

THE STATESMAN

Volume 51, Issue 40

Thursday, March 13, 2008

sbstatesman.org

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OPINION

Eliot Spitzer: Man of Power

Eliot Spitzer, the Democratic governor of New York since 2006, has been accused of being tangled in a prostitution ring scandal that will undoubtedly lead to his demise.

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Fight the System FOOD!

Ideally, the purpose of college is preparing students for the future. We learn and mature as capable adults that can lead the world. Yet, there is one great hindrance at Stony Brook University: the sickening meals.

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SPORTS

Track and Field Has Strong Showing in Boston

It's an exciting time to be a part of the Stony Brook Seawolves track and field team. The team traveled to Boston University in Massachusetts this past weekend, and produced a first place finisher, a second place finisher, and set a new school record.

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Going Green, 80's Style

By APRIL WARREN
Staff Writer

The Go Go's "We Got the Beat" floated out of Ballroom B in the SAC on Saturday night to greet students decked out in leg warmers, bandanna headbands and teased hair.

No, this is not a remake of the movie "Sixteen Candles," but '80s Night, a 1980s-themed rally hosted by the Stony Brook Environmental Club and the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG).

The night served as one last rallying cry to urge students to show their support for the Bigger Better Bottle Bill.

The crowd of about 40 students wrote letters to their representatives, enjoyed '80s themed-candy such as Razzapple Fun-Dip, listened to a series of lectures and participated in games such as hackey sack, bottle bowling, and Kool-Aid pong -- a spin-off on the ever-so-popular college game of a similar title.

Taking advantage of the dim light, students used glow sticks, glow necklaces, and even glow earrings, in a spectrum of colors, to show their love for all things '80s.

The '80s theme was no accident. In his lecture on the strides made by the environmental community over the decades, Joseph



April Warren / SB Statesman

Buttons sporting environmental awareness at 80's night held in the Students Activities Center on Saturday

Stelling, a campaign organizer for NYPIRG in Albany, informed students the 1980s was the decade for environmental activism.

"The decade was very significant," said Stelling. "A lot of people think of the '60s and '70s as the jumping off point for environmental groups and it was, but it takes a while to start making change."

Not until 1984 was concrete evidence established that proved

chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), a chemical often found in aerosol cans, led to stratospheric ozone loss. The Montreal Protocol, signed in 1987 by most of the industrialized nations, sought to cut the production of CFC's in half by 1998.

The decade also led to the creation of the Superfund to fund toxic-waste cleanup in New York. There are currently 800 toxic-waste sites in New York and

a quarter of them are on Long Island, Stelling said.

During the 1980s McDonald's discontinued their practice of using massive Styrofoam boxes to hold their big mac's and instead moved towards more environmental-friendly cardboard boxes.

Not to mention the Bottle Bill. The original Bottle Bill,

Continued on page 7



Left: Students enjoy a game of Kool-Aid during 80's night on the SAC on Saturday
Right: Banner in the SAC for the 80's Night event



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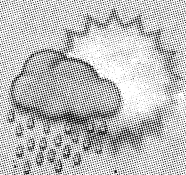
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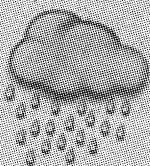
Student Forecast

Mar. 13 - Mar. 19



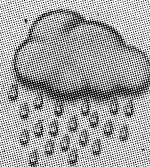
Thursday:

High: 45/Low: 34
Increasingly cloudy with light rain at night.



Friday:

High: 53/Low: 39
Mostly cloudy with rain showers starting again in the afternoon.



Saturday:

High: 50/Low: 36
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain showers throughout the day.



Sunday:

High: 47/Low: 32
Partly cloudy.



Monday:

High: 48/Low: 33
Partly cloudy.



Tuesday:

High: 48/Low: 36
Increasingly cloudy with a slight chance of rain showers late in the day.

By Alex Kahn

80's Night Promotes Bigger Better Bottle Bill



April Warren / SB Statesman

Left picture: Sophia Pestun and Erica Simanovsky play a game of ring toss.

Right picture: Luke Schordine writing a letter urging representatives to support the Bigger Better Bottle Bill.

Continued from pg 1

passed in 1982, requires a five-cent refundable deposit on beer and soda containers sold in New York. This extra financial incentive, combined with the growing awareness of being environmentally conscious, led to a 70 percent reduction in roadside litter since 1982, according to Stelling.

The Bigger Better Bottle Bill proposes two updates to the original bill. The revised bill would require five-cent refundable deposits on all non-carbonated beverage bottles, including water bottles and sports drinks like Gatorade. The second would require beverage distributors to transfer any unclaimed deposits to the State Environmental Protection Fund. This would decrease and possibly eliminate the estimated \$140 million a year profit beverage companies make off unclaimed deposits, according to NYPIRG.

A table set up by NYPIRG encouraged students throughout the night to write letters to Senator John Flanagan, representative for the 2nd District, which includes Stony Brook. The letters urged him to include the Bigger Better Bottle Bill in the 2008-09 state budget.

Luke Schordine, a student concentrating in environmental studies, sat deep in thought composing his hand-written letter to the Senator through Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and Stevie Wonder's "Superstition."

He is optimistic the Bigger Better Bottle Bill will be included this year in the state budget after Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno cut it from the previous

budget last March.

"I wrote a similar letter last year," said Schordine. "Since there is such a large deficit they need everything they can get. 'It is important for Governor Spitzer to hear his constituents. Keep pushing is really all we can do.'"

The Bottle Bill would actually help the State deficit. If the five-cent deposits are expanded to non-carbonated beverages and cans, the amount of money in unclaimed deposits could reach \$177 million annually, according to the Container Recycling Institute. This increase in money would then be put back into the system to be used for improving environmental protection by adding more programs.

"It would help the budget deficit in New York and narrow the gap between environmental needs and sustainable financial support," according to the Citizens Campaign for the Environment's website.

"This [bill] gives back so we have a lot of leverage," said Jonathan Green, Project Coordinator for Stony Brook's NYPIRG chapter.

"We remain eternally optimistic," said Stelling. If the bill is not included in the budget put out on Apr. 1, they will try again next year.

Many students did more than write letters. Sophia Pestun and Erica Simanovsky, both freshmen and members of the NYPIRG board, wrote letter to Senator Flanagan and called his office to make their voices heard.

They also surveyed Stony Brook students about recycling. "We asked the people in the A wing of Ammann College," said Simanovsky. Of approximately 30

people surveyed, only three said they did not recycle.

Recycling also played a part in '80s Night. The Department of Recycling and Resource Management manned a table directly next to NYPIRG's handing out free buttons with 50 different designs promoting recycling. One button, appealing to the kid in all of us depicted Nemo, from Disney movie "Finding Nemo" with a caption that read: "Keep my ocean clean... don't pollute!"

"We're just trying to tell people about Recyclemania," said Angelina Whitehorne, Outreach Coordinator for Recyclemania. The nationwide competition between 400 colleges and universities aimed at increasing recycling on college campuses by keeping track of how much each university recycles. The competition is in its fifth week.

"Recycling of bottles and cans are up 100 percent, but paper not is not as high so we are looking into that," said Mike Youdelman, a member of the Department of Recycling and Resource Management on campus.

"If 100 people in every campus dining location used the Red Hot mugs we would save 600 paper cups each day," said Whitehorne during a presentation on Recyclemania.

"At Stony Brook we try to make recycling a convenient and habitual part of campus life so that it is second nature," he said.

