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NEWS

City Group Tries to Recondition Coney Island

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My Life as... an Investigative Reporter

Imagine you're a journalist investigating the wrongful conviction of two men, who spent 14 years in prison for a crime they did not commit.

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OPINION

Is Your Government Wasting More Than You?

If America's really going to get out of this economic mess the right way, it needs restructure how it works as a nation. A stimulus bill can only go so far. The government can give incentives and tax breaks to try to prod businesses and people to upgrade and innovate, but at the end of the day, the average American has to make a stand.

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Having Power in America

When you live in America, you probably have concerns about cancer. Perhaps you have concerns that you'll die with Alzheimer's. When you live in America, however, you do not expect to freeze to death. Tragically, Marvin Schur did freeze to death, at 93 years old, in his home in Michigan.

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Albany Day Attendance Plummetts

2008: Over 1,000
2009: Over 100

By STEPHANIE BRUMSEY
Staff Writer

The long tradition of Stony Brook Day in Albany is one that is looked forward to by faculty and students as a great opportunity to show legislators why Stony Brook is Red Hot. Though last year the event reached a peak of over 1000 participants, this year because of budget cuts, that number has been whittled down to slightly over 100.

"The most obvious change that you're going to see is that we're going to have one tenth of the level of participants that we've had in the years past," Jeff Barnett, assistant dean of students, said. "A drastic, dramatic and visible difference, there's no way that people who attended Albany Day are not going to notice that it is somehow significantly different from Stony Brook Day in Albany in the past."

The 13-year-old tradition,



Many Students won't be able to attend Albany Day this year because of budget cuts.

Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

which started with 16 participants, is one that has evolved and blossomed under the presidency of Shirley Strum Kenny. Demonstrating both the versatility of the students and faculty of Stony Brook, the day raises consciousness of the greatness of Stony Brook and how it could improve with more funding from the state.

"I think this is vitally important for Stony Brook to go up on Albany Day, because our budget has been cut so drastically," said Sana Hashmi, student leader for Stony Brook in Albany Day. "Last year we took nearly 1000 students. We're known for a sea of red when we go to Albany, and this year its just going to be 50 students and 50 faculty members, but we're still here because it's important to us."

Over the years students would make the four-hour jour-

ney to Albany, walk in and be greeted by Stony Brook staff decked out in their red paraphernalia and tables full of information that display everything that Stony Brook has to offer. This year each group, which no longer consists of 15 people, but rather 2 or 3 people, will be given information in advance and instead of the usual freelance speaking done by the participants of they day, there will be a message to project.

"We're using the same message that SUNY is using, but we're putting Stony Brook's numbers in it," said Janice Rohlf, assistant vice president of governmental relations. "It would be their message but it's to show the impact of the budget cuts on Stony Brook."

With the trip being an annual event on campus, some students have noticed that there hasn't been as much publicity for the event as usual, and they are not happy about being excluded from the event.

"I was really looking forward to being a part of Stony Brook in Albany Day," said Chris Corsillo, a sophomore and sociology major. "I really feel that our state legislators and representatives have to understand the effect they have on our future here at Stony Brook. The fact that I can't go, due to budget cuts, is a testament to my point."

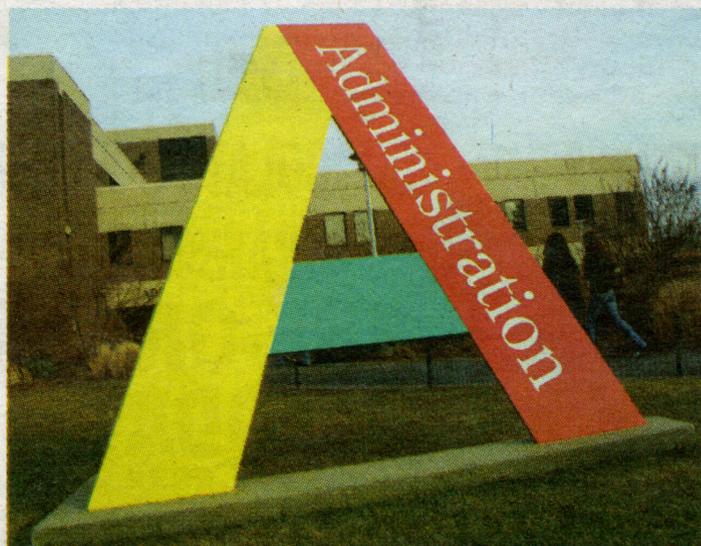
The students that are attending the trip have been chosen from a group of nominees that are comprised of campus lead-

ers. The hope is that this group of students will be able to represent the diversity of Stony Brook University. Individual students aren't the only ones left out of the foray, groups such as the LISHV, Long Island State Veterans Home, nursing students, the marching band and Southampton students are also unable to represent in large groups.

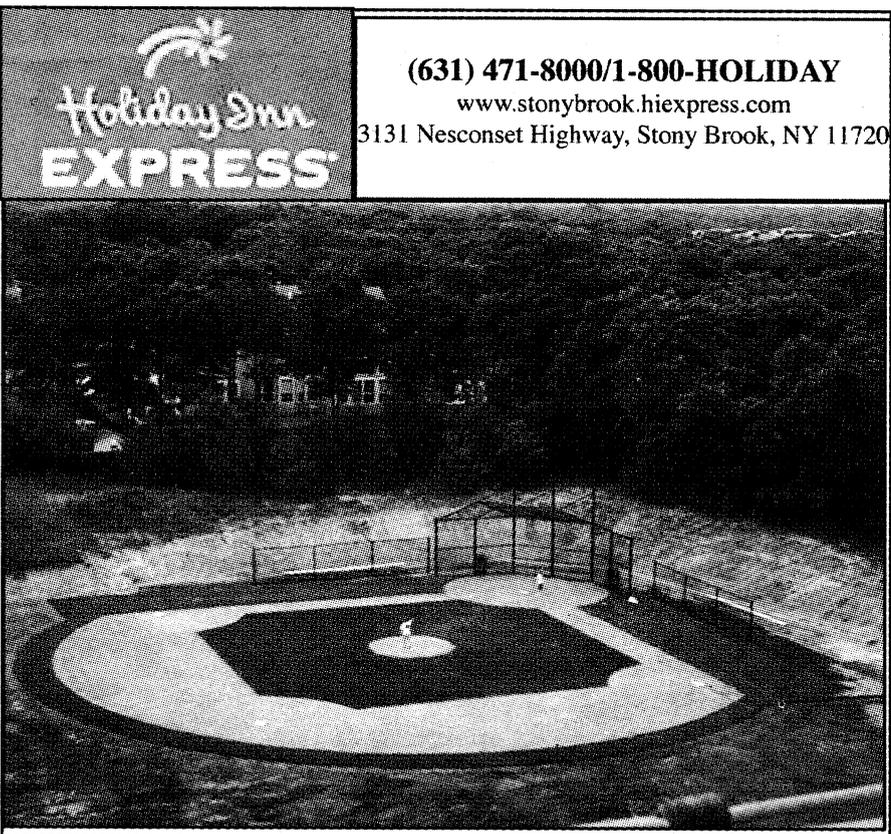
"It's a visible example of how we've done things in the past 13 years and how they've changed," said Barnett. "People are used to us going up there on the first Tuesday in March, with teams of 15 people filing in, squeezing in, to tell them about their day...but they're not going to see 15 people this year. They're going to see two, maybe three in some cases. What I hope that they take away from that is, 'Wow, look at the visible difference that's in front of me; the budget crisis has had on the SUNY system and specifically Stony Brook University.'"

