

Arts & Entertainment: 7
Darkly Dreaming Dexter

Sports: 11
Cross Country Competes at
Nationals, Finishes 30th

Arts & Entertainment: 7
Down Under with Baz

Sports: 12
Sharp Shooters

FEATURES

"My Life As..." on the Campaign Trail

Working 24 hour days seven days a week is a tough job, especially when you're following presidential and vice presidential candidates around the clock.

>> page 3

Nanoparticles Will Be More Present in Future Technology

The hippest, coolest science these days is so small that you might doubt it exists. It's the study of particles the size of DNA that can improve the fuel efficiency in your car, enhance alternative energy systems and even create stain resistant pants.

>> page 5

OPINION

Wal-Mart Madness

Last week, a Wal-Mart employee was devoured by a crowd that seemed to care little about the man they trampled. Even with help trying to clear the scene in order to resuscitate the dying worker, it took several minutes before the torrent of crazed customers dispersed. The employee was later declared dead as a result of his injuries.

>> page 6

"Right to Bear" Could Have Kept Mumbai Safe

Here's a thought experiment: imagine a situation where ten gunmen don't have the ability to completely demobilize a city of 12 million. As the crises in Mumbai has shown us, government sponsored anti-terrorism units, even well funded ones, can't be everywhere at once.

>> page 6



Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

Journalists discussed their experiences on the campaign trail at the last "My Life As..." event.

Task Force Hopes to Save Forage Fish

By CAROL TANG
Contributing Writer

"Look for the birds," his father told him. To this day, Tom Wheatley remembers fishing with his dad in Long Island Sound.

Birds signal that predator fish, like bluefish, are lurking beneath the water. But nowadays, recreational fishermen no longer get the catch they once did. Predator fish are scarce. Forage fish, the primary food supply for predator fish, seabirds and marine mammals, are depleting.

Forage fish are small to medium-sized "baitfish" such as anchovy, sardine, menhaden, herring, mackerel, capelin, squid, shrimp and krill. They filter algae and play a vital role in the marine food web, serving as prey for a plethora of ocean predators, from fish to sharks to whales.

Despite their importance in the marine ecosystem, lack of fishery management and advanced technology has enabled industrial fisheries to remove vast quantities of forage fish from the oceans.

"It's important that we manage forage fish, a critical group in the marine ecosystem, with the least impact on the fish that consume them," said Christine Santora, a research associate for the Institute for Ocean Conservation Science at Stony Brook University and the project director of the Lenfest Forage Fish Task Force, one of the

initiatives under the institute.

The task force, which will hold its first meeting in the beginning of 2009, is an assembly of scientists from fields including oceanography, climate and marine mammals. It will investigate and develop science-based recommendations to provide guidance for policy makers in implementing sustainable management of forage fish.

The current "single-species" approach to managing fisheries in the U.S., focusing solely on the target stock, ignores the role of forage fish in the ecosystem.

Each year, fisheries in the U.S. remove more than one billion pounds of forage fish, which are processed to make commercial products, from vitamin supplements to pet food to lipstick. The harvested fish are taken to reduction facilities where they are boiled to separate fish solids from fish oil.

"It's the most horrifying smell you can imagine," said Wheatley, who has now relocated to Tampa, Florida, and is the Gulf of Mexico regional representative for the Marine Fish Conservation Network.

Wheatley is working with several agencies, including the Save the Bait Campaign in Mississippi, to protect forage fish like menhaden.

Menhaden is the second largest fishery in the U.S., following

Alaska pollock. No motion has yet been introduced, but Wheatley is joining other scientists in asking the Mississippi state government to place a limit on the amount of menhaden that fisheries can harvest.

"We need to do this right by working on national policies that promote healthy oceans," Wheatley said. An estimated 10 million annual pounds of other sea life, including sharks, are killed as a result of fishery bycatch where thousands of other haul are dumped overboard.

Although the Alaska pollock fishery, a billion-dollar industry that comprises almost one-third of all U.S. seafood landings by weight, is one of the "cleanest" fisheries, discarding only 0.5 percent of the total catch, the pollock fishery is on the verge of collapse. The pollock population has decreased by 50 percent since last year. Of the four Alaska pollock stocks, two have shut down completely.

Ken Stump, a policy analyst for the Marine Fish Conservation Network, has spent ten years working with fisheries in Alaska. "We're very concerned that far too many forage fish are used as fish meal that feed hogs, chickens and pets," Stump said. "There was a time when chickens and hogs were doing quite well without

Continued on page 3

Research Assistants Allowed Union, Will Vote for Formation

By FRANK POSILLICO AND
TARA DILLON
Contributing Writers

The National Labor Relations Board recently recognized the Stony Brook Research Assistants as employees entitled to union benefits.

The research assistants want to form a union in the hopes of creating a unified voice. A union would allow the students to increase employee benefits such as health insurance and cost-of-living allocations, lowering mandatory fees, and establishing a system of grievances. The campus research assistants will be voting on Dec. 5 to decide whether to go ahead with the formation of a union.

The Union would provide them an opportunity to voice and protect both the individual and collective interests of the assistants, according to www.sbraunion.org, the group's website. Some benefits that the research assistants would receive include a pay raise that will bring them to about the same average pay as research assistant at other universities.

They will also receive job security and a grievance system to address employment and workplace issues. "I think that having a union would mean to me that we would have some structure and rules that would insure us fairness, treating everyone with the same respect," said Zosia Turek, a research assistant in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

Support for the Union is widespread, as seen on the union's web page including letters of support from 10 New York State Assemblymen, Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy and Congressman Tim

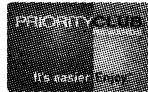
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Task Force Hopes to Save Forage Fish

