

THE STATESMAN

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Officeholders in political districts that encompass Stony Brook University trounced their opponents on Election Day. New York State and congressional elections that impact the university ended with incumbents making a strong showing at the polls. Congressman Tim Bishop, State Senator John Flanagan and State Assemblyman Steve Englebright all won re-election bids by hefty margins, as neither candidate faced a challenger that seriously threatened to wrest control of office.

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OPINION

Where Were You When the Election Was Called?

Yesterday's election and last night's announcement of the results are events that we will talk about for generations to come. The moment they announced Barack Obama as our next president is a moment that will be carved in our history. I know one day that my grandchildren will ask me about it.

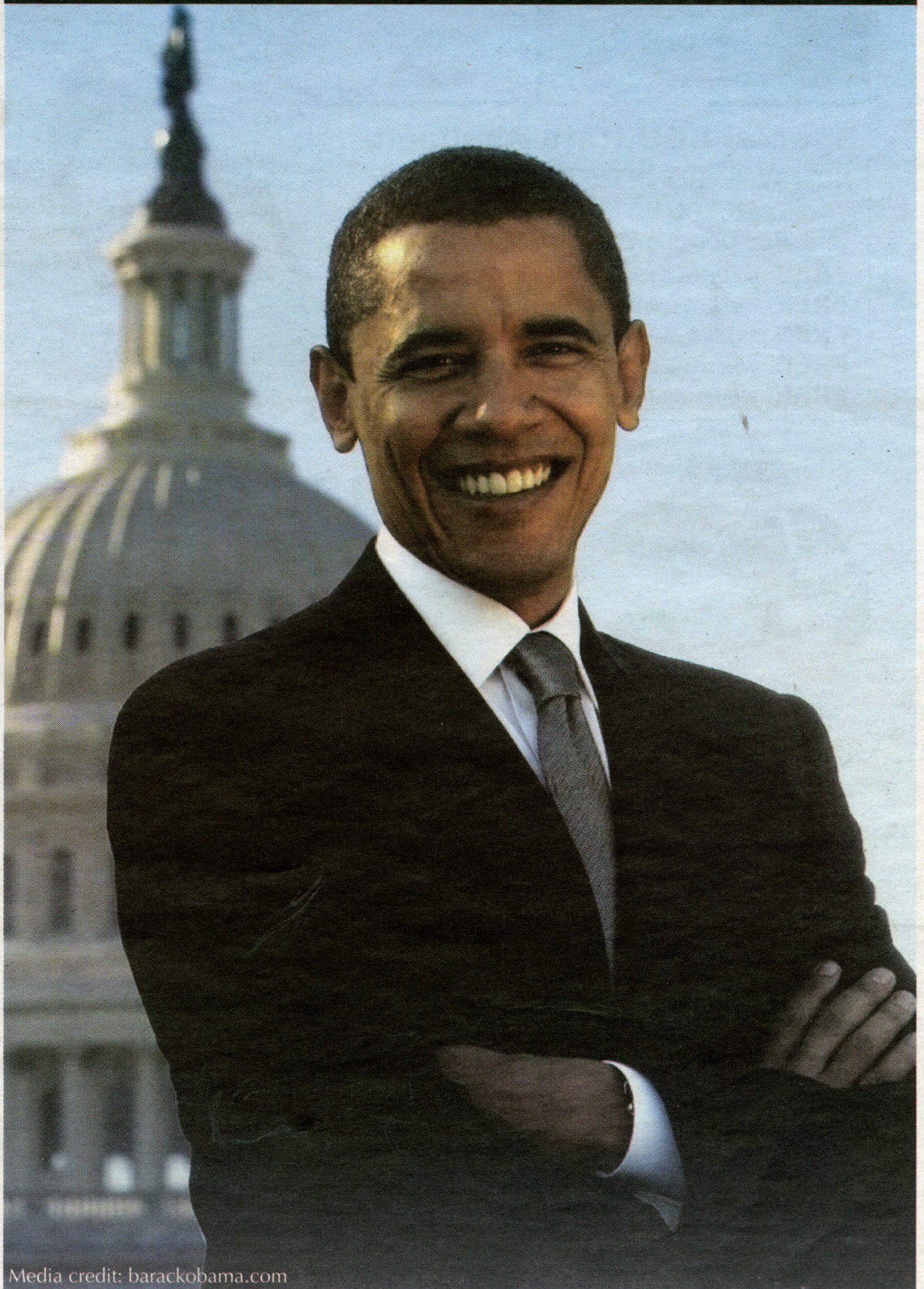
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McCain Concedes Election, Not Country

In the midst of being absorbed by all these milestones, however, we seem to have overlooked one of the memorable parts of the evening: John McCain's concession speech. After months of being cursed with the reputation of being an old, stern politician, and attempting desperately to cement his reputation as a moderate, McCain delivered a graceful, heartfelt speech for the first time in months.

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OBAMA WINS HISTORIC ELECTION



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Two Incumbents Win Local Elections

By GARY TROISI
Contributing Writer

Officeholders in political districts that encompass Stony Brook University trounced their opponents on Election Day.

New York State and congressional elections that impact the university ended with incumbents making a strong showing at the polls. Congressman Tim Bishop, State Senator John Flanagan and State Assemblyman Steve Englebright all won re-election bids by hefty margins, as neither candidate faced a challenger that seriously threatened to wrest control of office.

Congressman Tim Bishop (D.-Southampton) won re-election with 58 percent of the vote, defeating 28-year-old Iraq war veteran and GOP challenger Lee Zeldin (R.-Shirley) in a campaign that featured plenty of sparring. Throughout the campaign, Zeldin railed against Bishop for voting for the \$700 billion federal bailout and for supporting the McCain-Kennedy immigration bill, which would grant legal status to some working immigrants that entered the country illegally.

Bishop called many of Zeldin's policy's "hopelessly naive," while maintaining his office has done a "first rate" job of providing for

constituents.

"Pick any one bill I've voted for -- any one -- and debate me on why it wasn't the best thing for this district," the congressman said, as quoted in the Times Beacon Record.

Zeldin did not offer voters a compelling reason to oust Bishop. In his six years as a congressman, Bishop has delivered \$135 million in funds to his district, including over \$50 million "for roads, bridges and other local transportation priorities," according to Bishopforcongress.com. In 2008, Bishop also helped block Broadwater Energy's plan to build a liquefied natural gas terminal in the Long Island Sound.

In the New York State Senate race, John Flanagan (R.-East Northport) sauntered to victory in the second district. Flanagan won a fourth term by finishing with 63 percent of the vote against his challenger, Michael DePaoli (D.-South Setauket).

