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sbstatesman.org

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"Equal Work, Equal Pay!" - Photos from Student Protest

NEWS

Ann Coulter Comes to Stony Brook, **Holds Lecture**

Ann Coulter visited Stony Brook University on Monday, Mar. 31, to speak to students in a lecture titled, "Liberals Are Wrong About Everything." Coulter -- a wellknown, conservative political commentator -- focused on educating the audience about conservative views, while ridiculing liberal beliefs.

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FEATURES

Wired Science: Nanotechnology Wages a War on Cancer

At the University of California - Los Angeles, a war on cancer has been waged on a nano-sized scale. Successful research has taken place at the Nano Machine Center in the California Nanosystems Institute to develop a nanomachine, which captures and stores anticancer drugs and then releases them when exposed to light.

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Graduate Student **Employees Protest Wages**

Incoming Assistants to Receive \$2000 Increase While Current Assistants' Wages Remain Same



April Warren / SB Statesman

Graduate student teaching assistants protesting unequal wages.

OPINION

Passing the Bigger Better Bottle Bill Just Makes Sense

One of the biggest steps that we can take to help out New York's environment is to pass the Bigger Better Bottle Bill in the state budget this year. Based on the fact that the original Bottle Bill, that was passed in 1982, has resulted in such success, it just makes sense to support the updates to it.

>> PAGE 13

By April Warren

Cheers of "no justice, no peace" along with neon orange and yellow signs reading "Dean Martin, I'm hungry" and "TA's/ GA's unite for justice" punched the air on Wednesday during a demonstration led by the Graduate Student Employees Union to protest against what the Union describes as unfair wages.

Lawrence Martin, dean of Stony Brook's Graduate School approved a two thousand dollars salary increase to incoming teaching assistants (TA) and graduate assistants (GA), but current TA's and GA's will not

receive the same increase.

Teaching Assistants aid professors by grading papers and teaching recitations or workshops, which help to reinforce concepts discussed in lectures. Graduate assistants work more in the administrative offices on

'It's unfair to people who've already been here," said one protesting TA for a 70-student microeconomic theory class who would not give her name. "The new students may be more inexperienced."

Currently, new graduate students will receive approximately \$17,000 while returning students salaries will remain

at \$15,145 according to Victor the rate specified in the SUNY Rosado, business agent for the

The Union represents approximately 1,000 TA's and GA's from over 20 academic depart-

"It's kind of insulting," said would not give his last name. Like once they admit you, you're not good enough."

Other graduate students

"It's leaving a bad taste in my mouth," said Angel Gonzales. "If awards and various other types we don't do anything, though, what does that say about us?'

The average TA/GA's salary is \$15,000. This is almost double Graduate Student Employees Union collective bargaining agreement, which is \$8,093, according to Lauren Sheprow of the university's media relations department.

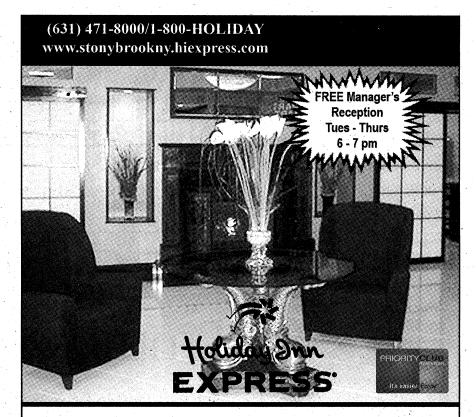
"All state-funded GA and TA Dylan, a graduate student who lines funded by the Graduate School at Stony Brook University receive the same annual salary or stipend," said Sheprow. "There are other forms of remuneration for which GA's and TA's are eligible through fellowship of funding?

Many of the unionized em-

Continued on page 3







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Ann Coulter Visits SBU

MIXED STUDENT RECEPTION

Coulter Shares Conservative Views, Blasts Liberals in Talk Session

By Zachary Kurtz

Ann Coulter visited Stony Brook University on Monday, Mar. 31, to speak to students in a lecture titled, "Liberals Are Wrong About Everything." Coulter -- a well-known, conservative political commentator -- focused on educating the audience about conservative views, while ridiculing liberal beliefs.

The event, held in the Student Activity Center auditorium, was divided into three sections: a 45-minute speech, a 45-minute Q&A session, and a public book signing.

President of Stony Brook's College Republicans, Kevin McKeon, introduced Coulter. "It's not particularly popular to be a conservative on campus," he said. "We'd like to change that."

This sentiment was the underlying theme for the rest of the evening -- to detail and debate current conservative ideology for Bipartisan Campaign Reform a younger generation of voters.

During her speech, Coulter concentrated on presenting conservative views and poking fun at liberal ideology.

Coulter is known for her fervent opposition of liberal views, which has made her a controversial figure on the public stage. Still, she has written six New York Times bestsellers, and currently writes for a syndicated column for the Universal Press Syndicate, according to her website.

One of the major topics Coulter discussed was the conflicting opinion between political parties on the fight against terrorism.

Coulter blamed liberals for taking a soft stance on Islamic terrorism. She also blamed Democrats for not dealing harshly enough with prisoners at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp. "Gitmo sounds like a freshman dorm at a state university...where terrorists wait for a Democratic president," she said. For that comment, the audience laughed and applauded her.

In reference to the current political race, Coulter said that she was planning on voting for Democratic candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton, even though Clinton was not a conservative.

She mentioned that John Mc-Cain, the Republican presidential nominee, "is a fragile vessel for important ideas." She also referred to the field of candidates

for the 2008 election, as a "poverty of leadership" in U.S. politics. She said that the younger generation had to "rise up" in order to restore true conservative principles to the political arena.

After her speech, the Q&A session was held, which lasted for the majority of the event. Coulter

"[John McCain] is a fragile vessel for important ideas."

