

THE STATESMAN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2007

SBSTATESMAN.ORG

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• NATION: Republican Candidates Debate Hosted by CNN and Youtube.com

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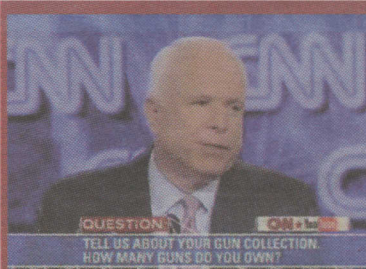
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- Women's Basketball Continues Slump

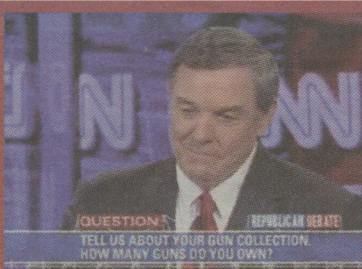
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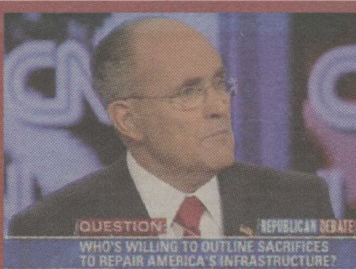
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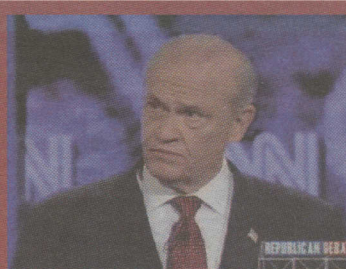
Sen. John McCain



Rep. Duncan Hunter



Frm. Mayor Rudy Giuliani



Former Sen. Fred Thompson

"Will you pledge to veto amnesty for illegal immigrants?"

"Lower college tuition rates - military families or illegals?"

"What measures will you take to tackle the national debt?"

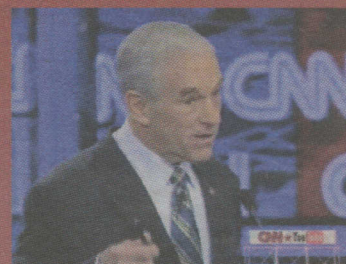
"Would you sign a federal abortion ban?"

"Do you believe in a required written exam for gun ownership?"

"How can we repair the image of America?"

"Is waterboarding torture?"

"Will you make a permanent commitment to the people of Iraq?"



Rep. Ron Paul



Rep. Tom Tancredo



Gov. Mitt Romney



Former Gov. Mike Huckabee

Next issue, look for a summary of the Democratic YouTube debate.

The Republicans Face the YouTube Nation

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

On Nov. 28, eight Republican candidates seeking the presidential nomination for the 2008 election met in St. Petersburg, Florida for their YouTube debate, a few weeks after their Democratic counterparts took part in the first ever viewer-driven debate, broadcast on CNN and hosted by Anderson Cooper.

The range of discussion stretched from illegal immigration, to gay service in the military, to the Yankees/Red Sox debate. All candidates faced tough questions from YouTubeers and each other.

The evening began with the YouTube reject questions and a song submitted by one creative user, and then turned to the first topic of the evening, illegal immigration. Former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani wasted no time attacking his main competitor in the polls, accusing former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney of employing undocumented workers in his very own home, a charge Romney fell short of denying.

New York City has been declared a sanctuary city, something that the other Republican candidates routinely exploit as a weakness in Giuliani's campaign. Former senator and "district attorney" Fred Thomp-

son spoke out forcibly against the idea of sanctuary cities, and Arizona Senator John McCain faulted the Republican party for a lack of commitment to the cause. "We tried and we failed," he said.

Tom Tancredo, the candidate with the reputation of being the most outspoken nominee regarding border control, addressed a Maryland farmer who predicted without the guest-worker program that he may be out of a job by stating that he is "not going to aid any more immigration into this country," adding that the "massive" influx of im-

Continued on page 7

The Commuter Connection

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Student Forecast:

Dec. 3 - Dec. 9



Monday:
High 45/Low 27
Mostly cloudy with rain showers



Tuesday:
High 36/Low 25
Partly cloudy and cool



Wednesday:
High 38/Low 26
Increasing clouds with a chance of light snow showers at night



Thursday:
High 39/Low 28
Partly cloudy



Friday:
High 42/Low 30
Partly cloudy



Saturday:
High 44/Low 31
Mostly sunny



Sunday:
High 37/Low 27
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of snow showers at night

A secondary low pressure system associated with an area of low pressure currently moving through the region will develop off the coast and intensify as it moves off to the northeast. After the rain associated with the primary system exits this morning, the intensifying low will cause winds to pick up as the system leaves. Cold and dry conditions will trail this system and they will continue at Stony Brook through late Wednesday, when a fast-moving storm system brings some snow showers. As a ridge of high pressure sets up, dry conditions and moderating temperatures will be likely through Saturday.

By Alex Kahn

A POWERFUL REMINDER AND TRIBUTE TO TODAY'S AIDS PANDEMIC

Largest Section of AIDS Quilt on LI Spends Day at SB

By YI-JIN YU
Asst. News Editor

The Names Project Foundation brought parts of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to Stony Brook University on November 29, making it the largest exhibition of the Quilt in Suffolk County to date. Only a portion of the overall 5,748 patches was installed at the Student Activities Center (SAC) in Ballroom A with the help of staff and volunteers.

The entire presentation was open and free to the general public from 10am-10pm. Tables lining one side of the ballroom provided additional information and quilt monitors periodically patrolled the twenty-five 12x12 quilt patches. The entire presentation was also a part of the university-wide AIDS Awareness Week program.

Those who were able to stop by the exhibit on Thursday echoed each other's sentiments. For most, it was their first time

seeing such a display and it was an impressive homage to those who were personally affected by the pandemic.

"It was very powerful. I don't know the individuals personally but the quilt puts a face to the disease," said Samuel Darguin, a senior.

Sophomore, Ping Kan, just looking at the quilt patches made him feel hopeful.

Kan said, "Even though these people have passed away, there are so many strong memories. These memories can never be taken away from the AIDS victims. The quilt shows us where we are now and the better future we're moving to."

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Clinical Skills Center Helps Med Students Reach their Potential

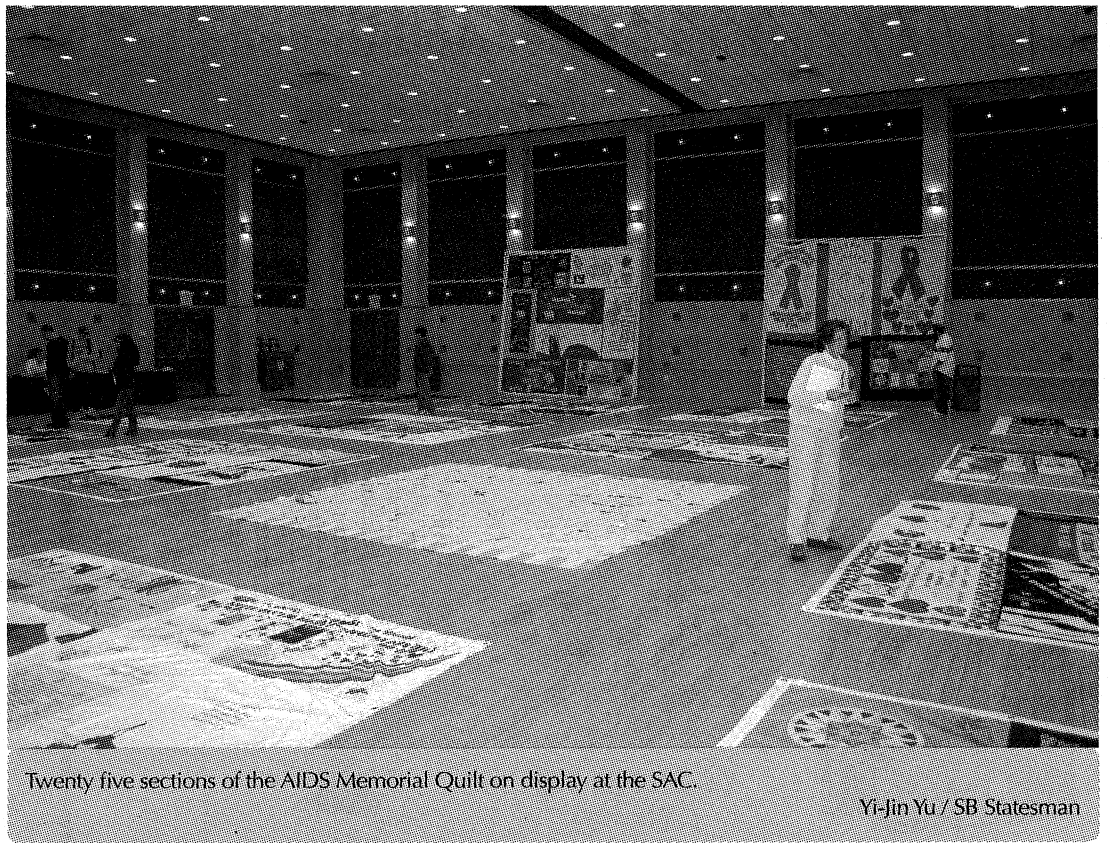
By ANGELICA D'ESPOSITO
Contributing Writer

