

Outcry from Southampton Campus

Residence Halls to Close, Only Two Programs Remain on Campus



ERIKA KARP / THE STATESMAN

Southampton students were shocked to find that their campus might be closing and some of their majors also canceled. But they lined up to protest the decision that was leaked to the press.

By ERIKA KARP
Assistant News Editor

Daniel Doherty, who is from Chile, learned a new language, worked and took courses at another college in order to attend the Stony Brook Southampton campus. But Doherty and more than 400 other students at the campus are now faced with some tough decisions about plans for next semester since much

of their campus will be closed in the fall.

While it is usually all about, "save the environment," at the Southampton campus, it was more about save Stony Brook Southampton, on Wednesday. Over 250 emotional and frustrated students, faculty and staff gathered for a meeting with President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. after learning of drastic cuts to the university.

In the meeting Stanley

explained that it costs two and a half times more to educate each student at the Southampton campus. The cuts to the campus will save \$6.7 million, annually. According to a press release, an additional \$1 million will be saved by closing one of the Manhattan spaces.

"With so many millions of dollars slashed from our budget, we have to be extremely diligent and prudent, and not stray from the core elements

of our missions of research and teaching," President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. said in a press release. "Practically, this means we have to target programmatic reductions, eliminate those that are relatively expensive and impact a small number of students, and can be made in the framework of tenure and unionization constraints."

An article from a local news website, which went viral on

Facebook, revealed that the Southampton campus would cut its programs to just marine sciences and a masters in creative writing, in addition to

closing all residence halls. All of the other majors will be moved to west

See **OUTCRY** on 4

Statesman Wins Award

Statesman received an award for best news story in the 2009 New York Press Association's Better Newspaper Contest for its commitment to campus journalism. The article, "Students to Albany: We Are Not An ATM," written by News Editor Frank Posillico, took third place in the contest. This year's contest received entries from 12 colleges with a total of 134 entries in eight different categories.

IN THIS ISSUE

Budget cuts and real priorities

The main reason we all come to Stony Brook is to receive an education, but many students are finding out that classes they need for next semester are not being offered due to a

lack of funds. Personally, I have had to deal with an absurd shortage of upper-level biology classes...

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I-CON Returns to Stony Brook

If you happened to be on campus the weekend of March 26 you might have noticed some interesting characters take over the campus: vampires in the dining halls, zombies near the

Melville Library or perhaps pirates near Roth Pond. If you had gone into the gym you would've seen an even stranger sight. Here...

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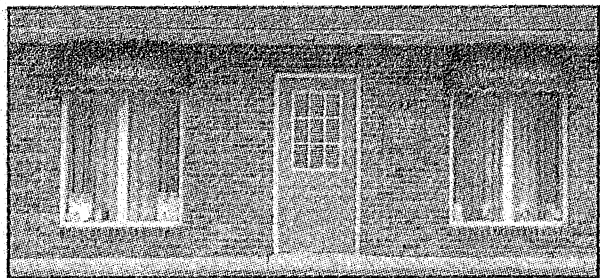
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NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS NEWS

After a Year Gone, I-CON Returns Home

By Andrew Zajic
Contributing Writer

The biggest sci-fi convention in the northeast United States boomeranged back to Stony Brook University, two Saturdays ago.

I-CON, a campus-wide convention of science fiction of both fact and fantasy, was an annual guarantee on Stony Brook's West Campus until last year. Proposed renovations for the Indoor Sporting Complex disposed I-CON to the Brentwood campus of Suffolk Community College. Without the Sporting Complex, I-CON had nowhere big enough to put the Dealer's Room.

Stony Brook's Indoor Sporting Complex pulsated as the main hub of previous I-CON conventions. In the Dealer's Room there are Star Wars collectables, meme t-shirts, dragon figurines and just about every other kind of knick-knack.

I-CON's 29th campus-wide convention showcased the Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel actress, Charisma Carpenter. She starred as Cordelia on both television series. Also at the convention, the science advisor to former President Bush and a former president of Stony Brook University, Dr. John Marburger, came to compare science under Bush and Obama.

"We've been here before, so we know what works and what doesn't," said Jeff Nagels, 37, president and CEO of Icon Science Fiction, Inc. He contrasted Stony Brook's West Campus to Suffolk College's Brentwood Campus at a discussion with loyal I-CON attendees. Nagels has been volunteering at I-CON since he was a Stony Brook student.