Flanagan is popular among constituents for several reasons. He helped create the STAR rebate program, which provides tax relief for constituents bogged down by some of the highest tax burdens in the nation.

In 2006, Flanagan squelched construction plans to redevelop the former Kings Park Psychiatric

Center into housing, and secured \$25 million in state funding to transform parts of the forlorn property into Nissequogue River State Park.

The loss was DePaoli's fourth State Senate defeat. He has also lost campaigns for Brookhaven Highway Superintendent and the Three Village school board. DePaoli is a Vietnam War veteran and former Suffolk County emergency services director.

State Assemblyman Steve Englebright (D.-Setauket) will not vacate the seat he has held since 1992. Englebright walloped opponent Bruce Bennet (R.-Centereach) in what was the most lopsided victory among the three races. Englebright, who won 68 percent of the vote, said he would make conserving Long Island's pine barrens region and creating a web site to track school expenditures his priorities.

These incumbents will grapple with difficult problems at Stony Brook in their upcoming terms. Gov David A. Paterson announced the state is facing a budget shortfall of over \$4.6 billion. This statewide cut may translate to a \$25 million budget cut at Stony Brook, said Dan Melucci, associate vice president for Strategy, Planning and Analysis, in a recent issue of The Statesman.

"Yes We Can!"

By APRIL WARREN
News Editor

After months of traveling the nation trying to convince voters of the need for change, President-elect Barack Obama will become the 44th president of the United States and, more importantly, the first African-American to ever hold the country's highest office.

"If there is anyone out there who still doubts that America is a place where all things are possible, who still wonders if the dream of our Founders is alive in our time, who still questions the power of our democracy, tonight is your answer," said Obama during his victory speech in Chicago on Tuesday.

The President-elect won 349 electoral votes to Sen. John McCain's 162 electoral votes. A candidate needs 270 votes to declare victory.

Obama swept the battleground states of Indiana, Ohio and Florida. All three had previously been won in 2004 by President George Bush.

McCain took Montana and North Dakota.

Missouri and North Carolina did not post results before deadline.

"The American people have spoken, and they have spoken clearly," said McCain in his concession speech. McCain went on to state "This is an historic election, and I recognize the special significance it has for African-Americans and for the special pride that must be theirs tonight."

The presidency is not the only office picked up by the Democrats. The party also won 56 seats in the Senate and 253 seats in the House of Representatives.

Obama acknowledged the struggles the country will face in the upcoming months.

"I promise you: We as a people will get there."

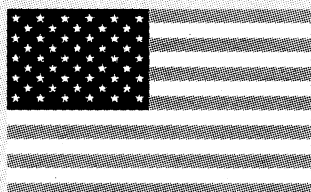
He also discussed what the future would hold for America. "There's new energy to harness, new jobs to be created, new schools to build, and threats to meet, alliances to repair."

On Wednesday, Obama named John Podesta as the leaders of his transition team that will help lead him to the White House. Podesta served as White House chief of staff to the Clinton Administration.

Obama appointed Rahm Emanuel, an aid to former president Bill Clinton to chief of staff.

ROAD TO HISTORY

Written by Frank Posillico



6:00 PM

Polls in KY and IN started closing.

8:05 PM

ABC anchor Charlie Gibson reported Obama had 102 electoral votes to McCain's 34. ABC would not call the election until one candidate reached the necessary 270 electoral votes.

11:18 PM

McCain spoke to a crowd of disappointed supporters, conceding the race to Obama.

8:40 PM

CNN became the last network to call PA.

7:00 PM

The first two states to be called by CNN were KY, for Senator John McCain, and VT, for Senator Barack Obama.

7:56 PM

Facebook reported that 4,158,755 of its users voted.

8:31 PM

U.S. Senate Republican incumbent Elizabeth Dole loses seat to Democrat Kay Hagan.

10:50 PM

History was made when NBC and CNN gave the presidential race to Obama, the 44th president of the United States.



8:02 PM

CBS News called, IL, NJ, MA, MD, CT, MN, NH, DE, and the DC to Obama. TN and OK went to McCain.

11:57 PM

Obama spoke to the people of the United States as the President-elect.

Designed by Joe Trollo

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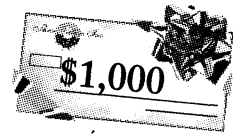
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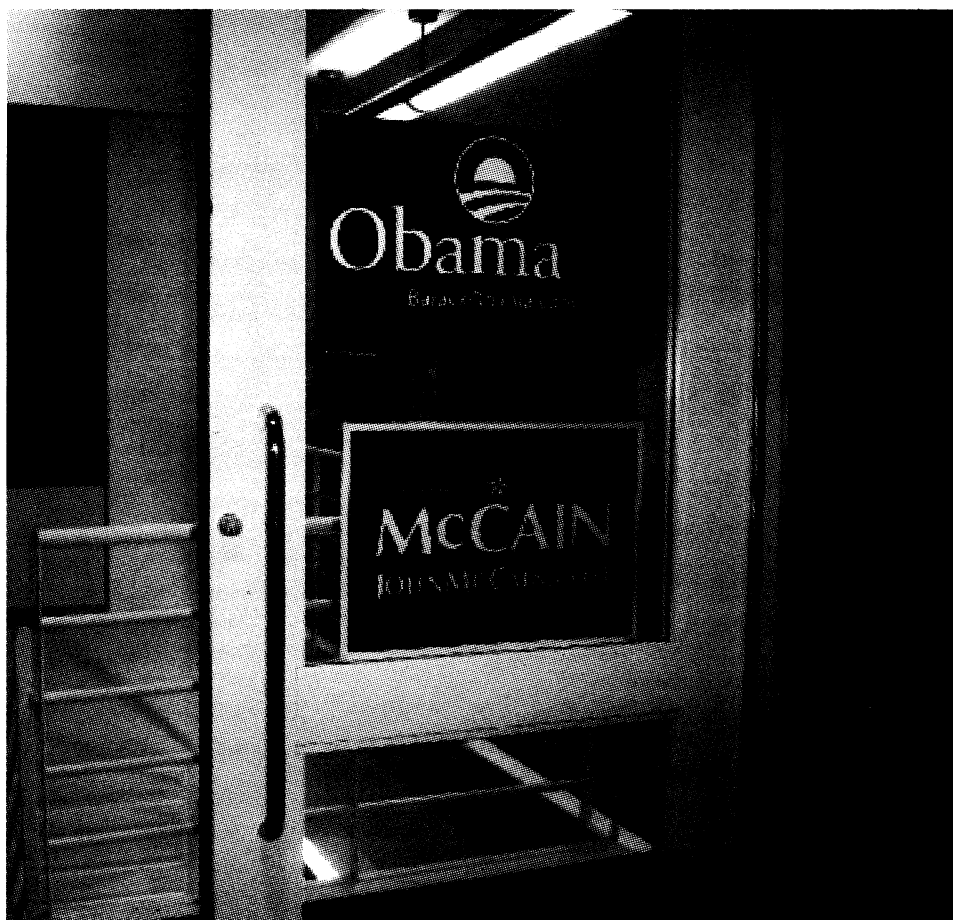


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Election Day Events On Campus



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

By DANIEL ALDARONDO
Contributing Writer

"Electapaloozaaaaaa!"