If included in the budget, the Bigger Better Bottle Bill would also help increase recycling by providing broke college students with a way to make some extra change while saving the environment.

Looking Back at Myanmar's Political Struggles

Continued from pg 7

-- most notably articulated by Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Archbishop Emeritus, Desmond Tutu, who said he would boycott the Beijing Olympics, if China didn't change their position. Fellow Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jody Williams, human rights organizations, and Burmese exiles joined him in this protest.

Although China is used to similar human rights violations as Myanmar, Bhasin, who also worked in Beijing, disagreed. "The Chinese are afraid of losing face and if the Olympics flop, they would lose face," he said. "Let the free world say: 'We will not participate in the Olympics if China keeps on supporting the junta.' People have to say to their governments: 'Put your money where your mouth is!'"

But which western country has the guts to do it?"

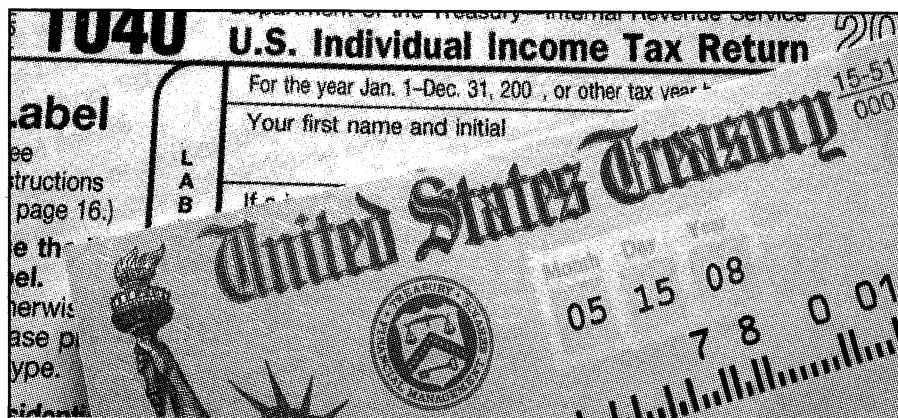
In the wake of a decreased output of headlines from Myanmar, probably no country has the "guts." In the remaining months, attention moved the Middle East and Kenya, but the situation in Myanmar remains the same.

As a last uprising, 100 monks marched through the central town Pakokku on Oct. 31. On Nov. 2, the Burmese military junta announced intentions to expel U.N.'s top diplomat to Myanmar, Charles Petrie, who criticized the junta after the brutal crackdowns; then on New Year's Day, the junta increased the fees for satellite television to 167 times the old value, corresponding to three times more money than an average Burmese earns per year.

After 60 years of independence from British colonial rule, the Burmese people are far from being independent. They challenged its military dictatorship last year, and now they need the global community to help them take steps towards a really truly independent Myanmar.

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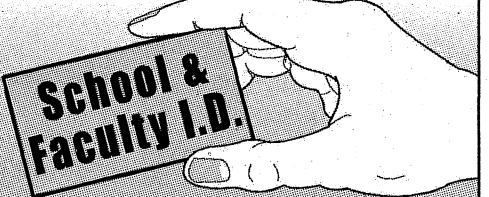
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Program	Contact	Date	Time	Place
Athletic Training Program, B.S.	631-632-ATEP	Wednesdays: March 12, April 23	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	Athletic Training Lab, G-33 Sports Complex
Clinical Laboratory Sciences Program, B.S.	631-444-3220	Wednesdays: March 12, April 9, May 14, June 11	12:00 to 1:00 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Small Conference Room, HSC Level 2
Health Science	Sessions are available every week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at various times. Email Abby Murray at Abigail.Murray@stonybrook.edu for schedule. Seating is limited.			
Occupational Therapy Program, B.S./ M.S.	631-444-2363	Wednesdays: March 12, April 16, May 21, June 18	2:30 to 3:30 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Small Conference Room, HSC Level 2
Physical Therapy Program, D.P.T.	631-444-8356	Wednesdays: March 12, April 16, May 21, June 18	2:30 to 3:30 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Large Conference Room, HSC Level 2
Physician Assistant Program, M.S. (please note that individual academic advising will follow the information session)	631-444-3190	Tuesdays: April 8 and June 10	12:30 to 2:30 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Large Conference Room, HSC Level 2
Respiratory Care Program, B.S.	631-444-3180	Thursdays: April 3, May 1, June 5	2:00 to 4:00 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Respiratory Care Lab HSC Level 2
Health Care Policy and Management Program, M.S.	631-444-3240	Thursday, April 17 Wednesday, May 7 Monday, June 9	4:00 p.m.	School of Health Technology and Management, Small Conference Room, HSC Level 2

All information sessions are located in the Health Sciences Center, Level 2 in the School of Health Technology and Management, unless otherwise noted.



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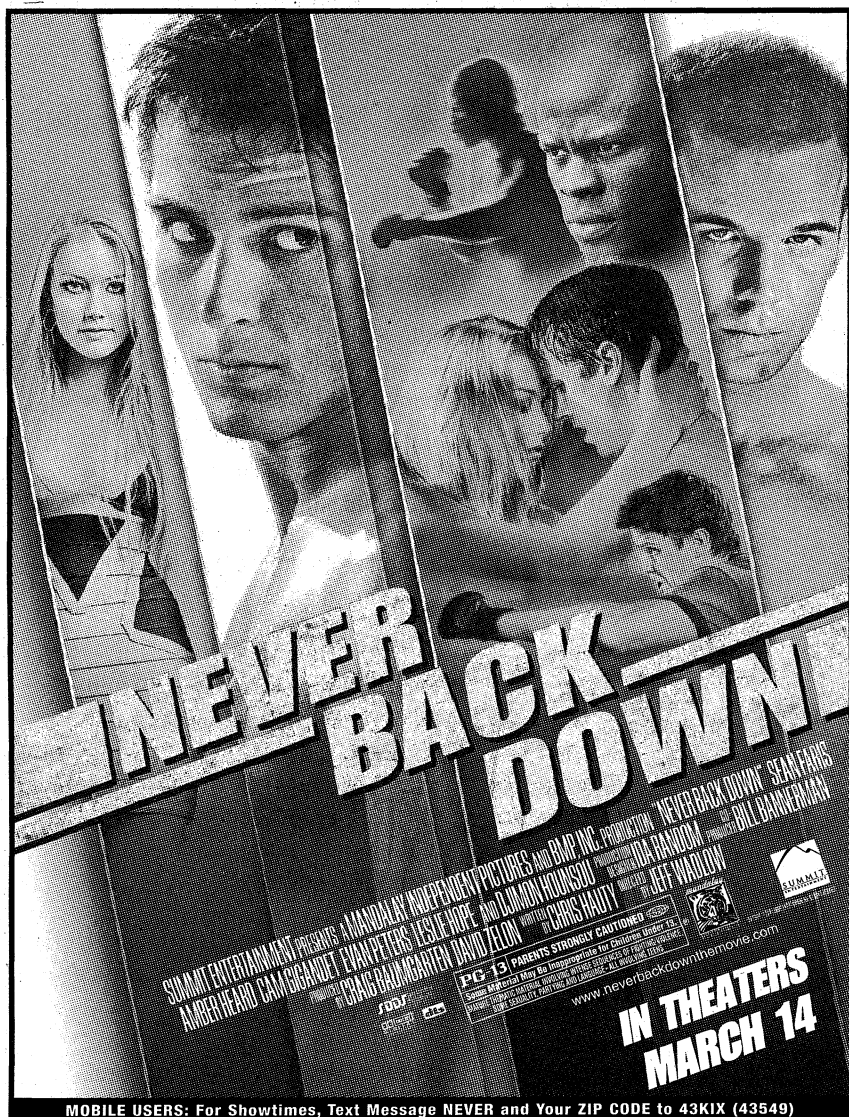
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Looking Back at Myanmar's Political Struggles

What an SBU Student and Professor Had to Say

By MARCO SPRINGMANN
Contributing Writer

On Sep. 24, 2007, Myanmar, a military regime of 19 years, saw its largest protest since 1988, with up to 100,000 people marching through the city of Rangoon demanding better living conditions and national reconciliation.

