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Students Compete In Mahjong Tournament

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OPINION

Presidential Debate Sparks A Fuse?

This year's presidential campaign has and will continue to be one of the most monumental and controversial modern campaigns America, and maybe even the world, has ever seen.

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Congress Needs To Step Up

The past two weeks had already been plagued with economic upheaval, without the added pandemonium caused by the failure of the \$700 billion financial bailout plan, last Monday, courtesy of Congress. Consequently, the Dow Jones' average went down 778 points and the credit markets were frozen.

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President Kenny Addresses Campus In Annual Ceremony

By ERIKA KARP
Contributing Writer

On Sept. 24, faculty, students and honored guests gathered together at the Staller Center for the University Convocation. President Shirley Strum Kenny addressed the packed auditorium for her last State of the University, which ended in a standing ovation.

"I have never had the opportunity to work with such a talented group of teachers, researchers, and administrators anywhere," said Kenny after introducing guests and over 50 new faculty members. "We have a mission and we know what that mission is...all of this despite the fact Stony Brook has been poorly funded," Kenny continued, bringing up the major point of the evening -- the recent budget cuts.

Kenny could not provide too many details about the budget crisis, but what is known is the university has so far sustained a loss of \$7.4 million as part of a \$50 million cut in the SUNY budget. In addition, Stony Brook is expecting another \$5 million in cuts.

These last numbers are changing every week due to the turmoil in the economy and are not finalized. Kenny assured the audience that for the time being the university will get by, but if this crisis continues for more than two years, the situation will be different.

"There is a desperate need to make the case that CUNY and SUNY are essential to the well being of this state. They are our hope for our future," Kenny said with urgency.

After 14 years as president of Stony Brook University, Kenny announced last June that she would be retiring at the end of

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Alex Berkman / SB Statesman

School pride at the Stony Brook v. Hofstra football game. More photos on pg. 16

University's Students Celebrate Ramadan

By SHOUTH RAJAN
Contributing Writer

Ramadan is an Islamic observation that occurs during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The month is an important one because the Qur'an, the Muslim holy book, was revealed to Prophet Mohammed at this time. Muslims all over the world observe fasting in order to reflect upon and worship God. Fasting represents the importance of patience, sacrifice and humility.

During the holy month, Muslims ask for forgiveness for their past deeds, and seek guidance for forthcoming days.

During this month, many students must balance schoolwork and classes along with a difficult time schedule for meals. They must wake before sunrise to eat and perform the morning prayers. From then on, food and drinks are prohibited until sunset. Traditionally, the fast is broken with a date, a fruit found

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Freshmen Learn About Hardships in Uganda

By IBRAHIM KHWAJA
Contributing Writer

There's no toilet. There's no paved road. There's no guarantee you'll be alive tomorrow. Welcome to Uganda.

On Sept. 17, Stony Brook University hosted "UNICEF Campus Initiative: Child Slavery," an event that hoped to inform the incoming class of 2012 about the atrocities in Uganda.

Global Studies, one of the six Undergraduate Colleges for first year students, invited Invisible Children to speak to an audience of nearly 200 in the Student Union.

The Invisible Children Organization, an awareness-raising group, has a mission to improve the quality of life for war-affected children by providing access to quality education, enhanced learning environments, and innovating economic opportunities for the community.

The organization's volunteers are divided into regional groups that cover schools from Maine to California,

and at Stony Brook, the lecture was targeted towards the freshman in Global Studies.

The northern region of Uganda has not received as much attention as its neighbor to the north, Darfur, but its conditions are hardly better. The stark differences on the two sides of the Nile that cut through northern and southern Uganda are poignant and reprehensible.

During this program the documentary "How Far Would You Go?" was screened to 200 students.

As the audience watched six high school students transform from naive Americans to honorable citizens of the international community, they knew that as a collective group they too could raise money to build a school in Uganda.

The six high school students were chosen from all around America for raising the most amount of money in their respective schools. Once they arrived in Uganda, their perspectives changed

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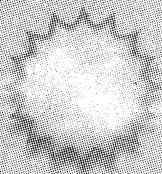
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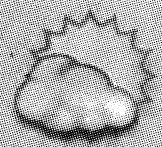
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Student Forecast

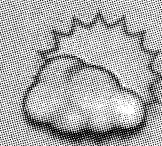
Oct. 2 - Oct. 6



Thursday:
High: 66/Low: 49
Sunny



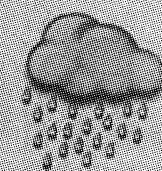
Friday:
High: 66/Low: 48
Partly Cloudy



Saturday:
High: 64/Low: 49
Partly cloudy



Sunday:
High: 63/Low: 48
Partly cloudy



Monday:
High: 68/Low: 51
Scattered showers

Courtesy of Weather.com

Students Compete In Mahjong Tournament

By JOE TROLLO
Contributing Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 25, students along with friends of all different cultural backgrounds—including Chinese—gathered in the Student Activities Center where the Chinese Association at Stony Brook, or CASB, held their biannual Mahjong tournament.

Mahjong is a traditional game of Chinese origin, popularly played as a gambling game, which involves skill, strategy, and a degree of luck. The game is played by drawing a tile from your draw-pile (or wall) and discarding one from your hand, in an attempt to create several different combinations (or melds), and a single pair (or head). Players can also draw from the discard pile, at the expense of having to expose the resulting meld. Melds include sets of three or four identical tiles and sequences of three tiles of the same suit.

The tournament was divided into beginner and advanced divisions, the latter of which competed for a new Mahjong set. At the end of each round, the top two players from each advanced table were regrouped into new tables for the next round.

CASB volunteers offered to teach new people the traditional Chinese game. They also offered other games, such as Jenga, chess, and checkers, to those who wanted to join the event without learning the game.

Stephanie Long, the president of CASB, hoped to spread awareness of Chinese culture with this traditional game, and supports a stronger community by inviting everyone, even if only to play one of the more Western games provided.

CASB will hold their next tournament in the spring, as part of their larger Chinese New Year celebration.



Joe Trollo / SB Statesman

Students challenge one another at Mahjong tournament in the SAC.

Hands On Art; Students Delve Into the Art of Origami

By CHER ARMSTRONG
Contributing Writer

During Campus Lifetime on Wednesday, a crowd of students and faculty members participated in an origami workshop in the campus bookstore. Stony Brook alumni, Shrikant Iyer, who now works as a systems administrator at the university, gave an hour-long lesson on how to fold and produce various origami creations.

At least 30 students and faculty members passed in and out of the small area of the Stony Brook campus bookstore in which a table set up for eight spectators as well as two rows of five chairs each set up for the origami demonstration.

On several occasions throughout the workshop passersby paused to listen and watch, standing because all of the seats were taken.

This event was the first of the fall semester at the bookstore, according to Deborah DiFranco, the provost's liaison to the university bookstore. "These workshops came into being because several students that work in the bookstore thought it would be fun if talented students and faculty members showcased their abilities during Campus Lifetime, since everybody gets a break from classes," she explained.

Iyer, a passionate folder, provided pipe cleaners, a wide range of colors of paper squares and rectangles and instructed participants on how to create everything from the basic paper crane to flowers and butterflies.

He gave verbal instructions on how to fold the paper and supplemented it by using a much larger square than those distributed to show the audience what to do. When the participants made paper cranes, Iyer told the group of the legend that is correlated with

the various items the paper crane resembles before assuming its final form, which features a magician that turned a bird dissatisfied with its diminutive size into a whale, kite, and a duck before finally making it a crane and distributing the magic of origami to all of mankind.

