

THE STATESMAN



The Paper of Stony Brook University For 50 Years

VOLUME LI, ISSUE 26

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2007

SBSTATESMAN.ORG

HEADLINES

- Annual Festival Lights Up Campus
- High School Sciences Struggle to Keep Up
- Everybody's Sis. Margaret

INSIDETODAY

NEWS

- POLICE BLOTTER, Pg. 2

ARTS AND

ENTERTAINMENT

- POETRY: Entropy Thoughts, Pg. 4
- MOVIES: Winter Movie Guide, Pg. 5
- MUSIC: Chris Brown, Trey Songz, Pg. 5
- MUSIC: The Reminder, Pg. 6

OPINIONS

- CHATTERBOX: NY Knicks, Pg. 7
- EDITORIAL: Taking Pride in Ads, Pg. 7
- Arrested for Pot?, Pg. 11

SPORTS

- Do Yanks Have Enough?, Pg. 11
- Women's B-Ball Ends Road Trip on Low Note, Pg. 11
- New Additions to SB Statesman Sports, Pg. 11

GAMEDAY

- Wolfie's Sports Rundown
- SB Hockey Cruising Past Competition

statesmanonline

Read the Statesman wherever you go! Visit sbstatesman.com for the latest breaking news, the score for your favorite Seawolves team as well as a chance to comment on the latest print edition's content.

sbstatesman.org



One of many performances featured at the annual Festival of Lights celebration. Ilya Rabkin / SB Statesman

'TIS THE SEASON: ANNUAL FESTIVAL LIGHTS UP CAMPUS

By AISHA AKHTAR
Web Editor

As a Stony Brook tradition, the Festival of Lights was held once again in honor of the holiday season.

Running for its seventh time, the event recognized various beliefs, faiths, and traditions, celebrated during this time of the year. Various cultural campus groups and departments organized the event.

The SAC auditorium was dec-

orated in the holiday spirit, with a circle of displays that explained the customs and significance of observed holidays. Each display featured a sampling of traditional holiday foods. The highlights of the evening were the presentations given by the various student organizations.

"This is the second year that they are holding the program in the SAC, and it is especially nice here because we are able to combine food with religion," said Sister Margaret Ann Landry from

the Catholic Campus Ministry. "Having it here has increased the interaction, and it is nice to see the symbols and signs of different religions which reflect the Stony Brook diversity."

"I think it's amazing that students of different faiths can enjoy the holiday season together -- taste different foods, view different displays, hear different presentations, and socialize

Continued on page 2

High School Sciences Struggle to Keep Up with International Community

By JOSH SEIDMAN
Staff Writer

Townsend Harris High School and Far Rockaway High School have been nurturing the minds of America's youth since before Albert Einstein discovered that $E=mc^2$.

Now, more than a hundred years later, everyone knows about Einstein and his revolutionary theories, yet only one of the schools is offering its students the chance to learn about them.

Each school educates about the same number of students, possesses similar annual budgets and began before the 20th century. They are separated by a mere 13 miles in physical distance, however, their science education programs, despite both receiving an accountability status of "good standing" on their 2006-07 New York State School Report Cards, are much further apart.

For Townsend Harris, the mark of "good standing" highlighted achievements, like having over 93 percent of its 255 physics students receive a passing grade on the 2005-06 regents exam, and receiving an "A" on the New York City Department of Education's new "A" through "F" school rating system.

On the other hand, for Far Rockaway, the "good standing" mark didn't represent its students' accolades in physics during the 2005-06 school year because the school didn't teach a physics course. And here the mark wasn't joined by an "A" on

Continued on page 9

Everybody's Sister Margaret

By STEPHANIE BRUMSEY
Contributing Writer

One of the most popular females on the Stony Brook University campus, sought after by many and compared to few, can be seen walking on campus at an easy pace. Standing at 5 feet 3 inches, a twinkle in her blue-green eyes and dressed in all purple, a skirt set with a pink blouse on, it seems she can't go more than 10 or 15 feet without being stopped. Each person that steps into her path receives an easy smile, a meaningful conversation and walks away with a sense of happiness that isn't easily explained. As her 76-year-old frame crosses the street, the wind blows through

her snow white hair and she continues on her path, crossing guard Tim can't help but mutter, "Isn't Sister Margaret great?"

Was it mentioned she's a nun? Sister Margaret has been a Chaplin at Stony Brook University for 19 years. She belongs to the Order of the Religious Sacred Heart of Mary, an international religious community represented in 14 countries around the world with the main ministry related to education.

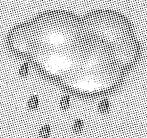
Sister Margaret Ann Landry sits in her office in the Interfaith Section on the second floor of the Union. She is surrounded by a sea of purple

Continued on page 3

FEATURE
STORY

Student Forecast:

Dec. 10 - Dec. 16



Monday:

High 43/Low 30

Mostly cloudy with morning rain showers and nighttime clearing.



Tuesday:

High 40/Low 35

Mostly cloudy with PM rain showers.



Wednesday:

High 46/Low 32

Partly cloudy, with clouds increasing and a chance of rain showers by night.



Thursday:

High 44/Low 40

Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain.



Friday:

High 46/Low 33

Mostly cloudy with a chance of daytime rain showers



Saturday:

High 42/Low 30

Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain



Sunday:

High 39/Low 32

Partly cloudy with a chance of rain

An unsettled weather pattern continues through the week as areas of low pressure cycle through the area. One particular system will bring rain this morning to the region and move out by the afternoon. A warm front associated with another system will enter Long Island late on Tuesday and bring more rain. The associated cold front clears through the area by Wednesday morning. Rain is also possible with various system that move through on Thursday and Saturday, but due to the widespread uncertainty of the current computer model forecasts, it is definitely not certain.

By Alex Kahn

NEWS

Marijuana, Domestic Disputes and Elevator Mishaps

Police Blotter for December 4th-7th

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI
Staff Writer

Residence Halls Police Reports

Car Accident

A motor vehicle accident occurred in the Mendelsohn parking lot around 7:50AM on the 4th of December. No injuries were reported.

Marijuana Reports

Around 1:30PM on the 4th of December, two students were referred in Benedict College for smoking marijuana.

Around 9:20PM on the 5th of December, reports were made of

students smoking marijuana in Baruch College.

Around 10:50PM on the 5th, reports were made of students smoking marijuana in James College.

Around 6:20PM on the 6th of December, the odor of marijuana was found in Whitman College.

Crisis Intervention

A dispute was broken up between a boyfriend and girlfriend around 10:30PM on the 4th of December.

A fight between two male roommates in Keller College was broken up around 2:00AM on the 5th of December. A student refer-

ral was issued and one student was admitted to the University Hospital, though refused to press charges.

Burglary

A burglary occurred in Keller College around 7:15PM on the 5th of December. No suspects were reported.

Campus Roads Police Reports

Car Accidents

At 11:00AM on the 4th of December, a motor vehicle accident occurred on Tuckahoe Rd.

A motor vehicle accident occurred around 2:30PM on the 6th

in the Admin Parking Garage.

Another motor vehicle accident occurred around 7:15PM on the 6th in the Stadium parking lot. No injuries were reported.

Other Police Reports

Stuck in Elevator

Three people were stuck in a Health Science Center elevator around 4:50PM on the 4th of December. All were freed and situation was corrected.

Car Keyed

Around 8:15PM on the 4th, a car was keyed in the Health Science Center Parking Garage.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS ILLUMINATES STONY BROOK

Continued from page 1

without having to fear any bias," said sophomore Haseena Sahib.

