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OP-ED

The State of Our Education

Your opinion piece "Life as a Physics Student" in Monday's Statesman is a nicely written and raises interesting issues, such as, among others, "what is life?" and "what is a student?"

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Revisiting Campus Media and the USG

Jonathan criticized the campus media's role in covering the USG Senate meetings as "Pathetic." I can't speak for the print media, but for the last two years, SBU-TV, the student-run campus television station on Channel 20, has recorded and broadcast the majority of Senate meetings. Not just once a week, but TWICE a day, everyday, (Mon-Wed, at 6pm and 1am; Thur-Sun, at 6pm and 9pm).

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Campus Community Plants Pinwheels of Hope in Parking Lot

By BRADLEY DONALDSON
News Editor

A few members of the Stony Brook University community spent most of their afternoon at the South P parking lot on campus on Sunday, planting pinwheels to support an event called "Ride for Life."

According to Beverly Campbell, the coordinator of the day's activity and an employee with the department of Pharmacology on campus, the near 6,000 pinwheels the group of about 15 aimed to plant were supposed to represent the lives of each person that died from Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) -- also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease -- in 2007. She said the goal of planting the pinwheels, and of Ride for Life, was to raise awareness about the disease.

"The goal... is to raise awareness about the disease," Campbell said. "About people who have disabilities, who are basically left to die."

ALS is a nervous system disease that attacks the motor nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord, according to an article from the U.S. National Library of Medicine. These cells are essential for transmitting messages from the brain and spinal cord to the voluntary muscles. People with ALS eventually lose strength in their muscles and cannot move, the article said.



Aisha Akhtar / SB Statesman

Melanie Ng, a sophomore, hammering a stick into the ground to dig space for a pinwheel to plant.

People with ALS normally die from respiratory failure, the article said. And about 5,600 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with ALS each year, according to the ALS Association's website. Currently, there is no cure.

Ride For Life, however, aims to change that. On the organization's website, they said that Ride For Life's mission included raising research funds to find a

cure for ALS.

The ride, which has taken place each year since 1998, involves ALS patients riding their wheelchairs for sometimes hundreds of miles, alongside supporters, in order to raise awareness and money. This year, the ride is from Montauk to Manhattan, and kicked off on May 4.

The determined few at the lot in South P included student and

faculty alike. Not all, however, were doing it because they felt deeply about the cause.

One student, Henry Yim, a freshman majoring in mechanical engineering, said he was out there mainly for the experience. "[I'm] just volunteering to volunteer."

Such was the case with Melanie Ng, a sophomore, who came out for Alpha Epsilon Delta. "I

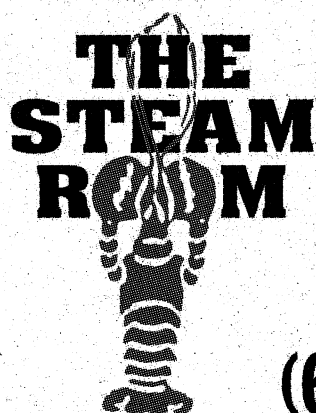


Ilya Rabkin / SB Statesman

Students rowing through the Roth Pond during the Roth Regatta.

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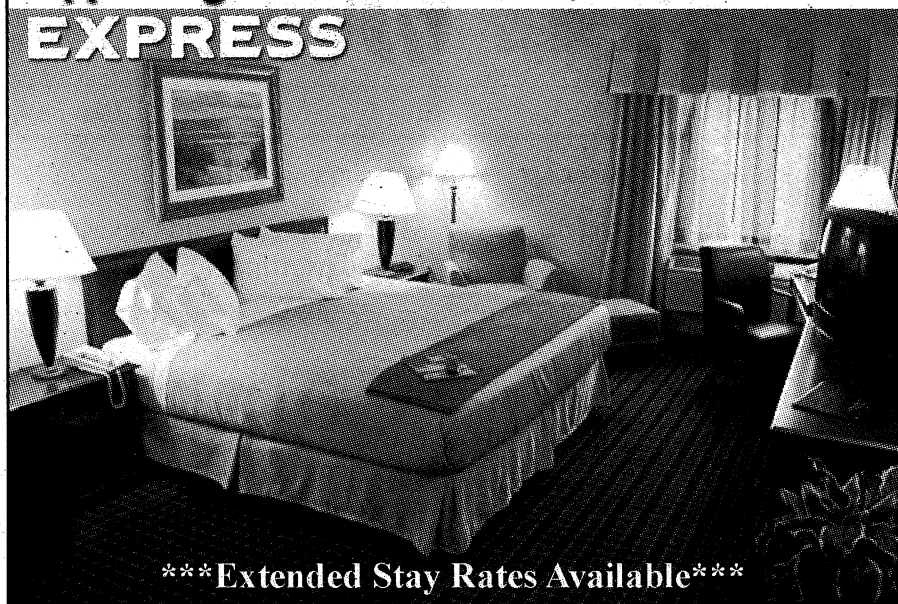
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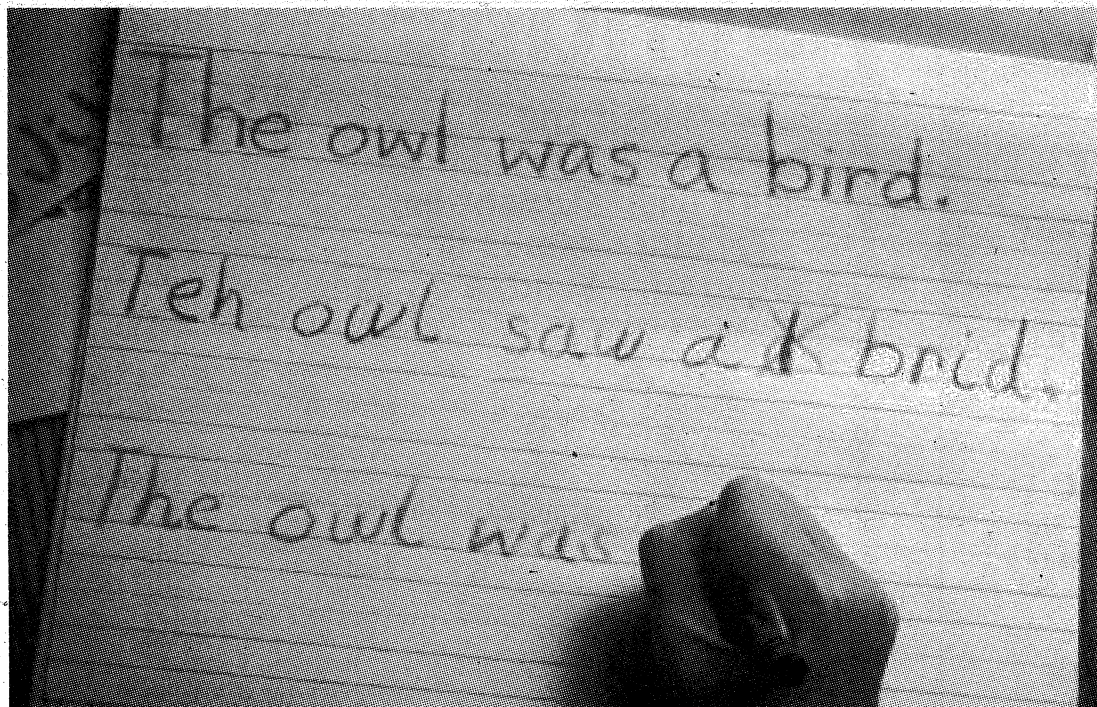
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Wired Science: Neural Insights On Dyslexia



Courtesy of <http://minddisorders.com>

A child with dyslexia attempts to reproduce a teacher's sentence. Some symptoms of dyslexia include poor comprehension and reversal of words or letters while reading.