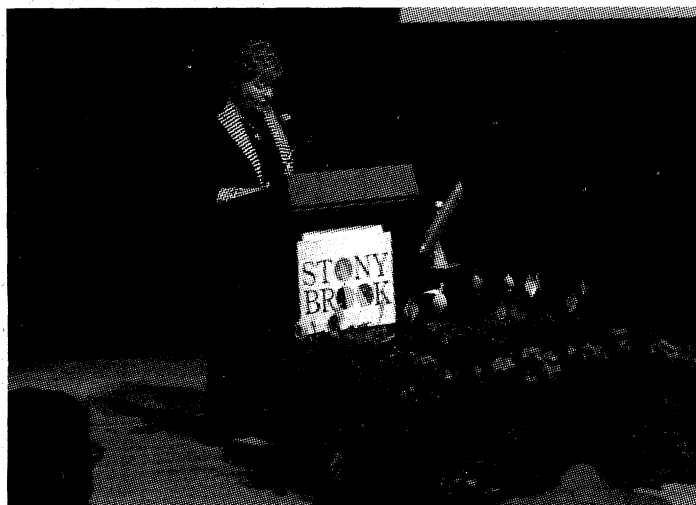
The alum, who has a graduate degree in electrical engineering, also displayed an impressive range of his own creations, including a rat, a highly detailed rose, a wrapping paper jack-in-the-box, a miniature box constructed from a one dollar bill, and a change purse folded from what was formerly a Ssips juice box.

"Origami is a great way to go green," Iyer remarked with a grin as he brandished a large box he had constructed from thin cardboard. "You do not necessarily have to use special origami paper purchased from stores. You can also use many other things: junk mail, milk cartons, aluminum foil, even starched fabric." Iyer has been folding since he was nine years old, when he flipped through channels on television and found himself riveted by a program on origami.

"The show was all in Japanese, so I did not understand a thing they were saying, but seeing the folding was quite enough to spark my interest," he explained. "I could not help but be fascinated by every little manipulation of a simple piece of paper." Many of the participants were as well, for they remained after the demonstration to flip through the various books of origami on display.

The bookstore hosted the origami workshop as part of an effort to give back to the campus community. After the workshop, DiFranco said, "We know a lot of people view us as merely a profit center, and we wish to quash that reputation."

President Kenny's Final Convocation



Erika Karp / SB Statesman

President Kenny's address during her last convocation.

Continued from pg 1

the 2008-2009 school year. During the convocation she reflected upon the changes and improvements that Stony Brook University has seen.

Since 1994, the university has seen improvements and growth in enrollment, sports, academics, extra-curricular activities and its appearance. For those in the audience who remembered what the university used to look like—a slab of concrete—the photographs brought on the nodding of heads and many laughs as Kenny continued to talk about the progress Stony Brook has experienced in just a short amount of time.

Today, Stony Brook consists of three campuses, -- the main campus,

Southampton, and Manhattan -- the Stony Brook University Medical Center, Brookhaven National Laboratory, a veteran's home, and will soon house the Stony Brook Research Park consisting of 246 acres of land.

Stony Brook is a member of the Association of American Universities, the top 62 research universities in North America. In 2007, Stony Brook received more applications than Stanford, Harvard and Yale. Since that time, the school has seen an increase in undergraduate enrollment by 40 percent and in SAT scores by 128 points.

Kenny urged the importance of funding in the schools accomplishments. "Clearly we need funding appropriate to our research mission," she said. "More money per student, not less."

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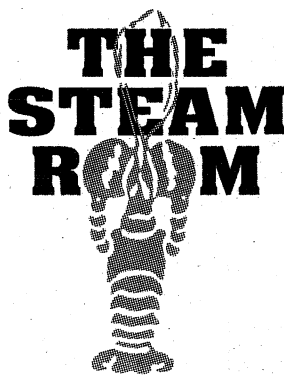
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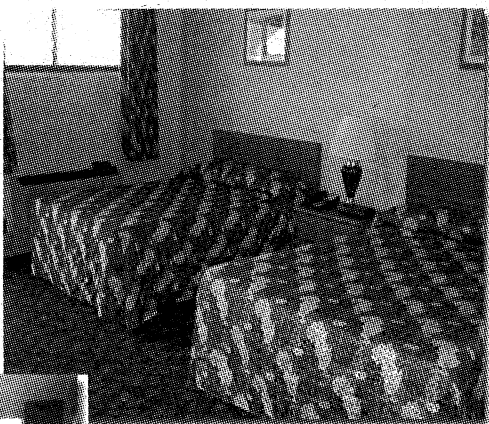
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Video Game Tournament Draws Large Crowd of Students

By JOE TRULLO
Contributing Writer

Six projectors flanked the room displaying a myriad of games as students pounded controllers and fake guitars during the video game tournament hosted by the Student Activities Board on Sept. 24th.

There were a total of 13 consoles scattered around Ballroom A of the Student Activities Center, including Wiis, Xbox 360s, and PS3s, running a variety of games such as Rock Band, Guitar Hero III, Madden '08 and '09, Wii Sports and Wii Play, Need for Speed (Carbon and Most Wanted), and Resistance: Fall of Man.

Although some of the games were inherently competitive by nature, the night overall had no feeling of opposition -- despite the word "tournament," no official score was kept.

Six of the consoles were set up with projectors along the inside wall of Ballroom A, and six were attached to screens hung on a rack over cushioned chairs. The remaining console was running Rock Band on a large LCD TV at the back of the room. Students lined up behind the players to wait for their turn.

The Student Activities Board provided over 30 pizza pies and refreshments to all students in attendance.

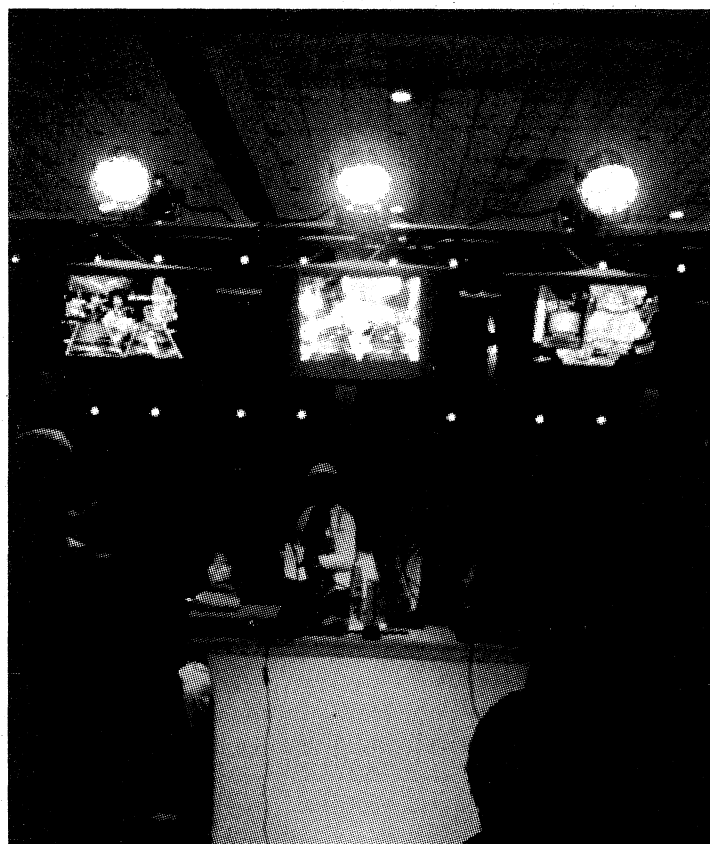
Anthony Curry, the chairman of the Student Activities Board, coordinated the event "for students to have fun and come out of their rooms," he said.