With a lot to hope for, the tradition of Stony Brook Day in Albany has taken on new meaning.

"It's great that we're continuing the tradition of doing this, even though we've been constrained as far as the number of people we can take, but we felt strongly that we should do it," said Rohlf. "I don't know if the tradition will continue after President Kenny retires, but we certainly want people to know that Stony Brook University is still a force to be reckoned with."



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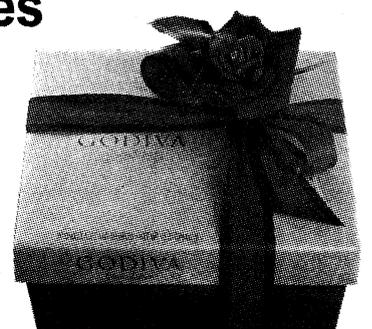
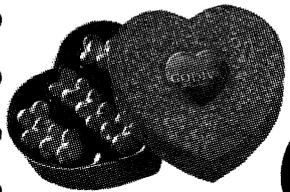
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City Group Tries to Recondition Coney Island

By CAROLINA HIDALGO
Contributing Writer

As amusement rides get shipped away and boardwalk businesses fight to stay open, the future of Coney Island has become more uncertain than ever. The Municipal Art Society, a nonprofit city advocacy group, is trying to make sure Coney Island maintains its appeal as a seaside amusement destination.

On Tuesday, Feb 3, the group unveiled its ImagineConey exhibition in Manhattan. An initiative launched last fall, ImagineConey brought together designers, economists and architects from all over the world to draw up plans for Coney Island's future.

"Coney Island is one of the greatest brands in the world," said Stuart Pertz, head of the initiative. "We're sitting on it -- this incredible opportunity -- and we've got to make it work."

The exhibit features some of the more than 350 renderings submitted by the public online as well as the results of a two-day design workshop held in November and the findings of extensive economic research.

The Municipal Art Society hopes to spark development ideas and encourage the city to purchase the amusement area from Thor Equities, a corporation that has bought up most of the beachfront land in

recent years and is offering it to the city for no less than \$200 million -- about twice what it paid.

In addition to developing a long-term vision for the area, ImagineConey has met with local residents to help generate ideas for what can be done throughout the next few summers to attract visitors.

Much of the beachfront land is now boarded up and surrounded by gates. The community fears that without more attractions the area will fall into further disrepair and neglect.

"God gave us this wonderland and we haven't developed it properly," said Lou Powsner, a local businessman and community activist.

In an effort to maintain some control over the area's redevelopment, the city has proposed a rezoning plan. The proposal is currently undergoing a public review process that began in January and will last nearly seven months.

The proposal calls for a 27-acre amusement and entertainment district, but only 12 of those acres would be solely for amusements. The rest of the area would be open to retail stores and hotels -- much more profitable projects.

With a private developer in control of the land, amusements would surely be confined to those 12 acres, leaving the rest of the land open to projects that many believe would ruin Coney Island's character.



Photo Credit: Andrea Hidalgo

Plans are being made to restore the now barren Coney Island.

"Land prices deter amusement development on privately-purchased land, so public investment in land purchase is required," said David Malmuth, a real estate consultant and economist who worked with ImagineConey.

The group's research shows that Coney Island would need at least 25 acres of amusement to accommodate the crowds that a redeveloped park would draw -- a projected 3.4 million people per year. The

researchers also believe that there is enormous potential for corporate sponsorship, which would generate a substantial amount of income for the city.

ImagineConey's findings show that with an innovative new ride and proper development, the area would become a huge source of revenue. In the long run, they believe, purchasing the land from Thor would be a great investment for the city.

Dick Zigun, who directs Co-

ney Island USA, a nonprofit arts group, and is often regarded as the unofficial mayor of Coney Island, acknowledges that the Municipal Art Society is the area's best hope even though it has no legal power.

"Because of their influence and their 100-year history and because they're Upper East Side hoity-toity people who hang out with the mayor and his friends, they have a better chance of influencing the city," Zigun said, laughing.

My Life as... an Investigative Reporter

By GABRIELA PENAHERREIRA
Contributing Writer

Imagine you're a journalist investigating the wrongful conviction of two men, who spent 14 years in prison for a crime they did not commit.

That is exactly what Dan Slepian, an award-winning investigative producer from NBC News's Dateline discussed during this semester's first installment of the "My Life As..." series, presented by the School of Journalism.

Slepian spoke to an auditorium full of students and faculty Monday evening alongside retired homicide detective Bobby Addolorato.

After graduating Stony Brook University in 1992, Slepian made his way to NBC in 1996, where he worked as a producer. After wanting to be involved with politics, he found journalism to be an interesting way of involving himself with the criminal justice system.