The presentations began with the Muslim Student Association. MSA members synchronously sang along to a nasheed, a melodious appraisal to God usually sung in acapella or accompanied by the daff, a drum-like instrument. There were also two poetic recitations, one of which was written and read by the MSA chaplain, Sister Sanaa Nadim.

The poem was a tribute to the holy month of Ramadan, where Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset for a month, by refraining from food, drink, backbiting, and bad habits. At the end of the month, they celebrate the holiday of Eid ul-Fitr (feast of fast-breaking). This day is a time to dress in new clothing and congregate for prayer,

followed by visiting family and friends and eating. Eid ul-Adha is the other Islamic holiday that is celebrated by prayer and social gatherings.

"This marks my seventh festival of lights celebration, but tonight has been the most special one because of the student body," said Sister Nadim. "It's because of these young guys and ladies [MSA members] that have made the presentation tonight truly successful."

The tradition of Bodhi day (Rohatsu), a Mahayana tradition of Buddhism, was also highlighted. This holiday falls on Dec. 8, and focuses on meditation in efforts to enlighten oneself spiritually. There are also periods of recession before the day of Rohatsu, where prayers are chanted and make vows of personal improvement.

Rabbi Joseph Topek opened up the stage for the story of Hanukkah.

This holiday commemorates the survival of Judaism through a historic time when it was suppressed by the Seleucid ruler. This miracle of religious survival is symbolized by lighting the menorah on each of the eight nights of Hanukkah, as a miracle of light. Two candles were lit on a menorah, representing the second day of Hanukkah, and the Hillel Choir performed numerous songs about the holiday.

"[Festival of Lights] is a great program and helps showcase the diversity of the campus," said Topek.

The harvesting festival of Kwanzaa was also showcased; it is a celebration to remember the African heritage and importance of family. Between Dec. 26 and Jan. 1, candles are lit and families discuss the seven principles, "Nguzo Saba." These principles are unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility,

cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.

A typical Kwanzaa display features a candleholder, fruits and vegetables, ears of corn, a straw placement, communal crop, and gifts.

The South Asian dance group, Thillana, danced in the spirit of Diwali, India's most important festival. Diwali, meaning "a string of lights," is when people decorate homes and buildings with lights, and people wear new clothes, set off fireworks, serve sweets, and exchange greetings. It celebrates the forces of light -- liberty, justice, and righteousness, over darkness -- greed, tyranny, and evil.

The last presentation was given by the Catholic ministries in honor of Advent, Christmas, and Three Kings Day. Until Christmas, Advent is celebrated, where Christians await for "everlasting light" or in hopes for Christ.

The Advent wreath is used as a decoration, where the circle of the wreath represents the eternity and endless mercy of God. For Christmas, an evergreen tree is displayed to represent Jesus Christ as the source of eternal life. The tree is decorated with lights to show that "light has come into the world and the darkness does not overcome it."

Three Kings Day is the twelfth day after Christmas, which marks the end of the Christmas season. In the spirit of Christmas, poems on Three Kings day were recited, followed by songs chanted by the Catholic Campus Ministry Choir and the Stony Brook Gospel Choir.

Words from Cheryl Chambers, co-chair in the office of multicultural affairs, ended the night. "With rich diversity, we are truly a multicultural campus," she said.



Students celebrate the holiday season at the annual Festival of Lights event.

Ilya Rabkin / SB Statesman

Sister Margaret Provides a Friendly Face and Open Door to Entire Campus

Continued from page 1

objects - a lavender scarf is draped on the seat of her chair. A twig cross entwined with dark purple flowers that reach for the sky, a symbol of her faith and religion. The cabinets are gray with a tint of purple. A knit blanket slung over the back of her chair features three different shades of purple alternating from light to dark, and back again. Several plaques with Greek letters adorn the outer edges of her desk - this purple just a little pinker and brighter. On the wall a poster hangs on the wall, "Purple Profile: You are a Purple Person", going into depth about the characteristics a "purple person" would possess: the imagination, the sensitivity, the ideals that a "purple person" would hold dear. The list goes on, giving several reasons as to why purple people are so great. But why purple?

"It's a family thing," Sister Margaret explains. She looks thoughtful as she chooses her next words. "My mother really loved pastel colors and I sort of zoomed in on it. I wear it because I like it, and I think I look good in it." She finishes with a laugh.

She calmly explains that the Catholic Church revised its rules in the 1970's, allowing nuns to wear street clothes, as she gestures to her outfit which is composed of a long dark purple skirt with a matching jacket and a pink shirt beneath. She then stands up, runs her hand down her legs to smooth her skirt and walks to the door.

"I made this quite awhile ago for a presentation to a career woman's network luncheon. It was used to describe how I became a nun and my journey to Stony Brook. It has pictures of me as a child in my habit and of me freshly out of my habit."

She takes the time to explain every picture; lingering over some pictures longer than others - like the black and white picture of her as an infant with her mother, her older sister, and her two older brothers. It is evident that she loved sports from the pictures of her in a lavender tennis outfit holding a tennis racket, or her dressing up as a child in her brother's football uniform and holding a football and of the way she spoke about the pictures. The board peppered with black and white pictures and slowly progressing to more current pictures details a life full of interesting activities and events.

Changing the subject and glancing around the purple room she asks herself aloud, "What do I do?" Sister Margaret begins shifting through papers, searching for something as though on a mission. "I counsel students who are in need, I act as an advisor for several clubs/organizations on campus and I work with students on several of these programs or work a significant amount with these programs." She gestures to a stack of multi-colored flyers sitting on top of her desk.

The flyers range from a fall retreat, an opportunity for prayer and reflection at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, where other schools participate as well. Another flyer advertises a program involving Oxfam, an international non-profit world wide organization whose purpose is to alleviate world hunger as well as economic and social injustice around the world. Yet another flyer advertises the donation of meal plan points, the tenure that students use to pay for food on campus on their identification cards that will be converted to money and sent to Darfur and a flyer enticing students to attend Sunday Mass.

"I had a student from the School of Journalism ask me what I do all day and I just handed him the flyers." She laughs.

"Sister Margaret is the nicest woman ever," says Jenny Wang, who graduated from Stony Brook University in the spring of 2007. Currently living in her home state of New Hampshire, Jenny occasionally visits Stony Brook while job hunting. "I used to go to several events on campus and though she wasn't at all of them, it sure felt like it. She really is the sweetest woman ever. I love her!"

Born in West Hartford, Connecticut, just before the Depression, Sister Margaret grew up with a strong church influence. Out of her 5 siblings, 2 brothers and 3 sisters, she was the only one to become a nun. "I remember that I had an uncle on my mother's side and an uncle on my father's side that were priests. Though no one pushed me toward it, I always did like the church. I got the opportunity to attend a catholic school, so both my sister and I went.... and I really liked it."

As she speaks, Sister Margaret is really animated with her hand gestures. Her lavender chiffon scarf floats off her shoulder and she repositions it. When the rebellious scarf escapes again, Sister Margaret gently drapes it back over her shoulder - her hand lingering over it for a moment as if she were a mother trying to calm a misbehaving child. Her snow white hair moves from side to side, hiding the pink sunglasses that sit perched atop her head.

"I wanted to go to a catholic high school, I knew which one but my father had other plans for me - he had gotten me into a really good private school. When I made the decision to go to Marymount College and I told my sister, all she did was look at me and say 'Peggy, you're going to become a nun if you attend that school'. We both had plenty of friends who had attended Marymount and then decided to join the order. I joined the order after my second-year there."

