

## Feature

### A Conversation with Joanna Fowler

On Oct. 7, Joanna Fowler, a senior chemist and Director of the Radiotracer Chemistry, Instrumentation and Biological Imaging Program at the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory and adjunct faculty member in Stony Brook's Chemistry Department, was awarded the National Medal of Science.

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## Opinion

### Election 2009: A Declaration from Independents

Last week's voter turnout was low both on campus, with 1.6 percent of Stony Brook's registered voters participating in the election, and off-campus. To some extent, voting during a period of national transition is tiresome even for those who follow local politics. We know there are no "quick fixes" regardless of which party is in power.

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## Sports

### Seawolves Win On And Off The Field

Representing Stony Brook University daily through sports forces Seawolves athletes to stay on their toes, whether the whistle is being blown or a midterm is looming. Many find it difficult to balance the stress of being both a student and an athlete, but a few have managed to do it well enough to gain recognition, not only from Stony Brook, but the America East Conference as a whole.

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# Hoping for Religious Understanding

## One Muslim Student Seeks To Dispel Stereotypes

By JENNIFER LONG  
Contributing Writer



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

Maurre Akhi (second from left) with friends before an event held by the Muslim Student Association.

When Maurre Akhi saw the offensive Muslim cartoons from a 2005 Danish newspaper resurrected on Stony Brook University's campus last month, she realized raising awareness about her religion was more important than ever.

Akhi, a 20-year-old Muslim student at Stony Brook University, is just one of the many Muslim Americans who feel their religion is misjudged and misrepresented. Though only 15 percent of Muslims worldwide live in the Middle East, many in the U.S. do not know that Islam is not mainly a Middle Eastern religion. Stony Brook University Professor William Chittick, Ph.D. in Persian History and author of numerous books on Islamic thought, says Iran has aided in the set back of understanding Islam. However, Islamic history has been more peaceful than people think.

Chittick also said that Muslim college students have a unique struggle in being accepted. He said that when people's minds are made up about a religion, there's almost nothing anyone can do to change it. "How do you get rid of ignorance?" Chittick asks.

However, Akhi seeks to dispel false assumptions by holding an educational program about Islam. Even though 10 percent of the Stony Brook student body is Muslim, Akhi believes many of her peers do not understand Islam.

"I want people to discover the truth," Akhi said.

Though much confusion stems from people's lack of education about the religion, Akhi also experienced her own doubts about Islam throughout her life.

When Akhi immigrated to America from Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh, she found daily worship difficult. Bangladesh, the third largest Muslim populated country in the world, offers its inhabitants mosques in every community. In her new home in Jamaica, Queens, there are significantly less outlets for worship.

Because of this change in culture and location, Akhi struggled with understanding her faith.

"I believe I speak for many of the Islamic youth when I say that,

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## Spirit From the Sidelines

By ANTHONY FAMULARI  
Contributing Writer

The quarterback drops back, his eyes darting from one receiver to another, before he hurls the ball into the air. The defenders are caught out of position as a receiver finds himself wide open in the end zone, snagging the football out of the air for a touchdown. But the marching band doesn't erupt into a celebratory anthem after the score, because on this day it is the marching band that scored the touchdown.

"You'll find us out here every Monday and Friday playing," says Chris Creamer, a trumpet player for the Stony Brook University marching band, as he takes

a breather from the band's flag football game. Other band members continue their game on the small stretch of grass just outside the Office of Athletic Bands at the Student Union. "You should see this place in the winter," Creamer says. "All the grass is dead from us running around on it so much."

Inside the office, other members sit and talk in the recreation room known as the "Band Space." Breanne Nugent, 19, used to be a cheerleader before joining the marching band. Is she happy with her decision to swap her cheerleading uniform for a plumed hat? "Oh yea!" says Nugent, whose props went from pom-poms to a bass

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Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

The band performs on the academic mall during the Homecoming kick off.

## Officials Say 1,508 Students Receive Swine Flu Shot

By NICK PAGANO  
Contributing Writer

As swine flu spreads worldwide, Stony Brook students are responding by receiving H1N1 vaccinations, which were given out for free once again in the Traditions Lounge of the SAC on Nov. 5, 6 and 9.

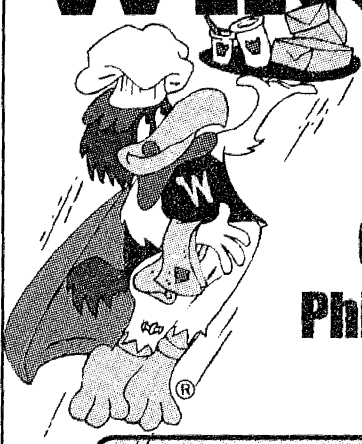
A total of 1,508 students decided to be vaccinated over the three-day period, and Monday's total vaccinations alone were more than half the amount of the vaccinations given in the preceding two distributions.

According to Gary Kaczmarczyk, director of Environmental Health and Safety at Stony Brook, over 2,700 vaccines have been distributed on campus to date at separate points of distribution, or P.O.D.

The New York State Department of Health supplies vaccines and distributes them based on overall demand statewide. However, "Stony Brook is unique in the sense that we

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# The Marching Band: A Spirit From the Sidelines

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drum. "Being a part of the band is great. It's a place where everyone really feels like they belong."

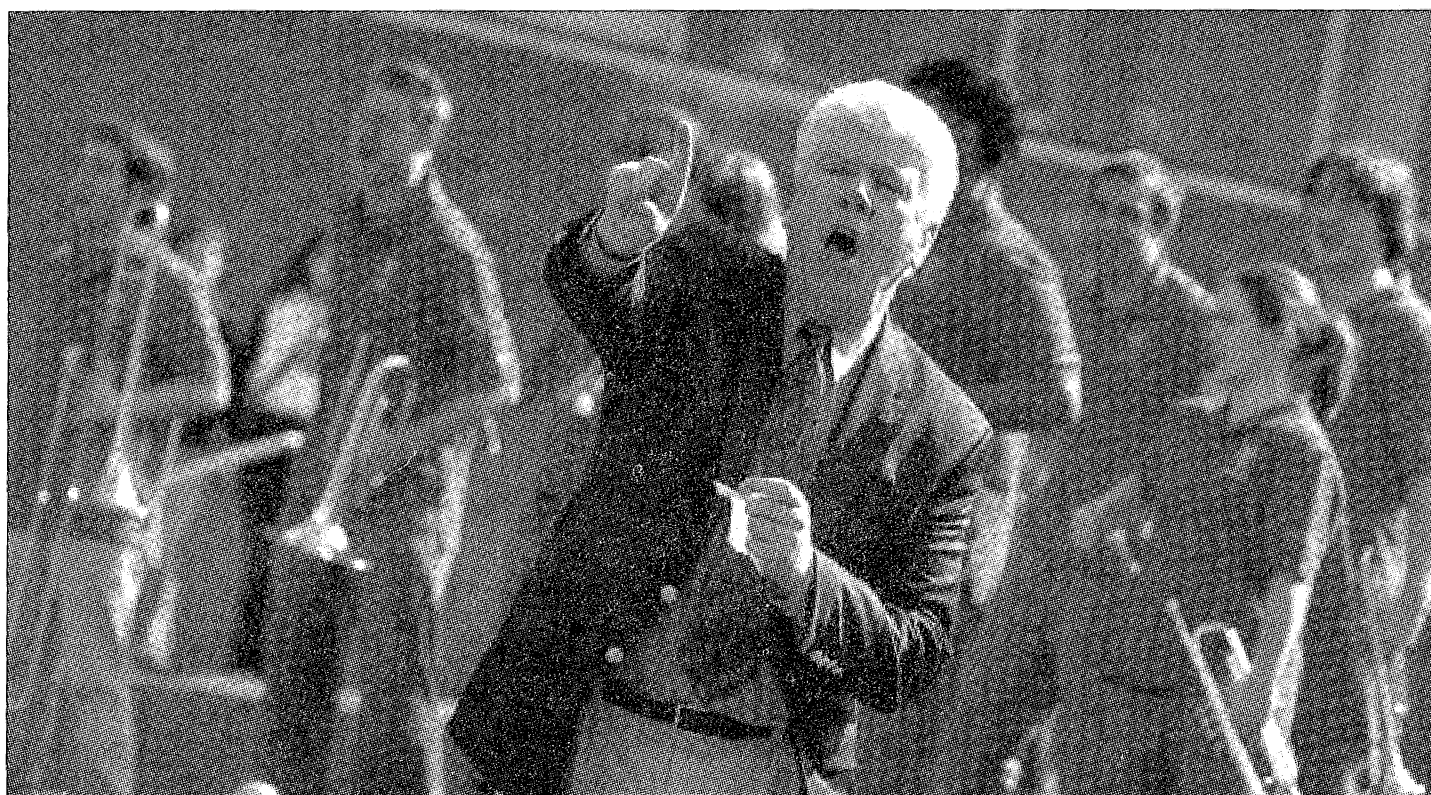
With all Stony Brook sports teams competing in Division I, then president Shirley Strum Kenny decided in 2006 that Stony Brook needed a marching band. Jerrold Stein, the dean of students, chaired a committee to get one started. When it formed in the fall of the same year, the band had only 20 members, now known as "The Original 20."