The new, one year old Clinical Skills Center at Stony Brook University's Medical School uses the ideas of "Bicentennial Man," a film with Robin Williams that creates high-tech robots to help with work and "House," a television program that deals with doctors being put in certain situations to get hands on training with patients. Using computerized mannequins, called SimMen and SimBaby, along with trained actors emulating patients, the center helps prepare medical students for real-life encounters in the medical field.

"We can do anything here that the imagination can create," said Perrilynn Baldelli, the director of the center.

Before the facility was built, the "standardized patient program," which uses trained actors and mannequins, existed, but it had to borrow a location from the family medical clinic to run the structured clinical exams that assess students in different competencies. Because the facility was shared, the only time students could use it was on the weekends, which meant extremely long days Friday through Sunday.

Continued on page 5



Twenty five sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display at the SAC.

Yi-Jin Yu / SB Statesman

Fires, Stolen Laptops, Car Accidents

Police Blotter November 28th - 30th

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI
Staff Writer

Residence Hall Police Reports

Fires

A small trash can fire occurred in the Roth Quad Parking Lot around 3:30AM on the 29th of November. Fire marshal was notified and fire was contained.

Another trash can fire was reported near Kelly Café around 3:52AM on the 29th. Trash can fire was never found by Fire Marshal.

A small fire occurred in Schomburg Parking Lot around 4:15AM on the 30th. Student left fire burning and notified a Fire Marshal. A Fire Marshal responded and fire was contained.

Unsecured Screen Door

A possible intrusion occurred in Dewey College around 4:40AM on the 29th, when a

broken screen door was found. Resident Hall Director was notified and the door was fixed.

Car Accident

A motor vehicle accident occurred around 9:00AM on the 29th of November in the West Apartments parking lot. No injuries were reported in Baruch College when two credit cards were also stolen.

Stolen Laptops

Two laptops were stolen from Hamilton College in Kelly Quad, one on the 29th around 3:15PM, and the second was stolen around 3:15AM on the 30th.

Other Police Reports

Small Fire

A small fire was found near the Student Activities Center in an ash tray. Fire Marshals responded and extinguished the fire.

www.sbstatesman.com
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Rm 057
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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5th
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Display Tables, "Make It—Take It" Crafts
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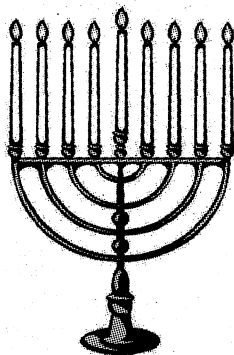
Holiday Presentations & Cultural Performances
 begin at 7:00PM



Christmas
(Christian)



Three Kings Day
(Christian)



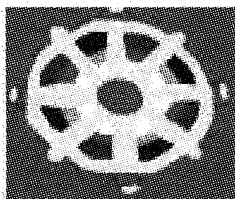
Hanukah
(Jewish)



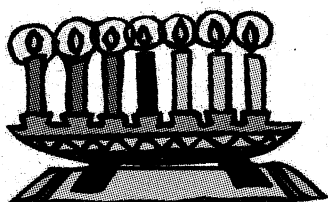
Diwali
(Hindu)



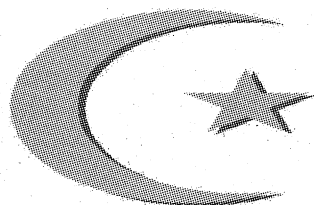
Native America
Winter Solstice



Rohatsu
(Buddhism)



Kwanzaa



Ramadan & Eid ul-Fitr

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6000 Sq. Foot Facility Helps Med Students Prepare for the Future

Continued from page 3

Now that Center has built their own separate 6,000-square-foot facility, students are evaluated throughout the week. They can make use of more rooms and technology that they lacked before, such as 10 fully equipped clinical exam rooms with audiovisual monitoring, a simulated operating and emergency room and a computer server that stores two to three years of videotaped student/patient encounters, which for all the computer-savvy people means up to four terabytes of storage.

"Having a center designed for us is wonderful," said Patricia Bley, coordinator and trainer of the standardized patients, "We don't have to go anywhere to do our testing; it is right at our fingertips."

The center, which cost approximately \$4 million to build and equip, is primarily funded by capital funds and Quality of Life, an educational medical program. It is being used as a resource for specialized training, mainly of eight specialties: neurology, family medicine, pediatrics, surgery, internal medicine, ambulatory care, psychology and gynecology. "The overall umbrella is to help all qualities of health-care professionals to make better training of simulations," said Dr. Daniel J. Gallagher, the technical program director of the Center.

The simulated lab, which uses the high-tech mannequins, is one of the most state-of-the-art facilities on Long Island according to director, Perilyn Baldelli. The \$38,000 SimMen and SimBaby provide students with training to work with patients that simulate actual human beings before they begin their career.

At first glance, the simulated mannequins look like detailed CPR dummies, but if CPR dummies could emulate these

mannequins, that would be impressive. The simulated patients have a heartbeat, spinal fluid and lungs, and they can simulate everything from a code blue situation to victims of a terrorism attack.

"You can kill them and resurrect them, and it's fun," Baldelli said.

The standardized patients are another key advantage of the center. Actors are trained so that they know appropriate signs and symptoms to act out to the students in clinics. The actors learn to portray different kinds of patients with different illnesses. They teach the students how to handle the patient and how to communicate professionally.

Without this training, doctors may feel uncomfortable when dealing with sensitive topics. "It's something you learn by doing, not hearing about," Bley said. "If they don't practice it now, how are they going to learn how to give someone terrible news? You know, like a lost child, or a mother that passes away."

The actors also provide feedback of the doctors to help the doctors better their performance. Each demonstration is videotaped and can be played back for the doctors on the big-screen televisions that come out of the walls in the conference room, so that they can see how they worked with the patient and what needs some extra work. As Bley said, some people are naturally sympathetic, but sympathy is also a learned skill. Getting this feedback is critical in helping to prepare these students for careers in medicine and to promote patient care and safety.

The Clinical Skills Center has everything needed to make anybody who walks in the facility want to become a doctor. Gallagher's eyes lit up as he spoke about all the new technologies that are now at his fingertips. "I'm the enchanting wizard who controls them," he said, "This place is just magical."

OP - ED CONT.

Laugh Liberally

Continued from page 13

decide on whether to laugh." In truth, Fox News decides that for you in much the same way they decide their news: the show had a laugh track.

No, liberals only lay claim to the good comedy. Blame it on "liberal Hollywood," but writers behind the best comedy programs (I'm thinking of *The Office*, *30 Rock*, *Family Guy*, etc.) are liberals at heart.