Sister Margaret is an excellent conversationalist, weaving her conversation partners into the conversation in a way that easily identified the other person, like adding clay to a pottery wheel for the molding of a clay vase. Talking about the many programs she



Sister Margaret Ann Landry speaking at this year's Sept. 11 memorial service in the SAC.

Aisha Akhtar / SB Statesman

does, and her experience as a child in her schooling seems to take her to a place that is beyond all that the outsider can view.

"It used to be that you would work in a Catholic institution and whenever you wanted to transfer or your superiors wanted to send you elsewhere you would have to go. Things changed, and I applied for a job at Stony Brook as Chaplain for the Interfaith Ministry. From the start I was able to chart my own course, and it has been and continues to be wonderful," she says.

Sister Margaret's work as the Chaplain on campus has not gone unrecognized. Four years ago, she became the first recipient of Stony Brook University's "Life Achievement Award" presented at the

Campus Life Awards Ceremony for Excellence in Student Leadership and Campus Involvement. In her honor, the award has since been named The Sister Margaret Ann Landry Religious Sacred Heart of Mary Lifetime Achievement Advising Award.

"I think that she is awesome," Jeffrey Barnett said. Originally from Yonkers but now living on Long Island, Barnett is an Alumni of Stony Brook University. "There's very much an endearment I have to Sister Margaret." He pauses; his blue eyes squint a little behind his glasses as he thinks about exactly what he's going to say. "It's partly because she's a nun, but she really involves herself in student's lives. She's like a family member, she warms my heart."

(631) 471-8000/1-800-HOLIDAY
www.stonybrookny.hiexpress.com

Official Hotel of the Seawolves!

Holiday Inn EXPRESS

Special SBU Rate Available

- **FREE** Van Dedicated to SBU Transportation
- **FREE** Hot Deluxe Breakfast
- **FREE** High Speed Wireless Internet
- **FREE** Shuttle Service to SBU, Islip MacArthur Airport & Train
- **FREE** Indoor Pool & Fitness Center
- **FREE** Microwave/Refrigerator in Every Guest Room

3131 Nesconset Highway, Stony Brook, NY 11720
(One mile east of Rte. 97/Nicolls Road, on Rte. 347)

Poet's Corner

Entropy Thoughts

By POORNIMA PEREIS
Contributing Poet

Entropy

thoughts

Absurdity overtaken, I write.....

I walk down silent roads

To remind me of the distance of crowded nights

Formulas of friendship slide down my study guides.....

Journals and epics Forgive me

All sorts of words, fly out of my tortured, No 2. High Bred
pencil

Reminiscent heroes known only to me crowd my walls

I am but a mere fragment of a past

Traveling here and there for no particular purpose

"Must there be a purpose for every thought?"

I fear for the day when the pendulum will turn,

Turning everything downright wrong,

Tipping the scale,

Bursting my timid bubble.

These are unspoken words of a mere lunatic,

Wasting your time with random thoughts.

how far will you go?

find your edge


HOFSTRA
UNIVERSITY®

As far as you want to.

You're focused. Willing to invest the time and energy to reach your goal. To help you get there, Hofstra offers more than 150 graduate programs in education and human services, business, communication, the arts and sciences. Take advantage of our extensive academic resources. An accomplished faculty. Flexible schedules. State-of-the-art facilities. Make connections with others in your field and create a network of colleagues.

Achieve with a Hofstra graduate degree.

► Find Out More

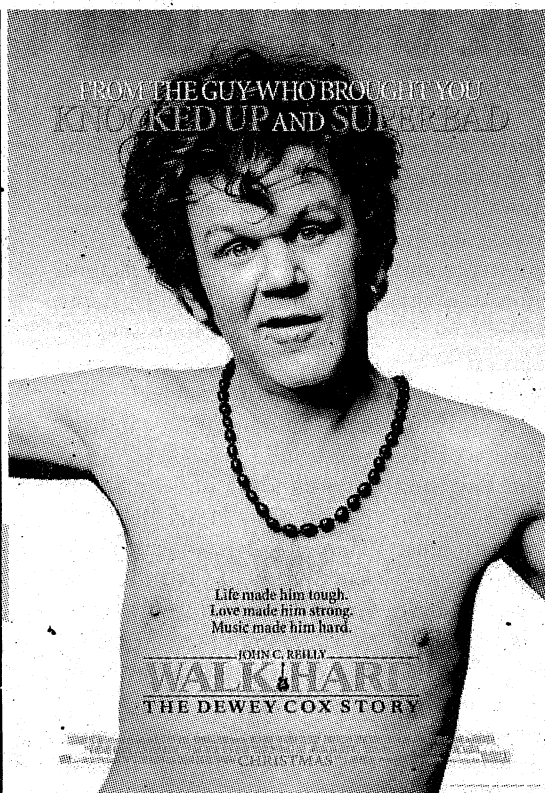
Graduate Open House
Thursday, January 10, 2008
6-8 p.m.
C.V. Starr Hall
South Campus
1-800-HOFSTRA, ext 659
hofstra.edu

REEL DEAL

Movie Guide Releases for Winter Break



Courtesy of Columbia and Warner Bros.



By AMANDA SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

December 14

"I Am Legend," starring Will Smith

"Juno," starring Michael Cera ("Superbad") and Ellen Page ("X-Men 3")

"The Kite Runner," starring Khalid Abdalla

"The Perfect Holiday," starring Gabrielle Union ("Daddy's Little Girls")

"Alvin and the Chipmunks," starring Jason Lee

"Youth Without Youth," directed by Francis Ford Coppola (only playing in NY and LA)

December 21

"National Treasure: Book of Secrets," starring Nicholas Cage and Diane Kruger

"Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story," starring John C. Reilly

"P.S. I Love You," starring Gerard Butler and Hilary Swank

"Sweeney Todd," starring Johnny Depp and Helena Bonham Carter

"Charlie Wilson's War," starring Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts, and Philip Seymour Hoffman

"Flakes," starring Aaron Stanford ("X-Men 3") and Zooey Deschanel

December 28

"The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep," starring Emily Watson

"The Bucket List," starring Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman

"Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem," starring Shareeka Epps

"The Orphanage," foreign production from Spain and Mexico with subtitles

"Persepolis," based on the acclaimed graphic novel by Marjane Satrapi.

"The Great Debaters," directed and starring Denzel Washington and Forest Whitaker

"Cassandra's Dream," directed by Woody Allen

"There Will Be Blood," starring Daniel Day-Lewis

January 4

"One Missed Call," starring Edward Burns and Shannon Sosamon

January 11

"27 Dresses," starring Katherine Heigl, Edward Burns, and James Marsden

"First Sunday," starring Ice Cube and Tracey Morgan

"In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale," starring Jason Statham and Ray Liotta

January 18

"Cloverfield," starring Mike Vogel, Jessica Lucas, and Lizzy Caplan

"Fanboys," starring Kristen Bell and Dan Fogler ("Balls of Fury")

