

THE STATESMAN

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There Will Be Blood... Drives

JAMES KAFTEN
Staff Writer

The signs posted in the halls are difficult to ignore, as is the frequency with which they appear. About five times every semester, campus blood drives are set up at Stony Brook. And although they are well publicized, the amount of people who actually show up to donate is far lower than the organizers of the drives would like.

"We could always use a better turnout at blood drives," said Jessica Chao, the President of the Stony Brook University Blood Drive Committee, which organizes the events. "Usually there is a high yield at the first blood drive of the semester, but it tapers off after that since people can only donate every 56 days."

Blood that is donated at Stony Brook blood drives is sent to Long Island Blood Services, which is a division of the New York Blood Center. The blood is then distributed to many hospitals around Long Island and the greater New York area, including Stony Brook University Medical Center. A typical donation calls for about one pint of blood, and Chao says that the average drive brings in about 100 to 150 pints. Some students, however, are reluctant to donate.

Stony Brook sophomore Jonathan Stein said that he avoids donating blood because of a story he heard about his cousin, who was having a blood test at his doctor's office and fainted after too much blood was removed. Also, he said,

Elton John Kicks Off Tribeca



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

The Tribeca Film Festival in Manhattan took over the city with red carpets, glamorous celebrities, documentaries, photographers and everything in between. For in-depth coverage, go to **PAGE 18**.

"I really don't like needles. I guess it's just the needles puncturing my skin and sitting there drawing out blood."

Dr. Dennis K. Galanakis is both an associate professor of Pathology and Medicine at Stony Brook and the director of the blood bank at the hospital, where the staff holds blood drives of their own in which the blood is for use only at their hospital. Galanakis spoke of the benefits of blood drives and how they help those who are less physically fortunate.

"You save lives," he said of the donation process. "We've saved 11 different women in the last 10 months who had massive bleeding from childbirth. Many cancer patients would die if they didn't have enough blood because their

bodies do not produce enough for them." The same goes for patients who lose blood during surgery, he said.

However, there are also well-documented side effects that come with the good deed of donating blood, and it is possible that this could be part of what is holding some Stony Brook students back. Some common negative physical effects that come with giving blood include dizziness, lightheadedness, joint stiffness, slight nausea and, rarely, fainting. The prospect of such repercussions can be quite off-putting to potential donors. But Galanakis insists that only a minuscule number of donors feel woozy after giving blood.

"99 percent of people have no problem," he said. "The one percent

who do are underweight and so on and so forth, but it's very rare."

The American Red Cross has several regulations that it says donors should follow in order to ensure that their donation process is pain-free. They instruct people not to donate unless they are healthy (meaning that they can perform everyday activities and are treating any chronic conditions), at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. They say that people should drink plenty of fluids and eat iron-rich foods prior to donating.

"I would never pressure someone to donate blood because I want them to be relaxed during the process," Chao said. "I would, however, listen to their concerns, try to dispel any misconceptions they have and gently remind them that

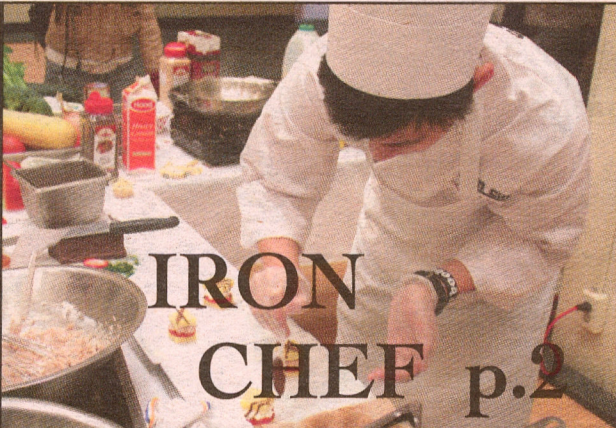
they could help save three lives by donating."

Saving lives is the main beneficial philosophy that both Chao and Galanakis preach quite often. Galanakis calls it a "community service" and Chao describes donation as "a great way to contribute to society because a single action is saving multiple lives." But this principle alone does not appear to have everyone committed. Chao and the Blood Drive Committee strive to lift their turnout in the future, and will continue to organize donations at Stony Brook.

Stein said that he will continue to avoid the blood drives, but that he understands why the committee wants to keep organizing them. "If they get new people every time, then it's worth it," he said.



Covering Tribeca
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IRON CHEF p. 2



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NEWS

Stony Brook Iron Chef Brings Up the Heat



CHRISTIAN SANTANA / THE STATESMAN

Campus Dining hosted its own Iron Chef competition in the Union, where students were able to watch their classmates compete for charity.

CHRISTIAN SANTANA
Staff Writer

With its high ceilings and hardwood floors, the Union ballroom was converted into a veritable arena for Campus Dining's second annual Iron Chef Competition, in which four teams of culinary whiz-kids put their cooking skills to the test for bragging rights and \$5,000 for the charity of their choice.

Sporting white chef hats and aprons emblazoned with team names such as "Cocoa Berries," "Blazin' Skilletts," "The Three Twins" and "Sweet and Spicy," the combatants assumed their places at cooking stations posted at all four sides of the room. On the tables were their weapons in their clash for kitchen supremacy: an assortment of cutting boards, knives, and other implements, including a George Foreman grill.

True to the Japanese television show and subsequent Food Network program it was

inspired by and named after, the competition revolved around the use of a secret ingredient—or rather, two secret ingredients, chocolate and coconuts, which were unveiled at the start of the competition. Each team would be judged in accordance with four criteria: creativity, use of the secret ingredients, originality, and, of course, taste.

Vincent Gentile, the Director of Marketing for Campus Dining Services and a major organizer for the event, has been a part of events similar to Iron Chef on other campuses, and felt that students would enjoy voting for and "watching their favorite team compete to be the next Iron Chef on our campus." And vote they did; 18 teams had signed up for the competition, and the online selection process generated over 500,000 votes—some teams even created Facebook pages encouraging their friends to vote for them.

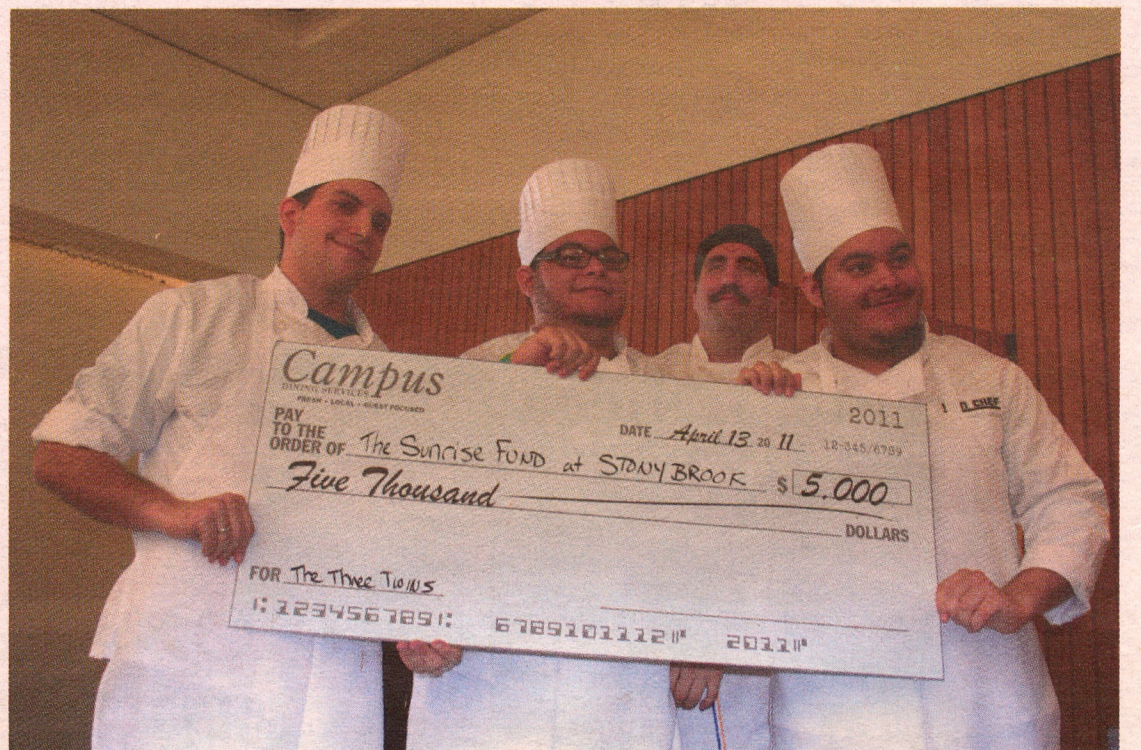
Assisted by a professional chef whose job it was to fetch ingredients and advise them over the course of the competition, each team immediately

brainstormed and set to work on their respective dishes. Sweet and Spicy would whip up a breaded shrimp pasta with a butter sauce, while Blazin' Skilletts cooked up a salmon curry accompanied by

mango strawberry crepes with a chocolate drizzle. Cocoa Berries, on the other hand, got to work on coconut grilled shrimp with a mango chipotle sauce, and The Three Twins accompanied their

entrée, rice and chicken in a spicy Mexican sauce called mole, with a desert of fruit salad plated

Continued on Page 16



CHRISTIAN SANTANA / THE STATESMAN

Robot Surgery Has Its Long Island Start at SBU

JAMES KAFTEN
Staff Writer

Stony Brook University Medical Center has taken a major step in implementing a groundbreaking new technology into its surgical procedures. Last month, the hospital became the first on Long Island to perform ear, nose and throat operations using a robotic surgical system.

The da Vinci S HD Surgical System is a high-tech robotic machine that allows surgeons to perform operations with more accuracy and with a better view of the operative site. It is also much less invasive than traditional surgical

methods. Following surgery, patients experience less physical discomfort and minimal scarring. Recovery time tends to be shortened as well.

Although previous operations had been performed at the hospital using the robotic system, no Long Island medical facility had yet attempted to utilize it for ear, nose and throat procedures. Dr. Ghassan J. Samara, an associate professor at the Department of Surgery in Otolaryngology (head and neck surgery) at the Stony Brook University School of Medicine, performed the first three of these operations in late March, with the aid of Dr. Mark F. Marzouk. According to Samara, the da Vinci system makes it a lot easier to

perform surgery on hard-to-reach areas of the body.

"There are certain areas of the head and neck region that are very hard to reach," Samara said. "Imagine cancer on the back side of the tongue." With da Vinci, a tumor in this area could be removed easily. However, during a normal procedure, Samara said, the entire jaw would have to be taken apart in order to reach the infected area.

The use of a robotic system for otolaryngology operations is quite revolutionary, as surgeons in this field perform many important functions. Otolaryngologists at Stony Brook University Medical Center specialize in treatment of: hearing and balance disorders, voice and throat ailments, nasal and sinus problems and removal of benign and malignant growths.

According to Samara, learning to use the da Vinci system was not easy, as all surgeons who want to use it have to go through an arduous training process. First, the doctors must watch videos explaining da Vinci's usage in detail. Then they practice drills on the machine using inanimate objects. Samara then traveled to Philadelphia, where he was taught to use the device on both anesthetized pigs and human cadavers. When the surgeon is finally ready to operate on live humans, a da Vinci professional is flown in to

supervise their first five operations.

Despite the newness and uncertainty that surrounds the device, it appears to already be quite popular among patients. The website of Intuitive Surgical, Inc., which makes the da Vinci systems, features many wildly positive reviews of the machine. One, from Mark Brittingham, 50, of Califon, N.J., describes his positive experience with a throat cancer operation.

"As of today, it has been five weeks and I am, for all intents and purposes, normal in swallowing and speech," Brittingham wrote. "I certainly wasn't happy to be diagnosed with a carcinoma in my throat but, as far as therapy goes, I couldn't be happier with the results of the transoral robotic surgery."

Samara has found similar enthusiasm from his patients at Stony Brook University Medical Center. He expected his patients to be reluctant to have a robot operating on them, but found that most were not bothered by this, and many were excited by the prospect of having less after-effects and an easier recovery.

"I thought it might [make them nervous]," Samara said. "Pretty much every patient I told about it said, 'Oh, cool.' I think people like to be on the cutting edge of medicine."

Despite the early successes of the

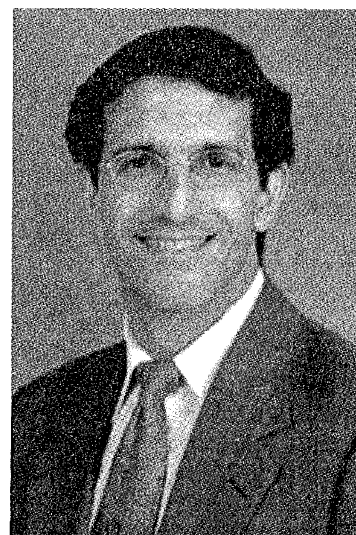
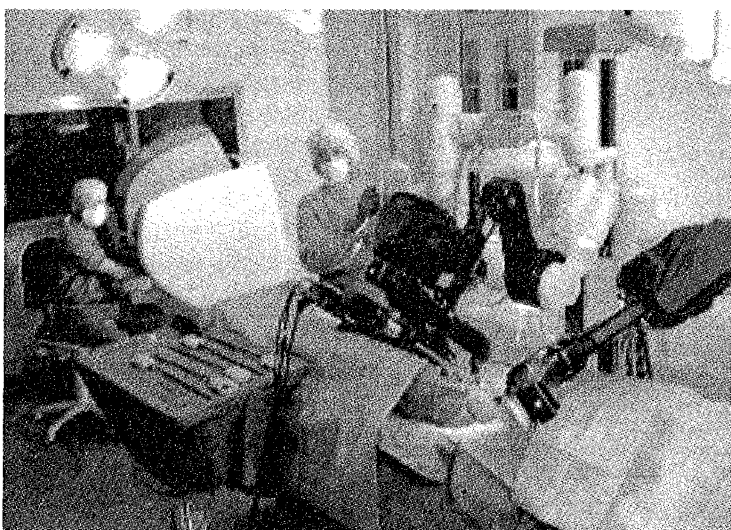


PHOTO CREDIT: STONY BROOK



da Vinci Surgical System—both at Stony Brook University Medical Center and at other hospitals—Samara does not believe that it will eventually completely replace all traditional surgery.

"I think the issues here are cost," he said. "Even if it drops a lot, the system will never be cost-effective to use for every operation. I think a lot of surgeries work just fine without the robot."

Nevertheless, the increased use of the robotic system at the medical center can be considered a major accomplishment, both for Samara and Stony Brook.

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SBU's Muslim Students Association Helps Humanism with Hijabs

SARA SONNACK
Staff Writer

More than 50 female students at Stony Brook University did something that they don't do on an everyday basis: they wore a hijab.

A hijab is a head covering that Muslim women can wear to cover their hair, and that's exactly what these women did on Thursday, April 14. Junaid Ikram, a sophomore biomedical engineering major, said that a woman wears a hijab to show that she is not available to society.

"When a woman goes out, she needs to cover herself," said Ikram, a muslim. "A man can have

different kinds of thoughts if she doesn't cover herself, like, 'Oh, this girl, she wants to have fun.'"

The Muslim Students Association, or MSA, celebrated Islam Awareness Week from April 8 to April 15. Thursday was used to discuss the role of women in Islam. According to the members of the MSA, the role of women has often confused non-muslims.

The hijab leads to many of the questions concerning the faith. Thursday was referred to as "Hijab Day." A lecture called "Oppression or Liberation?" was held that night to dispel some misconceptions about the hijab and for non-Muslim women to share their experiences wearing the traditional clothing for a day.

The consensus was that some people outside of the faith think that a hijab is a symbol of oppression toward women. Sanaa Nadim, chaplain of the MSA, said that is not the case at all.

"It's a modesty issue," Nadim said. "Women put the hijab on to be closer to God. Just like some Hasidic women choose to cover their hair and a Rabbi wears a Yarmulke. However, it should also be said that not wearing a hijab doesn't make you not Muslim."

Nadim said Hijab Day started in the spring of 2008, when then president of the university at that time, Shirley Strum Kenny, asked Nadim what it felt like to wear the hijab. Nadim let Kenny try

one on and then got the idea to have a solidarity day.

"It's a day for Muslim women to be in solidarity with their non-Muslim sisters," Nadim said. "I wanted people to feel that putting it on doesn't oppress you. It doesn't affect your brains."

Nadim has been wearing her hijab since 1984.

"When I put it on people didn't understand why I was wearing it," Nadim said. "One man came up to me and asked 'What's up? Is it fortune telling time?'"

Nabiha Zakir, president of the MSA, said that about 70 women participated in hijab day this year and 130- a majority among those present- attended the lecture that night.

"We had 50 scarves to hand out to girls and we ran out of them," said Zakir, who also wears a hijab.

"Wearing the hijab liberates me; it makes me free," Zahir said. "People are forced to judge me based on the fact that I'm a human being, not on the fact that I have an hour-glass figure, but on my intellect and however good or bad that might be."

On Thursday night, girls who participated in hijab day took the stage one-by-one, gave their first name and explained how their day went wearing the hijab.

One attendee, Faith, found out about the event through an email.

"I was nervous about wearing the hijab," Faith said when she took the stage. "I also didn't know how to put it on so I had to watch a few YouTube videos on it. I felt responsibility wearing it because I felt that people were going to think I was Muslim so I didn't want to do anything impolite."

Mariana went on stage and admitted that she was in the bathroom for about an hour in the morning trying to figure out how to wear her hijab.

"I think I rocked my hijab three different ways," Mariana said.

When Maria took the stage she let everyone know that she was currently covering up her trademark curly hair.

"It's sad that some people have a negative connotation with the hijab," Maria told the audience. "I think you have a lot of courage to wear it everyday. You guys are beautiful even though you cover yourself up."

For Nadim, who has been the chaplain of MSA for 20 years, she wears her hijab because she wants to. She said it has never oppressed her.

"We really need to get rid of the fog that is so political and look at the reality that 99.9 percent of the time people are the same," Nadim said.



Myth Busters: Muslim Women

AbdelRahman Murphy joined with the Muslim Students Association at Stony Brook University to dispel some myths about women in the Islamic faith.

Murphy, a Muslim brother from Texas, started by asking the audience to list some of the common stereotypes of Muslim women in the media. The group came up with a list, which that included the misconceptions that women were are forced to wear a hijab, Muslim women were are not uneducated and are abused by Muslim men.that there is an accusation that Muslim men abuse women.

Murphy, who is also the youth director of IANT Youth, a Muslim organization in Texas, said that the purpose of wearing the hijab is not to oppress women.

"We have to admit some Muslim women are oppressed, yes," Murphy said. "But, we have to look at the prime example, the Islamic example. God said to women if you want to get close to me, this is how you do it, by wearing the hijab."