These words could be heard from the upstairs of the Tabler Arts Center in Tabler Quad by Alex Nagler, President of the Stony Brook College Democrats. Room 107 was the site of Electapalooza, a party thrown by the College Democrats in support of Presidential Democrat nominee Barack Obama.

When entering the room students were greeted by laptops strewn about showing various websites dedicated to the election. Rows of chairs filled the room as many turned out to view the historic race. Members of the club were there, as well as other supporters for the left wing party.

For many of the students in the room it was their first time voting. Marissa Colon, a sophomore and History major, said she thought it was really cool breaking into her first election with a historic outcome. "We

know who will win," Colon said with a smile referring to Obama, "but whoever wins, it's changing history no matter what."

Several spectators at Electapalooza voiced their opinion as to "Why Obama?" and the consensus response was "He's not McCain" or "He's not Palin."

Highlights of the night included a hand-drawn replica of the United States on a dry erase board by junior Tia Mansouri. It was then colored in with each parties representative color: red for the Republicans, blue for the Democrats.

For early birds who arrived at the party before 8:45 p.m., they were treated to free pizza and various soft drinks. There were also friendly bets as to how many electoral votes Obama would end up with.

And when the 9:00 p.m. polls closed, the crowd rejoiced as Obama had clinched virtually the entire northeast. This included a chant of "Yes we did! Yes we did!" when Obama won Maine.

By LAUREN CIOFFI
Contributing Writer

For many Republicans at Stony Brook University, their right to exercise their political affiliation only took place at the voting booth. Unlike some Democrats who proudly wore pins and held signs on campus cheering "Barack the Vote," the Republicans were nowhere to be found.

Alex Chamesian, editor-in-chief of the Patriot, explained the reason behind the silence of the Republican voice on campus. "There is a fear you hold to these Republican sentiments," Chamesian said. "Unless you want to be ostracized by your peers."

On election night, the College Republicans and students affiliated with the school's conservative newspaper, The Patriot, came together in the Student Activities Center Ballroom B to follow the election coverage on ABC News and to freely express their choice of candidate.

The numbers were small, about 20 to 30 students, but almost everyone voted for Sen. John McCain, and if they did not they were supportive of those who had. For most of the night, many students gritted their teeth and watched the projection screen facing the numbers. Others didn't bother to watch and conversed with other students.

It seemed that some of the students who were members of the College Republicans came to terms with the idea of Sen. Barack Obama being president of the United States.

"I will love this country despite who the president is," Chamesian said. "I will not denounce this country based on who the president is. When asked what he would do if Obama was elected president, Ben Edolati a senior and Political Science major said, "The sun will still come up."

What is significant about the College Republicans was not its desire for McCain to be president, but its inability to express its beliefs throughout the course of this campaign. "If campus was evenly split there wouldn't be a need for this," Edolati said.

Allison Goldberg, a junior and president of the College Republicans wore a McCain pin on her backpack throughout the course of the day. "I got a couple of dirty looks for that."

"Dirty looks" are only one of the many things that have kept republicans from being open about their views. Brittany Klenofsky and Kalya Lacci were friends for a while and never shared their political affiliations in fear the other would be critical of her republican views.

"You just rather not talk about it. Sometimes it's not

even with it," Klenofsky said. Klenofsky's sister, a teacher on Long Island, had her car keyed during the weeks of the election. "I can only assume it's because she has a Sarah Palin sticker on her car."

Cars seem to be the targets among a few Republican students. Edolati made a point to take his McCain and Palin sticker off his car before coming to class today. "I like my car, and would hate to see it get scratched up, especially for something as stupid as politics."

Connor Harigan, a commuter at Stony Brook, found his car in the Stony Brook South P lot scratched up. He had Republican bumper stickers on his car. These claims have not yet been substantiated by the police.

The idea that Republicans are feeling unable to express their views in a very liberal environment seemed to be a very big issue according to the conservative side. "It is unfortunate people feel that way," said Adam Peck, a Democrat and supporter of Obama.

"We've been talking to McCain supporters all day," Peck said. He said that when he was campaigning in Pennsylvania, he also experienced political tensions between parties and found it difficult for him to exercise his political beliefs without being frowned upon.



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

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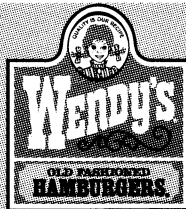
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Students Turn to Internet for Election News

By ERIKA KARP
Contributing Writer

The 2008 election has proved to be an historic one. Barack Obama has become the first African American President of the United States. There were many firsts in the 2008 election—one being many young adults voted for the first time.

The difference between past elections and the 2008 election is how voters, especially the young voters, got information about candidates. Unlike in the past where news stations and newspapers served as the number one sources of information, the Internet has become a more favored outlet by students.

According to a Pew Research survey from January, 42 percent of people age 18-29, regularly learned news about campaigns from the Internet, compared to 20 percent in 2004. Even on a very small scale, 15 out of 20 News Literacy Students, ranging from freshman to seniors who were registered and planning on voting, said that they receive most of their news concerning the election from the Internet.

Social networking sites, such as Facebook and Myspace, have become sites where candidates target the youth vote. The Pew Research Center stated that “Fully two-thirds of Americans age 18-29 say they use social networking sites, and more than a quarter in this age group (27 percent) say that they have gotten information about candidates and the campaign from them - including 37 percent among those ages 18-24.”

The Obama campaign was especially successful when it came to targeting young voters. As of November 5th, the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) estimated that 24 million people ages 18-29 voted and according to exit polls conducted by CNN, 66 percent of people of the same age voted for Obama.

With such an overwhelming amount of information, many people have found it hard to distinguish between what is valid and what is false. Over the course of the campaign many rumors originated on the Internet. For example Sarah

Palin's newborn child was really her daughter's.

Many have recognized the need for accurate sources online and the need to teach people how to recognize false information. In 2007, Will Ruben, a sophomore at Harvard University, founded VoteGopher.com. Ruben created the website “that summarized the presidential candidates' positions on all the issues he cared about.” The website is aimed at voters aged 17-30. Websites like Politifact.com and Factcheck.org have also become popular sites.