He spoke of how his fascination led him to using a new trend at the time, small hand-held

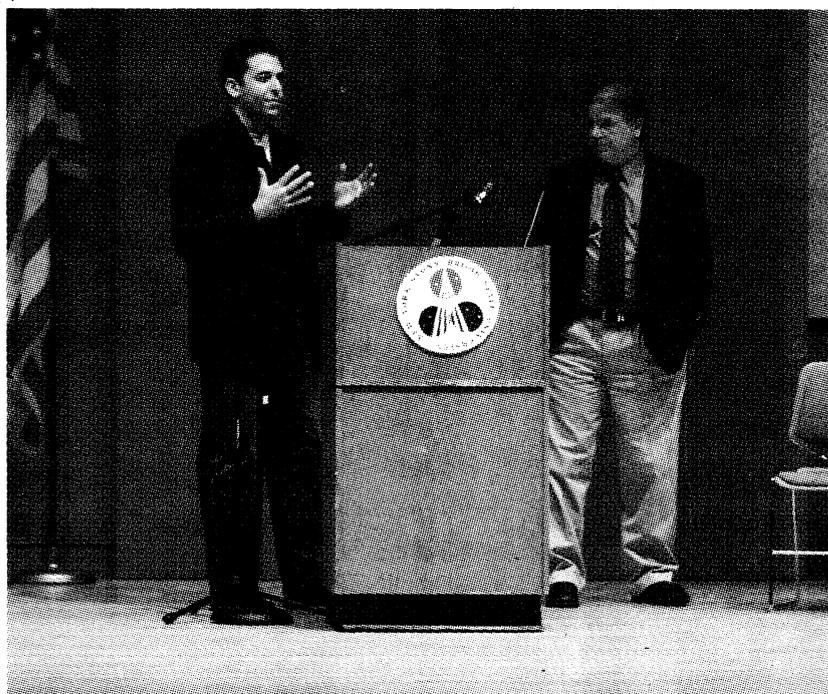
cameras to document investigations while working with the Las Vegas Police Department. In 2002, he pitched the same type of documenting of investigations to the New York City Police Department.

"A light bulb went into my head and I thought there is a story here," said Slepian, referring to his new beat in the gritty South Bronx Homicide Task Force. When he met former detective Addolorato, he learned of the wrongful imprisonment case because it had been one of great concern and had left him restless.

The case was that of a murder that occurred at Palladium Nightclub in Manhattan, where a bouncer was murdered. David Lemus and Olmedo Hidalgo were convicted in 1992 and spent 13 years in prison after their conviction.

During this time Slepian spoke of how he found himself visiting them in prison everyday.

"How do journalists tell a story as they become part of a story?" he asked the audience. "Can you be an advocate as you



Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

become a journalist?"

As Slepian described how difficult it was not to put your own personal feelings into his reporting, Addolorato interrupted -- "Your worst nightmares came true in this case," he said.

Addolorato explained that for

10 years, since the two men were imprisoned, he and his partner had gone to the district attorney's office with a case that contained no evidence that the men were guilty of any crime, but evidence that proved two other men were involved and a confession to the

murder. They were constantly denied any hearing or meeting with the district attorney's office.

After Slepian's "Dateline" broadcast of an hour-long investigation aired on television, lawyers were able to make a case for the two convicted men with new evidence, and the charges were dropped in 2005.

Slepian's investigative journalism and curiosity shined a light on some of the corruption in the New York City criminal justice system and encouraged students that journalism is not a languish career path.

"Any one of you could have done this: Passion, curiosity, and drive, it's never been easier when you have the tools right there," Slepian said.

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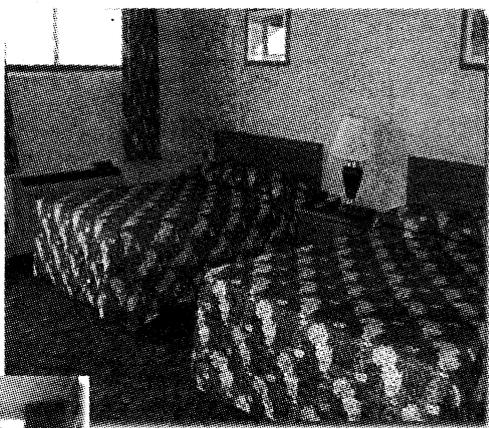
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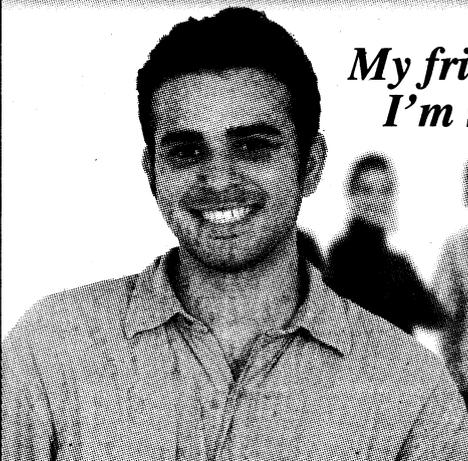
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The Statesman encourages readers to submit opinions and commentaries to the following address:

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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Is Your Government Wasting More Than You Are?

By **DAVE COOPER**
Columnist

If America's really going to get out of this economic mess the right way, it needs restructure how it works as a nation. A stimulus bill can only go so far. The government can give incentives and tax breaks to try to prod businesses and people to upgrade and innovate, but at the end of the day, the average American has to make a stand.

Some Americans fear there isn't much they can change in their everyday lives to affect the state of their country. This mindset is wrong.

While Americans shout and cry about the inefficiencies and excess of government and corporations, we rarely take an inward look at how we ourselves can trim our wasteful spending.

How often do you leave a light on when you're in the other room? Do run the water when you brush your teeth? Do you take excessively long showers? This might seem like nitpicking when thought of individually, but as a collective, these needless expenditures add up to cost the country billions of dollars annually. This is money that could be paying for other things that we end up using stimulus bucks for.

The government can only do so much. The American people need to demand that domestic automakers make more fuel-efficient cars, not wait until the market raises the demand on oil to the point where the economy and environment has become irreversibly ruined.

There needs to be a push by the consumer to order companies to focus on domestic growth while doing everything they can to preserve and consume less.

Think about how many billions of dollars this country wastes annually on cheap imports from foreign countries. Do Americans really need to buy their kids an assortment of 50 lead-based toys from China every Christmas? Why not check what you buy and try to shop more for home grown items rather than overseas products?

The stimulus package should push for measures that help Americans achieve such ends. People need to realize that they're in control of their own destinies, not the politicians and lobbyists.

The producers in this coun-

try have spent far too long thinking they can get away with deciding what costumers want and will buy. It's this kind of 20th century mindset that leads to debacles like this recession.

The American automakers wonder why people won't buy their cars anymore. After all, they've been able to pander to what they think Americans will buy for decades now, and it used to work when times were good. How about instead of focusing on the idea that we want Hummers, they shift their attention onto what we need. No, not hybrid Hummers and SUV's. How about the fuel efficient, zero-emission, water-powered car technology that companies have been squandering for years?

The problem isn't that we think we can do anything we want, it's the fact that we embrace this philosophy in too many ways.

There needs to be a balance between what consumers demand and what producers supply.

This country needs to shed the 20th century free-market ideology and realize that the 21st century has to be about conservation of current finite resources and investment into long-term alternatives and technologies.

Things like clean coal, bio-fuel, solar and wind power might be costly endeavors now, but when the world becomes barren of old oil 50 years from now, America will be able to use its vast infrastructure of innovation to export technology to other countries.

