



Where will Stony Brook University be in five years?

Adam Peck / Statesman

New Programs Added to India Studies

By YI-JIN YU
Asst. News Editor

Ten years later, Stony Brook University's Center for India Studies advocates its mission and goals with a stronger voice than ever before. The Center and its various programs were first conceived in 1995 by Club India, whose current counterpart is Club SASA or the South Asian Student Alliance. Encouraged by a petition signed by approximately 700 students and presented to President Shirley Strum Kenny, the Center for India Studies was realized on April 26, 1997. Since then, it has helped shift a predominantly Western and Eurocentric perspective and focus at the University and now seeks "to promote a better appreciation of Indian thought, culture, and civilization by developing expertise and resources for studying India for the benefit of the university and the community."

The Center for India Studies is a multidimensional umbrella term for primarily the group of academic programs, performing arts series, library, and multimedia center. It is similar to but differs from many other universities and colleges' own related Center and Departments. Other such programs include University of Texas at Austin's South Asia Institute, University of California at Berkeley's Center for South Asia Studies, Columbia University's Southern Asian Institute at the School of International and Public Affairs and Harvard University's Department of Sanskrit and India Studies. SBU's Center presents a library and multimedia center, located in E 5350 Melville Library, that contains over 8,000 titles.

Other tasks the Center carries out include forming international conferences and symposiums, serving as a resource for media, government, and public outlets on all related India Studies and South Asian Studies topics. Permanent and adjunct faculty lead the Center's academic programs, research proj-

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Sinc Sites Overflow

By EMILY WREN
Contributing Writer

During the first week of classes, many students were unable to log onto the Main Library SINC site. The area was packed with a long line of students going out through the doors, all of whom needed to use a computer or a printer. The Union SINC site was also crowded during the first week, but unlike the Library site, the traffic has died down a bit.

As students settle back into the campus "swing of things," the SINC sites are no longer as busy and the wait has been reduced to 5-10 minutes for computers. The waiting time also fluctuates depending on the "peak hours" of the SINC sites. These peak hours range from early afternoon into the evening, the staff of the Library SINC site said. During the beginning of the semester and around finals times, the sites are usually overcrowded and have

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Administration Looks Into the Future

Pres. Kenny Outlines the New 5 Year Plan

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

Looking towards the future was the focus of a town hall meeting held at the Charles B. Wang Center on the 12th of September, as President Shirley Strum Kenny introduced a draft of the third 5-Year Plan in Stony Brook University's 50 year history.

President Kenny described the first two Five Year Plans as "fix it" plans and emphasized that today "ten years later, those things have been fixed" and that this plan is focusing on "where it is we want to go next."

The plan, which like the first two plans was compiled by Emily Thomas, outlines 12 items, each dealing with a specific aspect of Stony Brook University.

Attendees of the meeting were given the opportunity to

ask questions about the draft, and there was considerable focus on issues of housing and parking on campus.

According to Vice President of Student Affairs Peter Baigent, two new housing facilities are in the works. One, to be built in the West Apartment complex, will provide an additional 172 beds and is scheduled to open in August 2008. The second will be built in Roosevelt Quad and will provide about 600 beds. That building is slated to open in August 2009. The 5 Year Plan also mentions two more buildings, tentatively scheduled to open in 2010 and 2011.

The prospect of new buildings does not alleviate the concerns of current students, who remain unconvinced that new buildings will fully solve the current issue of overcrowding in dorms. "It doesn't sound like [the administration] is doing

enough to alleviate the issue as it is already," said one freshman who lives in a tripled lounge that was converted into a room in H-Quad.

And adding more fuel to the fire is the fact that enrollment is increasing simultaneously. Stony Brook officials are planning on "increasing enrollment from 22,500 students in 2006 to 27,000 [students]" by the end of the Five Year Plan, which runs through 2012. While those numbers are a bit deceptive, as they include increases of both graduate students and undergraduate students at Southampton.

There are also concerns over parking. Professors and students are concerned that abandoning a parking space during the middle of the day more often than not results in losing that space to other

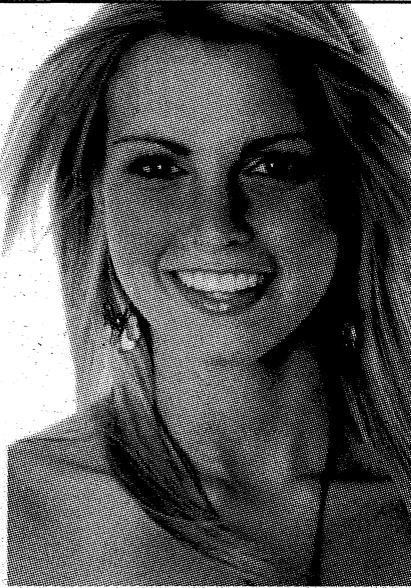
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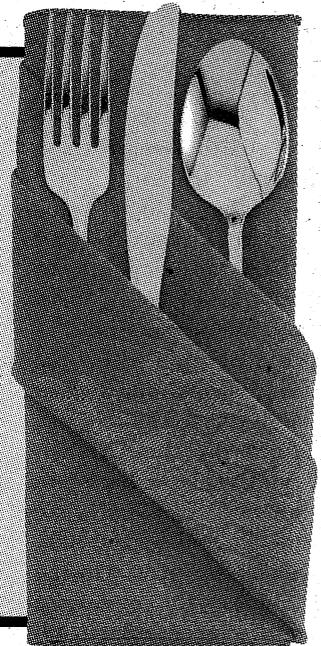
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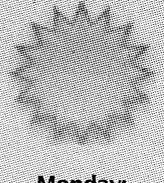
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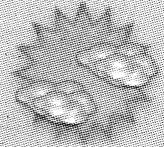
Sept 17 - Sept 23



Monday:
High 69/Low 51
Sunny



Tuesday:
High 71/Low 55
Sunny



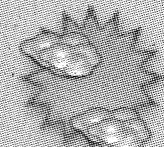
Wednesday:
High 73/Low 59
Partly Cloudy



Thursday:
High 80/Low 61
Partly Cloudy



Friday:
High 78/Low 64
Mostly Sunny



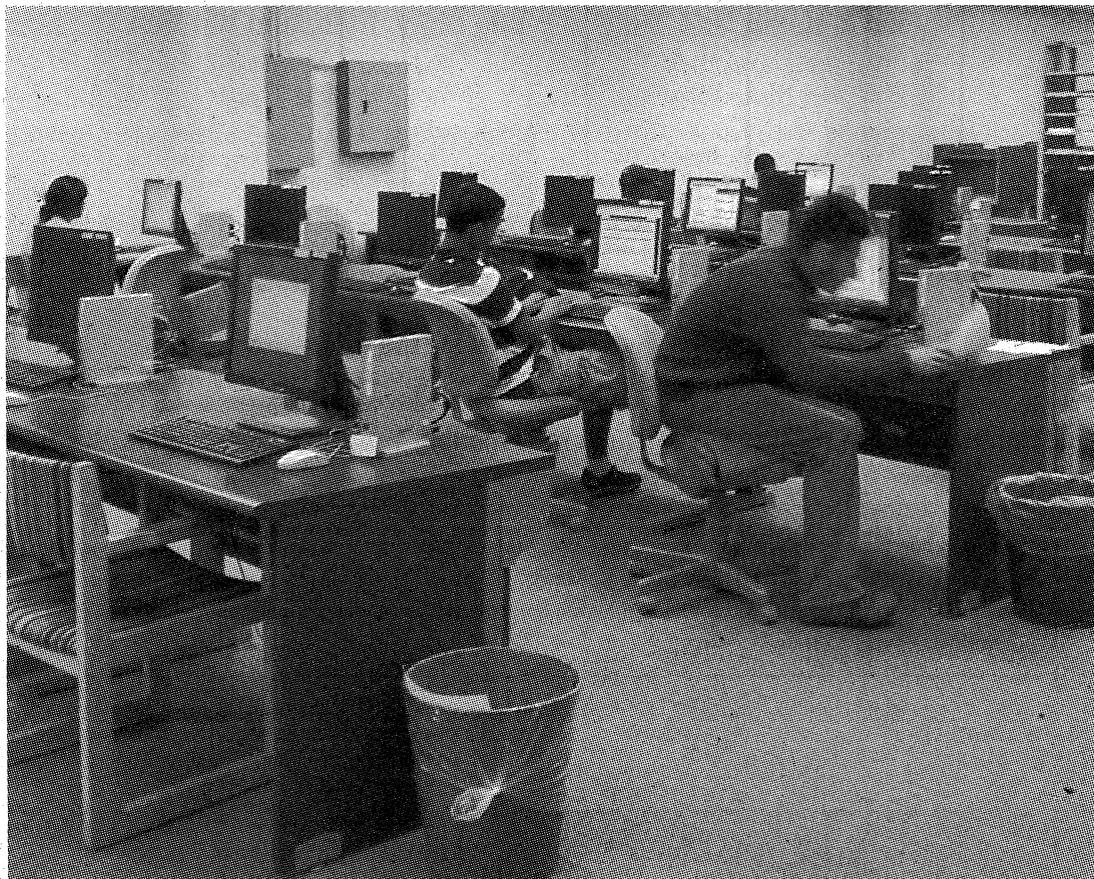
Saturday:
High 73/Low 65
Partly Cloudy



Sunday:
High 78/Low 60
Sunny

Courtesy of
weather.com

Crowded SINC Sites Slow Students Down



Students make use of the Melville Library pseudo-SINC sites, reading room computer stations, in an effort to avoid rush hour crowding of the main SINC site.

