission will continue this trend of exciting finds.

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Deflation Isn't That Scary

As I scour my news feed, the economic crisis is looking pretty grim. Market confidence is dropping, world currencies are on edge, unemployment is rising, wholesale prices are dropping, triggering fears of deflation... Wait a second, what was that last one? Aren't falling prices usually beneficial to consumers, especially during a recession? Not according to the economic advisers which are currently dictating our governments economic policies.

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Hendrix College in Roth Quad at Stony Brook, where senior Andrew Mineo was found dead in his dorm room.

Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

Stony Brook Senior Found Dead in Residence Hall

By APRIL WARREN
News Editor

Stony Brook University student Andrew Mineo, 21, a psychology major, was found dead in his dorm room on Tuesday evening, according to the university website.

Mineo was a senior who resided in Hendrix College in Roth Quad.

No cause of death has been determined at this time, according to Mineo's father, Vincent Mineo, 56, of Levittown, N.Y., a computer operations supervisor. An autopsy was performed, but results have not yet been released.

"Preliminary investigation indicates that there is no criminality involved," the university website said. Suffolk County Police Department and the Suffolk County Medical Examiner's Office are investigating.

"He was not happy recently," Mineo said. He also said his son was struggling with some of his academics.

Mineo last waved goodbye to his son Tuesday morning as he boarded the train heading back to campus. "I don't know what happened. In the morning he was fine."

When his son did not return home Tuesday night for an appointment on Wednesday, Mineo called the university. Detectives alerted him early Wednesday morning about his son's death.

Andrew was set to graduate with a B.A. in psychology in May

and planned to attend C.W. Post in the fall for education. After receiving a Master's degree, he hoped to become a high school math teacher, his father said.

"I think he was just lost in the shuffle," said Mineo. According to the university website, there were 23,997 students enrolled for the fall 2008 semester.

"Andy was the type of guy you'd like to be around," Mineo said.

Over the years, academics was the psychology major's main focus.

"He was very passionate about the academic world, even if it wasn't something he liked in the short term," said Kevin Brady, a Stony Brook student who graduated with Andrew from Division Avenue High School in Levittown in 2005. "He really did see the point of it all."

Both were members of Stony Brook College Democrats.

An avid news consumer, Andrew devoured Time, Newsweek and U.S. News & World Report regularly.

Mineo also had a passion for helping. Over the years, he volunteered at a local animal rescue organization cleaning cages, became a registered emergency technician at Wantagh-Levittown Volunteer Ambulance Corps., and donated his platelets to Stony Brook University Medical Center, according to his father.

"Our hearts go out to the friends and family of Andrew," said Dean of Students Jerrold L. Stein.

According to Vincent Mineo,

Stein, along with other members of the academic team, have been helpful in trying to provide the family with Mineo's diploma, which must be approved by State University of New York and campus administrators.

"Any death, no matter how terrible, should be a reminder of how fragile life is," said L. Anne Byrnes, the director of the University Counseling center.

In lieu of flowers, the Mineo family is asking for donations to be made to the North Shore Animal League.

Funeral services will be held at Dalton's Funeral Home in Levittown, Thursday 7 - 9 p.m. and Friday 2 - 5 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m. A mass will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Bernard's Church in Levittown with the burial following at Holy Road in Westbury.

Bradley Donaldson, Frank Posillico, Joe Trollo and Carolina Hidalgo contributed reporting for this story.

Those seeking support are encouraged to use the following resources.

- The University Counseling Center at 631-632-6720.
- The Center for Prevention and Outreach at 631-632-2748.
- Response of Suffolk County at 631-751-7500, where counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

University Acquires Second Secret Letter

By JASMIN FRANKEL
Contributing Writer

There is a room on the second floor of the library that contains a life of its own. History lives within those walls -- history of Long Island. Among all the pieces of material that made Long Island what it is today lays a letter from President George Washington to his Chief of Intelligence Benjamin Tallmadge right here in Stony Brook University in a vault in a sanctuary room called Special Collections. The well preserved letter with slightly tattered edges is one of three letters Washington sent to Tallmadge. Stony Brook University has physical possession of the first and is awaiting the second after successfully bidding for it at Christie's Auction in Manhattan on February 12.

Those present at the auction were Kristen Nyitray, Head of Special Collections who bided on the secret letter to the Chief of Intelligence, Chris Filstrup, Dean and Director of Libraries and Richie Feinberg, who is in charge of arranging the preservation for such items. Along with them joined Assemblyman D. for E. Setauket Steven Englebright, Barbara Russell, Historian of Brookhaven, and Elizabeth Kaplan, Director of Education for the Three Village Historical Society.

The rag paper document had an open bid of 25,000 dollars which quickly soared until Nyitray won the bid at 48,000 dollars that, with a 20 percent bidder's fee, totalled to 60,000 dollars, less than the first letter that was bought at 96,000 dollars back in 2006. Both letters were funded by outside contributors.

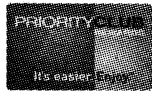
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The deadline for receipt of applications is March 15th 2009, so be sure to act quickly before the sun sets and the green withers.

For details and an application form
visit the FSA website

www.stonybrook.edu/fsa/ssr.htm

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Suite 250 Stony Brook Union



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MOVIES

WHO WATCHES THE WATCHMEN?

By HENRY SCHILLER
Contributing Writer

Film adaptations of comic books, with few exceptions, rarely come to par with their source material. When it comes to "Watchmen," the only graphic novel to appear on Time magazine's 100 greatest English-language novels list, the long awaited film adaptation doesn't fail to please, although it may alienate fans of the widely acclaimed graphic novel.

As a comic book fan, I have often felt metaphysically ostracized for my stance on the "Watchmen" graphic novel. I felt it is, although great in many regards, worthless as a valid piece of literature. Furthermore, it has garnered the reputation of being somehow more valuable than other mainstream comic books.