Murphy explained that the stereotype of Muslim women who do not getting an education has to deal with independence. He said that if women were not able to get an

education then they wouldn't be able to do anything other than serve their men, which, he said, is simply not true.

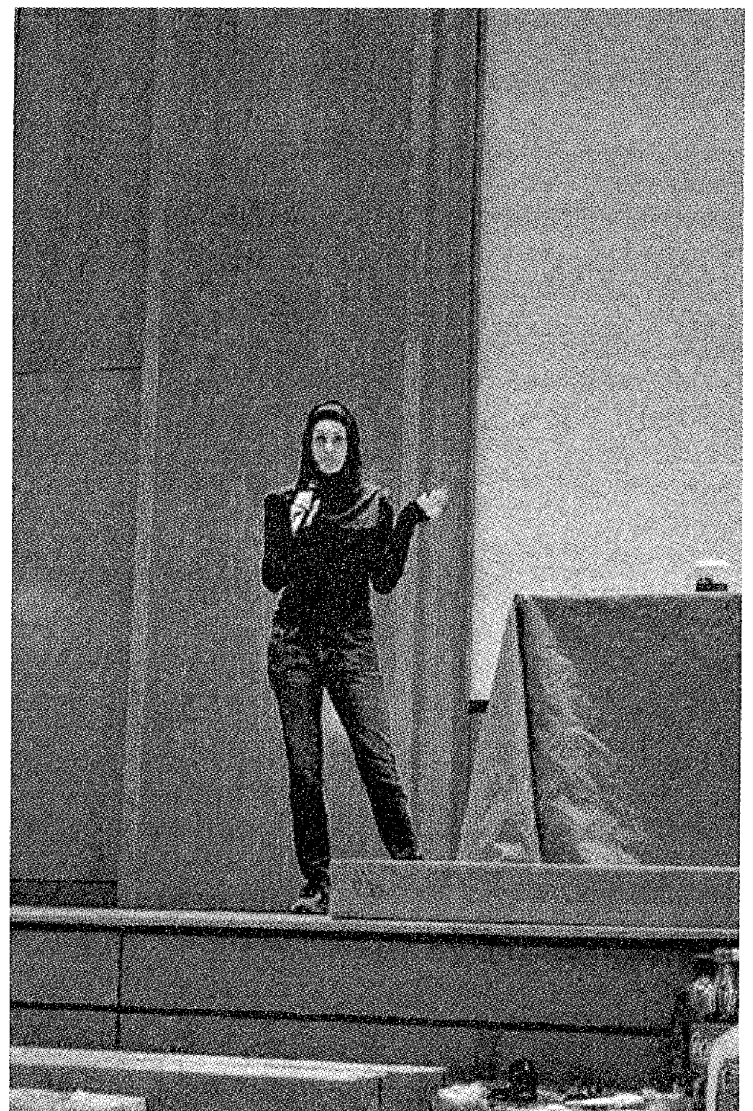
On the matter of women being abused by men, he paints a picture of a man returning home from work to realize his wife has not finished making dinner or that they have no food.

"In the media example, that would probably end with the wife getting hit," Murphy said. "In the spiritual, Islamic route, the husband would say, 'OK we'll fast today.'"

According to Murphy, the route root of a misconception is that people are judging. He said people look at other societies as insubordinate to theirs.

"People use the worst possible opinion of others when judging," Murphy said. "Just like there is a misconception that American women like to have sex in public. We have a lot of work to do as Muslim and non-Muslims, if these images are getting out, we need to step up."

Finally, Murphy ended up one more note: said Islam didn't just pop up out of nowhere. "Islam is as American as apple pie," Murphy said. "It's as New York as bad driving. It's not just some foreign eastern thing."



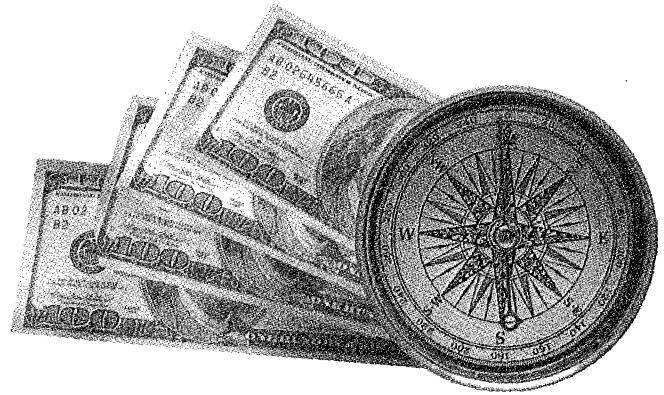
AVA YOUSUFI / THE STATESMAN

The Muslim Students Association at Stony Brook University held Hijab Day, which was a day to honor hijabs and break myths.

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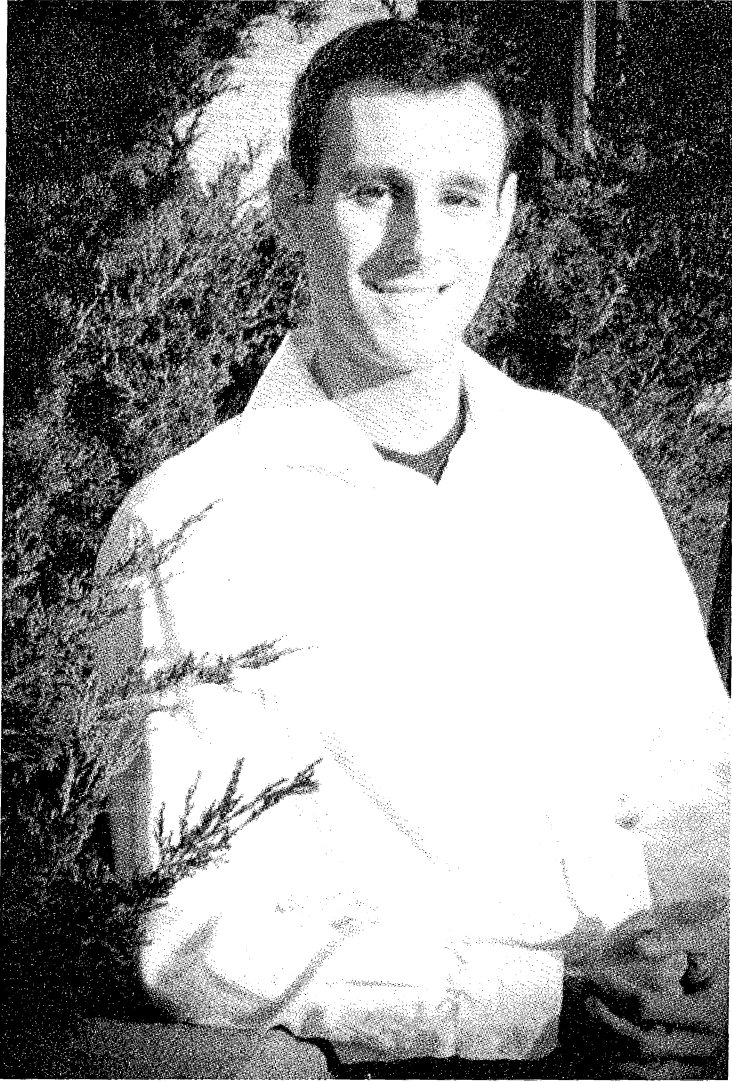


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UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

New President Isn't Aloof, He's Maloof



FRANK POSILICO
Editor-in-Chief

In a heated and highly contested election that had people on both sides scrambling for votes, the candidate that some saw as the underdog and others as the students' last chance came out on top by more than 400 votes.

Mark Maloof, a one-time ballroom dancer and Resident Assistant, can now add President of the Undergraduate Student Government to his resume. When he takes office in the fall, Maloof plans on reshaping USG into a friendlier place and working towards running a more efficient student government.

"I was packing for alternative spring break and I got a text

message that said 'Congrats,' so I didn't really believe it," Maloof said. "I tried to stay really calm but that didn't last very long."

When the phone calls and texts continued to pour in, Maloof ran upstairs to tell his Residence Hall Director that he would need to find a different place to live next year because he couldn't be an RA anymore, saying he wants to dedicate all of his free time to USG and that being an RA would interfere too much.

The highly contested election ended with Maloof receiving 1173 votes and Moiz Khan receiving 768. Khan believes a lot played into this.

"It's much easier to run a campaign on promises than it is to run a campaign on pragmatism, it's easier to say we want hope and change and we want love and peace and all of this stuff," Khan said. "It's harder to argue to

people that we are actually doing a fairly decent job in comparison to previous years, let us stay for another year."

He also says that unpopular decisions and actions he took during his tenure in USG probably had a lot to do with the outcome.

"There was probably many people who went in specifically to vote against me because of things I have done," he added.

Maloof, unlike his opponent, is a fresh face in USG, but feels that will only work in his advantage. His thought process behind running came from a need to bring what he had learned from being an RA to USG.

"I wanted to bring that residential life feel to USG: that you can always come to the office if you have any questions, that you will always find a friendly face," Maloof said. "The senators and the council are expected to do what they can in your best interest because at the end of the day they work for you."

With plans to have the first Senate meeting in the fall be on the Staller steps, Maloof is hoping to create a much more transparent and open USG. However, some believe Maloof will have a harder time doing so than he thinks.

"My initiatives, to a large extent, have been very simple in philosophy and I don't think Mark deviates from that," Khan said. "I think his main point of contention has been how to communicate with the student body and how to hold a dialogue with the student body. And I think he will find it's much harder than he thinks."

Deborah Machalow, the current and newly elected executive vice president, was in an Honors College town hall meeting when she found out that the United Student Party took the Executive Council and the Senate.

"I ended up taking out my netbook and I sat there pressing refresh, refresh, refresh, and when I saw that Mark won this huge smile came on my face,"

Machalow said.

Machalow said she has a plan for a new constitution that she hopes to work on next semester. As it currently stands, USG's current constitution is virtually unamendable. To be ratified,

"The senators and the council are expected to do what they can in your best interest because at the end of the day they work for you."

Mark Maloof

an amendment needs a two-thirds vote from the entire student body, and when about 2,000 people make up the highest voter turnout in years, it is unlikely that such a vote is possible.

"We did feel like we were the underdogs because we did have fewer incumbents running," Machalow said. "But as it turns out, that worked to our benefit because the student body was not happy with the way things were."

According to Machalow, a rewrite of the financial bylaws is in the works for next fall. Currently, clubs ask for a larger

budget than they need, with the hopes that they will get an amount closer to what they actually want. The goal is to provide a set of bylaws that will fairly distribute the budget and accurately let clubs know what they will be getting.

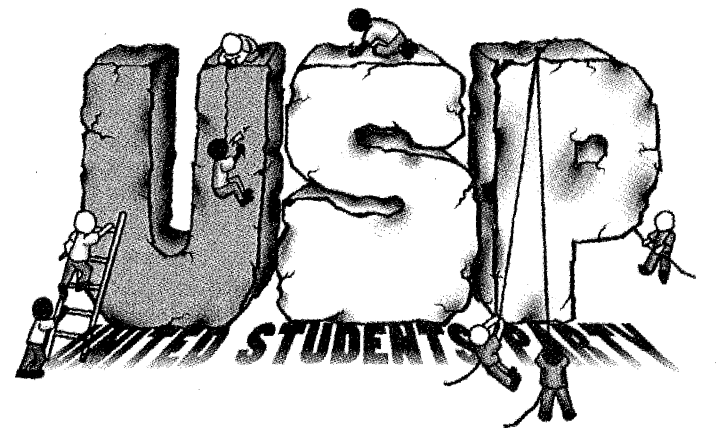
On the other end of the spectrum, there are academic issues that Maloof and his party want to take on. USG has seats on various academic boards including the University Senate and Undergraduate Council, which have never been filled.

"The voice of the students is not heard at those committees because no one ever goes," Maloof said.

A major hole some feel will be left is the Student Programming Board Director, the position now held by Khan, who has been largely responsible for bringing big-name acts to campus such as Bruno Mars.

Though he is not promising anyone positions, Maloof has his ideas of who he wants in the position. Though it is a presidential appointment, he wants to consult the people that have been organizing events. He also said he wanted people with varying tastes in music, so that there won't just be one group represented, when it comes to booking musical acts.

"You can't just pick and choose who you want and just force two people into a position and say battle it out," Maloof said. "To me, that's not fair. I think it decreased the work ethic, and then people fight and blur the line of what their roll is and what the role of the other person is."



And the Senators Are...

College of Arts and Sciences

David Lee Adams
Oluwasegun Adedapo
Emily Clarre Alcott
Lance Bertrand
Tiffany Bibby
Ray Fan
Frank Fanizza
Eric Lau

Anna Catherine Lubitz
Adam Meier
Sean Moore
Masood Rustemi
Alexandra Santiago
Najee Simmons
David Alexander Szeszler
Andrew Tausz
Ryann Williams

College of Engineering and Applied Sciences

Max Gunther
Corey Platt

Health Sciences Center

Shon Augustine

GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2011

What Some Winners Have to Say



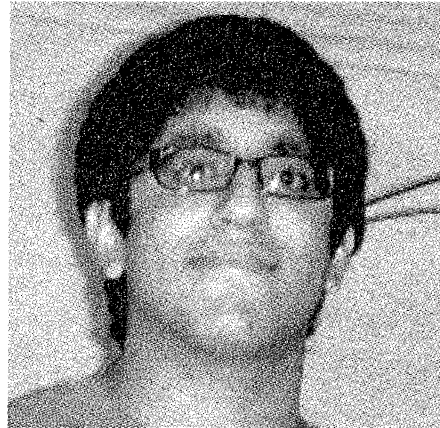
Deborah Machalow
Executive Vice President

The results of the elections are both flattering and inspiring: the undergraduate student body overwhelmingly agreed with our ideas of decreasing confrontation and improving the accessibility and transparency of the USG. The resounding support greatly excites us and encourages us to strive to achieve our goals. As we won half the Executive Council and a good majority in the Senate, we believe that we can serve the student body effectively and implement our objectives.



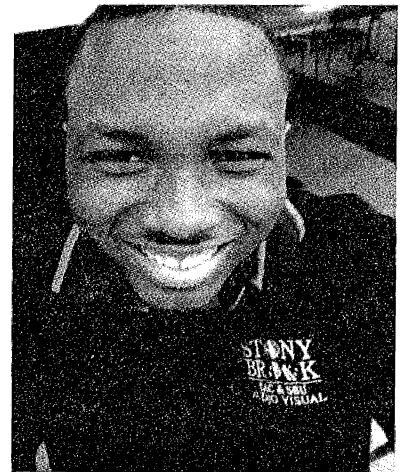
Thomas Kirbauer
Treasurer

First and foremost I want to thank everyone for voting for me, I am very passionate about making students take pride in their school. This is my goal; a lot feel as if I am going to bring the old S.A.B structure back, which is negative. I want to work with the structure USG have now and build on it with a passionate and diverse team who is willing to get the job done.



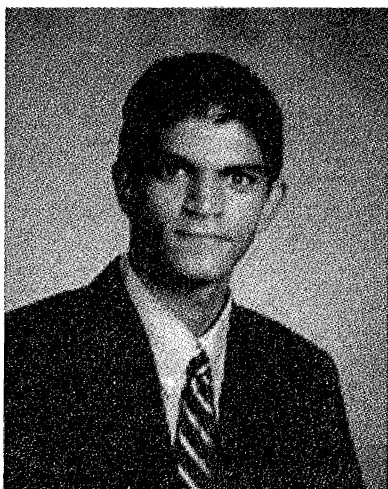
Farjad Fazli
VP of Communications and PR

I look forward to taking office and working with the diverse student community here at Stony Brook. I will do my best to reach out to you in an effective and transparent way. Please let me know if you have any comments or suggestions; I promise to read and respond to them. Just message me on Facebook. I am the only Farjad Fazli on there!



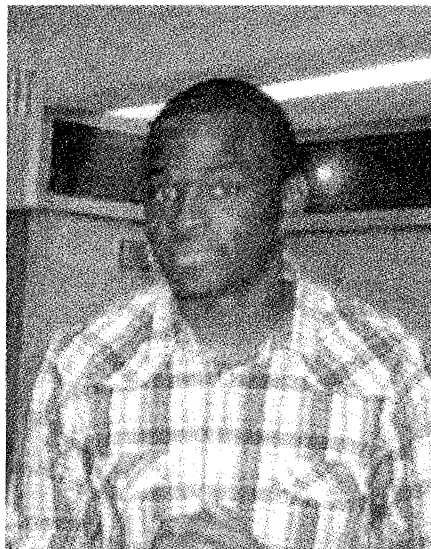
Deron Hill
VP of Student Life

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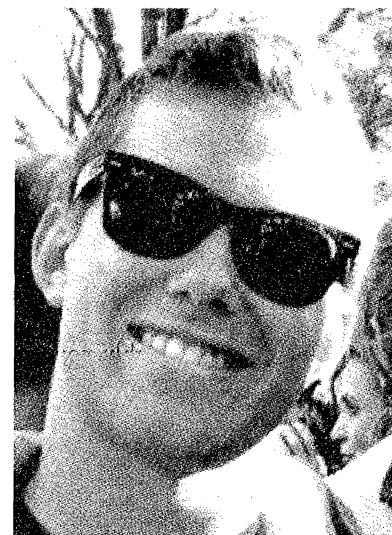
Allen Abraham
VP of Clubs and Orgs

I am humbled by the great task given to me by the students of Stony Brook University. As the Vice President of Clubs and Organizations I will work hard to ensure better communication between USG and the various clubs and organizations we have on this campus. I know I was elected here to ensure a better future at Stony Brook and I plan on doing that exactly. Thank you once again for all your support.



Dennis Nmecha
Junior Class Representative

You all voted and decided that I am best fit to be your Junior Class Representative for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. As your elected Junior Rep, I promise to work hard and use all available resources so that that the 2011-2012 year will be one that my juniors will never forget.



Chris Priore
Soph. Class Representative

First, I'd just like to thank The Statesman for actually informing me that the results had changed and that I had won. I'd also like to thank the voters. I can't wait to get started as Sophomore Class Representative and I will represent you all to the best of my ability. Don't ever hesitate to get in touch with me if you ever have any questions or concerns.

I-CON MARKS ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

Lightsabers Light Up for Charity

CHRISTIAN SANTANA
Staff Writer

When Brian van Kuik isn't a main control room operations coordinator for the collider-accelerator department at Brookhaven National Laboratory, he is Taamoon Nightstar, the masked, lightsaber wielding Mandalorian mercenary and leader of Clan Nightstar.

In 2009, after a two-and-a-half year stint with the New York City based costume and combat choreography group, New York Jedi, the Selden, L.I. via Michigan resident formed his own Long Island area offshoot, Long Island Jedi. The group holds demonstrations for fight scene choreography and lightsaber combat at local libraries, karate dojos and conventions such as I-CON—where they have been a fixture for the past three years.