Continued from page 1

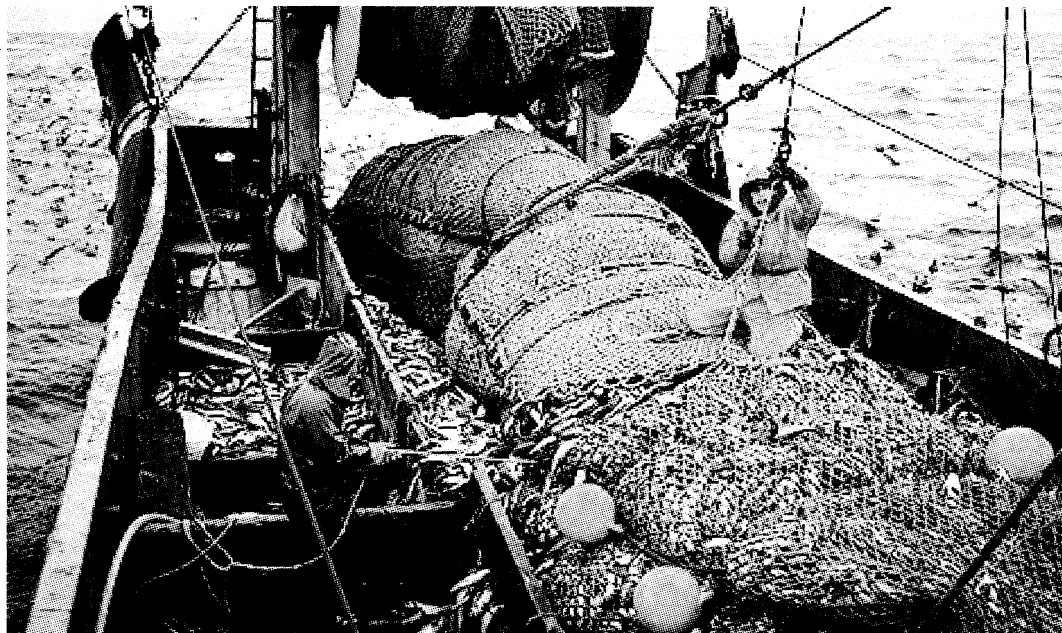
fish meal."

Soymeal can be used as a substitute for fishmeal, but the fatty acids found in forage fish are superior to other meals and increase disease resistance, according to the 2006 Fisheries Centre Research Reports from the University of British Columbia, Canada. Because forage fish are worth virtually "pennies on the pound," fisheries compensate for their lower value by taking them in larger numbers.

Forage fish are short-lived and fluctuate in abundance naturally, but the stocks are completely capable of recovering, as long as industries fish more conservatively, according to Stump.

A 1995 net-ban on fishing in Florida, an amendment secured by a 57 percent majority of voters, decreased the annual average of commercial fishing trips from 62,435 trips to 23,768 trips by 2004, a reduction of 62 percent. As a result, the state's commercial landings have gone down 67 percent, from 25 million pounds to 8 million pounds.

A 2006 Spotted Seatrout Stock Assessment by the Florida Fish



Media credit: alaska-in-pictures.com

and Wildlife Conservation Committee showed that spawning of spotted seatrout increased by 40 percent in northwest and southwest Florida, exceeding the initial target of 35 percent.

"The net ban has definitely made a difference," Wheatley said. "Fishing has gotten better, and as the species comes back there are great fall and spring migrations."

But it will take more than just

a fishery regulation to ensure that fish continue swimming in the earth's oceans. Despite progress, fish populations have continued to decline.

The National Fish Hatchery System currently has 87 facilities across the U.S. that grow hundreds of endangered aquatic species in captivity, including mussels, pallet sturgeon and lake trout.

The current budget for main-

taining the facilities is \$120 million, but there is about a \$100 million backlog in maintenance fees, said Joseph E. Moran Jr., chief of the branch of budget and performance management for the Division of the National Fish Hatchery System.

In order for fish conservation to be successful, federal organizations must work together with fisheries, non-governmental as-

sociations and even businesses to provide a cleaner marine environment. "We can grow fish for very long, but if they jump into toxic waste, those fish are history," Moran said.

Now in its third year of implementation, the National Fish Habitat Action Plan has established partnerships in all 50 states calling for landowners, businesses and local governments to become part of the solution to forage fish conservation.

"It is a blueprint for fish conservation in the 21st century," said Tom Busiahn, who has worked in fisheries management for 35 years and is the coordinator for the National Fish Habitat Action Plan for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "We may have reached the limits of regulatory approaches and must involve more people in a voluntary approach."

With time, improved conservation and management can repopulate our oceans with fish. "It's never going to be like the good old days, but a healthy environment gives folks more opportunities to enjoy available resources," said Wheatley, who, on occasions, still enjoys a peaceful day of fishing.

"My Life As..." on the Campaign Trail

By SAMANTHA BURKARDT
Staff Writer

Working 24 hour days seven days a week is a tough job, especially when you're following presidential and vice presidential candidates around the clock.

Four guest speakers came to Stony Brook on Monday to share their personal experiences of following around President-elect Barack Obama, Senator John McCain and others who ran in this year's election.

The panel spoke about how even though they thought they liked a candidate, after being with them for months at a time they got sick of hearing the same thing being repeated over and over again.

Susan Page, the Washington bureau chief for USA Today, was amazed with all of the breakthrough candidates we had this year. From an African American man winning the presidency to a serious woman running for the vice presidency to a Hispanic candidate in the beginning, she described this election as nothing we've ever seen before.

Drew Levinson, a correspondent for CBS Newspath since 1997, covered all of the candidates for over two years. He spoke about how the technology we have today is vastly different than what

we had a few years ago. Levinson and his team found themselves updating their information almost every hour to keep up with the fast-moving information. When bad news came out about Obama, he was impressed with how quickly Obama's campaign was to defend the candidate. Levinson also explained the importance of how some candidates were more television savvy than others.

Scott Conroy, an off-air reporter for CBS, was on the road with Mitt Romney for five months and then Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska for two. This was the first campaign he's ever covered, and was constantly sending his reports to fellow journalists at CBS.

"It's really being the eyes and ears of the campaign," Conroy said. Getting to know the candidates made him almost have sympathy for them, but he wasn't there to become a friend -- he was there to report news.

Julie Delgado, of CBS Mobile News, worked mainly at the Democratic National Convention for this year's election coverage. She spoke of the crazy pressure that was put on her, such as producing 14 stories in 48 hours and how the Obama campaign used their skills in social networking to reach out to voters -- especially young adults.