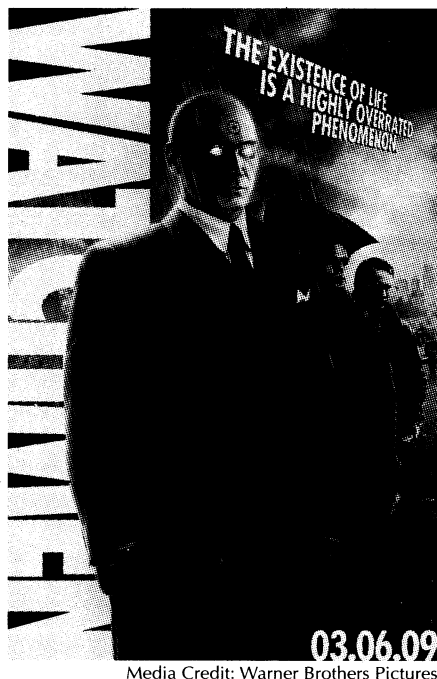
The film is faithful to the plot and dialogue but not to the themes or moods of the book. It is the action movie adaptation

of what was supposed to be a character study; it is the same story told from a different point of view. One of the main points of the "Watchmen" comic, and one of the reasons I liked it, was that it was made to work specifically as a comic book; a direct adaptation would have been impossible and frankly, quite pointless. The book is good enough on its own.

And this is where the film succeeds; it is by no means a direct adaptation. It is explicitly an action movie, and while fans of the novel may be offended by this, it was ultimately refreshing to see a comic book movie that can adequately portray deep philosophical themes while maintaining a sense of humor.

Overall the acting was top-notch. Patrick Wilson did a good job as the aging Batman-inspired Nite Owl, and Jackie Earle Haley put on a Christian

Bale-inspired growl for his role as



Media Credit: Warner Brothers Pictures

Rorschach, a somewhat depraved version of DC Comics' the Question. Billy Crudup played Billy Crudup and turned one of my

favorite characters in the comic (Dr. Manhattan) into an unenjoyable whining mess.

I have to take a moment to talk about the soundtrack. I am willing to overlook the participation of a My Chemical Romance song (albeit a cover) to say that this film would be worth watching by merit of the soundtrack alone. It helped a great deal to link a more or less alien world to our own, and while the ominous tones of "The Dark Knight" were all well and good, a campy movie should have a campy soundtrack. "Watchmen" had Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah", and not the overused whiny version by the late Jeff Buckley. It was used perfectly.

The film's computer-generated imagery was reminiscent of director Zack Snyder's earlier work, "300," and fell short in many of the same places. There was a bioengineered cat that I

found to be of particularly low quality, and there were many scenes in which the CGI simply did not mesh with the live action. If something cannot be properly rendered it should be left out of the film, and this shortcoming actually pulled me out of the movie.

The film was probably incomprehensible to anyone not familiar with the source material, and although I cannot travel back in time and not read the graphic novel, I doubt the movie would have made much sense without at least a quick glance at the book on which it is based. That said, this is far and away the best film based on an Alan Moore graphic novel, (although with gems like "LXG" and "From Hell" in that roster, it is no wonder he removes his name from every movie they make based on one of his books) and by all means, it is worth seeing, especially if you're just going to watch it for free online. Which I didn't.

EXCLUSIVE

"I LOVE YOU, MAN?"

By KWAME OPAM
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

There is something to be said about the power of cinema to ask timely questions -- questions that may or may not be comfortable for the audience to answer or are simply not asked all that often. Film can go a number of routes in the asking, taking the directions of high drama or -- ever that bane of the Academy -- comedy.

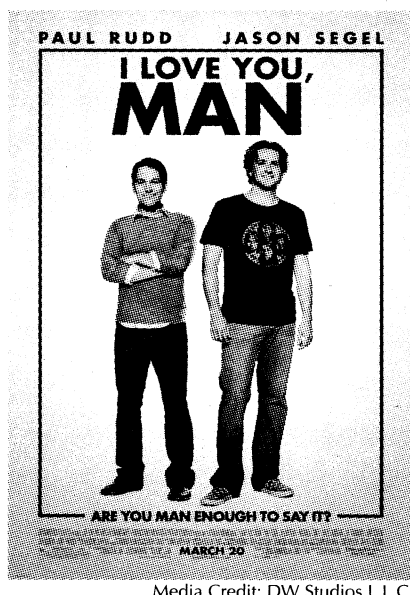
Comedy is, of course, a powerful vehicle to point out any social shortcoming or slight.

So picture this: Suppose you were to watch a comedy that pokes fun at the idea of "man love," or rather the idea of genuine love and affection between two heterosexual men.

Backed by stereotypes, heterosexual men are socially conditioned to be uncomfortable with their own sexualities. Case in point: The fact that there are rules for straight men to avoid seeing another man's "member" while urinating. Awkward, no? It might even make you uncomfortable thinking about it.

So you might ask the ques-

tion, "Well, what's the big deal? I happen to enjoy sitting down with my guy friends, having a few drinks and fist-bumping." Of course, and that's fine. But what about going out on a man-date?



Media Credit: DW Studios L.L.C.

The meaning behind man-dates and man-love is what the new picture, "I Love You, Man" attempts to reveal. With the simple tagline of "Are you man enough to say it?" the movie hopes to address the relative awkwardness a regular guy might feel about trying to be

friends with another typical guy in relating, and figuring out how to behave in a "guy way."

"I Love You, Man," which will be released March 20, introduces the audience to a cast of characters dedicated to defining what man-love is, aside from the fart and masturbation jokes of course.

Peter Klaven, played by Paul Rudd (Vanity Fair's next Jack Lemmon), is a man about to marry his girlfriend Zoey, played by Rashida Jones of "The Office" fame. But, being the kind of guy who focuses more on his girlfriends than guy friends, he lacks the best friend who could stand next to him as his best friend. So off Peter goes to find that friend, leading him onto those man-dates mentioned earlier.

Eventually, he accidentally crosses paths with Sydney Fife, played by Jason Segel, and the two hit it off, setting off a "bromance" for the ages.

