

KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Spring has finally come to Stony Brook as students shed their long coats and hats and take in more of the campus.

Building a Home in Georgia

ASBO brings students together to help others

By **BERNIE LUBELL**
Contributing Writer

Brian Antono got chills down his spine when he saw the remains of a lone, empty house on the devastated beaches of Galveston, Texas, last spring. Only the back wall remained, strung with family portraits depicting lives in a destructed house that is no longer a home.

Antono, a senior chemistry major and now President of Stony Brook University's Alternative Spring Break Outreach,

will venture next week to extreme flood-hit Atlanta. He, along with the organization, will do this not only with a vision, but also with the prospect of expansion due to their recent \$7,500 community service grant.

Earlier this month, ASBO was awarded \$7,500 in grant money following their honorable mention as a part of The Newman's Own Foundation Campus Community Service Challenge. Newman's Own Foundation announced the results of the grant competition

at the America East Conference. Newman's Own, Inc. was the title sponsor of the combined basketball tournament.

"ASBO is extremely unique in the quality of the organization itself," said Jeff Barnett, associate dean of students. "Not only are they doing significant work in the community, but as an organization they are truly sustainable."

The top three prizes went to organizations affiliated with 501(c)(3) nonprofits from the University of Vermont,

University of Hartford and University of Maine, respectively. ASBO is affiliated with the SUNY Research Foundation. Newman's Own Foundation decided to increase all honorable mention prizes of \$5,000 by 50 percent. As a result, ASBO returned with the \$7,500 total.

According to official rules, the competition was launched to "recognize and honor student groups that are making

See **GEORGIA** on 3

VAILLANCOURT LEAVES FOOTPRINT ON STONY BROOK

By **PHILOMENA BUBARIS**
Contributing Writer

He stood center stage. His eyes were narrowed in concentration as his little fingers moved swiftly across the strings of the violin. The audience watched in awe as he flawlessly performed Vivaldi's Concerto in G Minor. As he heard the audience applaud, his look of concentration relaxed into a beaming smile and he breathed a sigh of relief and satisfaction.

Martin Vaillancourt, 12, was chosen as the winner of the 2009 Stony Brook Pre-College Concerto Competition. As winner, he became the featured violin soloist to perform with the Stony Brook Orchestra at the Staller Center in a Children's Concert titled "Orchestral Footsteps" on March 9th.

Stony Brook sponsors a Pre-College Music Program for student's grades six through 12. It offers coaching and performance opportunities for young musicians who are already accomplished in their schools and looking for challenging experiences. Martin is the third member of his family to be enrolled in this program.

Michael Hershkowitz, director of Concerts and Community Education and Executive Director of the Stony Brook Community Music Program, chooses

students from this program to compete in the Concerto Competition. "Martin is an extremely talented and mature musician for his age and he is a constant inspiration to me to keep my expectations high in the Community Music Program," Hershkowitz said.

Susan Deaver, music director and conductor of the University Orchestra, was one of the three judges who chose Martin as the winner of this year's competition in November 2009. The judges base their decision on musical abilities, interpretation of music and how well the student performs. They were confident that Martin would be an excellent performer and the best choice for the winner of the competition.

This is the tenth year the Stony Brook Orchestra has performed a Children's Concert. Deaver came up with the theme for this year's children's concert, and previous concerts. "Each year I figure out a theme for the Children's Concert to add a bit of energy and fun. One year I even had a magician join us," Deaver said.

This year's theme was all about shoes. Flyers stating, "Wear your favorite pair of shoes!" were scattered around the school and community. It was a one-hour interactive toe-tapping adventure that insisted the audience wear their favorite pair of tapping shoes.

IN THIS
ISSUE

Discussing the health care bill

The recent passing of the health care bill marks a decisive moment for not only Obama's tenure but also American society. Health care reform is an issue that few can claim not to have an opinion

on, unlike most other divisive debates; and health care is rapidly evolving into one of the most partisan conflicts of our time. It is a...

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Spring and Summer concerts to see

Spring has finally arrived, and with the showers and the flowers in bloom, now comes one of the best parts of the spring and summer season—concerts.

This year there are some

tours of up-and-coming bands, along with a few seasoned vets who have toured over the span of several decades and travelled...