Although video game tournaments conjure up some stereotypes, the crowd was ethnically diverse and female students could also be seen among the participants.



Joe Trollo / SB Statesman

Students in the SAC competing in various video games.



Joe Trollo / SB Statesman

University's Students Celebrate Ramadan

Continued from pg 1

on palm trees.

"The people here respect me fasting," says political science major Sarah Rahman.

Stony Brook University has a long tradition of supporting and respecting all cultures. "For the last 16 years, to have had people that were understanding, I have to credit President Kenny and Dean Stein and the Provost Office," said Sister Sanaa Nadim, the chaplain for the Muslim Student Association.

The association is a home away from home for many students.

"A Muslim community, a home," said Nadim.

During Ramadan, the association holds evening iftaars - the meal to open the fast. It provides the students a place to pray and break their fast, with food from all cultures.

"This is a blessing that most students don't take advantage of," says David Al, 18, a biology major.

Many students have also expressed how the Muslim Student Association was one of the reasons they came to Stony Brook in the first place.

"The Muslim Student Association was the determining factor in me coming to Stony Brook," said Al.

The program also stands out to pre-dental student Nur Noubani. "It's rare to have schools who offer this program, its beautiful," she said.

Eid-ul-Fitr follows Ramadan, which is celebrated the day after the last day of Ramadan. On the morning of Eid, there are prayer services, and the day is followed by feasting and spending time with family and friends.

Freshmen In Global Studies College Learn About Hardships Facing Children In Uganda

Continued from pg 1

and they discovered a third world country that had more to offer than what any industrialized country could. The more they interacted with Ugandan students the stronger their resolution became to build an-

other school to educate another 300 desperate children. This school would provide a shelter where Ugandans can invest to better their future, their families, and inevitably the future of a whole nation.

Currently, members of the GLS Fellows have submitted

initial paperwork proposing a Schools for Schools club through Undergraduate Student Government. For more information on the efforts of the Invisible Children Organization, and how you can make a difference, please visit: www.InvisibleChildren.com.

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New Adobe CS4 Launches

By JOE TROLLO
Contributing Writer

Many have been expecting to be disappointed by Adobe Creative Suite 4, as they were with CS3, the industry standard for video, web, and design solutions. Adobe's recent buyout of Macromedia on Apr. 18, led to a rapid and partial integration of Macromedia and Adobe technologies. Despite all this, Adobe has impressed customers with their announcement and preview of the new CS4 lineup of programs and services on Sept. 23.

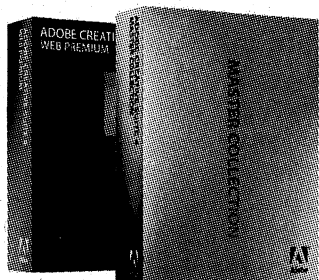
Adobe hosted an invitational event in San Jose, Calif., and broadcast live coverage on their website at 9 a.m. EDT. Those interested could register to receive an e-mail invitation to watch the unveiling of the new products.

After a brief introduction to the lineup, several beta testers and early recipients of the program suites were invited on stage to share how CS4 improved their efficiency and the quality of their work.

Adobe revealed hundreds of new features for their 13 products (individual programs), 14 integrated technologies (only available in packaged suites), and seven online services, which promise to save time, improve integration, and inspire innovation. Overall, Adobe has spent over 1,700 man-years developing the new Creative Suite, according to Senior Vice President of Adobe's Creative Solutions Business Unit,

John Loiacono.

For Photoshop, some of the new features include content-aware scaling and 3D volume rendering from imagery data. In Illustrator, multiple artboards and transparency in gradients were some of the major improvements. Live



Courtesy of Adobe

View and Adobe AIR authoring support for Dreamweaver promise to streamline the user experience and publishing process. After Effects and Premiere Pro, Adobe's video editing and effects software, received major improvement to the work flow, making it easier and faster to do what used to be difficult and extremely time consuming.

The most impressive of all these programs is their redesigned integration, which allows the seamless movement of media across every platform. Before, as with many other program suites, users have had to save files in acceptable formats before importing them to where they were needed. Additionally, changes in the original file were not reflected in the imported versions. Adobe's complete integration now allows users to copy and paste or drag and drop files from one program to another, and there is also a method in placing one document into another so that changes are reflected under all version.

Adobe CS4 will be available in 178 countries and 19 languages, ranging from \$299 to \$2,499. Educational discounts and volume licensing are also available.

COUNTRY AND ROCK: AN UNSTABLE MARRIAGE

By MICHAEL KIMMEL
Staff Writer

Rock's always had a bit of a perverse fascination with country music. I'm mean, rock and roll's origins have one foot firmly planted in country and western (and the other in black blues and jazz).

Sometimes, it works brilliantly - think of Elvis, or of the mellow Eagles soaring harmonies, or the slightly more psychedelic Flying Burrito Brothers in their Nudie suits or the Grateful Dead spinoffs New Riders of the Purple Sage. In the late 1980s, punk rockers discovered country, and the results were electrifying -- think Long Ryders, or my favorite band of the era Green on Red.

The movement works less well, in my opinion, in the other direction. Country likes rock's grandiose pomposity, the big arenas and the pyrotechnics, but the sensibility is always off.

A few recent releases limn the boundaries between country and rock so well they deserve a serious listen.

The vocal marriage of Alison Kraus and Robert Plant doesn't immediately sound like a match made in musical heaven. After all, this is the guy who screamed and crooned "Stairway to Heaven" for rock's hardest rockers, and she's a bluegrass sweetheart, more comfortable with fiddles than ferocity.

Yet there is something magical in this collaboration. Maybe it's that hot academic topic, "hybridity" - the marriage of unlikely pairings into new syntheses. Maybe it's just that coming from different ends of the spectrum, they actually share a lot -- they met singing in a cabaret performance of Leadbelly's songs, after all.

But under the production genius of T-Bone Burnett (who scored "O, Brother Where Art Thou?"), Kraus and Plant unite:

his voice is less grouchy and gravelly, hers less syrupy sweet, their songs often plaintive and yearning and always heartfelt.

On the other side of the ledger, there's David Bromberg, the legendary New York Jewish boy who fell in love with traditional country music and filled in the frills all around Bob Dylan for years. As a solo artist, Bromberg's always been aware of both his and the music's limits, so he hams it up -- his vocals are always growly and slightly sardonic, his picking just this side of out of control.

This CD is a relic of a 1982 concert in New York, includes some superb examples of a fertile folkly imagination. Undiluted by anything even vaguely resembling sweet, Bromberg remains an unrepentant traditionalist - and we're all better off for it.

The Canadian band, The John Henrys, sound like the real country and western deal, but the vocals are a bit too straining and the pedal steel guitars just too twangy so they sound like their reaching for authenticity has an element of parody. You know, like that unctuous fake-friend in high school who was so nice to you to your face and made fun of your behind your back? Sounds perfect? Nudge nudge. They're both playing, and "playing at" the music -- self-conscious but never dismissive or condescending.

And that, it seems to me, is the best way for rock and rollers to engage with country music. Well, that and a Bourbon chaser.