Nagels tittered and shrugged when talking about how those planned renovations to the Sporting Complex were canceled anyway. Since I-CON needed almost a year to prepare, it was too late to turn around and come back to Stony Brook.

Attendance between I-CON 29 and I-CON 28 was too early to tell. "Pre-registration was much higher for this year's convention than last year," noted Jay Schneiderman, 31, from Massachusetts.

He volunteered this year at I-CON 29 and helped Nagels, unofficially.

Cosplayers idled in the heart of Stony Brook University's Academic Mall to pose for pictures. "I love it. I really like the open space and the great weather. The convention is very sociable," said Jason McClain, from Virginia, whom donned himself in the bounty-hunter armor of Boba Fett from Star Wars.

Han Solo, the cosplay helmed by Luke Chapdelaine, moseyed on over to McClain's Boba Fett. Snubbing the well-known enmity of their characters, they high-fived each other and put their arms around each other.

"I came down with seven friends. And I like the convention so far," said Chapdelaine from New Hampshire.

I-CON 29's Media Guest of Honor was Charisma Carpenter whom described herself as a "late-bloomer geek" ever since she starred on Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Angel. When she sat down on a stage at the Javits Lecture Hall, she presented herself, "Well this is a Q&A session, does anybody have a question? Please somebody have a question."

It muted the audience for a few moments.

As a Media Guest of Honor, Carpenter's Q&A was low-scale and straightforward.

She elaborated more on audience questions that focused on her role in Buffy and Angel.

"I really want to kick more ass," laughed Carpenter when talking about her character Cordelia and highlighted that feeling for any future role, too. In the upcoming action movie, The Expendables, she "got to kiss Jason Stratham."

Setting aside science fiction and fantasy, I-CON 29 discussed serious things about science as well. "President Obama is much more interested in science and the US's competitiveness. Bush was much more interested in national security and was very result-orientated," said Dr. John Marburger who served as George W. Bush's science advisor.

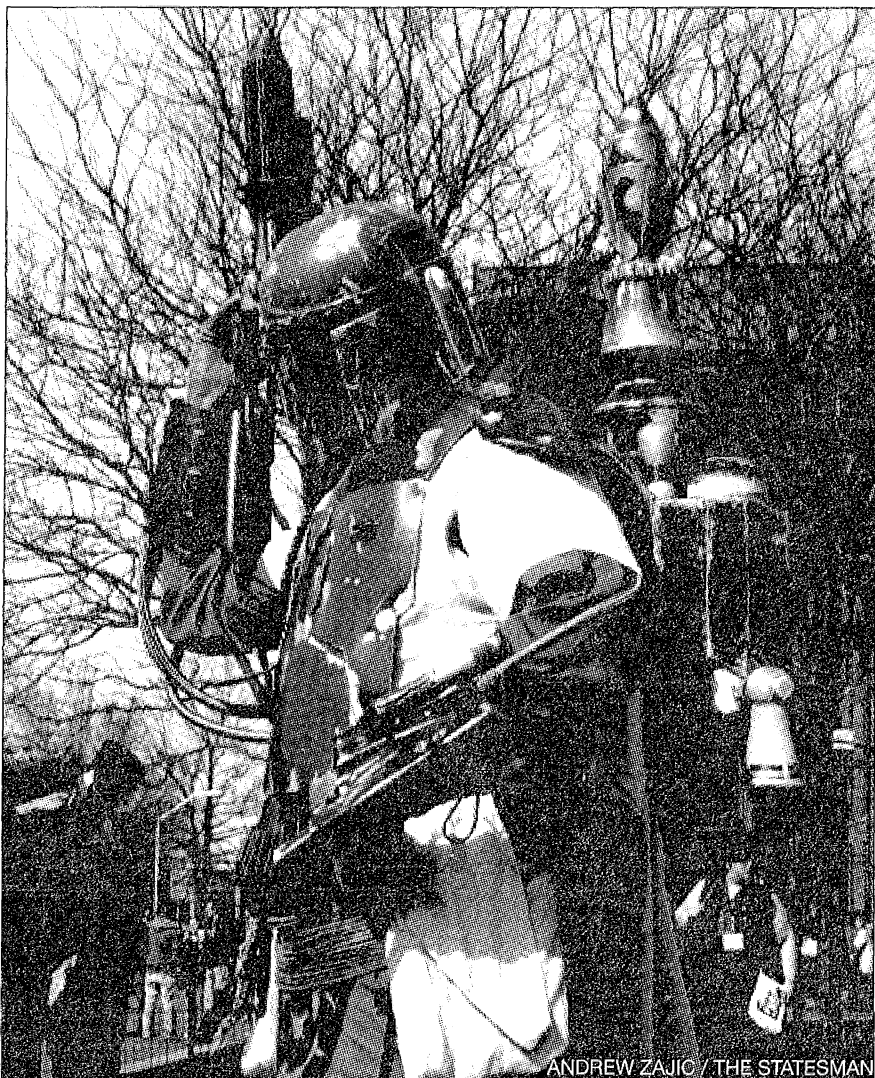
Marburger spoke along side Benjamin Parris and Anthony Leotta in a discussion titled, "Science and the Obama