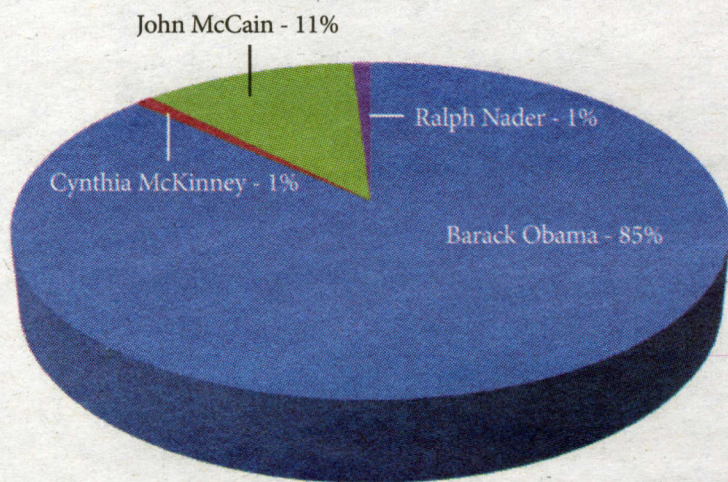
Stony Brook students who are taking the News Literacy class, know that it is important “to know your neighborhood,” when searching for information online.

Professor and Dean of the School of Journalism, Howard Schneider, stressed the importance of knowing your sources and how many young people are blurring the lines between information that is reliable and unreliable and news and entertainment. “Young people are getting information from multiple sources.”

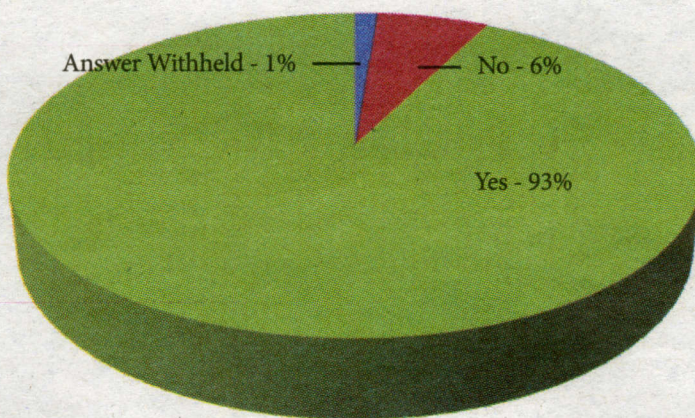
Election Day Student Exit Survey

By Joe Trollo

Whom did you vote for?



Do you think your candidate cares about the youth vote?

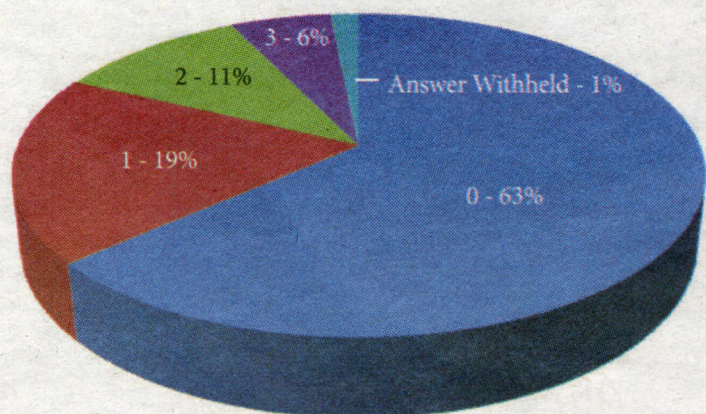


This exit survey was taken on Election Day between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. in the Melville Library. A total of 320 student voters answered these questions.

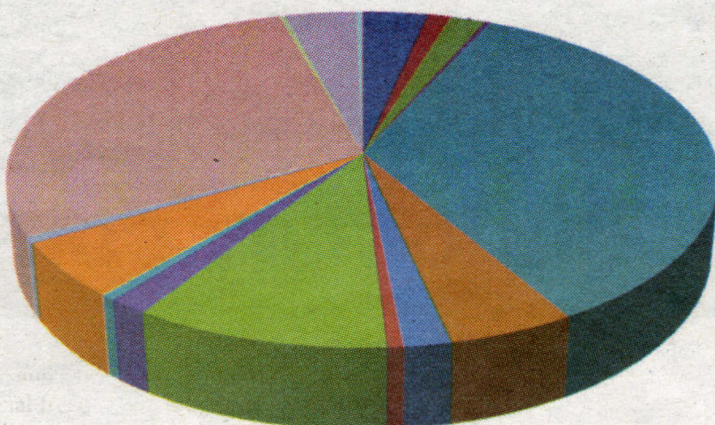
Main Issues in 2008 Election

- Abortion - 3%
- Afghanistan - 1%
- Answer Withheld - 2%
- Cuba - 0%
- Economy - 35%
- Education - 5%
- Environment - 2%
- Guns - 1%
- Health care - 10%
- Homeland security - 2%
- Immigration - 1%
- Iraq - 5%
- LGBT issues - 1%
- Other - 28%
- Russia - 0%
- Taxes - 4%
- Terrorism - 0%

On a scale from 0 to 3, how involved were you in your candidate's campaign?



What was your main concern in this election?



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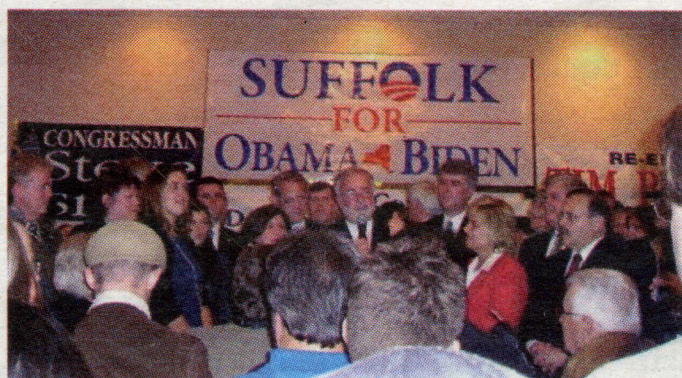
WHO WE ARE

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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Where Were You When the Election Was Called?



Tim Bishop at the Suffolk County Democrat Party.

Amy Ellis / SB Statesman

By AMY ELLIS
Contributing Writer

Yesterday's election and last night's announcement of the results are events that we will talk about for generations to come. The moment they announced Barack Obama as our next president is a moment that will be carved in our history. I know one day that my grandchildren will ask me about it.

For me, the night began with a barrage of thoughts running through my head.