Until then, keep in mind how much you consume on your end.

It's nice to go to work 9 to 5 every weekday, come home, and point your finger at the squabbling politicians on television, but the fact is that the future of this country, and of the world, is a collective responsibility no matter what your job or status is.

Hopefully the stimulus bill will help Americans not only to get back jobs in the short term, but also to encourage investment in a better tomorrow.

In the meantime, never hesitate to voice your opinion. If you want something changed, don't think twice about writing to your congressmen or senator.

Remember, in this country, you're supposed to be the one in control, not them. You do pay their salary after all.

Having Power in America

By **RUCHI VIKAS**
Staff Writer

When you live in America, you probably have concerns about cancer. Perhaps you have concerns that you'll die with Alzheimer's. When you live in America, however, you do not expect to freeze to death. Tragically, Marvin Schur did freeze to death, at 93 years old, in his home in Michigan.

Why? Because apparently, without his knowledge, his electric company installed a power-limiting device in his home. This is a man who fought in and survived World War II, and he died because of a completely preventable circumstances.

Not surprisingly, this presents a few problems, particularly because of the record cold temperatures that have swept across the country over the last few weeks.

People need to keep warm in the winter.

Most people receive and pay their heating bills, but this terrible event goes to show that the companies that bill their clients are impersonal and know little to nothing about their customers.

Ironically, in Schur's case, it wasn't even a matter of not having the money to pay the bills -- he died with a small fortune to his name. Schur was suffering from normal senility and had no family to remind him to pay the bills.

The fact that the Bay City Electric Light and Power company installed the power-limiting device and never checked up on how the man was doing shows a complete lack of care for its costumers. The company had no idea who was living in the house and how its actions affected him.

It can be said that companies like this bill hundreds of people and can't possibly know everyone. Nevertheless, when customers freeze to death, there is something very wrong with

the publicly-run company that is supposedly providing a service to the costumers.

Perhaps this problem can create new jobs. What would happen if just one employee in the electric company knew the people in the neighborhood that he billed each month? The current system is, to say the least, inefficient if people can freeze to death only days after having a device implemented. A new job such as this one would make this far less likely to happen, and install some sort of self-regulation into the system so that terrible accidents like this could be prevented in the future.

But maybe the problem runs deeper than that. There are plenty of companies that provide services that, even when interrupted, don't cost their consumers their lives. Electric and heating power is supposedly a service too important to be left in the hands of greedy, profit-driven corporations, but why doesn't this same logic apply to supermarkets?

I work in a soup kitchen where most of the food is donated by supermarkets in the community, so obviously charitable thinking and good, profit-motivated, services are not mutually exclusive. Maybe what electric companies need is more competition, rather than more bureaucracy.

Schur could have made the decision to go with a company with a friendlier face-to-face billing plan that better fits his needs.

Private companies are pretty good at giving the consumers what they want, because the ones that fail to do so don't last very long.

There was no reason for Marvin Shur to die as he did, alone and frozen, because his electric company couldn't be bothered to check up on their device.

Surely, when something like this happens, its a sign of a flaw in the current system of business.

From The Editor's Desk

It has come to our attention that an article that should never have been published was featured in our paper. One of our contributing writers unintentionally plagiarized a press release and committed an instance of journalistic insincerity while covering a routine story involving a scientific discovery at Stony Brook University.

In the midst of producing the paper, we missed her mistake and mislead readers. But we will strive to prevent another mistake of this nature from happening again. This is an isolated incident and we will continue to bring news of the best journalistic integrity possible.

Thank you.

AWARDS

The Other Grammys

By MICHAEL KIMMEL
Staff Writer

The music industry's annual self-aggrandizing celebration of itself, aka the Grammy Awards, are typically much pomp and little circumstance, a triumph of form over content. Famous performers team up with other famous performers in lackluster renditions of well-known songs, and the gargantuan and epic lighting and stage effects make it seem like something really really important is happening. This year was no different -- you had to know the songs already to understand the words, since the vocals were muffled or drowned by the grandiose wall of sound. I mean did you hear one word Kid Rock or Coldplay sang? How about the four current kings of rap, swaggering together?

More to the point, did you care? Of course not. It's all show and good fun. One astonishingly bright spot was the genuinely tuneful Justin Timberlake, who now appears as an aging veteran shepherding new talent. And what was most surprising about the collaboration between country-bluegrass folkie Alison

Krauss and the spry sexagenarian Led Zeppelin front man Robert Plant was not that it was so good, but that it swept the awards.

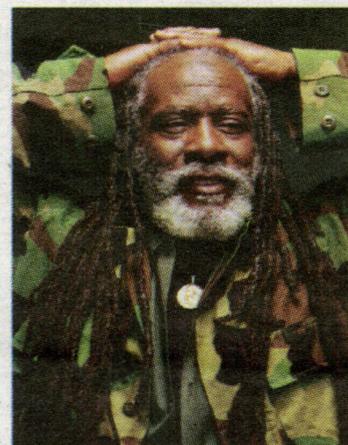
Usually though, the "other" Grammys offer some hidden pleasures. These awards go to the various performers and genres not deemed ready for prime time -- the folk, blues, Latin, jazz and comedy artists, the classical performances, and the rest.



Media Credit: www.grammy.com

This year was different. Those "others" honored people and performers, not albums or performances. Most of those honored were aging veterans who did not exactly showcase their best work. Does anyone seriously think "Girls In Their Summer Clothes" is Springsteen's finest (Best Rock Song) or that Metallica's "My Apocalypse" (Best Metal Performance) are the bands' best? In the "other" categories, I yield to

no one in my veneration of Pete Seeger, who performed at the first concert I ever attended (his fabled children's concerts of the mid-1950s.) But "At 89" (Best Traditional Folk Album) shows that he's lost his voice, if not his infectious love of music. And Dr. John's New Orleans Tribute album, "City that Care Forgot" (Contemporary Blues), is as much a slap to the Bush administration for its feckless response to Katrina than it is an award for a sometimes sloppy CD. B.B. King may be a legend, but "One Kind Favor" (Best Traditional Blues Album) is largely forgettable. And Burning Spear won again for Best Reggae Album (they are a phenomenon) largely because



Media Credit: www.burningspear.net
Winston Rodney, also known as Burning Spear won his second Grammy Tuesday.

there were so few competitors that they're the only ones the voters had ever heard of. Some performers are honored in their absence. The late great George Carlin wins Best Comedy album; Ricky Skaggs

wins for a bluegrass album in which all the songs date from the mid-1940s.