Scott Conroy and Drew Levinson, both of CBS, told of when they followed political candidates in the last campaign.

Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

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Nanoparticles Will Be More Present in Future Technology

By SANHITA REDDY
Staff Writer

The hippest, coolest science these days is so small that you might doubt it exists.

It's the study of particles the size of DNA that can improve the fuel efficiency in your car, enhance alternative energy systems and even create stain resistant pants.

This is the world of nanotechnology, and at Brookhaven National Laboratory, the new Center for Functional Nanomaterials is devoted to the field. Behind glass doors are clean rooms and aluminum covered microscopes -- all for scientists thinking big about the impossibly small.

Nanoparticles and all things "nano" are derived from a nanometer -- which is one billionth of a meter. Particles this small don't quite follow Newton's laws of physics that everyday objects follow. These particles aren't atoms nor are they defined by the laws of quantum physics either.

This limbo land that the particles exist in gives them unusual properties. According to Newton's laws of physics, changing the size of a particle should not change its properties, but at the nano level, this law doesn't hold.

Two nanoparticles of different sizes can exhibit different physical properties. They can have different conductivities, different melting points and

even different colors.

Because of this, nanoparticles can be used in nearly every field of science.

For instance, catalysts in a fuel cell increase the rate of the reaction between hydrogen and oxygen, turning chemical energy into electrical energy, which then powers a car. Nanoparticles are especially good catalysts because of their size allows many of them to fit in a fuel cell, increase the number of reactions and the gas mileage of a car, according to experts.

According to Aaron G. Stein from Center for Functional Nanomaterials at Brookhaven National Laboratory, who has a Ph. D. in physics, surrounding palladium nano-catalysts with

gold increases the rate of reaction in a fuel cell much more than the palladium catalyst by itself.

"By tweaking the materials and surface of catalysts, we can increase the rate of the reaction," Stein said. "These catalysts can make fuel more efficient."

Nanotechnology is used in other fields too, such as in tiny magnets in Apple store music, videos and other data. Scientists are trying to see how small these magnets can get while still maximizing their storage capacity.

But according to Stein, at a certain size the particles may become too small to store anything. The way magnets are arranged also creates different possibilities of how information

is stored and transmitted.

For now, much of nanotechnology has resulted in consumer products like sunscreen, better air filters and shock-resistant socks. According to Stein, researchers are working on experiments that will have a bigger impact on the world: carbon nanotubes, self-assembling polymers and nanomedicine.

Some concern has arisen over nanotechnology's impact to health. The particles are so small that they can easily pass through a human cell -- possibly causing damage. Even with concern, the field is still growing with a vision in mind.

"We want all the information in the world, on your watch. That's the goal," Stein said.

Research Assistants Allowed Union, Will Vote for Formation

Continued from page 1

Bishop.

So far 250 Research Assistants have called upon SUNY and the Research Foundation to allow them to form a union.

The university has not discouraged the formation of the union according to Turek. Calls made to the President's office were not returned.

However, the Research Foundation has sent out emails discouraging the Research Assistants from unionizing. "The research foundation keeps emailing me why I shouldn't be voting for the union," said Turek, "I believe that they are just employing this regular strate-

gies of union busting"

"My reason why I want this union, is being an RA I think we are entitled to have our own organization our own union so that we can have a voice on behalf of the research community on campus," said Xiao Xu, a research assistant who spoke at the union press conference on Sept. 15.

The expectations of the Research Assistants passing the union come Dec. 5, are high, and when asked what would happen after the union was passed, Turek said. "We will try to create a contract that will represent everyone's interest, and we will not pass the contract unless everyone votes yes for it," said Turek.

Salon Now Open in Student Union Basement

By GABRIELA PENAHERREIRA
Contributing Writer

Wash, lather, rinse, dry. These are the words a person thinks of when washing their hair.

For as little as a walk to the Stony Brook Union and a quick trip down the concrete stairs into the basement, there is a place where students can relax and beautify themselves. Studio 97 is open for business.

The new unisex salon opened its doors on Halloween and since then has been one of the Stony Brook's most innovative services.

Maria Castro-Givanni, the salon's owner, is a nail technician who opened to accommodate every type of hair or service the students demand. "Stony Brook wanted this service for all their students, they really went out of

their way," she said.

The salon is in the same location that once housed Beautyand-Brains -- the male barbershop.

The new salon offers haircuts for guys as well new services for girls that were never done before. Castro-Givanni explains her salon does a little bit of everything from nails to hair, so that there is no student left without services. "We are catering to the financial needs of the college, prices are good," she said.

With the difficulty students face with tuition, books, and slumping economy, the salon is a break for students looking to pamper themselves or just in need of a haircut.

"It was good, a lot better than the places around here," said Matthew Emsak, a biology major, who described his impression of the

salon and his news haircut.

Since many students on campus do not drive or own a car, the new salon saves them a trip into Stony Brook or nearby Lake Grove, which can be expensive and less focused on the wants and need of the students.

Salons like Axios Salon & Spa in Lake Grove offer many of the same services that Studio 97 does such as perms, hair coloring, and manicures and pedicures.

Studio 97's offers men haircuts for \$12.00 and \$15.00 and up for a women's wash and blow.

They style all varieties of hair textures, styles and lengths.

"I'm trying to cover everyone's needs," Castro-Givanni said. "I want this to be their salon, so that they have a stress-free place to go."

Taste of Bollywood

By ERIKA KARP
Contributing Writer

The sounds, smells and culture of India filled Roth Cafe on Tuesday evening as Campus Dining hosted an in-depth look into Bollywood cuisine.

The occasion featured a henna tattoo artist, arts and crafts and a traditional Bollywood band.

"The event was to celebrate the Indian culture and let students learn about it," said Laura Young, a campus dining representative.

The International Marketplace featured a special meal in honor of the event. Tikka Masala, one of the traditional Indian cuisines, included basmati rice and naan. "The food was very authentic and tasted amazing," said D.Q. McCray, a freshman. "I felt like I was

in a real Indian restaurant."