Alison Kraus and Robert Plant: Raising Sand (Rouner)

David Bromberg: Live New York City 1982 (Appleseed Records)

The John Henrys: Sweet as the Grain. (True North Records)

YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

By SAMANTHA BURKARDT
Contributing Writer

Did you ever want to see the Frankenstein monster tap dance? Have you ever wanted to hear what he would sound like if he were to sing? Or maybe you've wanted to watch Igor invent a new dance craze for his entire town?

If you've answered yes, no, or what are you talking about? to any of these questions, it doesn't matter! The new Mel Brooks Musical, "Young Frankenstein" is a smash hit on Broadway and is a must see.

When Frederick Frankenstein, a New York brain surgeon and professor, played by Roger Bart, inherits a castle and laboratory in Transylvania from his grandfather, the famous Victor von Frankenstein, he faces a predicament. Does he keep running from his family's past, or does he stay in Transylvania to carry on his grandfather's mad experiments to make the dead come to life? Frederick is given the knowledge that will allow him to create a living, breathing human being and with that, the fanatical adventure begins.

Along Frederick's quest for ultimate fame, he gets help from a couple of the Transylvanians in town. Igor, the hunchback assistant, played by Christopher Fitzgerald, is a genius when it comes to comedic relief.

Accidentally giving Dr. Frankenstein the wrong brain, many problems occur for this hilarious cast. Inga, the beautiful and sexy lab assistant, played by Kelly Sullivan, definitely turns Dr. Frankenstein's head away from his self absorbed fiancée Elizabeth, played by Michele Ragusa.

And we cannot forget the housekeeper Frau Blucher, played by Beth Leavel, who was Victor Von Frankenstein's lover. They all assisted Dr. Frankenstein in some way to create the monster, played by Shuler Hensley. I give it five stars and hope to see it again and again.

This fantastic show was based off of the original "Young Frankenstein" movie, directed by Mel Brooks in 1974. The musical does the show justice and gives the audience a great laugh that won't easily be forgotten.

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BY MICHAEL KIMMEL
Staff Writer

In a season when everyone is proclaiming their support for "change" it's a comfort to return to some old friends for constancy and consistency.

And who could be more constant than Pete Seeger, that near-nonenagenarian folk singer who pretty much single-handedly resurrected the American folk vernacular, and re-presented it to generations of new audiences. (Oh, that and spearheaded the cleanup of the Hudson River.) After all, what Seeger did was take guttural old black blues, black South African folk songs, and songs of white rural resistance and made them

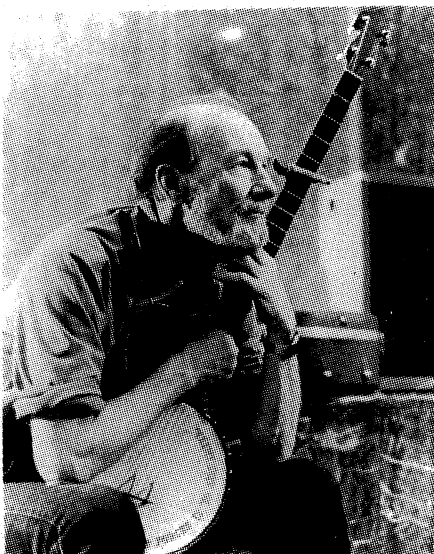
Constants in a World of Change

so palatable that three generations of children were weaned on them. What could be more subversive than that?

Seeger's been a constant presence, and while his voice has nearly given out, he is so adroit a singer and such an affable banjo and guitar picker that it hardly matters. On this release of new material, Seeger reminisces about political struggles old and new, and the musical soundtrack he's provided for three-quarters of a century. His bearded grised features, his sweet if shaky voice, and his political affiliations are so damned sensible that he makes real democracy worth defending.

If Pete Seeger is the grandfather of the 1950s folk revival, Joan

Baez is one half of his most fabled offspring (the other is, of course, Bob Dylan). And while Dylan has



Courtesy of Google Images

Pete Seeger, who is 89 years old this year, started his musical career in 1940 while traveling across the United States.

reinvented himself more often than Elvis Costello, Baez's sweet soprano voice and calm politics of compassion have remained utterly unchanged.

On her latest release, that's both the good news and the bad news. Many of the songs are as languidly haunting as ever, but some also feel anachronistic, as if the world has passed them by. Steve Earle's respectful production edges towards the border where timeless truths become tired platitudes. Happily, Baez rarely crosses over, and her soothing voice and rich arrangements are just the thing to curl up to with a cup of chamomile tea on a rainy afternoon.

No rainy afternoons for Brian Wilson, founder and resident genius of the Beach Boys. Wilson invented the SoCal surf sound, and spent decades making it lush, richer and more orchestral and majestic. And then he retreated, broken, into a myopic exile.

So it's a bit miraculous to have him back -- after his nervous breakdowns, a decade of virtual hibernation, and the deaths of his two brothers. And he's not simply recycling the old sounds, like the near-septuagenarian Mike Love prancing around the stage singing "Surfin' Safari."

This new release is as musically grand as it is lyrically grandiose. Wilson has somehow come to believe that SoCal surfers are now the quintessential American story, and that sound defines the American pageant. His trademark bright harmonies and lush arrangements are punctuated by pompous poetic interludes and vague homilies. A sweet album, but one where more is definitely less.

Brian Wilson: That Lucky Old Sun (Capitol) -- Joan Baez: Day After Tomorrow (Razor and Tie) -- Pete Seeger: Pete Seeger at 89 (Appleseed Records)

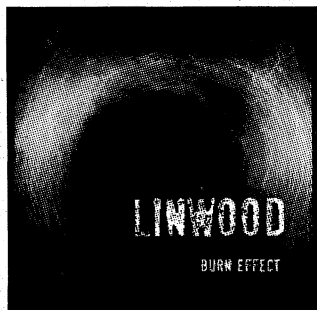
LINWOOD'S "BURN EFFECT"

BY NADER NOURAEI
Contributing Writer

Today's music scene might seem a bit jumbled, but new band Linwood provides a pretty solid sound compared to the new experimental wave of genre-mixing groups out there. The band has an interesting history, as their website states that vocalist Bob Lindsey and guitarist Scott Coopwood were brought together through medical school. They met between sections of their entrance exam and discussed music regularly, thus sparking their interest in collaborating. Lindsey's then-active band was invited to record in Coopwood's studio and after graduating college, the members each went their separate ways. Several years later, Lindsey ran into Coopwood again in Mississippi, and the two started a

new group, recording 22 songs and releasing demos. Their debut album, "Burn Effect," is finally available through Waxsaw Records.

As I mentioned earlier, "Burn Effect" has a generally consistent



sound, but the problem is that it isn't particularly refreshing. Lindsey appropriately states that music trends are of no importance to the band. This is credible, given the fact that the songs on "Burn Effect" are remi-

niscient of '90s alternative without the vulgar edge that left so many youths with rebellious tastes in their mouths, rather than the screeching, angst-driven or lighter, poetic rock that is popular today.

In fact, Linwood's aim seems to be going in another direction altogether. It isn't attempting to develop the qualities of an anthem, be it designed for the furious teenager or the pissed-off girlfriend from hell. Instead, "Burn Effect" is more of a collective expression of emotion, ranging from gentle romantic frustration to passive desire. The album has a very personal feel, as the songs seem to collectively embody a singular character. Listening to it feels like experiencing a narrative that guides you through the story of his feelings, which is a nice touch.

One of the low points of the album is the abuse of repetition. On almost every track, the chorus is repeated over and over again, not only

throughout the song, but especially at the end. Normally this would be acceptable, but after listening to the same cheesy rhyming schemes for five or six times straight before finally hearing the end can be irritating. This is most prevalent in the tracks "Lie To You," "Believe," and "Are U Awake." Sometimes, this repetitive style actually seems functional, as if struggling to affirm a specific statement, as in "Circle." Unfortunately, this generally makes the tracks seem very short.