Though they don't actually fight on stage, the Jedis hold weekly practice sessions at a kung fu dojo in Holtsville, N.Y. In fact, most members are trained martial artists and weapons experts; Van Kuik, for example, specializes in fencing and Tae Kwon Do. Another member, Plainview native Andrew Popeil, studied medieval German weaponry, while Tony Ferrandino, also from Plainview, practices jujitsu, muay thai and judo.

"There are different fighting styles involved with lightsabers," Van Kuik said. "You can't palm the blade; however, you can cut any way you want. You're applying many different techniques into one thing."

"It's like playing chess and you're always in check," he continued. "You're either blocking or avoiding."

The fighting isn't just for show though; it also provides participants with a form of exercise and one member, Cherissa Crossland, who is unemployed due to extensive injury unrelated to her participation in

Long Island Jedi said her doctors actually believe the kung fu and stunt fighting have been beneficial to her recovery.

However, Long Island Jedi is distinct from its New York City counterpart in that 100 percent of its proceeds, which are raised through demonstrations and, at this year's I-CON, the raffling off of custom-built lightsabers, go to charity. Each lightsaber, crafted by member and resident sabersmith Chris Cox, takes a week to make and is composed of a commercial grade laser within a polycarbonate blade and an aircraft grade aluminum hilt and pommel. Raffle tickets are sold at \$5 apiece or \$10 for three.

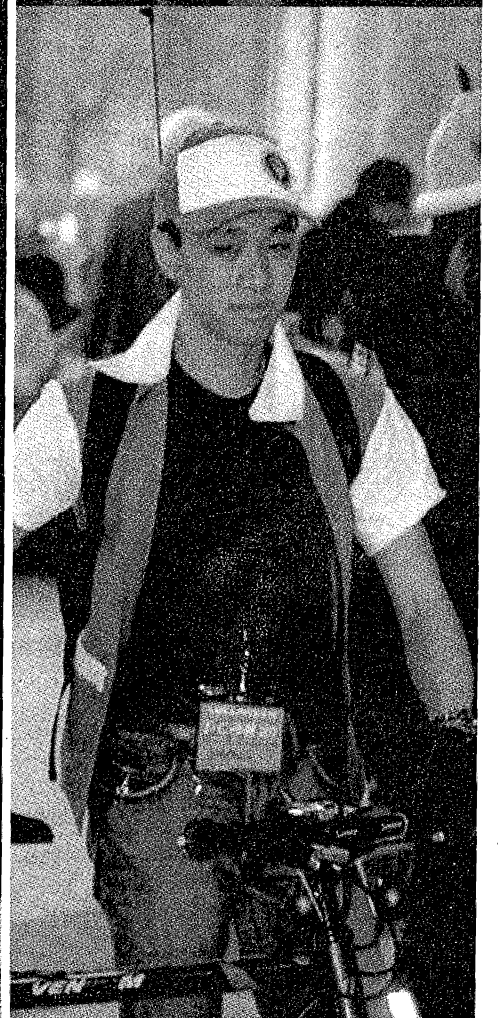
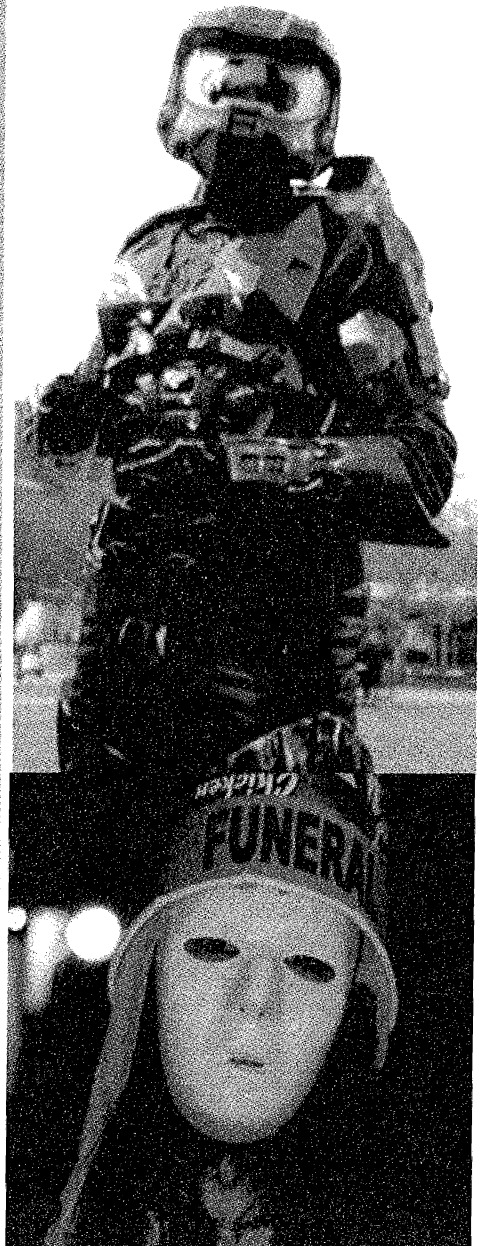
"We're taking our passion and using it to give back to the community," said Van Kuik.

Through this year's lightsaber raffle, the Jedis have raised at least \$1,000 to help treat seven-year-old Liam McGuire, who suffers from a rare form of leukemia. In the past, they have raised \$4,200 for charities and groups such as St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), and Citizens United for Research in Epilepsy (CURE). They also often join other charity or fundraising events in the hopes of drawing even just a few more people—and thus, donations—over.

"We're really big nerds and we want to give back," Popeil said.

For Crossland, however, her decision to be involved was based less on her love for Star Wars and more on her willingness to serve others—two niches that Long Island Jedi fill.

"I continue to be involved in these groups—and do costuming with them—because there continue to be people in need," Crossland said. "As long as someone wants a lightsaber fight at their birthday party or even costumed waiters at their themed wedding reception and they'll make a donation, I will do this."



I-CON Celebrates Thirty Years

ANN LUK
Staff Writer

At age 30, I-CON has not forgotten what it means to have a good time, even if its curfew is earlier.

"We used to be here until two, but we got chased out at 11 a.m.," said Erika Warecki, who has been participating for 22 years. Despite the game room hours, the Shirley resident said, "We still come back. It's just fun. You get to see your friends."

Reunions were not the only highlight of the weekend. Even if it was not intentional, Charlie Sheen's token phrase "Winning" was a theme for I-CON 30. It was a celebration of winners, not only in the game rooms, but in the Anime Idol contest, the I-CON's Got Talent show, the I-CON's Got Talent Children's Edition, and the I-CON 30 Awards Dinner. Warecki's daughter places first in the childrens' talent show.

Commemorative pins were given to those who have attended the Long Island Convention of science fiction and fantasy since its first year.

"I love the fact that they're celebrating the anniversary," said Bob Greenberger, member of the Science Fiction Writers of America, who has attended I-CON since its inception three decades ago.

"The audience has grown in volume and grown to ask for things to add," Greenberg said.

Panels were hosted to reminisce and learn about the earlier tales of the convention's humble beginnings.

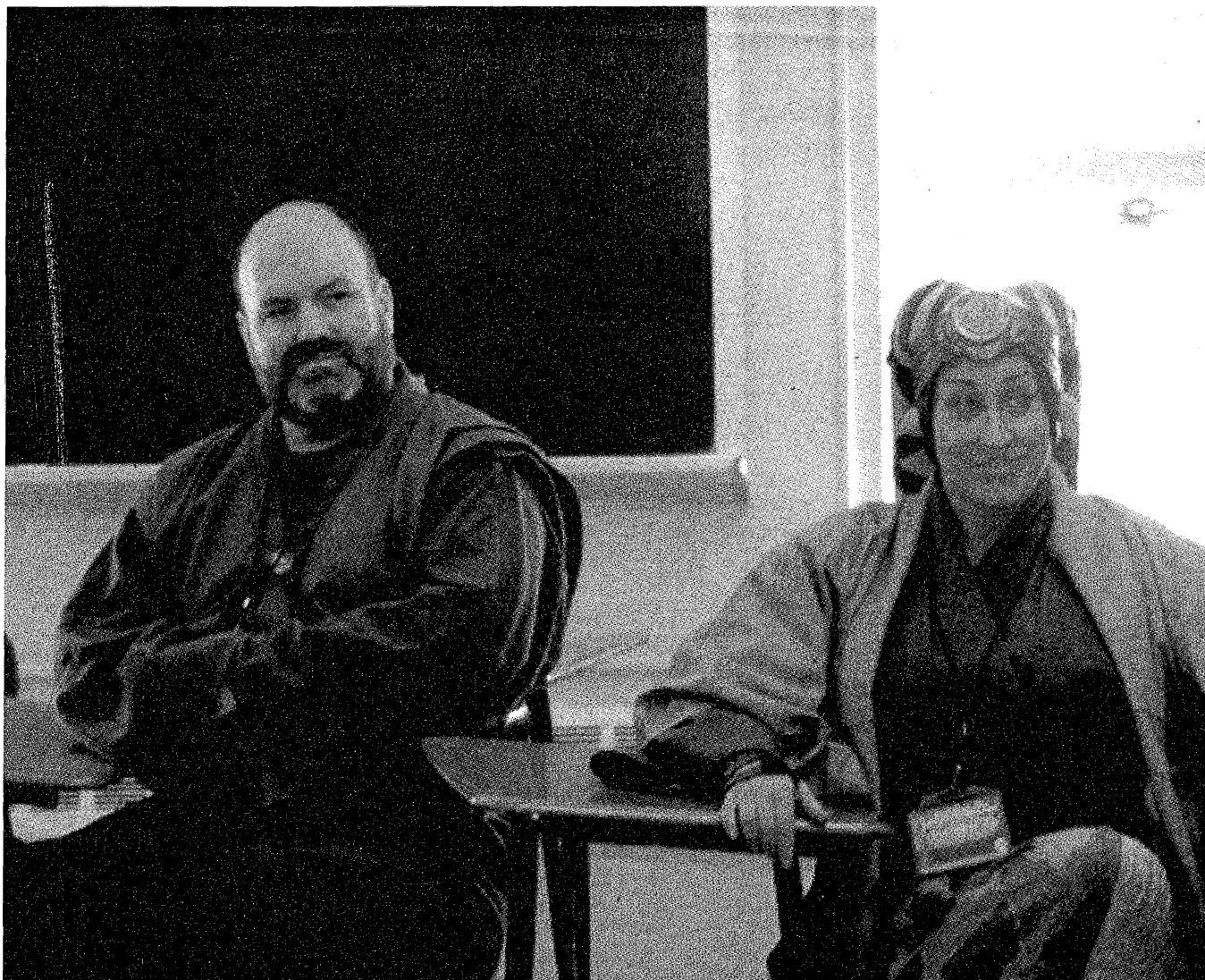
"They wanted you to talk to them and hear their stories," said Anime Idol winner, Idina Moore, who enjoyed learning I-CON's history.

I-CON's Got Talent winner and Stony Brook University alum, Howard Margolin, has taken part in the convention since his freshman year in 1983 and has only missed one. With his busy schedule as an optometrist and a host of the radio segment, *Destinies: The Voice of Science Fiction*, Margolin makes sure he returns in the spring.

"It recharges me. I don't really take vacation. I-CON is my vacation," Margolin said.

The view of elaborate characters walking across campus in place of the usual students is certainly a change from the everyday. It may be the only time when shouting greetings across the academic mall to your favorite characters and posing in photos with strangers will not earn you a bizarre reputation.

Just as much as there was to see on campus, there was much to do, like attending sessions with featured guests. On and off screen actors made several ap-



Cosmic Couple Shooting for the Stars

CHRISTIAN SANTANA
Staff Writer

Though they often stick close during performances and presentations, the characters Solas Teev and Nara Pel may not have ever known each other in the Star Wars universe were it not for Jedi holocron technology or a few creative liberties. Teev, a gray-bearded Jedi consular hailing from the Core World of Corellia, lived during the heyday of the Old Republic—thousands of years before Pel was even born.

In their real lives, however, Patrick Dorsey and Cherissa Crossland (Solas Teev and Nara Pel, respectively) of Brentwood, N.Y., have been married for two and a half years, and have been costuming together since they attended the New Jersey gaming convention DEXCON in July 2010. Both of them have a love for Star Wars that has burned strongly since they first saw the previews and marketing campaigns for "A New Hope" as youths in the 1970s.

With no children—or interest in having any themselves—and cats who, in Dorsey's words, would "flense us if we dared try costuming them," Crossland and Dorsey often spend their free time gaming and performing stunt choreography together, or costuming for charity.

Crossland, who formerly did make-up and effects "in a Hollywood far, far away" but is currently unemployed while she recovers from extensive injuries, does the majority of the costuming work, dedicating a few hours a week—and even more than that, if an event or convention is approaching—to the creation, refinement, and repair of both her and her husband's costumes.

"Using the skills I built decades ago to benefit my community now is very natural," she said.

The costume and appearance of her character Nara Pel, who is a Twi'lek—a humanoid being sporting two long tentacle-like cranial appendages called lekku—was

the product of thrift store shopping, tons of body paint and materials like Plasti-Dip.

"I wasn't allowed to play with dolls as a child," Crossland said. "Making costumes, especially for other people, satisfies that old urge to dress up Barbie and Ken or play with paper dolls."

Meanwhile, Dorsey, a health insurance worker who often works overtime and has "no time to learn right now," contributes financially and by seeking out online deals that will help expand both their costuming options. A lifelong, self-described "sci-fi and fantasy geek," Trekkie, and fan of the writings of Tolkien, Dorsey had neither involved himself or considered involving himself with costuming until his wife, an avid costumer, drew him into the hobby via Long Island Jedi, a costuming, performance and charity group she had met at last year's I-CON. Together with the Jedis, they would go to DEXCON—an experience that would help seal the deal for Dorsey.

"As we entered the hall with robes billowing and sabers aglow, heads turned admiringly and throughout the weekend, we were often the center of attention," Dorsey said. "I will confess it was a thrill to receive such attention, but it is also nice to be able to say we do this for charity. If it wasn't for LI Jedi or other charitable organizations such as the 501st/Rebel Legion, I would probably not have gotten into costuming at all, and with the effort and expense involved, the charitable aspect is the only real reason I do it."

As the oldest member of LI Jedi (he is in his mid-40s), Dorsey took it upon himself to fill the void caused by the lack of a paternal character within the group; a niche he was perfectly suited to because of both his ability to "grow a decent greyspot beard" and his age. However, he says that he is willing to fill whatever role the Jedis need to provide a good show for their audience.

"We do this for charity," Dorsey said. "And as one of our Council members has said, we have to earn the right to ask the audience for money."



CHRISTIAN SANTANA / THE STATESMAN



Photos in this spread include: Halo's Master Chief, the musician Buckethead, the unnamed protagonist from the Pokemon videogames, Darth Vader and a stormtrooper, DEADMAU5, a blacksmith/armorer, celebrity dungeons and dragons, students with two stormtroopers, Naruto and a friend, five friends in multi-colored body suits and two very happy I-CON goers.





I-CON Celebrates Thirty

From Page 9

pearances. Actress Julie Benz, known for her roles in *Angel*, *Dexter* and *Rambo*, shared information about upcoming roles, participated in a discussion panel and an offered an autograph signing. Voice actor Eric Vale, recognized as the voice of Trunks in the popular anime, *Dragon Ball Z*, gave advice to aspiring voice actors trying to break into the business. Daniel Logan, known for his role as Boba Fett in *Star Wars*, shared his memories of working with George Lucas and Ewan McGregor.

The Sports Complex transformed into the Dealer's Room, a location where business owners and retailers sell items normally not found elsewhere. On one side was The Leather Lair, where the owner, Suzanne Mayer, designs and sews each stitch and button with her bare hands. Across the room,

Image Anime, owned by the Cho brothers, sells only imported merchandise from Japan, including DVDs, figurines, T-Shirts and bags.

Outside the dealer's room, screenings of popular animations and films were shown in Harriman Hall, Earth Space and Science and the Javits Center. Panels, debate and trivia created discussions in Stony Brook University classrooms. Yu-Gi-Oh tournaments and Magic drafts took place throughout the weekend as duelers competed for packs of cards and bragging rights.

Every corner of campus was filled with people gawking at costumes and sharing common interests.

Describing his second experience of I-CON, Logan said, "In one word, it's like a carnival. It is so much fun and you never want to leave."



Students Do 213 Screenings During Spring Break in Ecuador

ALEXA GORMAN
Staff Writer

Cancun, Mexico, Miami, Florida and Riobamba, Ecuador. Which of these does not belong? They were all destinations of Stony Brook students this spring break, so the answer is they all belong. However, the 11 students who traveled to Ecuador were not looking to end up on MTV's Spring Break.

Danielle Lyons, a graduate student in the Physician's Assistant program, worked with Professor Ed Giarrusso, 10 other first year graduate students and Blanca's House to plan the trip. Students who went spent their days at two military hospitals—one in Guayaquil and the other in Riobamba—hosting a clinic to pre-screen patients for surgeries to fix cleft lip/palate, burns, ob/gyn, thyroid and gallbladder.

"A surgical team is coming in a month," Lyons said, "so it was our job to [tell potential patients] yes or no for surgery."

Most of the patients seen did not have basic healthcare, nor the insurance to cover these surgeries. Blanca's House is a non-profit organization that recruits volunteer healthcare professionals to provide medical treatment to those in need. The organization is based on Long Island; however, its Medical Team Abroad Program organizes trips sending professionals and medical students to areas in need.

When the volunteers from Stony Brook arrived, they hit the ground running. In their first 2 ½ days of work, they screened over 180 patients and 213 in total over the four-day period. The clinic was previously advertised on the radio and television, but the flock of people that wanted to be seen was a bit overwhelming at first.

"We were hopeful to get through them all," Lyons said. "It's a catch-22 though because we want to see as many patients as possible, but we're students so we're slower. It's hard because there are so many people and you don't want to say no."

According to Lyons, one of the most humbling lessons was seeing the difference between American healthcare and that offered in Ecuador.

"In the U.S. healthcare is seen as more of a service," she said, "but even if we couldn't do anything surgically, these people were so happy that we could look into their ears and eyes and tell them that they were O.K."

On the other hand, language barriers and the objective of the pre-screening process itself caused some frustrations. None of the patients spoke English, but one student and



DANIELLE LYONS/THE STATESMAN

A professor and 11 students from Stony Brook screened over 213 patients while they stayed in Riobamba, Ecuador during their spring breaks.

two physician's assistants on the trip did. Otherwise, Lyons said, students used translators downloaded on their iPods.