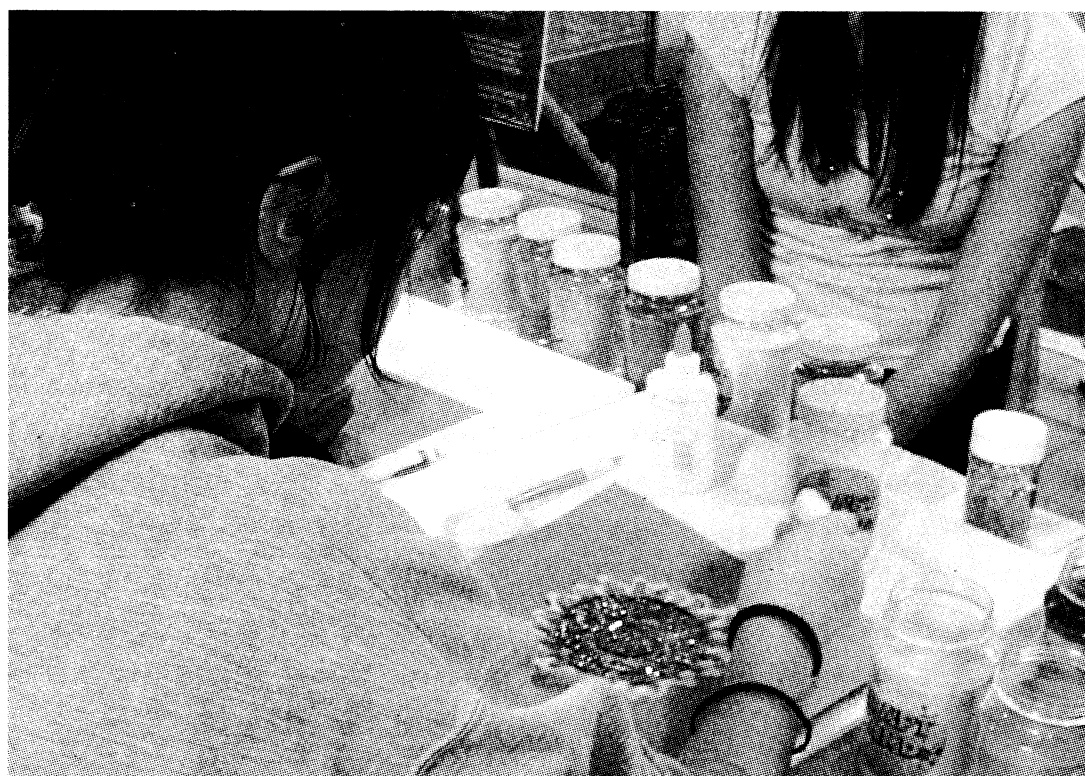
Students painted elephant piggy banks and created rangoli art at the arts and crafts table. Rangoli art, a form of sand painting, was the most popular form of artwork.

Students also crafted glittery designs that could be used as wall or floor art.

Two artists busily painted students' arms and hands with Henna designs - traditionally painted on women for special events such as weddings.

Stony Brook's own belly-dancing team shimmied onto the stage and danced to a traditional song.

"I really love the drumbeat," said Alanna McGovern, a freshman on the team. "We do a song entirely to it. It's just so awesome and gets you so pumped."



Erika Karp / SB Statesman

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WHO WE ARE

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

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

Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman. All content Copyright 2008.

OPINION**Wal-Mart Madness****By JOSEPH LABRIOLA**
Columnist

Nothing kicks off the holiday season quite like a stampede of 2,000 bargain-seeking shoppers.

Last week, a Wal-Mart employee was devoured by a crowd that seemed to care little about the man they trampled. Even with help trying to clear the scene in order to resuscitate the dying worker, it took several minutes before the torrent of crazed customers dispersed. The employee was later declared dead as a result of his injuries.

There are many disturbing facts about this crime, but perhaps the most profound question now is "How and who will be charged for this murder?" Nobody has been formally prosecuted yet, since there were too many people to identify any one person as responsible for the man's death. Perhaps the police should have barred the doors after arriving on a scene with an apparent murder.

According to CNN legal analyst Sunny Hostin, even though

the case is not "intentional homicide," shoppers could be charged with "criminal negligence." It will take reviewing the video surveillance footage in detail to try to determine specific individuals who were involved in the crime.

What is most shocking about all of this is how the swarms of shoppers never stopped to ask themselves, "Hey, maybe we should stop to help this guy instead of stomping him to death?"

The case here is clear: crazy Black Friday shoppers valued getting a good deal on their Christmas shopping more than a person's life. To them, the sales were worth the risk of causing injury, and in this sad instance, death.

Some might argue that the chaos of the situation, the confusion and sheer number of people involved may have prevented many from even realizing that somebody was hurt. That is one possible explanation, but the truth of the matter is that there were specific shoppers who must



Wal-Mart in Valley Stream, Long Island Closed For Police Investigation, Media Credit: AP

have realized that they were literally running over a person to get into the store.

The last time I waited outside of a store for it to open was two years ago. The Nintendo Wii was the new hot ticket item and it seemed worth sitting out in the cold night for several hours just for a chance to get my hands on one. Luckily, when the doors opened, there was no stampede, but thinking back I wonder how

I would have reacted in such a situation. The Wii is a great system, but honestly, it is not worth manslaughter charges to get ahold of one.

Spending money and getting good deals are great, but when someone dies as a clear result of shopper madness, the people involved really need to take a look in the mirror and ask themselves a simple question: "Is it really worth it?"

**"Right to Bear"
Could Have Kept
Mumbai Safe****By ZACHARY KURTZ**
Opinions Editor

Here's a thought experiment: imagine a situation where ten gunmen don't have the ability to completely demobilize a city of 12 million. As the crises in Mumbai has shown us, government sponsored anti-terrorism units, even well funded ones, can't be everywhere at once.

India should take Israel's lead, to start with. The small, middle eastern country is no stranger to terrorist attacks and it relies mainly on private security forces to guard public buildings. In Israel, every place from banks to supermarkets has an ex-soldier carrying an AK-47s at the entrance.

This is not the final answer, though. India has to repeal its antiquated weapons ban; laws which originate from the British occupation days, enacted to squelch Indian resistance movements. It should come as no surprise then, that these laws are equally effective in preventing the Indian populace from protecting themselves against terrorists. In America, for comparison, where the ratio of guns to people is 9.6:10, the

last successful terrorist attacks were conducted where citizens are also banned from carrying firearms; airplanes.