Administration," at the Student Activities Center. Marburger dominated the discussion as he contrasted the approaches to science undertaken by Bush and Obama. He was pleased that Obama softened views on nuclear energy.

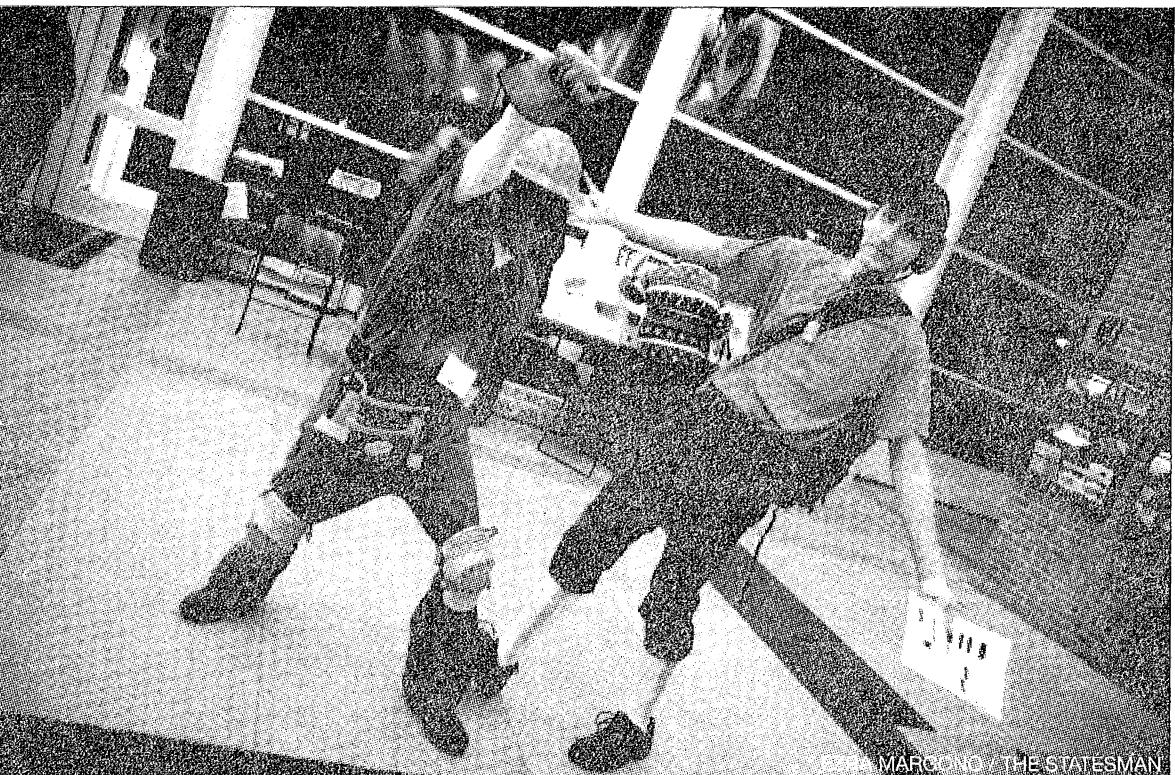
"The success rate of grants under Obama is 30 percent and that's very high," reflected Leotta on Obama's push for science.