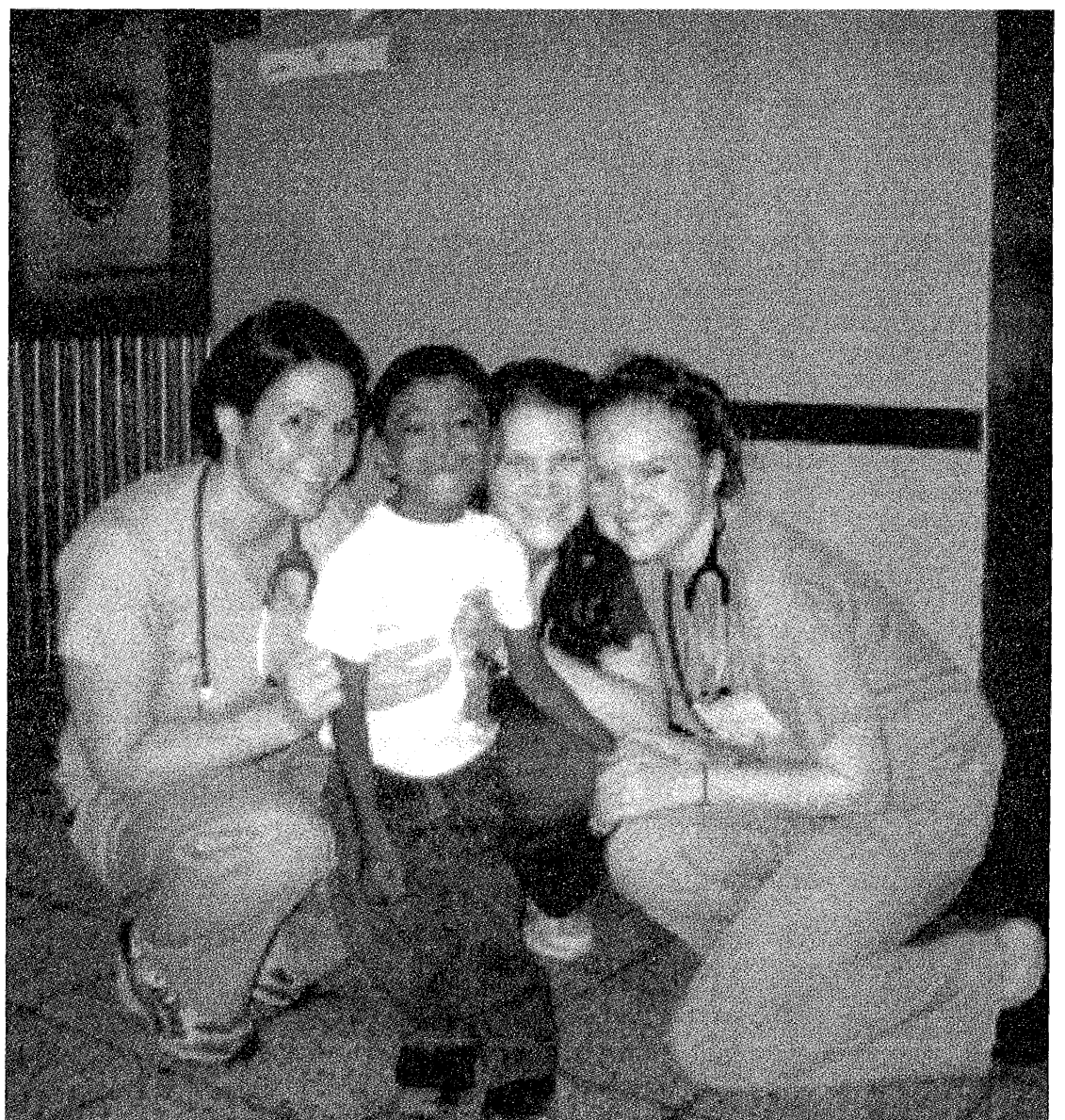
The other task faced by students was turning people down. Since the surgical team will only be at the hospital for a fixed amount of time, there is a standard of priority that the students had to follow when deciding who qualified.

"We had a mother and daughter come in and the mom had two strokes [in the past]," Lyons said, "but we couldn't do anything. They both looked at me when I told them [as if to say] you're from America—what are you going to do for her?"

This experience opened the hearts of many students to the suffering of the people they saw. In Riobamba, for example, students passed shacks on stilts—meant to be houses—propped up because of the rain. The homes had no windows.

"I have learned so much through working here," Nick Agvent, one PA student said. "It was a very humbling experience."

Blanca's House organizes relations with hospitals and arranges for a place to stay when its volunteers travel abroad, but the entire experience—airfare, housing and food—is paid for by the volunteers. This did not stop the eleven students from working through their spring break in hopes of helping as many Ecuadorians as possible



DANIELLE LYONS/THE STATESMAN

The medical students screened patients for surgeries involving cleft lip/palate, burns, ob/gyn, thyroid and gallbladders.

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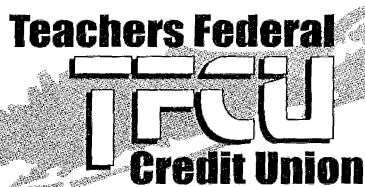


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Survey Says: Cancer Drug May Do More Harm Than Good

HANNAH PAINE
Contributing Writer

After analyzing the data from 16 clinical trials, Stony Brook researchers confirmed earlier findings that a widely used cancer drug may be killing patients rather than saving their lives.

Marketed under the brand name Avastin, the drug was increasing treatment-related patient deaths by nearly half compared to patients taking only chemotherapy drugs, wrote the authors of a study published February in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Shenhong Wu, Sanjaykumar Hapani, and David Chu, researchers at the Stony Brook University Medical Center, conducted the study.

The intravenous solution was prescribed along with chemotherapy to combat metastasized breast cancer, as well as cancers of the lung, kidney, brain and colon. Its manufacturer, Genentech, claimed it stopped the growth of tumors by blocking the growth of blood vessels that provide tumors with nutrients.

Earlier studies showed Avastin was not effective against breast cancer and instead increased the likelihood of dangerous side effects in those patients. In December,

the federal Food and Drug Administration removed breast cancer from the list of disease for which Avastin should be prescribed.

The Stony Brook team said it confirmed the most dangerous and common side effects were perforations of the intestines, heart, lungs, and nasal passages. Other blood disorders can also develop from the drug's use, and patients who had recent surgery experienced more trouble healing.

Those side effects amounted to increased fatalities, already common in patients with cancer and other diseases where treatments are often extremely risky. To justify their use, oncologists must decide whether drugs like Avastin are more likely to prolong life than to take it.

Despite the known risk of intestinal perforation, many oncologists opted to prescribe the intravenous drug. But the new study's conclusions may cause some to reconsider their prescriptions.

The Stony Brook analysis was the latest contribution to a growing controversy regarding the FDA's accelerated approval system. While most new drugs must undergo several long-term clinical trials before being approved, the FDA makes exceptions for potentially lifesaving drugs used to treat deadly

diseases such as cancer.

To more quickly get medicine to patients without long to live, drug companies may release their products temporarily after only one successful clinical trial. Then, two more clinical trials must be run if the product is to retain its approval.

In the case of Avastin, an accelerated approval allowed it to reach pharmacy shelves quickly. Even with the system in place, drug companies must conduct separate clinical trials for each disease they hope to treat.

So while Avastin has kept its approval for colon, kidney, brain, and lung cancers, four recent studies of its effects on breast cancer patients suggest that it does more harm than good.

A New Analysis

Wu said his duty to patients led him to re-examine such a successful drug. "Assessing side effects is very difficult but is also very necessary," he said.

According to Wu, drug companies share this duty. Avastin's maker publicly supported the team's decision to further investigate Avastin.

"While negative publicity is not very good, the improvement of patient safety is extremely

important," said Wu.

Wu's team first searched PubMed and other peer-reviewed journals for articles containing the words "Avastin," "bevacizumab," the generic compound name, and "cancer," along with keywords relating to its potential side effects.

After finding over 300 potentially relevant articles, the team discarded all but 17 highly rigorous, randomized controlled trials the team identified as relevant and reliable. Among the 12,294 patients involved, a much higher mortality rate was observed among patients treated with Avastin than [what?].

While previous studies had documented Avastin's side effects, this was not enough to determine its overall safety, according to Wu.

"Simply put," he said, "the risk had not been quantified."

With its statistical analysis, his team was able to see patterns where others had not.

The Future of Avastin

Dayna McCauley, a board-certified oncology pharmacist at the Stony Brook Medical Center, has personal experience dispensing Avastin and other high-risk cancer drugs. Pharmacists are required to re-take an eight-hour exam every seven years that tests their

knowledge of drugs used in their specific field.

McCauley noted that chemotherapy drugs can be among the most dangerous.

"Drugs that are used to treat cancer patients tend to have a lot of side effects, which may include harm to the hospital workers that dispense them," she said. "They are made in special pharmacies by people with training in how to make and handle them, and... their use is usually limited to attending physicians."

In her 25 years of oncology experience, McCauley said she has seen many new drugs emerge and understands the excitement that surrounded Avastin. She has observed that when clinical trials published before FDA approval are positive, oncologists are quick to begin using drugs once they are put on shelves.


For example, Taxol, a chemotherapy drug made from the bark of the Pacific yew tree, was shown to be extremely effective in combating ovarian and breast cancer. After being FDA approved, it was immediately adopted by many oncologists.

The same process held true for Avastin, according to McCauley. "The pre-approval clinical trials

Continued on Page 16

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A SNAPSHOT FROM THE STATESMAN VAULT

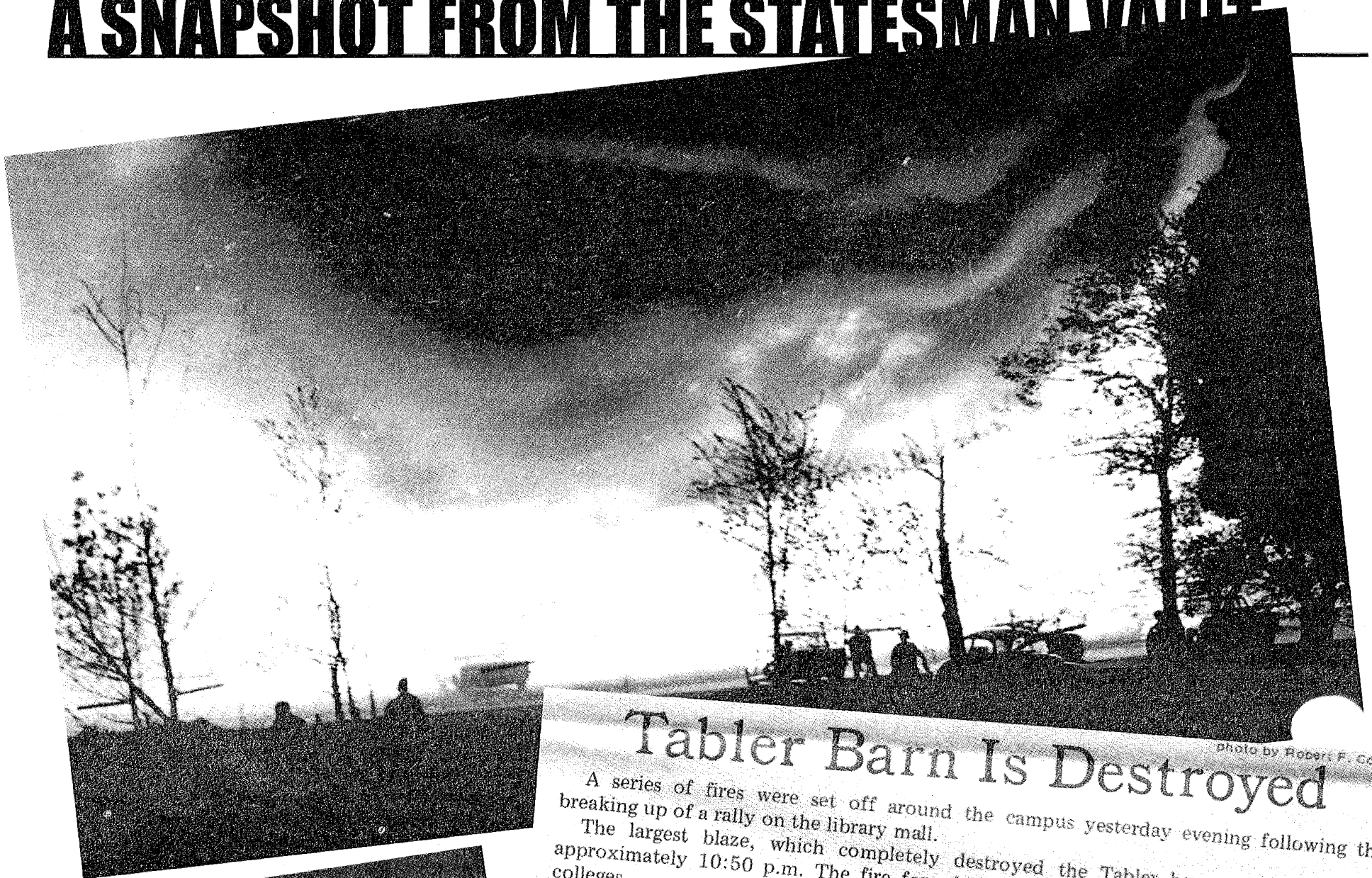


Photo by Robert F. Cohen

Tabler Barn Is Destroyed

A series of fires were set off around the campus yesterday evening following the breaking up of a rally on the library mall. The largest blaze, which completely destroyed the Tabler barn, was reported at approximately 10:50 p.m. The fire forced the evacuation of residents from all Tabler colleges.

Soon after, a fire gutted an office housing five art professors in the Humanities building. The blaze, apparently set off by a Molotov cocktail, is thought to have been intended for the Registrar's office, located around the corner.

Fires also occurred in a construction shack near the Health Science Lab-Office building in back of Henry College and under a truck parked near the new Administration building.

Fires were brought under control and extinguished by five fire companies from the surrounding area. The fire under the truck was extinguished by a student. Tabler residents were allowed to return to their dorms by 12:30 a.m.

Explosion Danger

Wind drove heavy smoke and ashes across Tabler Quad from the barn, forcing spectators to stand no closer than the cafeteria. One professor, using a bullhorn, continuously urged students to move even further away, citing the danger of explosions from the barn oil burner and cars parked around the structure. The barn housed groundskeeping equipment and miscellaneous supplies. The cost of the damage has not, as yet, been estimated.

One Tabler resident noted that flames started from behind the barn and an unidentified resident of the Longhill community, which borders Tabler, said "If it was anything other than State property, I'd say it was an accident."

Detectives from Suffolk County police were on campus investigating the blazes, but no uniformed police were called by

the administration.

Acting President T. Alexander Pond, terming the actions "hit and run guerilla tactics," said that there were some witnesses who claimed they saw who set the fires, but no positive identifications had been made as of this morning.

There was also an unconfirmed report of an explosion at the construction site for the Stage XII dorms. "Senseless Vandalism"

Pond issued a statement last night in which he said that "small groups of people appear to be making determined efforts to turn this week's deep student concern over serious national problems toward senseless vandalism against the University." He also said that he is not considering closing the campus at this time.

A special Faculty Senate meeting has been called for today at 3 p.m. in Lecture Hall 110 to discuss the strike. A regular Senate meeting is also scheduled for Thursday afternoon.

At the 9 p.m. rally, the large majority of the 700 students present refused to move when an SDS group twice called for a takeover of the Computer Center to end Defense Department research.

Finally, a group of no more than 100 students left for the engineering quad, with the intent of occupying the Computer Center. They did not attempt to enter the building, apparently because they felt they had insufficient support. Inside the building, approximately four Security police patrolled the corridors and guarded the inner entrance to the computer room while a

group of English professors, who had been holding a meeting about the strike, attempted to talk the protesters out of violent action. The members of the English department present included Thomas Altizer and Louis Simpson.

The group of students returned to the main rally after about a half an hour after having taken no action.

Not for Violence

At the rally, which began about 9:45, there was conflict and confusion between two groups of students. Some preached violent tactics but most students were not ready for violence and preferred to seek alternative methods to press the demands of the strike. Two short speeches began the rally, but when the second speaker proclaimed that "we're all here for action," she was met with mixed responses ranging from "right on" to "you're wrong" from the divided crowd. After part of the group left for the Computer Center, those remaining at the library debated possible actions that they could take on campus and in the community.

The rally broke up shortly after it was announced that Security had received a call stating that a bomb would go off in front of the library at 11 o'clock. There was no explosion. A second bomb threat was made against the building at 11:30, but it also proved false.

Ad-hoc faculty and student patrols roamed the campus and watched the buildings throughout the night, in an attempt to prevent further violence. Student security and campus police also patrolled the University.



ARTS & entertainment

10th Anniversary of Tribeca Film Festival

SARA DENATALIE
Staff Writer

Ten years ago, Americans and New Yorkers in particular faced a tragedy from which many were unsure of how to recover. Immediately following the September 11 terrorist attacks, many people moved out of the Tribeca area of New York City, leaving the neighborhood the most desolate and depressing it had ever been.

The seemingly unavoidable decline of Tribeca's spirit spoke to a woman who had often seen the area as a place of inspiration and true artistry. In April 2002, Jane Rosenthal decided that it was time to bring people back to the area with a film festival, complete with all the things the neighborhood had once oozed with: celebrity, glamour, and passion. Teaming up with Robert De Niro, Rosenthal created the Tribeca Film Festival.

The mission of the festival, other than to support Tribeca, is

to "support artists and grow the audiences for independent film," according to Nancy Schafer, the festival's executive director. In order to accomplish this mission, the festival is holding 513 screenings, an impressive number compared to the 140 that took place its first year. This is able to happen because the festival now goes on for 12 days as opposed to the 5 days it spanned in 2002.

To open this year's festivities, a public screening of Cameron Crowe's new documentary "The Union" took place at the World Financial Center. The event was hosted by comedian Denis Leary and included speeches from Rosenthal, Martin Scorsese and Elton John. The movie was preceded by a performance by the choir from Public School 22 and the Bangles singing their hit "Walk like an Egyptian," and followed by a performance by Elton John in which he sang classics like "Tiny Dancer" and "Rocket Man." New songs from

his collaboration album with Leon Russell, the very subject of the film that was screened, were also performed.

The festival continued for the next few days, with many press and industry screenings as well as public screenings of documentaries, narratives and short films. Some films were making their world premieres at the festival, while others were merely in it for the competition that is being judged this year by big names such as Denis Leary, Michael Cera and Whoopi Goldberg.

These films ranged from Serbian narratives to documentaries from the United States and even short films from the Netherlands. However, every film had one thing in common. They were shown in an atmosphere that was supportive of the artists who worked hard to make it come to life.

Special events at this year's festival were also open to the public in hopes that the community would come together to help support these artists.