Adam Peck / Statesman

Continued from page 1

even longer waits.

While the Library and Union sites are the most popular, there are thirteen other smaller SINC sites around campus. Although many of these sites are currently closed for the first few weeks of the semester, they will be opening up to students soon. Students who had complaints about the larger sites also said that they "never used the other SINC sites because they did not know where they were." Graham Greene, the director of the new Teaching, Learning and Technology department hopes to

change this situation. Throughout this semester, his plan is to increase the availability of the other sites along with advertising them a bit more. "We will be putting up screens in the popular SINC sites that will tell students how many computers are currently free in the other sites," Greene said, as well as creating a website that students can visit to check the availability.

Those without access to internet will be able to text message different SINC sites and receive a report with the number of computers and printers available. While promoting the use of other sites, the department also plans to

extend the hours to match those of the Library site. New SINC site in the Central and North reading rooms in the Melville Library will also be open this semester. While students are encouraged to use the smaller sites, many of them will not be open for another 1-2 weeks. While some are being used for classes, others just do not have the sufficient staff needed. Sites are mainly staffed with students.

In the mean time, students can use the larger sites and look forward to completing a survey produced by the Teaching, Learning and Technology department later this Fall.

Police Blotter

Sept. 12 to 13

Car Accidents

Two car accidents occurred on Sept. 12 on the SBU campus. The first occurred in the HSC parking garage around 9:16AM and the second occurred at 1:00PM when a car was driving recklessly and kicked up rocks at a following car's windshield. No injuries were inflicted in either.

Skateboarders

Skateboarders were found around 7:40PM outside of the Computer Science Building. Police were notified, but skateboarders were gone upon police arrival.

Reports of Noise

Noisy crowd was gathered outside of Keller College around 1:20AM on September 13th. Police were notified and crowd dispersed upon police arrival. Warnings were issued.

Suspicious Person

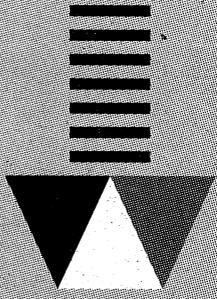
A suspicious male was found roaming the Tabler parking lot. Male was given warning and referred for public consumption of alcohol.

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI

weekend

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Inside



STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

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Fall 2007 Season: Four for the Price of Three!

Now in its fifth year, the Charles B. Wang Center continues to bring you vibrant and unique Asian and Asian American programs. You have a chance to participate in this astonishing diversity by purchasing a season ticket. Season passes are limited and only available until September 26th.

SUFI ROCK: Junoon's Salman Ahmad

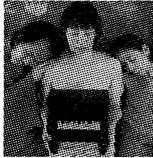
Wednesday, September 26,
7:00 pm, Wang Theatre



Salman Ahmad of the Pakistani Band Junoon rocks the Wang Center! The documentary film *Islamabad Rock City* (2001) about Junoon will also be screened.

MOURNING: Eiko & Koma, and Tan

Saturday, October 6,
8:00 pm, Wang Theatre



Butoh-inspired dance by MacArthur Geniuses Eiko and Koma and the avant-garde music of acclaimed pianist Margaret Leng Tan move and inspire. Co-sponsored with the Japan Center at Stony Brook.

I LAND: Talk Story, Hula, and Hip Hop

Wednesday, November 7,
7:00 pm, Wang Theatre



I LAND is Keo Woolford's hilarious search for the meaning and relevance of his heritage amidst parties, Hollywood kitsch, the realm of the sacred, and the varied places where hula lives.

KINSMEN/SVAJANAM: Jazz Sax and Indian Music

Thursday, November 15,
7:00 pm, Wang Theatre



Saxophonists Kadri Gopalnath and Rudresh Mahanthappa fuse contemporary jazz rhythms with Indian classical music. Joined by the Dakshina Ensemble. Co-sponsored with the Center for India Studies.

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For more information on these events and other upcoming Wang Center Asian and Asian American Programs, visit our Web site: www.stonybrook.edu/wang. The Charles B. Wang Center is located at Stony Brook University, NY 11794. To sign up for our mailing list, please e-mail us at wangcenter@stonybrook.edu. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Educator and Employer. For a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-1941.

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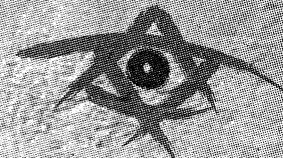


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Kenny's 5-Year Plan Prepares SB for 2012

Continued from page 1

students or faculty. University officials acknowledge that this issue needs to be addressed, but are unsure how to do so. Paving new parking lots would result in the loss of valuable woodlands within campus boundaries, and building parking garages like the administration garage is an expensive ordeal; President Kenny estimates that the cost of building a garage would be about \$18,000 per space.

An interesting alternative was highlighted by Joan Dickinson, the Director of Marketing and Licensing. Item 10 of the Five Year Plan outlines a possible "campus center" to act as a sort of college town to boost campus life. It would be built in a central location, says President Kenny, as a means to make it "accessible to all members of the Stony Brook

community." The thought is that a Main St. type of area would not only improve student morale, but it would create less demand for students to venture off campus. The "downtown" would house "a number of shops, restaurants, coffee houses, et cetera," President Kenny said.

Some other points that were raised in the meeting were creating an option to use meal plan points in select off-campus venues (which according to Vice President of Administration and Finance Karol Gray is being worked into a renegotiated contract with SBU's food service provider Chartwells), making Stony Brook a more "green" campus by highlighting recycling and adherence to Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards on new construction projects, and talks of improving the student

profile of Stony Brook's typical undergraduate student while simultaneously maintaining a high level of diversity.

All in all, the goals put forth in the draft of the Five Year Plan are promising to many people on campus. But even an administrator in attendance at the meeting expressed some doubts over the ability of Stony Brook University to meet all 12 goals in just five years. President Kenny assured everyone however, that the plan, once finalized, would be placed on "a five year matrix, in which we will decide what is expected each year on all of the objectives."

In the meantime, many students, especially those who are crammed into rooms meant for two, are wishing that campus officials spend at least one more year on a "fix it" plan once again.

USG Resolution Adopted to Prevent Identity Fraud

By AMANDA RUSH
Contributing Writer

On May 24, 2007, the Senate of the Undergraduate Student government adopted a resolution regarding the release of over 89,000 names, social security numbers and university ID information on the Health Sciences Center library website. The leak puts 89,853 members of the Stony Brook University community vulnerable to potential identity fraud.

The leak occurred last April on the 11th, when the library's website was being reconfigured. The information was accessible to anyone on Google.com until the 24th and those whose names were listed were not notified until May 7th.

The USG Senate expresses its anger toward the security the damage have been inadequate. According to the resolution, "the only recourse the University is offering persons affected by the gross mishandling of their private information is contact informa-

tion for three credit-monitoring services that provide only 90 days of free fraud monitoring."

In the resolution, the Senate lists several demands that it believes should be taken to manage the situation better. These include providing a more reasonable compensation including "no less than one year of free credit monitoring," taking the precautions to prevent similar problems in the future, and that "the University admit its failure to notify person affected by their actions with reasonable speed and apologize for said failure."