And the last reason why conservatives

are left out of the joke is because most attempts at humor by conservatives are just painful. How about this try on the Half Hour News Hour: "A federal court ruled the White House must release suspected Al Qaeda agent Ali Al-Murri. Al-Murri says he just wanted to put all this behind him and return to flight school." When you cannot distinguish an attempt at conservative humor from what is repeated regularly on Fox's other programming, chances are, something is not working.

The simulated lab, which uses the high-tech mannequins, is one of the most state-of-the-art facilities on Long Island according to director, Perilyn Baldelli. The \$38,000 SimMen and SimBaby provide students with training to work with patients that simulate actual human beings before they begin their career.

The New Heritage Inn

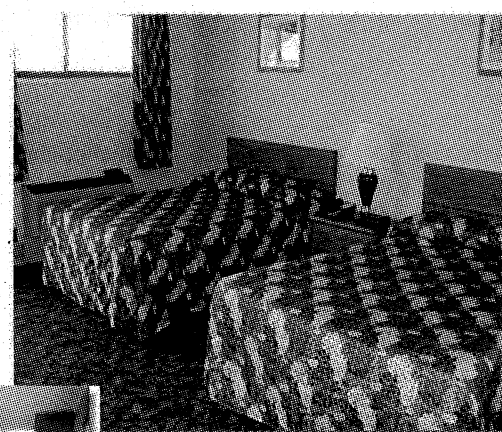
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Check out the All Month Red Cap Promos in WHITE!			EVERY FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 20% off all plush @ the HSC Bookstore			
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9 ALL MONTH: FREE fountain beverage with Take-Out orders @ Wolfies	10 FREE 2 piece Appetizer in Chinese Section from 3-6pm with purchase @ Jasmine	11 Buy a Large Iced Coffee Get 6 munchkins FREE @ Dunkin Donuts (Tabler Café)	12 FREE fountain soda with purchase from 3-8pm @ Jasmine <hr/> Free candy cane with any purchase @ the Student Activities Center	13 FREE buttered bagel from 8am-12pm @ the Union Deli <hr/> Purchase a pre-made salad and receive a FREE small fountain soda @ Kelly Dining Center	14 10% Off any 1 Logo item (excludes sale & clearance items) @ Seawolves MarketPlace <hr/> FREE soft drink with purchase @ Union Commons	15
16	17 FREE 2 piece Appetizer in Chinese Section from 3-6pm with purchase @ Jasmine	18 Buy a Large regular coffee, Get a donut FREE @ Dunkin Donuts (Tabler Café)	19 FREE fountain soda with purchase from 3-8pm @ Jasmine	20 Upgrade to the next size soda for FREE at Taco Bell at Campus Connection @ H-Quad	21 FREE soft drink with purchase @ Union Commons	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	Happy Holidays				

POWER TO THE PEOPLE:

Republicans Answer Constituent Questions

Continued from page 1

migrants, both undocumented and legal, harms the nation.

Two questions posed by YouTube users addressed one of the core demographics of the Republican party, the openly religious. One Bible-yielding individual asked the candidates if they believed everything in it as the word of God, to which Giuliani, Romney and Mike Huckabee all responded in the affirmative.

"I believe the Bible is the word of God," said Mitt Romney.

"It's the word of revelation to us from God himself," added Huckabee.

The second religious question invoked Christianity out right, asking the candidates "what would Jesus do?" when it came to the death penalty. Again, the candidates who answered the question (Huckabee, Tancredo) avoided it directly, explaining their reasoning for their decision to keep the death penalty on the table as punishment for the most heinous of crimes.

"Jesus was too smart to run for public office, that's what Jesus would do," said Huckabee, to roaring laughter from the audience.

Another hot topic in the country and in the debate was the questions that are arising following the discovery of tainted goods from China. There have been numerous reports by news organizations looking at the impact of these discoveries on the holiday shopping season, by far the busiest few weeks of the year for retail stores. Duncan Hunter, a Congressional representative from California, suggested that "what we all ought to do this holiday season is buy American," adding that doing so may also increase the number of jobs available.

A student from Seattle asked the candidates how they could disagree with Sen. McCain's position on waterboarding as torture.

Waterboarding has been a key issue in Washington these past few months, as the legality and humanity of the interrogation technique has been called into question by military personnel and politicians alike. Those that support waterboarding, which simulates the sensation of drowning by pouring a steady stream of water over the

suspect's head, claim that it is not torture since the effects wear off. Opponents call the practice inhumane and a violation of the Geneva Convention.

Romney said that he doesn't support torture, but he would not make a concrete statement on waterboarding, instead saying "I don't think it's wise of us to describe precisely which measures we would or would not use."

He did state however that he is in favor of keeping suspects of terrorism in Guantanamo Bay and out of the US legal system.

"I don't want the people that are carrying out attacks on this country...to be given legal representation in this country," Romney said, to audible boos from the audience.

McCain responded, saying "if we're going to get the high ground in this world and we're going to be the America that we have cherished and loved for more than 200 years, we're not going to torture people."

One of the more tense moments in the debate came when retired brigadier general Keith Kerr, an openly gay man, asked why "American men and women in uniform, are not professional enough to serve with gays and lesbians."

"Having openly homosexual people serving in the ranks would be bad for unit cohesion," said Hunter, echoing a similar sentiment previously given by Colin Powell.

In prior debates, all of the Republican candidates stated that they would continue to support the current "don't ask, don't tell" policy which overtly prohibits gay men and women from serving in the military if their sexual orientation were ever to be revealed.

General Kerr, who was in attendance, expressed his immense dissatisfaction with the answers he was receiving to the question, calling "don't ask don't tell" "destructive to our military policies."

He added that "every day, the Department of Defense discharges two people, not for misconduct, not for the unit cohesion...but simply because they happen to be gay," to which he received a handful of boos and an equal if not greater amount of applause from the crowd.

Some non-issue questions were revealed throughout the course of the evening as well.

Ron Paul, who has a loyal but

small following comprised largely of college-aged students, reiterated his intentions of not running as an independent candidate should he not win the Republican nomination. He is currently polling at less than 5 percent in national polls.

One startling no-show at the debate was New York Senator Hillary Clinton. The frontrunner for the Democratic nomination was mentioned just twice by candidates throughout the debate, a sharp decline from debates past, when the Republicans took breaks from attacking each other just long enough so they could jointly attack Clinton.

Mike Huckabee, who has steadily climbed in the polls since his formal entrance into the race in early June, was considered the victor of the debate.

Much of the debate focused on several other general topics that have been the bread and butter of the Republican party for years.

This debate was originally scheduled for mid September, but was forced to switch dates after key candidates like Romney and Giuliani decided they were unable to make the debate. A group of Republican voters started a website, savethedebate.com, to try and convince the candidates to keep the debate out of fear of falling farther behind the Democratic candidates in the effective and lucrative use of the internet.

The debate was criticized by some people as being too critical of the Republican candidates. Many pundits said that the debate was even harmful to the Republican party, perhaps mirroring Sen. McCain's summary of why the Republicans may be in trouble, citing "our failure with Katrina, our failure in Iraq, our failures in reining in corruption and out of control spending."

The first test for all of the presidential nominees will take place on January 3rd when the Iowa caucus convenes. Mike Huckabee is currently averaging ahead of long time front-runner Mitt Romney in the state polls, but in the national polls, both candidates are well behind Rudy Giuliani. The first primary is in New Hampshire on January 8th.

In the next print edition on Wednesday, look for the summary of the Democratic YouTube debate.

Q & A with the Republicans

Q: With immigration reform failing, will I have a job?

"I am not going to aid any more immigration into this country. The massive influx of immigrants is harmful to the nation"

-Rep. Tom Tancredo

Q: How will you keep lead-laced toys out of my home?

"What we all ought to do this holiday season is buy American."

-Rep. Duncan Hunter

Q: Is Waterboarding Torture?

"If we're going to get the high ground in this world and we're going to be the America that we have cherished and loved for more than 200 years, we're not going to torture people."