The series of protests began on Aug. 15 when the government issued a sharp increase in the price of fuel, up five-fold for compressed gas, resulting in severe effects on the costs of public transportation and daily living expenses in one of the poorest countries in Asia. Consecutive protests were dealt with military action, stirring up the anger of involved Buddhist monks who make up a big portion of the highly religious country.

But anger not only developed from those in Myanmar at the time, but also from the global community, and here at Stony Brook, some people were affected as well.

Htay Hlaing, a Burmese graduate student in physics at Stony Brook who left Myanmar in 2002, pointed out that the recent protests in Myanmar are similar to the protests of 1988 when, after a drastic demonetization, thousands of people spoke out against the dictatorship of that time. "[It is] essentially the same as today, but with a different name," he said.

Hlaing expressed his fear of government assaults on the Burmese people, and these assaults would make it unlikely for the majority of people to stand up against the junta.

On Sept. 21, the Alliance of all Burmese Buddhist Monks said the military government was "the enemy of the people," and called for participation in the protests that were held in 24 towns across Myanmar.

On Sept. 26, the military junta started its crackdown on the protests, simultaneously shutting off Internet, radio and mobile phone systems to prevent further organized protests, as well as to stop national and international news coverage on the crackdown.

In the following days the junta security forces began raiding monasteries, beating and eventually detaining 2,100 monks. Protests carried out by activists, students, and peasants supporting democracy continued, but were dealt with cruelty.

"People are afraid, really afraid," he said. "[It's] only because the government raised prices so much that people could

not live [well enough] anymore that they started [to protest]. Normally that wouldn't happen. Also... they don't know. They don't know about the past, because the government changes the history taught in schools."

Hlaing noted the importance of Aung San Suu Kyi, the opposition leader and head of the National League for Democracy who studied in the United Kingdom and took part in the 1988 protests. She was awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her peaceful and non-violent struggle under a military dictatorship. As the leader of the National League for Democracy, which won the elections of 1990, she earned the right to be prime minister if the military government would let the elected assembly convene. She is the person most Burmese people put their hopes in, but she is kept under careful observation.

Hlaing, who said he eventually wants to return to Myanmar, also said he did not believe changes towards democracy would occur anytime soon. "There is still a long way to go," he said.

Shocked by the pictures of military violence, the United Nation's reaction was to send special envoy Ibrahim Gambari to Myanmar to hold talks with the military junta and the opposition. As a result, a liaison minister was appointed to engage in a dialog with Aung San Suu Kyi. Talks with junta leaders, however, were put under the condition that Suu Kyi renounces calls for sanctions against the regime, which would remove her from any political power. Correspondence between Suu Kyi and other members of her party was not allowed.

Indian Ambassador and visiting professor to Stony Brook, Harsh Bhasin, shared his view on the situation.

Bhasin called Gambari's visit to Myanmar a good thing "on paper," but he wished that Gambari had traveled through China, since "only China has the power to change politics in Myanmar."

Starting in the late 1980s with weapons sales, China became Myanmar's prime trade partner, receiving in return military benefits through granted access of the Indian Ocean and the Andaman

Sea including Myanmar's ports, as well as economic ones from special deals for its gas and oil reserves.

"Any [political] change [in Myanmar] would adversely affect China's interests," Bhasin said. As a result, China vetoed a resolution on Myanmar in the Security Council.

Other countries, however, have clearly expressed their interests in a democratization of Myanmar, condemning the junta's brutal crackdown. Most vocal among these countries is the United States, who has expanded U.S. sanctions, freezing more bank accounts of Burmese military leaders and prohibiting doing business with these individuals.

The European Union, condemning the crackdown verbally, referred to the sanctions established after the 1988 crackdown. Being in place for almost 20 years, these sanctions have proven to be relatively ineffective due to the low degree of economic exchange and some loopholes that, for example, still allow the French oil company Total and the U.S. company, Chevron, to continue their investments in Myanmar.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations adopted an approach of constructive engagement by granting Myanmar full membership in 1997. The absence of political change in Myanmar has become an embarrassment for the association, and it has openly criticized the Burmese military junta.

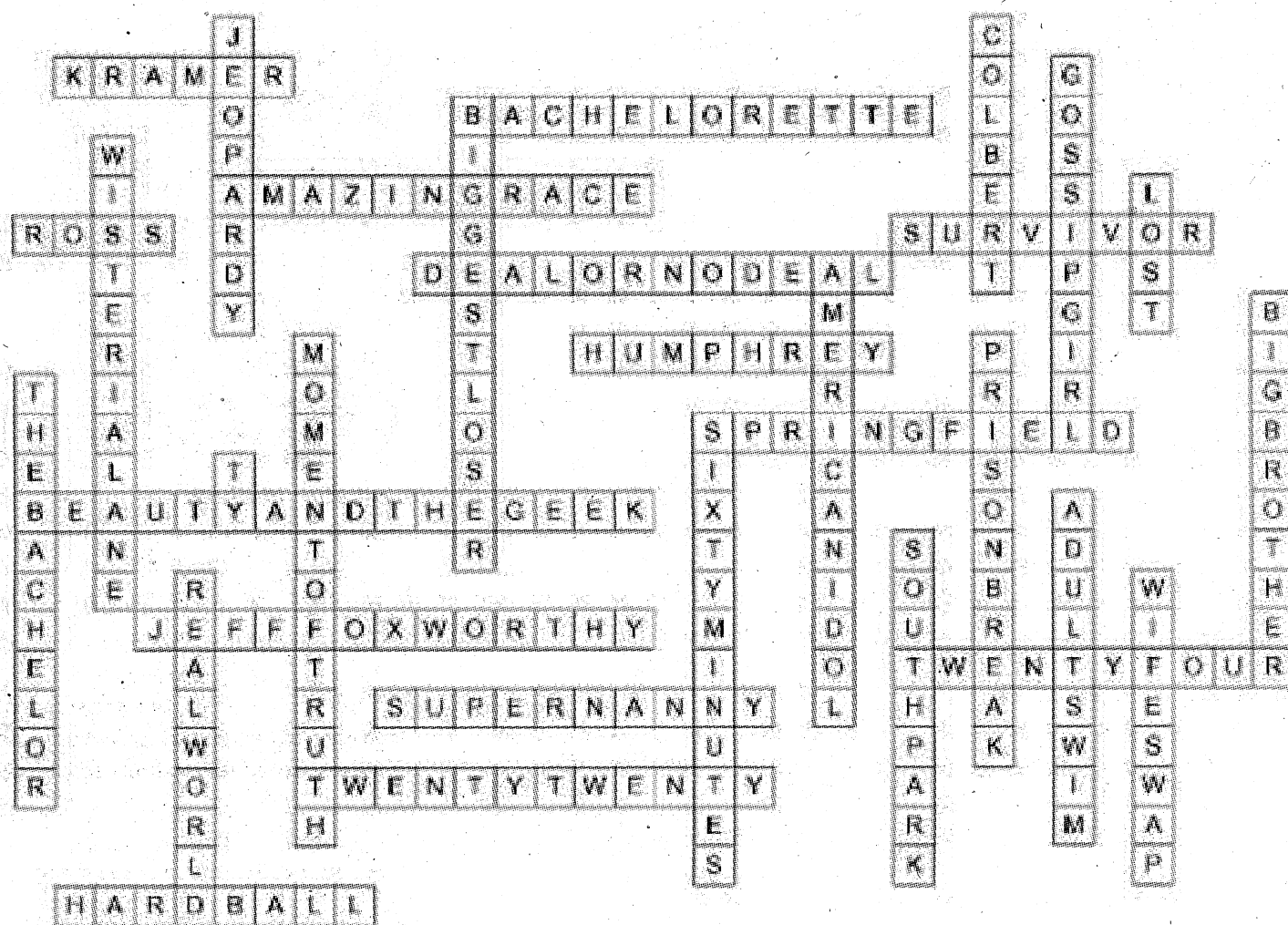
"Ten years ago, India supported Aung San Suu Kyi," Bhasin said, but insurgency movements at India's border required cooperation from Myanmar. When India withdrew business from Myanmar, Chinese investors filled this economic void quickly. "The loophole in all the sanctions was actually a floodgate," he said.