The mission of the I-CON science fiction convention, completely powered by volunteers, is to foster interest in science, technology and the arts. It aims to promote creativity and imagination to advance the artistic and technical fields.

"Stony Brook is our home," said Matt Weinberger, press liaison for I-CON 29. "Every year we try to do new things for the people who keep coming back."



ANDREW ZAJIC / THE STATESMAN



FRAN MARGONO / THE STATESMAN



FRAN MARGONO / THE STATESMAN



ANDREW ZAJIC / THE STATESMAN

OPINION

Budget Cuts And Real Priorities



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the stony brook
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To view previous issues, extra material, and to learn about how to get involved with the Statesman, visit our website at sbstatesman.com.

For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632-6480 or visit us online at sbstatesman.com.

WHO WE ARE

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

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

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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BY RAVNEET KAMBOJ
Opinion Editor

The main reason we all come to Stony Brook is to receive an education, but many students are finding out that classes they need for next semester are not being offered due to a lack of funds.

Personally, I have had to deal with an absurd shortage of upper-level biology classes next semester. A lot of juniors and seniors who need various classes to apply to graduate school are also getting stifled.

Why is it that when the economy goes south our schools are the first ones to get cuts?

Stony Brook has been ravaged by \$55 million in budget cuts, and, according to President Samuel L. Stanley, the university faces a budget shortfall of over \$30 million this coming year.

Many students have received emails warning that a lot of the classes that they need will not be available and are

recommending that they enroll in a summer session. This forces students to pay extra to spend a summer away from friends and family, because of something that is not their fault.

Another obvious way that our university is dealing with these budget cuts is by enrolling far more students than the school can handle. Every year brings more and more freshmen, and every year classes get tighter and tighter.

Stony Brook is also a premier science and research school. Much of the positive reputation that our university enjoys comes from the great research done here. However, the humanities are also very good.

If the budget woes continue, the administration might make the decision to cut the humanities even more, in order to maintain the science and math reputation of the school.

Take sociology, for example. According to some students, there is a shortage of variety in the major. Friends of mine have even dropped from the

major because of this. It is a very bad sign when university policies and budget cuts starts forcing students to make career decisions that hurt their careers.

Why is education seen as a disposable commodity by our state legislature? Why is it that any time funds are short, public schools are cut first?

Do the people who run our state and country not realize that education is the key for our country remaining competitive in this global economy. America is losing ground to India and China, and politicians are left scratching their heads as to why this is happening.

Every year our country falters in test scores in math and science, and every year school funding gets cut more deeply. The logic behind this is not immediately clear to me. Any way you look at it, it's not going to get clearer.

Ultimately, what universities like ours are forced to do is turn to programs like PHEEIA.

According to President

Stanley, PHEEIA, which allows tuition increases on the student body, is our best bet for dealing with these losses in the short term. While not a very palatable idea, it most likely is the only way to save any semblance of a functioning school that we have left.

My only hope is that lower income students do not get completely squeezed out and get forced to attend lower quality colleges.

PHEEIA is something that is akin to a blood transfusion after a terrible car accident. While the blood may be life saving, there is no point if the bleeding cannot be stopped first. This is why the leaders of our school need to be firm and extremely aggressive in demanding that our budgets not be cut.

They need to take pay cuts themselves, go to Albany, be loud and make the university's plight known to mass media.

The one thing we need to see from them is that they won't let Stony Brook go down without a fight.

Guidelines for Opinion Submission



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

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ARTS

I-CON Returns to Stony Brook Campus

BY ELIZABETH BRENNER
Contributing Writer

If you happened to be on campus the weekend of March 26 you might have noticed some interesting characters take over the campus: vampires in the dining halls, zombies near the Melville Library or perhaps pirates near Roth Pond.

If you had gone into the gym you would've seen an even stranger sight. Here anime and comic book characters came to life.

You might have seen Batman and the Joker discussing whether or not to buy a vintage video game – or even a man with a four-foot homemade scythe tied to his arm, buying a fish fossil.

If you saw any of that, you were not suffering from post-midterm stress. It was actually because I-CON, the Northeast's largest convention of science fiction and fantasy, returned to the Stony Brook campus for its 29th annual convention.

This year marks I-CON's return to Stony Brook after it was held at the Brentwood Campus of Suffolk Community College.

Throughout the weekend people of all ages converged on the West Campus for panels, autograph signings, performances and more.