The Tribeca Drive-In screened the 1980 hit "Fame," held a "Tribeca's Got Talent" competition, showed highlights from a musical documentary "When the Drum is Beating" hosted a performance by a Haitian jazz-fusion band, and booked an appearance by the Muppets for a kid-friendly night of movies and fun. All these events were free and well attended by members of the community.

Also attending the festival this year were big names in show business. Kelly Ripa and her husband Mark Consuelos took part in a panel discussion on the film they were the executive

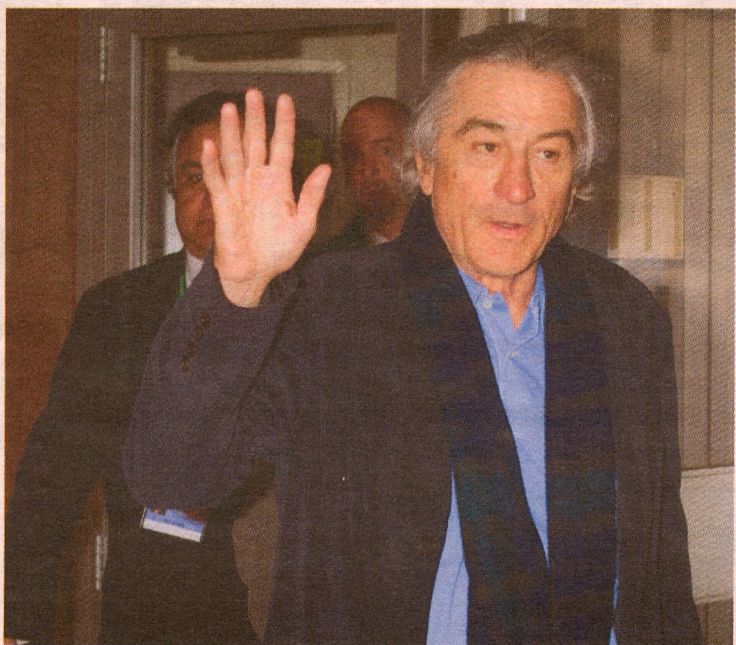


KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Jane Rosenthal, Founder of the Tribeca Film Festival, and her daughter arrive at the event for the Apr. 23 screening of Jesus Henry Christ.

producers for, "Off the Rez," about an Umatilla Indian basketball player who dreams of being the first in her tribe to receive a college scholarship. Rider Strong, well known for his role as Shawn Hunter on "Boy Meets World," was in attendance for the opening night event, and his short film "The Dungeon Master" had its New York

Premiere at this year's festival. On May 1 the festival will close with a re-screening of all the films that won awards in their respective categories, such as the World Documentary Competition Winner, the Best New Narrative Director, and even the Audience Award that anyone can vote for by logging on to the festival's official website.



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Arts at the Brook

Shirley Strum Kenny Student Arts Festival continues to April 30

MON. APRIL 25:

Erasing Borders: Art from the Indian Diaspora Begins
Wang Center
9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Earthstock 2011 Begins

TUES. APRIL 26:

Daniel Ellsberg Lecture: A Night with America's "Most Dangerous" Man
Staller Center
7 p.m.

FRI. APRIL 29:

The Met Live in HD: Strauss's Capriccio
Staller Center
7 p.m.

SUN. MAY 1:

The Met Live in HD: Verdi's Il Trovatore
Staller Center
6 p.m.

Madison Violet at the University Cafe
7 p.m.

Arts at the Brook

TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL



- Miranda Kerr -



- Julia Roberts -



- Martin Scorsese -



- Orlando Bloom -



- Sir Elton John -



- Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen -

Celebrities walked red carpets that were scattered across New York City during the first week of the 10th annual Tribeca Film Festival. Press photographers crowded the paddocks set up for them as the stars raced by in an attempt to elude the cameras and proceed to their film screenings.

Photos by:
Kenneth Ho





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She Monkeys

A Film Not for the Faint of Heart

YOUNG CHUNG
Staff Writer

Films can provide an extraordinary escape; whether it be an adventure of "incepting" dreams or fighting alien invasions in Los Angeles. Certain escapes are more preferred than others, but of course the enjoyment mainstream films provide can usually be found in the simple experience of watching the movie. Other films require audiences to think critically in order to understand the film.

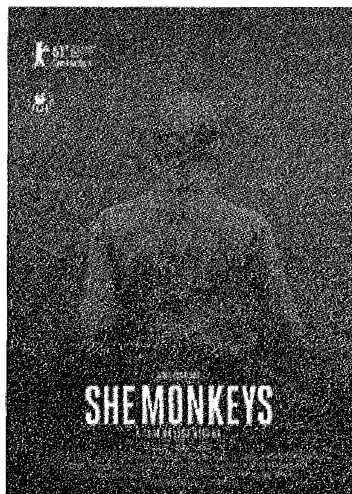
However, after watching a certain amount of these mindless movies, their potential to entertain seems to steadily disappear. It is instead replaced by criticism and the yearning to find a more enjoyable film as mindless explosions or cheesy romances no longer entertain, but bore and annoy. That is when a moviegoer first takes his or her baby steps towards becoming a film connoisseur.

A film connoisseur is a moviegoer that thinks throughout the film and notices characteristics of the film ranging from

set design, acting, narrative to other endless details. Piecing these details from illusion to symbolism is what makes a film connoisseur tick. The Tribeca Film Festival is a film connoisseur's dream, as the films that are screened are a showcase of international and national talent that tends to be superior to the common Hollywood product.

One of the many films the Tribeca Film Festival showcased is the feature directorial debut of Lisa Aschan, titled "She Monkeys." Originally titled "Apflickorna," "She Monkeys" is a Swedish narrative film that focuses on the relationship between two competitive equestrian acrobats, Emma and Cassandra. In this film, thinking is a requirement.

Like the Greek film "Dogtooth," "She Monkeys" pushes the boundaries. The film begs the question, is this a story about the intimate developing relationship between the two acrobats or the coming of age of a little girl? While not as severe as "Dogtooth," "She Monkeys" makes the viewer squirm



www.tribecafilm.com

in their seat as a powerless spectator. The character of the little girl is troubling. The film explores taboo subjects such as the sexuality of young girls. This film is not for the faint of heart movie viewers.

The content of "She Monkeys" is heavy with significant details ranging from a red rabbit lamp by a little girl's bed to a number of beautiful and striking symbolic shots. Despite the care and precision that is evident in "She Monkeys," however, it is not for everyone. The slow pacing combined

Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

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DIFFICULTY: ★★☆☆

with the troubling content can be torturous to watch. The main characters are not easy to relate to, especially because they seem emotionless. Most of "She Monkeys" seems to be composed of long extended face shots of the girls looking at something, usually each other. While these long extended shots are a physical break in the film

that reiterate the subject matter, they add distance to the characters, the content and the film itself.

Therefore, while it is a debut that showcases a distinct style, the incredibly slow pacing and lack of distinct message makes "She Monkeys" a bit difficult to enjoy and not recommended for the average moviegoer.

May Commencement

On May 25, 2011, Stony Brook University will celebrate its 51st Commencement Ceremony by conferring degrees on those who have completed degree requirements for Fall 2010, Winter 2011, Spring 2011, and Summer 2011.

The main ceremony will begin on **Wednesday, May 25, at 11:00 am** in Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

- **Doctoral Graduation and Hooding Ceremony** for all D.A., D.D.S., D.M.A., M.D., and Ph.D. degrees will be conferred on **Tuesday, May 24, at 2:00 pm** in the Staller Center.
- **Baccalaureate Honors Convocation** recognizes candidates graduating with distinctions of Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, and Summa Cum Laude, as well as members of Phi Beta Kappa. This convocation will take place on **Tuesday, May 24, at 7:00 pm** in the Staller Center.

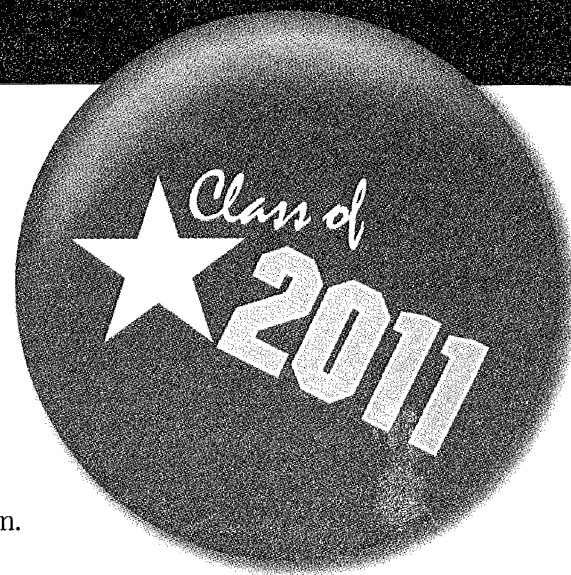
The Ceremony Attendance Form is available on the SOLAR System until May 6, 2011.

A Ceremony Attendance Form **MUST** be submitted on SOLAR to obtain tickets.

Additional information and a schedule of each department program is listed on the Comencement Web site.

www.stonybrook.edu/graduation

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The Tribeca Experience:

-- ARIELLE DOLLINGER --

Today was my first day covering the Tribeca Film Festival, which has been showcasing independent films for 10 years now and was created as a way to bring people back to the area where the Twin Towers once stood.

I am a reporter. I write, I interview and I write some more. I am an Assistant Editor. I write, I organize and I write some more. But today I tried my hand at being a photographer. I was reminded of the many reasons why I chose to major in journalism and not photography.

I love photography. It has been a hobby of mine for years. All throughout high school I did black and white darkroom photography, and now I photograph for *The Statesman* on occasion. But today I experienced the most difficult, challenging and exciting photographic experience that I have ever been exposed to: shooting a red carpet.

Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen scampered past me from one end of the carpet to the other. Rider Strong (Shawn Hunter from "Boy Meets World") stood three feet away from me while I photographed him. And then an unknown blond woman walked up and down the red carpet, letting the photographers capture her essence. I'm still not sure who she was...

Press photography has proven itself to be a true challenge. Celebrities sprint in an effort to get away from the paparazzi-like press photographers, and once the moment is gone, it is permanently lost. If the camera's settings are not exactly right, the photograph will not be exactly right either.

Luckily, I had Kenneth Ho, our wonderful photo editor, to teach me the basics. After squeezing our way into the red carpet area among the horde of photographers from other publications, we photographed

celebrities as they walked by. We made conversation with some other photographers, who bonded over the struggle to get the perfect photograph of the ever-elusive celebrities who did not care to slow down on our account.

When the red carpet event came to a close, we moved out to the outdoor seating area to watch "The Union," Cameron Crowe's documentary on the story of Sir Elton John's collaboration with Leon Russell.

After the showing of the film, Elton John performed.

As Sir Elton John was performing, I felt so inspired that I couldn't help but take out my reporting notebook and start writing my blog. And so, the following excerpts are the tidbits that I scribbled down as I stood in the cold at the World Financial Plaza on the Hudson River listening to the incredible voice and piano technique of Elton John.

"I always take out my camera at events like these, but tonight I want to just have this experience. I'm inspired to take to the piano again (I play, but not like Elton John), and to write this. In a world where so many celebrities are famous for nothing, Tribeca highlights those who are famous for something: for talent and for the ability to truly and genuinely inspire."

"It's simple, and that is what is so beautiful about it. Balloons, water, fresh air, and raw, organic talent."

"A festival like this makes you realize that sometimes



there is real talent behind celebrities. I'm standing in the World Financial Plaza on the Hudson watching and listening to Elton John perform. The raw talent that is in front of me is surreal, and it has made me realize that Tribeca, a festival that has grown over the past 10 years, really gives people the opportunity to display their talent, realize the talents of others, and realize the value of those talents."

"The Tribeca team seems to be composed of individuals who truly care. Some are here for the celebrities and the prestige (though the festival is still relatively young), but its founders are clearly and undoubtedly here to give artists an outlet."

"I photographed a red carpet and Rider Strong walked past me."

The extent to which this festival has inspired me over the past two days is unbelievable.

-- NICOLE BANSEN --

Covering Tribeca Film Festival's tenth year has been a one-of-a-kind experience for me. I have always taken an interest in films and I even work at a movie theater back in my hometown. That interest combined with the journalism coverage of the event made this experience a memorable one and one I hope to partake in again next year.

The first day, I was overwhelmed with excitement as Arielle, Kenneth, Sarah and I navigated our way through traffic, subways and sidewalks of New York City. When we arrived in Winter Garden and I saw the stage set up with Tribeca posters everywhere, it really hit me what exactly I had gotten myself into. Movie



lovers and Elton John fans flooded the area and everyone seemed excited. The weather had cleared up and although later that night it was rather cold, it was still a good time for all. "The Union" was a really great documentary with a mixture of good friendship and even better music. And to top things off, Sir Elton John himself performed after the movie. We all got back to Penn Station late that night but the experience was completely worth the exhaustion.

The next day was another early morning day, but it paid off. Our Tribeca group saw two really great movies. The first was "The Trip," a witty British comedy that had a meaningful underlying message. It featured two famous British actor/comedians who traveled Northern England to critique food. I really enjoyed the two character's chemistry and thought it made the movie flow so easily. With all of the delicious looking food being served in the movie our group was ready for a quick lunch before our next movie, "Last Night."

"Last Night" was a relationship movie without every other typical relationship movie's unrealistically perfect ending. I liked it for the fact that it showed the messy and complicated nature of humans in an actual relationship. It ended on a not so happy note, but finally lived up to a relationship that could be found in real life. I typically like happy endings, but despite the final outcome of the couples in the movie, I didn't leave the theater disappointed.

Going from movie to movie and traveling throughout the city gave me a surreal feeling. It was like I was

doing work, without the usual aspect of work.

My final day of movies was probably my favorite. Both films I saw that day were foreign but were just as good as the others. It also served as my chance to see something that would be shown on the other half of the world. Each movie I saw had an important lesson or underlying message. It was nice to see that these movies were good for more than just entertainment.

My least favorite aspect was the cost of this experience. Although the press screenings were free, the combined costs of getting to the city and back, subway admission and food really added up. Thankfully, I was able to stay a night at a friend's room in the city.

The experience that really made everything worth it for me was meeting the huge television icon, Rainn Wilson. Had I not been at Tribeca, I would not have met him since we both attended the same movie. My second favorite part of my Tribeca experience would have to be visiting the Tribeca's Cadillac Press Lounge. The lounge was a semi small, comfortable and exclusive room filled with plenty of free refreshments. It served as a place for press to stop and recuperate between movie screenings.

Next year, I want to partake in festival screenings and festivities again. It allowed me to gain journalistic experience, while having a wonderful time. I recommend anyone interested in writing or anyone who has a passion for movies to attend next year's Tribeca Film Festival.

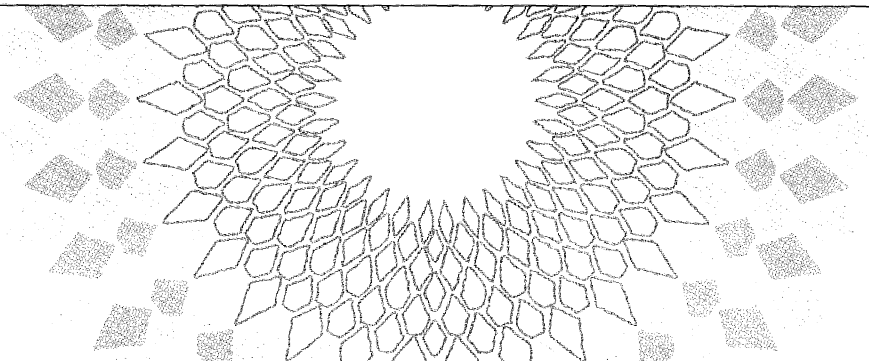


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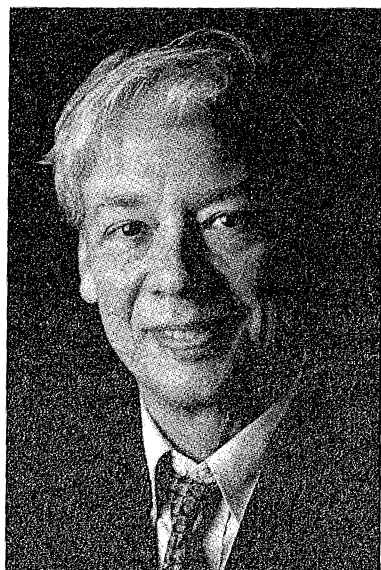
Scott Higham

"My Life as an Investigative Reporter"

Monday, May 2, 2011

7:30 PM

Javits Lecture Hall, Room 110



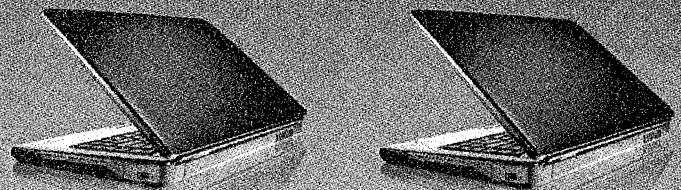
Scott Higham is a Pulitzer Prize winning reporter at the Washington Post. The 2002 Pulitzer was awarded for an investigation into the deaths of children who were supposed to be under the supervision of the D.C. child protection system. The series also won the 2002 Robert F. Kennedy grand prize for reporting on the disadvantaged. Higham was also the co-author of *Finding Chandra: A True Washington Murder Mystery*, about the mysterious murder of Washington intern Chandra Levy in 2001. Before joining the Washington Post, Higham was a reporter at The Baltimore Sun, The Miami Herald and The Allentown Morning Call. Higham is a graduate of Stony Brook University where he was executive editor of The Stony Brook Press. He holds a master's

degree from Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism.

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Brian Williams Interviews Robert De Niro

As Part Of The "Tribeca Talks: Directors Series"

As transcribed by Arielle Dollinger

As a part of the "Tribeca Talks: Directors Series," Brian Williams interviewed Robert De Niro on Saturday at the BMCC Tribeca Performing Arts Center. De Niro, who is notoriously a man of few words, conversed with Williams for an hour. Following are segments of their conversation.

"I said let me interview Robert De Niro as a fan," Williams began, "unabashedly, as a fan of his films. As one of those people, slash, shut-ins, who sits there—can I move my mouth with 'Goodfellas?' I'm from northern New Jersey, when I'm in a meeting in a workplace, and I pepper the conversation with 'This is the life we've chosen,' and other phrases in our collective lingo, I will call people out and say 'You are not the male that you say you are from the tri-state area.'" It's a determining factor. So, that's the kindness of the festival that brings us here, the kindness of Robert De Niro to join us here, and your kindness today in attending, all of you."

And with that, the interview began.