As I got ready to go an election party hosted by the Suffolk County Democrats, the first state was called -- Kentucky -- with John McCain as the winner. Immediately I began to worry that all of my hard work for Senator Obama's campaign would not pay off. Could Mc-

Cain win this thing after all? Like millions of Americans, I began the night glued to the TV screen, however, I did not stay at home watching it on my couch, but instead I attended the election party, which was held at the Islandia Marriott.

I had never attended a Democratic election party, so for me this was very exciting. Hundreds of people were gathered here to wait for the election results. The party room was equipped with two large computer screens where the results were posted and updated. Another large screen posted CNN and the presidential election results.

Crowds of people were gathered around the screens. Immediately, it seemed clear that the Democrats did not have too much to worry about -- with

Brian Foley, Tim Bishop, Steve Ukeiley, and the other Democratic candidates ahead of their opponents.

Each time one of the local races were flashed on the screen, the crowds erupted in spontaneous cheers.

After the local election results were called, the newly elected and re-elected officials were escorted into the room by a marching band of bagpipers. The bagpipers are a Suffolk County tradition, and they just added to the surreal and frenzied chaos of the night. The officials were introduced by Rich Shafer, the chairman of the Suffolk County Democratic Committee. Many of them spoke, thanking us for all of our support and help on their campaign.

Their speeches, however, were shortened when a deafening roar came up from the crowd, which had nothing to do with the local officials. The huge screen displaying the presidential results had just announced that Obama was the projected winner of the presidential election. After Obama had won Virginia with 51 percent to 49 percent, CNN declared Obama the winner.

The emotions quickly rose as tears and cheers were seen and heard throughout the

room. I felt as if it was one of those moments, like on New Years Eve 1999, or when you get back from a long trip and you just want to see your parents and give them a big hug. Everyone was filled with this type excitement and emotion, and I'm sure many of you were as well.

The crowd settled down slightly, only to become excited again when McCain gave his speech. No one really expected it to be over so quickly. But when Obama spoke, the room fell deafeningly quiet, as people hung on every word. It was amazing.

This election day will be historical. As the cheers were overwhelming me, I was struck by how important this exact moment was in our history. We as Americans were reminded that we live in a country where the strength of your convictions and the content of your character far outweigh whatever pedigree you may have.

I feel like this should always be a day for you to remember and to share with your children and grandchildren one day. Whether you voted for Barack Obama or not, you agree with his ideologies or not, this was a historic night, and I hope you feel as proud as I do.

Free Market Ideals Alive, Despite Obama Victory

By ZACHARY KURTZ
Opinions Editor

Obama's landslide victory, which was easily predicted by most political pundits, was essentially a repudiation of George W. Bush's administration. Bush's policies of increasing the size and scope of government, eroding freedoms and expanding interventionism overseas was rejected during Tuesday's election by the American people. The Republican party lost part of its once loyal base in the swing states, which cost McCain the election and Democrat Senate gains.

This base is made of mostly independent voters, upper middle class economic conservatives and socially liberals. The rejection of the Republican party's neoconservative wing isn't necessarily a vote in favor of Obama's Big Government Democrats. Michael Tanner, senior fellow at

the Cato Institute and a libertarian think tank, said, "To suggest that in electing Barack Obama voters were choosing big-government over small-government would imply that either the Bush administration, the current Republican congressional leadership, or, for that matter, John McCain actually supported smaller government."

The new Republican party, contrary to their claims, no longer represents small government ideals. From our bedrooms to the Iraq war, and the recent financial bailout plans, the Republicans have lost the way of the Goldwater conservative. When faced with this choice, Obama was the obvious way to go, seeking change at the risk of big government economic policies and being content with more social freedoms and a reduction in interventionist foreign policy for the time being.

Obama's election, however, doesn't indicate the demise of economic conservatism. Rest assured, advocates of the free market and the reintroduction of smaller government on all fronts will be challenging Obama's policies every step of the way. The American people are ready for change, but it will become apparent over the next four years that Obama's redistributive,

big spending policies are not the kind of changes that will better this country.

Many of my fellow students are ecstatic about Obama's victory, believing sincerely that Obama's policies will increase our nation's prosperity and prestige. To these people, I caution against

continued on page 11

Guidelines for Opinion Submission

Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted by e-mail at Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org, on our online submission tool at www.sbstatesman.org, by hand at our office in the Student Union Rm 057, or by mailing it to us at the address in the left column. They must be received at least two days before the next printed issue. The Statesman reserves the right to edit or not print any letter based on appropriateness, length, timeliness, or other reasons at the discretion of the editorial board. Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and opinion pieces should not exceed 550 words. Please include your full name (which we may withhold if you request it), phone number and email address for verification. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses will not be printed. Letters submitted anonymously or under false names will not be considered for publication.

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McCain Concedes Election, Not Country

By HIRA AHMED
Asst. Opinions Editor

This past Tuesday night was plagued with excitement for the leaps and bounds our country has made by electing a black president, but also for an unexpected voter turnout to put all misconceptions about political apathy to rest.

In the midst of being absorbed by all these milestones, however, we seem to have overlooked one of the memorable parts of the evening: John McCain's concession speech. After months of being cursed with the reputation of being an old, stern politician, and attempting desperately to cement his reputation as a moderate, McCain delivered a graceful, heartfelt speech for the first time in months.

Unfortunately, McCain's speech, demonstrative of real intentions to "reach across the aisle," was on Obama's time. McCain supporters, disappointed by the loss, and Obama supporters consumed by a historical win, were too preoccupied with epic nature of the night, to appreciate McCain's message. As he silenced the "boos" of Republican supporters, he assumed responsibility for the failure of his ticket. Perhaps at this juncture of the election, he didn't have anything to lose by so nobly taking the heat for his and his supporters' loss. Regardless of his intentions, his courtesy to assume responsibility for the defeat, and laud his running mate, who caused more than a few supporters to jump ship, was utterly honorable.

Most importantly, though, McCain urged his supporters to stand behind our new president, despite their political differences. The degree of respect and support McCain

displayed for President-elect Obama was exceedingly inspiring, especially considering fellow Democrat Hillary Clinton couldn't even bury the hatchet and stand behind then-Democratic nominee Barack Obama, without consistently reminding us of the "glass ceiling." He even went so far as to claim Obama's victory, a testament to the greatness of our nation - referring, of course, to the racial adversity overcome.

McCain didn't just concede, but declared his commitment to returning to his service to the country as a senator and continue working with our future president. His optimism about the future of our country and encouragement of Americans to stand together behind our new Commander-in-Chief, are wise words that we should all try to live by. Whether we're liberals or conservatives, it is our responsibility to unite our nation in our efforts to ameliorate the state of our country.