By its debut performance at freshman convocation the following spring, the band had added another eight members. Today, just three years later, the band is 140 members strong.

From the start, Stein chose John Leddy, who had retired from teaching music in the Connetquot, N.Y. school district after 33 years, to become the band director. Three years later, Leddy is still the director, and it feels nothing like a retirement.

"I originally thought, 'We'll play at a football game, take a week off, and then play again,'" says Leddy. "But now there are so many other events in between." The band performs as the Spirit of Stony Brook marching band for football games in the fall, and as the Seawolves Pep Band for basketball games in the spring. But more and more, Leddy says, the students are asked to play at events that have nothing to do with athletics.

"Last week we played at a lecture given by a guest chemist," Leddy said. "I asked them, 'You want us for cheers and stuff? For this?' And they said, 'Yea, we do.'" The band also plays off campus, such as at the Electric Light Parade



Band Director John Leddy instructs his students during a band performance.

Media Credit: flickr.com/photos/sbconnect

in Setauket, N.Y. on Dec. 13. "Honestly, the 'marching band' aspect is only a small part of what we do," he adds. "Because a lot of the stuff doesn't even involve marching."

As if band weren't enough in demand, sometimes the members take it upon themselves to perform at events not on the official schedule, in the name of school spirit. "One time a bunch of us were hanging out and we saw the lights on at the stadium," says Creamer. "We saw that there was a woman's soccer game, so we headed over to cheer them on. And two of us brought trumpets."

The band's enthusiasm is rubbing off. After the Seawolves won last year's homecoming game

in dramatic fashion, with the band blaring victoriously, the fans rushed the field. "That was awesome," Creamer recalls. This year, with the band again blaring, the football team won its two home games – and the fans rushed the field both times.

"They get the crowd going and definitely make it tough on the opposing team," says Dayne Hoffman, quarterback for the Seawolves football team. Hoffman, who threw the game-winning touchdown in the waning seconds of last year's homecoming game, says that the band is an integral part of the game-day experience. "Hearing the band and the crowd after every score and big play," he says. "As a player, it's huge."

An assistant drum major, Geoffrey Bansen, one of the "Original 20," helps conduct the band at every performance. Bansen says that joining the band was "one of the best decisions I've ever made, because of what it has become." But it was a decision Bansen very nearly didn't make.

"I got a call from a friend asking me to join, but I had braces at the time and hadn't played trumpet in a while," Bansen says, explaining how the hardware in his mouth impaired his ability to play. "I really didn't want to do it. I was a freshman. I was worried about lots of work. But I thought 'I'll just go and I could always quit.'" But Bansen didn't quit and he says he takes

pride in the band's ability to whip up excitement and energy.

"The campus feeds off it," he says. "The band is a big reason why people come to games. The basketball games used to have just a few people going, now there are tons. The school has become a lot more spirited."

Whether the band is playing off campus, performing at a ceremony or lecture, or leading thousands of excited fans in cheering for the home team, the band has cemented itself as a prominent and popular fixture at Stony Brook University.

"Being in the band is like the thing to do now," Bansen says. "It's pretty sweet to be a part of that."



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

Shefife Simnica, a psychology major, gets the injectable version of the H1N1 vaccine on Nov. 5.

## Officials Say 1,508 Students Received the H1N1 Vaccine

Continued from page 3

got our vaccines earlier than others," said Larry Zaccarese, assistant chief of police and director of Emergency Management.

Allegra Waters, a marine vertebrate biology major, decided to get vaccinated because of her awareness of the virus' increasing impact. Her roommate's mom, a hospital nurse, recommended that she get the vaccine.

The New York State Department of Health notes, on their website, that indeed the number of hospitalizations for influenza-like-illness "appears to be increasing [statewide]."

Joe Cancellieri, a humanities major, was pleasantly surprised by how fast the entire process really was, he noticed that it only took about five minutes from the time he filled out his preliminary form until he was on his way.

After many students quickly exited the vaccination stations, lollipops cheered their spirits. Students also walked away with a Flu Prevention Kit filled with a complementary thermometer, tissues, hand sanitizer, and a fact card with information on how to recognize flu symptoms courtesy of student volunteers in the ILLI Task Force from the Center for Prevention and Outreach.

Shefife Simnica, a psychology major, reasoned closer to home before she decided to be vaccinated when she said, "I know someone on campus who had it, and I was like, 'oh my god I don't want to get it. It's better safe than sorry I guess.'"