Driven by export and foreign investments, China's dollar reserves surpassed \$1 trillion in 2006. This diminished the leverage the United States, as well as the rest of the world, has on China.

One way to push China to assume a more active role in Myanmar's democratization process, however, may be through the Olympics being held in Beijing this summer.

Calls for a boycott get louder

CROSSWORD ANSWERS: NIGHT-TIME TELEVISION



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REEL DEAL: 10,000 B.C.



COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

By AMANDA SHAPIRO
Staff Writer

If the title of a film is named after a date in history, shouldn't it be a historically accurate story? The crew of 10,000 BC obviously didn't think so and thus didn't care enough to check up on their facts.

Historians say that horses or 'four legged demons' as so called by Old Mother, were not domesticated until as late as 4,000BC. This is just one of many very bad mistakes. A second problem is that dinosaurs were still evolving into birds, particularly the ostrich.

A third issue is trying to figure out literally where in the world the story is set! A small group of hunters from a snowy mountain range try to track down a group of their people who were kidnapped to be enslaved; taken through a jungle, and then an expansive desert, all supposedly in a short distance and short time.

Two other disturbing historical inaccuracies were (1) the building of pyramids and

ziggurats thousands of years before their actual existence. (2) The hero and his tribe speak English but all other groups of peoples encountered have their own separate languages.

If society in the year 10,000 BC was so uneventful and needed to be presented drastically different for more action, why wasn't it given a different title or year? Aside from it sounding good, the given number conjures up many images of primitive, primordial and primeval, life. Because it is before today's congested materialism, when human relations were more important, and human instinct of hunter gathering societies had not completely given way to government bureaucracy. The year 10,000 BC was humanity's beginning before settled civilizations. The intentions were to blend pre-historical perceptions and pre-historical mythologies -not facts- with Hollywood's story conventions.

The result is a \$75 million budgeted picture that accomplishes nothing. There is no powerful lesson learned, no tragedy, no awesome victory, and

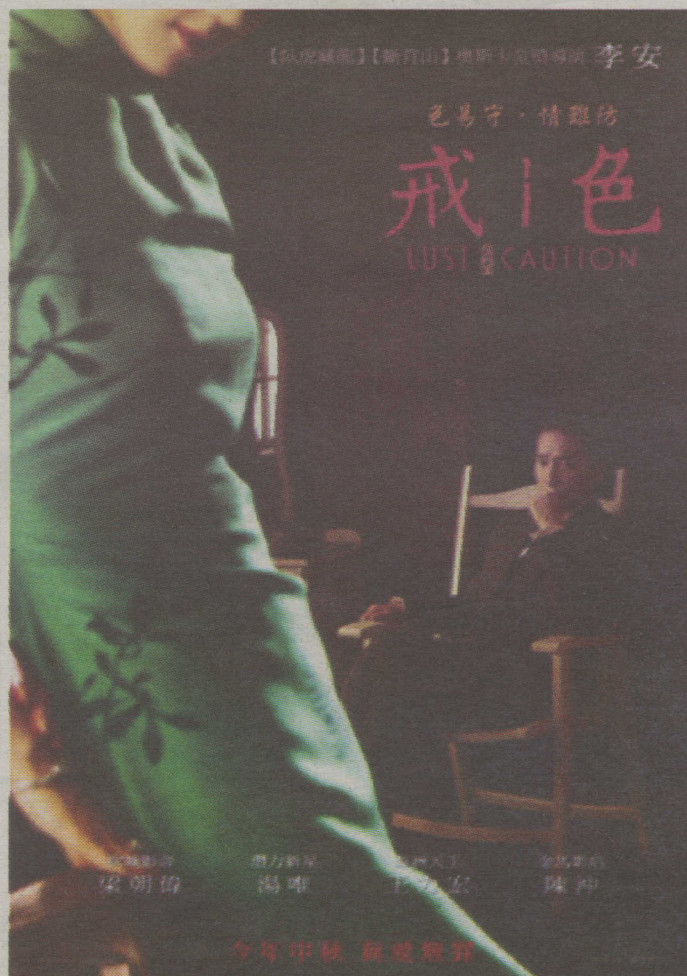
no subtext philosophy, except for momentary minor symbolism. Instead the film is simply about a messiah, D'Leh (Steven Strait) who, while chasing after a girl across three geographical landscapes, nearly gets eaten by a 'spear-toothed tiger' and becomes allies with some other tribes to free their enslaved peoples. Meanwhile 'the girl,' Nevolet (Camilla Belle), is the damsel-in-distress prophet with a brain and an astronomical scar.

No mainstream film has allowed an 'other' character to rape the leading lady. An early example goes back to *The Sheik* (1921) starring Rudolf Valentino when the enemy tribe leader kidnaps Diana and before the horrible act can occur, the sheik saves her. The same scenario plays out when the kidnapper is kind to Nevolet throughout the entire trip and when he finally has her alone he is interrupted and taken away.

Despite the individual hero and American Biblical ideal

Continued on page 11

Staller Style: Innocence, Caution



COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

By ULA LUKSZO
Staff Writer

Ang Lee's newest film, "Lust, Caution," premiered at the Staller Center on Friday, Feb. 29.

It tells the tale of a young Chinese woman, played by China's newest hot star, the sultry Wei Tang, during World War II, who becomes the key player in a ring of anti-Japanese spies set to take out one of the leading traitorous Chinese officials.