Banning guns doesn't prevent the 'bad guys' from carrying weapons, but it does leave people dependent on potentially inept governments for protection. Mahatma Gandhi said "Among the many misdeeds of the British rule in India, history will look upon the Act depriving a whole nation of arms, as the blackest." Why then, has the Indian government held onto laws that make it prohibitively difficult to obtain a firearm license?

It's time to revisit the logic of weapons banning. Our own constitution treats the ownership of firearms as a civil liberty in a way that is inextricably tied to the natural right to self defense; a notion that was recently verified by the supreme court. India should learn from our example. Terrorism, in nature, wants its victims to respond by sacrificing liberties out of fear. Shouldn't, then, free people respond in the exact opposite way; guarantee even more freedoms to create a safer and happier society?

Letter: Recycling the Statesman

To the Editor:

As I was leaving the Basic Sciences Tower on the evening of Dec. 2, I was fortunate enough to be standing next to The Statesman distribution station when the Dec. 1 issue was delivered. To my dismay, the gentleman distributing the new Statesman removed the old issues -- about 25 by my estimate -- and deposited them directly into the adjacent waste container.

Several copies of the newest issue were then ripped from their binding to create enough room so that the rest of the bundle could be slid out and placed in the wire rack for distribution. These torn copies of the newest Statesman were jammed on top of the discarded copies of the previous issue. The distributor then abruptly turned around and walked away without giving his actions a second thought.

Sustainability has become a priority of the University Presi-

dent. As one of many on campus who have taken the Green Pledge, I was dismayed at this activity.

Whether the distribution of The Statesman is an internal or contracted affair, I think it is only fitting that your paper and the campus community support the 3 "Rs" -- "reduce," "reuse" and "recycle."

I hope that this is an isolated incident and that old issues of The Statesman are routinely recycled as a matter of practice. I would hope that The Statesman has considered the handling practices of old issues, and if not, I hope that these issues will be considered in the future.

We all have a role to play, and if sustainability and environmental stewardship are our goal, I hope that The Statesman is as committed to this as the studentry is.

Matthew Bobiak, Graduate Student, Molecular and Cellular Biology

Guidelines for Opinion Submission

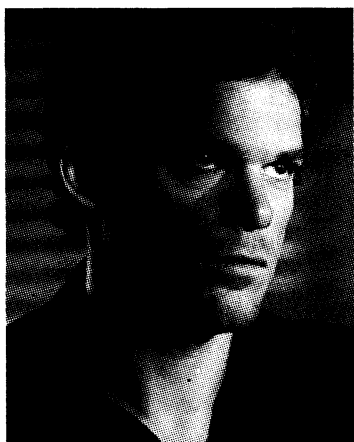
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DARKLY DREAMING DEXTER

BY RUCHI VIKAS
Contributing Writer

Three years ago, it might have been strange to see a picture of a serial killer's smiling face on a public bus in New York City. These days, however, it is perfectly reasonable. Of course, I'm not talking about just any serial killer; this is Dexter Morgan—star of the Showtime TV series "Dexter".

Dexter first made his appearance three TV seasons ago. He is that guy who has a beautiful girlfriend, a steady



Media Credit: sho.com
Michael C. Hall plays the title character Dexter Morgan.

well liked by his coworkers. In short, Dexter sneaks out at night to kill people—he methodically dismembers them and disposes their bodies in a nearby river. All of this is surprising for he does not fit the popular stereotype of a serial killer. The unique twist that makes Dexter endearing is the most unexpected of all—he lives by a code that his foster father taught him that requires him to only kill others who have committed acts of violence against innocent people.

Perhaps the most intriguing thing about the show is the narration. Dexter spends a good portion of the show telling the viewers what he is thinking and how he feels—or how he doesn't feel—giving us an alleged first-hand look into the mind of a serial killer. In the beginning, Dexter has no emotions and feels nothing for anyone. Thus, viewers are told things as they happened through

remorseless eyes.

Since the first season, Dexter's mentality has changed slightly. The first season of this show had me hooked; the second ensured that I would continue watching, and the third offers what I have been waiting for all along. In this season, every character faces something new. For Dexter, there is marriage, a child, and possibly his first friend. Deborah, his loveable yet profane sister, faces obstacles to the promotion she desperately wants. Also, all the cops on the force face a

new and deadly killer—a skinner of human flesh.

Dexter still responds to situations differently than one would expect him to, but every so often, a bit of human emotion creeps in. It isn't so simple for Dexter anymore, because everything happening directly affects him—whether or not he should be a parent, for example. We see through his eyes, the hope of a new friendship, rage at an unexpected betrayal, and for once, genuine surprise that he was wrong about something.

The third season slowly builds



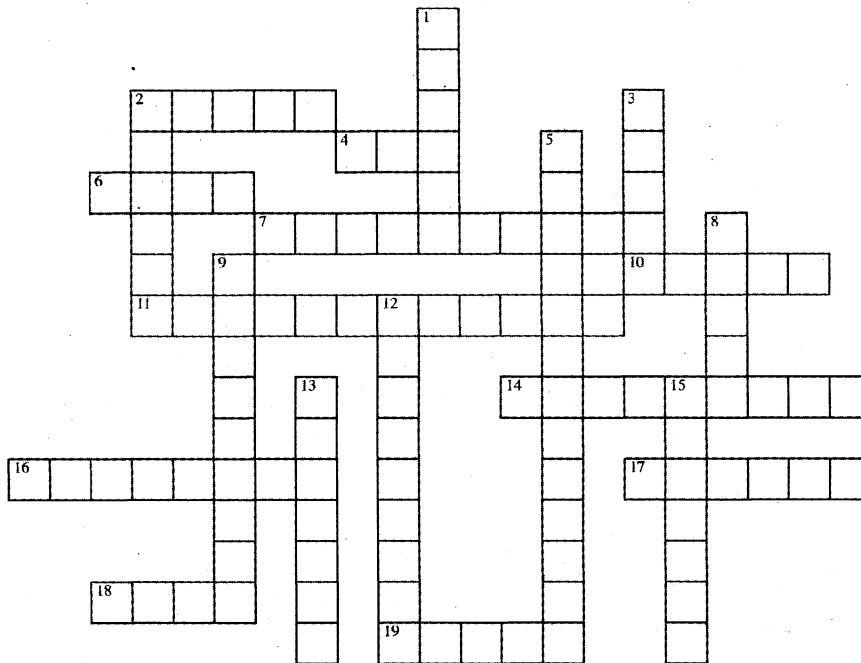
Media Credit: Google Images

up to a crescendo. We see the characters we have grown to love working through their seemingly

unrelated problems slowly, until just last week. In a totally unexpected turn of events, every piece of what has been going on comes together with a sickening finality.