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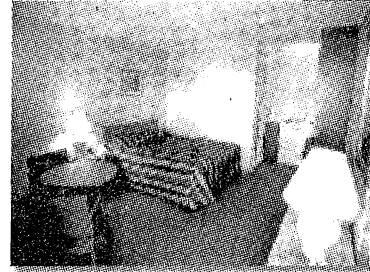
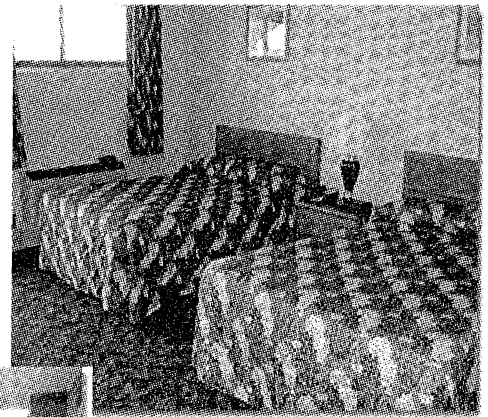
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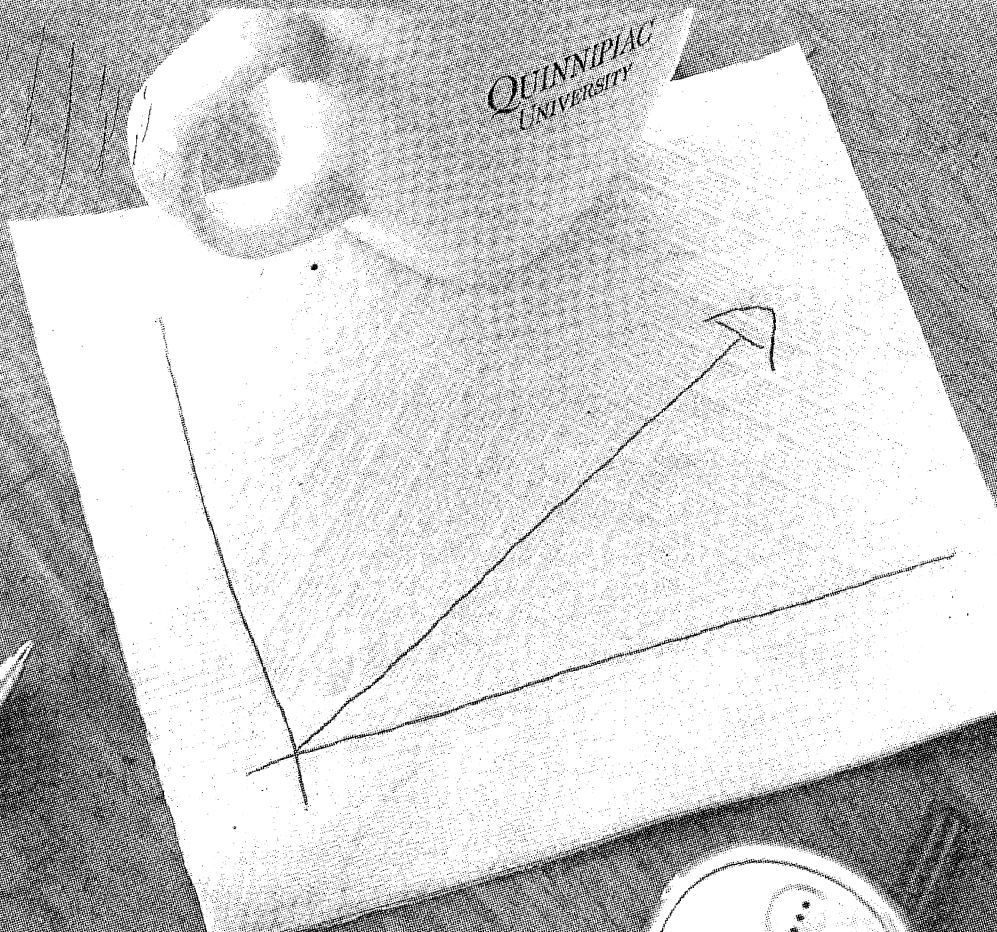
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# Parents Gather On Campus For Family Day

By ALEXA GORMAN  
Contributing Writer

It is uncommon for students to go to class with their parents, but on Oct. 24, many did at Stony Brook University. Parents and families of students flocked to campus for the annual Parent/Family Day.

The newly inaugurated President, Samuel L. Stanley, welcomed students and their guests promptly at 11 a.m. After the greeting, students and their families proceeded to activities of their choice for the remainder of the afternoon.

The itinerary included tours of the university's Newsroom of the Future, bus tours of Port Jefferson and Stony Brook Village, and faculty lectures. These events led up to the tailgate barbecue and football game against Coastal Carolina.

At one lecture, given by School of Journalism Dean Howard Schneider, on how to be a conscientious news consumer, President

Stanley introduced the lecture and speaker by sharing his view on training journalists today. "It is more important than ever to bring rigor to this process," Stanley said. He presented the news literacy course as something that can "train both journalists and news consumers."

After the educational portion of Parent/Family Day came the fun. A tailgate party for the day's participants was moved into the Sports Complex due to the weather, but by no means did it discourage hungry families. The basketball court was decorated top to bottom in red and white, with tables upon tables of food and Stony Brook paraphernalia.

The Stony Brook Marching Band pumped up the crowd with an energetic pre-game show. Unfortunately for the Seawolves, the game itself had less than an average amount of attendees, because of the rain and bitter cold.



Aleef Rahman / SB Statesman

At Parent/Family Day some younger siblings say hello to Wolfie the school mascot.

## Hoping for Understanding One Muslim Student Seeks to Dispel Religious Stereotypes

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when you're young, you're trying to find your place in your religion," Akhi said. "It's hard being a teen and having to deal with the restriction religion puts on you."

Throughout junior high and high school, Akhi struggled with wearing a hijab: the traditional head covering Muslim women use to hide their hair. Akhi was not alone in her struggle. While many Muslims believe the hijab empowers women to be "soldiers of God," others feel it serves as a form of oppression.

The turmoil Akhi experienced in trying to discover her religion, and her role in it, intensified as many people wearing traditional Muslim dress became targets of violent and slanderous attacks in the aftermath of September 11, 2001.

Akhi experienced this when she boarded the school bus in seventh grade and a peer questioned her, "are you the daughter of Osama Bin Laden?" Years later in high school, Akhi still received offensive remarks while she collected donations on Wall Street for Dialogue Direct, a non-profit organization that raises money for children in underprivileged countries. She often got the response, "we don't know where the money is going. How do we know you're not a terrorist?"

Despite her uncertainties, Akhi began to embrace the traditional Muslim dress when she came to Stony Brook University.

Friend and floor mate from Akhi's freshman year, Shireen Jayman, a 20-year-old junior at Stony Brook University and staff writer for The Statesman, said that wearing the hijab affirmed Akhi's belief in

Islam. When she saw women empowered by their cultural Muslim dress, Akhi better understood why it's an important part of her religion.

"To wear your religion outwardly is a sign of determination and conviction" Akhi said. "I looked at these women and saw why they wore them. When I saw them, I understood myself more."

Akhi continued to learn more about Islam when she joined the Muslim Student Association (MSA) at Stony Brook University. An organization that prides itself in being open-minded and tolerant of people of any faith, the MSA facilitates a means for Muslim students at Stony Brook to come together in worship.

"We're like the Olive Garden," said President of MSA, Omar Shareef. "We treat students here like they're family."

Unfortunately, the flyers that filtered around campus last week were not the first opposition Akhi has seen the Muslim community face at Stony Brook University. Last year MSA came under attack during a lecture by guest speaker Robert Spencer.

The author of books on Islam and Islamic terrorist based activities, Spencer spoke to an audience of students and faculty about his interpretation of Islam. Spencer explained the Prophet Muhammad's encouragement of the destruction of the Western world and its values. Spencer insisted that Islam is a violence based religion, and he shared his belief that MSAs across the nation contribute to terrorist activity abroad, according to Shareef who attended the lecture.

This one-sided interpretation of Islam reiterates the long road to acceptance of Muslims in the U.S. The MSA at Stony

Brook is continuing to educate students about Islam, and combat false assumptions about Muslims.

"We are building the bridge of clarity by being who we are," said the Chaplin of MSA, Sanaa Nadin, in a meeting with the organization.

Though the MSA does their best to spread knowledge about Islam, it is not enough. Shareef estimates that only a dozen of the 250 MSA members are non-Muslim.

On a more personal level however, Akhi first experienced misunderstanding at Stony Brook when she tried to help her freshmen roommates understand Muslim customs completely foreign to them.

One of Akhi's freshman roommates, Brittany Sestokas, 20, grew up in a small town outside of Worcester, MA. Sestokas, now a junior at Stony Brook, described the community she grew up in as "predominantly white and not very diverse." The cultural diversity at Stony Brook was not something Sestokas was used to, and living with a Muslim was not something she thought she would have to deal with.

"When I came to college, I guess I had the idea of what the typical college experience should be like: loving school, loving the experience and getting away from home," Sestokas said.

Akhi explained everything about her religion and practices when she met both of her roommates in September of 2007. However, living together proved challenging, as Akhi lead a very different lifestyle than the other two girls.

"From what Maurre told us, she had a lot of restrictions because of her religion," Sestokas said. "I sometimes felt like those restrictions affected me, because I lived with her."