Williams: "My first question has to do with George Bailey in 'It's a Wonderful Life' - New York didn't realize it needed the Tribeca Film Festival, but what do you think it's brought to the

city? You must be enormously, enormously proud of this."

De Niro: "Well of course I am. You know, I'm not sure people are very happy about kicking off the festival very well this time, this was the tenth festival, I'm very happy, I can't see it cause I'm in it. People come up to me and say how happy they are about it, it makes me feel really good."

Williams: "Would you define yourself as an introvert?"

De Niro: "I guess in some ways I am, in other ways I'm not. So, so."

Williams: "Why do you think so many artists are introverts, and why do you think so many introverts are drawn to the arts?"

De Niro: "Well, I guess the obvious one is that people are more, they want to express themselves, it's just they there's less of a limitation in a typical existence, if you will. You're, you have a job, this and that, and there's sort of things you can't do; doesn't mean you can't express yourself and go crazy when you're not working but as an actor, say, or an artist or painter or a filmmaker, you have this certain, you can go through the lives of other people, stories, experiences,

that you might not have personally had but you know how to, you want to go into this experience, this story, and explore it and express it and, so you know that's, it's kind of nice and fun too if you like to do that sort of thing."

Williams: "Is the story true you played the cowardly lion in a school play?"

De Niro: "Yeah, when I was 10."

Williams: "People reacted [to 9/11] in different ways, New Yorkers reacted in different ways. You decided to use your name, who you are, your connections, and your roots, your life in lower Manhattan, to make something of it, to make it better, to act as a kind of one-man chamber of commerce. Has anything about the recovery, has anything about the city frustrated you?"

De Niro: "Well there's always something that'll frustrate you about the city, the bureaucracy, the this, the that of course, but, I mean it's been taking a longer time to get things done at ground zero, but, I can't really put my finger on anything specifically."

Williams: "Just for a quick break. 'Little Fockers,' 'Meet the Fockers,' 'Meet the Parents,' 'Men of Honor,' 'City By the Sea,' 'Analyze This,' 'Analyze That,' 'Jackie Brown,' 'Heat Casino,' 'Bronx Tale,' 'This Boy's Life,' 'Goodfellas,' 'Untouchables,' 'Brazil,' 'Once Upon A Time In America,' 'King of Comedy,' 'Raging Bull,' 'Deer Hunter,' 'Godfather,' 'Taxi Driver,' 'Bang the Drum Slowly.' See I gave it a little James Lipton there at the end. I thought about bringing a huge stack of blue cards and I wondered if you would find that funny."

De Niro: "Blue cards, what?"

Williams: "The James Lipton thing."

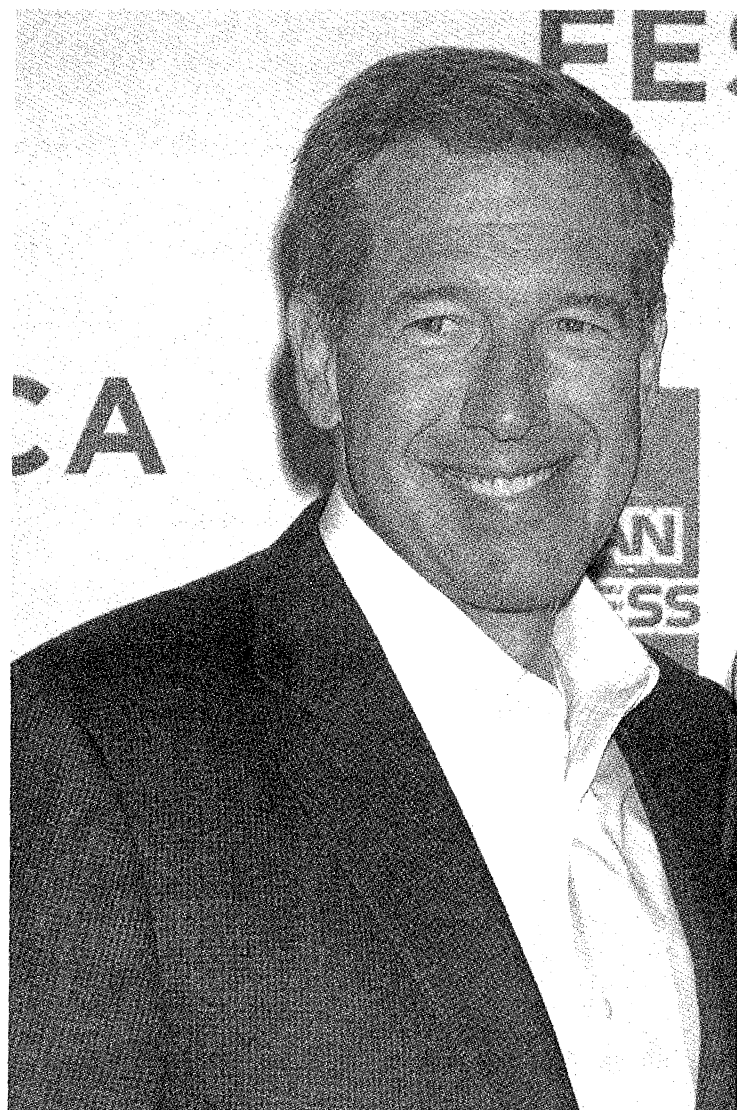
De Niro: "Oh yeah I forgot."

Williams: "We have our answer."

Williams: "When was the last time you saw Taxi Driver start to finish?"

De Niro: "A long time, long time. You know if I find it on the television kind of like just by chance then I might look at part of or it some of it."

Williams: "What else do you



do in your, in the privacy of your home in your off hours that perhaps might, are you you know sports, what do you read? What do you pick up in the book store?"

De Niro: "I'm usually looking for stuff that I'd actually want to make into a movie or something."

Williams: "How do people try to get you scripts? Are there scripts under the door, are there scripts with your coffee, are there scripts when you wake up?"

De Niro: "Well they get them to me and they get them to my agent usually and then most of the time I just have them read by my agent or my office or we have readers at Tribeca just to, because there's not enough time to. Sometimes I read someone will just give me something and I'll just read it because I know them and I like them."

Williams: "There's a rumor afoot that you are preparing to do a film with a young promising director named Scorsese called the Irishmen with Joe Pesci and Pacino."

De Niro: "Yeah."

Williams: How long will you work and when will you know if the time comes not to anymore?"

De Niro: I don't know, I don't know, I think about that and I don't know. I don't have an answer now.

Williams: "You're going to keep going, how many projects, ballpark, can you name, I won't ask you to, that are future films for the next five, six years?"

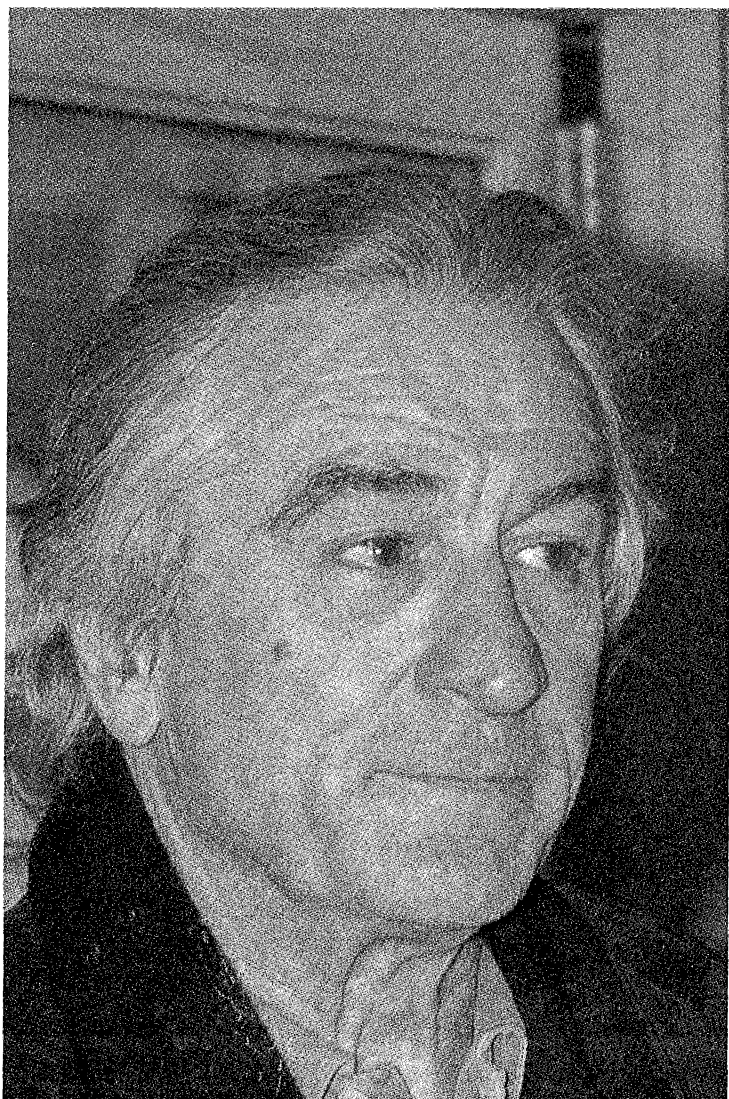
De Niro: "Well I have a few, I'd say seven to 10 that are very actively being developed and worked on. Whether they'll all be done is really not realistic, maybe three at the most."

Williams: "When you go on IMDB, their lead sentence, alongside a picture of our guest today and our founder of all of this is 'Robert Mario De Niro Jr. who is thought of as one of the greatest actors of all time, was born in New York City.' That's all we need to say, along with our thanks to our guest."

As the crowd got up to leave, De Niro stopped them, insisting that he be allowed to utter one more sentence before his audience was lost.

"My middle name is Anthony!" he said.

Photos By:
Kenneth Ho





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WHO WE ARE

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

The Statesman is published weekly on Mondays 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.

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OPINION

People Power: What We Can Learn

RAVNEET KAMBOJ
Opinion Editor

With protests still continuing in the Middle East the world is getting a chance to see what people are capable of when they have been repressed for a long time. These protests have been met with violent crackdowns, secret assassinations and kidnappings.

All of these are horrible actions across the board, yet our nation's response to the protests has not been as even. As our jets drop bombs over Libya, supporting the rebels there, we have hardly mentioned what is happening in Yemen or Syria.

The other day over 80 or so protestors were shot down in the street and for the first time President Barack Obama came out to criticize the leader of Syria directly. There is something to be said about helping your fellow human beings, especially those crying out for democracy. However, there is also something to be said about the regions stability and how it affects us.

As the Middle East becomes more and more unstable, it just makes it easier for terrorist groups to slip through the cracks and provides them more unhappy and angry youth to work with. For the past few decades we have often propped up these dictators in the Middle East in hopes of maintaining stability but now we face a critical decision.

Do we continue to try and stabilize the area even if it means supporting dictators? Or do we help the Arabs overthrow their oppressive governments and hope that they have the same ideas on how to run a country as we do?

As you look at the issue more clearly we see why America has been slow to act or speak out on these protests. We are honestly at a point where we have to decide one way or another what we are going to do.

Supporting the movements in the Middle East does not mean military intervention.

It may even be support just in name, but after the dust clears there may or may not be a stable Middle East that may or may not view us in a good light for not helping one side or the other.

One thing however that we can take away from the protests in the Middle East is that people power is still immensely strong. No matter how oppressive a regime is, people are always willing to fight to be free of it. The message that we can take home for our own country is that we should not always be so uninformed about what is happening in our own country.

The youngest generation, which is mine, seems more interested in staying connected to their social lives than what is happening around them. As labor rights were stripped away from unions in Wisconsin and other states, rights that had been hard fought for -often in blood- there has hardly been a dent in the collective conscience on campus. How will we deal with the Middle East in the future if we have no idea what is going on now?

There was no discussion about it, students were not debating their points of view or even planning protests if they were opposed. Life just went on and honestly if you had gone up to some students they might not have had any idea about the dispute, what it

was about and what it meant for them in the future. During the Vietnam War whether people were opposed or for the war they were out there talking about it. Students and people from both sides of the issues made their voices clear and the government as a whole was made aware of their presence.

During the civil rights movement it was often young people of all colors that took the message to the streets and forced a change. The young people always drive the movements of change and each generation is defined and judged by how they left the country for the next generation.

The previous generation of Americans are most likely going to be judged harshly; they ran our debt into the ground, let corruption and deregulation of economic

systems run rampant leading to the financial crisis, and couldn't really get much done other than kick the can down the road to us.

A person gets to wondering how this generation will fare when it is our turn to run the country. You look how peers respond to major events that are taking place around them and in their country.

What I see mostly is silence and a lot of uninformed people. There are those who know what is happening and speak about it, but many are just happy to let the tides take us where they will.

We all are born with massive opportunities to change the world and to make a positive impact on those around us. We can't begin to do this if we don't have opinions on the world.



Guidelines for Opinion Submission

Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted online at www.sbstatesman.com, e-mailed to opinion@sbstatesman.com or 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. Please include your full name, phone number and email address for verification. Phone numbers and mail addresses will not be printed. Letters submitted anonymously or under false names will not be considered for publication.

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PRIDE AND PURPOSE

The Meaning Of Easter For All Of Us

DAVID O'CONNOR
Assistant Sports Editor

Easter is important for a lot of reasons. For many, it is a sign of hope for spring and the coming warm weather. For some, it means getting together with family for the first time in a while. For others, it is a time of remembrance of the events of the Christian Holy Week, the Passion and, according to Christian belief, the resurrection of Christ. All in all, it's a pretty happy day. However, outside of all these reasons, it can be a good thing for everyone on this campus.

Perhaps the best part of Easter is that it is generally a good thing for everyone of whatever religious background. This gives people an opportunity to share the enjoyment with each other. There isn't meant to be any exclusivity. People have a reason to say something nice to each other regardless of who it is. Perhaps this is a lesson that we can apply to the rest of the year as well, especially in a tense times with exams.

Look at the facts, average people walk by each other on this campus without saying a

word. Who knows if that person is having a really bad day or just needs someone to talk to? I'm not advocating talking to strangers, especially not some cloaked man sitting behind 7-Eleven, but there's no harm with holding a door open for someone smiling at someone who looks at you for more than a second.

The point is that people should actively seek ways that have even the smallest chance of making someone else's day better. Even if they aren't feeling down, one can never be too happy unless they're on a Nick Jr. show.

You might not think that one person can make a difference, but one small light can illuminate an entire dark cave. You could be that person who makes your friend's day. No matter what else has happened or will happen to that person that day, they can rest assured that they have at least one friend.

To me, that's the lesson that we must take from Easter. Whether you're a Christian celebrating the events of the Gospels or anyone else just trying to make your way in the world the best you can, we can all learn that there's strength in a sense of community. There's an example

of this compassion from the scene that Christians the world over celebrate.

When Mary Magdalene wept at the scene of Jesus' tomb, he came to her to comfort her in her grief. In the Gospel according to John, this is the very first thing he does post resurrection action that he performs. It's hard not to see the significance of helping others even if they are incapable of benefitting you at the present time. Who knows, maybe it'll come back to reward you some day.

The point is that there's no harm in doing the small things that make another person's day better. If everybody did so, this campus would be a much better place. In such a tense times with exams coming up, I think we could all use a little encouragement from each other.

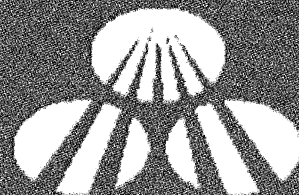


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Sexual Harrassment Not Always Obvious

LAMIA HAIDER
Assistant Opinion Editor

Recently, while aimlessly perusing my usual list of news blogs, I happened to find an article about the frequent and varied incidences of sexual harassment that had occurred at Yale University, and how it had an environment that was hostile towards women. The article gave me reason to pause and think.

At first, I found myself thankful that Stony Brook was not a campus that had an environment brimming with misogyny. However, then I realized that even if Stony Brook is not a bastion of male chauvinism, there are still incidences of it that occur, though perhaps not ones of the same magnitude as the cases that receive press coverage.

It was unsettling to realize that I had been subjected to it myself, but it becomes so frequent or it is so subtle that I just took it in stride and moved on.

As adamantly against sexual harassment as I was, I recognized that I had become one of the 91 percent of females who fail to report incidences of sexual harassment to a faculty member. This statistic is mentioned in a survey conducted by the American Association of University Women, and they also found that college students are more prone to say that sexual harassment is "not a big deal" or they will joke about it in a disregarding manner due to a reluctance to engage in serious

discourse about the matter.

I was following the norms of the former, thinking that as long as I had suffered no unwanted physical interaction then I was fine. I had brushed aside any consideration for the feelings of unease and repugnance I had often felt after an undesired encounter. Apparently, I am not the only one, and this willingness to simply accept such behavior is part of the problem.

Sexual harassment is a subjective matter and has many different definitions depending on who one asks. Many perpetrators may not deem what they are doing to be sexual harassment, and so they do not know where to draw the line. Studies by the American Association of University Women found that "A majority of students who admit to harassing another student say they did so because they thought it was funny. About one-third thought the person wanted the sexual attention, and another third believed that it was just a part of school and a lot of people did it."

I cannot fathom how unwelcome sexual advances that make people uncomfortable or obscene comments can seem amusing or desirable to any sane person, but apparently this is the case. I say "people" because the AAUW also found that men are as likely as women to be sexually harassed as women, only in a different manner: "Female students are more likely to be the target of sexual jokes, comments, gestures, or looks. Male students



are more likely to be called gay or a homophobic name." Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students are also more likely to be exposed to sexual harassment than heterosexual or cisgender students.

It was also sobering to find that the AAUW found that 62 percent of students say they have been harassed and 66 percent say that they know somebody personally in their educational establishment who has been sexually harassed. 41 percent of students have admitted that they have sexually harassed another student, however the number of students who do so is undoubtedly higher. The study

goes on to conclude that sexual harassment is indeed a part of campus life. Sexual harassment leaves a mess of emotions in its wake.

Female students are more prone than male students to feelings of embarrassment, anger, lower confidence, fear, confusion or disappointment. It is also an issue that female students have to expend energy worrying over.

More than half of college women report worrying about sexual harassment, compared to the 20 percent of males that do. Sexual harassment is a serious matter and it should be taken as such, rather than being dismissed as something that is "not a big

deal."

If not then such behavior only contributes to building a hostile learning environment for college students, where emotional damage can potentially lead to life-changing ramifications. Some might call me overdramatic, but a simple Google search about all the sexual harassment related suicides that have recently taken place in various universities would quash such claims. The consequences are sometimes far-reaching, so it is up to each and every individual to educate themselves about the aftereffects of sexual harassment so action can be taken in order to prevent it.

Using Summer To The Fullest: We're Only Young Once

RAVNEET KAMBOJ
Opinion Editor

As we all enter our adult lives no one ever really warns us but we stop getting summers off and the huge breaks that we are accustomed to. One day we will be working and suddenly realize that there is no summer, winter or spring break to look forward to. A lot of us work during our breaks but it is hard to fathom being constantly busy for the entire year the way that working adults are.