Altogether, Dexter has shaped up to be quite the unsung superhero. He's a vigilante who saves the world (or at least Miami) from villains who slip through the fingers of the fallible justice system. The fact that his ultimate motive isn't to save society but to feed his own urges, is one that I can easily forgive because, over the years, I have learned to love him. And that's why I feel—and don't feel—what he does; why I have developed a strange relationship with a strange character over the past three years.

Winter Wonderland



ACROSS

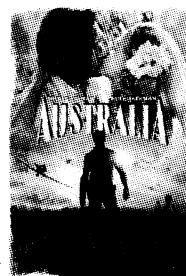
- 2 An environmentalist political party
- 4 Lady in _____
- 6 _____ cards/bags/receipts
- 7 Schnapps or toothpaste
- 10 Eat really fast
- 11 Marshmallows and cinnamon stick not included
- 14 New Year's favorite host in NY
- 16 National Lampoon's time off
- 17 Kwanzaa ornament
- 18 Blocks, barbies, bears
- 19 Related to German, Alp "nightmare"; plural

DOWN

- 1 Matchsticks and Zippo aside
- 2 He's a mean one
- 3 Getting evicted; plural
- 5 4th century Greek Christian bishop of Anatolia
- 8 Mrs. Brady
- 9 Leotards, pantyhose, tights, _____
- 12 "pink _____ on ice"
- 13 Candelabrum
- 15 Santa's front door

DOWN UNDER WITH BAZ

BY SAMANTHA BURKARDT
Staff Writer



Media Credit: movies.yahoo.com

Australia
(2008)
Rating:
PG-13
(Violence/Adult Situations)
Running Time: 165 Minutes

"Just because it is, doesn't mean it should be," Miss Ashley said to Drover. These words rang true throughout their whole adventure in the new movie "Australia," released by Twentieth Century Fox last Wednesday.

When an aristocratic English woman, Lady Sarah Ashley (Nicole Kidman), inherits a cattle ranch that her late husband owned in Australia, her whole world turns upside down. Originally obsessed with her belongings, she soon must get over her worldly goods and discover what really matters in life.

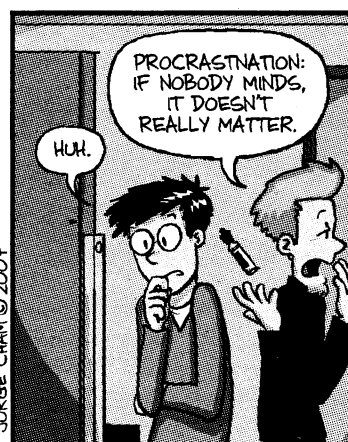
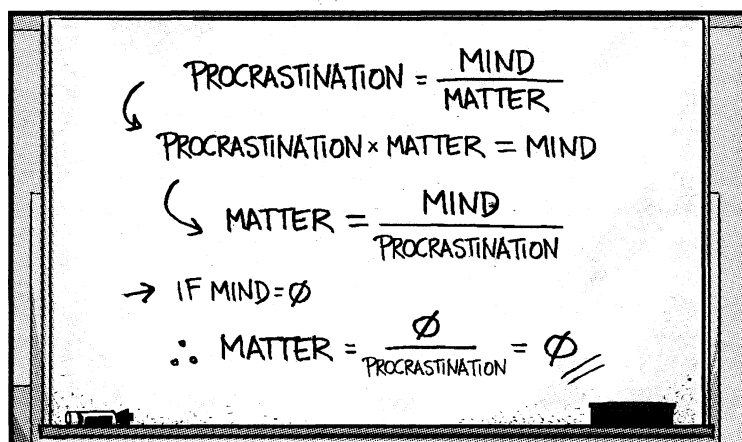
A rough cattle driver, Drover

(Hugh Jackman), a young Aboriginal boy Nullah (Brandon Walters), and some others that worked on the ranch, must all join forces to save the land that Miss Ashley has inherited. They must venture on an almost impossible journey through the most unbearable parts of the country while driving 1,500 heads of cattle onto a ship, so that King Carney (Bryan Brown) cannot continue to steal anymore.

Not long after they make it to Darwin, Australia, bombs drop from the sky by the Japanese who only a few months before attacked, Pearl Harbor. Do they make it? Does Nullah get captured by the police because he is of a different culture? Does Miss Ashley find herself falling for Drover? Or do they just fight together until the very end?

This movie is packed with action, adventure, drama, romance, beautiful scenery, and a fantastic story line. Director Baz Luhrmann did a marvelous job and it is one show that you will want to buy when it comes out on DVD.