The idea of a bromance may not be new, but it definitely creates the kind of discussion as to whether or not two

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MUSIC

All Kelly Ever Wanted

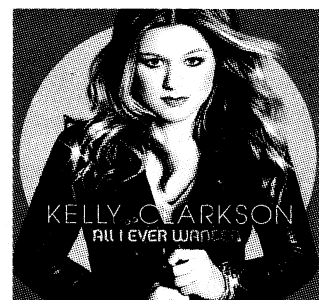
By SAMANTHA BURKARDT
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

Kelly Clarkson's back with a determination to get her music onto everyone's iPod. Her newest single "My Life Would Suck Without You" sprang from 97 to the number one position on the Billboard Hot 100 list, making it the largest jump to the number one spot ever, according to the Chicago Tribune. It also sold more than 290,000 downloads in a week. "My Life Would Suck Without You" also became the singer's first single to top the charts since her first single, 2002's "A Moment Like This."

Clarkson recently had a laugh by poking fun at herself for the new album's cover. "It's very colorful and they have definitely photo-shopped the c--- out of me but I don't care, haha! Whoever she is, she looks great," she posted in her blog. And Clarkson certainly does look great. The cover embodies her attitude perfectly and the songs on it reflect her sassiness well.

This album is more diverse

than her other albums for the reason that no two songs sound like the other. "Whyawanna-bringmedown" is one song that you would not expect to hear on a pop album. Clarkson breaks down her voice on this track to try and match the grungier sound of

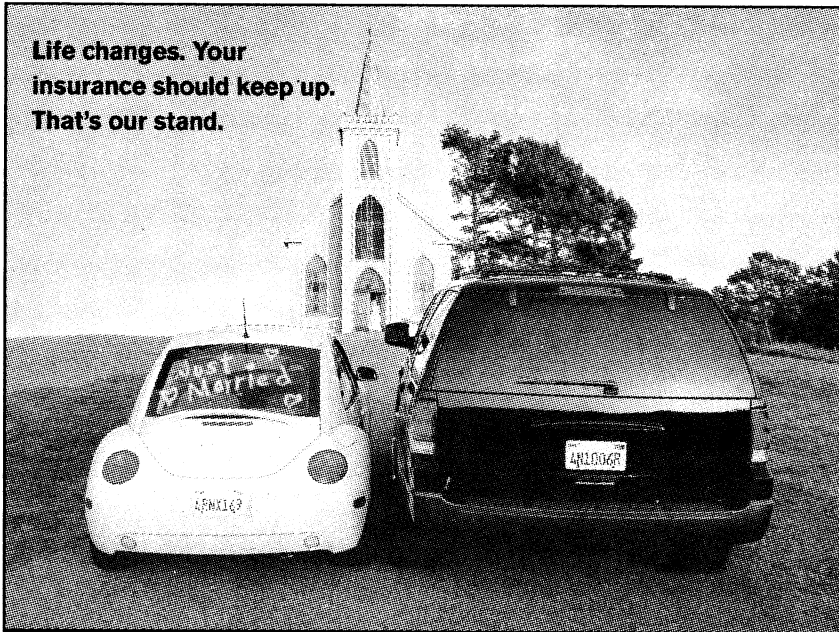


Media Credit: Amazon.com

the band behind her. Even though she tries to make it sound like she has an '80s hair-metal voice, her vocals are still distinct as ever. "If I Can't Have You" is completely opposite from this song because it has a disco/techno dance beat. She also includes powerful ballads on this CD, such as "Already Gone" and "Save You." Every song on this album is labeled as pop, but once you listen to it you will have your own ideas of what they should be labeled as.

Clarkson has come along way from her "American Idol" win in 2002. Although some of her other albums have struggled to sell, this one certainly won't. This is her best album to date, showing the many different sides of Ms. Clarkson, and satisfying many music lovers' sweet teeth.

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OPINION

The Kepler Mission

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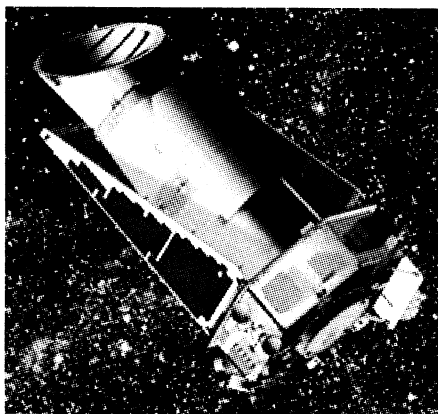
look at.

This question of whether or not "we are alone" will likely be answered within the next five years. By 2013, the mission will have identified a myriad of Earth-like planets. The only question remaining then will be are they potential spots for future human colonization or are they already inhabited by our galactic neighbors. Depending on the age of the planet and light year distance from us, both scenarios will likely be the case.

So while it may sound like some harebrained Isaac Asimov story to

many Americans (despite the overwhelming evidence and statistical probability suggesting otherwise), remember that we look back on history and chuckle at many of the long and firmly held conventional beliefs of our own ancestors. For thousands of years, people thought the world was flat because of the inability to comprehend such a seemingly simple law that we today know of as "gravity". It used to be simple logic that the sun, moon, and stars all orbited around the Earth; as we were the irrefutable center of not only our solar system, but of the entire universe. Europeans couldn't sail around the world until 1492, not because it wasn't possible, but because they didn't think it was.

Today we face a similar challenge to the conventional belief that, we are alone in the universe. The Kepler mission could very well put this issue to rest once and for all. If it does, then what we think about ourselves and the universe we inhabit will fundamentally change forever. Not only will it shatter these perceptions, but also it will ratify what we have subconsciously thought all along. We are special, but we are not the only ones.



The Kepler Spacecraft Artistic, Rendering
Media Credit: Nasa

Resolving the Paradox of Thrift

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The paradox of thrift assumes that when prices drop, the entire economy will suffer. However, if this is true, then why doesn't technological innovation produce recessions? Think about the first computer you bought. However much that cost, I'm sure you can get a much better computer for much cheaper in the stores today (adjusting for price increases due to monetary inflation). If the paradox of thrift is right, then competition and technology gains, which depress prices, should force companies to lay off workers en masse, which would result in consumers having less money to spend.

In reality, however, when consumers save money on consumption goods, they use that money to purchase other items - like luxury goods - or they save the money in banks. Saving money increases the pool of funds available for investment loans, which lowers the cost of taking out loans; the interest rates. Loans are used to make capital investments, which increases production.