- Ann Coulter

took direct questions from the audience, most of which were about current political election

A recurring point she made dealt with campaign finance reform, particularly during this

According to Coulter, the Act of 2001, which regulates the financing of political campaigns,

ensures that "only fat nerds and self-made billionaires" are able to run for president, which limits the playing field. Donation caps, Coulter said, cause successful campaigns to be based on the ability to raise funds instead of on the candidate's political platform.

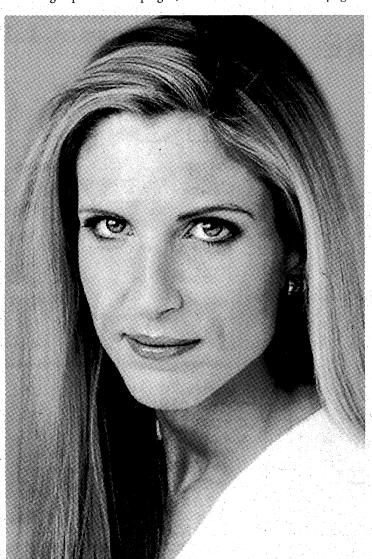
Coulter, however, was not only asked about current events.

Alexander Chamessian, a junior, asked, "What are the means to build the conservative movement?" Coulter responded, "It has to come from the youth. [They need] to understand and promote...[because] traditional leadership is dead."

She also suggested that young conservatives should be entering the show business in order to reach people emotionally, saying that it would have more of an impact than traditional media talk shows. "We [conservatives] haven't fought the cultural war" she said.

Not all people, though, felt

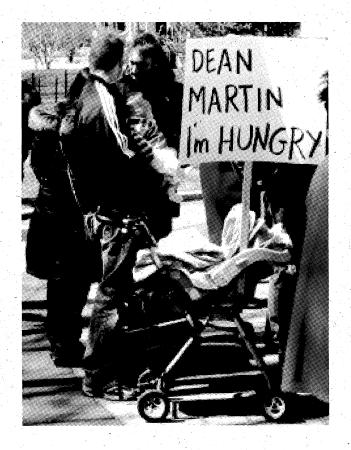
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Courtesy of Cleary University

Ann Coulter, a conservative political commentator and author.

Graduate Student **Employees Protest** Wages They Say Are Unfair



April Warren / SB Statesman

A man protesting with a baby at the fountain by Administration.

Continued from pg 1

ployees on campus are full-time employees whereas the graduate tion Center. students work 20 hours a week, causing them to be in different salary brackets.

The protest started at the circular fountain just outside the Administration building. Then, the procession of about 130 students and union workers marched towards the Computer Science building, which houses the Gradate School.

With bullhorns blaring, they Martin, urging him to hear their concerns once more.

The protestors marched and chanted all the way up to the second floor, and took over the chanting, blowing red whistles, and listening to Stewart Acuff, National Organizing Director for the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

The federation is a voluntary federation of 56 national and international labor unions.

This is not the first time the Union protested the wage discrepancy.

They lobbied to block any plan allowing for appropriations to be used for the new Recrea-

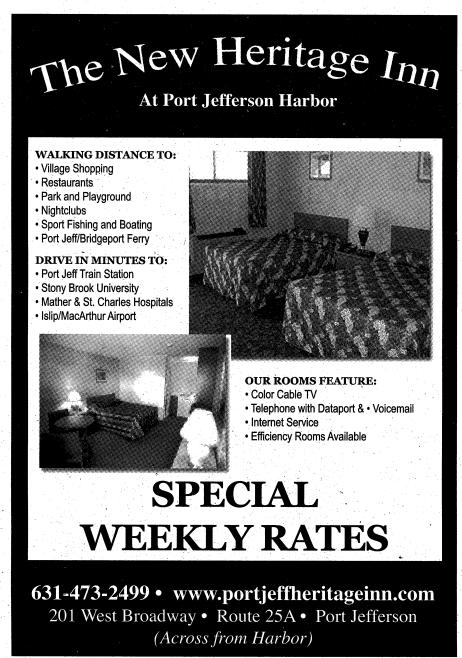
The Center was first proposed in President Kenny's Five Year Plan (2000-2005) and is now included in the current Plan (2008-2013).

In President Kenny's task force report for the 2005-2010 Plan, the university acknowledged the current cost of living in the Stony Brook area is \$16,077 for nine months.

The university should treat set out to deliver a letter to Dean a significant increase in the TA stipend as a campus-wide priority...to a projected stipend of \$17,550," according to the task force on Graduate Education.

The university welcomes staircase for at least 30 minutes, the opportunity to discuss this further with the Graduate Student Employees Union and has encouraged the Union to pursue this in the Labor Management forum," said Sheprow.

"We are demonstrating today [that] we are in this for as long as it takes and whatever it takes," Acuff said. His tan skin turning a shade of purple as he bellowed through the bullhorn, We will win."



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Thursday:

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Friday:

High: 53/Low 44 Mostly cloudy with rain showers.



Saturday:

High: 55/Low: 41 Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain showers during the day.



Sunday:

High: 60/Low: 40 Mostly sunner with some clouds at night.



Monday:

High: 56/Low: 42 Mostly sunny with some clouds at night.



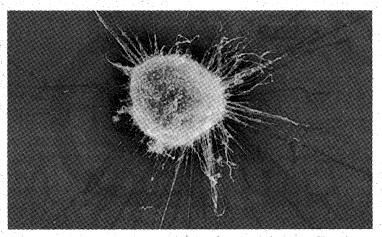
Tuesday:

High: 50/Low: 36 Partly cloudy and cooler.

By Alex Kahn

Wired Science: Nanotechnology

Wages a War on Cancer



Courtesy of HopeForCancer.com

A breast cancer cell.