This year, the guests of honor included Dr. John H. Marburger, III, former Stony Brook University president along with Sarah Douglas (Ursa in "Superman I and II"); Charisma Carpenter ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Angel," "The Expendables"); Tony Todd ("Transformers:

Revenge of the Fallen," "24") and Ronald D. Moore (Emmy award winner, creator/writer/producer of Caprica).

The Pritchard Gym was turned into a vendor's hall where everything from custom vampire's teeth to fossils were sold.

The Student Activity Center was used for registration while buildings such as Javits and Harriman Hall were used for panels like "I'm dating a voice actor!" workshops like "Social Media: a Security Workshop" and question-and-answer sessions with the guest speakers.

Charisma Carpenter revealed that she hasn't let her 7-year-old watch Buffy yet. Moore talked about the difficulty of writing for and producing sci-fi shows which often go over budget and time.

Cosplay, when fans dress up as their favorite anime, manga, comic or fantasy characters, was also on display at I-CON. The costumes ranged from Carol from "Where the Wild Things Are," to Hikaru and Kaoru Hitachiin from "Ouran High School Host Club."

Candice Morreale, 24, is a returning attendee who spent \$80 on her costume.

"I missed Halloween this year 'cause of work," Morreale said. "So I make it up at I-CON."

This year, Kevin Clayton's first trip to I-CON. He was looking forward to how people would react to his costume – a white wig, a black robe with clouds and a triple-bladed red scythe.

He wasn't disappointed. "My costume had a great reaction," Clayton said. "I

had 60 plus pictures taken of me; countless compliments, and I've appeared in several YouTube videos."

Clayton also had an interesting interaction with a fellow I-CON-goer. A girl hugged him and bit the blade of his scythe, not before saying, "I've always wanted to do this to the real Hidan," the character Clayton dressed up as.

Thankfully Clayton had previously attended the "How to Avoid Rabid Fanboys and Fangirls" panel. They tell you exactly what to do if you get attacked by a fan.

"The fan runs to you, screams, hugs you, and then tries to take you down. That is actually how it happens. They emphasized getting free and running, yes running, to the nearest crowded place with security. This is exactly what I did."

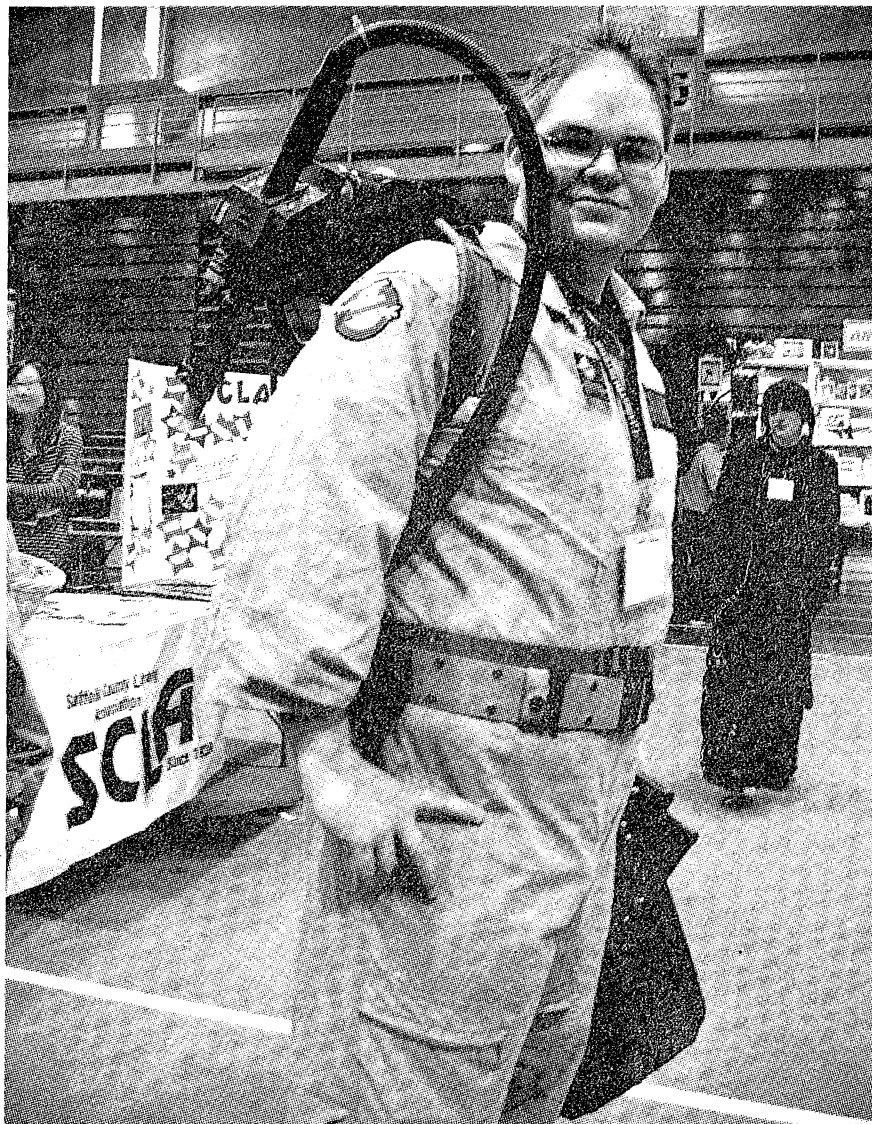
There were several organizations that associate themselves with and follow the rules of science fiction, tv shows and movies.