By TEJAS GAWADE
Columnist

"The Wall Street Journal" had an interesting take on how we learn to read. Neuroscientists who have studied reading disorders are taking a stab at the relation between language and reading. Some novel concepts have emerged through the studies. For example, studies of school-aged children suffering from dyslexia, who were fluent in more than one alphabet, had no trouble in another language.

Dyslexia is a disorder in which letters are mixed up, leading to trouble reading and writing. A "p" might look like a "q," or it might be hard to differentiate between a "b" and a "d." Several scientists contend that the prime area of trouble is the English language. In the United States, dyslexia is twice as prevalent as Italy, affecting over 10 million children.

According to neuroimaging studies, demands of reading tapped on parts of the brain that were untouched by the English alphabet in children who had grown up reading and writing

Chinese. Hong Kong Research University's psychologist, Dr. Li Hai Tan, claims that the same is true in dyslexia, where the problematic areas are not involved in reading other alphabets.

Other researchers found that when readers of English and Chinese looked at the same written characters, their brain activity differed. Even standard arithmetic Arabic numerals, used universally among both readers, activated different regions of the brain based on which of the two languages had first been learned.

Tan was quoted as saying that "we may regard dyslexia in Chinese and English as two different brain disorders because completely different brain regions are disrupted. It's very likely that a person who is dyslexic in Chinese would not be dyslexic in English."

The research is unique in that it sheds light on previous assertions. English, along with 218 other languages, shares somewhat of the same Latin characters. Although this is only one of the 60 different writing systems used by some 6,912

spoken languages worldwide, it was assumed that the neural response was universal to the written word. Tan's research, of course, claims otherwise.

The reason for this might be simpler than expected. Learning Chinese strains memory a lot more than learning English (just ask any second language learner). We make greater use of motor control and visual-perception circuits, which are located toward the front of the brain.

The only way to master the 6,000 or so Mandarin and Cantonese characters is through rote memorization by copying them over and over again. Furthermore, each character is so much more intricate than its English counterpart that the process is painstakingly laborious and a Chinese alphabet song is not as easily possible.

The incoming president of the International Dyslexia Association has summed it up well: "We have to recognize that the writing system in China is different, the demands on the brain are different and the characteristics of dyslexia are different."

Campus Community Plants Pinwheels of Hope in Parking Lot



Aisha Akhtar / SB Statesman

Continued from pg 1

think it's great, but it's kind of wild to get 6,000."

Still, most of the people there were enthusiastic about the job. Campbell was cheerful, even as the sun pelted her and the rest of the group.

They worked in the grass, kneeling, digging and planted for the rest of the afternoon. The red and silver pinwheels that were already planted whirled as the

wind blew and created a glimmering sea of light reflected from the sun. Hearts were printed on each of the pinwheel's fans, and the pinwheels each stood in columns.

"Hopefully if people are aware, they will contribute," said Jim Rohlf, a professor in the department of Ecology and Evolution.

The Ride for Life group is expected to pass through Stony Brook on May 6.



Aisha Akhtar / SB Statesman



Aisha Akhtar / SB Statesman

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Student Forecast

May 5 - 10

Monday:

High: 70/Low: 47
Mostly sunny.

Tuesday:

High: 71/Low: 52
Sunny during the day with increasing clouds at night.

Wednesday:

High: 73/Low: 53
Partly cloudy with a chance of rain both during the early morning and late night.

Thursday:

High: 69/Low: 53
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain

Friday:

High: 68/Low: 49
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain

Saturday:

High: 68/Low: 48
Partly cloudy with a chance of rain during the day.

By Alex Kahn

This Just In: Results of the Undergraduate Student Government Elections

President:

Jeffrey Akita: 586 votes, 55 %, elected
Leonard Wright: 473 votes, 45 %

Executive Vice-President:

Geeta Malieckal : 822 votes, 100%, elected

Treasurer:

Vanessa Cheris: 817 votes, 100%, elected

V.P. of Communications:

Alan Suchecki: 782 votes, 100% elected

V.P. of Student Life:

Juvanee Bedminster: 570 votes, 57% elected
Donalda Leveille: 424 votes, 43%

V.P. of Clubs and Organizations:

Suhas Sreeharshan: 782 votes, 100% elected

V.P. of Academic Affairs:

Brian Desrosiers: 785 votes, 100%, elected

Senior Class Rep:

Jessica Laforest: 441 votes, 100%, elected
Sophomore Class Rep:

Kadeem Hylton: 182 votes, 100%, elected

Senators - College of Arts and Sciences:

Shamell Forbes: 414 votes, elected
Kathleen Schultz: 398 votes, elected
Ashley Reji: 395 votes, elected
Aneta Bose: 394 votes, elected
John Kriscenski: 389 votes, elected
Steven Hauptman: 379 votes, elected
Adam Kent: 378 votes, elected
Sean Moore: 366 votes, elected
Blake Wind: 363 votes, elected
Emmanuella Duroka: 358 votes, elected
Aharon Benelyahoo: 355 votes, elected
Shahzad Chaudhry: 354 votes, elected
Dae Lee: 352 votes, elected
Sungyong Bae: 338 votes, elected
Ebbie Boutehsaz: 337 votes, elected
Jonathan Harounian: 298 votes, elected
Kevin Brady: 294 votes, elected
Joshua Uddin: 276 votes
Ibrahim Khwaja: 260 votes

Senator - College of Engineering:

Matthew Anderson: 60 votes, elected

Student Activity Fee:

Mandatory Student Activity fee: 726 votes, 59%, passed
Voluntary Student activity fee: 501 votes, 41%

Roth Regatta 2008

(Pictures on Page 7)



Ilya Rabkin / SB Statesman

By AISHA AKHTAR
Photo Editor

This year's Roth Regatta, themed "Pirates vs. Robots vs. Ninjas", attracted many to Roth Pond for the annual competition. Every year, various organizations, faculty, and students compete to cross the finish line at Roth Pond, steering their boats made of just cardboard and duct tape.

All the boats entered into the competition represented a club, organization, or sports team. Many boats were creatively constructed- for example, the giant Mr. Potato Head, the giant turtle, and the "Big Gay Pirate Ship". There was also the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle van, which

could seat people inside. All boats were artistically painted with their names written on.

The competition consisted of various rounds where three or four boats competed in each run. Then, there was a final round to determine the top three boats.

Some of the boats sped to the finish line while others sunk in defeat. When Mr. Potato head was making its way to the end of the pond, people on the boat were switching around his parts.

Overall, the crowds were entertained by the races and creative boats, despite the cloudy and misty weather. Although the event began two hours later than initially scheduled, people stayed for the better half.

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Community Service Club
Dewey College
Freewheel Bicycle
Graduate Student Forum
Hera Group
Human Development (HDV) Council
Irving College
Lambda Theta Alpha
Material Sciences Club
National Residence Hall Honorary
National Society of Collegiate Scholars
Residence Hall Association (RHA)
Science & Society (SSO) Council
Sigma Lambda Upsilon
Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE)
Stony Brook Motor Sports
Student Health Advisory Council
WUSB 90.1 FM Radio

Outstanding Student Leader

Eric Ascher
Michelle Bahar
Priya Borker
Megan Bowald
Jean Christian Brutus
Anthony Dobrini
Adam Ehmer
Kerri Fico
Hayley Fivecoat
Alvin Flete
Suseth Garcia
Toria Garner
Ross Garrett
Mark Geraci
Justin Grimm/Greenblatt
Wanda Hun
Latoya Joyner
Sonia Kaczmaczylc
Diane Kim
Deb Klein
Stanislav Kozin
Cynthia Leon

Bernard Lubell
Shuchao Luo
Jennifer Mack
Henry Martinez
Christine Massi
Patricia Ng
Rita Nguyen
Krystine Olszewski
Rutuik Patel
Brooke Pesci
Olinda Pineda
Jessica Piperis
Zoramawii Ralte
Lynn Rubin
Christina Russo
Zoila Sanchez
Stephanie Seuano
Navneet Singh
George Stimola
Anna Szczepanek
Megan Warchula