Sestokas remembered feeling uncomfortable when she came into the room while Akhi was praying. She also described the struggle she and her other roommate experienced when Akhi did not want males in the room. Sestokas wanted to re-

spect Akhi and her religion. However, that meant she could not have certain friends in the room.

Akhi recognized the difficulty her roommates experienced while living with a Muslim. She knows they are not alone. Akhi saw the need for an educational program about Islam within the residence halls and she plans to hold one in James College later in the fall 2009 semester.

"People get confused because culture is what they see," Akhi said. "People focus on the negative, and in order to know the truth, people have to search out the knowledge."

Though the program may have good intentions, it will only be effective if residents choose to attend.

Jenifer Lin, 19, a sophomore at Stony Brook, lives in the room to the left of Akhi. Lin says she does not know much about Islam and doesn't make any assumptions about the religion. She says she doesn't really care to know more about Islam because it doesn't really affect her.

"For me, I have other priorities," Lin said.

Sarah Rooney, 19, a Muslim student in her third year at Stony Brook, also lives on Akhi's floor. She agreed that there are misconceptions about Muslims ranging from their diet to their dress. However, Rooney said she was pessimistic about the idea, believing people would not be interested enough to attend the program.

Akhi hopes to target freshman with her educational program. She believes that when you come to college, you begin to transform into the person you are going to be for the rest of your life. Because Stony Brook has such a diverse student body, Akhi hopes that her educational program will help students embrace each other's cultures and religions.

"For as culturally diverse as Stony Brook is, I feel people do not know much about Islam," Akhi said. "I hope I can help."

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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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# To 'Vitaminate' or Vaccinate?

By **JOSEPH LABRIOLA**  
*Columnist*

The question weighing on many minds this fall has been whether or not to get the vaccination for the H1N1 virus or the "swine flu". With fatalities occurring even in the United States, frightened families are rushing to receive whatever treatment they think, or have been told to think, will prevent them and their loved ones from falling ill and possibly dying.

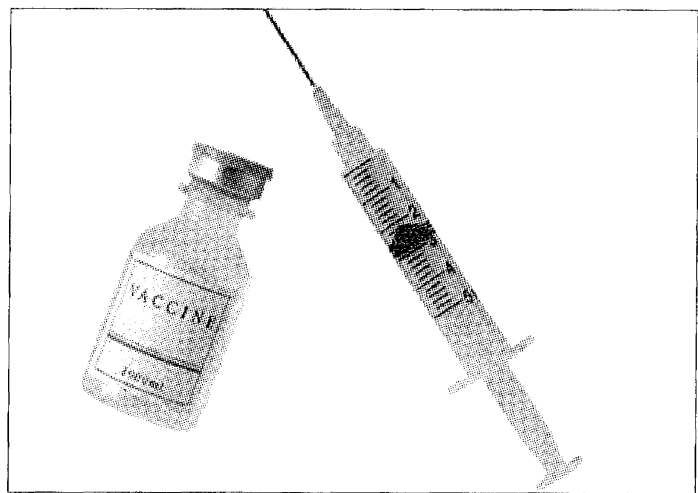
But what is the advantage of getting another flu shot? Recent flu seasons have seen a public backlash from many regarding the safety of such vaccines. While there is the very real worry that a flu shot can backfire, causing elderly or people previously exposed to the flu to become sick, parents in particular fear that the mysterious chemicals included in vaccines can trigger other debilitating ailments such as autism.

Such concern has become an increasingly hot issue, with worried parents demanding to know what their doctors are injecting into their children, for example. After all, the exponential increase in the amount of kids with autism over the years has proven to be a startling and unaccountable trend, but is this a reason to start indiscriminately rejecting all vaccines?

Maybe and maybe not, although at the risk of sounding like an old man yelling at kids to get off his lawn, the fact that children today are inoculated against chicken pox does seem like a bit much. While vaccines have undoubtedly saved countless lives, there is (and should be) concern for putting any unnatural chemicals into your body.

Doctors are certainly pro-vaccine, but then again, doctors are often quick to prescribe anything that drug companies concoct, while the government claims that the swine flu vaccine is both safe and effective. However, when has the government ever lied or misled its people, whether or not on purpose?

While certain groups should surely seek out the swine flu vaccine, it is almost ridiculous for others, and by others, I mean you, the college students reading this article. I will not be getting the swine flu vaccine because I find it utterly unnecessary. Regardless of the side effects, chemicals, and padding the profits of whoever's mass-producing the vaccine, there seems to be little reason for such a shot. I have never gotten a flu shot and have no plans to in the near future. This is not based on some self-loathing will to die, but rather a desire to live an overall healthier life and seek out disease prevention through other paths.

Media credit: [www.wikimedia.com](http://www.wikimedia.com)Media credit: [www.lilsugar.com](http://www.lilsugar.com)

There is increasing evidence for example that vitamin D in particular can be an effective way at not only preventing the seasonal flu, but other diseases as well. In fact, what most Americans do not know or realize, is that most Americans are vitamin D deficient. While some know that you can get vitamin D from the sun, some also do not realize that especially during the winter months in many parts of this country, that people do not produce enough of the vitamin for their bodies to properly function.

You might say, "Yeah? So what? A flu shot is both quicker and effective," but that would also be denying the other benefits that correlate with correct levels of vitamin D in your system. Besides for increased immunity against all flues and infectious diseases, new studies are increasingly showing the variety of health benefits from vitamin D, including: bone health, cardiovascular health including heart disease prevention, diabetes prevention, depression prevention; and reducing the risk for various cancers, including: colorectal, breast, and prostate.

So why do not doctors recommend vitamins in lieu of flu shots? That is a good question that everyone should ask his or her doctor. Maybe it is too simple of

an answer with not enough of the right people are making enough money off of vitamin supplements. Needless to say, increasing your vitamin D intake and overall health is as easy as going to the store, buying a bottle (make sure it is labeled as "vitamin D3"), and taking at least two thousand IU (International Units) daily. While you are at it, try eating healthier and exercising more and you might find you feel much better than if you had just gotten the flu shot. Especially if you have a family history of certain diseases and or cancers, it seems almost foolish that you would not take a natural vitamin that your body needs and can help prevent such illnesses.

Everyone has to find their own path and for me that is making sure I have the right vitamin levels in my system, eating healthier, and taking care of my body so that the flu is not an issue. Perhaps an ironic twist of fate will prove me wrong and I will be one of the students to fall to the flu, but I have not yet and am feeling pretty good about my chances for making it through the rest of the season. For me all it takes is two pills a day, for you maybe it is the swine flu shot, but for everyone, it should be about knowing your options and doing what you know is best for you.

## From the Editor: Introducing "SBstance"

**Hello Statesman Readers,**

Thanks for picking this issue up. I'm writing to announce a new concept for a column in this section based on NPR's "This I Believe" and the New York Times' "One in Eight Million" series. This periodic feature will offer us a brief statement of your perspectives--the ideas that guide the way you interact with people or dictate how you see yourself--in an informal, narrative style of 400 words or less. Check [thisibelieve.org](http://thisibelieve.org) for sample articles, and send your contributions or any questions to me at [op-ed@sbstatesman.com](mailto:op-ed@sbstatesman.com).