The economy is not a 'zero sum game;' productivity gains

can create overall growth as labor becomes enhanced by the right capital goods. Technological innovation and productivity can increase when prices drop, because this encourages savings. But for some reason the media seems to be scared of exactly this type of deflation.

While it is true that, during a recession, layoffs can hurt savings simply because the unemployed have less money, to save or spend. We must consider, though, why these people are unemployed in the first place. The housing bubble was created because too much credit was extended to those without the means to repay it. Therefore the employment that was created out of the booming housing market and the related financial institutions that supported it, was doomed not to last.

Keeping these people employed in the same sectors is clearly not an option, since consumer demand, based on impossible mortgage payments, cannot possibly support it any longer. These people's labor must be redirected into different sectors that can handle sustainable growth. Because governments are notoriously bad at predicting

which sectors will do well in the long term, it makes little sense to rely on government (which did not predict the housing or subprime mortgage collapse) to decide where these workers must go.

Sustainable investments must be made so that the economy, and employment, can grow in the right places. The only way these investments can be made is through normal market processes. These investment requires real savings and savings can only occur if significant inflation is not occurring.

The problem is that the current administration is viewing the collapse of the bubble as the problem with the economy; a problem that can be fixed on the short term with inflation. However, if you realize that the bubble formation was in fact the problem, then deflation provides a better way to reallocate money within the economy, to shift away from sectors that the economy doesn't like to ones that it does. The coordination of money through an economy is, still, best handled by the unbiased, decentralized behavior of participatory markets, rather than a central planner.

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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Deflation Isn't That Scary

BY ZACHARY KURTZ
Opinion Editor

As I scour my news feed, the economic crisis is looking pretty grim. Market confidence is dropping, world currencies are on edge, unemployment is rising, wholesale prices are dropping, triggering fears of deflation... Wait a second, what was that last one? Aren't falling prices usually beneficial to consumers, especially during a recession? Not according to the economic advisers which are currently dictating our governments economic policies.

What they fear is the "paradox of thrift," a phenomenon in which consumer thriftiness reduces retail purchases, which induces layoffs and surplus output by that firm. Decreased disposable income further reduces consumer spending, instigating more unemployment, when businesses chase after thinning dollars and have to make cutbacks. This spiraling feedback inhibits economic growth and makes recessions that much worse.

The 'paradox of thrift' theory is short sighted because it misses a key point about how economic growth is created - more on that later. But let's now discuss how, based on the flawed paradox of thrift, economists are proposing solutions that have a tenuous, at best, chance of returning long term growth to the economy.

The paradox can be solved, as proposed by Keynesian economic

theorists, by adding money to the economy to create inflation. Inflation discourages savings and, therefore, encourages consumption. If the rate of inflation is, say 10%, would you keep your money in the bank to collect 1% interest?

Of course not. Because as adding money to circulation pushes up prices, by devaluing each dollar in the economy, life becomes less affordable, especially if you don't have an adjustable salary and/or are living on savings. Therefore,

lifted, which helped keep labor markets operating to maximum capacity.

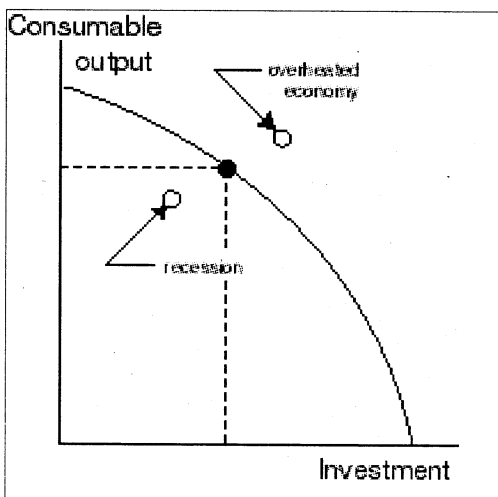
Whoever has already seen the flaw with this theory, give yourself a pat on the back. For everyone else, read on!

In most macroeconomic models, economic growth requires some form of investment in capital goods. Without capital, productivity is limited to what you can do with your own hands. Capital is the sewing needle, the factory, the computer, the hammer or anything else that augments human labor to produce something of value. Capital does not appear out of thin air, however.

Suppose you are farm hand. For your labors you are granted 10 dollars per day to spend as you wish. You use that money at the bakery to buy a loaf of bread, which allows you to survive another day. Suppose, however, you forgo your bread once a week, saving 10 dollars at a time. With these savings, you start

buying flour and eggs with which to bake your own bread. Suppose, with this equipment, you can now make 5 loaves of bread per day. You can make \$50 per day this way, but only because you saved up your money to invest in some capital goods (the bread, eggs and related baking equipment).

continued on page 4



Possibility between Consumption and Investment,
Garrison, R. 2005. *Modern Macroeconomics*,

consumers are less eager to save and more eager to spend. Printing or borrowing this money provides liquidity to credit markets to boost aggregate demand. However, economists must be careful to balance money creation, to not create hyperinflation - which can quickly irreparably disrupt an economy.

This is how, in theory, aggregate consumption/demand is

Editorial: Our Campus's Loss

The loss of a life is always significant, no matter whose life it is. But for a university, especially one the size of Stony Brook, the death of a member of the community is particularly jolting.

No one on the editorial board of The Statesman knew Andrew Mineo, a Stony Brook senior who was found dead in his dorm room Tuesday evening, to any great lengths; nevertheless, as someone who ate in the same places we did and took classes in the same buildings we did -- someone we could very well have brushed past one day in the library -- it's impossible for us not to be affected by his death.

Speculating about the cause of Mineo's death does no one any good. Rumors have spread across campus, but just like a game of telephone, the messages may be distorted.

At the time of writing this article, Mineo's death is still unknown.

As a news organization here on campus, we must, and do, strive to provide our readers with factual, and responsible reporting. That said, we try to approach and cover our stories with a great deal of (expected) scrutiny, discretion and sensitivity.

Our condolences go out to the entire Stony Brook community, especially to Mineo's family and friends.

Support resources: The University Counseling Center (631-632-6470); The Center for Prevention and Outreach (631-632-2748); Response of Suffolk County (631-751-7500)

The Kepler Spacecraft

BY JOSEPH LABRIOLA
Columnist

The Kepler spacecraft that launched last Friday could hold the key to answering one of the most fundamental questions that mankind has been wondering about ever since we first gazed up into the universe above: Are we alone?