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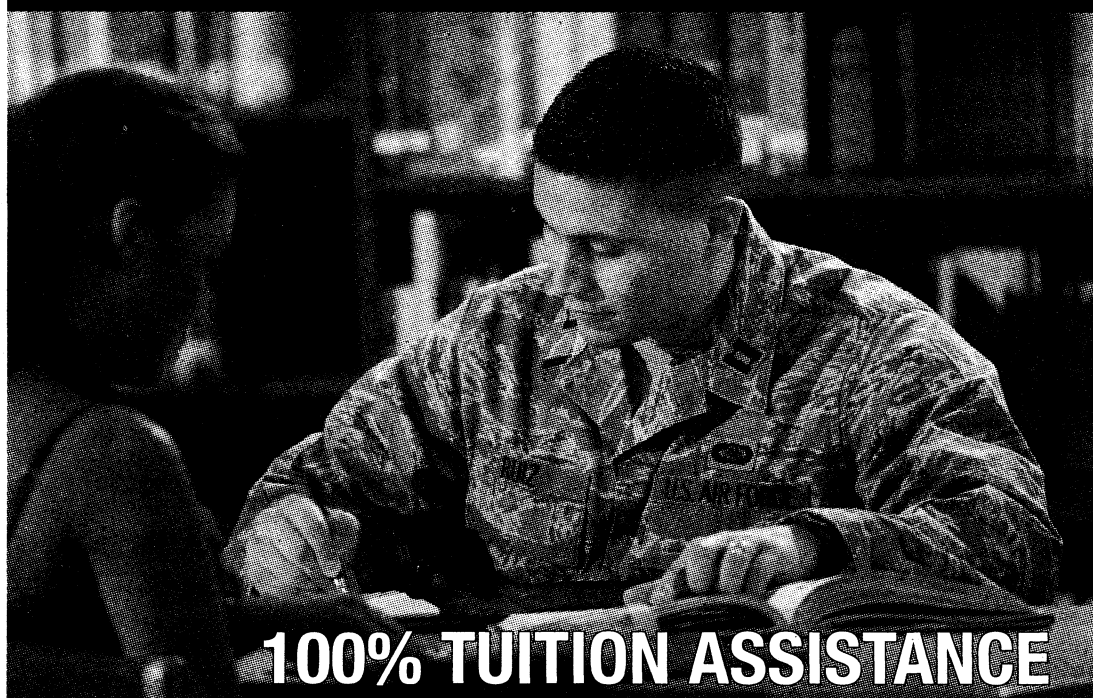
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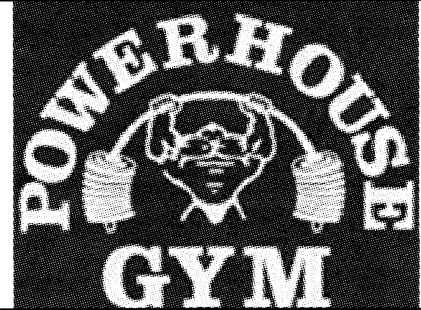
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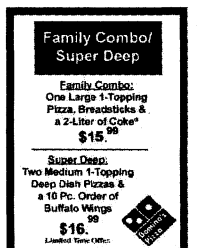
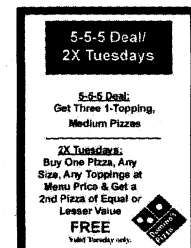
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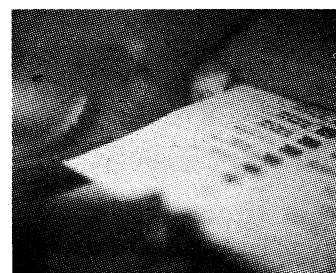
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Gary Bettman: You Blew It

Let the Players Deal With it ON THE ICE!



BY GENE MORRIS
Sports Editor

The National Hockey League has fallen off the map in recent years in terms of popularity.

The mainstream media has completely tuned out the game of Hockey in the United States.

Care to tune into a game? See how long it takes you to find Versus on your local cable listings.

Even with the new rules put into place to increase scoring, clamp down on the boring defensive hockey of the late 90's that allowed guys to hold and grab and slow down the stars, the NHL still finds itself getting lower ratings than the World Series of Poker.

Insert a charismatic (in my opinion, I'm sure the majority of the people who know anything about hockey will use a much different adjective to describe him) player who has some skill like Sean Avery into the mix.

Avery has been seen as a malcontent as far back as his playing days in Los Angeles. He once refused to practice with the Kings and was sent home.

In February of '07 he was traded to the New York Rangers and his stardom grew ten-fold.

Once on Broadway, Avery found himself the key component of two Rangers teams that went to the second round of the playoffs. That was in between attending fashion shows and taking a summer internship at Vogue.

Avery is a man who marches to a different beat.

One of his former girlfriends, Rachel Hunter is reportedly linked to NHL player Jarrett Stoll.

His most recent girlfriend, Elisha Cuthbert, the Canadian beauty who starred in the 'Girl Next Door' and '24,' is now dating Calgary Flames defenseman Dion Phaneuf.

Before Tuesday's game between Avery's new team, the Dallas Stars, and the Flames, Avery called all the reporters in the locker room around him.

Avery, also known to be a pain to reporters, like last year down the stretch in New York when he refused to speak for weeks at a time, had an agenda to get across.

"I'm really happy to be back in Calgary; I love Canada," Avery said. "I just want to comment on how it's become like a common thing in the NHL for guys to fall in love with my sloppy seconds. I don't know what that's about, but enjoy the game tonight."

Within hours Commissioner Gary Bettman had handed down an indefinite suspen-

sion. Every commentator from Miami to Vancouver scrutinized Avery for being such a terrible member of society and a burden on the game of hockey.

This from a sport that has seen more than on incident in which players have fought fans during or after a game, a sport that has its share of violent hits to the head and up until recently saw every team employ a resident enforcer who's job it was to take out anyone who dared to throw even a clean hit on his teams best player.

This after a weekend in New York when the man who caught the winning touchdown pass in the Super Bowl illegally carried a gun into a crowd night club and shot himself in the leg! It took three days to sort out the Plaxico Burress was to be suspended. Avery was disciplined in about three hours.

A day after the most talented player on the Knicks was finally banished after refusing a direct order from his coach to help out his undermanned team.

By far, this is the biggest NHL story of the last month or so. Who wouldn't have tuned into watch Dallas and Calgary battle it out on the ice that night? Who wouldn't want to see if Phaneuf would find a way to level the "super-pest" with one of his patented bone-crushing open ice hits?

Instead the NHL overreacted and tried to take the moral higher ground.

Bettman should pay more attention to the real problems of the game, like the illegal hits knocking its stars out, the lack of interest in many markets in the United States that may soon cripple the game economically, or even how a New York team doesn't have an arena that a high school team would want to play their games at

Let the personal battles play out on the ice, it's obviously what the people want to see if you look at the outburst of interest that followed this story.