When asked whether or not he felt the University had taken any steps towards admitting to the mistake or apologizing, USG President Joe Antonelli replies, "Nothing sufficient."

According to Antonelli, while he cannot speak for the USG Senate on why it was important to adopt this resolution he does state, "We are the Undergraduate Student Government, we're here to represent the Undergraduate students."

India Studies Broadens Its Horizons

Continued from page 1

ects, educational outreach, and study abroad program. As part of the Department of Asian and Asian American Studies, the Center offers over thirty courses every semester.

Students can select to major in Asian Studies with a concentration on South Asia that requires a completion of 42 credits or choose to minor in South Asian Studies instead that needs 21 credits for completion.

The Study Abroad program that the Center also sponsors is a five to six week program in Bangalore, India. Up to 12 credits can be taken abroad and typically include Diversified Education Curriculum (DEC) courses in the arts, political science, humanities, and language, all with a South Asian focus. Courses such as Introduc-

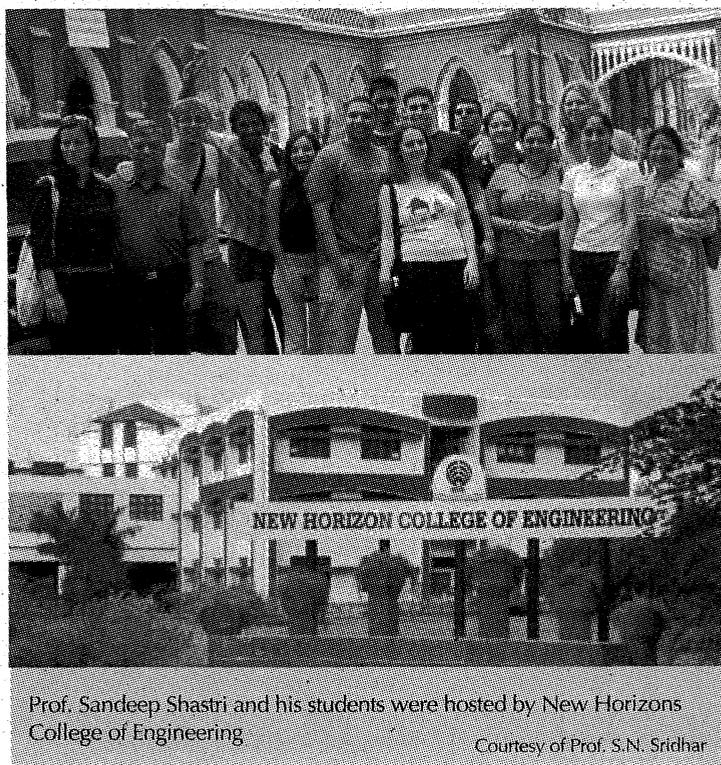
tion to the Civilization of the Indian Subcontinent (AAS 201-J), taught by Professor Shikaripur N. Sridhar and Literature of India (AAS 320-G), taught by Narayan Hegde that were once offered under a South Asian Studies Department (SAS) remain as requirements for students in the program.

The newest classes being offered this year include Indo-Tibetan Buddhism (AAS 391.02), taught by visiting instructor David Kittay, Professor Harsh Bhasin's Roots of Modern Iraq and Mesopotamian Civilization and more Sanskrit courses on both the Elementary and Intermediate levels (SKT 111, 112 and 211) and planned Advanced Sanskrit tutorials taught by Professor Andrew J. Nicholson and Dr. Laxmi Swaminathan.

Funding and supporting faculty and departments also continue to teach the rest of the curriculum

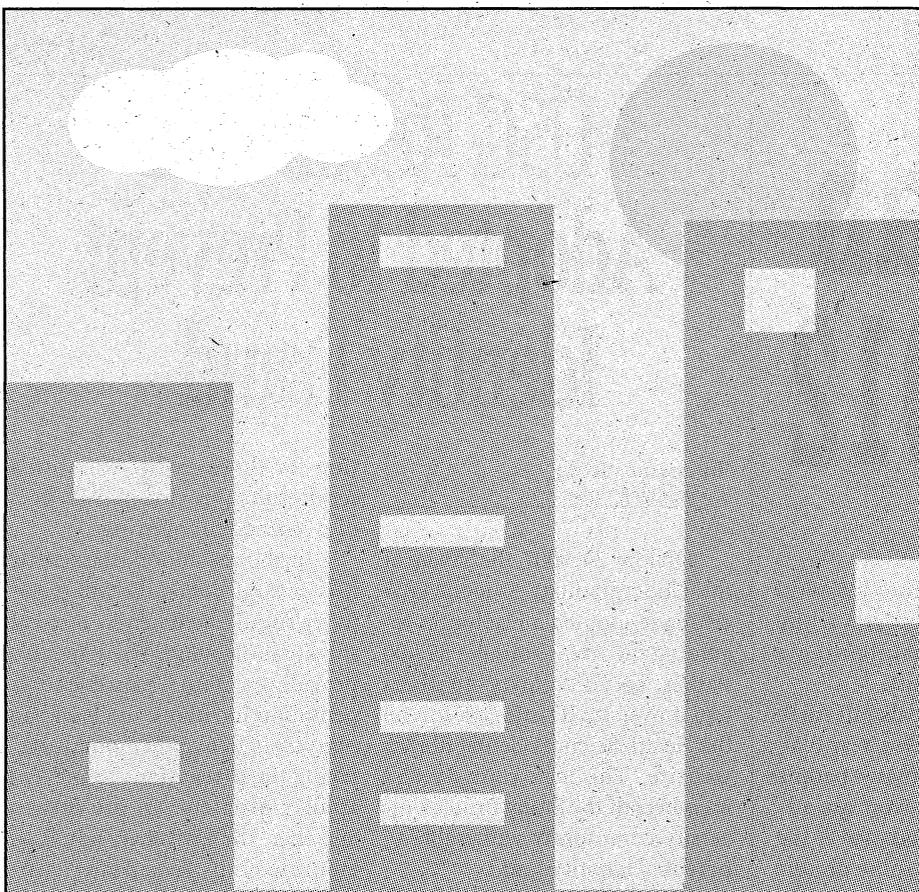
with courses in Art, Dance, Hindu Studies, History, International Relations, Linguistics, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Religious Studies, and Theater.

Aside from university funding, the Center for India Studies primarily fund raises through its own Annual Benefit Dinners and receives private donations to its permanent Endowment Fund. About \$60-80k every year is generated and the Endowment Fund, which aims to make the Center self-dependent has a \$2 million goal, of which \$370,000 has already been met. The Center's educational outreach spans the New York area, from Long Island school and colleges to museums, public libraries, and through the public television program The Asian Indians in America, produced by WLIW New York.



Prof. Sandeep Shastri and his students were hosted by New Horizons College of Engineering

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Nine Planets? Not any more.

THE BUZZ ON PLUTO

By XIAOSU LIU
Contributing Writer

Remember when you were little, fascinated while reading the oversized, pictorial science books? In the astronomy section you found out we lived in a galaxy called the "Solar System." You learned that there were nine planets within it - Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and other mysterious names that sparked endless imaginations. However, one day this is no longer the case; that segment of astronomy that is within the fundamental knowledge base of the general public has been challenged.

Pluto, the once ninth planet was discovered in 1930 by an American astronomer named Clyde Tombaugh. Its diameter is about two-thirds that of Earth's Moon. It gets very close to the Sun but can also be as far as 7 billion kilometers away. Its companion, Charon, is about half the size of Pluto and shares the same orbit and the two are often cited together.

The controversy started when Neil deGrasse Tyson, an astrophysicist from the American Museum of Natural History's Rose Center for Earth and Space, boldly removed Pluto in one of his exhibitions from the planetary system. Predictably, something as deep-rooted as the "Planet Pluto" is put under skeptical eyes. A large amount of media attention was directed towards the question of Pluto's status and the lengthy process of finding an agreement between scientists.

This provocative proposal, as expected, did not quite please everyone. On the popular television program "The Colbert Report," Tyson stated that he received a considerable amount of hate mail.