The summers that we enjoy, even with classes and work, are usually laid back and allow us to do so much. In the movie "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button", the main character ages backwards, and while it seems like a terrible fate, when he is in his 20s and young he is wise enough to know that he should not waste it.

He travels the world and has many amazing experiences around the world. There is an old saying that says "Youth is wasted on the young." If you gave an adult the chance to be

young and have less stress they would not waste any of that time and would live it to the fullest.

As summer approaches my own thoughts turn to all the things I have wanted to do but was just too busy for. From hiking up mountains to playing gigs in Manhattan it's all stuff that's on my to-do list. I have made lists like these before and while I am always up for a new adventure I never really did as much as I wanted to do. The only thing to do was to really commit to doing what I wanted. It's easy to waste time when you don't have much to do, often I have seen summers gone by with me just doing the same things every day. The summer routine was to wake up, go to the park, hang out with friends. It was a good time but nothing extraordinary and I was always left with the feeling that I wasn't doing as much with my time as I could have been. When I really decided that I wanted to have bigger and better adventures it took a while to get going and break out of the comfort of the routine that I had going of just hanging out with friends all day.

So, last summer I made good on some long standing items on the list

like hiking up mountains in various state parks and playing music with my old band. It all comes down to the fact that at the end of the day, I do not want to look back on all the time I had and regret any part of it.

Once we are middle aged and settled we will dream about the days we took a spontaneous trip somewhere in the country or volunteered building houses or whatever it is that you want to do.

With the last few weeks of school approaching, I am going to keep all these thoughts in mind and hopefully you will too and it will help you power through finals and into summer.



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Softball Gets Swept by Iona College

MIKE DANIELLO
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook softball team was swept by Iona on Thursday. They lost by scores 7-0 and 5-1 at University Field.

Junior Bernadette Tenuto (Audobon, N.J.) had three of Stony Brook's seven hits on the day. Tenuto had one hit in the first game and added two more in the second game.

Iona had 10 hits against the Seawolves in the first game, as they

improved to 17-16. The Gaels scored three runs in the third inning and added more in the fourth, fifth, and seventh innings. Stony Brook, on the other hand, only had four baserunners in the entire first game.

Junior Lauren Maloney (Las Vegas, Nev.) had the other hit for the Seawolves, who faced tough pitching in starter Sarah Jackson and reliever Alyssa Maiese.

In game two, Stony Brook jumped out in front early and scored in the first inning. Junior Alyssa Hawley came around to score on a throwing error after

two one-out singles and an error.

Iona came back to tie the game in the second and took the lead in the third inning. The Gaels added three more runs in the fifth inning to go up 5-1.

The Seawolves had bases loaded and no outs in the seventh inning, but failed to score any runs.

Tenuto hit a ball back to the pitcher, who threw home to get the first out.

Sophomore Taylor Chain (Gloucester, N.J.) hit the ball back to the pitcher, but they were able to turn a 1-2-3 double play to end the game.

Women's Lacrosse Loses on Senior Day

AMY STREIFER
Staff Writer

While Stony Brook University's women's lacrosse team was celebrating Senior Day for nine seniors on their squad, they unfortunately were unable to celebrate a win as they played their last game of the season against Boston University on Saturday.

Melissa Cook and Trisha Molfetta represented for the

seniors, as both had goals in the game. The Seawolves lost 12-3 at home and the third goal came from freshman Tara Gerstacker (Manorville, N.Y.)

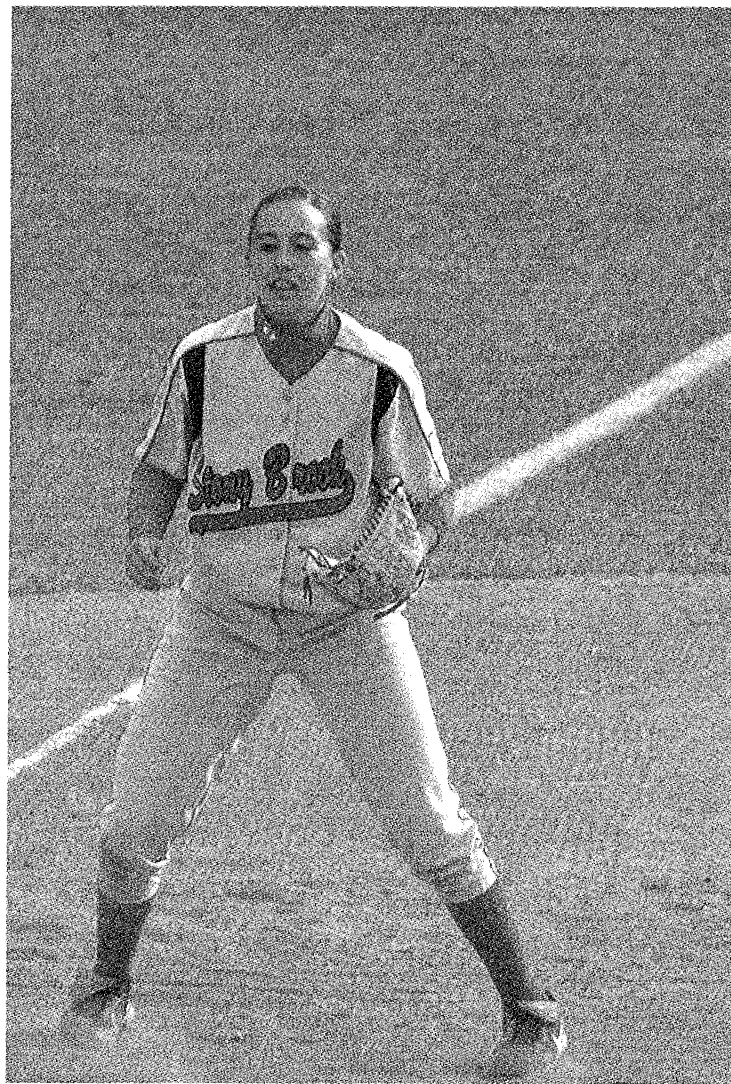
Gerstacker received the America East Player of the Game award for ending the game with a goal, two draw controls and three caused turnovers. Danielle Etrasco (Massapequa, N.Y.) was named BU's America East Player of the game after scoring three goals, having three draw controls,

three ground balls and a caused turnover.

Boston University (7-8, 3-2 America East) scored the match's first three goals before Molfetta scored one for the Seawolves to make the score 3-1. BU answered back quickly by scoring four more goals.

Stony Brook (4-10, 1-5 America East) went into halftime

Continued on Page 32



LEXUS NIEMYEYER / THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook softball rebounded from the sweep to split with Rider. See page 32 for details.

colleges for change

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who we are

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Playoff Basketball at the Garden, Gone in a Flash

SYED HASHMI
Assistant Sports Editor

New York fans waited seven long years to see playoff basketball return to Madison Square Garden. After signing Amare Stoudemire in the offseason, and trading for Carmelo Anthony at the trade deadline, the Knicks seemed poised to make a run in the playoffs. But bad luck coupled with bad defense saw the team's postseason end without a win, as the Boston Celtics closed out the Knicks Sunday afternoon with a 101-89 win sweeping the series in four games.

After finishing the regular season by winning seven of their last nine, the Knicks entered playoff basketball on a roll. Their late season push set them up for a first round matchup against rival Boston, who, unlike New York, stumbled towards the end of the regular season.

Game One saw both teams play the type of game that everyone expected. The Knicks jumped out to an early lead at halftime but a late push by Boston in the second half set the stage for Boston guard Ray Allen to knock down the go-ahead trey with only 11 seconds left.

The Knicks had a chance to win, but Anthony ended a tough night missing the game winning three as time expired. To make matters worse, New York lost point guard Chauncey Billups in the final minute of the game to a sprained left knee. Billups was heard saying after the game that he would be back for game two but that would not be the case as game one proved to be the last game for the star point guard.

The heartbreak continued in Game Two, but this time it would



PHOTO CREDIT: SPORTS.YAHOO.COM

be Stoudemire who would be bit by the injury bug. The franchise center suffered from back spasms the entire first half, and stayed in the locker room for the remainder of the game.

With both Billups and Stoudemire sidelined, Anthony would put on a show dropping 42 points along with 17 rebounds despite attracting a double team every time he would touch the ball. However, the heroic effort would not be enough as Kevin Garnett sent the Boston faithful home happy with a go ahead hook shot giving the Celtics a one point lead with 13 seconds left.

The Knicks for the second time in as many games could not convert in the final seconds

of the game as Boston brought the double forcing Anthony to pass on the shot hitting an open Jared Jeffries under the hoop who mishandled the pass.

Games Three and Four in New York were a completely different story. Knicks fans were ready but the Knicks players could not say the same.

The Celtics opened Game Three on a 22-5 run and outscored the Knicks 34-19 in the third quarter to squeeze the life out of the sold out MSG crowd.

Rajon Rondo finished the game with a ridiculous triple-double scoring 15 points, along with 11 rebounds and 20 assists. Paul Pierce had 38 points on the night and Allen added 32.

Game Four followed a similar pattern as the Celtics built up a big lead throughout the game cruising to a 101-89 win.

With the Boston sweep, the Knicks have not won a playoff game since 2001. The team got swept in the first round of their 2004 playoff appearance by the New Jersey Nets.

The Celtics will play the winner of the Heat-76'ers series in the eastern conference semi-finals.

It took seven years for the Knicks to get back into the playoff picture. It took seven days for them to squander their opportunity. Injuries can take most of the blame, but the Knicks were clearly outclassed by a much stronger Boston team.

Rookie Landry Fields and second year guard Toney Douglas both struggled throughout the series and forced head coach Mike D'Antoni to use aging veterans in their place.

Anthony had his moments but shied away at times, passing on opportunities that he is expected to take advantage of. Stoudemire, in his only healthy game, looked impressive, but ended the series on a disappointing note with the back injury.

For the first time in a long time the Knicks are set up heading into the offseason. With more salary coming off the books, and two superstars in place, the Knicks will likely be back in the playoffs next year.

Volleyball Announces Addition of Five to 2011 Roster

DAVID O'CONNOR
Assistant Sports Editor

Deborah Matejka-DesLauriers, head coach of the Stony Brook University volleyball team, announced on Thursday afternoon that five student-athletes would be joining her program for the 2011 fall season.

"I am really happy with this recruiting class," she said. "They bring important qualities to our program including character, academic excellence and passion to play volleyball. This is a genuine group with solid backgrounds and a great set of family core values."

Taylor Gille (Fort Wayne, Ind.), Hannah Dolan (Rochester, N.Y.) and Kathryn Anderson (Anchorage, Alaska) each signed a National Letter of Intent to join Stony Brook. Nicole Parkas (Dix

Hills, N.Y.) and Katrina Doherty (Irvine, Calif.) will also join Stony Brook as walk-ons.

Gille, a 6-foot middle blocker, was a two-time first team all-conference selection while playing for Bishop Luers High School in Ft. Wayne.

She played for the club team Performance Plus after being named conference player of the year in her senior year. Her skills off the court were noteworthy as she ranked in the top five percent of her class academically. She has been a member of the National Honors Society since her sophomore year.

"Taylor is a bright, young woman with a huge upside," Matejka-DesLauriers said. "She is a great competitor with a drive for success, and I believe she will develop into a dynamic, all-around player in the America East."

The 5-foot-10-inch Dolan was a three-time all-league performer in her time at the Aquinas Institute of Rochester. She played for the club team Volley FX Magic. She, too, is a member of the National Honors Society.

"Hannah adds athleticism and depth to the setting position," Matejka-DesLauriers said. "Offensively she sets a great tempo and has good court awareness."

Anderson, a 6-foot-3-inch middle blocker, led A.J. Dimond High School in the cold recesses of Anchorage to three straight 4A state championships.

She was a multi-faceted athlete, being a first-team all-state selection in volleyball and a McDonald's All-American nominee in basketball.

"Katie has the potential to be a dominant middle blocker in our conference," Matejka-DesLauriers said. "We are looking forward to

adding her height to the middle position. She will change the stereotype that big people can't pass. A standout high school basketball player, Katie decided volleyball was her true passion."

Doherty is coming to the Seawolves from Northwood High School at which she secured second-team All-Pacific Coast league honors.

The 6-foot-2-inch swing hitter had 181 kills as a senior. She played for the Saddleback club team.

"Katrina brings height to our swing position as well as west coast court experience," Matejka-DesLauriers said. "She will bring a competitive edge to the swing position and challenge for playing time."

In her senior season, Parkas led St. Anthony's High School to a 27-1 record.

The 5-foot-6-inch libero/

defense stopper played for the Academy 18 elite club team.

"Nicole brings depth to our defense and a spark to our program," Matejka-DesLauriers said. "We look forward to seeing her development at Stony Brook."

The Seawolves will look to improve on their 11-17 campaign in 2010, when Stony Brook made it into the America East championship tournament as the number four seed.

The Seawolves were bounced by the top-seed Albany Great Danes in the tournament semifinals, falling 3-2.

Senior swing hitter Jeannette Gibbs (Port Jefferson, N.Y.) was named to the all-tournament team after recording 27 digs.

Junior swing hitter Alicia Nelson (Apple Valley, Minn.) had a career-high 26 kills, while senior Ashley Headen (Alexandria, Va.) had 10 kills.

Women's Lacrosse Loses on Senior Day

From Page 30

down 7-1. After returning after the break, they scored the first goal of the half on behalf of Cook at 24:07.

Unfortunately, Boston University's offense was on fire the entire game and after scoring four more goals it was clear the game was essentially over. Gerstacker scored her goal with 7:26 remaining in the match.

Turnovers were an issue in the game and Stony Brook committed 22 compared to BU's 12.

Mickey Cahill had 10 saves for the Seawolves and after Cahill left the game, Carlson replaced her and earned herself two saves. BU's goalie, Christina Sheridan (Ellicott City, Md.) had six saves.

Before the match ensued, Cook (Bay Shore, N.Y.), Molfetta (Carmel, N.Y.), Courtney Bertolone (Farmingville, N.Y.), Victoria Cable (Oakton, Va.), Cahill (Bay Shore, N.Y.), Jamie Carlson (Glen Cove, N.Y.), Samantha Djaha (East Islip, N.Y.), Abby Juliani (Jenkintown, Pa.) and Cori Kennedy (North Babylon, N.Y.) were all honored at LaValle Stadium as seniors for their contribution to the team after four seasons.

The Seawolves will play their last game of the 2011 season next Saturday when they head to New Haven, Conn. to take on Yale at 1 p.m.

Softball Splits with Rider in Sunday Doubleheader

MIKE DANIELLO
Staff Writer

Stony Brook softball split a doubleheader with Rider, as freshman Alexandra Clark (Warsaw, Va.) picked up her first collegiate victory in the second game.

The Seawolves fell 7-3 in game one, but came back and won the second game 9-6 behind Clark.

The split came after losing two straight to Iona on Thursday (see page 31).

Clark pitched her first career complete game, as she only allowed six hits and struck out two.

Clark was helped out by the Stony Brook offense, which scored two runs in each of the first three innings.

Junior Alyssa Hawley (Spokane, Wash.) went 3-for-5 with an RBI, a stolen base, and a run scored in game two.

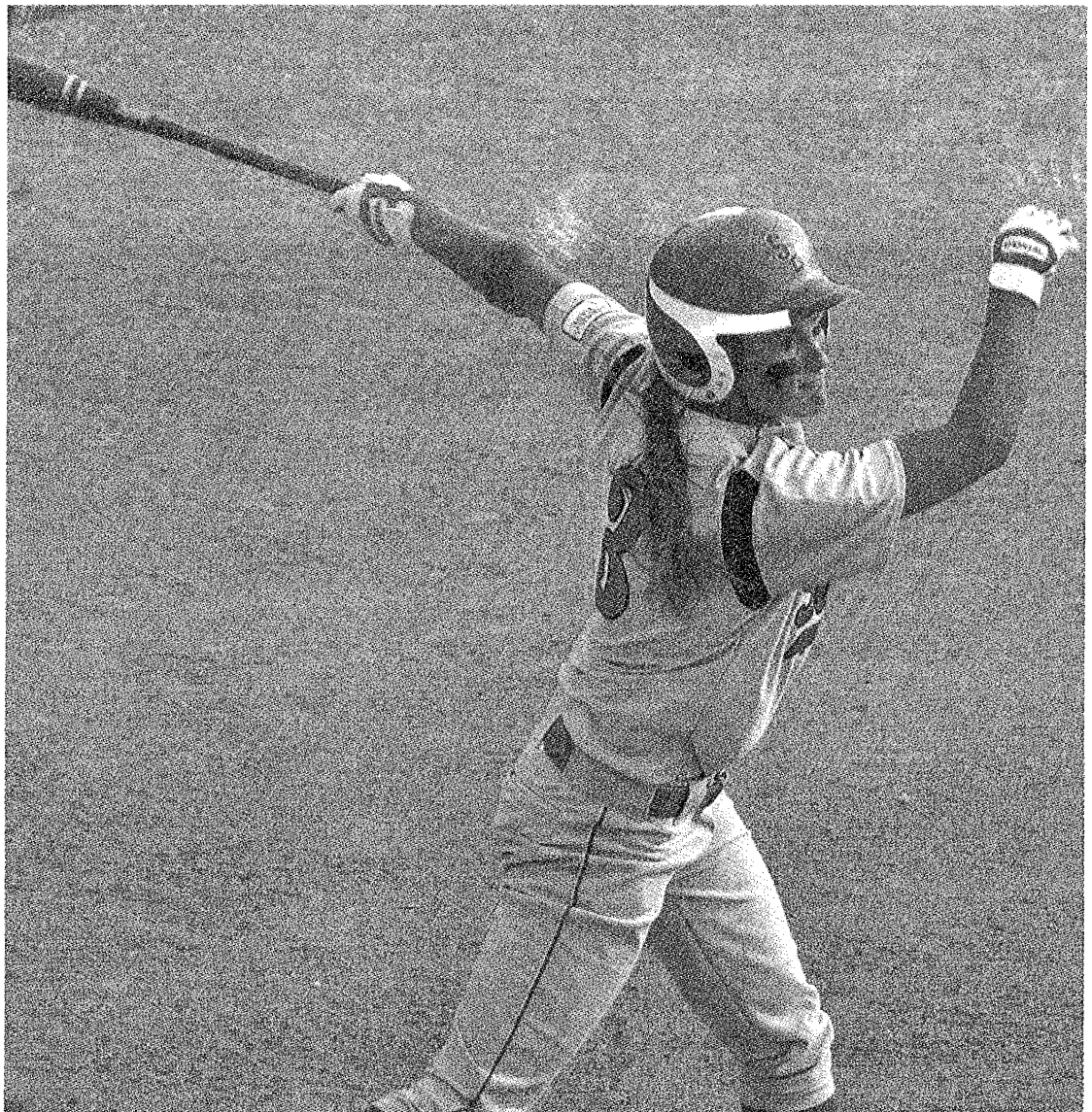
Sophomore Taylor Chain (Gloucester, N.J.) had a two-run single in the first inning and a sacrifice-bunt RBI in the second inning.