## Guidelines for Opinion Submission



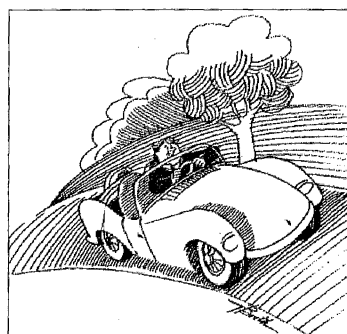
Letters to the editor or op-ed contributions can be submitted by e-mail at [Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org](mailto:Op-Ed@sbstatesman.org), on our online submission tool at [www.sbstatesman.org](http://www.sbstatesman.org), by hand at our office in the Student Union Rm 057, or by mailing it to us at the address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

# SBstance: Better Sorry Than Safe...

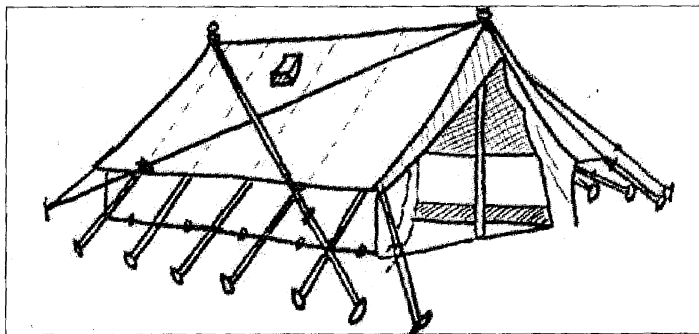
By NICHOLAS H. CHAKIRYAN  
Contributing Writer

I believe in being spontaneous. If I have an intriguing idea, I'll do it. If you have an intriguing idea, count me in too. Living this way has brought me plenty of delight, occasional misery, but never regret.

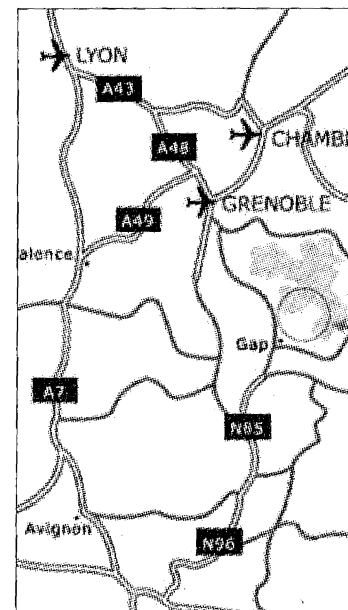
When I was in fourth grade I wanted to cut down a tree with an axe. So after school I did, for three hours, in my own backyard. My parents came home from work to see a young thirty foot



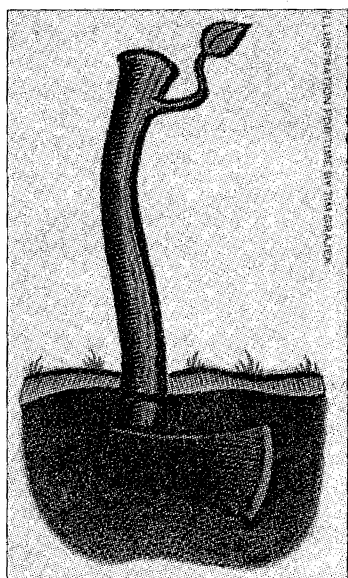
Source: boothartworks.com



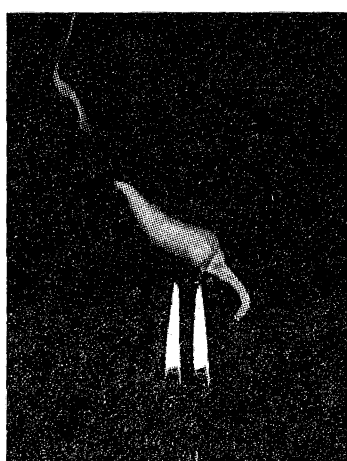
Source: scouts.ie



Source: undiscoveredalps.com



Source: www.galileo.spacesp.com



Source: apartmenttherapy.com

elm lying defeated in the grass as if it had been shot. Unfortunately, my father dismissed the famous "I guess it just fell on its own" defense almost immediately. I was grounded for a month. But that day I learned not only how to cut down a tree, but,

more importantly, that I could.

I have countless spontaneous learning experiences under my belt. I once ate an entire habanero pepper offered to me directly out of the apron of a Subway Sandwich employee. The pepper was unimaginably spicy. The stout and heavily-moustached sandwich craftsman belted with laughter as I choked on the horrible pepper. My lips were numb until the next morning. But now I am probably one of the few people who can tell you what a habanero tastes like.

Last summer as a party was winding down at around two in the morning, some friends and I had come up with the idea to go camping. Undeterred by silly nuances like "plans" or "experience" or "tent ownership" we decided that the following morning

would be our time of departure. So we left immediately when we awoke to buy the tent, then drove to Vermont directly from the tent store just hours after the plan was conceived. The trip was a success. We ended up spending four days and three nights together enjoying the wilderness. We had the time of our lives.

And the list goes on. I once bought 15 lobster tails for 20 dollars out of a mini-van parked on the side of Route 110. I've gone hunting with a friend's air rifle, 15 pellets, and no experience. Last winter I drove a friend from Atlanta to Cincinnati so he could try to get back together with a girlfriend who dumped him. In college I traveled two hours from Hartford to Rhode Island just to eat lunch at the nearest Chipotle.

Now I'm not saying that the

lobster tails didn't give me food poisoning, or that I didn't nearly cry when I actually killed a bird while hunting. I would be lying to you if I told you that my friend got back together with his ex in Cincinnati, or that the Chipotle wasn't already closed when we got there after the long drive. These seemingly unsuccessful ventures reinforce the same lesson as the successful ones: The journey is the reward. My spontaneity has made these journeys possible.

During combat, soldiers develop what is known as "The Thousand-yard Stare," a bleak, expressionless, battle-weary gaze. As fall semester slogs on, the drained features on the faces of most students on campus are undergoing a similar transformation.

Hunched in rows over sinks and stricken with some type of post-mid-term myopic stress disorder, students splash cold water onto their faces and stare at themselves in the mirror, as if they are scouting out some distant horizon in search of a well stocked vending machine.

From a coiled up position on some ratty

chair in the commuter lounge, it's unnerving the way they sometimes look up at you; their eyes as dull and gray as poorly erased bubbles on a scan-tron sheet. Bits of cartilage are forming over the ear-buds perennially dangling down from beneath their hoods. Their backs are deformed from lugging book bags, and their thumbs are hooked and frozen at 45 degree angles from texting. The letters, O, M and G have long vanished from their phones, the buttons rubbed down to unrecognizable nubs ages ago.

At night, countless, unfinished word

documents left open on unattended laptops fill each dorm room with that sickening blue glow. By morning, the blinking cursors have still not moved. Outside, several zombies in mirrored sunglasses are filling up on Aderall and cigarette smoke for breakfast. In the cafeteria, some guy with wet hair wearing a \$100 Ed Hardy t-shirt is fishing nickels out of a Ziploc bag to pay for his bagel and tea. He swaggers out of sight, unshaven, with no books, jingling in his skinny jeans.

They are the afflicted. And here's what they had to say in this week's savory sound bites...

## Drugstore Cowboy

Girl: (Crouching, with her hand extended, palm open) "Can I please have a Percocet?"

Guy: "I don't have any, but I do have a bottle of Bacardi. (To a second girl) You know, I did so many of those one night, I couldn't feel a thing, I couldn't even cry. And, LIKE, I had all of these people hugging me, (Reminder: This is a guy) and like they're hugging me and I couldn't even cry, and I'm LIKE, WTF?"

—One guy and two girls outside of the bathrooms by the Seawolf Marketplace.

## Wonks

1st Guy: "Yeah, it was a group of Russian advisors that came during the teens, and then the Germans came over in the 20's"

2nd Guy: "I didn't even know the Germans came..."

1st Guy: "Uh...yeah, the Germans came over in 1924, and the other one I missed was the invasion of Manchuria."

—Two guys after class in the Humanities building.

## Upwardly Mobile

Guy: "I mean, c'mon and F---ING retire already. I feel like saying to him, 'You're done, don't you know that it's time?' C'mon...."