"Mad Money," starring Diane Keaton, Queen Latifah, and Katie Holmes

"City Of Men," foreign film from Brazil

January 25

"Rambo," starring Sylvester Stallone and Julie Benz

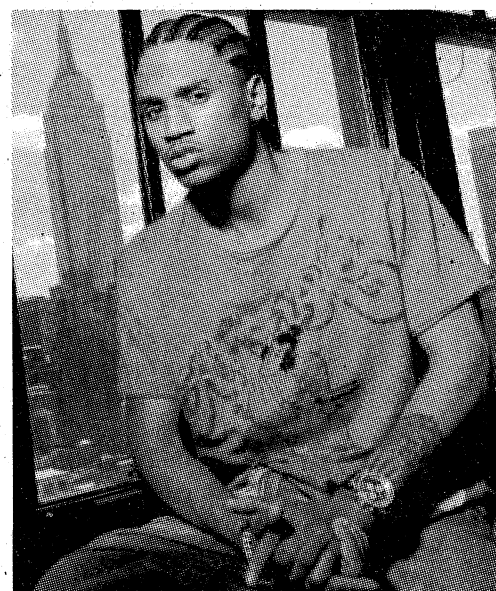
"Be Kind Rewind," Jack Black and Mos Def

"Untraceable," starring Diane Lane and Colin Hanks

"How She Move," starring Tre Armstrong

"The Air I Breathe," starring Forest Whitaker and Sarah Michelle Gellar (only NY and LA)

"4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days," foreign production from Romania



Trey Songz

Chris Brown



Courtesy of MTV

By JESSICA WHITE
Contributing Writer

As the song gains in popularity, it will no doubt continue to make waves on the charts.

Trey Songz's collaboration with hip-hop artist Twista propelled him into the spotlight with their smash hit "Girl Tonite," which reached number three on the hip hop/R&B charts. This song along, with Trey's second released single "Gotta Go," solidified Trey's status as a talented R&B singer.

Trey's present hit song chronicles the plight of a woman who's in a verbally abusive relationship. Trey Songz patiently watches from the sidelines as a woman, the object of his affection, undergoes abuse at the hands of her mate. He struggles with her decision to stay with him despite all of her wonderful qualities.

The song, entitled "I Can't Help But Wait," Trey longingly waits for the day that his crush will come to her senses, leave her abusive boyfriend, and realize that life would be so much better with him.

Last week the single was number 30 on the Billboard Hot 100 charts, and has currently climbed to number 25.

Another R&B artist that has had many recent successes in music is Chris Brown, tearing up the charts at number three with the newly released single "Kiss Kiss" featuring T. Pain, a singer who has been featured in numerous songs over the past year.

Brown began his professional singing career at age 16 with the upbeat dance song "Run It." After his debut he continued to turn out hit after hit and has gained a large following of devoted fans. He has recently come under the eye of the media amidst allegations that he's been involved in a sexual relationship with his longtime manager, Tina Davis, since the age of sixteen.

Brown's camp strongly denies these claims and maintains that the relationship between Chris and his manager has been strictly professional. Despite this recent negative attention, Chris Brown continues to entertain fans with his innovative dance moves, high-pitched voice and his charismatic nature.

OF RHYME AND RHYTHM

The Reminder

By KWAME OPAM
Staff Writer

Understated elegance. Those are the words one ought to use when describing Canadian chanteuse Leslie Feist's -- or Feist for short -- newest album "The Reminder." Since its release in May, she's rather quietly taken the indie scene by storm. Don't be terribly surprised though, since she deserves her praise. A songbird deserves no less.

For those familiar with her previous work "Let It Die," let it first be said that Feist makes no major departures from that style as in what she brings to bear in "The Reminder." The same gentle jazz and playful indie-pop that pervaded her previous effort are here, and it seems here to stay. That, however, is no major discredit. That her songs nevertheless remain carefully composed and vocally stirring is no real flaw.

In the making of an understatement, Feist is recognizable for the atmosphere she creates in her music. Each song, from first to last, has a quiet breath to which Feist lends her crooning. It all feels natural and

honest, even amidst the synthesizers in the background. This is true of the opening track "So Sorry." The bossa nova inspired instrumentation, the tender vocals, and the earnest of the lyrics take the listener and the room into itself almost effortlessly and perhaps without meaning to.

Her first single on the album is "My Moon My Man." Remember that LG Chocolate commercial? Someone was listening and clearly liked. The simplicity of the driving drum and piano in this love song soon give way to layer upon layer of electric guitar, whirling synths, and ambient noise as she sings about troublesome love.

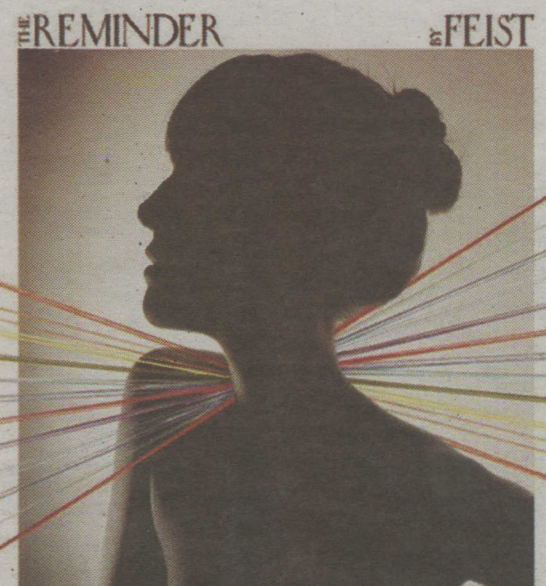
Covering Nina Simone's "See-Line Woman," "Sea Lion Woman" is a cute and very modern homage to the late Ms. Simone's moving musicianship. Laden with the same energy and verve that made Nina famous, Feist still seems to hold back. Leave 'em wanting more. Yes, Ms. Feist is very good at that, and yet it works against her ever so slightly because more is always what the listener will expect.

Lyrical, she's in good, familiar form.

Particularly in the ballad "The Water" (which is already a showpiece altogether), as well as the second single "1 2 3 4," Feist paints her vivid pictures with mountains and passing time. Though some would call her imagery sugary -- as syrupy as "Brandy Alexander" -- one can't deny she's a talented wordsmith.

Rounding out the album is "How My Heart Behaves." Though subdued, Feist closes the album beautifully. The haunting rhythm on its own will have some pressing repeat, and others starting the album over.

What all this comes to is an elegantly crafted and beautifully executed effort. Elegant in that much of it is so silky smooth without trying. Even drawing from her numerous influences and years of experience, "The Reminder" never attempts to steal the attention of the



Courtesy of Cherry Tree

room. Instead, it almost lazily draws in with only a few words. Think of a quiet afternoon spent with friends while watching the snow. I, personally, am reminded of this. Understated elegance. Sounds good to me.

BEST BARGAIN BOOKS

We Are Now Buying Your New and Used College Books

WE PAY THE HIGHEST PRICES!!!

65 Robinson Ave. East Patchogue, NY 11772 (631) 207-2353 Mon, Tues, Fri: 8-5; Wed, Thurs: 8-8; Sat: 9-5; Sun 10-5	217 Middle Country Rd. Centereach, NY 11720 (631) 737-7777 Mon-Thurs: 9-9; Fri-Sat: 9-10; Sun 9-8 (2 miles east of Smith Haven mall in the Walmart Shopping Center)	14 East Broadway. Port Jefferson, NY 11772 (631) 331-3349 Mon: 8-5; Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9-6 Fri, Sat: 9-8; Sun 10-6
--	---	--

Editor-in-Chief
Suraj Rambhia

News Editor
Lynn Hsieh

Arts & Entertainment Editor
Tejas Gawade

Sports Editor
Shonto Olander

Layout Editor
Sarah Kantharia

Copy Editor
Emily Gover

Web Editor
Aisha Akhtar

Advertising Manager
Courtney Arikian

Business Manager
Frank D'Alessandro

Accountant
Arthur Golnick

First issue free, additional issues cost 50 cents.