-Sen. John McCain

"I don't want the people that are carrying out attacks on this country...to be given legal representation in this country"

-Form Gov. Mitt Romney

REEL DEAL

The Golden Compass

Another Great Fantasy Epic

By AMANDA SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

Films have long been considered as a means of escape from everyday life and never is that more possible than watching one of science fiction or fantasy. For almost a decade now Hollywood has been producing a number of series based on other-world novels; Lord of the Rings, Harry Potter, Chronicles of Narnia, and the recent Stardust. This weekend's The Golden Compass' source material is Northern Lights written by Philip Pullman.

The very quick introduction claims there are a great many parallel worlds and of an important particle material called Dust. However, the Magisterium government has made it blasphemous to mention its existence. Every human soul is in an animal form called a Daemon. The pairs experience the same emotions and acts as a voice of intuition and advice. The human and Daemon are literally soul mates and if the connection is broken, death comes soon after.

Dakota Blue Richards is Lyra, the headstrong and clever girl who is able to read the last surviving alethiometer or 'golden compass' answers of truth fulfilling a prophecy which leads to war. The golden compass itself is the most advanced Magic 8 Ball ever manufactured.

Nicole Kidman gives a chilling yet graceful performance as Mrs. Coulter, a powerful woman of the government. Daniel Craig, as Lyra's closest relative Lord Asriel, is an adventurous scientist seeking the knowledge and truth of Dust in the Arctic. He is both a help and threat to the government's supremacy.

Lyra's team of support is an eclectic group of Gyptians, a Texas 'aeronaut' with a flying boat, Lorek the armored ice bear, and the witches of Lake Enara led by Serafina Pekkala. They all come to Lyra's rescue at just the right times. Her enemies are rather institutions than individuals. She must disobey The Magisterium to find and save those she cares about. It is a battle between the deviants and the megalomaniacs.

The Golden Compass is almost a parody or satire of fantasy epics. It is obvious who are the heroes and villains, the hero's personality of independence and quick wit, a team to help the hero, and the hero's mission of savior that is thwarted by the villain. In this case, it is a heroine versus villainess with a not-so-shocking revelation of what binds them. And of course the main themes are metaphysical for the real world.

There has been some controversy centered on the film's 'non-Christian' story that is based on the novel's 'non-religion' allegory. But Hollywood had to make it palatable for audiences, especially since its release is just weeks before Christmas. Just as the books are deserving of intense study for its philosophy, the film will become one to be studied for its adaptation inclusions and absences.

It seems odd at first why The Golden Compass received a PG-13 rating by the MPAA but there are many elements

that younger audiences may not understand or relate to that older viewers would.

There is more adult humor than expected and a slight King Kong-ish relationship between Lyra and Lorek, the

polar bear. The one scene that exemplifies the MPAA's description of "fantasy violence," though, is a fight between two ice bears with an ending that received unanimous applause at the film's press screening.



AIDS Quilt at SAC Two Days Before World AIDS Day

Continued from page 3

wards. It's a beautiful quilt and it's filled with lots of love."

During the entire event, volunteers and the assigned quilt monitors from the Names Project Foundation read some of the names of those who had passed on from AIDS.

Junior Abigail Nicolas was moved by the names from the start. "When I walked in, I was hearing names and I was like 'Please tell me that's not people who died' because it would've been sad because it kept on going and going. And the person who was up, she ended up saying at the end, 'and my Uncle Jack' and I was like 'I don't think that's on the paper' and it made it more personal. It was touching but it was still sad." Eventually, she was also asked if she wanted to read a list of names and she did.

The Quilt is part of current efforts to continue to spread the word about one of today's most widespread and prevalent viruses/diseases. The program joins the list of extensive media coverage and widely publicized awareness campaigns on HIV/AIDS.

Senior Kamal Villejoint said, "I've never seen something to that degree before, but it helps to really look and see that you know, anyone can get infected—everyone is human and you could have a lot more common with people than you think. You think that AIDS is not something you could ever experience but things like that— you never know."

The pandemic can seem intangible when compared to the common cold but in accordance to the Names Project Foundation's goals, the quilt brings the disease to light with a command-



Twenty five sections of the AIDS Memorial Quilt on display at the SAC represented the largest section of the AIDS quilt on Long Island.

Yi-jin Yu / SB Statesman

ing visual reminder that AIDS is nothing to be taken lightly.

The Foundation aims to "preserve, care for, and use the AIDS Memorial Quilt to foster healing, heighten awareness, and inspire action in the struggle against HIV and AIDS."

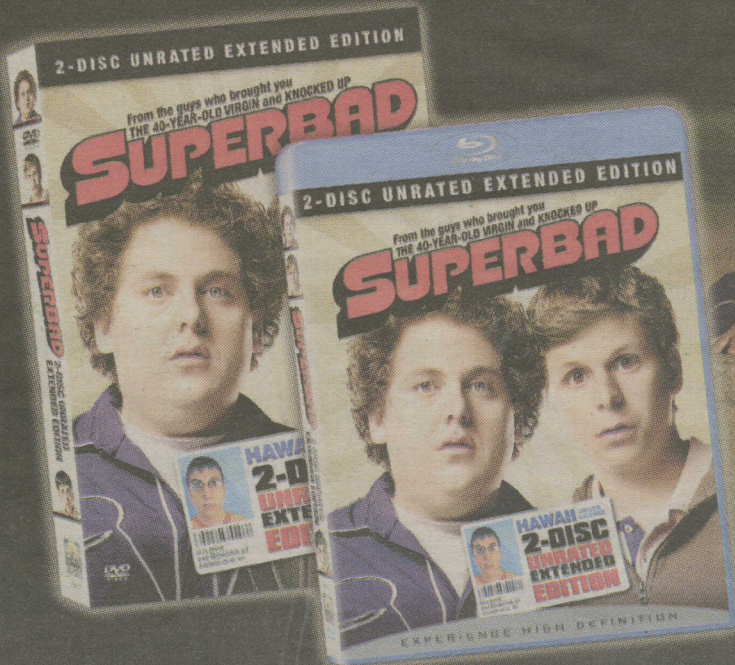
In addition, the Foundation seeks to "provide a creative

means for remembrance and healing, to effectively illustrate the enormity of the AIDS pandemic, to increase awareness of HIV and AIDS throughout the general public, to assist others in providing education on the prevention of HIV infection, and to raise funds for community-based AIDS Service Organiza-

tions (ASO's)," according to the organization's website.

"I like to think of it as a celebration of the lives for the people that we've lost to AIDS," added Kathryn Mursar, residence hall director for Douglass College as she took part in the Quilt's opening ceremony.

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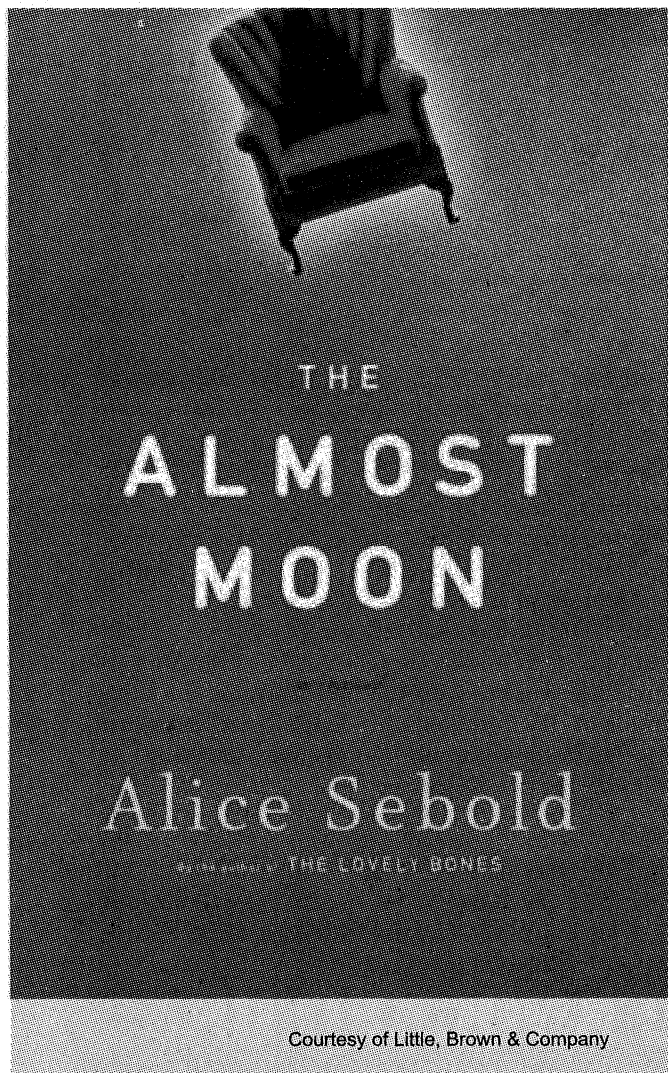
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On the Bookshelf:

THE ALMOST MOON



BY
**ALICE
SEBOLD**

**291
PAGES**

**PUBLISHER:
LITTLE,
BROWN &
COMPANY
(2007)**

BY QUDSIA HUSSAIN
Staff Writer

I first read Alice Sebold when I took on "The Lovely Bones." She then had me reading more of her works. There are very few contemporary writers who have that kind of power over writers. Now out with her next, "The Almost Moon," Sebold tells the after-tale of a daughter killing her mother. Captured in the memoir style reminiscent of "Lucky," the novel is immersed in a beautiful narrative that brings a lot more than a good story to the table.

As with her other works, the novel's title is revealed in the story. The protagonist, Helen Knightly's father once told her, "The moon is whole all the time, but we can't always see it. What we see is an almost moon or a not-quite moon ... We plan our lives based on its rhythms and tides." Later in the novel Helen says, "The idea that my mother was eternal like the moon ... Dead or alive, a mother or the lack of a mother shaped one's whole life."

The novel begins with the

spine-chilling narration of the protagonist, "When all is said and done, killing my mother came easily." This then transcends to even more violence among a family of some likeable, some non-likeable characters. Helen works as a model for an art class. The violence reverberates in the ghastly suicide of the Helen's father, the implication of her mother dropping her grandson on his head and the hit-and-run death of a boy.

The best part about the novel is that it surprises you - the protagonist is not devastated, guilty or remorseful over her mother's death. The novel is not about her journey in finding closure. Yet, she is not indifferent and cold either. Helen first suffocates her mother, then breaks her nose, yet she finds some universality in this. She tells us:

"[I] thought of the uncared-for bodies that lay strewn in the streets and fields of Rwanda or Afghanistan. I thought of the thousands of sons and daughters who would like to be in the position I was in. To have known exactly when their mothers died, and then to be alone with their

bodies before the world rushed in."

Helen's mother was a wreck - a mentally-ill divorcee with colon and breast cancer. But the apple doesn't fall far from the tree and no matter what, Helen can't escape her mother's messed life. She fails as a wife and as a friend when she sleeps with her best friend's son right after killing her mother.

Overall, the novel will not make a lot of sense. In fact, Sebold's works have gotten progressively incoherent (maybe she was going for a modernist edge). But what you will appreciate is the emotional and moral struggles through Helen's eyes. The novel will inevitably gain popularity because of its shocking content. Just look at the popularity of shows, such as Law and Order; SVU and CSI, which draw us as they disgust.

But the real reason why this is a good read is because of Sebold does best - narrate. Her voice manages to touch you whether or not you relate to any character in the book, and it is this ability that separates her from the thrillers that line up hot dog stands.

Poet's Corner

**Foolish trees
who are
attached to
borrowed
leaves**

BY MADGESTIC
Contributing Poet

He was the leaves to my tree, to me
Abruptly, in the spring he came and
bloomed

His presence beautified me and for
leaves my branches had much room
Spring season pasted and I would blush
when we would laugh

But now it's fall and his love for me is
no longer infallible.

When wind passes I hold on, to my
leaves

Begging... 'Just one more day, please,
don't leave?!'

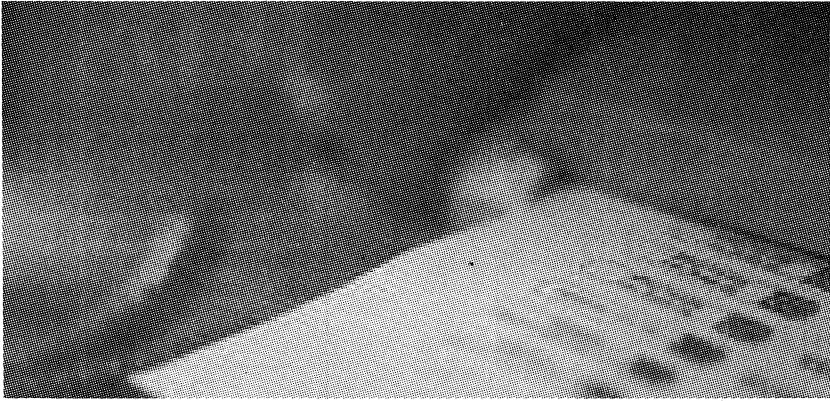
As if he were mine in the first place,
as if it was my entitlement for him to
stay

But like seasons they must come and
go

Winter I must face alone and live to go
with the flow...

So I wait in the snow, lonely in the
cold

Till next spring when my leaves bloom
for my branches to only borrow,
To hold



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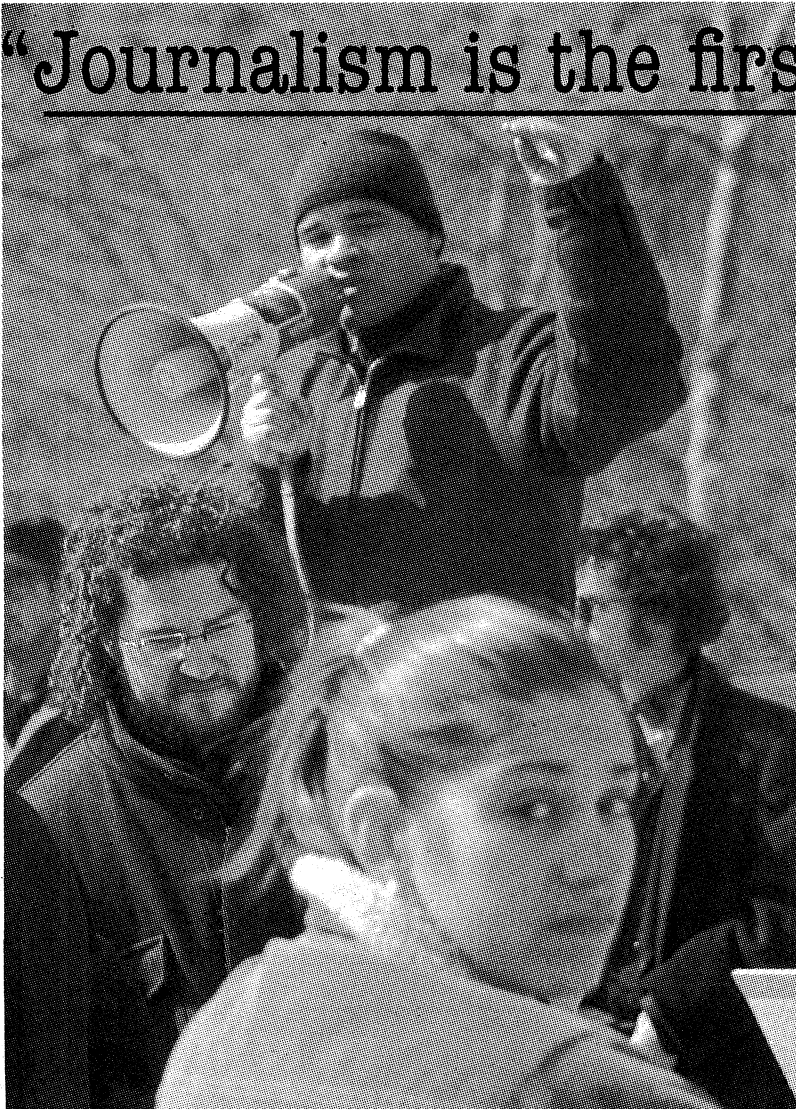
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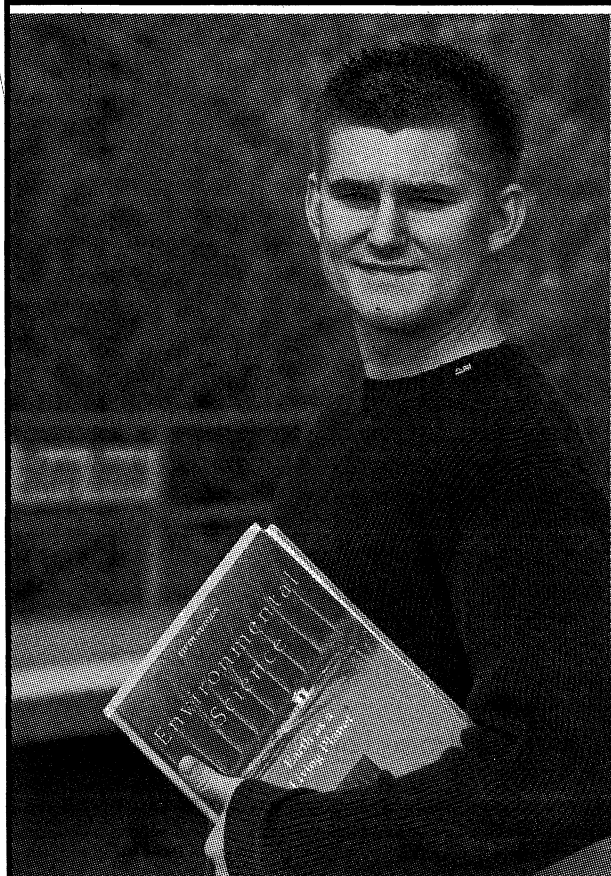
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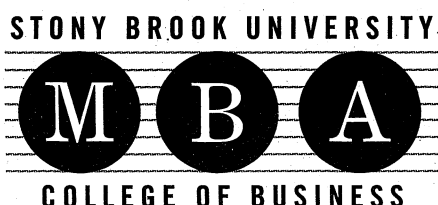
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The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Sucolian" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975 "The Statesman" was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student-run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography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