The spacecraft contains a telescope that's purpose is to search for Earth-like worlds circling stars within our galaxy. When the celestial spheres pass in front of their star's light, the telescope is able to identify them. Recent years have brought a wave of discoveries, and scientists are hopeful that the Kepler mission will continue this trend of exciting finds. Many of the planets discovered are likely uninhabitable gas giants, much like Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune, within our own solar system. Some recent identifications

of rock worlds however, has sparked life into the hope that we will one day soon learn the truth behind our long thought loneliness in the universe.

New planets, alien civilizations, future homes for humans; all of this might sound like some reefer-induced science fiction story to some, but the reality is that history will look back upon missions such as this and chuckle at how primitive and naïve their ancestors were. There are hundreds of billions of stars within the Milky Way galaxy itself. Most of the stars observed so far have planets; some (like our own solar system) have many planets. These planets probably have moons as well. When you take all of these factors into account, there are literally trillions of satellites just in our galaxy, all possible candidates for at least some form of primitive life.

To claim that we are alone in the universe is not only naïve; it's unintelligent. There is a romantic appeal to thinking that we have been blessed with a unique blue sphere, floating around in a boundless abyss of chaos, but it's simply not that simple. Granted, Earth is an incredibly unique world. Our planet is just far away enough from the sun so that our atmosphere absorbs any harmful rays while still letting in life-nourishing light. Planets like Jupiter act like a solar policeman, drawing in many large rocks that could otherwise head on a crash-course with our tiny blue world. Our moon not only provides another shield of protection against possibly deadly meteors but also acts as a gravitational counterweight keeping the Earth's tilt in check and giving us the four seasons. We are on a special ball of matter, but how many others

elsewhere in the galaxy and in the universe are just as privileged if not more so?

When you think of the sheer numbers of dozens of spheres orbiting billions of stars within billions of galaxies, the answer is probably a lot. What is most exciting about the Kepler mission is that it will look for these Earth-like planets right at home in our own galaxy. Scientists have only discovered about 300 of these exoplanets so far, so that leaves billions more to still be identified and observed.

The Kepler mission hopes to find these planets so that future missions can measure the composition and make up of these possible future human-inhabited worlds. Some of the rock worlds found so far are many times the mass of the Earth, all either too hot or too cold, but again, there's still billions more to take a closer

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

By APRIL WARREN
News Editor

Folklore tells us St. Patrick's Day celebrates Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland, driving the snakes out of the Emerald Isle. Well, the patron saint part is correct but the snake bit not so much.

St. Patrick was born to wealthy parents in Britain around the end of the fourth century and early fifth century. His father's role as a Christian deacon is not enough to convince some historians that is why the patron saint

chose the same profession. A tax incentive could also have let him to the church, according to History.com

Irish raiders who assailed the family's estate took prisoner St. Patrick, 16, and transported him to Ireland where he was held captive and became a shepherd in either County Antrim or County Mayo, Ireland, according to Biography.com.

During his detention, St. Patrick turned to the church and Christianity for comfort.

After six years, he escaped. After hearing

a voice from God request he leave Ireland, the saint walked 200 miles to the Irish coast and left for Britain. Back with his family another voice spoke to him, urging him to return to Ireland as a missionary.

His formal religious training began. After becoming a priest, he returned to Ireland with two missions, according to Biography.com. He would preach to the Christians already living in Ireland and convert the Irish.

Since he was familiar with the culture of Ireland, St. Patrick used this to convince

them to join Christianity.

"He superimposed a sun, a powerful Irish symbol, onto the Christian cross to create what is now called a Celtic cross, so that veneration of the symbol would seem more natural to the Irish, and used the three-leaved shamrock to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity," according to Biography.com

Mar. 17, 493 A.D. is said to be the date St. Patrick died, although some disagree with the year.

...The Customs

By CAROLINA HIDALGO
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, 40 pounds of vegetable dye will be used to turn the Chicago River emerald green for St. Patrick's Day. Dating back to 1962, this tradition began with a plumber using dye in an attempt to track down the origins of illegal sewage flowing into the river. Savannah, Ga., will dye the water in its park fountains green for several days before hosting the second-largest St. Patrick's Day parade in the country.

Residents of Seattle will celebrate with a 10-day festival that includes film screenings, a soda bread contest, and a four-mile race. A flatbed truck will paint a green stripe along the planned parade route, ending it with a painted shamrock.

At the Missouri University of Science and Technology, a parade will run along streets painted solid green with mops. It will be the 101st annual parade at the school.

In Washington, D.C., President Obama will keep with presidential tradition by welcoming the taoiseach of Ireland, whose position is comparable to that of a prime minister, and accepting a bowl of shamrock from him.

Here in New York, thousands will march in New York City's parade, the longest-running St. Patrick's Day parade in the country. It began in 1762 when Irish soldiers fighting alongside the British marched through the city in celebration.

And on Sunday, Wolfie will join Stony Brook's dance team and cheerleaders at the Rocky Point St. Patrick's Day parade, which will begin at 1 p.m. at Harrison Avenue and Route 25A.

By NICOLE INDELICATO
Contributing Writer

Green is the color associated with St. Patrick's Day, but green beer? Well, that's another story. Students last week at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio got their hands on their own emerald colored brew during the annual "Green Beer Day" celebration, according to reports by MSNBC.

The annual all day drinking tradition - which was celebrated this year on

Mar. 5 - originated at Miami University and typically falls on the Thursday before spring break. Since St. Patrick's Day usually falls during spring break

for these students, they created "Green Beer Day" as a way to celebrate early.

The event is not endorsed by the col-



...The Beer

lege or the town of Oxford. Each year, uniformed and plain clothes officers prowl around for underage drinkers. According to reports released by MSNBC News, \$2,000 have been set aside from this year's budget to pay officers who will be asked to work overtime for the event.

Green beer is not uncommon at bars on St. Patrick's Day itself. The trick only requires five to six drops of green food coloring and some light stirring, according to Slashfood.com. But the taste is basically exactly the same as whatever beer the dye is mixed with.