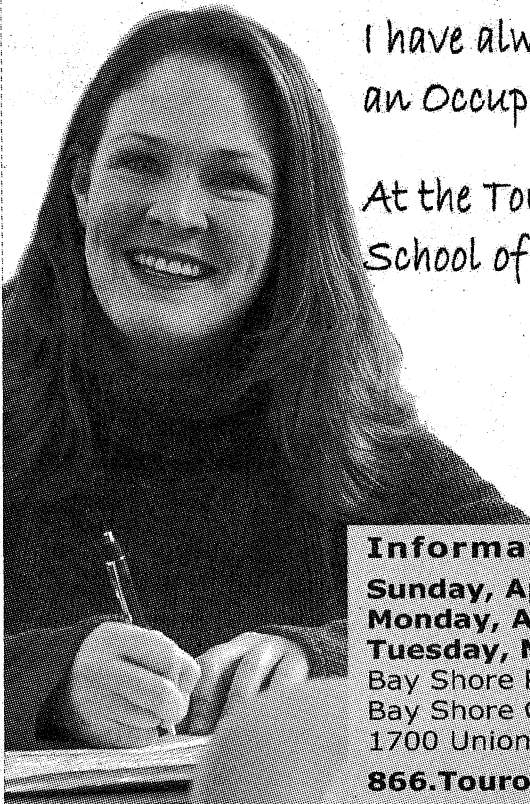
Mr. Yee, a high-up in the Chinese government who has become complicitous with the Japanese invader, is a quiet, mysterious and highly dangerous man who can

make people "disappear" and trusts nearly no one.

Can the naive Wong Chia Chi, also known as Mak Tai Tai, seduce him and gain his confidence enough to take him somewhere where her comrades can get a clear shot and eliminate him?

As the movie begins late into the action with Mak Tai Tai already playing Mah Jongg with Mr. Yee's wife and her friends before skipping backwards four years, I have no qualms in telling you that she does indeed

Continued on page 11



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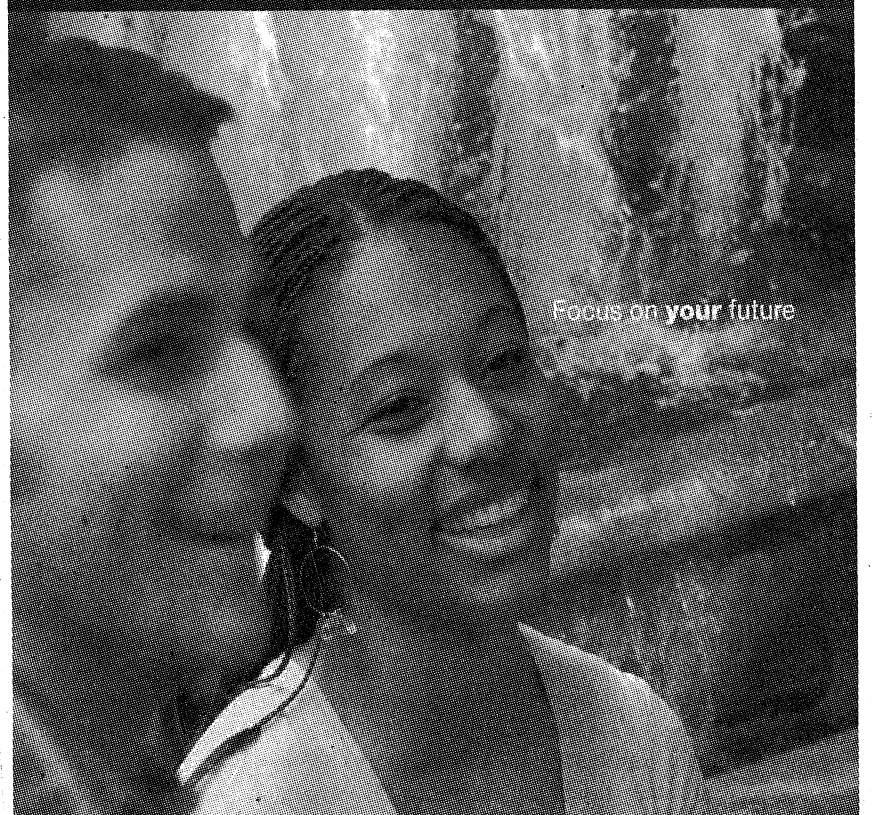
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Staller Style: Swing Fling



COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

BY SANHITA REDDY
Staff Writer

It's that time of year. It's swing season—neither winter nor spring. So while we are all eager to slip into a pair of shorts and some flips flops, the weather is making us wear our winter jackets well into the middle of March. So what exactly should we be wearing during this time of year? How do we look chic without feeling the dowdiness of that huge puffer jacket?

Spring isn't just about short sleeves and hemlines—it's also about color. Now is the perfect time to start pulling out brightly colored scarves and accessories. Got a red tank? Wear it under a neutral top. Add a floral scarf from last fall. There are plenty of girls all over campus who have the right idea—a student sitting next to

me the other day was wearing a pretty lavender and silver scarf from H&M. She added a white shirt, and even though she was bundled in a winter jacket, the colors and the cute jeweled pin in her hair made her look ready for spring. Don't underestimate the power of layering. You can start getting away with lighter coats if you gravitate towards bright layers on top, with simple jeans on the bottom. And don't forget shoes. Spring is all about flats: now that there is no snow on the ground, feel free to start wearing those cute ballerinas that you bought on sale last season. Accents are what make spring fashion "springy": bright poppy nail polish, a flush of blush on the cheeks, and fairytale like earrings will all keep you in the spring fever mindset. But a note to the style conscious: steer clear of mini skirts with winter boots—it just doesn't make sense. Short skirts and Uggs don't show

you're ready for spring—it shows you're confused about it. Rather, if you really want to wear that skirt, wear fun, white patterned tights and flats. And keep away from dark colors; you're trying to promote spring, not prevent it.

For the boys: Although it might still be too cold to start wearing shorts, that doesn't mean that the snowboarding jackets have to stay on. Start bringing out the short sleeve shirts, and follow the trend of layering; you too can relish in the opportunity to wear color.

Remember, the idea is to evoke spring, not necessarily dress like it actually is. Hopefully, by April the weather will be lovely enough to start wearing sandals. But until then, I've got my fall boots on and a purple headband in my hair to remind me of my first grade hair trends—after all, what is spring other than an evocation of innocence?

10,000 B.C.

Continued from page 9

ogy, there is one scene relating to Marx's infamous line referring to religion as "the opium of the people" meaning that religion pacifies the masses.

The trailer was a montage of scenes that tells the above-mentioned plot, not its mistakes. The musical score was a broken record. The characters' journey was unbelievable and did not have

enough pathos. The film demeans the audience's intelligence by treating history as expendable.

The History Channel, the Discovery Channel, A&E, National Geographic, and other like media should file a lawsuit against Warner Bros., Legendary Pictures, and Mark Gordon for libel.

Innocence, Caution

Continued from page 9

seduce the elusive and brutal Mr. Yee.

The film is rated NC-17, in fact, for its dramatic, passionate, and at times violent depictions of the liaisons of Mak Tai Tai and Mr. Yee. Clearly, Mr. Yee has been waiting for someone with whom to try out moves of which the wife would not approve.

Aside from the mind-boggling calisthenics they perform in the bedroom, Tang and Tony Liung Chiu Wai, in the role of Mr. Yee, give outstanding performances. The supporting cast is likewise strong; the portraits of cosmopolitan Hong Kong and Shanghai mid-century are beautiful and heart-wrenching.

Where the movie lacks is in explanations. Why cannot Mak Tai Tai simply shoot Mr. Yee herself? Wouldn't that be easier? And why would killing one Chinese official effect any change, when undoubtedly several equally brutal candidates await to take his place?

These and other questions essential to the plot go unanswered. The film, however, is evidently

unconcerned with these aspects. Instead, it focuses on the difficult decisions a young woman must make about personal sacrifice, love, lust and virtue.