It is true that some awesome new talent is always out there. You gotta love Katy Perry and Lil Wayne for their freshness and sass. Most of the current performers will be soon forgotten, and the veterans like Smokey Robinson and the last of the Four Tops will pick up the show.

But this year, sadly, one could not turn to the "Other Grammys" for solace. Here, too, the cult of celebrity has honored the legends and ignored the great.

Editor's Note: There were a total of 31 fields in this year's Grammy Awards. The fields ranged from Gospel to Spoken Word and Package to Album Notes. There were also 110 categories with 5 nominations in each category.

Recapping The Grammys

By IVANNA AVALOS
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

Every year, awards shows like the Grammys are glorified, hyping up the masses to see which of their favorite artists will be graced with the coveted Grammy.

To be honest I did not find this year's awards ceremony very entertaining. For one thing a lot of the celebrities' attempt at humor fell flat to say the least, especially Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson he was just painful to watch.

The 51st annual Grammy Awards show premiered on CBS at 8p.m.

The two and half hour event began with an opening performance by U2.

Another thing was the awards presentations.

There are about 100 categories up for awards in the Grammy's, obviously too many to present on one night without boring the entire audience. However, there should have been more of a focus on the awards and the recipients instead of on an abundance of performances, which many not have been a good thing.

There were over 16 performances that night, most of which were duets or included surprise acts, but only a handful were actually good.

Here's my list:

Top Five Performances:

- Jennifer Hudson
- M.I.A., Kanye West, T.I., Jay-Z and Lil Wayne
- BB King, Keith Urban and John Mayer
- T.I and Justin Timberlake

- Dave Grohl and Paul McCartney

Winners: (Full list at grammy.com)

Record of the Year

- Robert Plant and Alison Krauss - "Please Read the Letter"

Album of the Year



- Robert Plant and Alison Krauss - "Raising Sand"



Song of the Year

- Coldplay - "Viva La Vida"

Best New Artist

- Adele

Best Female Pop Vocal

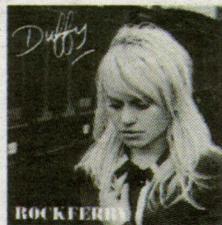
- Adele - "Chasing Pavements"

Best Male Pop Vocal

- John Mayer - "Say"

Best Pop Duo or Group With Vocal

- Coldplay - "Viva La Vida"



Best Pop Vocal Album

- Duffy - Rockferry



Best R&B Album

- Jennifer Hudson - "Jennifer Hudson"

Best Rap Album

- Lil Wayne - "The Carter III"

Best Rock Album

- Coldplay - Viva La Vida or Death and All His Friends

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INTERCOLLEGIATE

Legal Music Downloading Service Shut Off

By ALEXANDRA FINKEL
The Daily Northwestern / UWIRE

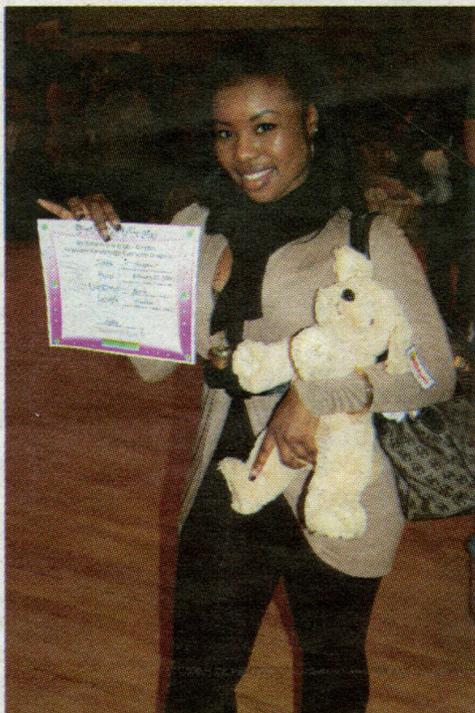
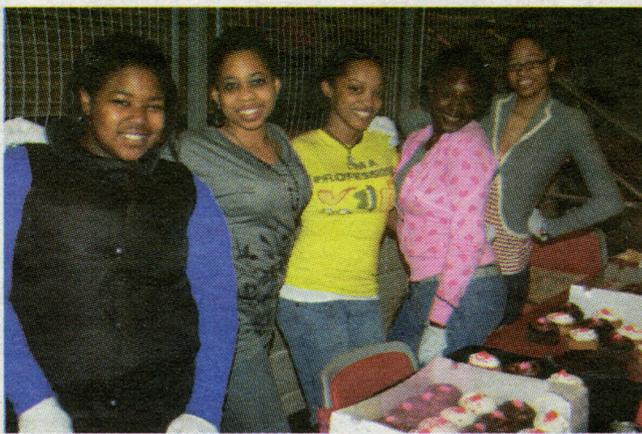
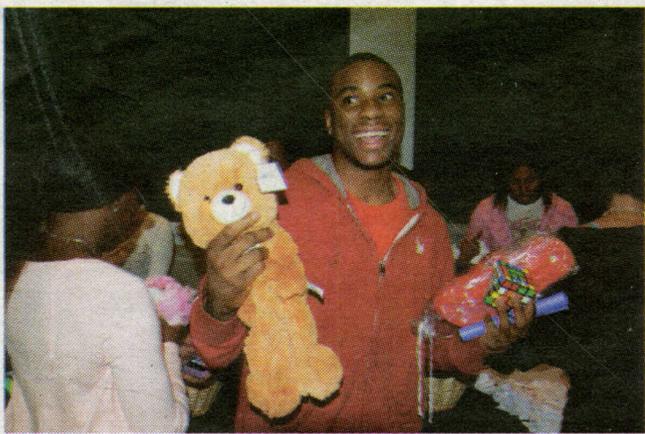
FEB. 10 - When Ana Valdez logged onto www.ruckus.com Saturday, she got the following message from the college-only digital entertainment service: "Unfortunately the Ruckus service will no longer be provided. Thanks."

"I thought it was a joke," the Northwestern University sophomore said. "I had just downloaded a John Mayer and Wilco album the day before."

Ruckus was launched in 2004 as a legal alternative for downloading music. It began as a subscription service to 82 select colleges, but when it failed to garner enough users, it was relaunched as a free service to anyone with a ".edu" e-mail address. As of January 2009, the service had exclusive partnerships with 250 schools nationwide, providing access to more than 3 million tracks.

On Friday evening, Ruckus first shut down for site maintenance, but returned an hour later with the farewell message. The details behind the company's shut-down are unknown and Ruckus Networks could not be reached

Continued on page 9



Valentines Day Through The Ages

By SHIREEN JAYMAN
Staff Writer

February 14 -- a day of romance, sweetness, chocolate and affection where love, be it old or new, is celebrated. But how did this highly commercialized day o'love start?