There was a Star Trek fan club, which travels to other events all over the tri-state area. There were fantasy and history organizations as well as medieval groups that welcome everyone.

Also present was Empire City Garrison, which is a part of the 501st Legion of Imperial Stormtroopers otherwise known as the "Fighting 501st."

They describe themselves as New York's premiere professional costuming club celebrating the might and glory of the Empire as depicted in the Star Wars films. The 501st legion travels around going to festivals and "are available as volunteers to serve the charitable needs of the greater New York area when called upon."

Empire City Garrison has professional-looking Imperial Stormtrooper, commander, and Darth Vader outfits and



EZRA MARGONO / THE STATESMAN

Among the vampires, Salior Moons, and Stormtroopers a group of ghostbusters emerged.

voices to match.

Their outfits are entirely homemade, and although they are not sponsored by Lucasfilms, the Fighting 501st are Lucasfilm's ideal Imperial costuming group. To join the Empire City Garrison Star Wars fans are only required to have a good time at events and be 18 years or older. The Star Wars characters that the members chose to dress up as must be from an officially licensed media such as the movies or games.

If the Dark Side isn't for you there is the Long Island Jedi. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to provide an environment where members can learn the art of the lightsaber.

In all seriousness they provide a means of giving back to the community through education, performance and charitable events. Unlike the Jedi, they don't care if you have midi-clorians or not. They are looking for anyone who might be interested: actors,

martial artists, costumers and performers who share a love for the galaxy's most elegant weapon – the lightsaber.

Some of their activities include – lightsaber training classes, fight scene choreography, live performances, demos, costuming, charity events.

After a weekend of vampires, superheroes and anime characters taking over the campus, it was all quiet on Stony Brook's West campus as Spring Break commenced.

"I missed Halloween this year cause of work..So I make it up at I-CON."

Arts at the Brook

UNIVERSITY CAFE:

On Thursday, April 8, The Antlers with Acroplane Pageant and DJ K3NYON will perform a free, 21, and over show in the University Cafe at 8:30 p.m.

STALLER CENTER:

The Stony Brook

Department of Theatre Arts is presenting a performance of Figaro Figaro, Eric Overmyer's adaptation of Beaumarchais' "The Marriage of Figaro" and Odon Von Horvath's "Figaro Gets Divorced" at 8 p.m. in Theatre 2 of Staller Center.

The show will begin Thursday, April 8 and runs on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays until

April 18.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday shows will begin at 8 p.m. Sunday shows will begin at 2 p.m.

The Stony Brook Opera is performing Pier Francesco Cavalli's Eliogabolo starting Friday, April 9 at 8 p.m. There will be a second performance on Sunday, April 11 at 2 p.m. in the Recital Hall in Staller Center.

WANG CENTER:

"Autumn Gem," a film about the life of a Chinese heroine and women's rights activist, Qiu Jin will air on Thursday, April 8 at 4 p.m. in the Wang Theater.

SSK FESTIVAL:

Thursday, April, 8:

The URECA Art Exhibition will go on display in the SAC Gallery, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. the exhibition will be on display until April 22.