—Two faculty members on a bench by the fountain politely discussing career opportunities.

## Don't Ask

Girl: "Did you do the pickle test yet?"

Guy: "Uh...?"

Girl: "I didn't even LIKE, start it yet...I'm putting it off until this weekend. I got this new job, and it's LIKE, really hard, and I'm not LIKE making excuses but...."

—A guy listening to a girl wearing roller skates on the Zebra Path

## Mixing Metaphors

Guy: "Show them your glittens."

Girl: "They're not glittens—they're glommitts!"

2nd Guy: "What are glittens?"

Girl: "NOT GLITTENS-GLOMMITS-gloves, mittens-get it?"

—Two guys and a girl by the Chemistry building.

OVERHEARD  
ON CAMPUS

# Jason Mraz Presents: "Beautiful Mess - Live On Earth"

BY DENISE DEGENNARO  
Staff Writer

Jason Mraz's newest release "Beautiful Mess-Live on Earth," a CD/DVD combo, finally arrived at my house today after I pre-ordered it Sept. 27. The DVD features one a set from one of his shows from his Gratitude Café Tour, this past summer.

According to Jason, he needed a "quality recording" of a show for his Grandma. Well, he isn't only making his Grandma happy by releasing this. When I heard Mraz would be releasing a DVD of his live show, I was ecstatic—he puts on an amazing live show and I looked forward to being able to relive it.

The cool thing about "Beautiful Mess-Live on Earth" is that the CD and DVD include the same songs, so you can experience it visually, or just listen to it in the car. Another exciting detail about the double disc feature is that it includes some of Mraz's songs that he performs, but haven't been released officially, like his cover of Lionel Richie's "All Night Long," one of my favorites. Plus, in the DVD, you get to see Mraz groove along and bust out some dance moves.

The concert filmed took place in Chicago, Ill. The opening sequence shows shots of Mraz, the stage, the crowd and the Chicago skyline. What I love about Mraz's live show is that his band includes all of the usual instruments, but also includes a brass section—Mraz refers to them as his "Superband"—that occasionally breaks out into coordinated dance steps.

The brass section is also featured in an amazing on-stage jam session, something you don't normally get to see or hear with a regular studio album. Cobie Callait makes a guest appearance on the duet "Lucky," and host Bushwalla performs his "Fall Through Glass" with Mraz. Bush-

walla was Mraz's college roommate and is also a musician.

Mraz's tour largely celebrates love, giving and, well, as the name suggests, Gratitude. This is reflected in many of Mraz's songs, such as "Live High," "Sunshine Song" and "Anything You Want." Some of Mraz's songs have a sort of reggae-vibe, something relatively new for the artist. Mraz reworks "Only Human" and "The Remedy" for the live show, both taking on the aforementioned reggae vibe.

However, not all of the songs are love and sunshine—"A Beautiful Mess," one of the more somber tracks, confronts a relationship that is going through a more turbulent phase while "Butterfly" is all about the sexual, physical part of a relationship, filled with metaphors and symbols --butterfly is representative of... well...I'll let you figure it out. Mraz's lyrics read like poetry, and make for powerful, interesting songs.

One of the things that I really enjoy about Mraz's live show is that you aren't getting what you get on his album. He infuses the tracks with new sounds, changes up the tempo, or even does mash-ups of some songs. I prefer this to just getting a repeat of the album, as some songs sound completely new.

Another cool thing about the DVD is that it is long, pretty much a full set, so you're really getting to experience what it's like to be at one of Mraz's concerts, bare feet and all (Mraz performs bare-foot).

One criticism I have about the DVD part of "Beautiful Mess-Live on Earth" is that it all takes place in one venue. The reason this is a problem is because the "Live on Earth" part is sort of misleading—I was expecting to see Mraz all over the world—as he does tour not only North America, but also South America, Asia and Europe. I think it would have



www.musicworld.com

Jason Mraz's "Beautiful Mess-Live On Earth" hit stores on Nov. 10.

been more interesting to see him in all of these different venues. I can see Mraz at Jones Beach here on Long Island, which is similar to seeing him in a comparable venue in Chicago.

However, I doubt I'll have the chance to see him in Japan, which is something he could have done with the DVD. I think it would have made for a more interesting DVD if it showed the venues all over the world that he performs in. That being said, I did enjoy the DVD. It's a cheap way to see Mraz's live performances, but there really is nothing like being there. It's fun to watch him interact with the audience,

but it's even more fun to actually be physically present at the show.

Another feature of the DVD is the behind the scenes footage. "Un Beau Desordre" features an interview with Mraz and Bushwalla and some clips of the pair actually working with the crew backstage, sometimes joking around, sometimes actually making decisions. This is especially interesting to see because it isn't something you'd get to experience, unless you were part of his crew. It shows how invested Mraz is in every aspect of his show, all the way down to the layout of the merchandise booth.

Another segment, "We Sing, We Dance, We Make Videos" is a sort of conversation between Mraz and his video director Darren Done, detailing his experience making videos and inspiration behind his videos, like the video for "I'm Yours."

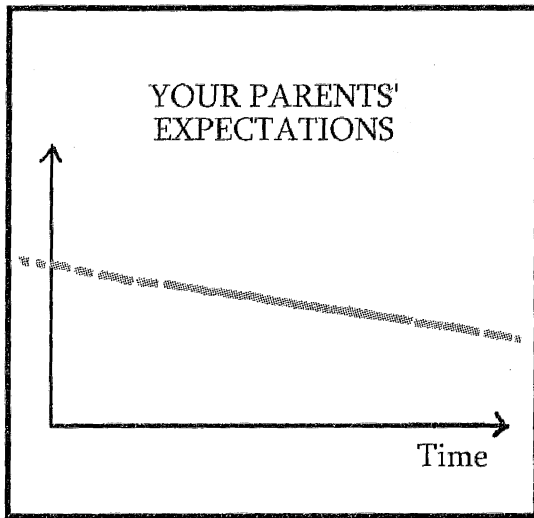
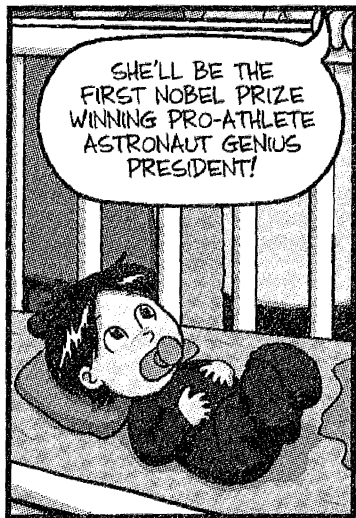
I think some people often dismiss Mraz as the guy that sings that "I'm Yours" song. Though that may be what he is best known for, he has tons of other great songs, most better and more interesting musically than "I'm Yours."

Additionally, Mraz is amazing live, and his live albums are fun to listen to, as you get that variation from his regular studio albums. If you haven't heard or seen Mraz live, definitely give it a shot. What makes him a standout artist is the unique little things he infuses into live shows—scatting, opera (yes, that kind of opera), changing up songs, the brass section, his awesome percussionist Toca Rivera, to name a few.

One way to experience these things is by checking out "Beautiful Mess-Live on Earth."