Outstanding Student Organization Advisor

Joseph Allen
Doreen Aveni
Rosemary Effiom
Lori Glubiak
Ellen Hopkins
Joan Kuchner



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Roth Regatta 2008

In Pictures

Photos by Ilya Rabkin / SB Statesman

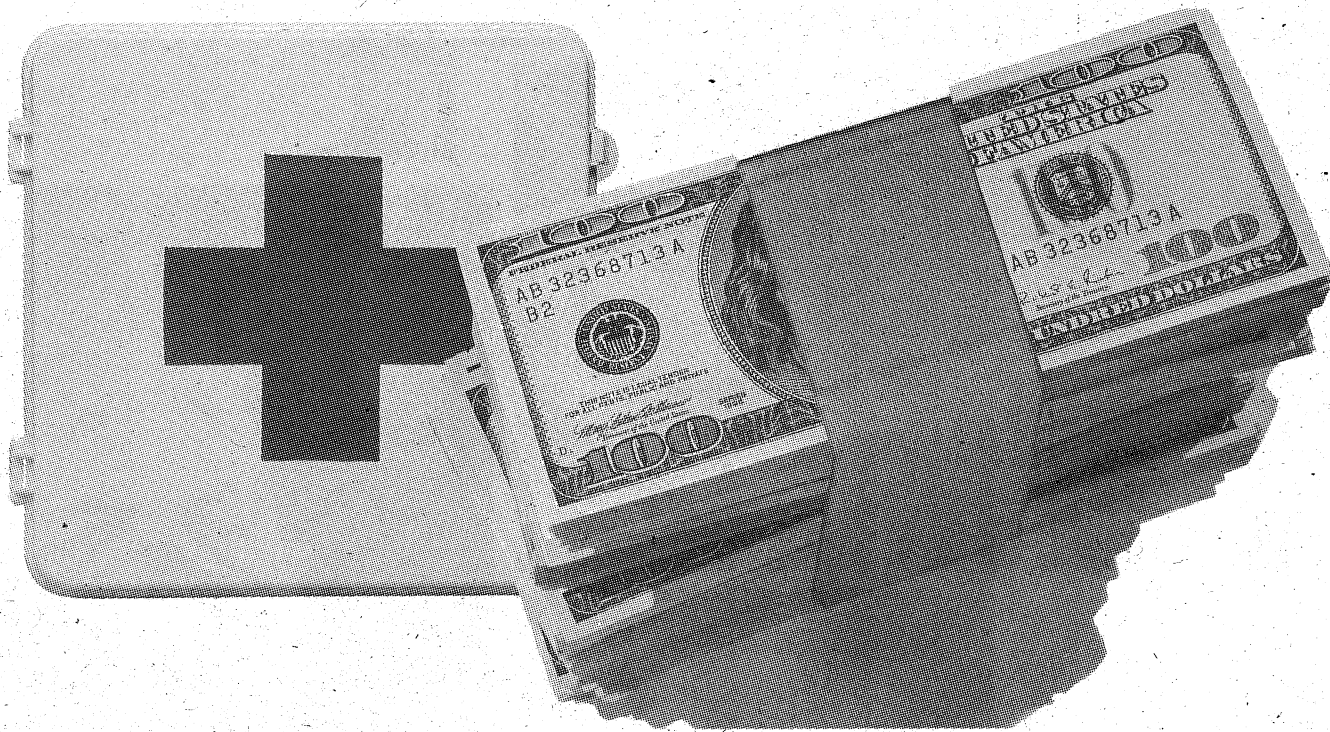


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Summer Blockbuster Guide



Courtesy of Shinstyle/tv

The ladies from "Sex and the City" strike on pose on set.

By MAUREEN HINE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

With the joys of summer come the most anticipated blockbusters of the year. Although summer is the ideal time to sit outside and catch some rays, everyone needs something to occupy their time on a cool summer night or a rainy day. This year there are several movies competing for that number one spot at the box office.

"Sex and the City" has been an HBO hit ever since it first hit the air. With the new fad of making television shows into DVDs, every girl and the unfortunate boyfriend has had a chance to catch up and fall in love with this series. After much anticipation, Sarah Jessica Parker and the girls are making it to the big screen.

There have been several speculations and rumors circulating about what will happen between the infamous couple, Carrie and Big. Some critics and fans believe that because of the shot of Carrie in a wedding dress shown in the trailer that they will be getting married, but can Big put aside his past of having a wandering eye and commit? To find out, catch the movie on May 30.

Another anticipated movie of the summer is the "Dark Knight" which kicks off July 18. This movie is the final part to the "Batman" series, which started three summers ago. In "Dark Knight," Bruce Wayne and his alter ego Batman must keep the streets of Gotham City safe from the villain, The Joker.

There are several reasons to catch

Continued on page 17

POETS' CORNER



Courtesy of Louisville.edu

Gotham Moon

By Jon Plaisted

Staff Writer

If the glass

is broken

don't tell me

the moon is full

show me

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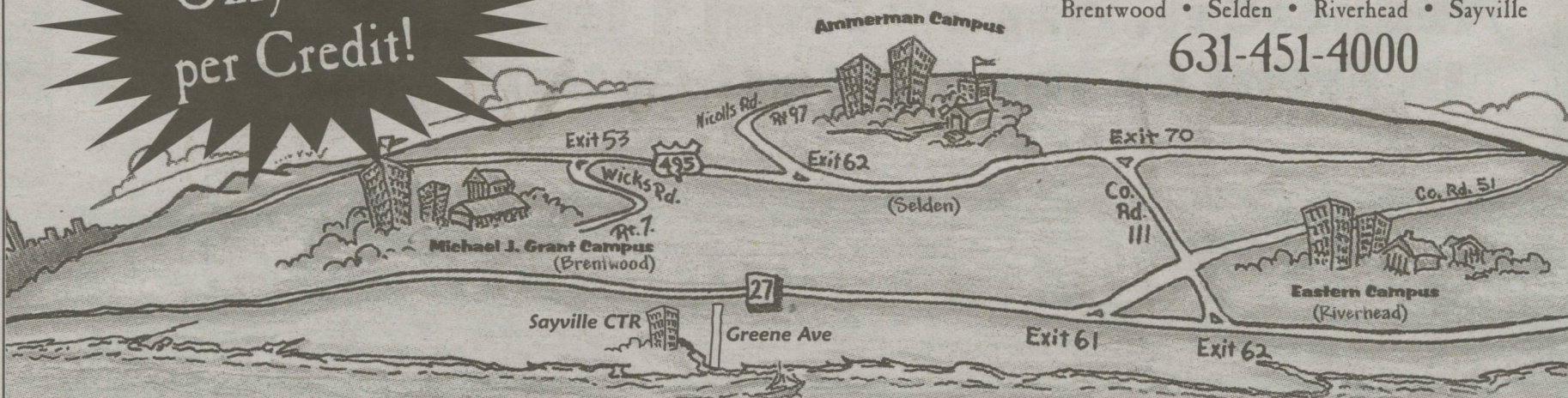
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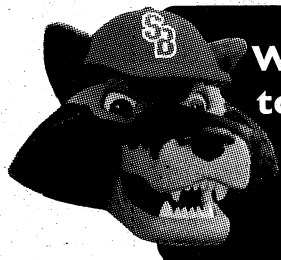
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Music World:

Summer Concert List Part II



Courtesy of Bonnaroo.com

A CROWD OF PEOPLE AT THE BONNAROO FESTIVAL IN TENNESSEE

By MAUREEN HINE
Arts and Entertainment Editor

As the semester comes to an end, students look forward to a long-awaited break from teachers, term papers and finals. With summer just around the corner, the perfect way to blow off all that pent up frustration is to invest that extra cash from selling your textbooks back on a ticket for a summer concert.