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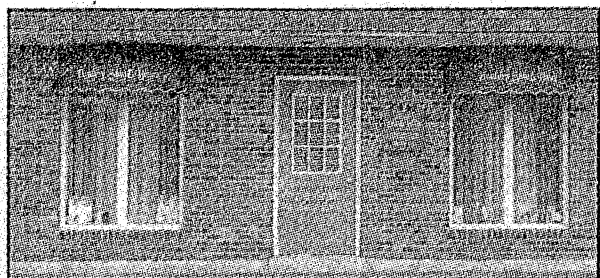
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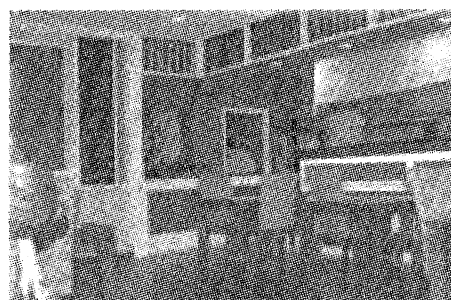
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NEWS

Building a Home in Georgia

From GEORGIA on 1

the world a better place through demonstrated commitment to community service." One organization from each University participating in the America East tournament was selected by respective university officials to participate in the challenge.

In a letter of support to the selection committee, Stony Brook University President Samuel L. Stanley, Jr. noted the several mission trips to hurricane devastated locations since the organization's inception in 2005. The organization was founded following a Student-Faculty-Staff Retreat titled "Local Exchange for Global Change."

"Each wall painted and each fastened board have become more than the mere acts themselves, connecting all to the larger principles and purpose of civic action," Stanley wrote. "What is more important to any university, are the myriad of opportunities this program presents for students to engage with their own learning and development."

Dean of Students Jerrold Stein echoed Stanley's sentiments in his letter of support. "Year after year the program attracts dedicated student leaders, in fact more than they could accommodate, who realize the need to get involved, take action and give back to the community," Stein wrote. He added later, "ASBO is a student-developed, student-run community service organization whose mission is to promote critical thinking, social action and civic engagement by combining education, reflection and direct service."

Antono, who described the mission trip as an emotional rollercoaster, said the grant will fund

his vision of expansion and further university funding. "We're still a young organization," he said. "Hopefully this grant shows the University that we are not only ready to expand, but also that we are an asset."

He added that he wishes more students could share in this opportunity with the help of university funding. "We see things most people never see in their life," Antono said. "I want to share that feeling with everyone else."

Although ASBO is traveling to Atlanta next week, the organization conducted mission trips the last four years to other locations. From 2006 to 2008, the organization traveled to New Orleans to assist in the rebuilding of the city devastated by Hurricane Katrina. In the spring of 2009, ASBO traveled to Galveston.

According to Antono, there are two main categories of the services that ASBO provides to communities: disaster relief and community building.

The organization—which is composed of approximately 50 people this year—wake at 6 a.m., eat breakfast, make their lunch and then take a bus to the worksite. There, they divide into groups and work approximately eight hours during the day. At night, they enjoy the culture of their worksite. Before an early bedtime, they participate in "group reflections," discussing their day and sharing their experiences amongst each other.

ASBO will embark on their seven-day mission trip this Friday, March 26. They will spend a total of approximately 48 hours traveling to and from Stony Brook on a coach bus.

"[The trip] is building family within Stony Brook and away from Stony Brook," he said reflectively.

VAILLANCOURT LEAVES FOOTPRINT ON STONY BROOK

From FOOTPRINT on 1

Deaver interacted with the audience and before the concert began she asked, "Did you all bring your shoes?" The audience, filled with children, immediately began tapping their feet on the floor. The energy in the room was unreal.

Deaver introduced the orchestra and conducted them in four pieces before introducing Martin Vaillancourt.

"He seemed to thoroughly enjoy his interaction with me as a conductor and with the chamber orchestra that performed the Vivaldi Concerto with him," said Deaver of her experience with Martin.

The chamber orchestra, dressed all in black, was sitting around Martin who stood center stage in his tuxedo and shiny patent-leather shoes. He looked a little nervous, but as he began to play his violin, his facial expression changed from nervous to focused.

He performed the concerto flawlessly from memory.

After his solo, he left the stage along with the rest of the chamber orchestra. Minutes later, they all came back wearing crazy shoes. Students wearing neon yellow soccer cleats and diamond-studded stilettos clomped onto the stage and took their places for the next performance. Even Deaver changed into a pair of bright red flats.

Martin came out wearing fluffy slippers and performed "Fiddle Faddle," with Erin Slaver, concertmistress, and Julian Touafek. All three fiddlers enjoyed performing this fast paced, toe-tapping song.