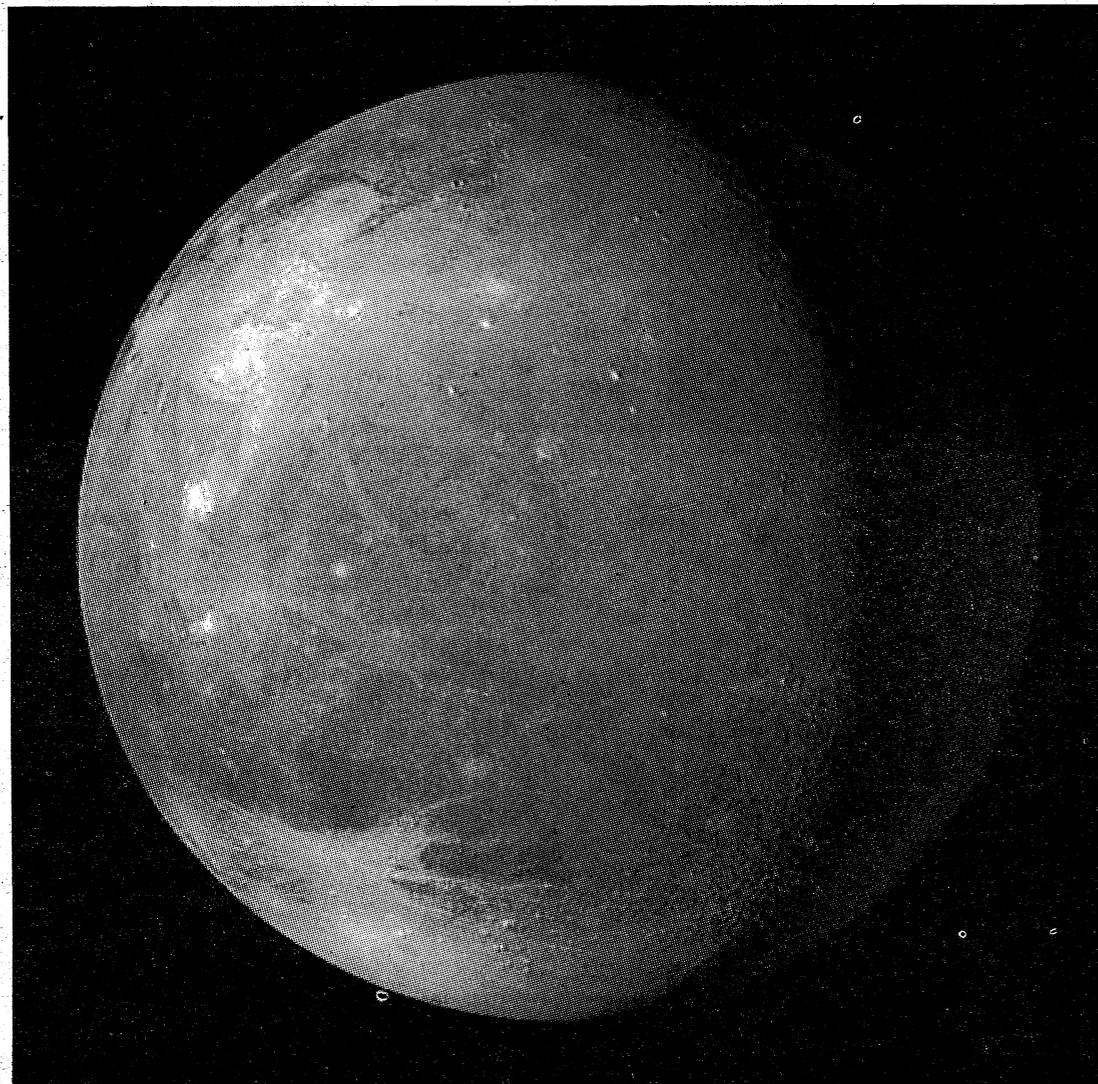
Later on, the discovery of an object larger than Pluto, Xena, officially named 2003 UB313, by the scientist Michael Brown from Caltech, made the need for a new definition of planets an urgent quest among astronomers.

In response to this demand, the International Astronomical Union, an organization that was founded in 1919, boasts that its "individual members are professional astronomers all over the world, at the Ph.D. level and beyond, and active in professional research and education in astronomy," has debated and voted on a new plan during their meetings in Prague.

According to the IAU 2006 meeting, their final draft on the definition of a planet has settled on "the key criterion that sets a planet apart from a "dwarf planet," like Pluto. The stipulation required by the IAU for an object to be considered a planet, it must have cleared the area around its orbit. Planets are big enough that their gravity can force them into a spherical shape. The unstated implication is that many dwarf planets "haven't taken the planet formation process to completion for whatever reason."

In other words, although Pluto has a nearly round shape and orbits around the sun, it nevertheless failed to satisfy to the rule that it must have "cleared the neighborhood around its orbit." Pluto is kept in its position mostly by Neptune's gravitational force. Therefore, it belongs to a whole new category named "dwarf planet." If Pluto is to remain a planet, many, possibly hundreds of other objects should be classified as such too.

The amount of enthusiasm in the categorization of Pluto is apparent, making it easy to wonder why all the attention? Was the



Above, behold Pluto in all its glory.

Courtesy of somewhereville.com

demotion of Pluto as significant an event as the media had made it seem to be?

Dr. Fred Walter, professor of astronomy, summarized the phenomenon, "I thought it was amusing...if you put yourself in Pluto's place...it is simply a lot more prestigious to be a planet." According to Walter, whether Pluto is deemed a planet or not does not change anything about its physical construct. The issue is here because there are individu-

als who want Pluto to remain a planet.

"Yes, it made a big splash, mostly because every grade school kid in the world has had to memorize the "nine" planets. It is part of the culture. But I don't think it has started any civil wars or increased famine," commented Dr. Deane Peterson, associate professor of astronomy. "It was a nice distraction and an interesting view of something, understandable to everyone, which had come up in

a very specialized part of the scientific community. I think people were amused."

Students at Stony Brook who have an interest in astronomy are in luck. During the academic year, on the first Friday of every month, the Astronomy department offers a series of lectures given by our research faculty, and are held in Lecture Room 001 of the Earth and Space Sciences Building. The October meeting features the lecture, "Is Pluto a Planet?"

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

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

Premise: What constitutes a Hero?

A week ago was the 6th year anniversary of September 11th. I could feel the stunned shock when I woke up that morning, all the suppressed memories channeling again through my mind. I can still remember the horror of that day, like it was yesterday. Debris and bodies falling from the sky, people covered by dust, their own blood, and the blood of others. You could sense the fear, the confusion, and the helplessness of the situation. Here I was six years later, in a research lab reading the New York Times website. A headline, on one of the pages, called the firefighters who died in the line of duty, "heroes". At the time, I didn't think twice about the headline, until a fellow researcher near me said that we overuse the word hero. She remarked, "Firefighters are considered brave, but they are just doing their job. It's what they set out to do. Why should one be considered a hero if that is their profession?" Other individuals in the lab also heard this commentary. This resulted in an uproar over the usage of the word. The lady who started the whole discussion remarked that we should use the term sparingly. So what does it mean to be a hero? Below is my own response to the question along with the response of two other Statesman writers. If you have an opinion on the usage of the word "heroes," send an e-mail to comments@sbstatesman.org. *Introduction written by Joseph Eugene.*

Heroes: The 343 Firefighters that Died on 9/11

BY EUGENE JOSEPH
Contributing Writer

I find arguing over the usage of the word "hero" inane. Many people use the word in different circumstances. Some regard their own parents as heroes or they use it for people who really have influenced their lives. The usage of the word is subjective; however, it is often attributed to bravery and self-sacrifice. A firefighter does not wake up in the morning and say, "I'll try hard to be a hero." Although the meaning might be subjective, I'm sure the lab assistant might have a hard time going to a family that lost a firefighter on 9-11 and disapproving the use of the word hero for their own loss. What makes a person a hero is the quality of courage and whether they would stop and try to help when another is in trouble. Many of the firefighters on 9-11, left the comfortable setting of their own firehouse to address the situation of two skyscrapers collapsing. Many of these firefighters paid the ultimate sacrifice.

I am sure, that if some equipment had fell in that research lab, sparking a fire, and this lab assistant had become trapped in the room with no escape, she would have a change of opinion. A firefighter would burst in, grabbing and running out with the assistant, and shielding her from the advancing flames, until they were both outside the building. The firefighter still covered with ash, would reenter the burning building, to look for any other people that might be trapped. Bravery is another attribute of a hero. It is also what separates firefighters from many other people. Despite, the worst circumstances, they will try to save a life even if it means they may their own.