Linwood has also established a very mature, weary tone throughout this album. Lindsey's vocals aren't harsh and he never screams, but his style is raw and simple. The music itself is often catchy and usually upbeat. It's a decent mixed chronol-

ogy of American rock music all on one album.

Notable tracks include "Sentimental Conversation," which is a favorite because of its relaxed, soaring vocals backed by a dream-like melody, and "The Dead," for its upbeat guitar and assertive vocals.

Ultimately, "Burn Effect" is the sort of go-to album you just want to pop into your music player and dance carelessly around your room in your pajamas. Linwood's lyrics aren't the most creative, and their music isn't particularly progressive. However, their work is decent to listen to if you're looking for something quick and catchy. Look for their album on iTunes and music stores across the country.

Editor's Note: Stony Brook's own WUSB radio station (90.1 FM) has been nominated for a mtvU Woodie Award this year! Vote at: Go to http://woodies.mtvu.com/nominees/college_radio

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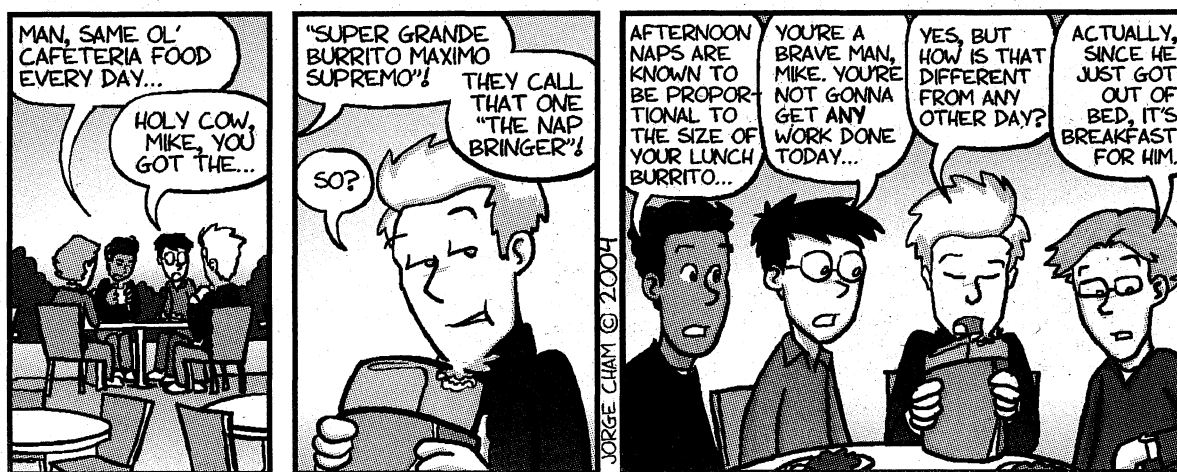
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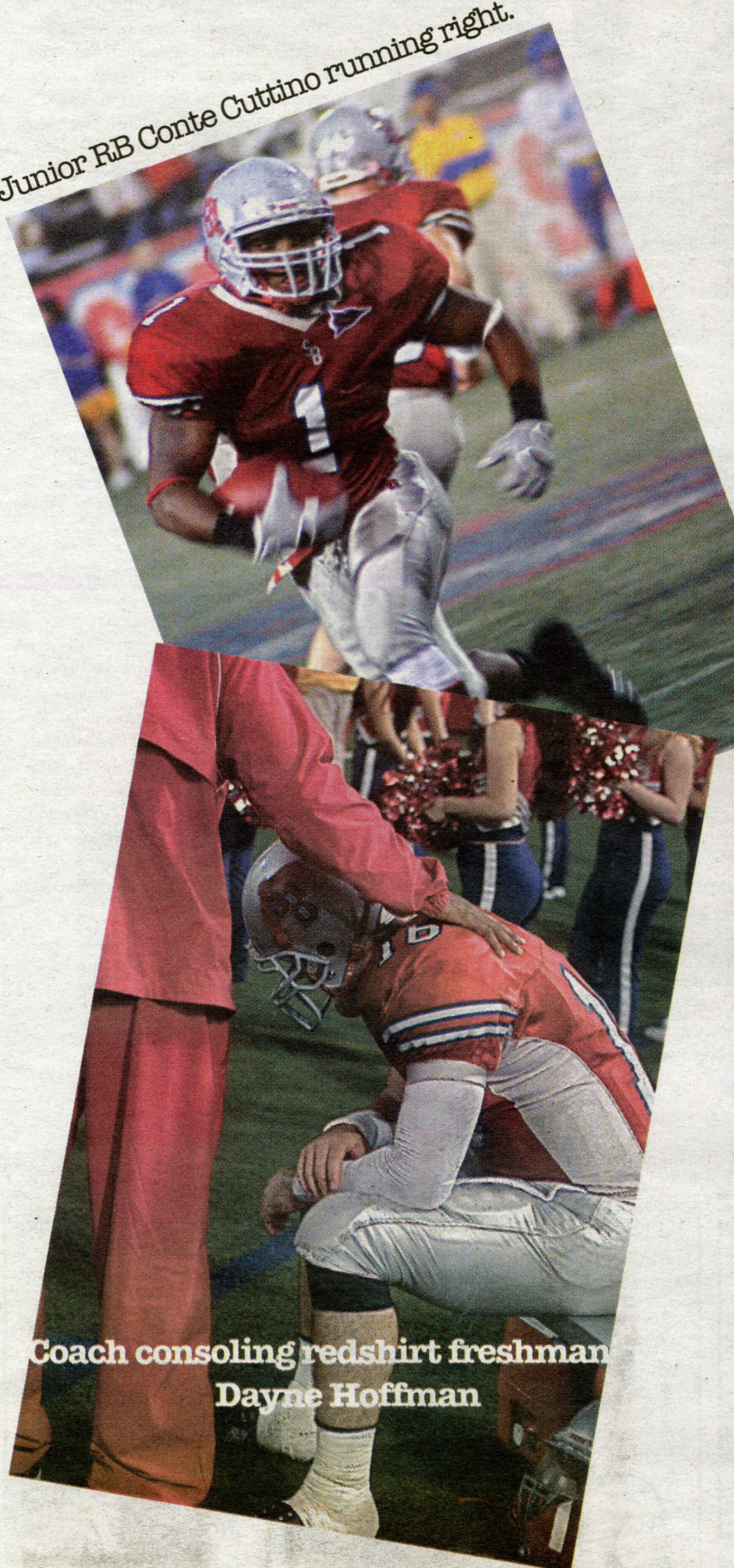
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Scenes from the Seawolves Shellacking



Former Men's Basketball Star Emanuel Neto looking dejected after Hofstra scores again

Junior RB Conte Cuttino running right.