By Tejas Gawade

At the University of California - Los Angeles, a war on cancer has been waged on a nano-sized

Successful research has taken place at the Nano Machine Center in the California Nanosystems Institute to develop a nanomachine, which captures and stores anticancer drugs and then releases them when exposed to light.

More affectionately known as the "nanoimpeller," the machine operates inside a living cell.

It's novel in both proportion and the fact that it is the first lightpowered one of its kind.

For a while now, researchers have attempted to create and simulate nanomechanical systems that are sensitive to stimuli. One precise application is drug delivery. But for this particular project, the system must contain a photoactivated moving component and a compatible container.

What the researchers used for this was a mesoporous silica nanoparticle that was coated with pores on the inside using azobenzene. Azobenzene oscillates between two different conformations based on light

The most concluding part of using these materials was that they worked human cancer cells in vitro. When light was directed at the particles, the nanoimpeller automatically released the stored anti-cancer drugs.

The experiment worked in several different types of human cancer cells, including colon and

pancreatic cancer cells. Just like this, the materials are pretty flexible. For instance, the pores can be loaded with cargo molecules. These could be dyes or anticancer drugs as used in the experiment. They display a wagging motion (not unlike the bee dance), and consequently escape the pores and attack the cell.

The researchers have published their results in "Small", using confocal microscopic images displaying the impeller operation. The pores of the particles can be loaded with cargo molecules, such as dyes or anticancer drugs. In response to light exposure, a wagging motion occurs, causing the cargo molecules to escape from the pores and attack the cell. These were regulated by the intensity of the light, the excitation time and the specific wavelength.

In relation to the studies, one of the researchers was quoted in Science Daily as saying, "This system has potential applications for precise drug delivery and might be the next generation for novel platform for the treatment of cancers such as colon and stomach cancer.

The fact that one can operate the mechanism by remote control means that one can administer repeated small-dosage releases to achieve greater control of the drug's effect."

The research represents an exciting moment in nanotechnology and cancer. Tumor growth can now be actually inhibited. What remains to be seen is whether the technology can be universally applied to more diseases.

Ann Coulter Visits Stony **Brook University**

Continued from pg 3

their questions received a sufficient answer.

One student, who did not wish to be named, said that the way Coulter describes Muslim-Americans was similar to the way Japanese-Americans were described during World War II. "She completely avoided my question," the student said. "[I] was actually leaning towards the Israel-Palestinian conflict," but he was cut off by Coulter before being able to complete his thought. "It was like punching a guy knowing that he can't hit back," he said.

Coulter didn't seem to mind getting "grilled" for her views, and she said during the session, "When you get attacked, that's when you know you're onto something."

her here at Stony Brook," said Ross Barkan, a freshman. "It helps different opinions to be expressed."

Kelly Reeve, a junior, said she was glad that Coulter was going to speak. "I was actually excited that Ann Coulter would be on campus, and I think more students should have showed up," she said.

But despite a generally en- make a career out of it." thusiastic response from the audience that night, some Stony Bradley Donaldson and Zeeshan Brook University students were Mughal contributed reporting.

not moved by Coulter's overall

Junior Keith Tilley said, "I wasn't as impressed as I thought I would be. [It was full of] historical inaccuracies, cheap jokes and attacks, not facts."

Tino Evangelou, a graduate student, agreed with the presence of historical inaccuracies in Coulter's speech. Evangelou said Coulter made "broad generalizations" and "attacks on [Democratic candidate] Barack Obama's heritage by referring to him as B. Hussein Obama."

Evangelou was also disappointed that Coulter's speech was not very long. The event started 20 minutes late, at 8:20 p.m., and Coulter only spoke for about 25 minutes of her allotted 45-minute speech.

221 of the 595 tickets available for the speech were sold, "I think it's fine to have according to the Faculty Student Association. The tickets cost \$5 for students, and \$10 for general admittance.

Hosting Coulter also cost \$20,000 plus private expenses, her going rate for college campus talks, according to the Young America Foundation.

"She has a lot of style, but no substance," Evangelou continued. "And she's managed to

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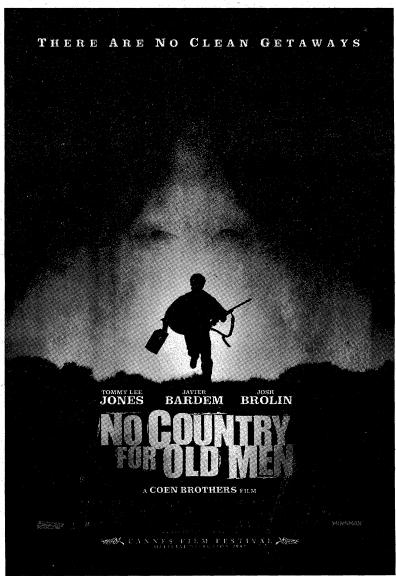
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The Stony Brook Statesman

Staller Style:

Death and Greed



COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES

By Ula Lukszo

The Coen Brothers' most recent film, "No Country for Old Men," begins with painfully beautiful scenes of dawn over the desert in west Texas. There is a starkness to the tumbleweed and cactus landscape as the sun hits high in the sky, and we see towering mesas and slowly turning windmills in the distance.

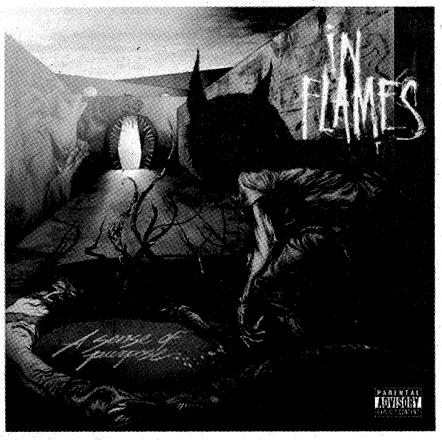
In cinematography alone the film

excels, and it is evident why it was nominated for the Academy Award. The writing is a beautiful adaptation of Cormac McCarthy's simple, clipped prose, and the screenplay doesn't shy away from the occasional moment of humor.