GET INVOLVED

Statesman production meetings are held throughout the day on Wednesdays and Sundays in Rm 057 in the basement of the Student Union. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newspaper is welcome to attend these meetings.

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

Stony Brook Statesman
PO Box 1530
Stony Brook, NY 11790

phone: (631) 632-6479
fax: (631) 632-9128

Email us at:
comments@sbstatesman.org

To view previous issues, extra material, and to learn about how to get involved with the Statesman, visit our website at sbstatesman.org.

For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632-6480 or visit us online at sbstatesman.org/advertise.

WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Suolian" 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.

Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman. All content Copyright 2007.

THE CHATTERBOX NY Knicks!

BY SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

I try to be Knick fan. I know it's hard to believe in a team that routinely takes games off. You see teams around the league that might not be that great. Still, the players on these "mediocre" teams fight for every win. Despite all the doom and gloom these days, the years of Isaiah Thomas and Stephon Marbury, the controversy surrounding Madison Square Garden, there has to be a silver lining. There just has to be.

I am not known for being on the positive side in these "Chatterboxes," but here, to all SB Knick fans, I offer hope for the future.

Just look at the Celtics last season. They truly were down in the ditches. Paul Pierce was frustrated, and Coach Doc Rivers was feeling the heat. This season,

the Celtics are a completely different story.

Now, I'm not saying that the Knicks are going to get another Kevin Garnett-esqe player, hard-working and amazing. It might even take a couple of years before the Knicks actually become a good team again. I don't really know if the right changes will be made. I mean, Stephon Marbury, the "point guard" for the Knicks, has only one more season after this year. Sooner or later, Isaiah will realize that Eddy Curry will never be Shaq and decide to just not play him. If Marbury and Curry go, then I think the Knicks have a fighting chance to develop under the leadership of Jamal Crawford and Zack Randolph.

And by the time LeBron Wade is on the market (2009 summer), the Knicks will be salary-cap happy, and Knick fans will actually have a real team.



BY SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

I'll cut to the chase—the Knicks have no hope of getting anywhere, ever again. Not with James Dolan in charge, not with the players they have, and not with the fan base that still buys tickets to see the worst show on earth.

There's too much to overcome. Since they traded Patrick Ewing in 2000, they've won two playoff games in the last seven seasons, and none in the last six. They've traded bad contract for headcase after headcase, with Zach Randolph coming to the Knicks this summer for Steve Francis, Channing Frye and James Dolan's subscription to Playgirl going to the Blazers. They have management that has no idea how to put a team together, and have a coach and team president who is as bad at his job as he was good as a player.

Optimists argue they'll come around, using Boston as an example of long time cellar dweller to becoming one of the NBA's elite. Danny Ainge was once ridiculed much in the way Knick management has

been, but he had a plan. He collected a series of young talented players, and in one bold offseason he rebuilt the team.

There is no reason to believe the Knicks will do the same. Namely, the pieces they have stocked up, such as expiring contracts and young cheap talent, has repeatedly been traded for talented but ill fitting a**holes. Their track record is trading for guys like Penny Hardaway, Stephon Marbury, Zach Randolph, Steve Francis, and signing players like Jerome James (who the Sonics let go because he fell asleep regularly during team meetings), Jared Jefferies and Kelvin Cato. Because of this, they won't have cap room until the summer of 2010 (not 2009); when guys like Lebron and Wade are well into the first year of their new contracts. Even if they do manage to get money for a Lebron, they've proven they'd rather sign another terrible player instead.

As a Knicks fan, I've come to realize there is no light at the end of this tunnel. Until they blow the whole team up and start over, don't get your hopes up. James, Isiah and the Knicks will only continue to disappoint.

Taking Pride in Advertising

We at the Statesman never really felt it necessary to talk about our advertising. Every respectable college newspaper in the country, every respectable professional newspaper in the country, includes advertisements. Alas, there seems to be some confusion surrounding our advertising. So allow us now to clear a few things up.

For starters, advertisers love college newspapers. The readership consists primarily of the target audience for many businesses, the Statesman included. As far as advertisers are concerned, our issues are prime real estate. Compared to most other college newspapers in the country—we looked at a sample of the best, from the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia—we have no more advertising than any other paper our size, even less in many cases.

We too appreciate the ads. A paper as large as the Statesman has a huge operating budget, one that the university alone would not be able to provide. As such, we seem to be the only paper that cares enough about the student body to find alternative means to offset the costs of running the paper. For example, we have roughly the same size USG budget as the Press (ours is 20 percent lower) and yet we publish, on average, four times as frequently.

We make no apologies for placing ads in the paper. In fact, we are quite proud of our drawing power. Advertisers see that hundreds, if not thousands, of students read our content on a daily basis. They see that our articles are republished in such places as the New York Times and broadcast to millions of people on ABC 7 and News 12 Long Island. And they, unsurprisingly, want in on all that we have to offer.

So to the students at Stony Brook University who benefit from our advertising (everyone): you're welcome. Stay tuned for even more money-saving ads next semester, only in the Stony Brook Statesman!

Arrested for Pot? And You Wonder Where America is Going...

BY SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

Looking at the most recent police blotter, I have one question. Why do people smoke marijuana?

People come to college only to mess up their brain even further. This is supposed to be a place to think, learn, and live.

Doing something such as smoking marijuana isn't just against the law; it actually wears down your brain. Two words: neuronal plasticity.

It's not much of a secret. Any employer or graduate school admissions officer can probably tell. People who have 2.5 GPAs, 80% of the time, probably smoke pot or something else illegal in their spare time.

Marijuana wastes money, time, energy, and any possibility for a healthy future.

Maybe it's funny when we see Harold and Kumar running after entire bags of weed, but in reality, drug addicts don't get 45s on their MCATs.

Mainstream media is really sending the wrong message. And then we complain about the lowering standards of American schools, the loss of jobs to foreigners. What should America do when it still has a major drug problem on its hands?





Midnight Breakfast

**At The Stony Brook Union
Tuesday, December 18th
11:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.**

Served by Supportive University Faculty & Staff

**Complimentary To Students Courtesy of FSA
with a Valid University ID**



**Wear your Stony Brook Red Cap &
Go To The Fast-Pass Lane**

Caps cannot be shared.

Campus Dining Services
www.campusdining.org
EAT • LEARN • LIVE

High School Students Behind in the Sciences: A Case Study of Two High Schools in NYC

Continued from page 1

the new system of evaluation, but rather by a "D."

Ingrained within these rating systems and report card grades may be the real issue: the scientific education of the few versus the scientific education of the many.

In today's high schools, many scientists and educators feel that physics is the most challenging of the major sciences. Thus, the availability of this course can be used to study the status of America's science education, as well as the broader issue of the country's mediocre pre-collegiate schooling.

The imbalance seen within the science programs of various high schools is one of the major factors that members of Congress will take into account when

they decide on whether or not to renew the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act. The NCLB has been one of the Bush administration's key pieces of legislation for improving our nation's educational status within the global community over the last five years. Yet, despite the requirements the act has placed on the country's schools, America's adolescents have scored in the middle of the pack on several international exams.

Over the last 12 years, the United States has continued to see its eighth graders outscored on exams in both math and science by their counterparts in other countries, including Japan, Singapore and Hong Kong, according to a Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study.

The 2003 version of the study consisted of giving identical exams to eighth graders in 46 different countries. The 8,912 Americans that were tested finished in fifteenth place in math and tenth place in science.