Coach consoling redshirt freshman Dayne Hoffman



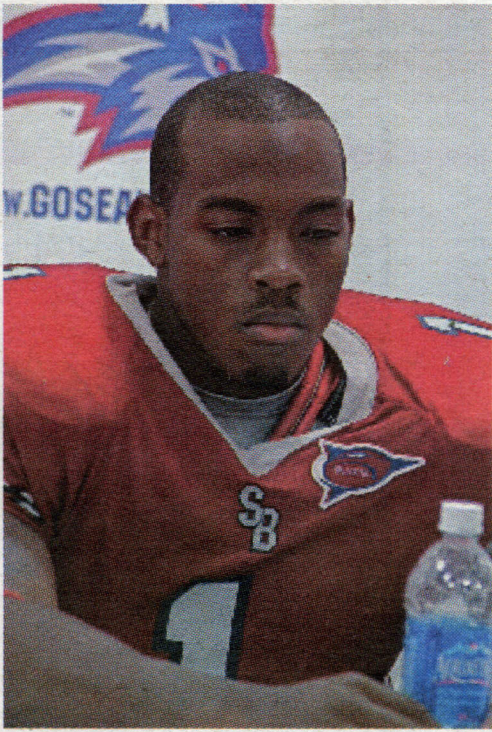
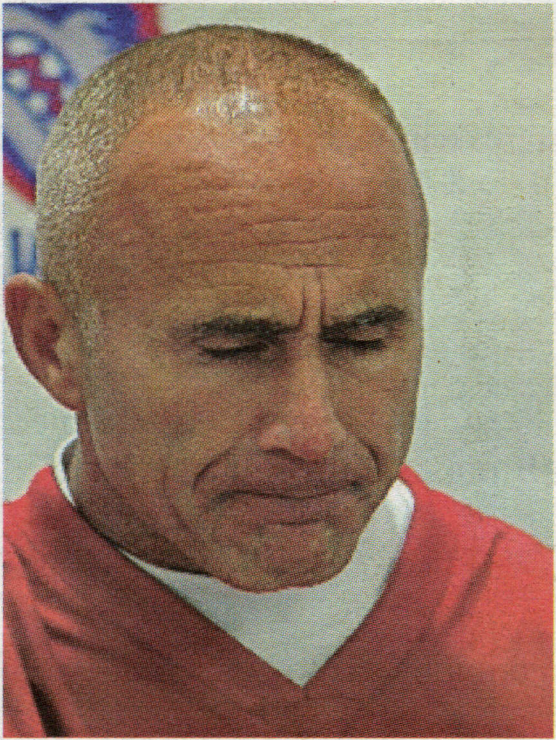
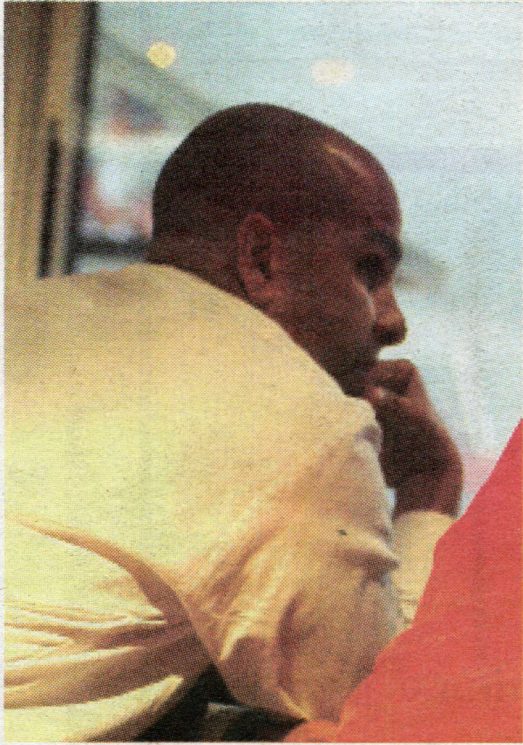


Players wondering what went wrong



Hofstra QB Cory Christopher was happy with his teams performance

Faces of Dejection:
Athletic Director Jim Fiore Head Coach Chuck Priore RB Conte Cuttino



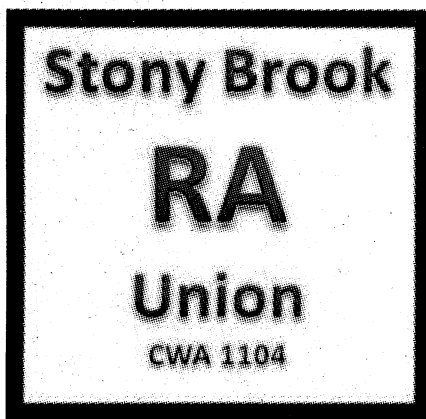
Hofstra QB Cory Christopher Looking to pass



Emanuel Neto showing his game face



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

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Presidential Debate Sparks a Fuse?

By HEDYA CHIBANE
Contributing Writer

This year's presidential campaign has and will continue to be one of the most monumental and controversial modern campaigns America, and maybe even the world, has ever seen.

The presidential debate was, of course, just as contentious before it even began. On the night prior to when Senators Barack Obama and John McCain were to meet and discuss foreign policy and international affairs, it was unsure the presidential debate was going to occur due to the weakened state of our economy. However, at 9 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 26, both candidates were ready at their podiums.

What I thought would be a clean debate ended up being a heated battle to prove who is more experienced and who can offer America more financial stability. I, as a spectator, could practically feel the tension radiating off of the TV screen every time money was used as a bullet.

It was no big surprise, however, that the economy ended up being more of the central focus than foreign policy, considering just how close we came to another Great Depression. Both senators volleyed back and forth throwing out how much the opposing team unnecessarily spent, or how large of a tax cut the rich would get.

It was hard to tell who would make the best president anymore, since both of the candidates' dirty laundry was aired out in the open. In this field, I felt that Obama dominated, highlighting the importance of focusing on Main Street more than Wall Street, and lowering the prices of necessary services such as a college education and health care.

When the discussion shifted to foreign policy, however, the tension in the air was so thick you could cut it with a knife, and I found myself questioning if I still found that Obama was the perfect choice.

It was clear that McCain's approach was to stress his past experience with wars and complicated foreign relations. In fact, he said, "By the way, I've been to..." more than just a couple of times and practically ridiculed his opponent.

Obama, on the other hand, seemed a bit unsure of his standing, especially with Iran. While he preached diplomacy, he suggested adding more troops in Afghanistan and sending out just a few men to Pakistan. Through McCain's cheap shots and his big advantage of "more experience," Obama did manage to keep his cool and directly address his rival.

Many Americans who are focused on this epic moment in our country's history, greatly anticipated the presidential debate. For me, it helped answer many questions, and gave me an overview on how both candidates react under pressure. It was interesting to also be able to see into the candidates' true characters and how they interact with someone that they may see as a threat.

The divisive and fast paced debate showed America what to focus on when choosing a candidate that will provide us with change. This year's presidential campaign has and will continue to be one of the most monumental and controversial modern campaigns America, and maybe even the world, has ever seen.

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Congress Needs to Step Up

By HIRA AHMED
Assistant Opinions Editor

The past two weeks had already been plagued with economic upheaval, without the added pandemonium caused by the failure of the \$700 billion financial bailout plan, last Monday, courtesy of Congress. Consequently, the Dow Jones' average went down 778 points and the credit markets were frozen.

Two-thirds of Republicans and one-third of House Democrats failed to vote for this bill, all of Congress, both left and right, are to be blamed for their inability to look past their party ideology and short term political gain in a time of deep financial crisis. Republicans who voted against the bill cited excessive government regulation as grounds for failure. According to money.cnn.com, House Republicans feared this measure would set a precedent for big government, and permanently suspend economic freedom. It seems that the reasons for voting down this bill lay more in petty politicking than in the hurt feelings of House Republicans caused by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's criticism of sitting President's economic stewardship of the last eight years. Meanwhile, House Democrats were concerned about how unpopular Wall Street bail out plan was on Main Street and how it would jeopardize their reelection prospects.