And boy, are those moments of humor needed to get through the gruesome, grisly murders strewn through the

Continued on page 11

MUSIC REVIEW: A Sense of Purpose and a Neophyte In **Flames**



Courtesy of google images

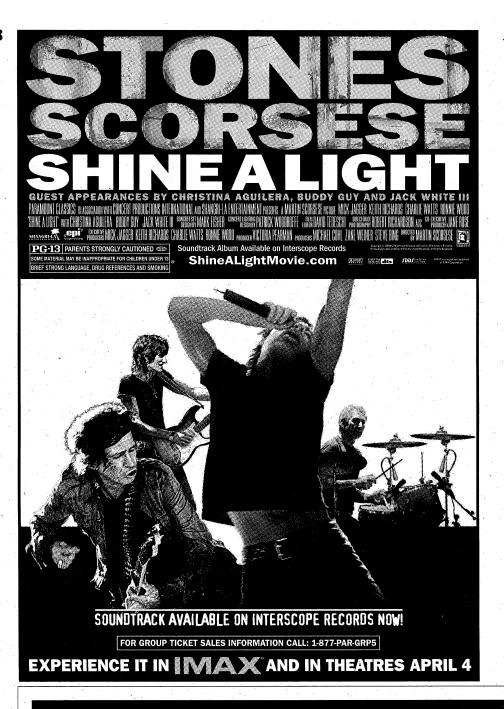
BYKWAME OPAM Staff Writer

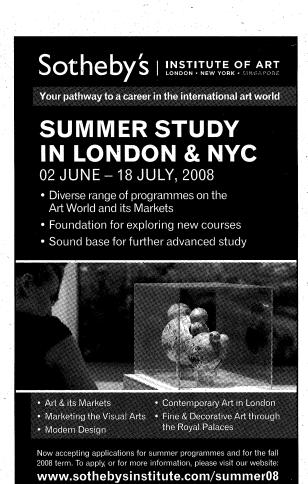
Tahir Ahmad, a student and fan of Swedish metal band In Flames, let me know that the band, along with At The Gates and Dark Tranquility, was a pioneer in the melodic death metal genre. What set those groups apart from their peers at the time Continued on page 11 was the fusion of dark, heavy vocals and

lyrics with complex melodies and distorted guitar work. What resulted would become known as the Gothenburg sound (so named after the native Gothenburg, Sweden) that has influenced much of the metal that reaches our ears today.

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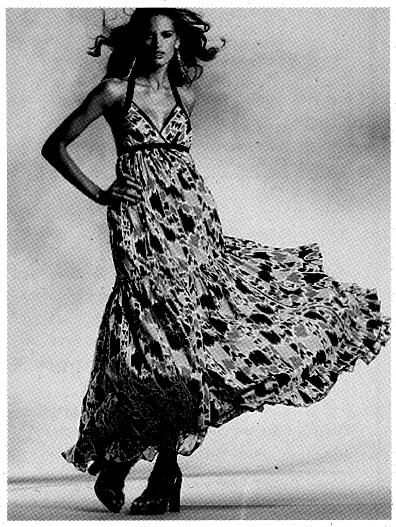


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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, April 3, 2008

Style Rote:

Dressing to the max



COURTESY OF SHOPBOB.COM

By Sanhita Reddy Staff Writer

When I think spring, I immediately am reminded of short dresses, sandals, and floral prints. But the other day I was browsing through Zara, and a cotton dress caught my eye. The maxi dress.

reaching for the denim skirts ing the day. These grass-grazing

and tank tops that line my closet, I'm going to embrace the bohemia in me and wear these long, flowy dresses that are not only easy to wear, but add a sense of freshness that has long been needed in spring fashion.

Besides the fact that the dresses floor length, color block printed are very forgiving on almost all I eyed in H&M. shapes and sizes, they offer a new sense of sensuality, and a fresh idea This season, instead of that long dresses can be worn dur- Continued on page 11

dresses all add an air of mystery to an otherwise very loose and informal outfit.

The dresses can also be very easily accessorized. I plan to add some chunky jewelry like a coral necklace or a thick silver cuff to a psychedelic print that

Forget heels when wearing

POET'S CORNER

Penguins

By ION PLAISTED

I imagine we are penguins;

Stoic, cold,

mute and flightless.

Our every step

cautious

careful!

Fearfully slipping

by one another

on the icefields

of our desire..

Lest we sprout feathers in gaudy colors,

or gracelessly learn to fly.

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A Sense of Purpose and a Neophyte In Flames

Continued from page 7

the metal and its nuances, I can only give my take on In Flames' newly released "Sense of Purpose" as a new listener with open ears. Being ignorant to a dis--cography spanning an argument. One does nine albums and fourteen years, I write this for anyone left out there listening to metal and wanting to learn something new. So, feel free to flame me as I mentally compare their sound to All That Remains and Iron Maiden.

Just to clarify, the term death metal is a bit of a misnomer. While the lyrics in the genre do find themselves in the realm of the dark and morbid, death is not at all the primary focus. The Flame itself addresses, more often than not, life, its trials, and its tribulations.

Should I acknowledge the leash

The future in captivity I'm not who I'm supposed to be."