The National Center for Education Statistics has withdrawn the United States from the field in the upcoming version of the study set to take place in 2008.

"A dichotomy exists in science education in the United States," said Dr. Keith Sheppard, the current Director of the Science Education Program at Stony Brook

University and a former high school science teacher for 25 years. "The real question that we have to ask ourselves is, is science for all or is it only for the scientists?"

New York City, the largest school district in the United States with about 300,000 secondary school students, can be seen as a microcosm of this issue.

Some schools have rigorous entrance exams and admissions requirements that allow them to have their pick of the litter in terms of quality students from all five boroughs of New York City.

Most of these schools, like Townsend Harris, offer multiple sections of upper level sciences, like physics, to its students. However, the overwhelming majority of the near 400 high schools in New York City follow the Far Rockaway model and offer no or limited upper level sciences to its students.

"This is a creaming effect," said Dr. Sheppard. "A small number of schools offer tests that draw in the best students, thus leaving virtually no students in the rest of the schools that can take physics. They prevent this sort of thing in baseball with a salary cap. If they didn't the Yankees would just buy the league's best ten players."

In 2002, a doctoral student and her advisor set out on an arduous journey of analyzing the accessibility of physics in New York City public high schools. The advisor was Dr. Sheppard, and the student was Dr. Angela Kelly. Four years, dozens of

late night pizza deliveries and hundreds of phone calls later, the journey ended and her dissertation was complete.

The duo's campaign earned Dr. Kelly an audience full of members of Congress and congressional staffers on Capitol Hill this coming February. Besides presenting the finer points of her study, Dr. Kelly will

also be speaking about the NCLB and how the act can be revised to provide a better availability of physics to students in urban high schools.

Among Dr. Kelly's findings was that during the 2004-05 school year, 55% of the 298 public city high schools surveyed simply didn't offer physics to their students. Additionally, she discovered that the most influential causes of this discrepancy were based on the students' races or socioeconomic status, as well as the students' lack of the necessary math skills and a shortage of qualified physics teachers.

"As parents we want to believe that our students are being taught in a democratic system of education," said Dr. Kelly, who, in addition to being the Coordinator of the Graduate Program in Science Education at Lehman College, is also a mother of five children. "However, this isn't the case. Whether it's textbooks, labs, or course availability, urban communities rarely have the same access as one another in terms of scientific availability."

At the time of Dr. Kelly's study, Far Rockaway had 21 students enrolled in one section of physics. However, after only two of those students passed that year's Phys-

ics Regents exam the school did away with the course. Members of the Far Rockaway staff declined to comment on the issue.

Townsend Harris, unlike Far Rockaway, has displayed a certain immunity to the common infections that science departments of high schools throughout New York City have been battling over

the recent years. This immunity is based on several factors, including a healthy division of its budget and the fact that the school is home to a select group of students that were hand picked based upon their grades, test scores and attendance records in middle school.

In 2007, Townsend Harris, despite

being known as a humanities-oriented school, spent about the same amount of money in science, \$670,000, as it did in social studies, \$597,000. During that same year, Far Rockaway spent about half as much money on science, \$330,000, as it did on social studies, \$620,000.

"It's a question of balance of the curriculum," said Dr. Sheppard, who was a high school physics and chemistry teacher in England, Tanzania, and the

United States. "Why are we focusing on history more than we are on science? If you look at the countries we're outsourcing to they have a different mode. There they want to take physics; while here people try to avoid it."

Sue Brustein, the Assistant Principal of Science at Townsend Harris, heads a department where its students have the lux-

ury of taking the core sciences, biology, chemistry, and physics, as well as multiple advanced science topics, including astrophysics, organic chemistry and space/time physics.

While she is pleased with her students' drive to take such upper level classes, Brustein recognizes that the students in many of her neighboring high schools might have different ambitions than those of her own students.

"For many of the kids in other schools their goal isn't physics," said Brustein. "It's to be able to count their change so they aren't ripped off when they buy food or to be able to read their prescription so they can take care of themselves when they're sick."

High school students and their relation with physics can be categorized into four general groups, according to Dr. Sheppard. Some want it and have it. Some want it and don't have it. Some don't want it and have it. And some don't want it and don't have it. While educators are aware of these groups, the real challenge, says Dr. Sheppard, is how to appease the members of each group.

"When you look at science education in America, especially among urban communities, you have to realize that we are preventing thousands of potential scientists from entering the world," said Dr. Sheppard. "Who knows, somewhere in one of these communities could even be the next Einstein."

Over the last 12 years, the United States has continued to see its eighth graders outscored on exams in both math and science by their counterparts in other countries...

"The real question that we have to ask ourselves is, is science for all or is it only for the scientists?"

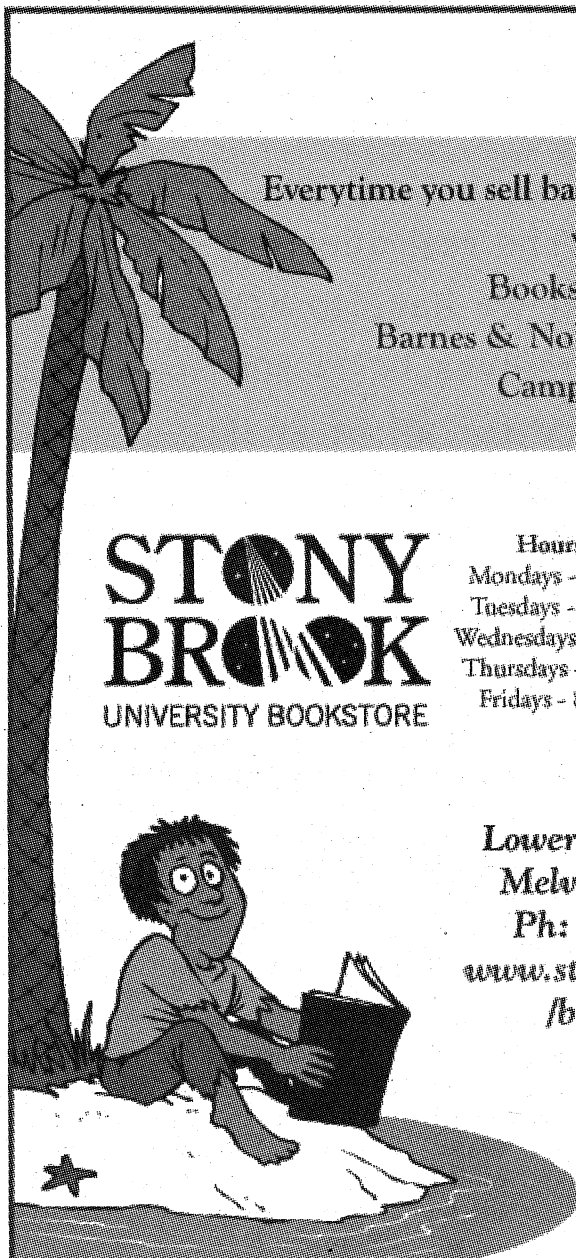
-Dr. Keith Sheppard

...during the 2004-05 school year, 55% of the 298 public city high schools surveyed simply didn't offer physics to their students.