Later that day, I was dozing off in my dorm in Langmuir. I

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Misconceptions about Heroism in Today's Society

BY ZUBARIA IRAM
Columnist

Looking back at the clamorous times in the history of our nation, there have been countless heroes who rose up to the challenges and passed on legacies to their fellow citizens. Those legacies of invaluable courage and selflessness are alive even today along with the memories of those distinct individuals whose profound acts are worthy of remembrance. Such heroes include Martin Luther King Jr., Clara Barton, Susan B. Anthony, and many more.

Even though we've have brilliant examples of heroism in the past, the current generation of Americans has a somewhat misconstrued idea of what constitutes a hero. Nowadays, we place movie stars and other celebrities on a pedestal and exalt them as our heroes or role models. Gone are the days when a child, upon being asked to name the hero he idolized, would name Malcolm X or some other entity whose work had etched the proof of his existence in this world for decades or centuries to come. They've been replaced by the shining stars of Hollywood by the younger generation that is blinded by the light of celebrity fame.

There's another batch of people who are being called heroes nowadays: fire fighters and police officers. What is it that distinguishes this group of people from others? And are they really deserving of the title of a "hero"?

Without a question, fire fighters and police officers work for a noble cause and they demonstrate tremendous courage while doing their job. However, one might point out that these individuals like all other upright citizens who work for their earnings, are merely offering their services in return for wages. It is their job to fight fires or regulate and prevent crime, and it is their job because they chose to do so. How can we then justify the

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My Hero

BY GABE FARACI
University Police Officer #567

The Merriam-Webster's dictionary defines the term "hero" as a mythological or legendary figure often of divine descent endowed with great strength or ability: an illustrious warrior, or one that shows great courage.

Throughout history men, women and children of all ages gathered around fire pits to hear storytellers tell their tales of woe and great sorrow. Stories of princesses held captive and sleeping beauties slipping in to eternity. Only the undeniable strength of a hero could stop evil queens, only a pure hearted prince could awake his lovely princess with a kiss. In some cases, the tales included people leaping tall buildings in single bounds.

My definition of a hero is a mother working two jobs to support her children while having no time to do anything but pray they grow up with the right morals and good judgment. A hero to me is a man struggling to stay sober in a world berated by drugs and alcohol. William Wallace was eventually executed but when he walked this earth he was the epitome of the motto "Live free or die!" Anyone and everyone reading this has at least one hero in their lives. One person they look up to, one person that helps them change their views. Maybe it's a teacher or maybe it's the little old lady next door who's always good for a long conversation on warm summer nights. It could even be that grumpy old man on the opposite side of the road who still wakes up with nightmares from the things he's seen in World War II.

It's come to my attention that the word "hero" has been thrown around in today's newspapers like an old shoe. Everywhere we look there is someone being considered a hero. My

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Campus Media and the USG

BY ADAM PECK
Assistant News Editor

Some members of the Undergraduate Student Government seem to be under the impression that with an office and a title comes a shield from the press. They always appear shocked when an article or an Op-Ed is published that criticizes their actions and their conduct. So to these USG members, let us make something perfectly clear; you do not get a pass from the Statesman or the Press or any other media outlet, you do not get to play the role of victim. You ran for your office, you knew (theoretically) what you were getting yourself into.

The point needs to be made because on more than one occasion the USG has questioned the "journalistic credibility" of the Statesman, and has all but boycotted the Press. Allow us to speculate as to why. Our current theory is this: seeing as how a suspiciously large percentage of the USG also doubles as members of the Enduring Freedom Alliance, Stony

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LETTERS

Re: A Grief Remembered

I write in response to Gabe Faraci's letter in the September 13 edition.

Mr. Faraci lets us know that undocumented immigrants are "CRIMINALS" all in caps, as if they're all just massing at the border with murder, robbery and mayhem on their evil little minds. My impression is that these are mostly poor and desperate people looking for work because there is none in their native countries. They take huge risks to come here and work long hours doing crappy jobs Americans don't want. Making them all sound like cutthroats waiting to prey on the US is a demonization that should be beneath anyone engaging in civil discourse.

Besides, I'm technically a criminal, so probably are you and so probably is Mr. Faraci. As a law enforcement official he of all people should know that there are so many laws about so many miniscule points that one cannot live a normal life without committing some form of

Continued on page 11



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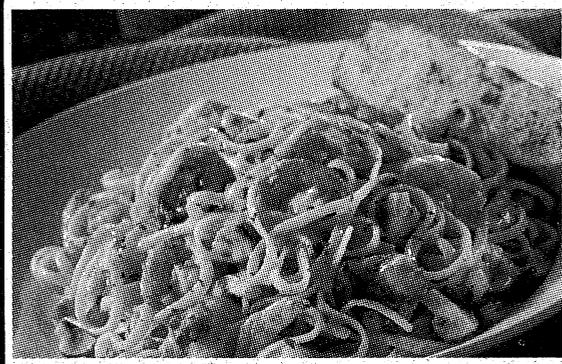
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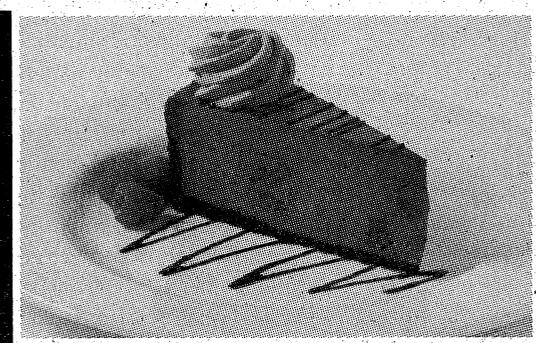
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Heroes: The 343 Firefighters that Died on 9/11

Continued from page 9

was then abruptly startled by the ear-piercing scream of the fire alarm. I hastily locked my room and ran outside with everyone else living on my floor. Within 5 minutes, the sound became a cacophonous symphony, now accompanied by the siren of the approaching firefighter truck. Earlier that week, the Residential Advisors had told us that the firefighters who attended to the alarms that went off at Stony Brook were all volunteers. We watched as the firefighter quickly walked into the dorm building, and came back minutes later giving us the "okay" to come back inside. Turns out the fire alarm was triggered by a malfunction in the system. We also had several more of those that night. I realized these individuals really take time from their busy schedules to help people who might be in peril. For these firefighters, the potential of tragedy occurring is always present, but they don't know what to expect when they are called. At any moment their own life could be at risk, but they choose to risk it anyway so that they can save others. That is true selflessness. As we walked by that firefighter, I recognized that he would consciously save my own life, even if it meant he had to sacrifice his own.

On September 11, 2001, we lost 343 firefighters. Every single one of these individuals was a hero. My whole life, I have believed that a hero is someone we admire for their values, particularly courage and self-sacrifice. Heroes are people who have impacted our lives by struggling. It is someone who serves as a role model for others, because of what they have accomplished by defeating the odds. Yes, it is actually expected that these firefighters should save lives, but only until we actually need their help, do we realize that we sometimes take their work for granted. Firefighters work 24/7, they respond to emergencies everywhere. They respond to alarms, fires, explosions, car accidents, and they train for future disasters. I am proud to call every firefighter a hero, because without them the world would very different today.

Misconceptions about Heroism in Today's Society

Continued from page 9

distinction between their jobs as being those of heroism, whereas others are not?

We simply cannot. Putting certain few occupations above others devalues the importance of the rest of the trades and the people who perform them, even though all of them are paid for their services accordingly. Fire fighters and the officers on police force certainly should be lauded for their day-to-day risk-taking and bravery, but their representation of heroism is quite different and somewhat inferior when compared to the long line of heroes who've made an impact in the past.

The key principles of heroism are courage, selflessness, and a lasting impact. A hero is someone larger than life, who we look up to in order to find a direction in life. They are worthy of being emulated by all generations, whose responsibility is to mold themselves into principles that those individuals possessed. Clara Barton, mentioned earlier, was the unprecedented living example of philanthropy in her time. Through her selfless services and dedication to helping the wounded troops, she founded the American Red Cross in 1881. Martin Luther King Jr., who was the God of civil rights movement, used nonviolence and his ingenious oratory skills to sway the nation into action and determination. Such are the figures worthy of being called a hero because the impact they created in their lifetime several decades ago is still alive and noticeable.

We as Americans have not been looking hard enough, or in the right places, to find our heroes for today. Nevertheless, one thing remains true: Heroes do exist in our society; we just need to look harder.