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

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Laugh Liberally

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

Conservatives had, up until the 2006 midterm election, a stranglehold on US politics. They held the presidency and, for a while, both houses of Congress simultaneously. But in doing so, it may have cost them permanent dominion over another, equally important field of work: comedy.

The rise of Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert is just the tip of the iceberg. Deep at the core of quality comedy lays a curiously liberal agenda. David Letterman chastised Bill O'Reilly on national television, Bill Maher

routinely embarrasses his more conservative guests on HBO, and what about those Comedy Central demigods? They have been cited as key factors for a Democratic victory in 2006, alerting millions of viewers of the follies of the conservative politicians running this country.

So how has the world of comedy come to be so darn left? Personally, I think a lot of the reasons have to do with timing. The rise of blogs, of YouTube, and of constant surveillance of our politicians on C-SPAN coincided with the height of conservative power. Shows like the Daily Show and the Colbert Report thrive off of the missteps

of people in positions of authority, who, at the time of the shows' emergence as comedic gold, happened to be conservatives. After 2006, some of the fun was taken out from under the wings of the late night talk shows, but the liberal ideals remained.

Which leads to a second reason why comedy is mainly liberal. Conservatives are just funny people. Not funny like they tell good jokes, but funny in their beliefs. There are, for example, two possible reactions to someone saying "if we took away women's right to vote, we'd never have to worry about another Democrat[ic] president." Either you can gasp in horror

and express hatred towards this person (Ann Coulter), call them a sexist, an idiot, a cancer, other words not fit to print; or you can laugh. Not because what was said is funny, but because the person that is saying it actually believes it.

Of course, not all humor is liberal in nature. Fox News' Half Hour News Hour, a show made to mimic the Daily Show with a more conservative feel, lasted almost a full six months before it was canceled after just 15 episodes aired. One news channel gave the show a new slogan of "they deliver the jokes, you

Continued on page 5

THE CHATTERBOX

GREY'S ANATOMY [scrubs] HOUSE

By AISHA AKHTAR
Web Editor

Intense drama, romance, suspense, and comedy- a great combination for the perfect show. Grey's Anatomy is simply an amazing show where viewers are left at the edge of their seats week after week. Its popularity continues into its fourth season this year, which is still better than ever.

Grey's is one of the many medical school TV series that attracts college kids. The show is rather enticing for the pre-med population that wants to see the excitement behind the doors of an operating room, or simply the problems of patients that are admitted into the hospital.

Where else will you get to see the story of a woman with two fetuses giving birth to two different babies, each of which came from two different fathers? It may sound silly, but come on, that's just intense drama right there that still leaves the viewer

amused. Don't forget about the guy who was pregnant. Tune in to see what that was about!

While the show encounters serious situations, it is creatively written to incorporate comedy. The characters have a sense of wit that generates humor within the rather dramatic dialogue.

Plus, the show's cast is very pleasing to the eye. You've got the characters of "McDreamy" (Patrick Dempsey) and "McSteamy" (Eric Dane) both nicknames given to gorgeous surgeons by the female residents. As for the guys, they can gawk at the residents, played by Sandra Oh, Katherine Heigl, and Ellen Pompeo to name a few. With such an attractive cast, there is most definitely romantic conflict all the time. It makes the prospect of med school so much more exciting!

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

There are two ways to do a medical show on TV. One way is to be sincere and dramatic, with doctors working around the clock to save Timmy's mother from some mysterious disease. The other is to be so off-the-wall hilarious that sitting still is an impossibility, and drinking a soda results in half the bottle shooting out of your nose.

No show does the first one very well. ER comes closest, but it is old and the plots, once interesting and engaging, are now too wishy-washy. House is a strong contender as well, but there is still an uneven connection between reality and humor: pick a side, Hugh Laurie. And Grey's Anatomy? My sister is in

love with it and even she admits this season has gone the way of daytime soaps.

But on the other side of that bridge sits Scrubs. Never before have there been such uncontrollably funny scenes set in a hospital. That this is the last season of the NBC treasure is truly one of the hardest things to wrap my mind around. Comedy, forget the setting, has a bar to which they should strive to meet. And when the day comes that human beings can safely separate their heads from their bodies, Doctor John "J.D." Dorian has shown us the way to live.



By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

House MD is currently the best medical TV drama and has been so for the past three and half seasons.

Not only have the writers and producers of House MD succeeded in creating the antithesis of the ever-popular chick flick type soap opera draws, but they have also actually found a way of cleverly prolonging the life of the show through a brilliant showing of creativity and originality.

This past season, House's original team was successfully displaced by a new group of House wannabes, upstarts who had to slave through weeks of House's elimination game. The end result: three new doctors who not only have the viewers' trust but also their respect.