Introspective, the lyrics decry conformity in the anyone who doesn't care album's opener, "The Mirror's Truth." This idea appears in the verse, "You're a slave to the laws and reason force fed to you by an uncaring populace. You should know you're better than this," which is perhaps a message to the boy with an owl's face gracing the album's cover. As the album progresses, of purpose.

themes of pain, individuality, truth, rage, and despair emerge as the world spins on its black axis and the protagonist presses on, faltering but never outright falling. Existentialist? I'm up for wonder how often a person can hit black bottom in a single album. Yet, the Sense of Purpose, as best as I can wager, ultimately perseveres.

Sonically, each song plays out with its own character and conviction. Surging, virtuosic guitars are accompanied by driving drumbeats and keyboard workmost staying at about mid-tempo. Vocalist Anders Friden delivers his death growls powerfully, though without much range. Be sure to "Should I join the listen to the "Chosen Pessimist," as it's one of their more epic and aurally satisfying tracks on the album despite the abrupt ending.

Altogether, I can say this is a good album. For for metal, don't bother. For those of you who know In Flames and already have an opinion of their earlier work and current efforts, I say give this a chance as it's still a good listen. For neophytes like me, it's time to go out and listen to some more with a sense

Death and Greed

Continued from page 7

film. Despite "only" killing 11 people, the character of Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem) appears to kill many more.

We are introduced to him as he is arrested, only to proceed to kill the lone officer who manages the coup, then take his car, pull over a local under the pretense of being a cop, and blast his brains away with a pressurized air gun.

Progressively, we see that Chigurh -- an assassin, drug runner, and sociopath -- is after an errant \$2 million left from a drug run, thus crossing his path with that of Llewellyn Moss (Josh Brolin), a trailer trash nobody who gets to the Chigurh. loot first and claims it for himself.

Interspersed between the scenes of Moss going on the run and sending his wife Carla Jean (Kelly Macdonald) to stay with her mother, are scenes with Tommy Lee Jones as the sheriff of the county, always two steps behind Chigurh, whom he is half-heartedly attempting to catch.

Jones, playing himself as usual, just happens to be perfect for the role of the disheartened, aging sheriff and well put together. no longer in touch with Does it go beyond its althe realities of patrolling a legorical foundation and border county. His ironic comments and half-jokes of our collective greed addressed to his greenbehind-the-ears deputy are some of the only moments money? Not really. Inof comic relief in the film.

Otherwise, the movie is dank and depressing, with shot of destruction, a Chigurh functioning as the embodiment of corruption, greed, and evil. He has no man soul.

logic except purpose, no prerogative except to get recover the money. Woody Harrelson makes a cameo as a good old boy who promises his drug boss to stop Chigurh and get back the money. (We all know how that will end.)

Some of the most harrowing scenes, however, involve no violence at all. They become about the exchange of goods and services-criminal capitalism, so to speak. Taxi drivers and children alike are bought off with hundred dollar bills. No one is immune to the smell of cold hard cash. The only person who cannot be bought off is

Half way through the film, we no longer see him killing his victims. It is enough to see him leaving the scene of the crime, checking the bottoms of his cowboy boots for blood. With deadlooking eyes, a raspy voice, and chilling indifference, Bardem excels as the messenger from

For a film filled with violence, it is well-made comments on the roots or even questions our love of violence and easy stead, it stands as merely a photograph -- a snap-Miltonian stare into the dark recesses of the hu-

Dressing to the max

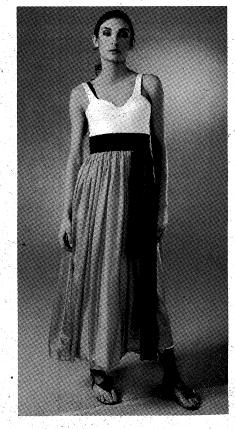
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these dresses. They're look too gaudy and out of place in this unfussy trend. Instead, add a pair of gladiator sandals (metallic ones can bring a sense of formality to these day dresses), and the look will last from day to night.

Make sure to not stress about hair and makeup. The overall effect should be carefree, and very com-

es -- you can choose what to hide and what to show off based on the fit of the dress. The short, on the other hand, can be very easily overwhelmed by the length of the maxi, so for you, choose smaller patterns. Also, try to make sure that the dress hits your ankles, any further and you might drown in the patterns.

This spring season trend will most likely last till summer and early fall, so don't



COURTESY OF SHOPBOB.COM

fortable. But be careful: these dresses can be tricky to pull off if worn carelessly. Tall people tend to wear them best. Their height lends to a statuesque-like quality from the floor skimming garments. But to all others, welcome this new fashion concept without fear.

For the curvaceous, a maxi dress will be more flattering than most dressshy away from adding a couple pieces to your wardrobe. And to make the look sharper, add a tailored blazer to the combination and you might just pull off an unbelievably modern look. But make sure to have fun with the maxi dress; its very existence, the irony of a long gown being worn during the day, depends on the idea that dress rules are meant to

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, April 3, 2008

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WHO WE ARE

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

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Passing the Bigger Better Bottle Bill Just Makes Sense

By CHRISTIAN WILLIAMS Contributing Write

After reading the article. "Going Green, '80s Style", I was encouraged by the fact that the students of Stony Brook are becoming more active in conveying their concern and taking action to help save New York's environment.

I feel that students are really making an effort to reproduce the environmental awareness and achievements that took place during the '80s that not only helped fight against the current dangers of the day, but also helped to ensure a cleaner

One of the biggest steps that we can take to help out New York's environment is to pass the Bigger Better Bottle Bill in the state budget this year. Based on the fact that the original Bottle Bill, that was passed in 1982, has resulted in such success, it just makes sense to support the updates to it. After

all, the updates are advocating for basically the same things as the original. Twenty-six years of data has shown that implementing a deposit on recyclable containers results in a huge increase in the amount of containers that end up being recycled, and if more containers are being recycled, that means that less pollution is ending up on our beaches or in our neighborhoods. Our environment is being kept cleaner and healthier by this bill than it otherwise would be without the increase

Besides the long list of environmental benefits, the Bigger Better Bottle Bill can also play a role in reducing the state budget deficit. The second part of the bill would require that beverage companies, which currently keep any unredeemed bottle deposits for themselves, to transfer any unclaimed deposits to the state's Environmental Protection Fund. This would generate at least \$100 million

every year in funding to help protect our environment. New York State is actually behind the times in this respect, because other states, such as Massachusetts and Hawaii, have already implemented this system.