There are three legends explored by History.com that all paint the mysterious St. Valentine as a sympathetic, heroic and romantic figure.

According to one legend, St. Valentine was a Roman priest in the third century who performed marriage ceremonies for young lovers in a time where the Emperor Claudius II outlawed marriage for young men. When the Emperor found out about the secret marriages, he ordered that St. Valentine be put to death, creating the image of St. Valentine -- the martyr of love.

Another legend suggests that the church hold St. Valentine sacred because he helped Christians escape Roman imprisonment.

The most commercially spread story of St. Valentine attests that while in prison, he fell in love with his jailor's daughter. Before his death Valentine sent the girl a letter signed, "From

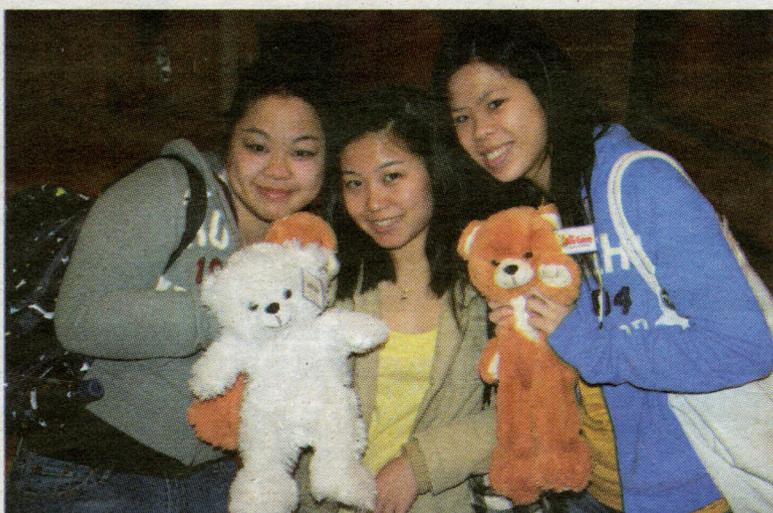
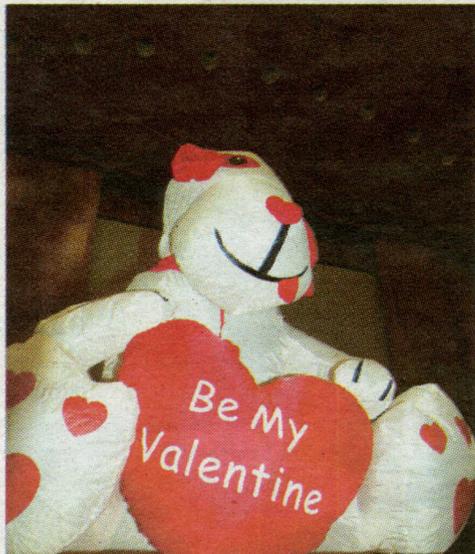
Your Valentine," a line usually copied onto heart-shaped cards every February 14th.

The least romantic historical account of Valentine's Day claims that the Christian church celebrated the feast of St. Valentine in the middle of February in order to 'Christianize' the pagan Lupercalia festival. Lupercalia was a fertility festival for Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture and the wolves Romulus and Remus. This pagan holiday usually took place on February 15th.

Valentine's Day was more celebrated around the 17th century in Great Britain, where courtly romance was the norm and it was common for lovers to exchange tokens of action and handwritten notes.

This practice spread to the United States in the early 1700's and in the 1840's Esther A. Howland, the Mother of the Valentine, began mass producing valentine cards.

An estimated one billion cards are sent each year according to the Greeting Card Association, making St. Valentine's Day one of the largest card-sending holidays of the year, second only to Christmas.



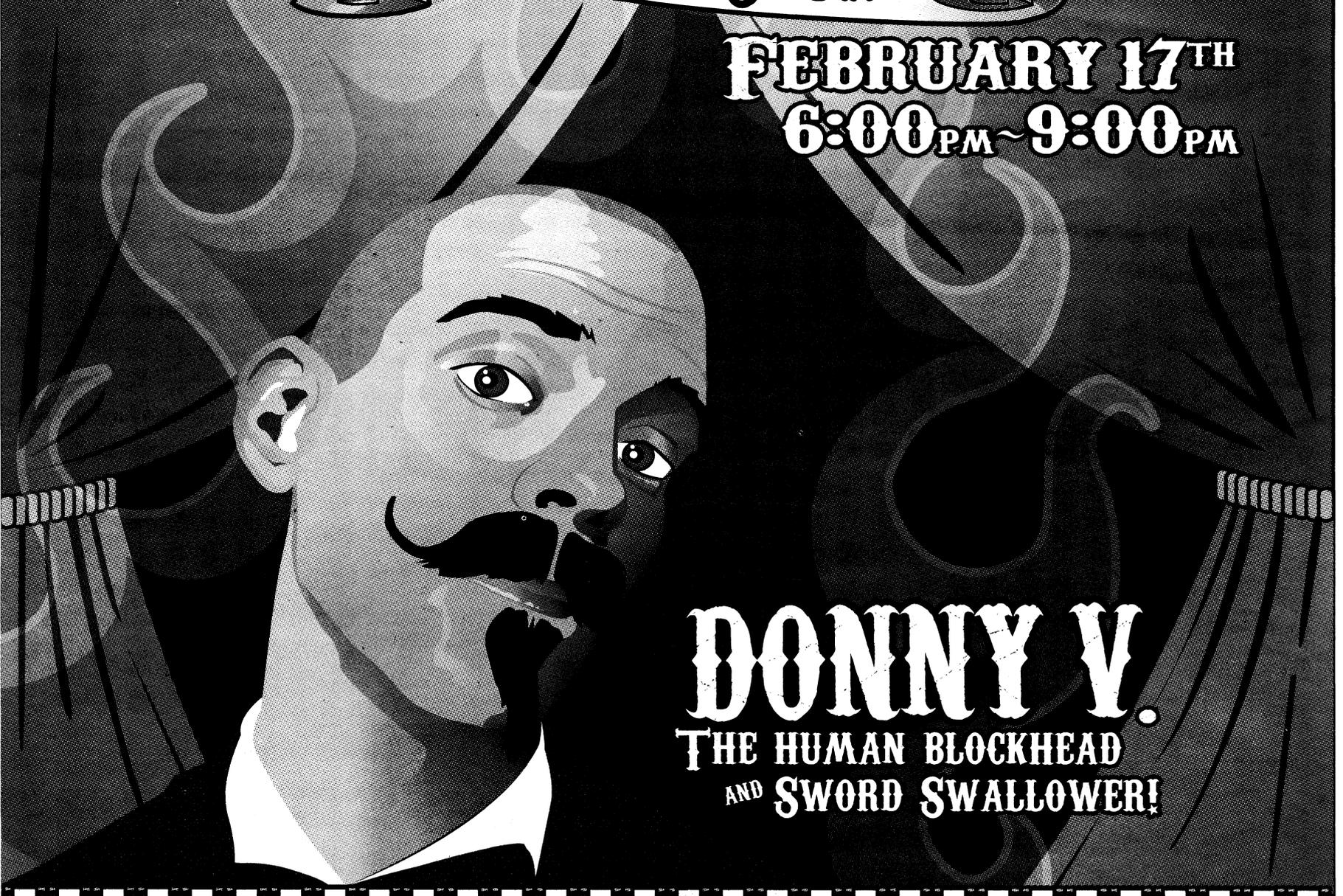
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MUSIC