A summer concert is the ideal way to reward yourself for all those late nights in the library and long days of living off Starbucks and energy bars. With this list of summer concerts and the previous list of concerts we wrote about in our April issue, there should be no excuse for missing out on the

festivities.

Every summer Dave Matthews Band goes on an annual tour stopping at several major cities along the way. This year their summer tour kicks off on May 30 in Pittsburgh, Penn., at the Post Gazette Pavilion at Star Lake.

Unfortunately, the band doesn't make their way to the tri-state area until June. The first opportunity to catch Dave Matthews Band will be at the Susquehanna Bank Center in Camden, N.J., on June 3. The next stop for Dave and the gang will be in New York, where they will be bunking up for a total of three concerts.

The first chance to catch Dave in New York is on June 17 at the Darien Lake Performing Arts Center, in Darien Center, N.Y., but I suggest holding out for their next New York show in

Saratoga Springs. The band will be performing two shows at the Saratoga Springs Art Center on June 20 and June 21. This concert is anticipated to be one of the highlights of the band's tour and is typically the show where the band likes to play all their favorite songs and hidden tracks.

The next must for summer concerts is the Bonnaroo Festival on June 12. Bonnaroo is a festival featuring many signature bands that has been growing increasingly popular among the indie population since its start in 2002.

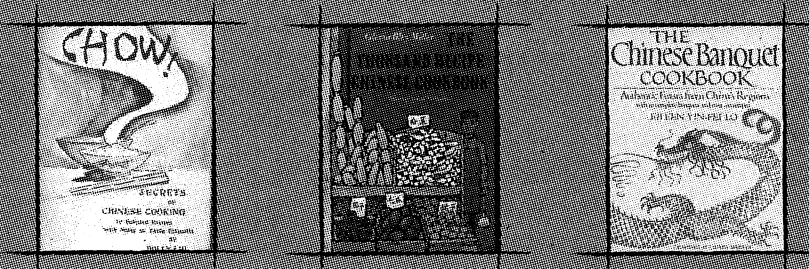
The festival is a four-day camping event with several stages held in Manchester, Tenn. Some critics are referring to the festival as the new "hippie fest" or "Woodstock of a new generation" and music enthusiasts swear by it.

This year the lineup features bands like Pearl Jam, Jack Johnson, Kanye West, Against Me!, The Raconteurs, O.A.R. and several others. The only downside to such a stellar event is the price of the tickets which range from \$209.50 for the early bird special to \$244.50 for the latecomers. The ticket includes a four-day weekend passes, camping and parking. If you have the extra cash, this concert is worth the investment.

To finish up the summer, the All Points West Festival will be held from Friday, August 8 to Sunday, August 10. This festival is being headlined by the most talked about band of the year, Radiohead, and

Continued on page 17

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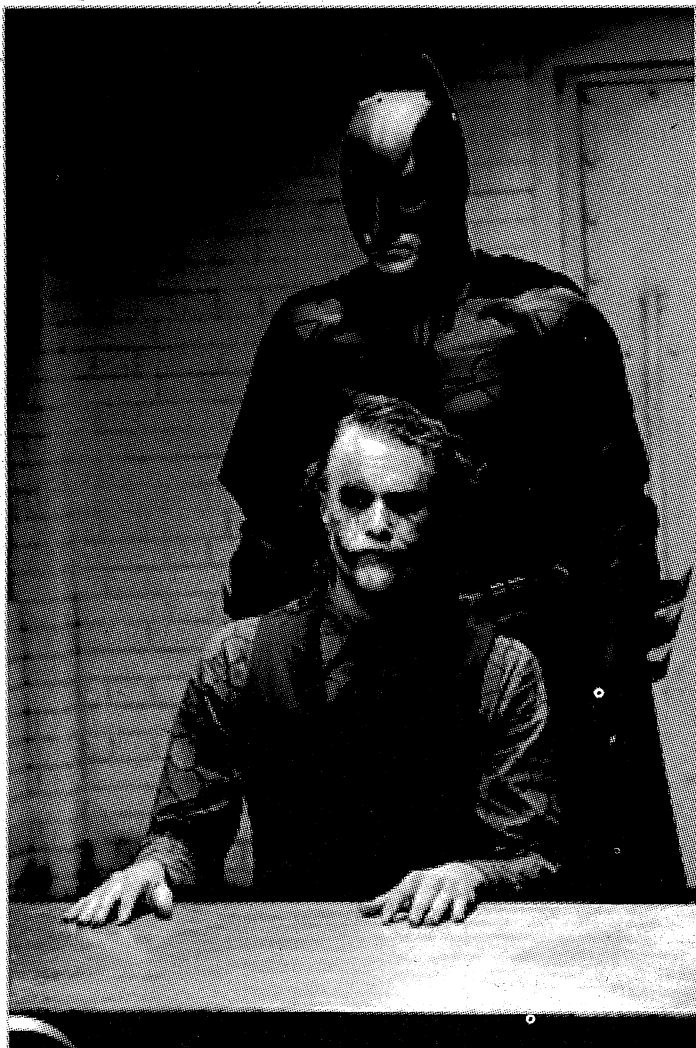
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Summer Blockbuster Guide

Continued from page 11

this film on the big screen, the first being that it is the last installment of a three part series. The second reason is that critics are already predicting that this will be the best movie of the series. Lastly, "Dark

Knights" lives -- but not without leaving a mass amount of chaos in his wake. After saving the life of a P.R. executive -- played by Jason Bateman -- this superhero begins to realize that maybe his feelings are stronger than



Courtesy of Warner Brothers

Knights" is packed with a star studded cast including; Christian Bale, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Morgan Freeman and the late Heath Ledger.

For the comedy lovers out there searching for a summer flick, "Hancock," starring Will Smith, is like the way to go. "Hancock" is a parody on the infamous "Spiderman" quote, "With great power comes great responsibility." Smith plays a careless, edgy, sarcastic superhero who saves

he thinks. For those ladies who still need to convince their boyfriends, Charlize Theron will also be appearing in the movie, which is set to hit theatres on July 2.

For more information on any of the films you can check the official sites: <http://www.sexandthecity-movie.com>, <http://thedarkknight.warnerbros.com> and <http://www.sonypictures.com/movies/hancock>.

Summer Concert List Part II

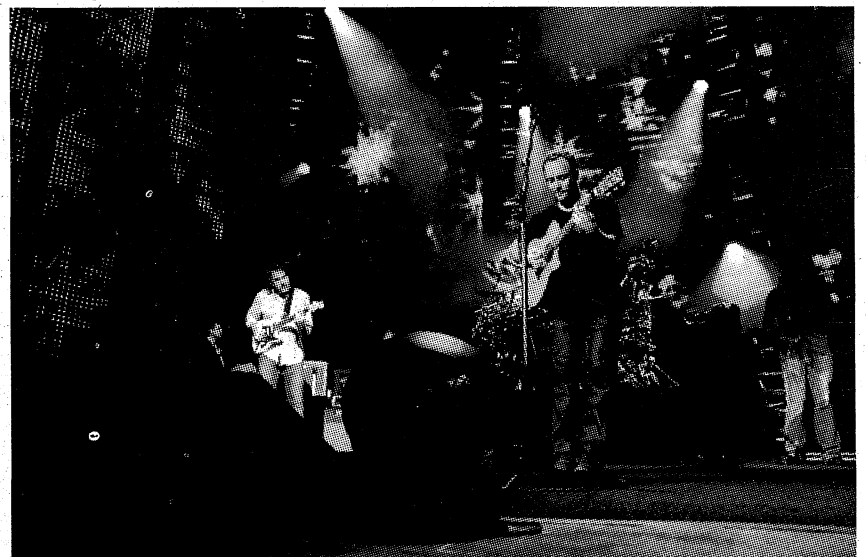
Continued from page 15

Jack Johnson.