During a time plagued with economic and social hardships, we have to help our president help us, whether it be through continued support or continued criticism. Regardless of where we stand on the spectrum, we have to continue making our voices heard, because we need our president more than he needs us. We need President-elect Obama to heed to our needs and be aware of our fears.

Our political beliefs may be what divide us, but our hardships in such difficult times should be what bind us. If McCain can be appear so determined to work with President-elect Obama just hours after having lost the most significant office of his political career, then liberals and conservatives of this country certainly can as well.

A Clean Victory For a Clean Candidate

By RUCHI VIKAS
Contributing Writer

Unless you have been asleep for the past day or so, you know that Barack Obama will be our president for the next four years. This victory for some (and loss for others), was the result of a long and difficult campaign. There was mudslinging, name calling, and accusations from both sides. In a campaign this heated, many people were concerned about voter fraud.

We have also all heard about the controversy with ACORN. One man from Cleveland claimed earlier this year that he signed up to register over 70 times, and another person claimed he gave his address as an unoccupied house. John McCain said at one point that Obama had ties to the organization -- a statement that, needless to say, worried a lot of Republicans. Although I'm

not sure exactly what came out of these particular cases, I do know one thing -- that voter fraud is the farthest thing from anyone's mind right now.

Obama won the White House yesterday by 187 electoral votes and 7,446,138 votes. It was a sweeping, honest victory, and one beyond what many people dared to think what would happen. He won by such an incredibly large margin that any thoughts of voter fraud distorting this election are a distant memory. In the last days after the election, there have been no significant reports of voter fraud in key swing states, aside from small and expected irregularities. No one could possibly think that such grand margins of people were simply registered under false or illegal pretenses.

It has truly been a long campaign, and one that we have all watched grow since

almost two years ago. Despite watching every debate and following the race as closely as possible, no one knew exactly how Tuesday night would turn out. As with every election, there have been accusations on both sides against either candidate.

The reason Obama came out on top fair and square was not because of his so-called ties to ACORN any more than his ties to Jeremiah Wright. He won not only because of his policies, but because he was able to reach out to people and get them to believe in something. Every person who voted for Obama last night voted because they believe that something can and will be different, and I believe that few, if any, of those people were not honestly registered. In the end, Barack Obama more than proved he didn't need fraudulent voters in order to win this election.

Small Government Ideas in Post-Election America

continued from page 9

blindly following any figurehead, without questioning the roots of their theories. Don't be afraid of challenging your beliefs by studying opposing positions. After all, Obama is still a politician despite all the perceptions of infallibility.

To my fellow Obama skeptics, don't toll the bells just yet. This country is not done with small government ideals. People have decided they are sick of the corporate government complex and have gone with the candidate who more closely represents this, which happens to be a charismatic man who is easy to like. In four years, I have no doubt that voters of all economic classes and ethnicities will realize that we benefit every bit as much from keeping government out of our pocketbooks as we do from keeping government out of our bedrooms.

The President-elect is inheriting a laundry list of problems and the free market arguments are strong and will be heard. When Obama's big government, tax and spend solution fail, the Republicans will, hopefully, be smart enough to return to their libertarian roots. This has already started to happen; small government advocates like Congressman Ron Paul (R - Tex.), are finding themselves with more support than ever. This is a smaller, but more devoted and informed base that Obama could only dream of having.

Last night, I stopped off at CVS after leaving a depressed party attended by conservative Stony Brook students. On the checkout line, the lady ahead of me began ranting about Obama being a socialist. Her quite liberal use of the "n-word" among other tasty racial expletives were notable. Sharing a moment

with the the cashier, after the lady stormed off, we talked about how the anti-Obama rants are completely useless. People will see for themselves that Obama is a politician just like any other, and turning into racist rants isn't going to help. After a minute, I discovered I had found another person who wrote in Ron Paul's name, being unsatisfied with all the other names on the ballot. What are the chances of that happening?

The supporters of small government are out there and our numbers are growing. I'm confident that the effect of the Obama administration will ensure that free market ideas will continue to get heard. I'm looking forward to 2012, when the real change in America is going to happen. Next time, it'll be a revolution back to small government principles that our founding fathers wanted for this country.

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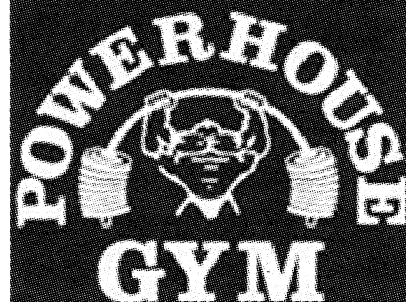
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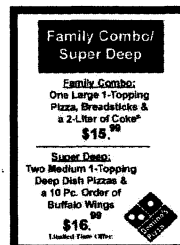
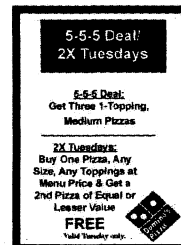
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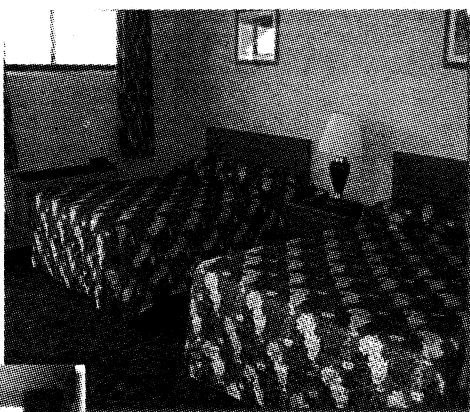
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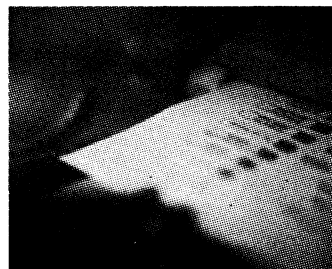
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W: A Warm-Up for Audiences

By TEJAS GAWADE
Editor Emeritus

Oliver Stone's "W" might not be a spectacular movie, but it is definitely a story much more interesting than George W. Bush's reign. Filled with the right musical cues, slowed visuals and somewhat too many allegories, the movie does not pretend to be a documentary. Though in real life, Stone has referred to Bush as "the bum," the movie is surprisingly more reverential than expected.

Josh Brolin, as Bush, is dreamy as the 43rd President of the United States and perfectly migrates from one role to another -- first as a partying college student, then an oilman, a golfer, a Christian, a son and husband, and even the politician. For all his bad years under the purview of his father, George H. W. Bush (James Cromwell) and mother, Barbara (Ellen Burstyn), he manages to redeem himself with Laura (Elizabeth Banks) and the twin wonders.