The ending is anything but Hollywood, and though I'd be the first to applaud eschewing a typical "happy ending," I have to admit, I left the theater with a bad taste in my mouth. Undoubtedly this is what Lee is angling for. At the same time, the ending seemed unfounded, and the sacrifices of the protagonists unnoticed and irrelevant.

Perhaps, however, this is precisely what Lee hoped to achieve. We shed no tears watching this film. There is no anguished love story, no scenes of children walking next to dead bodies, no families torn asunder.

Instead, we are horrified at how young idealists become corrupted by war and by the bloody sacrifices it extorts from its victims. Innocence is not a virtue for these protagonists; instead, it is their downfall.

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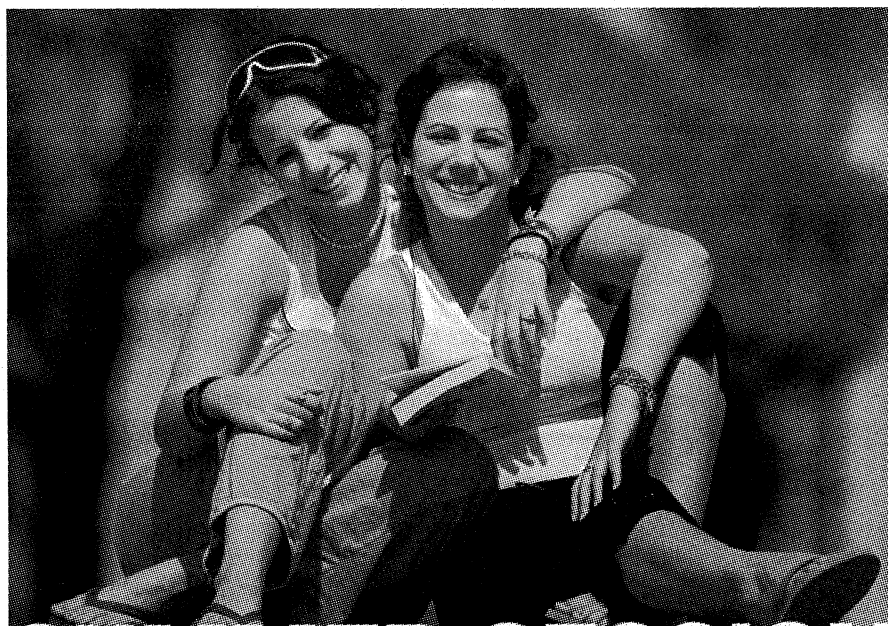
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Statesman production meetings are held throughout the day on Wednesdays and Sundays in RM 057 in the basement of the Student Union. Anyone wishing to contribute to the newspaper is welcome to attend these meetings.

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

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

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

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Eliot Spitzer: Man of Power

By ABRAHAM AVNILOV
Contributing Writer

Eliot Spitzer, the Democratic governor of New York since 2006, has been accused of being tangled in a prostitution ring scandal that will undoubtedly lead to his demise.

A federal wiretap had the governor, a man who goes by the name of Client 9, talking with a very high priced prostitute with a going rate of about \$5,500 per hour, and arranging to meet her in a Washington hotel.

Governor Spitzer has a long and solid foundation of service in New York, starting with the dismantling of the Gambino's family control over New York City's trucking and garment industry when he was in the district attorney's office. He then became a New York State Attorney General in 1999 and fought against price fixing on computer chips and stock price inflation.

A man who has done so much good over a long period of time will now have to restructure his whole life because of one wrongdoing.

When you are a man or woman of great power and social status you sometimes feel like you can get away with anything, and even if you get caught you can probably have connections in very high places that can get you out of even the messiest of messes. Unfortunately for Eliot Spitzer he was 'caught red handed' and the information was made public before he could have any say, and now he has to go down for it in order for the political office to keep

its credibility.

As a person of high status you can live outside the law, but the consequences will be severe if you get caught and that is a big responsibility that people who work in politics have to accept.

We as a people might sometimes forget that as much power that Eliot Spitzer might have, he is still human being and has the same emotions and desires that any human has.

A Stony Brook student, who went by the alias Ramirez Rantova, eloquently put it in his own words, "I think it is very indicative of our society in the sense that everything is historicographic."

There is an expectation that because he is of high power he should act a certain way, but we forget that that power is not inherent but rather given by the people. Therefore, we tend to romanticize about how he should act at all times, and anything but is unacceptable. We feign ignorance to the self-imposed trappings of life and then we are surprised when we fall into them."

With Eliot Spitzer's resignation taking effect on Mar. 17, the soon to be ex-governor's future in politics seems to be dim at best.

Now, the biggest thing he will be fighting for is to try and keep his wife and family intact, and it seems like there is a long dark tunnel that he has to overcome.

It is a sad day when a man that had so much, can end up losing everything he holds dear in such a short time.

Fight the System FOOD!

By IVAN PANG
Contributing Writer

Ideally, the purpose of college is preparing students for the future. We learn and mature as capable adults that can lead the world.

Yet, there is one great hindrance at Stony Brook University: the sickening meals. We pay from a range of \$1,500 for the Bronze plan, the cheapest one on campus, to \$2,324 for the Platinum, the most expensive, and yet we only receive a fraction of the value in return. Is this one of SBU's lessons for us, the future leaders, to acknowledge the fact that normal food is an expensive delicacy?

Most people require three meals a day at the minimum. The word "meal" is used loosely here at Stony Brook. What we want is usually not what is served, even if it is fully visible behind the transparent plastic food-shield. Have you ever paid a ridiculous price for a meal that feels as if it's been put together by scraps of leftover? I personally have encountered this several times.

A notorious suspect is the beef commonly served in Campus Connection at H Quad. I have come across "beef" so rough and full of tendons that it is literally not capable of being chewed through (or at least, you will wind up with some very pleasant bits and pieces stuck in the cavities of your teeth).

On another night, one might see the entire "beef stew" and eagerly order it only to find that chunks of meat are a mere illusion -- they are just pieces of bones. There are also problems with the side orders in H Quad. Time and time again, I find myself biting through half-cooked, hard, crunchy rice or slurping through watered-down

"steamed vegetables."

The food crisis does not merely reside in H Quad. The same bones-disguised-as-meat and half-cooked-rice problems can be found in Jasmine when you order chicken or sushi. We also have soggy pizza served at the SAC or Kelly Dining Center which most of us blindly overlook by applying garlic, peppers, or other spices.

On top of all these problems, our campus foods are ALL layered with an incredible amount of excessive oil. This gives us the illusion that perhaps the food tastes good and is actually worth our money. Next time you eat, consider looking down at your plate -- you just might find your reflection.

Yet, we continue to eat these foods. We simply cannot live without food and SBU knows it and will use it against us. Aside from paying for tuition, room and board, and overpriced textbooks, we are required to spend tens of hundreds for this ludicrous meal plan. Many commuters even sign up for the commuter plan for the tax-reduction in the few times they have to eat on campus. We are to simply wonder where our money actually goes.

For the same money we spend using our Campus Points and Flex Credits, we can get a higher quality and more gratuitous amount of food anywhere outside of campus. A single cup of cereal and milk bought here in SBU would cost the same as a whole box of the same cereal bought in a supermarket.

Should we sit here while the university launders our food money for unknown reasons? Perhaps we should ask them to stop spending money on the vats of oil they use in our food.