The Bigger Better Bottle Bill is a smart piece of legislation, and it has the potential to play a huge role in helping to preserve and protect New York's environment. A dramatic increase in recycling (which comes bundled with a decrease in the amount of pollution created, as well as a decrease in the amount of energy used to create new bottles), along with the ability to generate millions of dollars that can be put toward our environment, are just some of the effects that would come about by passing this bill.

When it comes to making a positive change for the sake of the environment, passing the Bigger Better Bottle Bill is something that just makes

Health Wealth: Spring Fitness Tips

By SANHITA REDDY

"The greatest wealth is health." -- Virgil

Now that spring is slowly making a presence, summer will be here before you know it. With the first days of April arriving this week, I thought it would be a good time to implore you to start exercising outside.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that adults (that would be us) get a combination of either 30 minutes of moderateexercise for most days a week, or 20 minutes of vigorous exercise 3 days a week, along with strength training two days a

While this may sound like a lot, and hardly seem applicable to "barely adults," it is important to start a routine early on to get in the mode of a healthy lifestyle. Living on a college campus like Stony Brook makes

it pretty easy to get more than enough of a physical workout everyday.

While the bus may seem like a legitimate mode of transportation in the winter, I'd highly suggest walking everywhere now that the weather is getting better. Your skin will benefit from the mild exposure of the sun (Vitamin D production is stimulated by UV rays), and you will get a great mild cardio and strength workout lugging your books from Javits to the

The average Stony Brook student takes 4-5 classes, and with a 10 minute walking break between classes, you can get up to 50 minutes of walking every day! And that's just commuting! Climbing Tabler Steps, taking the long walk to SBS, and using the stairs instead of the elevator will also add numbers to your pedometer, not to mention your cardio workout.

Of course, because we are a Ralph's ice (now open!).

young, getting additional exercise is also a good idea. In addition to the secondary benefits from exercise (release of endorphins, muscle tone, relaxation), taking a half hour jog along Circle Road is a great way to break from your studies. The gym at the SAC is great, but now that the weather is getting better, use vour exercise time wisely: explore the back trails near Marburger Drive. Take a bike ride to the golf course. Play Frisbee in the green near

There are so many ways to stay fit this spring -- and while it may seem difficult at first, getting into the routine of exercise will eventually benefit you in more ways than you can imagine. And if none of these ideas still sound appealing to you, then take a quick train to Port Jefferson. After the walk to the Main Street (from the Station), you can more than enjoy

Campus Climate Report and Action Plan

By Abraham Avnilov Contributing Writer

Stony Brook is known for its excellence as a research university. and the professors and staff that work here are determined to keep it that way. But what about the climate that the staff have to face when they work here?

The climate refers to the environment of people from diverse backgrounds that need to communicate in order to grow intellectually and personally.

According to a survey that was done, most faculty and staff feel respected, treated fairly, and free from harassment and if given a chance to work here again, they

However, a significant percentage felt negatively about the campus climate, and would not want to work here again.

As a result of this finding, President of Stony Brook University, Shirley Strum Kenny, created the "Campus Climate Task Force." It is comprised of faculty, staff and students who would follow up on the survey and come up with plans to improve the campus' climate.

The Action Plan consists of dozens of goals and recommendations and then lists the means by which those goals can be achieved.

One of the goals it to increase strategic involvement with the external community in order to keep in touch with its feelings and needs. The proposed plan to reach this goal is to appoint a senior level coordinator that would be involved in community outreach projects and other external activities.

President Kenny wanted to enhance the working experience of the staff in order to insure that nobody regrets working here.

In a personal statement, she said, "Stony Brook will become a model campus for providing an inclusive multicultural environment to all students, faculty, and

The plan recognizes that to get the best results the faculty and staff need to know that their work is appreciated, and crucial to Stony Brook's ongoing goal for excellence as a research university.

The plan needs the support of everyone on campus in order to be effective and President Kenny urged, "all members of the campus community to take part in making it another Stony Brook success story."

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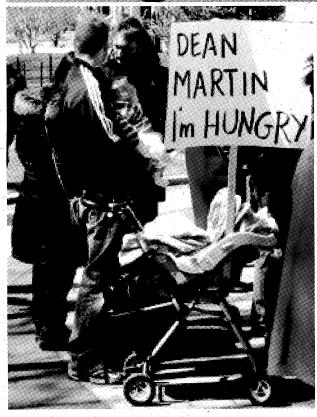
Graduate Student Employees Protest University's Plan to Give Incoming Students Better Pay













Photos by April Warren / SB Statesman

NHL Season Comes to a Close

By Brian Morgan Senior Writer

With the end of the NHL's regular season only a week ago, it's time to reflect and make predictions.

Western Conference:

The Detroit Red Wings started the season really hot, and held first place for the entire season. They're the best defensive team in the entire league, allowing the least amount of shots against and goals against throughout the entire season. The Red Wings are also the best offensive team in the Western Conference, and third overall in the NHL. They have two veteran goalies in Dominik Hasek and Chris Osgood who have split time through out the entire seasons, logging records of 25-9-3 and 27-9-4, respectively.