The worst thing about the NHL is that most people wouldn't even have been able to see the Stars and Flames battle it out because the game has been so poorly marketed and Bettman signed up for a horrendous television contract that keeps most American viewers in the dark.

Let the free spirits like Avery roam free, and let the players take care of the issues on the ice. Bettman should be thankful that he doesn't have to worry about players carrying guns and refusing to honor their contracts.

Instead he spends his time overreacting and trying to put his stamp on a game that is struggling because of his over management and stupid business decisions.

Cross Country Competes at Nationals, Finishes 30th

BY MIKE FODERA
Staff Writer

With all the excitement of a championship track meet, and the expectations that go with it, the Stony Brook Seawolves women's cross country team traveled to Terra Haute, Indiana to compete in the NCAA Championships last week. With focused determination, the Seawolves set out to prove they were not a run-of-the-mill team from the Atlantic Coast corridor, but a national competitor.

While the determination might have been present, it wasn't enough to catapult the team into a first place finish, instead finishing in 30th of 31 teams.

Leading the way for the women's team were sophomores Holly and Lucy Van Dalen. These girls have consistently placed in the top of the team all season. Leading the Seawolves to the Championships was just one blip on their ever-rising list of achievements. Lucy Van Dalen led the women's team with a 91st place finish in a time of 21:20. Placing just six seconds later was her sister Holly, who took 103rd place in 21:26.

Finishing next for the ladies was junior Laura Huet, who finished 143rd

place with a time of 21:48. Rounding out the women's finishes was freshman Hayley Green, who placed 177th with a time of 22:07, and sophomores Carolina Cortes and Ruth Gillespie, who finished in 198th place (22:36) and 215th (24:19), respectively.

After the meet, Coach Ronan expressed his pleasure with coaching this cross country team this season.

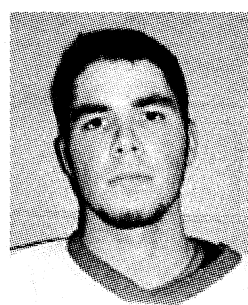
"Returning to the NCAA Championships for the second year in a row was a great achievement by this group of young ladies," he said. "They overcame sickness and injuries during the second half of the season to reach a goal we had set 12 months earlier.

"In order to be successful at that level, you need to compete in that environment on a regular basis."

Coach Ronan was also happy about his team's improvement this year.

"We took a little step this year by beating one team and finishing 30th in the country, next year we will aim for the top 25," he said. "The only place to go from here is up, and with more practice, that goal of the top 25 will be looking more and more attainable."

Meet The Seawolves



Name:	Phillip Cascio
Number:	2
Year:	Sophomore
Major:	Pre-Business
Birthday:	August 10, 1988
Position:	Defense
Home Town:	Oceanside, New York
Grew up:	Baldwin, New York
Favorite Sport:	Baseball
Why did you choose SBU?	I felt the atmosphere and academics suited what I was looking for and best benefited my future.
How did you get into Hockey?	I decided to play hockey when I was about 6 or 7 years old and have stuck with it since.
What do you want to do after you graduate?	I want to pursue a career in business management or potentially business law.
What do you do in your free time?:	I love playing sports, hanging out with my girlfriend and friends, the beach, visiting family.
Goal this year on the ice:	To play in every game and practice to make a positive contribution to the team's and program's success.
Goal this year off the ice:	Find some extra time to spend more time on campus getting to know more people.

Photo courtesy of
StonyBrookHockey.com



STATESMAN SPORTS

By BRIAN MORGAN
Senior Writer

Sharp Shooters

Stony Brook's men's basketball team won its second straight game Tuesday night, as they routed N.J.I.T. by a score of 60-39. The victory is Stony Brook's second straight, to give them a record of 3-3 on the season.

Freshman Bryan Dougher led the Seawolves, scoring a career high 24 points, shooting 6-8 from the field, including 5-6 from three-point range.

New Seawolve Junior Muhammad El-Amin added 13 points.

In the first half, Stony Brook held the Highlanders to 5-24 (20.8 percent) shooting from the field, including 0-11 from three-point range, allowing the Seawolves to have a 32-15 lead at the end of the half.

In the second half, the Highlanders' shooting improved to 38.5 percent, but Stony Brook was still too much, as the Seawolves outscored N.J.I.T. by a score of 28-24.

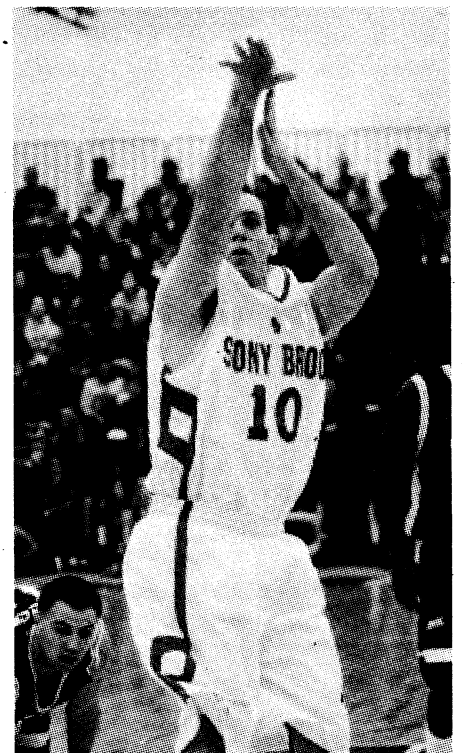
N.J.I.T., who increased their D-I record losing streak to 39 games, had 22 turnovers, and finished the game shooting 1-20 from three-point range. The last time the Highlanders won was Feb. 19, 2007.

Stony Brook's next game is this Friday, Dec. 5, at home against Lehigh, who is 5-2 on the season. A notable victory for Lehigh was at Rutgers, where they beat the Scarlet Knights 76-71.

The game against the Mountain Hawks will be the first of three at home, which will be followed by games against Mount Ida (Dec. 7) and Hofstra (Dec. 12).

Seawolves jump out to 32-15 first half lead, paced by Bryan Dougher and Muhammad El-Amin

Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman



Freshman Bryan Dougher led the team with five three-pointers.

Kenneth Ho/SB Statesman