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TRACK AND FIELD HAS STRONG SHOWING IN BOSTON

By MIKE FODERA
Senior Writer

It's an exciting time to be a part of the Stony Brook Seawolves track and field team. The team traveled to Boston University in Massachusetts this past weekend, and produced a first place finisher, a second place finisher, and set a new school record.

Tim Hodge, the sophomore from Tawa, New Zealand, finished in first place in the 3,000-meter, winning his first ever ECAC/IC4A championship. Not stopping there, his time of 8:04.42 set a new Stony Brook record. Hodge also qualified for the NCAA championships.

"He's got a bright future ahead of him, and there's no reason to believe that he cannot defend his first place finish in the near future," Coach Andrew Ronan said. "I look forward to seeing him compete among the best in the upcoming NAAs, where he can pull out another first place finish."

The women's team also gave a valiant effort. Dana Hastie, the senior from Wellington, New Zealand, finished second in the 5,000-meter race.

With a time of 16:34.96, Hastie also set a

new school record, and improved her time to qualify for the NCAA championships. "Dana did a great job in this race, almost making it to the top," Ronan said. "She gave her all and left it on the track, what more can be said about her that wasn't said already?"

Lucy Van Dalen also qualified for the NCAA Championships with a first place finish in the 1-mile.

As if that wasn't enough for just one day of the weekend, Sunday proved just as successful as three runners posted personal bests.

In their run in the 3,000-meter, Laura Huet finished the event eighth overall, posting a time of 9:40.63. This time was six seconds faster than her previous career best. Holly Van Dalen, who finished in 9:42.62, an 11-second improvement on her best, placed just one spot behind Huet. Ruth Gillespie crossed the line with a time of 9:57.72, which was good enough for 16th place.

Next weekend should prove to be very eventful, as Hodge, Hastie and Lucy Van Dalen will travel to the NCAA Championships to take on the country's top track athletes.

BASEBALL STARTS SEASON OFF ON WINNING NOTE

Continued from Pg. 16

hit a game-winning single. Though he would have liked to win, Senk was proud of his team. "I told them that their effort was tremendous and that there was nothing to be disappointed about.

He even took some of the blame upon himself, Senk said, "In hindsight, I was disappointed in myself, maybe we should have given them a different look the fourth time through the batting order."

The last game of the series was a shot at redemption for pitcher Mike Errigo who was coming off a start where he got roughed up to the tune of seven runs and eight hits in two and two-thirds innings. In that start Senk said that Errigo lost his breaking stuff but the opposite was true this time around. "The difference was that he had a feel for his breaking ball," Senk said. Lions hitters were helpless even though they knew what was coming. "One time during the game their

first base coach tried to get them to lay off slider. It was breaking real late and deep," Senk said. Errigo's line was much different this time around as he pitched six and one-third innings of one run ball while adding ten strikeouts as the Seawolves won 5-3. Added Thode, "I think we've been searching for a third starter and he earned that spot this weekend."

This weekend the Seawolves travel to Charlotte for a four-game series and a double-dip of double-headers on Saturday and Sunday. Coach Senk is hopeful for continued success but admits that the upcoming teams on the schedule present tough challenges. "We're playing terrific teams, Charlotte is 11-1, they went to NCAA tournament last year. Then we turnaround and play Virginia who is in the top 20. They are going to be tough games but we firmly believe if we play well we can win those games as long as we don't beat ourselves."

Early on it's been Stony Brook's opponents who have had their hands full trying to accomplish just that.

Continued from Pg. 16

a great idea, it seems like a no-brainer.

However, who thought that people would like to see the Rangers against the Boston Bruins. No one outside of the tri-state area and Massachusetts would care. At least with the Buffalo Sabres against the Pittsburgh Penguins, people got to see two rising stars in Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin, and a top goaltender in Ryan Miller. And let's not forget the first Winter Classic, then called the Heritage Classic, a couple of years ago with Edmonton Oilers versus the Montreal Canadiens, two of the top Canadian teams. If any teams should be playing in the Yankee Stadium Classic, which is what I'm calling it, it should be the Rangers against the Islanders, two teams that hate each other, and fans who each other even more. Although having a home and home outdoor game two years in a row, one in New York and the other at Fenway makes a lot of sense, no one cares about a Rangers/Bruins game except for Rangers and Bruins fans. It would make more sense to have the Rangers play the Islanders.

Brian Morgan, Senior Writer:

As a hockey fan, I would love to see the Winter Classic at Yankee Stadium. The game would not only be great for hockey and the NHL, but to be played at Yankee Stadium makes perfect sense. Besides there being a substantial hockey market from the three surrounding teams (Rangers, Islanders, and Devils), the stadium is scheduled to be knocked down to be made into a parking lot. Therefore, the producers can manipulate the stadium however they want, without having to worry about returning it to its original baseball form. Opponents want the last game played at Yankee Stadium to be a Yankee

game. The only way I consider that is if their last game played there involves them winning the World Series.

If the game were to happen, the Rangers are the obvious favorite to host the game, however the opponent still hasn't been decided. As a devil fan, I would love to see a Ranger vs. Devils game outdoors, but that match is highly unlikely. The NHL has to consider that this game has to be marketable to the rest of the United States and also Canada (but who cares about Canada). From a market standpoint, the opponent that makes the most sense is the Detroit Red Wings, being that the Wings come from the biggest hockey market in the US. However, being that it's going to be played in Yankee Stadium, I would love to see them play the Boston Bruins. Besides Duke vs. North Carolina, there's no greater rivalry in United States sports than that between the Yankees and Boston Red Sox. Therefore there is no greater way to honor the Yankees and Yankee Stadium, than playing a game that involves another New York vs. Boston rivalry, something that can appeal to anyone who is a sports fan in the United States.

Shonto Olander, Sports Editor:

Why not? I think it's great the NHL is actually trying to market the game with something that's actually successful. Yankee Stadium hasn't been used for just baseball. Pele, US, Muhammad Ali and the Pope have all graced the confines of the Stadium. For a hockey game to be played there doesn't ruin its history. It falls in line with it. The Rangers playing an original six team or any star studied franchise would be a great matchup. Having the Winter Classic in the Bronx would generate more fans than last year's event. As bad as Bettman has been for the NHL, he may have one redeeming part to his legacy.

BRETT FAVRE: HONORABLE, NOBLE AND SMART

By ALEX BERKMAN
Contributing Writer

He could easily be Green Bay Packers' quarterback for another few years. Many people have said this about Brett Favre, and they are correct. The grizzly faced quarterback, with the smile of a 7-year-old who just got a new bike, can still hurl the pig skin, but his retirement is the right thing.

Favre didn't sugarcoat anything in his career, and his retirement was no different. He said he is tired. No further explanation is needed.

If Favre continues to play a number of things could happen. He could end his career on a terrible season, casting a shadow over all recent seasons. He could even end up being traded and end his career in another city like many other greats -- Joe Namath and Johnny Unitas, for example.

Favre will be remembered as the cheerful, enthusiastic quarterback who made anyone he played with better, who had a golden arm and heart and never blamed anyone else.

The most remarkable game ever played by Favre had to be on December 22, 2003 --

the day after his father's death. Irvine Favre died of a sudden heart attack the Saturday before his son's game with the Oakland Raiders.

Despite this, Favre decided to play and led the Packers to a 41-7 victory, by throwing for 399 yards and completing four touchdown passes. "I knew that my dad would have wanted me to play. I love him so much and I love this game. It's meant a great deal to me, to my dad, to my family, and I didn't expect this kind of performance. But I know he was watching tonight," Favre said about his performance.