Keep Warm at the Bookstore
get the
MOST CASH
for your textbooks
RIGHT NOW

get up to 50% back no matter where you bought them

December 17th-21st, 2007



Everytime you sell back your books
you could win
Bookstore Coupons
Barnes & Noble Gift Cards
Campus Gift Cards

STONY BROOK
UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Hours of Operation
Mondays - 8:15am to 6:00pm
Tuesdays - 8:15am to 7:00pm
Wednesdays - 8:15am to 6:00pm
Thursdays - 8:15am to 6:00pm
Fridays - 8:15am to 5:00pm

Lower Level of the
Melville Library
Ph: 632-6550
www.stonybrook.edu/bookstore



**Sell your USED textbooks & get a \$1.⁰⁰ off
coupon for any beverage purchase on**

December 19th & 20th

@ the

Kelly Coffee & Tea House

HELP LOWER THE COST OF TEXTBOOKS!

CLASSIFIEDS

SERVICES

THE CARPET SPECIALIST. Installations, repairs, & restretches. Free estimates. Over 30 years experience. No job too small. 631.567.1426

KAPLAN COUNSELING CENTER, LCSW-R
Specializing in: addictions, anxiety, depression, panic and phobia disorders, pre-marital. Also DWI Evaluations, DMV approved.
FREE CONSULTATIONS, COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL.
631.842.0841.

FAX SERVICE. \$.50 PER PAGE (including cover sheet). Call 632.6479 or come to Room 057 in Student Union.

FOR RENT

LAKE GROVE: Ground Level 1 bedroom Apt, 2 walk-in closets, LV, EIK + private entrance. Includes heat & elec tric. No Smoking/Pets. Close to Univ. \$1095 a month. 631.981.1255

Studio Apt starting \$600 and 1 B/R apt starting \$850. In the heart of Port Jefferson Village. By appointment only. 631-473-2564.

TRAVEL

SPRING BREAK '2008 sell Trips, Earn Cash, Go Free! Best Prices Guaranteed to Jamaica, Mexico, Bahamas, S. Padre and Florida. Call for group discounts. 1-800-648-4849
www.ststravel.com

HELP WANTED

DOMINOS PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS AND INSIDE HELP WANTED. Flexible hours, great pay, need your own car for delivery. 631.751-0330



WINSTON TAXI Call 631-924-1234

Student Discount Show Student ID & Save !!! \$1 off

"Call for the Mall"

Airport Shuttle \$5 off

You're pregnant?

You're frightened?

Please let us help. Life can be a wonderful choice.

Alternatives to Abortion.

Free pregnancy testing, information, counseling, and assistance.

Call 243-2373, 554-4144 or 1-800-550-4900

SUN SPLASH TANNING

\$10 Tans
15 MINUTE MAX
Bed or Stand Up

Thursday & Friday
Evening Specials
7pm-9pm

Student,
Teacher &
Hospital
Employee
Specials

24 Oakland Avenue,
Port Jefferson, NY

631-474-8586

(Across from Mather hospital)

HOURS

Monday 12 pm - 8 pm
Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 8 pm
Saturday 8 am - 6 pm
Sunday 12 pm - 5 pm

Free Tanning
minutes with the
purchase of
a lotion.

Early Bird Specials
Saturday & Sunday
8am-12pm

VIP Unlimited!
3 months \$165
6 months \$300
12 months \$540

Our bulbs are frequently changed,
giving you the DEEPEST, DARKEST tan every time!

ADVERTISE WITH US!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL US AT 631-632-6480 OR
E-MAIL US @ ADVERTISE@SBSTATESMAN.ORG



Do the Yankees Have Enough?

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

Monday Morning: With the return of Andy Pettitte, and reports spewing that the Yankees were the front-runner to acquire Johan Santana, the 2008 Yankees looked poised to win their first championship since 2000.

Tuesday Night: With the Yankees "dropping out" of the Santana sweepstakes, and the Detroit Tigers pulling off the monster deal that brings them Dontrelle Willis and Miguel Cabrera, the 2008 Yankees are in trouble.

If Boston does pull off a deal that brings them Johan Santana, I will honestly be jealous of Red Sox fans. Boston will feature a rotation of Johan Santana, Josh Beckett, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Curt Schilling, and Tim Lincecum. Come playoff time, Boston will be able to throw out an ace each night at their opponent to complement their offense. Yes Schilling and Wakefield are old, but Boston like the Yankees, will have the resources to replace them, and they will likely have either Clay Buchholz or Jon Lester, depending on who they trade for Santana, waiting in the wings to replace them as soon as next season. If they trade Jacoby Ellsbury, they will lose a huge talent, but they have Coco Crisp who's a decent center fielder. Fact is, when you have a rotation consisting of Santana, Beckett, and Matsuzaka, and Boston's 2007 lineup returning, he won't be missed too much.

As far as the Detroit Tigers, well I'm shocked. Not only did I not expect Detroit to make a move, but they traded 6 prospects for two cheap superstars: Willis had a rocky 2007, but he's still

a gamer nonetheless. Willis, the 2003 National League Rookie of the Year, will be a solid number two or three starter for the Tigers and he wasn't even the best player they acquired. 24 year old Miguel Cabrera was the second component of the deal, and he's an absolute beast. Yes he has a weight problem, and fielding problem, but 34 HR's, 119 RBI's, and a .320 BAA put's those issues under the rug. Although Detroit's Comerica Park is a pitcher's park like Florida's Pro Player Stadium, if you put him on a team like the Philadelphia Phillies or the Yankees, you can easily add 10 home runs to the 30+ he's hit in the last three of four seasons. However, he's bound to put up huge numbers in the coming future, as he hits in the same lineup as Curtis Granderson, Gary Sheffield, Magglio Ordonez, Carlos Guillen, Edgar Renteria, Ivan Rodriguez, Placido Polanco, and Jacque Jones. If you add on Miguel Cabrera, you have Detroit's entire nine man starting lineup. As a Yankee fan this hurt's to say, but I would rather face the Yankee lineup than Detroit's. If Cabrera was able to tally 119 RBI's in a lineup that only featured Hanley Ramirez, Dan Uggla, and(sorry there was no one else), then imagine what he could do in a lineup that was third in the league in runs scored last year. As far as the 6 prospects traded to Florida, Andrew Miller and Cameron Maybin could have bright futures, but the other 4 are questionable. At this point, Florida should change their name from the Florida Marlins, to the Hanley's Florida Marlins, because Hanley Ramirez, the 2006 National League Rookie of the Year, is the only player worth

having at this point.

So what about the Yankees? If Santana does go to the Red Sox, the best pitchers left on the trading block that the Yankees could get are Dan Haren and Erik Bedard. Bedard, who plays for division rivals Baltimore Orioles, will likely be out of the questions because teams usually don't trade within the division. Dan Haren, who started for the American League (AL) in the 2007 All-Star game, is the likely candidate. He was third in the AL as far as ERA (3.07) last season, while winning 15 games and striking out 192 batters. He's 27, so he's still fairly young, and he will require less talent than Johan Santana, so he's probably the Yankee's best option at this point. My only problems with him is he tends to drop off late in the season, which is the total opposite of Johan Santana, and Haren has pitched for Oakland the last three years, where pitcher's look a lot better than they really are, due to the ball park's in the division.

I'm not dismissing the Yankee's chances at a run to a championship, but they will have a tough road ahead of them. If they add a big pitcher like Haren, then they will be a playoff team in my opinion. However at this point, I feel Boston, Detroit, the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, the Cleveland Indians, and are the top four teams in the AL.

Luckily there are more than three months until opening day and a lot could happen from now until then. Yet, as time goes by, the talent pool shrinks, and unless the Yankees make a big deal to sure up their young pitching staff, the team may be in for a repeat of last year: A lot of offense, with inconsistent pitching.