However, if a bailout plan is not agreed upon and passed soon by Congress, all Americans will suffer dire financial consequences from quickly shrinking savings in their 401 K plans, to loss of

jobs due to severe contraction of available credit, to big and small businesses.

The American economy and people are at a very critical juncture in our history, where if swift action is not taken, we may risk a further deepening of the economic crisis, which may result in deep recession just not in America but also in other parts of the world.

Of course Congress can debate the merits of the rescue plan until the cows come home but the country cannot afford to delay an effective response to the economic crisis. The members of Congress, who are elected by their constituents, have a greater burden to tend to and that is to decide what is in the larger good for the nation and in the best interests of our future.

Congress has always had a reputation for bickering over little things and not getting much done. Their approval rating is even lower than the one of the most unpopular sitting presidents in our history. However, at a time when major banks are filing bankruptcy day after day, there is no room for inaction.

During Congress's two-day recess for Rosh Hashanah, I hope each elected member of Congress will take a pause and think about our collective financial solvency and will throw a rescue life line to our economy teetering on the edge of a financial abyss. That our Congressmen and Congresswomen would see past their myopia and see the need for a swift action to pass the rescue plan in front of them.

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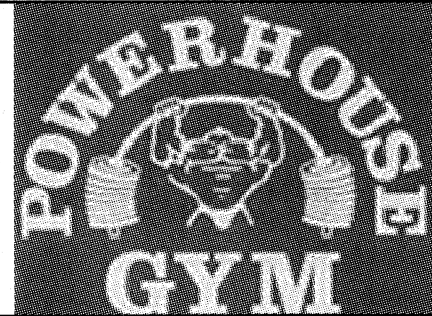
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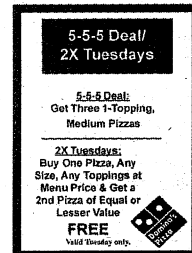
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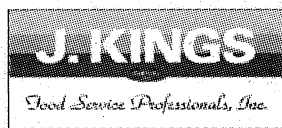
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Seawolves Blow Chance to Turn Rivalry Around



By CARL CARRIE
Assistant Sports Editor

This season was supposed to be different. The athletic department used these words to describe the 2008 football team: "Experience. Swagger. Anticipation. Confidence."

Maybe they should add one more—disappointment.

When Chuck Priore took over the head coaching job in 2006, the Seawolves had no scholarship players. They had lost to Hofstra by a combined 116-21 score in the two years prior. However since then, the number scholarship players has been rising, and the games against Hofstra have been close, albeit defeats, 17-8 and 33-28.

But this year they were on even ground. The game was supposed to be a bona-fide rivalry game.

"I think maybe this was the first time we've been on almost equal footing with them in terms of scholarships," Hofstra coach Dave Cohen said. "In the past, it wasn't really much of an equal rivalry."

Stony Brook had their chance to make it a rivalry, but failed miserably.

This year the team went up from 35 to 55 scholarships. They only lost six players from a 6-5 team last year. The team was poised for success this year.

"Unlike the past two years we've got great experience on this team," Priore said in the preseason outlook. "We have 22 seniors and I think any time you have that type of experience on your team it's going to allow you to be successful from the leadership standpoint, the work ethic standpoint, and the understanding of the x's and o's certainly has to do with

experience."

Unfortunately it hasn't turned out that way. It has been a rough year for the Seawolves.

They have converted only 25% of their third downs. They have been outscored 144-85, and in the first quarter 54-21. They have not scored a touchdown in their last 11 quarters. Teams cannot win playing catch-up—especially when they can't convert on third down.

The Hofstra game was marred by mistakes. Two lost fumbles. Two interceptions. Snap over the punters head. Dropped touchdown pass.

"If you're a good football team you could overcome some of those things," Priore said.

The team could not overcome those mistakes—so does that make them a bad team?

"We'll get better," Priore said. "And as a team they believe in that and we believe in that."

But do the students believe it? Will prospective athletes believe it? If this losing streak continues, it could put a damper on future recruiting.

Picture this scenario. Meet Bob—a local athlete deciding between two schools, Hofstra and Stony Brook. He looks at Stony Brook and he sees nice stadium, good academics, and the team plays in a major conference. Then he looks at Hofstra and sees the same thing, but something sticks out—Hofstra's 12-0 record v. Stony Brook. Which school is Bob going to pick? Probably Hofstra.

This was finally supposed to be rivalry. And if it doesn't become one soon, it might never be.

Coach K's Keys

Continued from pg 1

most of the game. The defensive line, specifically, was almost always losing yardage on the snap of the ball. If an offensive line can push a defensive line for two yards, and the back doesn't get touched until the third yard, that's pretty good. The Seawolves were able to get pressure from the outside, but not much from the middle.

Extending the play - The Hofstra receivers did a great job of getting yards after the catch, or YAC. The quarterback was able to get them the ball for short gains, and they were able to make big plays.

Mistakes - "A good team can overcome mistakes," Coach Priore said in the post game press conference. I agree that a good team can, but not when the other team makes so few mistakes, and when

your team makes so many. Hofstra scored on every possession in the first half and finished with no turnovers. Stony Brook scored on only one possession in the game, and had four turnovers; one of those turnovers included a muffed punt which would have given the Seawolves excellent field position. Two bad snaps also occurred. One was on a punt, which the kicker Luke Gaddis tried to first pick up the ball, then tried to kick it out of the end zone for a safety. The referee called him down at the four, and the defense was able to hold Hofstra to a field goal.

Hofstra head coach Dave Cohen said "5 or 6 plays can make a game." In this game, that's all it took. After a bye week, the Seawolves will hope to snap their losing streak in Virginia in its first Big South Conference game against Liberty.

Women's Soccer Picks Up First Conference Victory

By SHAWN BROWN
Staff Writer

"This was a big win today," Coach Sue Ryan said. "It was our first conference win and our first win against Hartford."

The Seawolves only goal in the victory came off the foot of freshman midfielder Colleen McKenna, who took the pass from Brooke Barbuto and drove the ball past the Hawks goalie and into the top right corner of the net. McKenna's performance did not go unrecognized as she was named the America East Women's Soccer Co-Rookie of the Week, according to the SBU Athletics website.

While the Seawolves offense was constantly on the attack with eight shots on goal, the defense also stepped up, giving the team its third shut out victory of the season. Marisa Viola denied the Hawks offense on all six of their shots.

The Seawolves received a scare when Viola injured her left shoulder

on a collision in front of the goal, with only three minutes remaining in the second half. Despite the injury, Viola stayed in goal until the final whistle sounded. She walked to the sideline and sat on the bench, wincing in pain. Players and coaches crowded around Viola as trainers wrapped ice on her shoulder.

The trainers could not comment on the injury without Viola's consent, but Coach Ryan was impressed with her goalkeeper's performance.

"She is a tough kid," Coach Ryan said. "She stayed in goal the whole time even though she was hurt."

With the victory, the Seawolves climbed back to a .500 winning percentage with an overall record of (6-6) and are in second place in the American East standings. The team heads to Durham, New Hampshire this week to take on the Wildcats (3-8-1). Coming off of Sunday's big win, the Seawolves will look to win back-to-back games for the second time this season.



The Seawolves picked up a victory in its first conference game of the season against Hartford on Sunday.
Shawn Brown/SB Statesman

Game Wrap

Continued from pg 1

back Brock Jackolski, both put the ball in the endzone.

Jackolski rushed for 35 yards on 11 carries, and caught one pass for eight yards. Christopher was the teams leading rusher, gaining 48 yards on 12 carries, and going a very efficient 15-24 for 161 yards and one touchdown. He also scored two rushing touchdowns on carries of one and two yards.