One of the most notable aspects of Favre's career is that besides the fact he holds many records, he defies statistics. He shows that statistics in sports don't mean anything when it comes to a player's legacy. Favre played the game like a wild man -- making crazy throws that often led to touchdowns, but also interceptions.

Let Favre be an example of what it is to be a great athlete. He never hid his emotions and maintained a passion for the game that unmatched by anybody else in the sport.

STATESMAN Sports

Baseball Wins Two of Three from Southeastern Louisiana



The Seawolves continue their southern road trip in Charlotte next weekend.

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Freshman year is widely considered a time of transition, a time for one to find themselves and decide how they fit into a large and vibrant community that they are not used to. The demands of university life extend beyond the classroom and difficulty with this transition are not only understandable but expected. Now imagine having the added responsibility of playing three positions for a college baseball team while being slotted third or fourth in the batting order and being expected to succeed. Sound a little daunting? Tell that to Nick Thode. He's making it look easy.

Freshman first baseman Thode was named America East baseball rookie of the week after he hit .333 with three RBI in the Seawolves three-game set against Southeastern Louisiana over the weekend. The Stony Brook baseball team had a strong performance winning another series to bring their record to 4-2. Thode is now batting .308 on the young season with one home run and six RBI's.

Their sole loss was a heartbreaker that came in the last at bat but it was a productive weekend nonetheless in the eyes of their coach. "Our effort throughout the weekend was tremendous despite the very disappointing loss," Senk said. "We played at a consistently hard level the entire time."

In the first game of a double-header on Saturday the Seawolves defeated the Lions 7-5 behind another strong outing from Tom Koehler who improved to 2-0 while allowing four hits and four

Wins Over the Weekend Move Record to 4-2, Charlotte Up Next

runs in seven and one-third innings. He also had seven strikeouts. Senk said that the key to Koehler's success has been his control, and not just in the baseball sense. "There's no secret with Tom, he has an above average fastball and breaking ball but he's done a much better job of controlling his emotion than in years past. With him it's all about location. If he locates he'll pitch well."

The Seawolves were trailing 2-1 in the sixth inning but had two men on base when Thode came to the plate. He laced a double to centerfield to give Stony Brook a 3-2 lead. Early in the season Thode has had his share of big hits. He attributes his success to an old faithful. "I practice everyday and do extra hitting with my dad every chance I get, at a batting cage in Hauppauge," Thode said.

Thode's success may seem unlikely but it isn't to the man who helped bring him here. "It's not surprising what he's doing as a freshman. We saw this when we recruited him," Senk said. "He's a tremendous hitter with great power and he's physically mature beyond a freshman, he has the strength of a 25 or 26 year-old man."

The second game was a pitcher's duel between senior Gary Novakowski and Lions pitcher Josh Black as they put up zeroes through the first seven innings. The Lions scored first in the bottom of the eighth but the Seawolves answered in the top of the ninth when Thode hit a sacrifice fly to score freshman Chad Marshall. An infield single and a sacrifice bunt then set the stage as the Lions

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Would The Winter Classic Be An Icy Exit to Yankee Stadium?

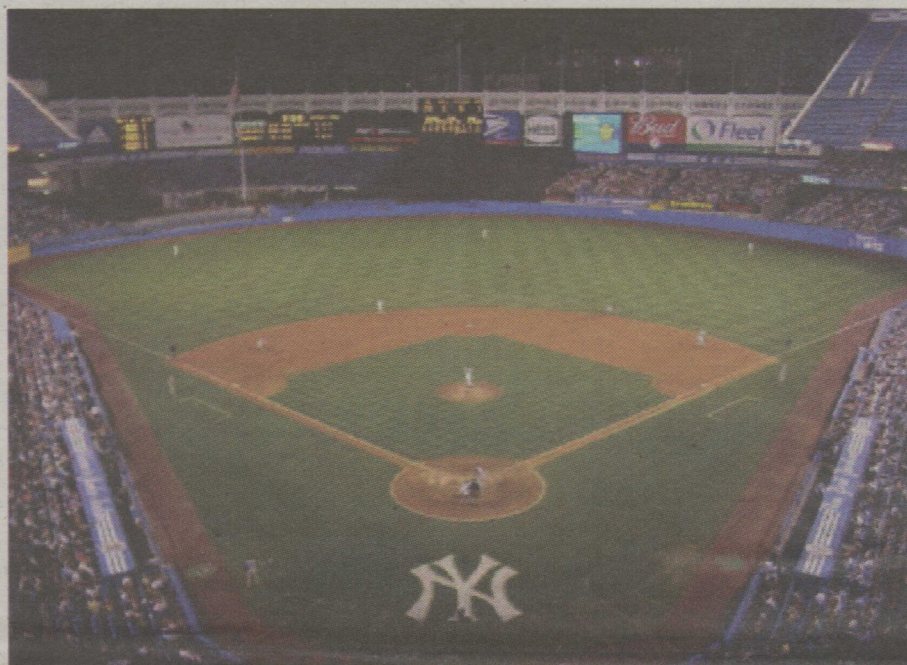


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On New Year's day, the Winter Classic generated the most interest in the NHL since Wayne Gretzky's retirement. On a cold blustery day, over 70,000 people packed into Ralph Wilson Stadium in Buffalo to see the Buffalo Sabres take on the Pittsburgh Penguins. This was a celebrated day for the NHL. This past week it has been reported the NHL is looking to duplicate the event at Yankee Stadium. One Problem - This will be the last even ever held at the "House that Ruth Built." Glorious day for hockey? Or blasphemous day for baseball?

Matt Ehresman, Staff Writer:

After watching the Winter Classic this past New Year's Day, I thought I'd want nothing more than for my beloved New York Rangers to be a part of it. If the city of Buffalo can generate the public interest that it did I couldn't imagine what New York City could do with this event. But I'm also conflicted. As a die-hard Yankee fan I can't see the last event at the Stadium being a hockey game, played months after the final baseball game. While Yankee Stadium has been host to many non baseball events, from boxing to football to rock concerts, baseball should be what closes out this historic venue.

While Yankee Stadium would provide a stage like none other, I feel New York can still be a part of the Winter Classic without Yankee Stadium. Why not Giants Stadium? While it doesn't have the history of Yankee Stadium it holds 20,000 more fans and its confines would make viewing the game much easier

for fans. Giants Stadium would be an ideal location for a match-up between the Rangers and Philadelphia Flyers. Filling the stadium would not be an issue as the trip from Philly to East Rutherford is under two hours, so two cities can be incorporated into this event. Playing the game in February would also alleviate any conflicts with the Jets and Giants season. While Yankee Stadium seems to be the dream location, Giants Stadium would be the ideal location.

Keith Kobasiuk, Senior Writer:

I actually love the idea. Hockey is not a very popular sport in America compared to football, baseball, and even basketball. The NHL has been working very hard to sell their product, and I think the Winter Classic in Buffalo was a great idea. It was fun for the players and the fans, and great for hockey. Yankee Stadium is full of history. It has not only been the home of the Yankees, but of the New York football Giants from 1956-1973. Why not let the Rangers call it home for a game too.

Mike Fodera, Senior Writer:

The idea of Major League Baseball and George Steinbrenner allowing the New York Rangers to play the final game ever in Yankee Stadium is one of brilliance. In the hopes that it will be as successful as this past year's Winter Classic, having one of the original six teams play in one of the most popular sporting events next to the Super Bowl is

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