It's Not Me, It's Lily Allen

By IVANNA AVALOS
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor



Lily Allen
"It's Not Me, It's You"
(Capitol)

Media Credit: Amazon.co.uk

British pop singer Lily Allen, 23, released her sophomore album "It's Not Me, It's You" Tuesday. She held a small performance at The Bowery Ballroom to promote the new release in Manhattan as part of Myspace's "Secret Shows" series.

Allen first came on the scene in 2006 at the age of 21 with the release of her first single "Smile" from her debut pop album "Alright, Still." According to Allen's website, her



Media Credit: Google Images

album eventually sold 2.5 million records and broke into the Billboard's top 20 in the United States. The success of the album also triggered the paparazzi that come with fame and success. Over the past three years, Allen has been plastered all over tabloids for behavior often overshadowing her career as a musician. Her personal life was exposed to the masses like showing up drunk to her performances and shouting at fans, public fights with other celebrities and her miscarriage. The tabloids have even compared her to Amy Winehouse for her drug and alcohol consumption.

Unlike Winehouse, Allen has managed to appear in the media -- gracing the covers of such magazines as Spin and Nylon -- not for

her behavior but rather for the her new album.

Her new album is filled with honest, direct and often sassy lyrics laid atop of catchy electro-pop beats. In her new twelve track album, Allen shows what her past few years under the limelight have taught her. The track "Chinese" shows how Allen's "party girl" nights have changed in which she sings "You'll make me beans on toast and a nice cup of tea. And we'll get a Chinese and watch TV, Tomorrow we'll take the dog for a walk, And in the afternoon then maybe we'll talk."

One of the most interesting things of this album is the issues Allen sings about which are not usually common topics in pop albums. In such tracks as "Everyone's At It," she discusses the issue of various drug abuses and how people hide it. Her first single, "The Fear," illustrates how much society focuses on materialism and the price of fame.

Though Allen shows maturity from her last album she still retains that sassy straightforwardness in her album that made her first record a success. Such tracks include "Not Fair" in which Allen sings about an almost perfect boyfriend, whose only fault is found in the bedroom.

Not being a huge Lily Allen fan myself, there is no denying the infectious melodies of the album. It is worth listening to. Some of my favorite tracks are "I Could Say," "Whod of Known?" and "Never Gonna Happen."

Tracklisting:

1. Everyone's At It
2. The Fear
3. Not Fair
4. 22
5. I Could Say
6. Back To The Start
7. Never Gonna Happen,
8. F--- You
9. Whod Of Known?
10. Chinese
11. Him
12. He Wasn't There

Original Release Date:
February 9, 2009

Lily Allen will be on tour in the United States starting in April. Her current scheduled events on the East Coast are:

- Apr. 17 –
9.30 Club
Washington DC
- Apr. 18 –
Theater of Living Arts
Philadelphia, PA
- Apr. 19 –
House of Blues
Boston, MA
- Apr. 20 –
Roseland Ballroom
New York

Shuttered "Ruckus"

continued from page 6

as of Monday night.

Several legal music download sites including www.cdigix.com and www.allofmp3.com have also ceased their services in the past year. Colin Chisholm, a security analyst for Northwestern, said the school had experienced an overall decrease in illegal downloading activity because of services like Ruckus and other initiatives.

In August, NU implemented the Be Aware You're Uploading (NU-BAYU) system, which informs students when they upload or download content from file-sharing sites.

"A lot of students don't understand that it's not the downloading that gets them in trouble with the (Recording Industry Association of America), but the uploading, which comes simultaneously," Chisholm said. "The legal complaints only happen when the user distributes content which is what uploading is."

The university gets an average of six complaints a week and is required to act on all of them under the 1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act, Chisholm said.

"We have to take the steps to

limit or stop the activity, whether it's quarantining accounts or putting a hold on NetIDs," he said.

Christopher Lee began using Ruckus last winter after he was put on probation for illegally downloading music from sites like LimeWire and BitTorrent.

"One day, I got a notice that my Internet had been suspended and that I should contact the Office of Judicial Affairs and set up an appointment," he said. "The first time it was a warning, but the second time they put me on probation."

Since then, Lee has downloaded between 20 and 30 albums from Ruckus.

"It hurts when they take away a service like that," the Weinberg sophomore said. "People will have to find alternatives, and it may encourage them to download illegally."

Ruckus' closure is especially disturbing to Valdez.

"I'm very surprised and sad because it was such an easy way to get music without paying for it," she said. "I've always been scared of downloading from sites like LimeWire because I was paranoid about getting a virus, so I'll probably just buy from iTunes."

PHD COMICS BY JORGE CHAM

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Stony Brook Lacrosse Receives Three Top 20 votes in Nike/Inside Lacrosse Media Poll; 3rd in America East Standings

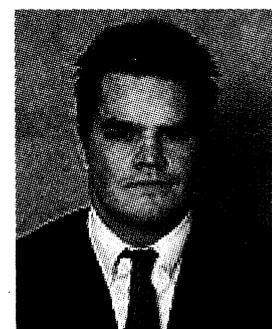
Rk	Team	Record	Points
1	Virginia	0-0	333 (11 first-place votes)
2	Syracuse	0-0	323 (six first-place votes)
3	Maryland	0-0	300
4	Johns Hopkins	0-0	284
5	North Carolina	1-0	255
6	Cornell	0-0	253
7	Duke	0-0	228
8	Georgetown	0-0	200
9	Navy	1-0	190
10(t)	Notre Dame	0-0	147
10(t)	UMBC	0-0	147
12	Princeton	0-0	137
13	Albany	0-0	125
14(t)	Denver	0-0	104
14(t)	Hofstra	0-0	104
16	Brown	0-0	97
17	Loyola	0-0	90
18	Colgate	0-0	83
19	Ohio State	1-0	54
20	Bucknell	0-0	44

Others receiving votes: Army 24, Drexel 11, Harvard 10, Penn State 9, Rutgers 6, Delaware 6, Stony Brook 3, Towson 2.