"It still tasted amazing," says Nick Maturro a senior and health science major at Stony Brook University who wet his whistle with green beer last St. Patrick's Day.

But others prefer a beer so dark that green food coloring is not powerful enough to turn it green, and that's Guinness. Due to powerful advertising campaigns, Guinness

has become synonymous with the holiday.

In fact, in 2006, the company received criticism from the alcohol industry watchdog, the Marin Group, for a commercial that featured three men on the morning of St. Patrick's Day running downstairs in their pajamas to open boxes and boxes of Guinness. The watchdog group blamed Guinness's holding company Diageo, with condoning irresponsible drinking in the morning, according to the Marin Group's website.

Last year, Diageo's Guinness and Anheuser-Busch joined forces with a petition called Proposition 3-17 to encourage Congress to declare St. Patrick's Day a national holiday, according to the International Institute for Alcohol Awareness. The effort obtained more than 352,000 signatures.



...The Bread

- 3 cups all purpose flour
- 1 cup whole wheat pastry flour
- 3 tablespoons sugar or sucanat
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 6 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons caraway seeds
- 1 1/2 cup raisins
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Butter a 2 quart round casserole.

2. Combine the first six ingredients in a large mixing bowl. With your hands, rub in the butter until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in the caraway seeds and raisins.

3. In a separate cup, beat the eggs slightly. Remove 1 tablespoon of the beaten egg and set aside. Stir the remaining egg and buttermilk into the flour mixture until the flour is moist. It should be sticky.

4. Turn the dough onto a well-floured surface and knead 8 to 10 strokes to mix thoroughly. Make the dough into a ball and place it in the casserole. Cut an X into the top and brush on the reserved slightly beaten egg.

5. Bake the bread for 1 hour and 20 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center of the loaf comes out clean. Cool on a rack for 10 minutes, then remove from the casserole and serve steaming hot with loads of butter. Toast the leftovers for breakfast the next day.

From the Comisky family's cookbook.



Dunguaire Castle in county Galway, Ireland.

April Warren / SB Statesman

...The Legend

By FRANK POSILICO
Assistant News Editor

Admit it, when you young lads and lasses first heard the tale of the Leprechaun you tried to capture one yourselves, if just to see whether he would lead you to the fabled pot of gold.

The Leprechaun is one of Ireland's better-known myths, usually taking the form of an old man with red hair and a beard. A shoemaker by trade it is said that you can tell if a

Leprechaun is near by the slight tapping of their hammer.

The namesake of the fabled Leprechaun is widely accepted to come from the Irish word leipreachán meaning "pygmy."

The belief in Leprechauns comes from the Celtic belief in fairies. In Celtic folklore leprechauns are known for being tricky and mysterious usually protecting their fabled pot of gold.

The Leprechaun of Irish lore is not the one that most Americans know of. In 1959 the film "Darby O'Gill & the Little People" released by Disney, showing the cheerful, happy little man with a pot of gold that we all know today.



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University Acquires Second Secret Letter

Continued from page 1

Among those are Assemblyman Englebright and Stony Brook University faculty member Henry Laufer.

George Washington was profoundly involved in a spy ring during the American Revolution called Culper Ring. The letters dictated by Washington and physically written by his secretary James McHenry depicted grave details on how to operate information among the spies. Provided to the spies were invisible ink for letters, code names and a system for transporting details. There is even a legend that a woman who went by the name of Nancy (Anna) Smithstrong was a member of the ring and would place petticoats out as a signal to the other spies.

The first letter was the origin to a creation called the Traveling Spy Trunk Museum, where actual materials would be sent to schools to educate students about the history of Long Island. Kaplan,

who created a suggested teacher's guide for the items, believes the new letter will be added to the Museum.

"I suspect we will incorporate it to the Traveling Spy Museum." Her thoughts, on being a part of the bidding she described as thrilling. "We were determined to get the letter, though within price range."

Nyitray said there are inquiries about visiting the letter though it is not in the University's possession yet. She expects the letter to be viewable within a few months because it will be sent to Pennsylvania to be preserved and placed in an ultra violet protective case, in which the letter will not decompose. Its need to be preserved is due to creases from folding and iron in the ink which would eventually ruin the rag paper over time. Nyitray, who was the sole bidder for the University, said, "I think it's fantastic. It is a privilege to have this collection." She, and all members of the committee for special collections,

wanted to obtain the letters for the purpose of turning them into public documents. It was as Nyitray described the "motivation to provide access to this document."

Special collections had been notified by the Newsday's writer Bill Blyer when the second letter went up for sale at Christie's Auction, according to Filstrup, who shares a personal interest in history along with Blyer. On being the ones who actually won the item, Filstrup simply wants to "place it in the hands of students so they can enjoy and learn about the history of Long Island." The secret letter came from a private seller.

To view the first Washington letter in Special Collection on campus, please call 631-632-7119.

To learn more about the spy ring, the Three Village of Historical Society has a once a month walking tour which will be held April 18 and is open to the public. Information can be found on their website at ThreeVillageHistoricalSociety.org.

Treats for Troops

By SAMANTHA BURKARDT
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

The Student Activities Board (SAB) paid homage last Wednesday during Campus lifetime to US soldiers stationed abroad, by sending letters of encouragement and thanks.

"Some people forget that they are over there, so a simple letter to them really helps them know we haven't forgotten," Vanessa Deravin, a sophomore and one of the students who helped organize the event, said.

Many students who stopped by to write a letter of appreciation were given a token of SAB's appreciation such as sandals, chips, and CapriSun. Graduate student Dave Cinelli stopped at the table to write a letter to those in the military. He was writing to a person he doesn't even know and was really proud to do it.

"My brother is in his third tour right now," Cinelli said. "He's a parachute packer and medic for the Army and it's been hard having him over there so much. Just when we thought he was back, they pulled him in again."

In order to explain the responsibility that our men and women overseas have taken on to the people who don't want them there, Cinelli said he would tell them that our troops have chosen to give their lives to protect the country and the life you are living.

"I have major respect for those men and women," he said.