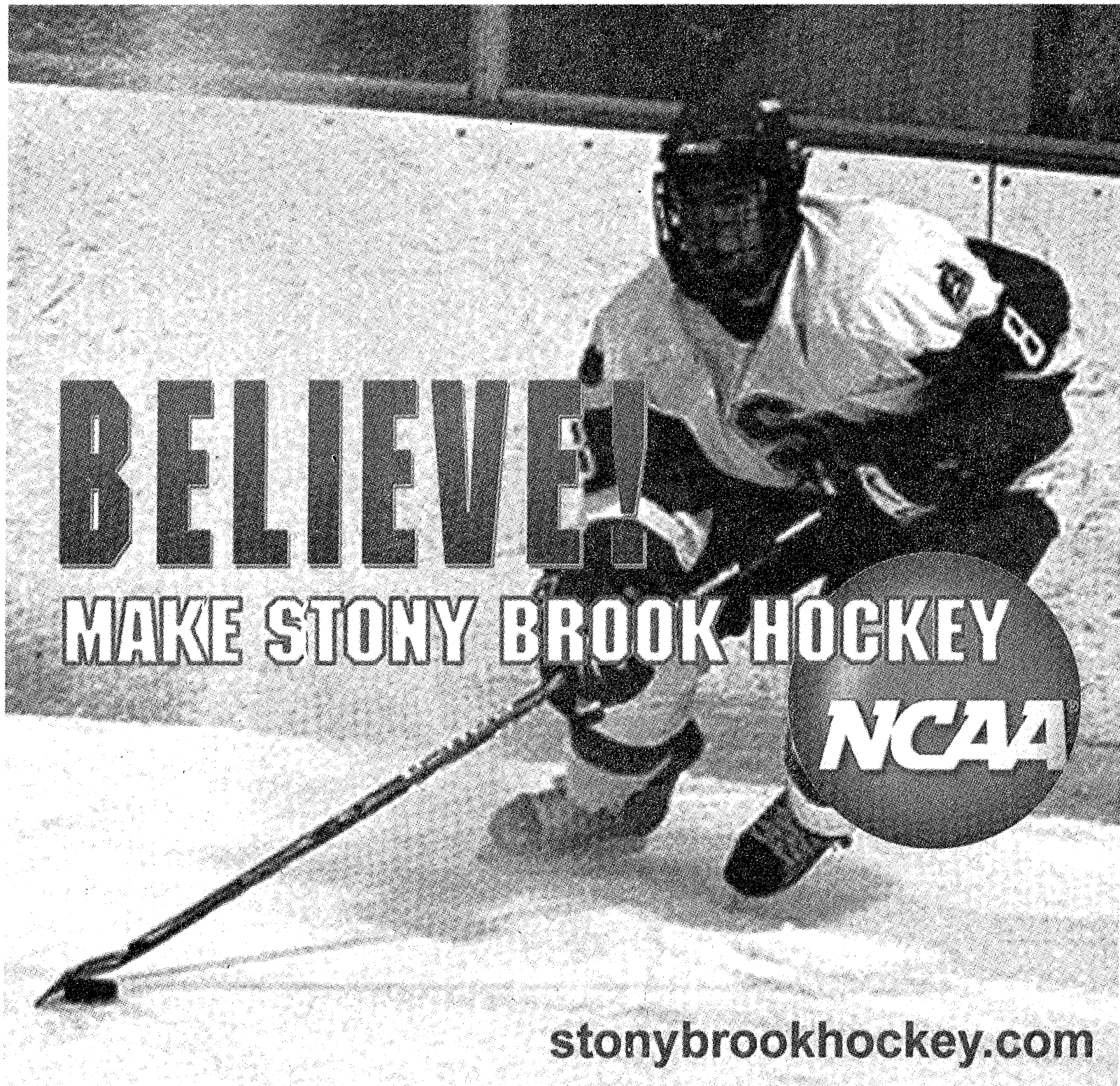
## Comics

### PHD COMICS BY JORGE CHAM



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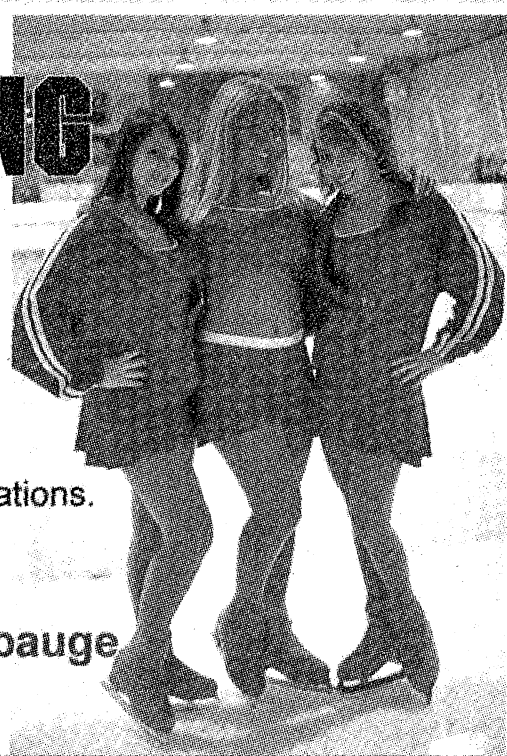
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**SEASON HOME OPENER IS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup> AT 8PM VS. VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY WILDCATS AT THE RINX IN HAUPPAUGE**

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hofstra.edu/motivated

# Women's Hoops To Host Princeton

BY DAVID O'CONNOR  
Contributing Writer

In its first step to erase memories of last season's lackluster 6-23 record, the Stony Brook University women's basketball team hosts the Princeton Tigers on Friday in its season opener. The months of preseason practices have all led up to this, and Head Coach Michele Cherry used only one word to describe the feeling of going into the first game: "finally."

"We finally get to put what we've been working on on display," said Cherry. "We want to get as many people to come as we can. We're encouraging everybody to come out."

The Seawolves will need the home

crowd's support, as they take on a Princeton team that routed them last season in New Jersey. The Tigers put Stony Brook on the wrong end of an 88-41 final score, and added another tough loss to the Seawolves' record. This year, Princeton returns 3 starters and 8 letterwinners in its visit to Pritchard Gymnasium, the first game of its season as well.

However, last year's loss will have no influence on this year's outcome, according to Cherry. "Last year had nothing to do with this year," she said, "To me, a loss is a loss. Take them as they come."

They came at a steady pace last year, as the Seawolves struggled early on, getting their first victory 8 games into the season. But the youth and potential on the Sea-

wolves roster can be catalysts to a successful season. The team returns four starters and seven players in total from last year's team. With the core intact, Stony Brook is expecting contributions from each of the five new faces on the team, the freshmen going into their first official collegiate game.

The Seawolves will try to use their quickness to their advantage, in hopes of avenging last year's loss. "We want to play an up-tempo style," said Cherry, "For that, we have to play pressure defense. We have to mix things up and score quickly."

If the Seawolves execute the game plan, they could already be better than last year's team by coming out with a win in the season opener. Tip off is slated for 7:00 p.m. on Friday.



Aleef Rahman / SB Statesman

Seniors Joia Daniels (left) and Crystal Rushin of the Seawolves women's basketball team.

## Seawolves Head to Maryland For Season Opener

BY DORIC SAM  
Contributing Writer

Stony Brook's men's basketball team will travel south on Friday to face University of Maryland Eastern Shore in the first game of the season. This will be the second straight year the teams face each other in the season opener, as the Seawolves defeated the Hawks 60-44 in last seasons kickoff.

The Seawolves are returning four of their starters from last year, including sophomore Tommy Brenton, who had a dominating performance in last year's game against UMES. Brenton recorded eight points and a school-record 16 rebounds in his collegiate debut, earning himself national honors as he was named America East Rookie of the Week.

UMES adds nine newcomers to a team that went 7-23 last year. Senior Neal Pitt returns after averaging 16.0 points and 8.1

rebounds per game. Pitt was also a 2009 All-MEAC second team selection.

Head Coach Steve Pikiell said the first game of the season is always the hardest to prepare for, especially when the opponent adds nine new players.