Women's Basketball Ends Road Trip On Low Note

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

On Friday Dec. 7, Stony Brook's Women's Basketball team traveled to Yale to play their final game of their four-game road trip. Unfortunately, they fell to the Bulldogs by a score of 81-64, their third loss in the last four games.

In the first half Stony Brook held the lead for the first five minutes, before Yale grabbed the advantage with 14:11 left, to bring the score to 8-6. From then on, Yale held the lead for the rest of the game.

In the first half, Stony Brook's downfall was their foul troubles and poor shooting. Stony Brook accumulated 16 personal fouls, which led to the Bulldogs shooting 19 free throws (13-19). The Seawolves took 8 more shots than the Bulldogs, but knocked down the same amount. Stony Brook shot only 36% opposed to Yale's 46%.

In the second half, Stony

Brook had 13 turnovers, and consequently the Bulldogs took six more shots than the Seawolves. With a combination of extra shots, and their impressive shooting performance, the Bulldogs proved to be too much for the Seawolves.

Some notable Stony Brook players were Dana Ferraro who had 10 points and 6 assists, Jodie Plikus who also tallied 10 points, and Aly Young who had a game high 11 points. From Yale's side, Melissa Colborne had 27 points and 8 rebounds in only 29 minutes, and Stephanie Marciano had 6 points and 10 assists.

The Seawolves broke their two game win streak against Yale, with their most recent victory a 71-57 win on Jan. 18, 2000. Yale takes home their first win of the season, and looks to build on the win against Hofstra on Tuesday. Stony Brook's (3-5) next game is Wednesday, Dec. 12, where they will host the Central Connecticut State Lady Blue Devils (0-8).

New Additions to SB STATESMAN Sports

By SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

With the revamping of the Statesman in honor of our 50-year anniversary, Statesman Sports is making its own improvements to ensure better campus sports coverage, and encourage more Stony Brook fans to get out there and cheer on our teams.

As always, we have been looking for new writers for their fresh ideas and to increase our coverage of Stony Brook sports. Our staff has doubled from last year's, and we've been able to provide regular coverage of the major sports on campus. This, as always, can still be improved.

We've added new Sports

podcasts, both a summary of the issue, titled "The Statesman SportsMinute," and a regular podcast where we discuss college and pro sports, debating the issues that make the headlines and spark the best debate.

We'll also be launching a regularly updated sports blog, that will be featured occasionally in the print issue. We are working to expand our photography staff, to provide better game-to-game coverage, capture the game, and bring it to you.

As always, we are looking to make more improvements and expand our coverage, so we want to hear what you have to say. E-mail sports@sbstatesman.com for any comments, criticisms or praises we would love to hear from you either way.

Stony Brook Hockey Update

Continued from page 12

to the team. "The new teammates have clicked well, and the experienced guys have stepped their game up to maintain their ice time," Santora wrote.

Sophomore forward Ryan Hodkinson, formerly of NCAA Division I school Clarkson, leads the team in scoring. He's scored nine goals and has eight assists in

only 13 games played. The team's second leading scorer is Jonathan Wong, a freshman forward from Manalapan, New Jersey, who was seven goals and nine assists while skating in all 16 games.

In net Santora has split time with sophomore goalie Derek Stevens. Santora has a 4-3 record, while allowing 3.00 goals a game. Stevens is 7-1, with a 2.38 goals against average. Sophomore Jack

Dagnese got the win in his only start, a 6-2 victory over NYU.

Serse also said the key to the team's successful start was playing that the team was playing together.

"The keys to the success this year have been playing as a team and playing our systems," he wrote. "When we play our systems well no team in the country can beat us."



STATESMAN SPORTS

Wolfie's Sports Rundown

By SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

Men's Basketball

Falling to Lehigh on Wednesday, the Seawolves dropped to 1-7 on the season after a 76-61 road loss. Ricky Lucas's 21 points led all scorers, as one of the few bright spots for the struggling Seawolves. Shooting 24% in the first half gave Lehigh a comfortable lead 11-point lead, and SB played catch up the rest of the game. The lone Seawolves win this season came the week before, in a 70-43 blowout of Dartmouth at home. The Seawolves play Monday night against NJIT at 7:00 PM.

Women's Basketball

After a promising 2-1 start, Women's Basketball has lost five of their last six, their latest coming at the hands of Yale on Friday. Dana Ferraro, Jodie Plikus and Aly Young all hit double figures, but could not stop Melissa Colborne's 27 points who led Yale to a

81-64 win. The Seawolves return home to play CCSU on Wednesday, tipping off at 7:00 PM.

Swimming

With Women's swimming finished for the year, the Men's team competed against U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, taking home a 137-101 victory. Junior diver Julian Acevado was the star once again, winning in the 1-meter and 3-meter events as one of three Seawolves to take home a first place finish. The next meet, scheduled for Jan. 16, 2008, will see SB take on Lafayette, followed by a home meet against Fairfield on Jan. 26 for the season finale.

Indoor Track & Field

In their season opener the Seawolves faced off in the Fordham Invitational, taking first in the triple jump (Mubaarak Muhammad), and second in the 3,000 meter (Leanne Skrabacz). SB competes again on Friday in the second part of the Fordham Invitational.



Both Men's and Women's Basketball have struggled this season, but look to this week's home matchups as a chance to get on track. Catch the Men's on Monday at 7:00 PM and the Women's on Wednesday at 7:00 PM. Brian Morgan/ SB Statesman



Stony Brook Hockey Cruising Past Competition



Stony Brook Hockey's move to Div. I from Div. II has paid off for the program. Wins over powerhouse programs like Rhode Island have shown Stony Brook hockey has earned its spot among the nations best, moving them to 16th in national rankings.

SB Hockey

By GENE MORRIS
Asst. Sports Editor

In just their first season playing Division I club hockey in the American Collegiate Hockey Association, the Stony Brook Seawolves are proving themselves to be one of the best club teams in the nation.

The ACHA oversees all activities, acting in the same way the NCAA does to the sports it oversees. Playing in Division II for the last six seasons, the Seawolves finished among the top 16 teams in the nation, earning an invitation to the national tournament each season. After establishing themselves as a force at the Division II level, the team decided to take the jump up to Division I.

"The jump to Division I has been excellent both for the current team and the program," wrote senior goaltender Drue Santora in an online correspon-

dence. "The increased level of competition forces players to work harder in practice and brings a new level of seriousness to each and every game since a single game can make or break us in the rankings."

The Seawolves are also playing this season in the Eastern Collegiate Hockey Association. The team that wins the league gets an automatic spot in the national tournament, regardless of whether or not they finished in the top 16.

The other teams competing at the Division I level in the ECHA are West Chester University, Towson University, the University of Maryland, Lehigh University, and Villanova University. The ACHA has three other leagues that receive automatic bids into the national tournaments as well.

Stony Brook started the season on the outside of the top 25 poll. But in the most recent poll,

released Nov. 30, the Seawolves have risen to 16th in the country. The team's overall record stands at 12-4, and their only league blemish was a 5-3 loss to West Chester on Nov. 10.

On Nov. 23, the team pulled off a 3-2 upset victory over a Rhode Island team that is currently ranked fourth in the nation, and was number three at the time of the game.

Junior forward Angelo Serse, who is second on the team with eight goals in only nine games played, was confident the Rhode Island win put the team firmly on the map. "After beating the number three team in the country and dominating the whole game we don't see why we can't win Nationals," Serse wrote, "But it's a tough road."

The team's two leading scorers this year are both newcomers

Continued on page 11