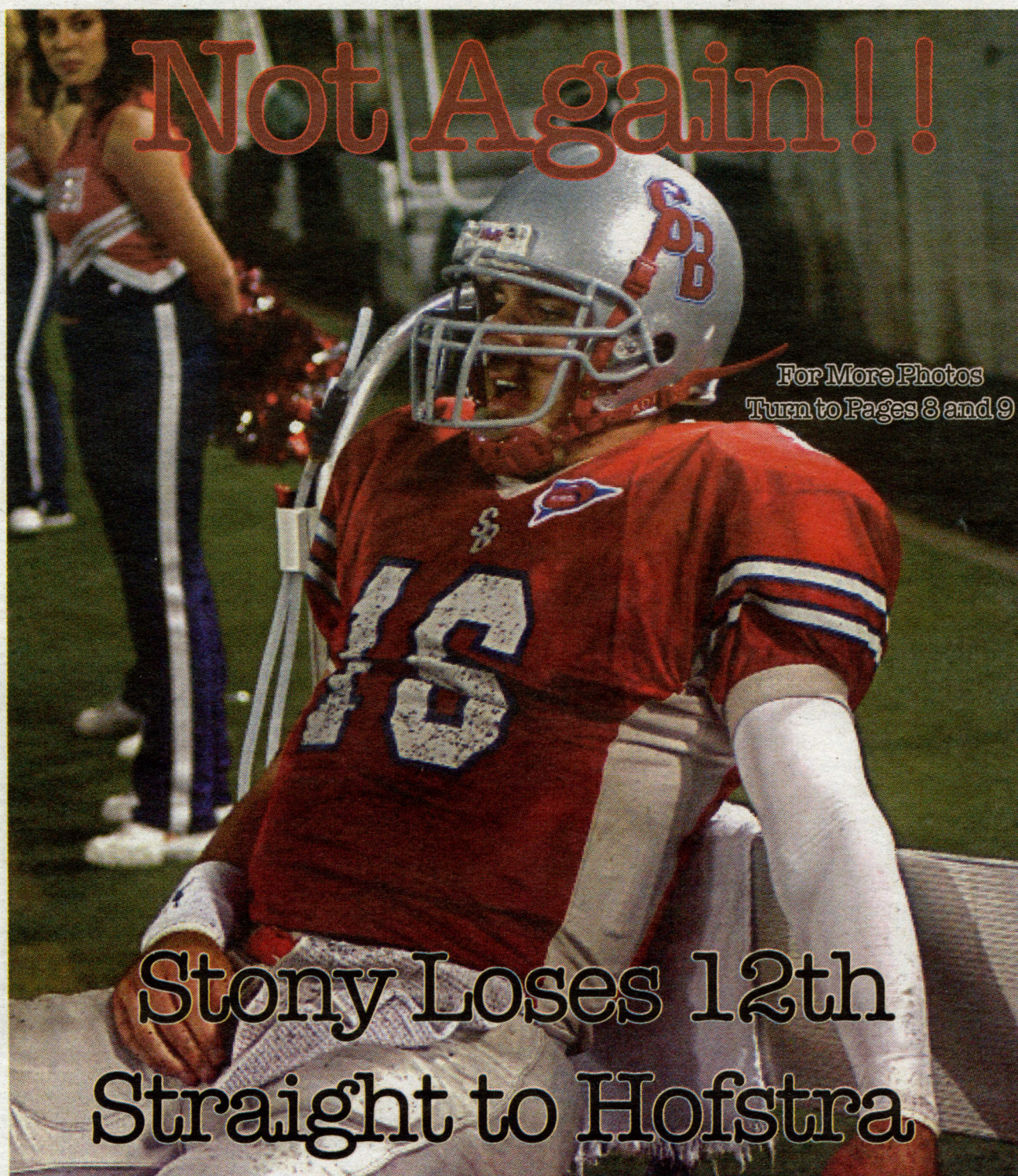
The lone Seawolves scoring came

on a 28 yard field goal by Luke Gaddis late in the first half.

Even after such a disappointing showing, Coach Priore is sure his team is in a good position moving forward.

"I think from a perspective of winning and losing, certainly we did not fare where we wanted to be," he said. "We've been there before as a program where we've strung some loses together and we've been able to overcome that. I expect this team can too"

STATESMAN SPORTS



Coach Kobasiuk's Keys to the Game

By KEITH KOBASIUK
Senior Writer

From just looking at the stats, these two teams played a pretty good game. Hofstra led 18-16 in first downs, led in total yards by 100, and had 3 more penalties than the Seawolves. But critical mistakes and questionable calls put Stony Brook on the short end of this lopsided match up.

Possessions - Stony Brook only punted twice all game, and that looks like a good thing. In reality, they only punted twice because they couldn't convert on 4th downs and they turned the ball over. Four turnovers, two interceptions and two fumbles, along with four turnovers on downs put the Seawolves in a hole they could not get themselves out of.

Play calling - I liked the idea to go for it early in the first quarter on 4th down, but it was 4th and 13. That's a long way to go, and to have the receiver on a come back route that was 3 yards short if the marker doesn't make sense. If you're going to run a play, make sure the receiver can get to the marker and sit there. I really despised the play calling late in the second half. Stony Brook was down 31-0 at this point, and with first and goal from the eight (the closest they were to the end zone all day), they ran three questionable plays. On first down they ran a screen which fell incomplete. Second down, a run, which lost two yards, and on third and goal from the 10, they ran a swing pass. Why not try for the end zone? The offense is already in a spread formation, toss one up and see what happens. A swing pass, down near the goal line is tough, especially if the defense is in a man defense compared to a zone. Screen and swing passes are not going to get you into the end zone. And then, they kick the field goal. I realize you don't want to get shut out, but you went for it four other times, a fifth wouldn't have hurt. A 7 feels better than a 3. The play action for Stony Brook did work well, and they were able to get most of their big plays off of it.

The men in the trenches - It seemed like Stony Brook was getting beat off the ball for

By GENE MORRIS
Sports Editor

Apparently the 12th time is not the charm either.

In front of a raucous crowd at LaVale Stadium on Friday night the Hofstra Pride defeated the Stony Brook Seawolves once again, the 12th time in all, 43-3.

Although heavy rain was in the forecast and it drizzled at times, the game itself was "the perfect storm" according to Stony Brook Head Coach Chuck Priore.

The Seawolves turned the ball over four times on the night, including a key fumble by Edwin Gowins that was returned 60 yards by

Hofstra's Leslie Jackman for a touchdown. "I think if you're a good football team you can overcome some of those things."

The Seawolves offense was not good enough to overcome on this night.

Redshirt Freshman Quarterback Dayne Hoffman finished nine of 22 on the evening for 119 yards. He was intercepted twice.

Senior Dan Sweeney made a late relief appearance completing three of his five pass attempts for 20 yards.

Hofstra turned all four Stony Brook turnovers into touchdowns and jumped out to a 31-3 lead at half time.

Even though the team faced a large deficit at the half, Coach Priore tried to keep

his heads team in the game with his locker room speech.

"We went in, my message was it's 0-0," Priore said. "If you take the fact that it's 0-0 and you come out and play like it's 0-0, you'll be proud of what the end of the game will be."

"The message was this; it doesn't matter what happens in the past, you got to look for the next move and the next move is to play the 2nd half as competitively as you can," he said.

Hofstra's two main weapons on offense, quarterback Cory Christopher and running

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