My Hero continued

Continued from page 9

question for you guys this week is this: If someone is accidentally killed while performing his or her job should they be considered heroes or just brave and courageous? Now I don't mean to say that people who run in to burning buildings and crack houses aren't brave because hell, most people wouldn't. Just for the record I consider ALL the people who die in the line of duty to be heroic because they are the ones who allow this country to remain free. They have dedicated themselves to be sacrifices for the rest of us so they are exempt in my book.

I'm sitting here in my room at one o'clock in the morning watching the Twilight Zone, cruising the galaxy through my laptop and expecting some big bubble to pop over my head filled with words that I think you guys want to hear. But it hasn't happened. Do you want to know why? Because I'm not a hero folks, I'm a simple man who has found himself in a position to share my beliefs with you and hope to God that I don't bore you. A long time ago I read an excerpt out of Josh Billings Encyclopedia and Proverbial Philosophy of wit and humor that in my opinion sums up the word in one sentence and it goes like this; "He whom prosperity humbles, and adversity strengthens, is the true hero."

The only thing I could say is this; If there are any of you out there who take care of someone, feed the hungry, heal the sick and mend the hurting hearts then yea, you're a hero in my book. If you happen to slay dragons or find yourself running faster than speeding bullets you're a hero in my book. If by any chance you happen to withstand my nonsense like my future wife Deborah, then yea, you get to be a hero too.

Gabe Faraci

Gabesthinktank@yahoo.com

Re: A Grief Remembered

Continued from page 9

"crime." And laws themselves are not always just or rational. People who helped slaves escaped were "criminals" and during World War I merely saying the war was wrong could land you in jail.

I always laugh when I hear descendents of immigrants complaining about immigration today. Your great-grandparent came here legally, eh? Let me ask you this: would they be able to do so today?? Surely Mr Faraci is aware that the slur "wop" stands for "without passport." And of course they were determined to learn English. They must have completely bypassed a stint in Bensonhurst, Bay Ridge, Canarsie or any of New York's other enclaves where the older folks speak Italian to this day.

My grandparents came here in the 1920s. Like many immigrants in those days, they were poor, undeducated and unskilled. They never learned English. They would never have gotten in today. For one thing it costs about \$100--a lot of money in much of the world--just to apply for a visa to come here. And if your request is denied, you don't get your money back. Furthermore there are waits of years, something that didn't happen back when US industry was expanding rapidly and they'd take just about anyone who would work cheap.

At least one thing was the same, however: there were anti-immigrant forces claiming that "new" immigrants from southern and eastern Europe were both unwilling and unable to assimilate. And that they were criminals. I assume Mr. Faraci is not one of those Italian-Americans who gets upset over "The Sopranos" and other media portrayals of his ethnic group as mafiosi.

One last, unrelated point. Faraci states that respect should be shown for George W. Bush no matter how bad a leader he is. He seems to forget that this is not a monarchy where we must show automatic respect to those in certain positions, nor is it a dictatorship in which the Dear Leader must be spoken of in reverence or face consequences. This is supposed to be a free democracy in which respect must be deserved and we, the taxpayers who pay public officials, have every right to call a boob.

Sincerely,

Chris Sorochin
Host of "If This Be Treason" on WUSB (90.1FM)

Campus Media and the USG

Continued from page 9

Brook's equivalent of the College Republicans, and seeing as how the Republicans we currently have running our national government also seem to believe that the press should not be allowed to question their actions or oppose their beliefs, it stands to reason that Republicans--from commander-in-chief of the United States, to USG members at Stony Brook University--think that they are somehow above the scrutiny of the press, and in retaliation for unpleasant stories that grace the front page can throw around wild accusations and unfounded conclusions.

Of course, they don't actually respond to our articles under the auspices of their USG positions; either they are concerned journalism majors or just your everyday average Joes who disapprove of our work. We of course have no problems with people questioning our reporting; its when questioning starts to border name-calling and even intimidation that we interfere and call a time out.

It must also be said that not all USG members are so bitter about press coverage. Some people actually listen to what the campus papers are reporting and do something about it. Needless to say, when USG members actually listen to the complaints that we publicize and actually act on them, they don't get barraged with articles about them. Only the select few who are so sure of themselves, so wrapped up in their ego's, find themselves in the crosshairs of USG beat reporters.

Never mind that the USG has been surrounded by scandals ranging from racism during an election period to the subsequent impeachment of the former USG president, never mind that participation in campus politics is abysmal at best; when USG members try to interfere with the work of the press and try to discredit campus papers because they don't like what we are saying... its on a par with McCarthyism and the era of declaring oneself supreme chancellor and vanguard of all knowledge.

Ironically, the press should be doing a much better job of holding the fire to the feet of the USG. After all, it is the duty of the USG to act in the best interest of the student body, and the organizations to hold them accountable are the media groups like the Statesman, the Press, SBU-TV. And assuming USG doesn't close their doors to Statesman reporters, that is what we will do. Let this be a challenge to all who question the press's validity: let us do our job. You may sometimes get angry or upset, we may on occasion run an erroneous fact, and we will apologize and correct it. In the end, the only thing we are really after is a fair fight.



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Wang Fall Film

Taxi to the Dark Side



Courtesy of Jigsaw Productions Inc.

BY TEJAS GAWADE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

This past Monday, the Charles B. Wang Center presented the first in a series of fall programs, a film titled *Taxi to the Dark Side*. *Taxi* focuses on Dilawar, a taxi driver from Afghanistan who eventually dies due to beatings from guards and interrogators at Bagram Air Force Base in 2002. It then literally pans out onto a global picture, as we learn how the United States' involvement during the Bush administration brought about this dire end.

Directed by Alex Gibney, an academy award nominee for *Enron: the Smartest Guys in the Room*, the event was co-sponsored by the Greater Port Jefferson Northern Brookhaven Arts Council. Although it is quite a controversial way to start off the fall season, there could not have been a more apt choice when it comes to presenting the bitter facts in the most straightforward manner.

What I liked and hated at the same time about *Taxi* was its uncensored portrayal of the abuses at Bagram, Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo. This was well-supported by an occasional sprinkling of hard-hitting facts: of more than 100 deaths that occur in U.S. custody, 37 are officially declared homicides by the U.S. military. Furthermore, only seven percent of Guantanamo detainees are apprehended by the military. The rest are captured by Afghans and Pakistanis who have their own running agendas. In fact, Dilawar's accuser is responsible for the rocket attacks for which he was accused.

In relation to the film, its executive producer, Sidney Blumenthal has said,

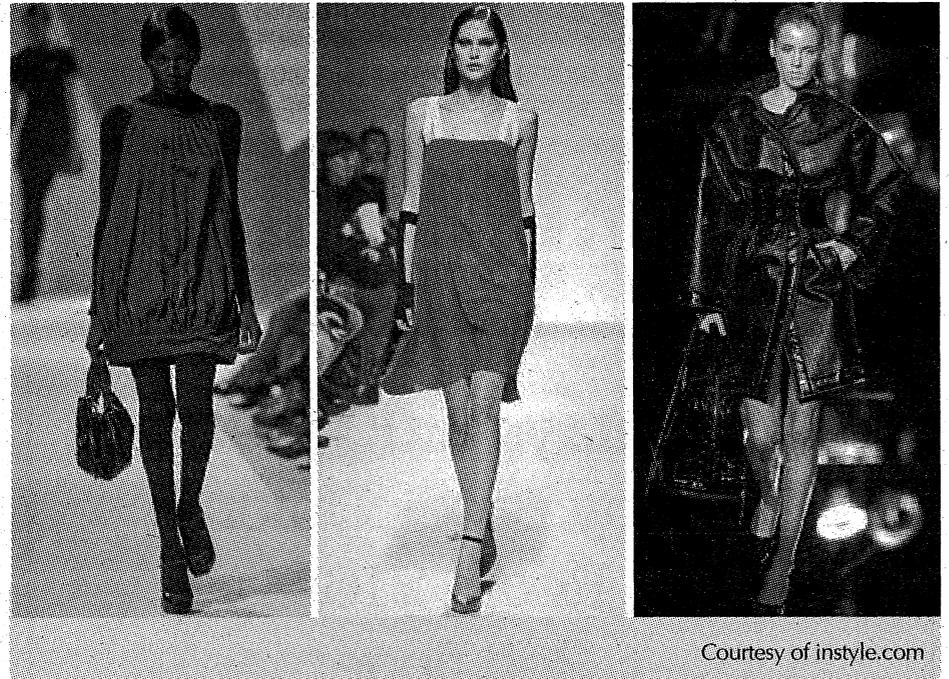
"*Taxi to the Dark Side* [has] its roots in sensory deprivation experiments decades ago that guided the CIA in understanding torture; the opposition within the administration from the military and other significant figures ... the congressional battle to restore the standard of the Geneva Convention that forbids torture ... and the sudden popularity of the Fox TV show '24' in translating torture into entertainment by means of repetitious formulations of the bogus ticking-time-bomb scenario."