Radiohead will be headlining for the first two days of the concert and Jack Johnson will be headlining on the third, but we can all keep our fingers crossed that they will perform a special duet on one of the days. Other bands playing include The

four tickets to the festival, but only for Saturday and Sunday.

Tickets for these festivals are selling out quick so I suggest logging on to ticketmaster.com or stubhub.com to snag a spot. Concert information for these three concerts mentioned above can be found at the following



Courtesy of googleimages.com

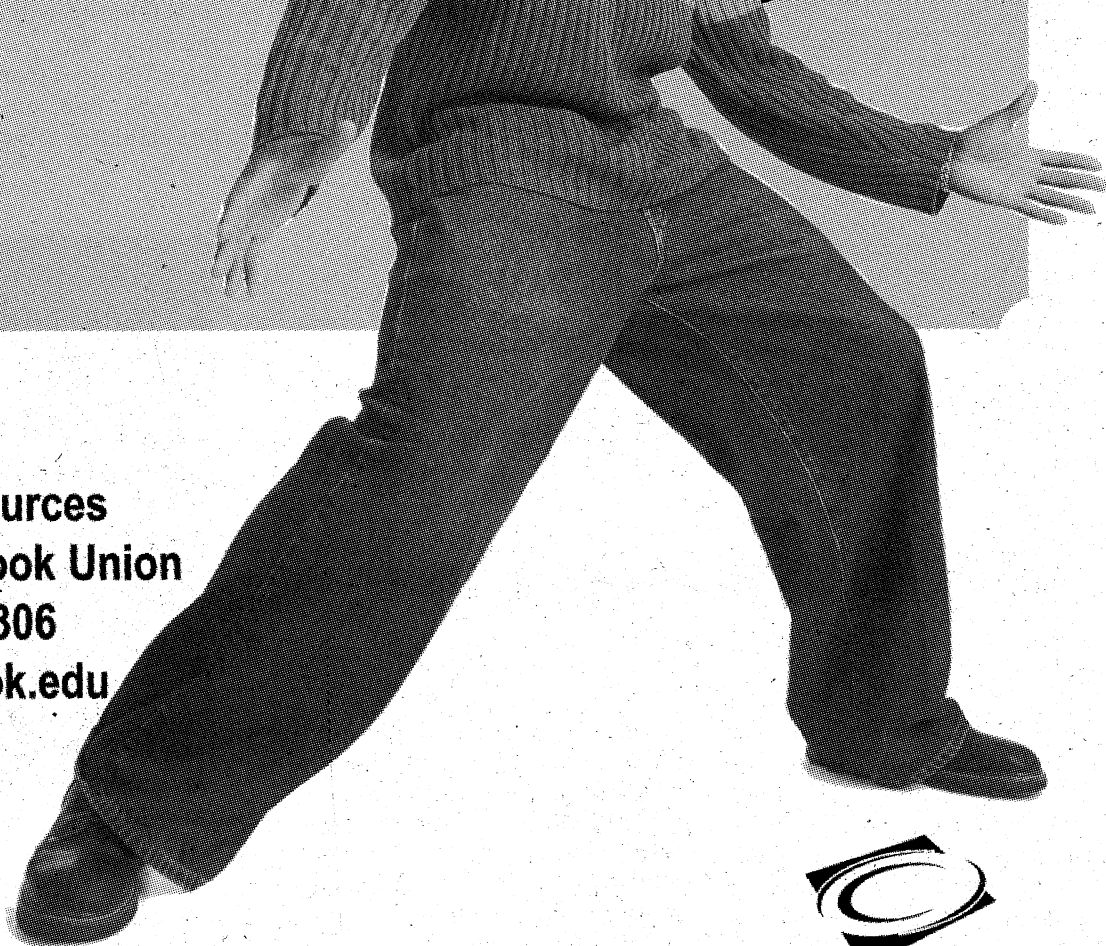
Roots, Kings of Leon, Underworld, Animal Collective, Cat Power and Nicole Atkins. Tickets are \$89.00 for a single day and \$258.00 for a three-day pass. Carpool passes are also available when you purchase

-- <http://www.dmband.com>, <http://www.bonnaroo.com>, and <http://www.apwfestival.com>.

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

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

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The State of Our Education

To the Editor:

Re: "Life As A Physics Student" (opinion, April 28):

Your opinion piece "Life as a Physics Student" in Monday's Statesman is a nicely written and raises interesting issues, such as, among others, "what is life?" and "what is a student?"

I am an interested party with several points of view. I have taught many of the undergraduate physics courses during my 37 years here on the faculty. I am currently "Undergraduate Program Director" for Physics and Astronomy, a job which can roughly be interpreted as "trying to befriend both student and teacher."

Your core observation is: "Instead of acquiring knowledge on electromagnetism, circuitry and relativity, I acquired knowledge on how to manipulate a laboratory experiment, a quiz, or even a syllabus so I would get a decent grade without actually understanding the material. To me, this has become the true science behind being a physics major."

OK, I concede your point. A valid scientific approach to a decent grade is to figure out how to game the system. You are also describing an approach to "life." But a subject like physics retains very few "students" beyond the first year except those who also seek something beyond a decent grade. Since you have stayed on as a physics major beyond the first year, it is likely that you still seek a bit more. But if you have lost interest, you are not the first to fall out of love, and you will not be the first who stayed the course in spite of love being lost.

You tell us "In 2002, North American countries as a whole awarded 122,000 first engineering degrees, Asian countries awarded 636,000, and European countries awarded 370,000." These numbers make all North American physics teachers (and no doubt math and engineering teachers) jealous. Do these numbers tell us that Asian and European physics teachers have a better system, where "gaming" doesn't work and

only true understanding is rewarded or achieved? The best way to answer this is, to poll students who have seen both systems from the inside. I didn't do a scientific poll; all I have is anecdotal evidence. I see quite a few students who come from Asia for a semester or for a four year degree. Perhaps they are excessively polite by North American standards, but so far I haven't heard that they find our system inferior. In fact, their behavior suggests that they find our system acceptable and in some ways superior.

We all wish we could do this job better. Each year a brand new crop of innocent faces (such as yours, two years ago!) arrives, eager to drink in the knowledge that we stubbornly believe we are able to impart. Why are we still so happy to see these new arrivals? Shouldn't we be weary of the too-frequent choice of soft-drink diet, namely, learning "how to manipulate a laboratory experiment, a quiz, or even a syllabus so I would get a decent grade without actually understanding the material"? Not at all! We know that, in this mass of new faces, there are future scientists and engineers who will change the world. We also know that we can inspire some of them. And we retain the silly optimistic belief that, if we keep trying to improve, to teach this stuff slightly better, maybe we can inspire one or two more. And, in counterpoint to your idealistic image of the true path of Newton and Einstein, we actually find that a student, like you, who scientifically discovers a route to a decent grade, is actually, perhaps accidentally, learning a decent fraction of the physics we are trying to teach. So best wishes for decent grades, and my sincere hopes for a bit more, in your remaining studies here.

Philip B. Allen, Professor

Director of
Undergraduate Studies

Dept. of Physics &
Astronomy
Stony Brook University

Revisiting Campus Media and the USG

To the Editor:

Re: "Where Have All the Reporters Gone" (opinion, April 21):

I'd like to take a moment to respond to Jonathan Hirsts' Opinion piece from the April 21st Statesman.

Jonathan criticized the campus media's role in covering the USG Senate meetings as "Pathetic." I can't speak for the print media, but for the last two years, SBU-TV, the student-run campus television station on Channel 20, has recorded and broadcast the majority of Senate meetings. Not just once a week, but TWICE a day, everyday, (Mon-Wed, at 6pm and 1am; Thur-Sun, at 6pm and 9pm).