The movie wants to move you, so it cares less for historical accuracy. The constant shifts between the supposedly wanton younger Bush and the wiser older Bush on the brink of the Iraq war, confuse us but also manage to generate ethos, which is enough to master a certain amount of audience.

If there is one thing that faults the movie, it is that it never really manages to weave a complete narrative. For a movie

that is 129 minutes long, you would think Stone would have had enough time to start and end on a high note. To be fair, he does. But something is lost in between this, and that is a continual narration. We get too many instances of Bush chugging vodka and not enough of what happens as Iraq unfolds.

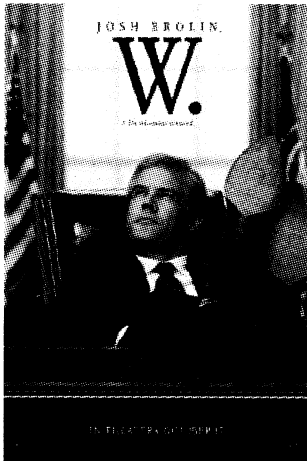
The movie's end is anticlimactic, as it ends in 2004, providing no resolution for the Iraq war. Stone probably didn't want to make another Sept. 11 movie, so he only glides over it, but this is the kind of commercial movie that calls for such story lines.

This is not to say that the movie has no mastered moments. Richard Dreyfuss as Vice President Dick Cheney, is as good an impersonation as Thandie

Newton as Condoleezza Rice and Scott Glenn as Donald Rumsfeld. Newton's tight smiles and Glenn's pies in contempt of the president are some of the likeable directions.

The movie never really makes the

audience think. Too many tragic graphic images of dead American soldiers and Iraqis feel ill-placed among the negative portrayal of Bush that almost makes you laugh. Even though Stone will get away with its commercialized use, those most closely affected by the war will be nowhere as receptive as most and will take offense. Perhaps, a movie on the current President-elect might offend fewer.



Josh Brolin, as George W. Bush, the 43rd President.

Media Credit: imdb.com

Definitive Pink

By ERIKA KARP
Contributing Writer

In my mind people either love or hate Pink. For those who do love her they know she is one of the few major-label artists today who has stayed successful over the years, and did so on her own terms. Pink has been able to create music that one can "rock out" to, climb the Billboard charts, and receive plenty of air-time on the radio, all while putting forth her message.

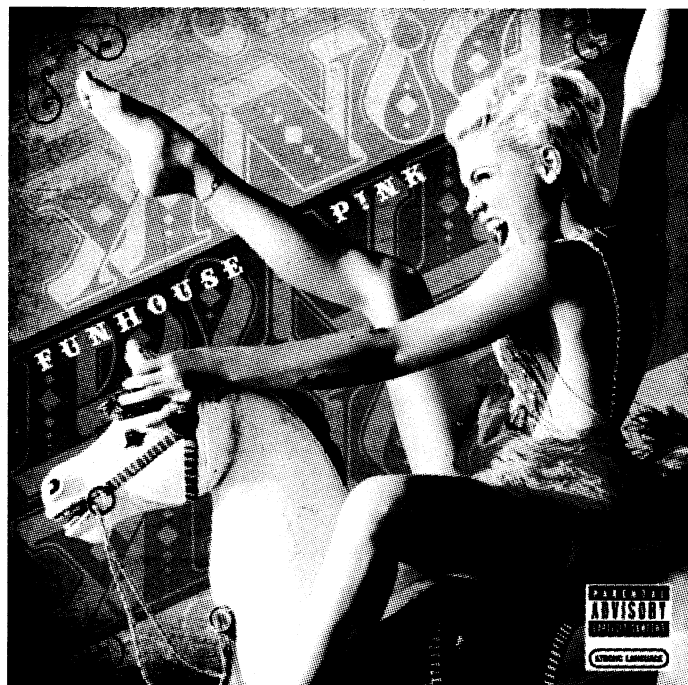
In 2006 Pink released her comeback album "I'm Not Dead." Even though critics praised the album, it initially failed on the charts; although later, singles were re-released and gained popularity. But now, two years later and newly divorced from motocross racer Carey Hart, Pink has the promise of a true comeback album, with "Funhouse."

"Funhouse," Pink's fifth album, was released on Oct. 28 following the release of its hit single "So What." Currently

"Funhouse" is ranked number three on the iTunes charts, and "So What" is ranked number four on Billboard's Hot 100. The music is still quintessential Pink -- filled with catchy lyrics, attitude, and spunk. "So What" drives the album with its fun upbeat sound, making light of her recent divorce.

Many of the songs on the album seem to follow along this theme of divorce. Songs such as "Sober" and "It's All Your Fault" are certain to be the next hits off the album. The ballads on the album were nothing exciting and I found myself a little disappointed after the first listen. But, later I did find myself humming along to "Please Don't Leave Me." "Could've Had Everything," along with "Funhouse," seemed to have more of an older Pink sound, like from her 2001 album "M!ssundaztood," which for those familiar with her music added a little surprise.

While at times I found myself a little bored with some of the songs, I really enjoyed the album as a whole. As with many albums, more than one listen is in order, and many of the songs grew on me over time. Even though the critiques were mixed, I can't help but love Pink's music for what it is -- sassy yet sweet, light yet deep, and always delivers. She stays true to herself and to her fans, and she makes music that is all her own.



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Keys To Yankees Off-season

By BRIAN MORGAN
Senior Writer

Now that Nov. 4 is out of the way, true baseball fans should be looking forward to Nov. 14th when players are eligible to sign with different teams. In the 2008 baseball season, the Tampa Bay Rays and Philadelphia Phillies were the envy of their respective leagues by reaching the World Series, so the other 28 teams will look into the free agent market to reach the same goal in 2009.

The New York Yankees fell well short of the World Series since they weren't even playing in October, so they have major holes to fill.

Pitching should be on the top of their list. At the end of last season, the Yankees had a debacle of a starting pitcher rotation made up of Mike Mussina, Andy Pettitte, Sidney Ponson, Carl Pavano, and Alfredo Aceves.

In 2009, only Chien Ming Wang, and according to Hank Steinbrenner, Joba Chamberlain are guaranteed to be in the rotation. Mussina and Pettitte are still unknowns, as reports are saying that Mussina may be leaning toward retirement, and Pettitte had a rough second half. Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy are possible candidates to replace them, but after their performances last season, can the Yankees count on them contributing to the rotation next season?

So who to go after?

CC Sabathia is the hot item of this free agent class. He is everything the

Yankees need; a durable ace, who can lead a team into the playoffs. And with close to \$80 million off the books, the Yankees will have plenty of money to spend and they can afford the large contract Sabathia will demand. However, many are worried about how many innings he's worked over the last few years, and his size; he stands at 6'7 and over 300 pounds.