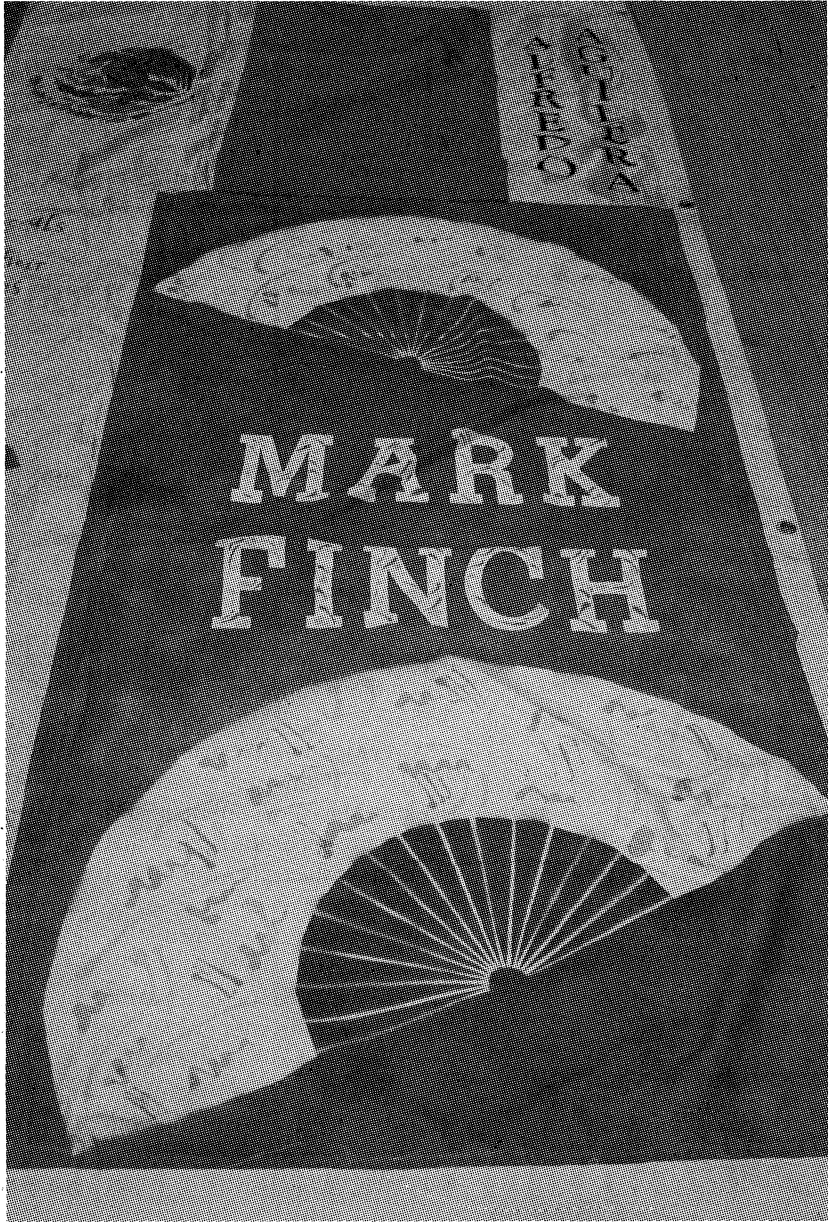
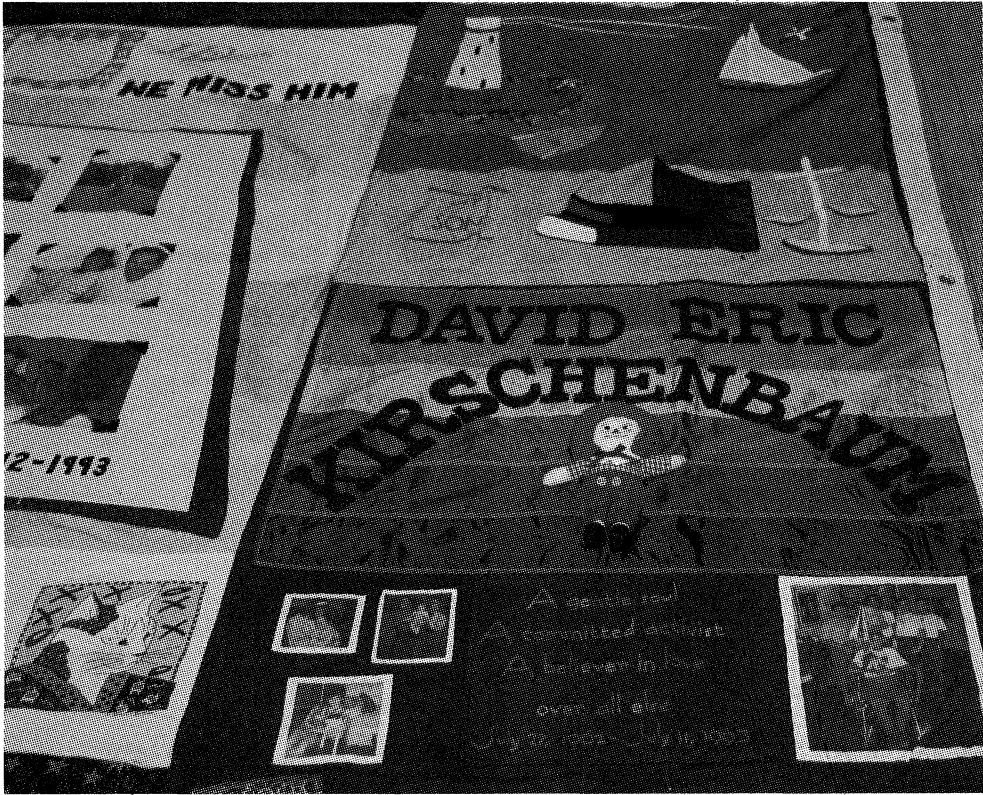
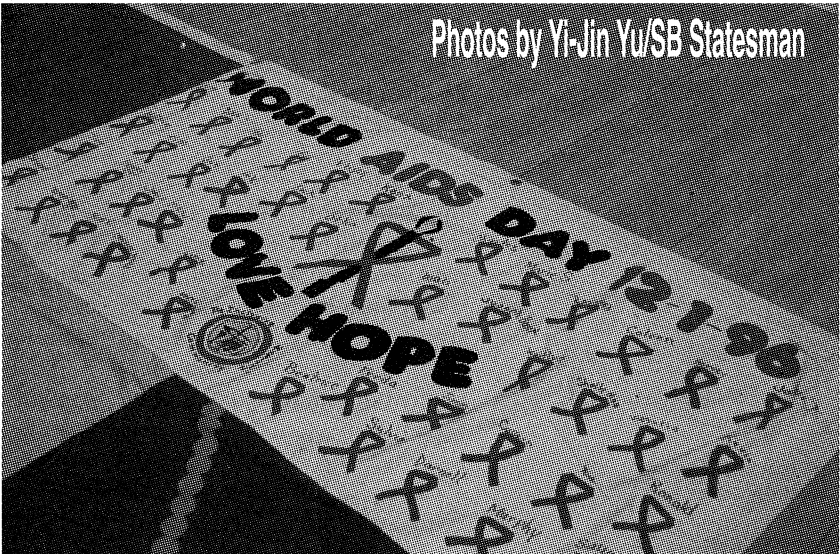
Grey's Anatomy gains more ratings by fitting the mold of any old 20th century television drama; it simply takes NBC's ER part soap opera, part medical drama to the extreme. House, on the other hand, has increased its overall ratings the past three years almost to the level of Grey's through actual wit, humor, and a character that people actually want to watch.

Now, if Grey's had taken more of a Scrubs approach, it would have been a much better show. Or rather, maybe they could have alternated, taking the Scrubs approach one show and House the next. ABC could then actually say that it had a legitimate medical TV drama. Imagine, all the Grey's doctors imagining their heads separated from their bodies one episode, then the next episode, instead of taking Viagra, have all the male actors take Vicodin pills.



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The AIDS Quilt Comes to Stony Brook University



The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, December 3, 2007

Say Yes to Santana

Yankees Should Do Whatever It Takes to Get Ace

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

The thought that some Yankee fans are against trading PROSPECTS for Santana is unbelievable. Sorry for yelling, but I can't stress the word prospect enough.

Prospects are still just prospective talent. For every Melky Cabrera, there's a Shane Spencer. For every Robinson Cano, there's a Ricky Ledee. For every Chien-Ming Wang, there's a Hideki Irabu. Point is, for every successful prospect out of the minors, there's an unbelievable bust.

Two words that will reiterate my point that Yankee fans may remember, JEFF WEAVER. Weaver was an unbelievable talent, and as far as a prospect, he was once rated as high as Phil Hughes. After wooing pinstripe fans while he was in the minors and while a member of the Detroit Tigers, just like Hughes did while he was in minors, he later became a total bust, reminding Yankee's fans that nothing is a sure thing.