As to addressing student concerns, we also air SBU-TV News, our weekly covering of campus news, sports and events. (This airs three times a day, at 3:30pm, 7:30pm and midnight). We've reported on everything from the housing situation and tripling of students, last Fall; to the opening of new campus dining facilities; to the increase in parking ticket fines; and the campus lockdown earlier this semester.

We've done all of this,

despite the student government cutting our budget by \$20,000 this year. Our cameras are in need of replacement, and our equipment is breaking down. Additionally, in our quest to reach all of the students, including commuters, (as we are only carried on campus cable), our request for additional monies to purchase a system to stream our signal was denied.

This has been a period of great growth for the broadcast media here on campus, and I sincerely hope that in your opinion piece you simply overlooked us. As for your question, "why don't we know what's happening on our campus?" maybe you should turn to Channel 20 and find out.

Anyone can check our website for the schedule at www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Clubs/sbutv/.

We also have podcasts available of some of our programming at <https://podcast.ic.sunysb.edu/weblog/sbutv/>

Thank you,

Steve Kreitzer

Operations Manager,
SBU-TV

Guidelines for Opinion Submission



Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted by e-mail at comments@sbstatesman.org, on our online submission tool at www.sbstatesman.org, by hand at our office in the Student Union Rm 057, or by mailing it to us at the address in the left column. They must be received at least two days before the next printed issue. The Statesman reserves the right to edit or not print any letter based on appropriateness, length, timeliness, or other reasons at the discretion of the editorial board. Letters should be no longer than 350 words, and opinion pieces should not exceed 550 words. Please include your full name (which we may withhold if you request it), phone number and email address for verification. Phone numbers and e-mail addresses will not be printed. Letters submitted anonymously or under false names will not be considered for publication.

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Campus Life At Stony Brook University

By IBBAD YOUSUF
Op-Ed Contributor

As a student, a day doesn't go by where I don't hear at least one person complain about how horrible Stony Brook is. Heck, there's even a website dedicated to how much Stony Brook sucks! Now don't get me wrong, I had the first-year blues when I originally came here from high school, a feeling that many others experience. But, at least I did, and am still, doing something about it. I think people are just lazy or don't know how to balance their time right.

It isn't about there being no social life, because on a campus of more than 20,000 students, there is always somebody new to meet. There's a club for pretty much

anything you can think of, and if there isn't, you can start one. This is all aside from a plethora of other activities that occur on campus regularly.

I realized I had to manage my time better to create a better balance for enjoyment and relaxing instead of constantly working. Even after I joined a fraternity, I still complained about being here, and how "boring it is" until I was able to get my act together. On the note of the other type of clubs, the ones with loud music and dancing, there's a few in the area that run every Thursday through Saturday night if that's your scene. The same goes for bars. If neither of those are your cups of tea, and you complain about not having a car, get a ride from a friend or the bus to go do

something else nearby. The Port Jefferson Marina is a mere 10 minute drive, and there you can enjoy a stroll on the boardwalk during the day and a theatrical performance at night.

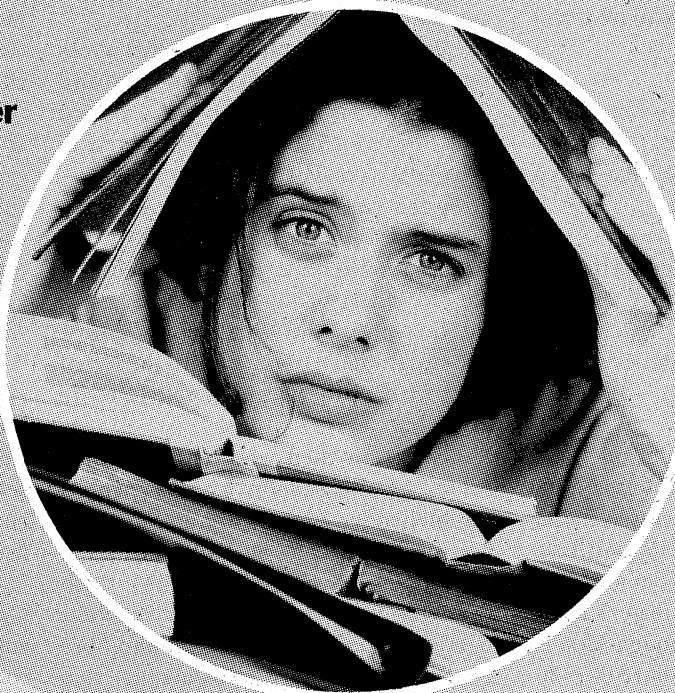
While grades are very important and the classes here are pretty rigorous, there is still no excuse. My roommate - who is a double major in physics and journalism - has a 3.5 GPA and goes out at least two nights a week. So again students of SBU, stop being lazy, stop whining, and be pro-active. If everyone didn't have such a horrible attitude, it wouldn't really exist. Now this may just be my opinion, but life is what you make of it, so go out, get a life, and enjoy.

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NEW YORK BASEBALL ROUND UP: WITH ONE MONTH DONE, BOTH YANKEES AND METS YET TO PLAY UP TO POTENTIAL

By CARL CARRIE
Staff Writer

With the baseball season nearly 1/5 of the way through, both local teams have had their issues. However, they've been able to win their share of games as both teams are over .500, with the Yankees at 17-16, and the Mets at 16-13. Let's compare the two team's trouble spots, and take a look forward.

Starting Pitching

- For the Mets, both Johan Santana and John Maine are 3-2 with a 2.91 and 3.48 ERA, respectively. So they are both giving their teams a chance to win day in and day out. The same can't be said for Oliver Perez and Mike Pelfrey. These two guys are wildly inconsistent and are putting their teams in early holes.

Best Case Scenario: Pedro Martinez comes back as Pedro, and Santana and Maine both have good years. Perez finds some sort of consistency, and G.M. Omar Minaya makes a midseason trade for a decent starter.

Worst Case Scenario: Pedro comes back showing his age, Perez stays inconsistent and there are no available pitchers at the deadline.

- The Yankees have been saved by Chien-Ming Wang's 6-0 start, Mike Mussina, who has overachieved as a fifth starter and Andy Pettite has been dependable, but the young guys have been terrible. Phil Hughes and Ian Kennedy, the two top prospects who would not be traded for Johan Santana, are 0-6 with a collective ERA close to 9. For the foreseeable future neither will be in the rotation as Hughes is on the D.L. with a fracture rib, and Ian Kennedy was sent down to Triple-A to get his mechanics and head right.

Best Case Scenario: Hughes comes back healthy and shows the potential that he's capable of and Ian Kennedy pitches well enough to go out there every fifth day. If they do not come back strong, Alan Horne, Darrell Rasner, Jeffrey Marquez, or Chase Wright, will prove to be valuable

minor-league options

Worst Case Scenario: Hughes injury is serious and he does not come back strong. Kennedy was overrated as a prospect, and is not the pitcher that the Yankees thought they had. Then Hank Steinbrenner fires Brian Cashman, and the Yankees trade their plethora of young prospects for an overpriced starter.

Underachieving and/or injured Hitters

- Robinson Cano, Jason Giambi and Jorge Posada were supposed to be part of a vaunted Yankees offense that was supposed to challenge the run scoring record. Instead Cano and Giambi are hitting below .200 and showing zero power and Posada is on the D.L. for an unknown amount of time. Alex Rodriguez is also injured, and will be back in 2 weeks.

Best Case Scenario: Posada comes back and hits like he should, Cano continues to grow as a hitter, and Giambi is a little more than dead weight.