Deravin also mentioned that you can't send care packages to the troops like you used to. A lot of the items you want to send must be through organizations. Some things that you can still send to the troops are Chap-Stick, hand sanitizers, body lotion, facial cleaning pads, throat lozenges, vitamin C lozenges, foot and body powder sprays, eyewash, hard candies, powdered pre-sweetened drink mixes, such as Crysta Light and Kool Aid, Doritos, Chex Mix, and pretzels. Other items to include would be disposable cameras, rat traps, batteries, mini remote control cars, international phone cards, AT&T or MCI, electronic games, newspapers, and chewing tobacco.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

"I LOVE YOU, MAN?"

Continued from page 3

straight men would be comfortable holding hands. At the press junket held at Le Parker Meridien in Manhattan on March 12, the actors and crew sounded off on what man-love really means.

"I actually think that this is a very topical, modern dilemma," said Rashida Jones. "And in a weird, like, sociological way I'm glad that we're confronting it because I think it's really hard for men to find friends or to reach out to friends without feeling like they're compromising their machismo."

That women are men's betters in terms of intimacy is not lost on the film. Throughout the movie, Peter's interactions with guys are compared to his relationships with other women and women's relationships with each other.

In every way, women seem far more capable of sharing, caring, and relating in personal and profound ways, so much so that it disturbs Peter. How would you feel about your fiancé telling her girlfriends about when and how

you have sex?

"Here's the thing," began Jaime Pressly, who played Zooey's angry friend Denise. "Women can go and hold hands, link arm in arm and walk down the street. We can drink out of the same straw. We can have slumber parties and sleep in the same bed. We can go to the

And as she said this, she raised her eyebrow in the shocked and confused way one would make after maybe getting spanked in public.

"You know what I mean? ...It's just a different thing, you know? But I don't think there's anything wrong, and I do think that men should loosen up a bit

important to me as the guys' cause -- I just wanted to explore all facets of what it means to be a friend."

Writer Larry Levin, who came up with the idea, referenced a time when he was in Los Angeles with his wife and he met a "really funny and really smart" guy, but not having the guts to ask for his number, he became the guy who got away.

"It's harder," he said. "To make friends and have deeper relationships as you get older."

As for Paul Rudd and Jason Segel, the two were hardly philosophical about the film, relating to their characters as the kind of friends they've always had and still have in their careers.

"I think," said Paul, "that most of my friends [in] my entire life... we've been able to wear our hearts on our sleeves a little bit and talk about stuff that might not be considered macho."

At the end of the day, the comedy of the movie is how honestly it renders the awkwardness of trying to just make a friend. And however hard it may be, man or woman, making friends is natural and one of the most important aspects of life.



Media Credit: Scott Garfield/DW Studios L.L.C.
From left to right, director John Hamburg and producer Donald De Line of "I Love You, Man."



Media Credit: Scott Garfield/DW Studios L.L.C.
From left to right, Jason Segel as Sydney Fife, Paul Rudd as Peter Klaven, and Rashida Jones, as Zooey at a rush concert during the film.

movies together, and you know, we can dress and change in front of each other and it's not a big deal, right?

"Men can change in front of each other in a locker room kind of way, and they can go sit and watch a movie together, but they're not gonna drink out of the same straw. And if they fall asleep or if they wake up, I should say, in the same bed, its because they got really drunk and passed out. And they wake up and they go..."

because... Give each other a hug for god's sake."

"To me, the movie wasn't just about guy friendship," director John Hamburg said. "It was just about friendship. And so with like Rashida's character and her relationship with Jaime Pressly and Sarah Burns who play Haley and Denise, I wanted to explore what I have observed and thought and some ideas I had about female friendships. Their story-line was actually almost equally

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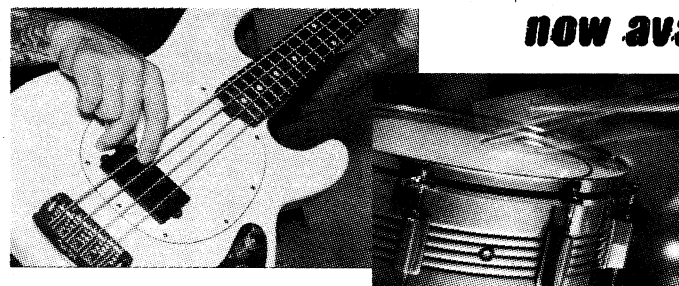
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Sports 'round the Brook

By Statesman Sports Staff

Baseball finishes 2-2 at Caravelle Resort Classic

The Seawolves won their first game of the classic 8-2 against Creighton. They were led by freshman Tyler Johnson's 8 innings of 2-run ball. Michael Tansey had 2 hits.

They lost their second game 9-0 against #14 Coastal Carolina. Coastal Carolina pitcher, Corey Wheeler pitched 7 shutout innings, allowing only 1 hit to freshman catcher Pat Cantwell.

The Seawolves rebounded in the third game of the tournament beating IPFW 6-3. Freshman pitcher Nick Tropeano picked up his first collegiate victory, pitching 4 innings of relief.

In the last game of the tournament, the Seawolves were pounded in a rematch against Coastal Carolina, 36-3. Junior Jeremy Nowak was the only pitcher not to allow a run.

Softball goes 3-2 at FAU "Miken"

Classics

Softball lost the first 2 games at the FAU "Miken" Classic, but finished the tournament on a 3-game winning streak. With wins against Central Michigan, Florida Atlantic, and Columbia, 2-0, 3-2, and 2-1, respectively.

Seawolves win 3 POW Awards

Junior Halvar Dil (Amersfoort, Netherlands), was named America East Men's Tennis Performer of the Week, the first one given this season. He won his singles and doubles match, when the Seawolves upset Princeton 4-3. He is 13-4 in singles play this season, leading the team in wins.

Senior Michael Tansey (Valley Stream, N.Y.), was named America East Baseball Player of the Week after leading the Seawolves to two victories at the Coastal Carolina Classic. Tansey hit .357 (6-for-17) with two home runs and six RBI in Stony Brook's four games.

Junior softball player, Casey Jacobs was named SimplexGrinnell Athlete of the Week. Jacobs helped lead the Seawolves to a 3-2 record at the Florida Atlantic University "Miken" Classic, picking up a win and a save in four scoreless appearances.