Friday, April, 9:

At 7 p.m. the Caribbean Student Organization will host the Miss CSO pageant in the SAC until 11 p.m.

SPORTS

Albany Rocks Women's Lacrosse

BY SAM KILB
Assistant Sports Editor

The Albany Great Danes defended their home turf and undefeated conference record by beating the Stony Brook women's lacrosse team Wednesday afternoon, 17-5.

The Seawolves fell to 3-9 overall and 1-2 in the America East. Albany (9-1, 3-0) retained their position in first place in the conference.

Stony Brook did not manage a goal for the entire first half. The Great Danes scored nine.

The Seawolves' first tally came at the 21:21 mark of the second half. Freshman Nicolle Moran (Lindenhurst, N.Y.) scored her first of a team-leading two goals in the match to cut the deficit to 10.

Junior Mickey Cahill (Bay Shore, N.Y.) recorded 13 saves for the Seawolves.

Stony Brook returns to LaValle Stadium on Saturday when it plays its last home game of the season at 1 p.m. against New Hampshire. Seniors Kelley Sweeney (Bay Shore, N.Y.) and Bridgid Callahan (Hanover, Md.) will be honored during a pregame ceremony.

Spring Football Schedule

Stony Brook spring football kicked off on Wednesday evening with the first of 15 open practices the team will hold during the Spring 2010 semester, culminating in the Spring Game on May 2.

The Seawolves enter next season as co-defending champions of the Big South.

Stony Brook has benefitted from the folding of bitter Long Island rival Hofstra's football program. The Seawolves have picked up a couple players from

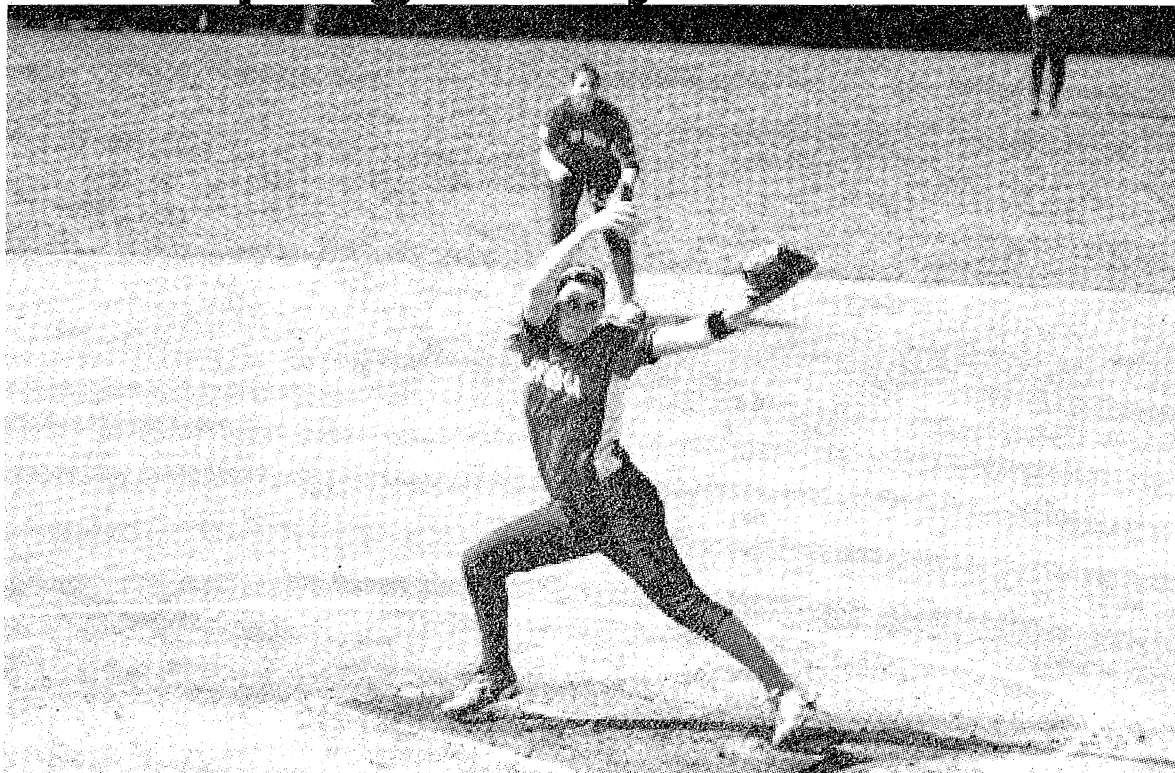
the Pride's roster for the upcoming season and have been uncontested in recruiting local players who wish to stay at home to play Division I football.