The San Jose Sharks, currently in second in the Conference, are 15-0-2 since the February 26th deadline. They're the second best defensive team in the entire league and their goalie Evgeni Nabokov leads the league in games started and wins

Past-the Red Wings and Sharks, the only other team worth mentioning is last year's champs, the Anaheim Ducks. Since Scott Neidermayer came back from "retirement," the Ducks have turned their season around, going from ninth place in the conference to third (in points). They have the veteran goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere, and are the third best defensive team in the league, led by Neidermayer and Chris Pronger.

Prediction:

The Red Wings will represent the West in the Stanley Cup Finals. They play two veteran goalies who are no strangers to the Finals, and stars such as Pavel Datsyuk, Henrik Zetterberg, Niklas Lidstrom, and Brian Rafalski with the firepower to carry them to the top of the Conference.

Eastern Conference:

The Ottawa Senators dominated the conference early on, but inconsistency at the goalie position and injuries to Dany Heatley and Daniel Alfredsson have seemingly slowed them down and they've dropped to sixth in the confer-

The New Jersey Devils had a rough start to their season, mainly because their first 9 games were on the road due to the construction of their new arena. However once they started playing home games, they turned their season around and seemed to be the favorites to win the Eastern Conference once the Senators drought lately and went from first to

fourth in the conference, where they will likely finish the season. They have arguably the best goalie in hockey, Martin Brodeur, and have the best defense in the Eastern Conference. On the other hand they have the fifth worst offense in the entire league, and seventh worst power play in the league. Unless they have a scoring surge in the playoffs, they seem prime for an early exit.

The Pittsburgh Penguins and Montreal Canadiens are currently tied for first place in the Eastern Conference. Both teams have high powered offenses; the Canadiens have the best in the league. Both made very interesting moves at the trade deadline; the Penguins gave up draft picks and some young stars to get Marion Hossa, who will be a free agent after this season. The Canadiens traded their starting goalie at the time, Cristobal Huet, who was 21-12-6 at the time, to the Washington Capitals, for a second-round draft pick. To replace Huet, the Canadiens gave 20 year-old Carey Price the job and he's been 22-12-3 this season. At this point, the Penguins seem like the favorite to win the East because they have advantage in the Wins department.

Like the Sharks out West, the Washington Capitals have also been successful since the Feb. 26th deadline. The Capitals have been 12-4 since the deadline, 9-2 with Cristobal Huet in the net. The additions of Sergei Federov and Matt Cooke have brought veteran leadership to help guide the Capitals into playoff contention.

Prediction:

The Eastern Conference pick is circumstantial. If the Capitals are able to come out of the Southeast division and get the third seed, they seem the team to win the East. They have the best player in hockey, Alexander Ovechkin, and have been hot lately. However, if they don't win the Southeast, regardless if they make the playoffs as an eighth seed, they won't win the conference

If Carolina wins the Southeast, then I think the New York Rangers will win the conference. They have the second best defense in hockey, and they should beat the Devils in the first round, being that they are undefeated against them this season. Although they have the sixth worst offense in hockey, they have a strong core of veterans like Jaromir Jagr, Scott Gomez, Chris Drury, and Brendan Shanahan. They also have goalie Henrik Lundqvist, who has shown he can be a superstar goalie at times, especially in big situations (2006 Winter Olympics).

Stanley Cup Winner:

Red Wings win the Stanley Cup, dropped off. Yet, they've had a scoring and Dominik Hasek finally retires as a champion.

Tennis, Glassman Putting it Together

Continued from pg. 16

and doubles match. "Sandy has been playing as well as anybody as of late," said coach Glassman. "Fanny has improved more than any player on the squad since the start of the season."

The Women's team's next match was supposed to be against Sacred Heart, on Tuesday, April 1st, but it was postponed due to rain. "Mother Nature has not been real kind to us lately," said coach Glassman. He hopes the postponed match will be played some time next week.

Therefore their next match will be on Saturday, April 5th at 2:30 p.m., where they will host their first home match of the season, which will be against Albany. Coach Glassman believes the match will be close. He predicts it will be "a 4-3 or 5-2 type of match." "Albany is a much improved squad, they definitely have something to prove this at the start of each season."

On the Men's side, the team currently has a record of 4-5. Their last match was Friday, March 28th, at St. Johns, where they lost 7-0. "Against St John's we competed pretty hard at most spots, but you can't lose 4 three set matches and expect to beat a quality team."

Their next match will be against Fairleigh Dickinson, on Thursday, April 3rd at 2:00 p.m., where they will host their first home match of the Spring season. The match was originally scheduled for March 27th, but was postponed due to the weather. "It should be a 4-3 match and it will depend on who plays best on the day," said coach Glassman on the up-coming match.

Looking forward, coach Glassman had this to say about his teams' future, "Both teams have the potential to compete for the conference championship at the end of the month. Ultimately, that is always our goal

TRACK AND FIELD'S CORTES TAKES FIRST IN 3,000

Continued from pg. 16

men's shot put, senior Justin Miller from Smithtown took home an eighth place finish out of 24 shot putters with a distance of 13.93 meters. Junior Jeremy Vasquez, from Huntington, NY, along with Miller finished tenth and eleventh, respectively, in men's discus. Vasquez tossed the discus distance of 36.97 meters. Robert Treadwell, in the Javelin throw with a distance of 49.28 meters.

Overall, it was a very successful day with more to come on the way. Stony Brook's next meet will be Friday and Saturday in the Duke Invitational in Durham, N.C.

*Editors Note: At time of production the Seawolves Track and Field team had competed in the Quinnipiac Quad Meet 37.11 meters while Miller finished with a on Wednesday afternoon, with results still

Baseball: Complete Brook State of Complete Brook State

Continued from pg. 16

the week two weeks ago." The coach added that the team as a whole has been solid defensively.

Senk is confident in his players at this important part of the season. "We talked about this yesterday, we're in a good place heading into conference play. We found out a lot about ourselves. We have a lot of options and can give teams a hard time."