What about Zach Duke of the Pittsburgh Pirates? The next big thing two years ago, came up from the minors in 2005, started 8-0 and finished 8-2 with a 1.81 ERA. He finished 5th

for the National League Rookie of the Year, where he was the top pitcher, after only starting 14 games. Now the Pirates are hoping their new pitching coach can revitalize their highly touted PROSPECT, after he finished 3-8 last year, with a 5.53 ERA.

And then there's the ultimate prospect bust, Rick Ankiel. After finishing in 2nd for the National League Rookie of the Year Award in 2000, where he went 11-7 with a 3.50 ERA and struck out 194 in 175 innings. The next year he only last 24 innings in the big league, while pitching an abysmal 7.13 ERA. He's now back with the Cardinals, but not as a pitcher, as an outfielder, and is still remembered for his horrible control and wild pitches that ran Rick Ankiel, the pitcher, out of baseball.

As far as Melky Cabrera, he will be missed. A real energy guy, with a great arm, but I still stand by my prediction that the Yankees will sign Andruw Jones if they trade Cabrera. Even without Jones, the Yankees will have Johnny Damon. Yes he's a terrible fielder, but when healthy, which he has been the majority of his career, he's a terrific lead-off man and he won a World Series ring 3 years ago. The Yankees will also have Hideki Matsui healthy next season and

Bobby Abreu back in the corner of the outfielders.

Now to Santana, a 28 (soon to be 29) year-old lefty with 2 Cy Young awards under his belt. The guy is already proven. In the last four years, these are some of his notable stats that make my mouth water: he's had 235 or more strikeouts each season, he's pitched 219 or more innings each season, he's accumulated 15 or more wins each season, including a 19 and 20 win season, his WHIP (Walks and Hits per inning pitched) was under 1 in 3 of the four years, with his one lone season over one being a 1.07. In the last six years, he's had an ERA over three in only two of his seasons, which were 3.07 and 3.33. In his worst year which was last year, he was better and more dominant than any Yankee starting pitcher. The Yankees "ace" Chien-Ming Wang won 19 games last season. He pitched 199.1 innings in 30 starts, with a 3.70 ERA, with a 1.29 WHIP and only 104 strikeouts. Santana won 15 games last season in 33 starts, with a 3.33 ERA, a 1.07 WHIP and 235 strikeouts, and that was his worst season in the last four years. Although he didn't win as many games as Wang, Santana pitched for the Minnesota Twins, who as a team

scored 250 less runs as a team throughout the season than the high powered Yankees.

Let's take a look at a possible Yankees rotation if Santana wears pinstripes next season:

J o h a n
S a n -
t a n a ,
Chien-
M i n g
W a n g ,
A n d y
P e t t i t e
(if he
comes
back),
J o b a
C h a m -
b e r l a i n
(If he's
a starter,
which is
a major
issue in

itself), Ian Kennedy or Mike Mussina. As far as Pettite, if Johan comes, so will Andy. He's not going to come back if they aren't a real contender without a real rotation. With Johan Santana, not only are they a real contender with a real rotation, but they may jump ahead of Josh Beckett and the Red Sox as the early favorites to win the World Series.

If you are against Johan Santana becoming a Yankee because

of the money he will require, which has been projected to be \$150 million over 6 Years, that's an issue worth discussing. However, if you are against him coming solely because they

are losing two young talents, that's absurd. They will have a strong lineup next year without Melky Cabrera, and if they trade Hughes for Santana, they

could have a rotation consisting of Santana, Chamberlain, Wang, and Kennedy for at least 10 years.



Women's Basketball Falls in Back to Back Games, Skid at Three

Continued from page 16

Manhattan was able to make up their shortcomings at the free throw line, giving them the win.

Seawolves Lose Third Straight to Quinnipiac

Stony Brook's Women's Basketball traveled to Quinnipiac this past Thursday and fell to the Bob-

cats by a final score of 58-41. The Seawolves were outscored 41-18 in the first half and the 23 point deficit was too large to overcome.

Although they were able to put up an impressive 42 shots in the first half, Stony Brook only shot 19% from the field. Another negative was the 0-8 shooting from behind the 3 point line.

In the second half, Stony Brook

played much better defensively, only allowing 17 points off 25% shooting. The Seawolves also played better offensively but their 23 points wasn't enough.

In total the Seawolves were able to out-rebound the Bobcats 56-42 and they took 26 more shots (79-53), but their shots just didn't fall as they shot as a team 22.8% from the field, including 0-12 from behind

the 3 point line.

Some notable players for the Seawolves were Morgan Patrick, who scored six points, while tallying 11 rebounds. Kirsten Jeter who led the team with seven points.

Their next game is against Tuesday, December 4th, where they will travel for their 3rd straight road game, where they will face Long Island Rival Hofstra



STATESMAN SPORTS

INSIDE: P. 15 Say Yes to Santana: Yankees Should Do Whatever It Takes to Get Ace

Men's Basketball Gets First Win of the Season

Four Players Hit Double Figures in 70-43 Blowout

By SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

After a string of tough losses and close calls, the Seawolves 0-6 start seemed to have no end in sight. It would take Saturday's match-up against streaking Dartmouth for their first win of the season, breaking a nine game losing streak dating back to last season.

Ricky Lucas led with his 19 points and eight boards, as one of four Seawolves' in double figures. Mitchell Beauford (15 points), Demetrius Young (12 points, 14 rebounds) and Emanuel Neto with 10 points would carry SB.

After taking a 30-15 lead into the second half, the Seawolves would open up a decisive 16-6 run over the first five minutes. A layup by Young would put SB up 46-21, but Dartmouth's Kurt Graeber would pull down a missed shot and slam it home to break up the momentum.

The Seawolves would stretch the lead out to 61-34 at the 6:18 mark, and any run that Dartmouth would make after only delayed the inevitable. Stony Brook finished the half shooting 53% from the field and scoring 40 points, easily their best offensive effort of the season.

Overall, Stony Brook moves to 1-6 on the season, with five more games until beginning their conference schedule on Jan. 3, 2008. Stony Brook leads the series against Dartmouth 3-1, avenging last year's 70-51 loss in dramatic fashion. SB travels to Lehigh on Dec. 5 looking for a second straight win.



Above:
Stony Brook fans cheer on the Seawolves in the first half of their 70-43 blowout of Dartmouth.

The Seawolves snapped a losing streak that dates back to Feb. 18, their last win coming at the hands of New Hampshire

Right:

#12 Mitchell Beauford netted 15 points, shooting 7-16 from the field to go with two steals. His 15 points matched Dartmouth's output in the first half.

Brian Morgan/ SB Statesman



Women's Basketball Continues Slump



From Left: Samantha Norwood (#11), Aly Young (#15) and Dana Fararo (#3).

Brian Morgan/ SB Statesman

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

SB Loses Shootout to Manhattan

On Nov. 24 Stony Brook's Women's Basketball team faced the Manhattan Jasper's. In a high scoring affair, Stony Brook lost by a final score of 74-68.

The Jasper's held the lead most of the game, including a game high 12 point lead at half (44-32). Stony Brook was always in striking distance and managed to take a 57-56 lead with 6:57, after a layup by Jodie Plikus. However, they were only able to maintain the lead for 35 seconds and were never able to recover from there.

Some notable players for the Seawolves were Jodie Plikus who

scored a team high 14 points, Aly Young who scored 12 points and grabbed 5 rebounds. Morgan Patrick had 8 points, 4 assists, and 4 blocks.

Although they lost, this was their best shooting performance of the season. In the first half they shot an impressive 58.3% from the field, and finished the game shooting 49.0%. They also out-rebounded the Jaspers 20-16. Turnovers and fouls were the downfall for the Seawolves, ending the game with 20 turnovers, and 20 fouls. This allowed the Jaspers to take 24 foul shots, where they shot a respectable 20-24 (83.3%) from the free-throw line. So while the Seawolves out-shot and out-rebound the Jaspers,

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