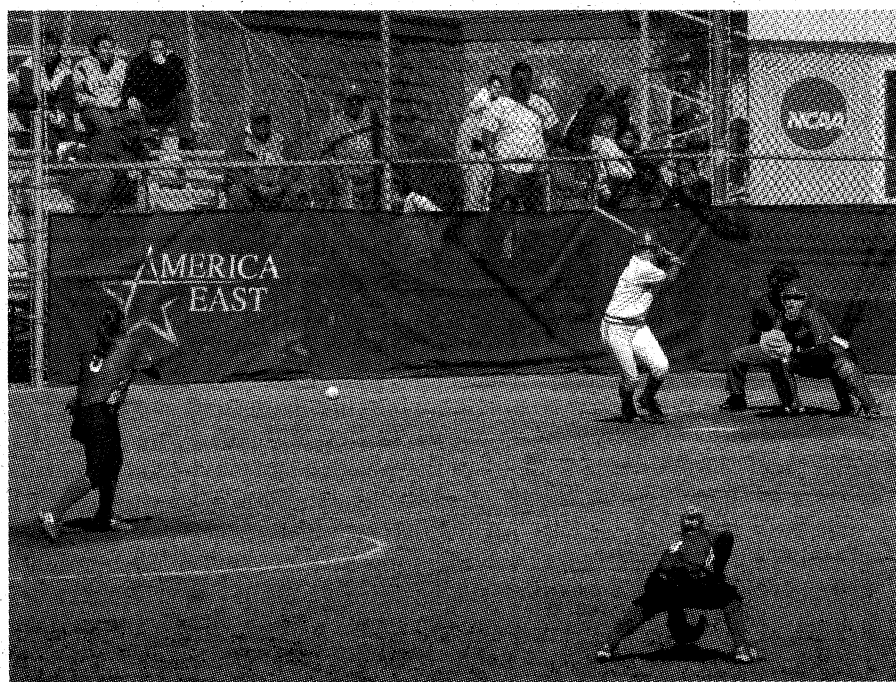
Worst Case Scenario: Posada doesn't come back, the stress of signing a \$30 million dollar contract in the offseason is too much for Cano to handle, and Giambi is dead weight.

- The Mets have gotten through the season so far, even though Moises Alou has been injured, Carlos Delgado hasn't been able to hit a beach ball, and Jose Reyes has played without the emotion or pizzazz that made him the major's most exciting player. Now even though Alou is back, will he be healthy for more than 30 games at a time?

Best Case Scenario: Reyes regains his confidence and all-star form, Alou comes back as a hitting machine, and Delgado plays well enough to justify keeping him in the line-up.

Worst Case Scenario: Alou shows why 41 year-olds do not sign long contracts, Reyes can't find his mojo, and Delgado never even has a reason to come out for a curtain call for the rest of the season.

Softball clinches #3 Seed In America East Tourney



By JESSICA MCCLINTOCK
Senior Writer

The Stony Brook softball team traveled to Sacred Heart University on Wednesday, April 30 for a double header against the Pioneers.

Despite strong pitching performances by starters Alyssa Struzenberg and Casey Jacobs, the Seawolves dropped both low scoring games, by scores of 1-0 and 2-1, respectively. The Seawolves stranded 12 runners on base in the 1-0 loss, and Sacred Heart picked up the win on a walk off double. In game two, Sacred Heart brought in two runs in the bottom of the third inning. Stony Brook scratched one across in the top of the fifth, but they were unable to score after that.

The team then won its final home series of the season by sweeping a doubleheader against Manhattan College on May 1. The Seawolves won the games by scores of 8-0 and 11-3. With the wins Stony Brook improved their overall record to 28-20-1. Sophomore Alyssa Struzenberg allowed just two hits while earning her 19th win of the season in the first game. Jacobs earned the win in the second game for Stony Brook, increasing her record to 7-3 on the year.

Struzenberg set a new school record for most wins in a season when she helped to beat Vermont twice May 3 on the road. The two wins give Struzenberg 21 victories this season, which is one more than the previous record of 20 by Angela Andrews in 2004.

In game one of the Vermont double-

header Struzenberg threw four innings to pick up the win. In game two she struck out 10 in a two hit shutout.

The Seawolves wasted no time getting on the top in game one, scoring a run in the first inning when junior Molly Kestranek was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded. Stony Brook added three more runs in the next inning with a three-run homer to right field by sophomore Vicki Kavitsky. They were on a streak and they kept it coming in the third, by means of an RBI single by Kavitsky followed by a wild pitch, an error and a sacrifice fly by junior Kelsi Fanelli to increase their lead to 8-0 in the third.

Stony Brook tacked on three more runs in the final inning, which was highlighted by an RBI single to right field by senior Ashley Westphal. In the second game Westphal drove in the lone run in the 1-0 victory with a sacrifice fly in the third inning.

Notes: Stony Brook sophomore Casey Jacobs was named the ECAC softball pitcher of the week according to a release from the conference on Wednesday. Jacobs picked up a win and a save last week while posting a 0.00 ERA. She struck out 14 batters in her 13.2 innings pitched, while allowing merely two walks. This is the second week in a row a Stony Brook athlete has been acknowledged by the ECAC.

The Seawolves clinched the third seed in the America East Tournament, which will be hosted next week by the #1 seed Albany. The winner of the tournament gets an automatic bid to the NCAA Softball Championship.

Campus Recreation Center On The Horizon

FALL REC HOURS TO BE CUT OR PUSHED BACK

Continued from pg. 24

a single game on the indoor courts, and if we lose we have to wait just as long again." Kiswani later cited that during the five versus five intramural basketball season, there were no open recreation hours available and the only way he could play basketball indoors was if he was on an intramural team.

Intramural sports will also be affected greatly affected by the renovations to the arena. In the 2006-2007 school year, 4,376 students and faculty participated in intramural sports, many of which took place in Pritchard Gym. "We're going to have to be really flexible next year," said Hairston in regards to the Intramural sports. "However these renovations are a necessary evil," continued Hairston, "Athletics generates a lot of revenue, and these renovations will help attract athletes in the future."

According to Dr. Susan DiMonda, who is the Associate Dean of Students and Director of Student Life, the univer-

sity does have a proposed plan in place to extend the hours in which the gym is opened until 2 a.m., however the plan calls for \$15,000 to fund such an operation. The plan is currently awaiting approval.

The university is also going to be announcing its plan to build a campus recreation center in the near future. The proposed building, which will be built near the arena and the Stony Brook Union, will have a three-court gymnasium, running track, weights and fitness rooms, and storage for some of the 34 clubs that are on campus. According to Dr. DiMonda, the building will cost nearly \$39 million. The school received a grant by the state to fund all of the construction costs. Stony Brook is currently working with Sasaki Associates, Inc., who has been chosen by the university as the principal architectural firm, and according to Dr. DiMonda, the project could break ground next fall. However Dr. DiMonda doesn't anticipate the construction to be completed for several years, and the center will certainly not be a solution to the issues the school faces next year.

Men's Lacrosse Drops Second Straight to Albany

Continued from pg. 24

to pull the Seawolves to within two. Duch picked up his second assist of the game.

After a Stony Brook turnover, a pushing penalty was called. Albany converted on the opportunity to extend the lead to 12-9. Stony Brook won the next face off, but after several turnovers by both teams, the clock ran out on the game, and on the season.

"You can always contribute a loss to missed opportunities," said Sowell. "But we just got beat by a better team today."

Stony Brook won more face-offs and picked up more ground balls. They were, however, out shot 50-37 for the game, and had four more turnovers than the Danes.

UMBC, the #1 seed, went on to win the Conference Tournament, beating Albany

14-13. UMBC came back from a 11-2 deficit in the second quarter to secured a spot in the NCAA Lacrosse Championship.

The Seawolves ended the season with a 7-7 record and 3-2 in the America East Conference. "This season was a step in the right direction," said Sowell. "We had a lot of freshman who contributed, and our recruiting classes continue to get better."