"They're a whole new team, with their best player returning from last year with nine newcomers, so I don't know what their strengths or weaknesses are," he said. "So I've just been focused on us doing what we need to do to be a good basketball team."

Despite adding four freshmen to the squad, Pikiell said he will be relying on the experienced returners to come out with a victory.

"The veterans will log most of the minutes," he said. "Depending on the situation, the freshmen may see some playing time, but for the most part, we're going to use a veteran lineup."

Stony Brook starts the season with eight out its first 11 games on the road. Pikiell said he hopes this year's team can replicate last year's squad that won nine games away from home.

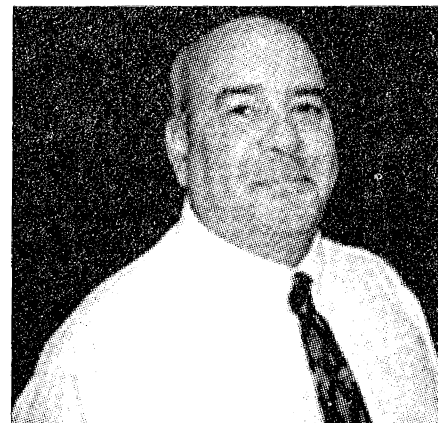
"This year's team is more experienced, we were young as can be last year," he said. "Last year's team was tough on the road, so I hope we have that same quality this year."

Because of the lack of home games, Pikiell stressed the need for fan support.

"One thing we built last year was an advantage of having students come out to games and making it a loud place to play," he said. "So we need a home-court advantage, we need students to come out and make it difficult for the other team. Those little things are actually big things, and they make a big difference."

The Seawolves' first home game will be November 16 against Mount Saint Mary.

## Extra Points: Remembering Bill Misa



Media credit: stonybrookhockey.com

Bill Misa

BY SAM KILB  
Staff Writer

Bill Misa, beloved hockey coach and color commentator for Seawolves Hockey Live, which broadcasts home Stony Brook hockey games, passed away last week of a heart attack in his sleep. He was 51.

The games Bill covered are broadcast live at StonyBrookHockey.com. For two games this fall, I was Bill's play-by-play partner while he did the color commentary. Though I knew and worked with him for only about a month, it felt like much longer. A nicer man could not be found.

Bill got hooked on hockey on his 8th birthday, when his parents took him to a Long Island Ducks game at the old Long Island Arena in Commack. He has been involved in hockey since then, organizing and coaching youth, junior and high school hockey and spending a year as the Stony Brook assistant coach. The deep understanding of the game that he brought to the booth as a color man was incredibly valuable to the broadcasts and to my experiences on the air.

On the day I met Bill, I was supposed to have my picture taken to be posted online with the rest of the Seawolves Hockey Live staff. I was unprepared and hadn't brought my shirt and tie. Without hesitation, Bill took the shirt off his own back and lent it to me for the picture. I was standing in a room full of people in shirts and ties, and Bill was the only one who volunteered. The moment was characteristic of Bill and his interactions with everyone he met.

My friends and family who had watched the broadcasts online would tell me that they had been watching to support me. But invariably, the first words out of their mouths were about Bill, and how funny and all-around awesome he seemed.

And he was. His knowledge and love of hockey was readily apparent on the air. And his jokes—he had the funniest brand of subtle humor—never failed to keep me choking back laughter in an effort to remain professional on the air.

I remember joking with Bill on-air during a game about how he could still lace it up and skate with the college kids. Well I don't care what they say Bill, I still think you could. And I know that somewhere right now, you're taking the ice with the greats. You will be missed.

# STATESMAN SPORTS



Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

Besides Rogic's heroics, hustle plays like the one from midfielder Greg Tinari (above) helped Stony Brook pick up the postseason win.

By **SAM KILB**  
Staff Writer

Redshirt freshman Anthony Rogic stood poised on the goal line. His eyes, along with every other set in the stadium, were focused on the ball placed 12 yards ahead of him.

The formula was simple. If the Hartford shooter scored, the shootout would continue. If Rogic made the save, the Stony Brook Seawolves were headed to the America East Championship finals.

Rogic dove to his right as the ball flew off the shooter's foot and the stadium held its collective breath. He kept the ball out, earning himself a hero's reception from the crowd.

Pandemonium erupted. Fans poured over the walls, past helpless security guards, and caught Rogic as he took a celebratory slide in front of the home stands, hoisting him over their heads.

With the crowd chanting his name, Rogic (Boonton, N.J.) produced two phenomenal saves in the shootout and benefited from another shooter hitting the post as he led the Stony Brook men's soccer team past the Hartford Hawks in the America East Championship semifinal, 3-2.

Stony Brook will now play host to the UMBC Retrievers in the America East Championship final on Sunday, looking to earn an automatic bid in the NCAA National Championship tournament.

The game, which was scoreless through regulation and two overtime periods, was nail-biting start to finish.

Five minutes into the game, freshman

striker Berian Gobeil Cruz (Montreal, Quebec) was shown a yellow card for a hard tackle near the sideline.

Several minutes later Cruz again flew in for a hard challenge which should have earned him a second caution and thus an automatic ejection, but the referee only gave Cruz a stern talking to.

Goal-scoring chances were few and far between for the Seawolves in the first half, as Stony Brook only managed only two shots.

The Seawolves spent much of the first half clearing the ball long and hoping that freshman strikers Cruz and Antonio Crespi (North Babylon, N.Y.) would be able to chase it down and make something of it.

The second half brought out a new Seawolves side that showed more intent to score. Stony Brook knocked the ball around Lavalle Stadium's turf surface, forcing the Hawks to chase.

Right at the hour mark, sophomore Serigne Sylla (New York, N.Y.) hit a powerful driven shot from forty yards that forced Hartford keeper Nenad Cudic to parry the ball over the crossbar.

Just a minute later, freshman Leonardo Fernandes (North Babylon, N.Y.) beat everyone to a high ball in the Hartford penalty area, heading it past the outstretched arms of the helpless Cudic only to watch it roll just wide of the goalpost.

Rogic was brilliant all night, making six saves on six good Hartford opportunities.

Cudic also made the result stick for Hartford, stopping Stony Brook on seven occasions.

The game ended as it started, 0-0, and

when overtime failed to produce a winner the teams were headed for a penalty shootout.

The penalty shootout is, by nature, a dramatic and nerve-wracking way to decide a game.

Fans from both sides packed into the south end of the stand, hoping for a good view.

Stony Brook shot first. Senior Collin Geoghegan (Lindenhurst, N.Y.) scored, but was answered by the Hartford shooter.

In a bid to distract the Seawolves shooters, Hartford's Cudic reached deep into his bag of tricks, doing several cartwheels on the goal line before indicating to the official that he was ready for the kick.

The freshman Cruz was the next to step up for Stony Brook. When his shot found the back of the net, he stayed in the goal area long enough to perfectly imitate Cudic's acrobatics, earning himself rowdy cheers from the Stony Brook supporters.

Sylla missed the third shot, while senior Oscar Leis (Ozone Park, N.Y.) netted the fourth and Stony Brook went into the fifth and final round of shots with a 3-2 lead.

America East Rookie of the Year Leonardo Fernandes failed to put the game away however, and the result fell to Rogic, whose diving save sent the Seawolves through to the finals.

The America East tournament final will be held on Sunday, Nov. 15 at Lavalle Stadium. The Seawolves will host the fifth-seed UMBC Retrievers, who knocked off the #1 New Hampshire Wildcats, 2-1, to earn their place in the final. Game time is slated for 5:00 p.m.

## Seawolves Headed To Final, Rogic Shootout Hero



Photos by Kenneth Ho/ SB Statesman  
Freshman midfielder Kyle Schlesinger (above),  
and sophomore defense Serigne Sylla (below)