Junior Lauren Maloney (Las Vegas, Nev.) scored three runs in the second game to add to her big day, which included a two-run homerun in the first game.

Rider (7-28) scored the first six runs in game one, before Stony Brook began to make a comeback.

Junior Bernadette Tenuto (Audobon, N.J.) and freshman Jessica Combs (Hammonton, N.J.) each had RBI singles in the sixth inning to give Stony Brook its first two runs.

The Broncos answered with three runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to go up 9-2. Stony Brook scored four runs in the seventh inning to make it 9-6, but



LEXUS NIEMEYER / THE STATESMAN

Junior Lauren Maloney takes a cut for the Seawolves, who lost the first game but rallied to win the second in a doubleheader with Rider on Sunday.

could not get any closer.

Junior Suzanne Karath (Fishkill, N.Y.) hit a two-RBI double in the seventh to score sophomore Gina Bianculli (Oakdale, N.Y.) and freshman Nicole Schieferstein (Seaford, N.Y.).

Maloney then hit her third homerun of the season, to pull

Stony Brook within three. All of these runs came without any outs, but they failed to score for the rest of the inning. Maloney and Tenuto both finished 2-for-4 in the first game.

Stony Brook hosts Quinnipiac on Wednesday and Binghamton for a three-game series this

weekend.

The series with Binghamton will open America East conference play for the Seawolves, who are looking to build on last year's trip to the conference finals.

Stony Brook was eliminated by the Boston University Terriers in the final series.

Stony Brook Baseball Goes on Spring Break Trip to URI

DAVID O'CONNOR
Asst. Sports Editor

The Stony Brook University baseball team reaped the fruits of early success against the University of Rhode Island on Wednesday in New England, defeating the Rams 6-4. It was their fifth win in six games.

Freshman right-hander Frankie Vanderka (2-2) started the game for the Seawolves. He allowed one run in 4.1 innings. Vanderka (Levittown, N.Y.) struck out three and allowed eight men on base.

Stony Brook struck the first blow in the top of the second inning. Sophomore outfielder Tanner Nivins (Kitchener, Ontario) smacked a double to lead off the inning. Fellow sophomore outfielder Travis Jankowski (Lancaster, Pa.) moved Nivins over to third with a fly ball

to center field. He then completed the journey home after URI starter Brian Bodjiak threw a wild pitch.

The Seawolves fired on all cylinders in the third inning and scored four runs. Sophomore infielder William Carmona (Hempstead, N.Y.) and senior infielder Stephen Marino (Lake Grove, N.Y.) each knocked in a double to score the first two runs of the inning. Marino would go 2 for 4 for the game and have 2 RBI. Sophomore infielder Maxx Tissenbaum (Toronto, Ontario) subsequently scored on a pass ball.

Nivins would contribute once again with a sac fly to center field. Marino would strike in the fifth inning as well with an RBI double in the fifth inning.

The Rams finally got on the board in the bottom of the fifth inning on a wild pitch from Vanderka. It would be the one run he would allow.

However, Rhode Island would

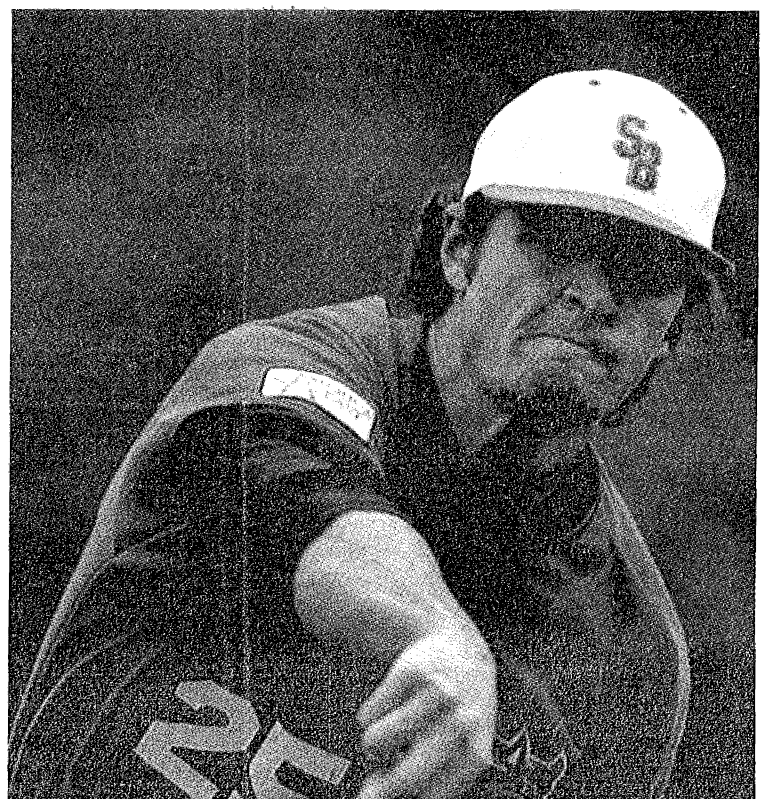
continue to chip away at Stony Brook's lead in the sixth inning with a further three runs. Milián Adrams drove in two of those runs with a two-out single. However, that would be all the scoring for the Rams for that inning as the Seawolves bullpen clamped down upon them.

Stony Brook would have a clean inning in the seventh when sophomore right-hander Jasvir Rakkar (1-0) came in for relief work.

However, Rhode Island would make one last push in the eighth inning when Kenny Burns hit a one-out single off of sophomore right-hander James Campbell (Bridgeport, Conn.).

Campbell then brought the inning to an abrupt end with a double play.

Campbell would throw the final inning as well, retire the side and earn his first save of the season.



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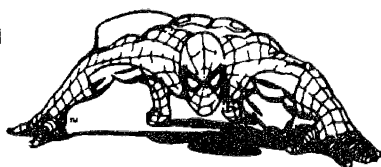
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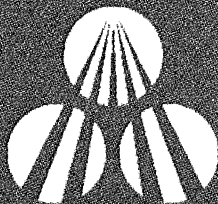
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This scholarship process is paperless; everything is done online.



Lacrosse Defeats Albany Great Danes

From Page 36

The teams traded goals for the rest of the first quarter, which finished 5-5, with Thompson scoring three times for the Great Danes.

But the Seawolves defense tightened up in the second quarter, allowing just one goal while the high-powered Stony Brook offense exploded for seven, pulling away for a 12-6 halftime lead.

"That first quarter, I think Senior Night, those emotions were quite strong," Sowell said. "But once we settled down though, things started to go our way and we did a lot of good things."

The Stony Brook dominance extended into the third period, when, after stopping a 20-second possession by Albany to start the quarter, the Seawolves held the ball for more than five minutes in the Great Dane end before McBride scored with 8:55 to go in the third.

Stony Brook was able to get some of the seniors into the game late on, with John Bella making four saves in the final 9:09 and Tyler Hope netting a goal.

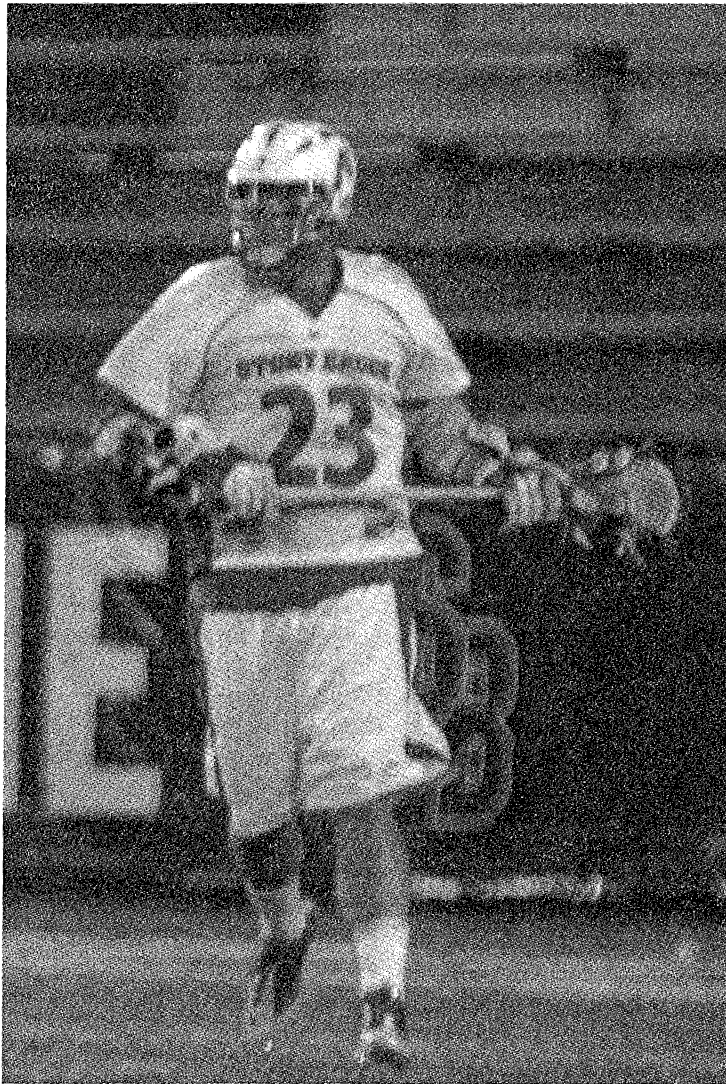
Coach Sowell said he was pleased that the Seawolves were able to find their scoring groove as the conference tournament draws near.

"It's no big secret that we've been a little inconsistent with our offense," Sowell said. "We shot a lot this week [in practice], and it's good to see that it paid off."

The win was Stony Brook's fifth straight over Albany, and the Seawolves haven't lost an America East conference game since May 2, 2009, when they fell to the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in the conference championship game.

Stony Brook will look to keep that streak alive when it travels to face Vermont on April 30.

"Now we've got to go and finish it off in Vermont," Sowell said. "We don't want to lose a game in conference."



Tom Compitello waits behind the net. He was part of a nine-goal run. KENNETH HO/STATESMAN

Baseball Sweeps UMBC

From Page 36

McNitt (Chino Hills, Calif.) was part of a two-pitcher no-hitter earlier this season. Stony Brook would win the game 13-2.

Stony Brook jumped out to an early 3-0 lead. This included a two-run triple by sophomore outfielder Jankowski, who would have 4 RBI on the day.

The Seawolves added another run in the third when sophomore outfielder Tanner Nivins (Kitchener, Ontario) had an RBI triple of his own. He had three of such on the day in his 4 for 5 effort.

Stony Brook put the game away in the fifth inning with five runs.

The Seawolves will next play on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at Farleigh Dickinson University.

Van Dalens' Journey

From Page 36

the sport, having that extra year is good because you're more mature," Holly said.

Head coach Andy Ronan is excited to have the Van Dalens back.

"It's always important to have experienced people in the program. That helps the younger [runners] to mature the way we want them to," he said. "Holly and Lucy can really add experience at this point in their career, so I think that helps an awful lot."

Looking towards the future, Lucy, a sociology major, and Holly, a sociology/English major, plan on continuing a career in racing.

"We're also doing things we love academically, so there's always that fallback, but the passion would be to run for our country at the Olympics one day," Lucy said. "I think every runner has those goals."

The Van Dalens said they do not plan on returning to coach.

"We love running but it's a completely different thing, coaching," Holly said. Despite the fact that the twins say running is "only one part" of their lives, considering what they bring to the program, losing them will have big implications for Stony Brook.



GOSEAWOLVES.ORG

The Van Dalen twins pose with their trophies after the cross country national championships.

"[Since their arrival,] we're getting more and more people from around the area and the country looking at our program," Ronan said. "[Stony Brook is] beginning to establish itself as one of the best in the Northeast and on the national stage as well."

He believes it will be a "big loss" for the Seawolves when Holly and Lucy move on.

"The reality is, they're the two best female athletes that have ever been in the program or on campus," he said.

Stony Brook extends Pikiell's contract through 2015-16 season

DAVID O'CONNOR
Asst. Sports Editor

The contract of Steve Pikiell, head coach of the Stony Brook University men's basketball team, has been extended through the 2015-16 season, athletic director Jim Fiore said.

"Coach Pikiell and his staff have developed and built Stony Brook University men's basketball into an upper echelon program within the America East Conference," Fiore said. "Steve has proven himself to be a talented recruiter and mentor to our student-athletes, and he embodies the core values we endeavor to teach our student-athletes both on and off the court."

Pikiell has brought about Stony Brook men's basketball's first run of success as a Division I program, bringing the Seawolves their first regular season championship and NIT tournament appearance in the 2009-10 season and first America East Championship final this past season. The 2009-10 team set a Seawolves record for overall wins with 22 and conference wins with 13.

"I am honored and grateful for the continued opportunity to coach at such a distinguished institution that has so much to offer its student-athletes," Pikiell remarked. "I want to thank Jim Fiore, President Stanley and the entire Stony Brook administration for their commitment and



KENNETH HO/THE STATESMAN

Men's basketball head coach Steve Pikiell, who received a contract extension last year, signed a new deal recently.

confidence in the plan we have put in place to develop Stony Brook men's basketball.

Over the past three seasons, Pikiell's Seawolves have gone 29-19 in the regular season conference play, third in that time span behind the last two conference champions, Vermont in 2010 and Boston University in 2011.

Pikiell has earned his share of accolades as well. CollegeInsider.

com named him the 2008-9 America East Coach of the Year. The conference itself and Sporting News named him America East Coach of the Year for the 2009-10 season. For the same year, the 2010 Metropolitan Writers named him Coach of the Year, and the Times Village Herald Man of the Year.

Pikiell will return four of the current five starters next season.

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SPORTS

Stony Brook Athletics' Best Kept Secret

CATIE CURATOLO
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook men's basketball team lost in overtime on March 12, ending its hopes of making the NCAA tournament. Hundreds of disappointed fans who followed the team were able to watch the game, keep up with it online and then continue to read about it for weeks afterward.

On the same day in Texas, a Seawolf was named an All-American.

Her story was not broadcast on television that day, nor was it live-blogged for faraway fans. In the weeks that followed, it was announced in barely 116 words in one publication.

Lucy Van Dalen, a senior from Wanganui, New Zealand, has been running track for Stony Brook alongside twin sister Holly the past four years. Between them, they have been named to the America East All-Conference team six times, been named to several All-Academic teams and have broken plenty of records.

The sisters have received little recognition from the campus community for these accomplishments, but this is something they are used to.

"We're doing it because we love it, so we don't expect everyone else to understand it and love it as much as us," Holly said. "You just have to take it in stride ... we don't understand other sports so we don't expect everyone else to understand what we do."

Despite their lack of fame, the Van Dalen twins are consistently two of the best athletes representing Stony Brook University, as their times can attest. And although they are graduating this year, the twins will be returning to break more records as they study for their master's degrees.

Lucy was injured freshman year, redshirting outdoor, the season which Holly is redshirting currently. Both girls redshirted indoor as well, which will allow them the extra seasons of eligibility.

"It's due to injury ... just with

Continued on Page 34

Lacrosse Clinches Top Spot in America East

SAM KILB
Sports Editor

Senior Jordan McBride celebrated Senior Day with five goals, and the #13/14 Stony Brook Seawolves men's lacrosse team clinched a share of the America East regular season crown with a 23-11 win over the University at Albany Great Danes at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium on Saturday night.

"It was a hell of a win," Seawolves head coach Rick Sowell said after the team's fifth straight victory. "Our goal was to secure that number one seed, so it was a good game to win."

McBride's five goals move him into the team lead with 27 goals this season.

"Jordan is the best scorer I've ever coached," Sowell said. "But we do have other guys who can put the ball in the back of the net."

Stony Brook (8-3, 4-0 America East) showed off those "other guys" on Saturday, when 12 different Seawolves found their way into the goal column, including a hattrick from senior Timmy Trenkle.

Early on, it was Albany (4-9, 0-4 America East) that had the upper hand, when junior Joe Resetarits received a pass from freshman Miles Thompson



Senior Jordan McBride scored five goals to help his team win a crucial game against Albany.

and sent a low shot past Stony Brook netminder Rob Camposa to capitalize on the man-up opportunity just 1:15

into the game.

The Seawolves answered back with a goal by senior Tom Compitello with 11:21 to go in

the first quarter.

Continued on Page 34

Baseball Continues Historic Start with Sweep

DAVID O'CONNOR
Asst. Sports Editor



GOSEAWOLVES.ORG

Sophomore outfielder Tanner Nivins prepares to run.

The Stony Brook University baseball team swept aside the University of Maryland Baltimore County Retrievers last week.

The Seawolves are now 26-9 for the season and 9-1 in America East conference play. This is the best start for the Seawolves since they made the jump to Division I. It is also their best start in conference play.

Stony Brook would take the first game by a modest score of 6-3. Junior RHP Nick Tropeano (8-1) was the starter for the Seawolves; he would strike out 10 in six innings. However, UMBC struck first in game one with an unearned run in the third inning.

Tropeano's (West Islip, N.Y.) teammates came to his

rescue in the fourth inning, however, when they scored six runs, all of which came with two outs. Junior catcher Pat Cantwell (West Islip, N.Y.) drove in a run with a single. Senior infielder Chad Marshall (Paris, Ontario) would then drive Cantwell in with a double. Infielder William Carmona (Heapstead, N.Y.) brought in the final run of the inning with a double of his own.

The Retrievers loaded the bases in the fifth inning with one out. They would get one run on an error and another on a single from Rick Phillips. However Tropeano got himself out of the jam with a pair of strikeouts.

Sophomore right-hander James Campbell (Bridgeport, Conn.) came in to relieve Tropeano in the seventh inning. He allowed a leadoff single but subsequently settled down to get his second save of

the week.

Junior RHP Tyler Johnson (6-2) threw six scoreless innings for the Seawolves in game two of Friday's doubleheader. He allowed five hits in that span. Stony Brook would win the game 11-0.

Sophomore outfielder Travis Jankowski (Lancaster, Pa.) grabbed the early lead for his team in the fourth inning with an RBI triple.

Stony Brook then put the game out of reach in the sixth inning with nine runs. It would prove to be too much for UMBC to handle.

Freshman right-hander Brandon McNitt (5-1) threw seven shut-out innings for Stony Brook to start the third game.

He struck out six and allowed only six hits in that span.

Continued on Page 34