Source: Inside Lacrosse

2009 Preseason Poll		
Rank	Team (1st-place votes)	Total
1.	UMBC (4)	24
2.	Albany (2)	22
3.	Stony Brook	16
4.	Binghamton	14
5.	Vermont	9
6.	Hartford	5

Pre-Season All-Americans



Jordan McBride



Kevin Crowley

B-Ball Preparing for Matchup Against Albany

Continued from pg 12

rotation. Dougher's outside shooting and Brenton's rebounding presence have been a real attribute to the team.

Brenton, who averages 7.3 points per game, leads the conference in rebounding. He has brought down 10.9 rebounds per game in conference play.

Dougher, the teams floor general, has averaged 37.5 minutes per game in conference play.

"Bryan Dougher for the first time the other day, came up to me at practice and said 'Coach, I'm tired,' Coach Pikiell said. "And I haven't been able to take

him out. I don't have a guy in practice. Eddie Castellanos has been hurt for 2 months, I couldn't even sub him in practice. He's had a long year."

Demetrius Young, Chris Martin, and the now-healthy Eddie Castellanos have provided a strong bench for the Seawolves.

Young, a senior from Sacramento, California, has provided leadership, athleticism and skills around the basket that is unique to the team. He did not see a lot of action early in the season, but has proven his worth to the team during conference play. He is the team's third leading scorer in conference, averaging

10.0 a game and is tied with Joyner for second in rebounding in conference play with 4.1 rebounds per game. He also has far and away the teams best shooting percentage, making 62.2 percent of the shots he has taken this season.

The Albany team coming into Prithcard has been no slouch either. The team is best known for pushing the University Of Connecticut Huskies to the brink a few years ago in the NCAA Tournament. Albany was a #16 seed, one of the last seeds into the tournament. No #16 seed has even defeated a #1 in the history of the tournament.

The Great Danes have run out a

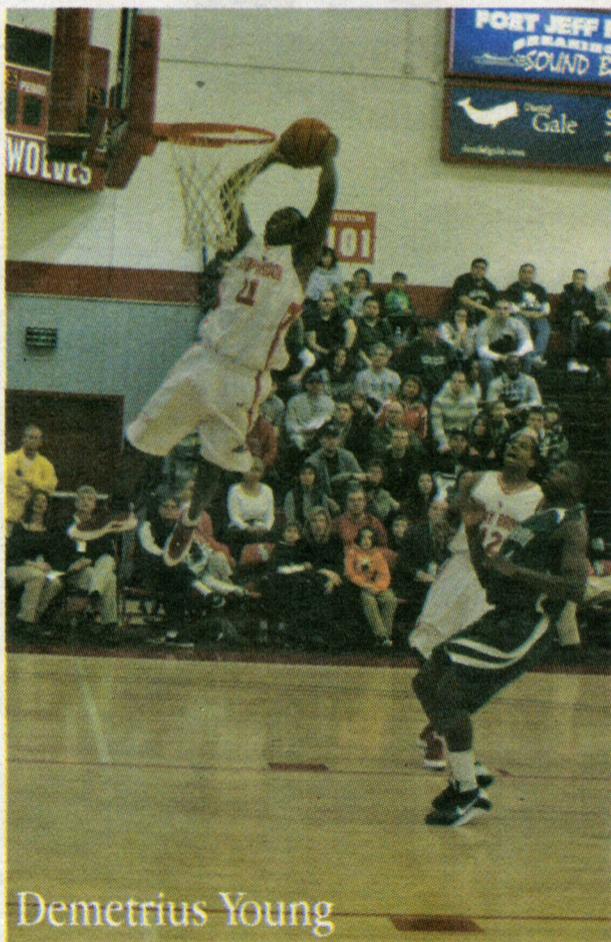
starting lineup of Tim Ambrose, Anthony Raffa, Will Harris, Brian Connelly, and Brett Grifford. They are led by Ambrose in scoring, with 13.8 a game, and by Harris in rebounds, with 6.6 a game.

The Danes come to Stony Brook on a three game losing streak. With an away record of 5-9, in stark contrast to their home record of 8-2, this matchup is no gimme.

Stony Brook v. Albany
Thursday Feb. 12. 7:00 pm
Pritchard Gymnasium

STATESMAN SPORTS

Game vs. Albany Big Test for Young Seawolves



Demetrius Young



Muhammad El-Amin



Bryan Dougher

Alex Berkman / SB Statesman

BY GENE MORRIS
Sports Editor

Tonight at Pritchard Gymnasium the Seawolves will host the Albany Great Danes in a game that will be aired on MSG+.

Both teams come into the game with 5-6 records in America East play. The winner will have the upper hand on landing the fourth seed in the conference tournament. There is a distinct possibility of a third matchup between these two squads, but with the tournament being held in Albany it would basically be a road game for the

Seawolves.

Stony Brook defeated the Great Danes on Jan. 23 in Albany by a score of 58-45. That game was the fourth lowest point total the Seawolves have allowed on the season, and it was their best defensive show in America East play.

"We'll be ready to play... [we] have a good game plan, and we'll go after Albany," Head Coach Pikiell said after Saturday's 63-61 loss to Binghamton. "That's what I like about this team, they're in [the locker room and] they feel awful right now but we'll be alright, we'll be alright on Thursday."

The Seawolves have played great defense all season, and have put the same starting five out in every conference game. Bryan Dougher, Muhammad El-Amin, Marques Cox, Tommy Brenton, and Dalis Joyner have played the majority of the minutes for Stony Brook.

After conference play began, Coach Pikiell shrunk his bench and has seemed to settle on his eight-man rotation.

Muhammad El-Amin remains the leading scorer for the Seawolves, putting up 15.3 points per game overall, and 17.5 points per game in conference play.

Joyner, who is a relative newcomer to the game of basketball, has grown leaps and bounds since the beginning of the season. "I'm so proud of him, he's come so far," Pikiell said. "He was the worst defender in the country the first three games, and now you put a tape on and he's directing other people."

The two other freshman that have seen considerable minutes for the Seawolves, Dougher and Brenton, have infused their different styles into the

Continued on page 11