Other starting pitchers the Yankees may look at are A.J. Burnett, Ben Sheets, Derek Lowe, and Ryan Dempster. Burnett and Sheets are injury prone, and Dempster looks as if he is going to return to the Cubs, leaving Lowe as the only option. He is a great postseason pitcher, and has had a decent career, but if the Yankees want to make a real improvement, it's either CC or bust. If the Yankees do land the hefty lefty, and Pettitte does decide to return, like many believe he will, the Yankees will boast a starting rotation that will be able to compete with teams like the LA Angeles, Rays, and Boston Red Sox.

In the bullpen, the Yankees probably won't make any major changes. The only major free agent I can see them signing is, and I hate to say this, Kyle Farnsworth. It's obvious he and Joe Girardi have a solid relationship and I wouldn't be surprised to see him sign with the Yankees for cheap. He was one of the Yankees best relievers before he was traded, and this year's middle relief free agent class doesn't have many feasible options.

Women's Soccer Headed to Boston

continued from page 16

high 105 saves in the regular season.

Both players carried their regular season success into the conference semifinal last week. McKenna scored one of the team's two goals and Viola added another shut out to her resume, with a five save game.

As the Seawolves prepare to leave Friday

for the A.E. Championship game at Boston on Saturday at 1pm, the team hopes that getting off to a quick start will help avoid Boston repeating as Champions.

"People are listing us as the underdog, so I believe that it puts more pressure on Boston," coach Ryan said. "I think we can go up there relaxed, play our game and be very successful."

Football Looks to Come Out Strong

By GENE MORRIS
Sports Editor

After a heartbreaking last second loss to Gardner-Webb last Saturday, the Seawolves travel to New Rochelle, NY, to take on the Iona College Gaels.

The Seawolves and Gaels come into the game with identical 3-6 records.

The teams have played one common opponent, the Maine Black Bears.

The Seawolves dropped its matchup in Orno on Sep. 13 by a score of 28-13.

The Gaels were defeated by the Black Bears 55-7 last Saturday.

Both offenses average nearly the same number of yards per game. Stony Brook averages 140.5 yards per game rushing, and 166.1 passing yards per game for an average of 306.6 total yards.

Iona averages 216.1 yards through the air, but only 93.6 on the ground.

Stony Brook's advantage would seem to be on the ground. The Gaels give up an average of 260.4 rushing yards per game. The Seawolves running back tandem of Conte Cuttino and Edwin Gowins could have a field day Saturday afternoon. That ranks Iona 116 out of 118 Football Championship Division (Formerly I-AA) teams in the country. The Iona pass defense ranks 59 in the country, but its overall total defense sits at 115.

Gowins averages 86.89 yards per game, putting him at 35th in the nation. Cuttino's 84.11 yards leaves him just behind Gowins at 39th. Stony Brook's overall rush offense ranks 40 in the nation.

The Iona team is also coming in extremely banged up.

"We're playing with 11 freshman right now," Head Coach Fred Mariani said. "Our starting running back is also injured. The starter now is Anthony Tumbarello

Iona has seen two quarterbacks split the bulk of the playing time so far this season.

Smith has played the last three games, and the quarterbacks have taken a nearly even number of snaps in two games this season.

"Warren Smith is our starting quarterback for the rest of the year," Iona Coach Mariani said.

Smith has completed 90 out of 165 passes, a 54.5 completion percentage. He's thrown for 955 yards to go along with seven touchdowns and nine interceptions. His passer efficiency rating is 106.25.

The leading rusher that's not a quarterback is Craig Sutera, who has 142 yards on 30 carries in only three games. He's also tied for the team lead with two rushing touchdowns.

Despite all that, the Seawolves secondary may need to step up this week. They were picked apart by Gardner-Webb and its quarterback Devin Campbell last week.

Campbell was 32 of 44 for 394 yards and three touchdowns.

In his "Coach's Corner" letter to the fans on the Stony Brook Athletic website, Head Coach Chuck Priore discussed the major reason the team dropped its last game against Gardner-Webb.

"In the first half, we didn't capitalize on all of our opportunities to score," Priore wrote. "We left five points on the table due to a penalty (touchdown was called back and we had to settle for a field goal) and a missed extra point following a great touchdown drive."

Mariani also spoke about the issues his defense faces against the Seawolves.

"You have a multitude of guys to stop," he said. "But Gowins and Cuttino are really excellent players."

Iona hopes to slow Gowins and Cuttino down with Andrew Lipski, who Mariani said is an All-American candidate.

The game is scheduled to kick off at 1:00 p.m.

By Student Brook Hockey Team

Members of the Ice Hockey Team visited the Pediatrics Unit at Stony Brook University Hospital on Wednesday to brighten the day of the kids.

Using money from their own pockets, they purchased sticks, pucks, t-shirts and roller hockey balls and taught the kids how to shoot and have fun. "It's always cool to do something good for these kids," said Angelo Serse.

The team will be asking fans to bring unwrapped toys, everything from glow worms to transformers at the Nov. 23rd home game.



The Seawolves take on 9th ranked West Chester University next Saturday at 8 p.m. at The Rinx in Hauppauge. For more info visit stonybrookhockey.com

STATESMAN SPORTS

Seawolves March To Boston



Take on Boston University in America East Championship Game

By SHAWN BROWN
Senior Writer

On Sunday the Seawolves will face Boston in the American East Championship game, looking for a title, but redemption as well.

"I think that we can have a lot of success, if we score first," coach Ryan said. "It would be a situation that they are not familiar with and that could fluster them."

The Boston Terriers have been unstoppable coming into the championship game, winning all eight of their games and putting up an overall record of (13-5-1). The team is led by strong defense and goal keeping, which has shut out 11 of the team's 19 opponents this year. The team has won eight out of ten games at home this season including, their semifinal win over Maine last week. One of those home victories was a (3-2) win over the Seawolves, who will leave Friday

with the hopes of redemption.

"We definitely have a chance to beat them," Stony Brook goalkeeper Marisa Viola said. "We have more of a chip on our shoulder now because they did beat us and we are ready to bring it."

The Seawolves are going into the game as the second seed, after having won six out of eight games in the conference for an overall record of (10-7). The Seawolves started the season struggling on the road, winning

two of the team's first seven road games. The Seawolves turned it around in the final weeks of the season and won two out three consecutive road games. The Seawolves are a balanced team on both sides of the ball. Their offense is led by the America East Rookie of the Year Colleen McKenna, who led the conference with eight goals scored in the regular season. The defense is led by the American East Goalkeeper of the Year, Marisa Viola, who recorded a conference