Stony Brook competes in the FCS, the second level of Division I. Its Fall 2010 schedule features the school's first ever game against a team in the nation's top tier, the FBS. The Seawolves play the University of South Florida in Tampa on Sept. 4 to open the season.

Date	Day	Time
April 7	Wednesday	5:00 pm
April 9	Friday	5:00 pm
April 10	Saturday	9:00 am
April 12	Monday	5:00 pm
April 14	Wednesday	5:00 pm
April 16	Friday	5:00 pm
April 17	Saturday	2:00 pm
April 19	Monday	5:00 pm
April 21	Wednesday	5:00 pm
April 23	Friday	5:00 pm
April 24	Saturday	2:00 pm
April 26	Monday	5:00 pm
April 28	Wednesday	5:00 pm
April 30	Friday	5:00 pm
May 2**	Sunday	1:30 pm

**May 2 is the Spring Game
All events at LaValle Stadium

Softball Rebounds by Sweeping Lafayette



Kenneth Ho / STATESMAN FILE PHOTO

Stony Brook senior pitcher Alyssa Struzenberg pitched five innings of shutout softball in the first game of a doubleheader with Lafayette. The Seawolves won both games.

BY DORIC SAM
Staff Writer

After dropping three straight games to conference rival Boston University over the weekend, Stony Brook University's softball team bounced back and swept the Lafayette College Leopards in a doubleheader on Tuesday.

The Seawolves were led by sophomore Suzanne Karath (Fishkill, N.Y.), who went 4-for-5 with two RBIs. Stony Brook improved to 15-11 (3-3 America East) with the wins.

Senior Alyssa Struzenberg (Cooper City, Fla.) allowed just one hit in the 8-0 victory in game one. She had to battle early after dealing five walks in the first two innings, but eventually settled down and retired nine straight at one point. Her attempt

at a no-hitter was broken up after Lafayette's Jordan Parsons hit a single with two outs in the fifth inning. Struzenberg pitched five strong innings and finished with six strikeouts.

Senior Crista Cerrone (Floral Park, N.Y.) also chipped in at the plate, going 1-for-2 with two RBIs.

The Seawolves were able to take advantage of two errors by the Leopards to score four runs, three of them unearned, in the first inning. Stony Brook would add three more runs in the second inning on the strength of back-to-back RBI singles from Cerrone and Karath to push the lead to 7-0. Stony Brook's final run came in the third inning off of an RBI single from freshman Taylor Chain (Gloucester, N.J.).

In game two, junior Colleen Matthes (Severn, Md.) allowed just one run

on four hits over seven innings in a complete-game effort. Matthes finished the game with five strikeouts.

Both teams were held scoreless until Stony Brook broke the tie in the third inning. The Seawolves played small-ball after Karath hit a single with one out. Freshman Gina Bianculli (Oakdale, N.Y.) laid down a sacrifice bunt to advance Karath to second base.

After senior Vicki Kavitsky (Cherry Hill, N.J.) was intentionally walked, Karath was able to steal third and scored on a bunt single from junior Brigitte Martin (New York, N.Y.).

The bases were loaded after sophomore Bernadette Tenuto (Audubon, N.J.) was able to reach on an error, and then Chain singled down the left-field line to bring in Kavitsky and Martin and give Stony Brook a 3-0 lead.

The Seawolves added one more run in the sixth inning after an RBI double from Kavitsky scored Bianculli.

Matthes dominated Lafayette throughout the game and had a no-hitter going into the seventh inning. But it wasn't meant to be, as the Leopards were able to load the bases on three straight singles with one out. Lafayette scored its only run on a sacrifice fly from Madeline Allen.

The Seawolves were able to total 12 hits and 12 runs over two games after being held to one run in three games against Boston University over the weekend.

Stony Brook is in fifth place in the seven-team America East Conference after six conference games.

Stony Brook returns to action on Saturday, taking on Hartford in a doubleheader. The first game starts at 12 p.m.

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