The abuse descriptions are shot among snippets from the President George Bush's State of the Union address where he gets applauded for saying that the U.S. has hunted and murdered foreign nationals. Even a conversation between Vice President Dick Cheney and Tim Russert leaves one open-mouthed at the string of lies in the name of national security. Here Cheney compares the U.S. to a rogue cop in any guy movie that has to now throw the book away and make up its own rules.

It is true that the film has elements of documentaries, such as *Fahrenheit 911* and TV shows, such as *24*, but what is more significant is that it explores everything at a human and relatable level. Watching this film is not simply a reminder of some of the worst atrocities committed by the U.S. because I doubt that's where Gibney's intentions lay. Instead of making us feel guilty or embarrassed, it is an educational and hopeful venture. Members of the Stony Brook community who missed this opportunity should open themselves up and justify at least one viewing of this film.

Stony Brook en Vogue

Artful Beyond Barriers: NY Fashion Week



Courtesy of instyle.com

BY AMY DRAGANI
Staff Writer

Sept. 4th began one of the most highly anticipated weeks in fashion - New York's Mercedes Benz fashion week. Formalwear for spring 2008 combines glam and classic beauty shown in the presentations of dresses and formal gowns throughout fashion week.

Designers like Tadashi Shoji and Donna Karan sent models down the runway in formal wear epitomizing glam-chic. Simple silhouettes, such as strapless and corset tops, thin-straps, and basic necklines were complimented by silver and gold fabrics or threading creating a delightful combination of classy and flashy. Shoji's other highlight was the use of a deep shade of sapphire blue in a knee-length, chiffon, halter dress with crossover detail at the chest. The dress was multi-toned, beginning with deep blue at the bottom and lightening to pale blue at the chest. Another model wore a solid, deep sapphire satin gown that featured a basic strapless neckline, but was accented with voluminous ruffling at the chest. Shoji's designs were elegant and classy with a touch of modern glam.

Donna Karan's pieces were strutted down the runway on Sept. 12, treating the audience to a palatable array of comfortable, fitted, dresses in shades of tan, yellow, bronze and brown. Her dresses were simple but fashionable, often accessorized with a large belt or stitch detail.

Fellow American favorite Tommy Hilfiger also showed a collection on Sept. 12 at the Hammerstein Ballroom that reflected his clean-cut, always-in-style, classic taste. He paired tailored shorts with collared short- and long-sleeve blouses. Black and white styles created complimenting lines, while remaining fun and sexy. Hilfiger also combined longer-length, pleated shorts with

half-tops, "bra" tops and open jackets. The classic fit of the shorts combined with the barely-there top created yet another perfect blend, a trend that seems to be for the upcoming season.

Celebrities, such as Jennifer Lopez and Gwen Stefani presented designs during the week. Lopez debuted her "Just Sweet" line; revealing once again her talent for combining urban influence with high fashion style. A personal favorite was a short, tunic-style dress in a shade of dark blue with a little bit of luster. It was paired with ankle boots and a small fedora. Another was a white, one-piece number featuring shorts just above the knees and a strapless top. Dark, solid buttons jumped out against the pure white of the material.

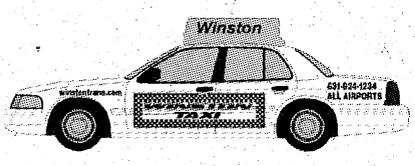
Gwen Stefani (my favorite!) presented her L.A.M.B. line with the fabulous fusion of rock, glam and couture that she embodies. She presented dresses in short, mod lengths in black and white, as well as several silver, glittery dresses just dying to hit the stage! My favorite design was a black and white, mini-checked, high waist skirt paired with a forest green top and accessorized with a stand-out yellow belt. The look was completed to perfection by a pair of yellow oxford high heels. Stefani took her walk and bow with her son, Kingston, strutting down the runway in a very short hounds tooth dress with just the right amount of luster. Fashion indeed rocks!

New York Fashion Week is a highly respected event that sets the standards for upcoming seasons in conjunction with fashion weeks in the other fashion capitals. It's not just about clothing and accessories, but it is an artful presentation of culture, politics and personal expression that overcomes cultural and language barriers ... and it takes place every year, right here, in our own New York City!

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Sweany, Seawolves Capture Tournament Title

Continued from page 16

defense really stepped up as a team."

The Seawolves defeated the Highlanders by scores of 30-27, 30-21, 30-24 before beating the Bison with scores of 30-21, 30-18, 30-18. The wins made it a season-high with four victories in a row for Stony Brook University, which improved their overall record to 8-6 thus far for the season.

Senior Morgan Sweany (America East Volleyball Player of the Week for the week ending Sept. 9) led the conference with 5.53 points per game and averaged 4.53 kills per game in four matches last week. The senior earned a pair of double-doubles and led the Seawolves in service aces with 11. Amy Oleksiej also had an excellent match for the Seawolves, hitting .368 on her way to a nine-kill, three-block endeavor. Jackie Ahlers led Stony Brook to its win with 16 kills and hitting .462 against Radford. Contributing to that, the graduate student also racked up four blocks. Gulce Nazli Dikecligil, a junior from Istanbul, Turkey, added four aces to go with her five kills and six digs.

When playing against Bucknell it was Sweany who led Stony Brook in kills. She contributed 14 to the tallies and she also hit .324 and added a pair of aces to her record. Ahlers kept up the good work throughout the remainder of the tournament by hitting .435 and she gathering 13 kills in the match on Saturday.

The Seawolves are really shaping up together for what looks like a very promising season. This Friday, they will be traveling to Providence, Rhode Island to face Brown University. Saturday they will remain in Providence to face Portland and CCSU. The Seawolves will return home for a match on Tuesday, Sept. 25 against Fordham.

Seawolves Football Suffers First Loss

Continued from page 16

ing converted for touchdowns. YSU's offense put up 421 yards to SB's 296. YSU also had more production on special teams, with more kickoff/punt return yards, as well as recovering an onside kick.

SB's undoing was somewhat because of its own mistakes, especially on turnovers. They were also overmatched, as YSU is one of the top-ranked FCS teams in the country, with a full complement of scholarship players, whereas SB is still building, and up to only 38 scholarship players, limiting their depth.

SB will try to rebound at home this Saturday at 6 PM against Monmouth.

Men's Soccer Wins Again and Again

Continued from page 16

season. Teammates immediately rushed over to him after his unassisted rip to the top corner of the net.

The Seawolves had several other chances throughout the game, many that were narrowly turned aside by Niagara goaltender John Fiutowski. Late in the first half Pilacio would try for his second goal with a drive to the top center of the net, tipped away by Fiutowski's outstretched hands. Niagara almost scored on its own goal in the 23rd minute when a Niagara defender headed a ball toward an open part of his own net, luckily missing when it sailed over the post.

The Seawolves (4-2) are back in action on Saturday, Sept. 22 against Towson on the road. Kickoff is at 1:00 PM.

Third Time a Charm for Michigan

By BRIAN MORGAN
Contributing Writer

In a game that featured two underachieving teams at 0-2, Michigan finally won after being upset by Appalachian State and mauled by Oregon earlier this season. It was thought that Notre Dame's quarterback Jimmy Clausen, who hung tough against a brutal Penn State defense last week, would've guided the Fighting Irish past Michigan. However, it was the Wolverine's Ryan Mallet who won the duel between the two freshman quarterbacks. Mallet looked like an experienced veteran, leading Michigan to a 38-0 win, with his three touchdowns.

In a press conference following last week's heartbreaking loss to Oregon, Michigan's star running back Mike Hart guaranteed a victory this week, certain Michigan would win. Hart backed up his talk with a phenomenal performance, rushing for two touchdowns while racking up 187 yards on 35 carries, an average of 5.3 yards per carry. He was unstoppable in the red-zone, and reminded critics why he was once considered a Heisman candidate before this season began.