Notes: Jordan McBride, who was named American East Rookie of the Year, lead the nation with a 3.31 goals per game average. The Seawolves also led the America East with goals per game at 11.9.

Several other players received All Conference honors, including freshman Kevin Crowley and sophomore Steve Waldeck along with McBride being placed on the All Conference first team, and seniors Bo Tripodi, Rhys Duch and Owen Adams on the All Conference second team.

Baseball Prepares For Final Home Series

UMBC FINAL AE TUNE UP BEFORE TOURNAMENT

By MATT EHRESMAN
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, April 30, Stony Brook's baseball team powered its way to a convincing 16-3 victory over Fairfield. Freshman Evan Stecko-Haley picked up his second victory of the season for the Seawolves. He gave up two runs in five innings while notching seven strikeouts. The Seawolves were led by Michael Tansey and Rob Dyer, who each went 4-5. Tansey homered and had five RBI. Dyer also homered and had three RBI.

In the top of the first Fairfield jumped out to an early 2-0 lead on home run from shortstop Tucker Nathans. Stony Brook responded in the bottom of the second with fireworks of their own with Tansey's home run to left field. A seven run fourth inning from the Seawolves chased Fairfield starter Ryan Calabrese. Calabrese was hit hard as he gave up nine earned runs in three and two thirds innings. In the bottom of the sixth the Seawolves would tack on another five runs to extend their lead to 16-3. As a team Stony Brook had a season high nineteen hits.

On Saturday, May 3, and Sunday, May 4, the Seawolves traveled to Easton, Penn., to take on Lafayette in back to back doubleheaders. In the first game of the series starting pitcher Zach Fritz went the distance for Lafayette, pitching seven shutout innings as the Seawolves fell 3-0. Tom Koehler started for Stony Brook and also went all seven, yet took the loss despite a quality outing. The Seawolves were unable to generate any offense as Fritz held them to three hits. Joe Ezekiel provided the little offense that Fritz would need as he went 2-3 with a home run. The Seawolves never threatened as only one base runner reached second base.

In game two of the four game set the Seawolves overcame a 8-0 deficit and defeated the Leopards 13-8. Down eight heading into the top of the seventh the Seawolves put together a nine run inning. The Seawolves put seven straight batters on base to begin the inning. Overall they would bring 14 players to the plate that inning and it would take three Lafayette pitchers to close out the inning. Rob Dyer went 3-4 with two RBI while Steven Mazzurco went

2-5 with two RBI. Matt Harloff got the victory out of the bullpen for the Seawolves while Brad Woodfield took the loss for Lafayette.

On Sunday Stony Brook dropped both games of the doubleheader as Lafayette defeated them 5-1 and 7-6. Evan Stecko-Haley started for the Seawolves in game one and did not fare well as he surrendered eight hits and five earned runs over two and two thirds innings. The offense also struggled as they only had five hits and were shut out following the first inning.

Kevin Reese started for Lafayette and went five and a third giving up five hits and only one earned run in the first inning. After two scoreless innings the Stecko-Haley ran into trouble in the third. He gave up six hits, three for extra bases as Lafayette picked up all five runs in this inning. Michael Barbot would come out of the bullpen to bail out Stecko-Haley. Barbot pitched the rest of the way, pitching three and a third innings of no hit baseball. Although Barbot kept the Seawolves in the game they failed to capitalize offensively.

In the second half of the doubleheader Stony Brook once again would struggle on the mound, as starter Jeremy Nowak battled through five and two thirds giving up 11 hits and five earned runs. Jordan Purington did not fare well either, as he gave up five hits and two runs in an inning and a third as he was charged with the loss. Lafayette was not much better on the mound as starting pitcher Ryan Hanna couldn't make it through the fourth inning.

Offensively the Seawolves were led by first baseman Rob Dyer who went 3-4 with two RBI. Centerfielder Brian Witkowski went 2-4 and hit a solo home run in the fourth inning. Tom Hayes of Lafayette went 4-4 with three RBI and two runs scored. While the game was a see-saw battle throughout Lafayette reliever Steve Roberts shut the door on any thoughts of a comeback for the Seawolves as got the final six outs to pick up his fifth save. In his two innings of work he only allowed one hit and struck out four batters.

The Seawolves resume playing Friday afternoon as they open up a four game series with UMBC at home. First pitch is scheduled for 3 p.m.

STATESMAN Sports

Men's Lacrosse Ends Season In AE Quarterfinals



A four goal run by Albany early in the third quarter did in the Seawolves in Maryland at the America East Conference Tournament. Despite an 11 save performance from goaltender Rob Camposa, the Seawolves dropped the game 12-9.

By KEITH KOBASUIK
Senior Writer

A week after losing to the Great Danes in Albany, the Seawolves played them again, this time in Maryland in the American East Tournament. The winner would play for the American East Championship. The Seawolves came out on the losing end of the game, 12-9.

"Albany is a good team," head coach Rick Sowell said. "They made some pretty good plays with some pretty good players. We just came up a bit short this time."

After a slow start in the game, the Seawolves took the early lead at the ten minute mark on a goal by senior Bobby Trenkle. After a save by sophomore goaltender Rob Camposa, the Seawolves were able to clear the ball which led to the goal. The save was one of three for Camposa in the first

quarter. He ended the game with 11 saves. "We played good team defense, but you can only stop them so much," said Sowell. After back to back goals by Albany, Trenkle found Senior Ryan Hughes who tied the game at two. Albany added another goal to end the quarter ahead 3-2.

Stony Brook scored three goals in 2:30 to open the second quarter. Senior Michal Trojanowski opened up the scoring with his third goal of the year. Hughes and Trenkle also scored to give Stony Brook its largest lead of the game, 5-3. Albany tied the score at five before they took a timeout and scored another goal to go into the half on top 6-5.

Before the half, Albany received an unsportsmanlike penalty, and the Seawolves made them pay early in the third. Freshman Jordan McBride scored just 12 seconds into

the period off of a feed from senior Rhys Duch. That's the last time the game would be tied. Albany put up four goals in a row in the third to take a 10-6 lead. Albany recorded 13 shots in the quarter with seven hitting the net. "They caught a hot spurt," Sowell said.

The fourth quarter started with a face off win by freshman Adam Rand and five seconds later, he scored his first goal of the season unassisted. Albany responded after a Stony Brook turnover with Corey Small scoring his fifth goal of the game. The defensive game took over for 10 minutes until senior Owen Adams found the back of the net. Only 14 seconds later, senior Bo Tripodi scored his 28th goal of the season

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REC CENTER IN THE WORKS

By BRIAN MORGAN
Senior Writer

Beginning in the upcoming fall semester, confusion and chaos are going to be a reoccurring theme in the Pritchard Gym. The cause of such emotions is the \$20 million in renovations scheduled to Stony Brook Arena, which will be starting after Pritchard Gym is done being renovated this summer.

Stony Brook Arena houses Stony Brook's Div. 1 teams such as the men's and women's basketball teams, and the women's volleyball team. The arena is also used by the tennis and track teams as a training facility. Due to the renovations these teams will have to move to the Pritchard Gym, which is where other teams such as the softball, baseball and men's and women's lacrosse teams practice when there is poor weather outside. Besides the athletic teams, the rest of the general student body and faculty use Pritchard Gym for intramural sports and recreation.

According to David Hairston, who is the Coordinator of Intramurals and Sports Clubs, there will be virtually no recreation hours during the basketball season next year. Therefore, the only outlets on campus for students to play sports such as basketball, badminton and indoor soccer is the outdoor courts behind the arena and the newly built courts near H-Quad.

"This is unfair," said Umer Syed, a sophomore Biology student. "It's cold most of the year while and when we can't play outside, we have nowhere to go."

"The space we have now isn't enough as it is," added Hazem Kiswani, who is also a sophomore Business student. "We sometimes have to wait 30 minutes to play

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