Stony Brook will take on Binghamton

opponents both Stony Brook and Binghamton played James Madison, with the Seawolves winning 16-3 and Binghamton winning 4-0, but losing 8-7 and 3-1. Both teams played Longwood and lost two out of three games. The first game against Binghamton is Friday at 3:00 PM, with a doubleheader on Saturday beginning at 1:00 PM and a game on Sunday at 1:00 PM.

STATESMAT

Senk: Seawolves Ready for Conference Play

By Adrian Carrasquillo Asst. Sports Editor

The Stony Brook Seawolves completed a four-game sweep of NYIT on Sunday to bring their record to 10-10, all in nonconference play. Senior Tom Koehler and sophomore Michael Stephan were the America East pitcher and player of the week, respectively. Koehler had a masterful outing in the first game against NYIT, pitching a complete game with 11 strikeouts. Koehler has been named the America East pitcher of the week two weeks in a row and three out of the four weeks of the season. Stephan batted .427 last week with a .667 on base percentage including a game-tying home run with two outs in the ninth inning on Saturday and the eventual gamewinning two-run double on Sunday.

The .500 record to start the season doesn't worry the Seawolves because those games were a tune-up for the all-important conference games that begin on Friday against Binghamton at home. Earlier in the season Coach Senk said, "I break our season up into three seasons. Non-conference, is the month of March, we want to post as many wins as possible in the 20 plus games we play. That's to get us ready for the 24 conference games. The last season is the America East tournament."

Senk is pleased with his team's performance thus far. They went through a rough

said that it was only in terms of wins and losses. "Record-wise it was a rough patch, but it was not indicative of our play or the level of competition," he said. "Charlotte is one of the best offensive teams in the country, Virginia is 14th in the country and we were six outs away from the second biggest win in school history, besides our championship."

Stony Brook also beat James Madison when they were in the midst of a ten-game winning streak and traded dramatic victories with Longwood when it won a game on a 12th inning home run and Longwood won the next day with a game-winning hit in the bottom of the ninth.

Senk is happy to head into conference play with momentum on the heels of the sweep of NYIT. "Anytime you sweep a team, it's because of great effort and consistency," he said. But it isn't all good news for the Seawolves. Junior catcher Justin Echevarria, who has had bouts with tendonitis in the past, is battling a shoulder problem that might need surgery. Senk said that he went in for an MRI and that they don't know the extent of the problem yet. "If Justin has his way he'll play through it, but we won't do anything that is a detriment to him."

Asked about the surprises during this "first season", Senk said that there have not been any. Besides the senior duo of Koehler and Gary Novakowski who deservedly get a lot of the attention, Senk singled out two string of games during spring break but he players who have performed well. "Mike

Stephan has been outstanding playing first base and DH. And Brian Witkowski has played

Continued on pg. 15

Stony Brook hosts a number of games this weekend.

W. Lacrosse: vs. New Hampshire-Saturday, 4/5 @ 12:00 PM M. Lacrosse: vs. Vermont Saturday, 4/5 @ 4:00 PM

Softball: Double Header vs BU Saturday starting @ 12:00 PM, vs BU again Sunday @ 12:00 PM W. Tennis: vs. Albany Saturday @ 12:00 PM

Tennis Looking for Consistency Heading Into Mid-Season

By Brian Morgan

Women's Tennis teams are half way through their Spring season.

"Quite frankly, it's been a pretty average season up to this point. Both teams have played well at times, but we haven't been able to do it on a regular basis," said coach Gary Glassman on his teams' performance thus far.

bounced back with wins in their last two matches to improve their record to 2-6. "The women have had a rough start and lost some very close matches," said coach

Glassman. "Of our 6 losses - 3 were by a 4-3 margin."

Their first win came against Coastal At this point, both the Men's and Carolina, which was their third and final match in Florida during spring break. Before that match, they lost to Drake and Florida Gulf Coast each by a score of 4-3. "To beat Coastal Carolina after losing 2 extremely tough matches in a row was a huge accomplishment for the women."

Their second and most recent victory came against Fordham, where they won The Women's team started 0-6, but 5-2. Sandy Wijeratne (Senior), Victoria Vovsha (Senior), and Fanny Charliquart (Freshman) each won both their singles

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TRACK AND FIELD OPENS SPRING SEASON

By MIKE FODERA Senior Writer

Track and field is a sport that spans across all seasons, and last week, the Stony Brook Seawolves opened up their spring season. The women's team came into the season ranked fifth in the America East while the men's team came in ranked sixth. according to the conference higher-ups. After strong performances this past winter in the indoor league, both teams look to take their respective conferences by force, led by sophomores Tim Hodge and Alex Felce for the men and the senior/sophomore pairing of Dana Hastie and Laura Huet for the women.

The first meet of the season took place at the SCSU Owl Invitation last Saturday where Stony Brook compiled a pair of first place finishes in the 3,000-meter Steeplechase. Carolina Cortes, a freshman from Woodmere, NY, crossed first in the

event with a time of 11:32.59, beating her opponent by more than half a minute. On the other side, sophomore Alex Felce from Stroud, England, crossed first for the men in the same event with a time of 9:31.49, beating the next place finisher by twenty seconds. The rest of the women's team performed exceptionally as well. Senior Kerry Salzano of Staten Island, NY, finished in second-place for the Seawolves in the 5,000 meter event with a time of 17:53.96. Stephanie Vos, the sophomore from Apalachin, NY, crossed third in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 1:07.75. Also posting her name up there was junior Fisayo Tunde from Selden, NY, who placed an eighth-place finish in the 200-meter (27.33) and a ninth-place finish in the 100-meter (13.39).

On the men's side, the field team also performed exceptionally well. In

Continued on pg. 15