Despite Hart's outstanding play, the game was tough to watch. In the first half, it seemed Michigan always had the ball in Notre Dame territory and

was concocting another scoring drive. This was a result of the three turnovers and three punts by Notre Dame through the first two quarters. Michigan finished the first half red-hot, going into the locker room up 31-0. The Wolverines did slow down however, managing only a touchdown after the break.

Another story was how Notre Dame's offense struggled, netting only 110 yards of total offense. Quarterback Clausen couldn't find the endzone, and for third straight week Notre Dame did not score an offensive touchdown. Ironic enough, Charlie Weiss, Notre Dame's head coach, was an offensive coordinator in the NFL.

With this victory, Lloyd Carr, head coach of the Michigan Wolverines, saved his job for the moment. Despite the win, it is unlikely he will be the head coach next season unless he wins a bowl game. Michigan must finish out the rest of the season undefeated and/or win the Big-Ten Conference to be considered for an invite to play in a bowl game. As for Charlie Weiss, his job still appears safe, only because he does not have the talent that Lloyd Carr and Michigan have this season. It is clear that Weiss' team is rebuilding this year, and have a long way to go before they can contend for a bowl game.

Women's Soccer Shines

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straight losses, winning in an overtime road game against Fordham (2-1-1). Freshman Morgan Sims found a loose ball off a Trine Allenberg corner kick, putting it in the back of the net to break the games 1-1 tie. The goal, with six minutes remaining, was Sims first of the season.

The other Seawolf goal was scored three minutes into the second half, by freshman Danielle Tanaglia.

Women's Soccer Ties East Carolina in Double OT

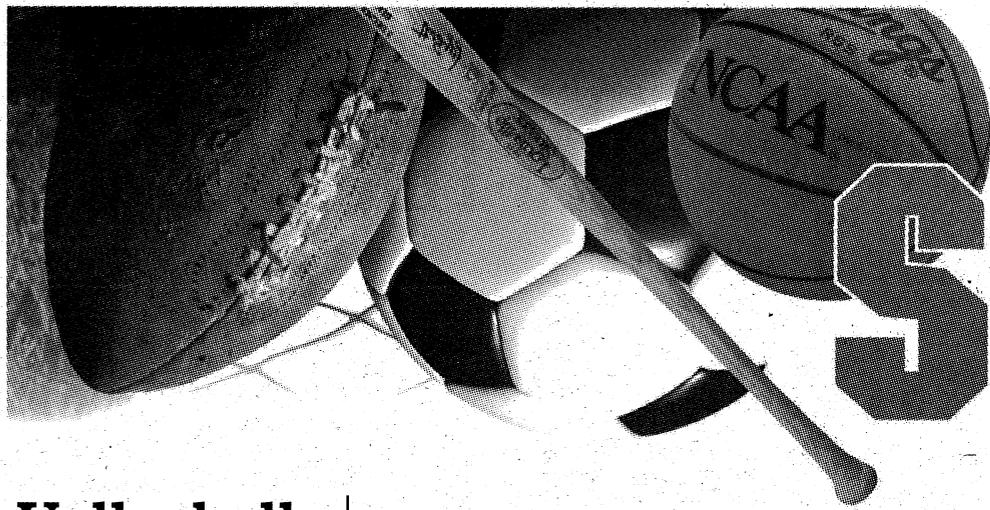
On Sunday, SB hosted East Carolina (3-1-2), playing them in the longest game of the season. The double overtime game was a scoreless tie, but not with out its

moments.

The Seawolves tested East Carolina with shots all day, but rarely created solid chances that could find the back of the net. Freshman Jen Egan showed off her speed and foot skills by splitting two defenders to find an open Kate Collins for a pass, leading to a Seawolf shot, turned away at the 10:45 mark. This type of play happened all game- often a brilliant moves turned aside by strong defense.

The Seawolves and East Carolina were nearly even in shots on goal, with 10 for SB and eight for the visitors.

The Seawolves will play on the road against Ivy League team Columbia (3-1-1). The game, scheduled for Friday, Sept. 21, kicks off at 7:00 PM.



Statesman SPORTS

Volleyball Dominates Invitational

BY JESSICA McCLINTOCK
Contributing Writer

With Friday's win over St. Francis and sweeps of Radford and host Bucknell, the Seawolves continued their recent streak of strong play this season. The three wins this weekend gave SB the tournament title in the Bucknell Invitational, making it the Seawolves' second straight tournament title.

In response to these wins, senior Amy Oleksiej said, "This week we had some really great team chemistry, we had a lot of energy on the court and our

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W. Soccer Wins, Gets Tie Over Weekend

BY SHONTO OLANDER
Sports Editor

Before the Seawolve Women's Soccer Steals a Win, and Gets Tie Over Weekend entered overtime on Sunday's East Carolina game, the fans could hear them scream from the huddle "It's our game, lets show them!" Though Sunday's home game against East Carolina was a draw, this weekend showed women's soccer is continuing its strong play this season.

Seawolves Win 2-1 in Overtime

On Friday, Stony Brook (SB) bounced back after two

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Men's Soccer Takes Streak to Four Games

After 0-2 Start, Season Now Looks Promising for Seawolves



Michael Pilacio, (left) with Mihailo Pavlisin (Center) and Mahamadou Simpara (right) stepped up big in Sunday's 2-1 win over visiting Niagara.

Shonto Olander/SB Statesman

BY GENE MORRIS AND
SHONTO OLANDER

After starting season 0-2, the Seawolves have bounced back with four straight wins, two coming this week over Adelphi and Niagara. "I always knew we had a good team," head coach Cesar Markovic said.

Seawolves Win 2-0 Over Adelphi
In their third straight win on Thursday, the Seawolves shut out Adelphi 2-0.

Although the team managed only three shots on goal, they made the most of their opportunities. Adelphi managed four shots against a strong Seawolf defense.

Dawid Ditrich, the 6'7" Polish goalkeeper, picked up his first

shutout of the season. He made four saves.

Petar Rakovic, a red-shirt sophomore from Serbia, scored the games first goal in the 14th minute off of a free kick. It was his first goal as a Seawolf.

Mahamadou Simpara added the second goal in the 80th minute when he redirected a free kick by Michael Palacio into the net with his head. It was Simpara's second goal of the season. His .667 shooting percentage leads the team. The two goals he's scored this season match his total from last season, in which he played 19 games. For Palacio, the assist was his team leading fourth on the year.

SB Defends Home With 2-1 Win Over Niagara

With Senior Michael Pilacio's blast at the 8:58 mark, the stands erupted and the Seawolves found themselves with an early 1-0 lead. "The game seemed so simple at first," coach Cesar Markovic said, "but then things got complicated."

Things would get dicey for the Seawolves right before the end of the first half, when Mathew Durand (Niagara) booted in a loose ball of a corner kick. The goal came in the final minutes of the half, a surprising goal that tied the game at 1-1.

Late in the second half, the Seawolves would find another goal, this time by Mihailo Pavlisin at the 68:46 mark, his first of the

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Football Roughed Up By YSU

BY WILL LAHTI
Managing Editor

Stony Brook (SB) suffered their first loss of their season Sat., when they went into Ohio to face the Youngstown State (YSU) Penguins and came back with a 42-6 loss. For the second week in a row, QB Josh Dudash wouldn't finish the game, but this week it was for all the wrong reasons.

The game started with a quick punt from each side. The Penguins got on the board about halfway into the 1st quarter with a touchdown. They finished the quarter with an exchange of interceptions and an exchange of punts.

YSU broke it open in the 2nd quarter, with their first two drives of the quarter coming from interceptions. Both resulted in touchdowns. Late in the quarter, YSU would pick up another touchdown off an interception to go up 28-0 at halftime.

In the 3rd quarter, SB finally got into YSU territory, and got on the board with a field goal by Luke Gaddis. There would be no more scoring that quarter. The 4th quarter saw YSU completely pull away. They scored an early touchdown, surprised SB with an onside kick, which YSU recovered, and then scored a touchdown on that possession. SB scored another field goal. For the final possession of the game, Dudash was replaced by junior Dan Sweeney, with other starters coming out as well. They got within 9 yards of a touchdown before time ran out.

The team struggled on all sides of the ball, with Dudash throwing four interceptions in the 1st half, with three be-

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