Women's Basketball #7 Seed at America East Tournament

Matchup vs. #2 Hartford in First Round



Kirsten Jeter Forward

Kirsten was the Seawolves leading scorer, averaging nearly 15 a game during conference play. She also averaged 7.3 rebounds a game and hit 41% of her three-pointers



Sarah Kazadi Center

Sarah tied for the team lead for rebounds in conference play with 7.3 a game. She also led the team in blocks with over 1 per game. She will have her hands full guarding the Hawks two six footers.



Misha Horsey Guard

Misha averaged 11.1 points a game during conference play. She also led the team with 4.1 assists per game, and was second on the team with little over a steal per game.



Diana Delva Center

10.5 points per game
6.1 rebounds per game
1.7 blocks per game
.605 field goal percentage



Erica Beverly Forward

12.2 points per game
7.3 rebounds per game
.776 free throw percentage

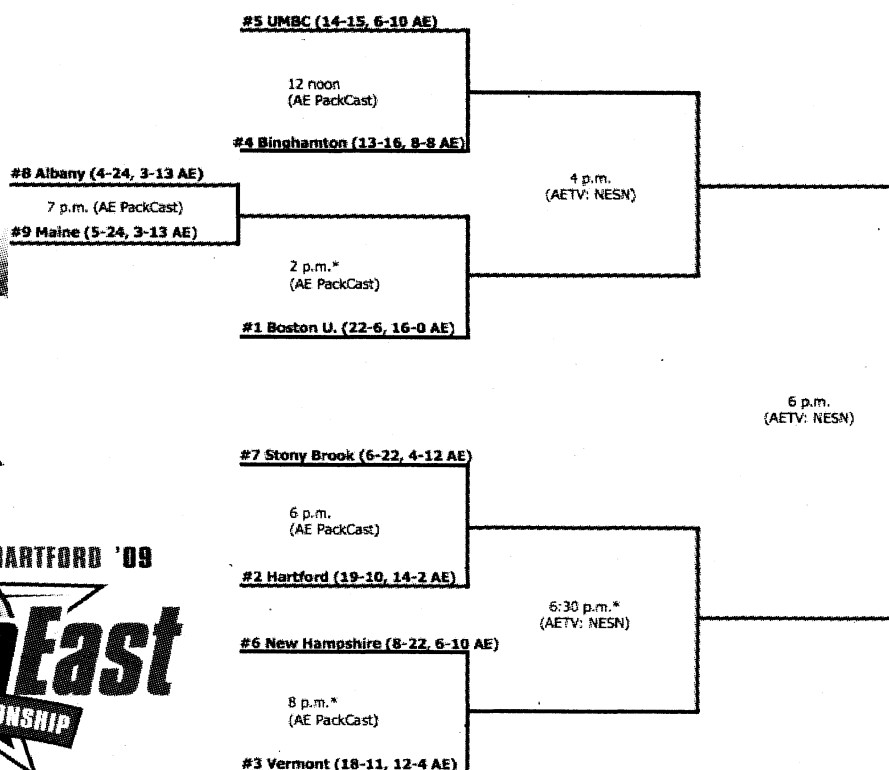


Lisa Etienne Guard

10.5 points per game
2.7 assists per game
1.9 steals per game
.417 3pt field goal percentage



Kirsten Jeter



STATESMAN SPORTS

Hockey Off to Finals



Seawolves Look to Prove They Are Among Elite

Alex Berkman / SB Statesman

By GENE MORRIS
Sports Editor

For the 11th year in a row, the Stony Brook Seawolves Ice Hockey team will compete in the American Collegiate Hockey Association national tournament. The Seawolves will take the Ice March 14, at 11:30 am.

Although it looked bleak early in the year after an 0-5 start, the Seawolves went on a run beginning October 18 with a home win over Towson.

"We started the season off slow, but knew we were underachieving the entire year," Senior Assistant Captain Dan Capizzuto. "So when we finally went on our 19-6 run, we knew we would get in the top 16."

This is Stony Brook's second season on the D-I level. The previous tournament appearances came at the D-II level.

The Seawolves head into the tournament, taking place in Gate Mills Ohio, as the 14 seed. The top 16 teams in the country get a

berth. Of the top 11 teams in the final ranking released on Feb. 27, the Seawolves hold victories over five of them.

With only two seniors on the team, Capizzuto and co-captain Angelo Serse, the young Seawolves grew as the season went along.

"There have been improvements by rookies such as Jordan Delorenzo, Jason Aro, Joe Ree, Sean Caruso, and Pete Zarrella," Capizzuto said. "Their confidence on the ice has grown by the game."

Junior goaltender Derek Stevens believes everyone on the team is of equal importance this time of year.

"Every person has to be a key player, from the coach on down," Stevens said. "We just need every one to play their role and play it well."

The Seawolves first tournament game is a rubber match against the University of Delaware. Stony Brook visited Delaware early in December, splitting a two-game weekend series.

"Delaware is fast and very good and we cannot take them lightly despite knowing that we beat them earlier in the season," Capizzuto said. "We have go back to basics with our defensive coverage."

A potential second round match-up would be against either #11 West Chester or #6 Iowa State, teams the Seawolves have defeated on the road this season.

Stony Brook traveled to Iowa in the middle of February and split a weekend series with the Cyclones, who were #4 in the nation at the time. That weekend was extremely important in securing a tournament spot for the Seawolves.

The match up with West Chester would be the fourth meeting between the two teams this season. The conference rivals split two regular season games, with each team winning on the others home ice.

They faced off again in the final of their conference tournament, and the Seawolves admittedly came out flat.

"I think we took them lightly and were a little laid back knowing that we were already set for nationals," Stevens said.

The 11-3 loss was one of the worst of the season for the Seawolves, but they believe it will help ratchet up the intensity if they meet again.

Capizzuto will be dressing for his last weekend of college hockey this weekend.

"Knowing this is the last time I will be playing college hockey, I want to be going out on a high note," he said.

"We want to win this for the seniors," Stevens said. "They have been to the nationals four straight years now and given a lot to the team so to do well for them is most important."

Whatever the result, the Seawolves are ready to continue their accession amongst club hockey's elite.

"Nationals is about leaving it all out on the ice and giving it all that you got," Capizzuto said.