While watching Martin perform, his mom, Susan Vaillancourt said, "It was glorious, though very, very stressful." According to Vaillancourt, the previous rehearsals had not gone as well as planned. It was

almost as if he knew the piece too well.

She saw Martin backstage before the concert and was aware of how nervous he was. It was hard for her to relax and enjoy until he passed the last hard part of the piece.

While extremely talented, Martin is still like any other sixth grade boy. He lives with his parents and three older sisters in East Setauket, Long Island, where he studies violin with Song-A Cho. He plays in the Setauket Elementary School Orchestra and has been playing violin and fiddle since he was five years old.

Martin's three older sisters are all talented musicians as well. Eva (cello), Veronica (piano and guitar) and Madeleine (violin) are the reason Martin is so inspired. His oldest sister Eva is a previous winner of the 2007-2008 Pre-College Concerto Competition.

He loves to compose music as well as performing. His composition for violin and piano titled "Major Minor" was performed at the Long Island Composers Alliance Student Concert this past spring.

When speaking with his mom, she said Martin has natural music ability and perfect pitch from growing up listening to music echo throughout the house. Yet, he still puts in a lot of time and effort. "He is playing at a level where he must work hard, as anyone would regardless of how much natural talent they have," Vaillancourt said.

While preparing for the concert, Martin practiced seven hours a week, sometimes unwillingly.

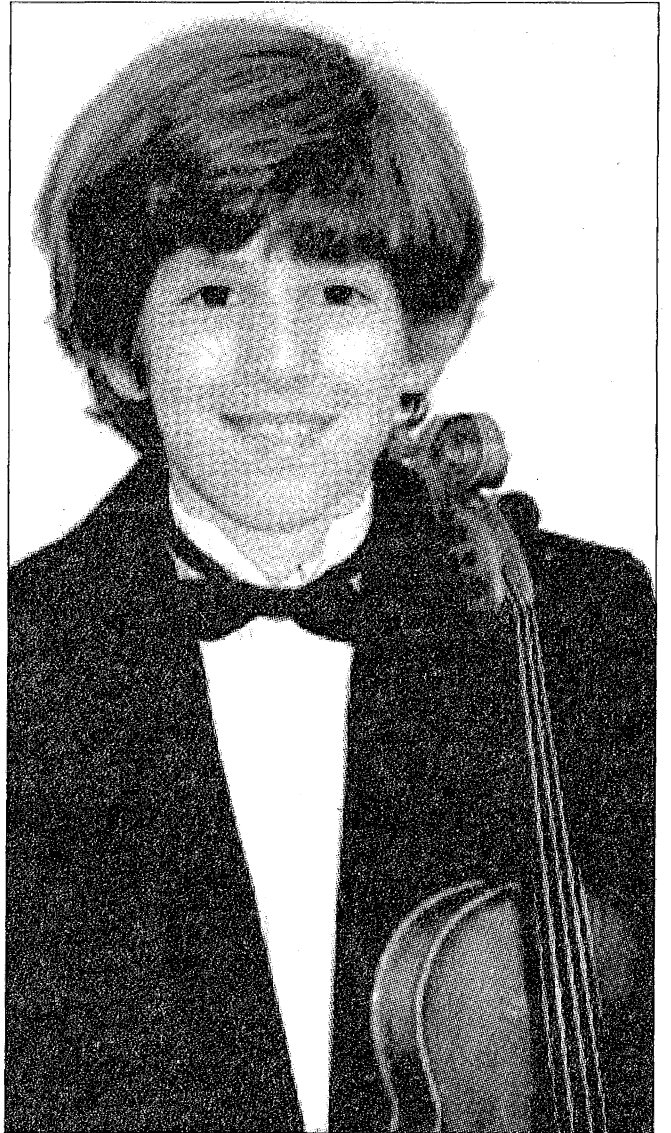


PHOTO CREDIT: STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Vaillancourt has been playing since he was 5 years old.

"Sometimes certain songs can get really annoying," said Martin.

After an excellent performance at the Staller Center, his parents have decided to let him take a break and work his way back up to practicing 45 minutes a day.

If he is not making music, or busy with schoolwork, Martin likes to build things and hang out with his friends. When he is not practicing violin, he plays guitar and is learning how to play piano. He listens to all types of music, from Tchaikovsky to the Beatles. He loves basketball and soccer but sometimes he likes to just relax and watch TV.

"I don't think I'm going to have a career in music because it's a big commitment and I'm not

all that good." Martin said modestly. He aspires to be a biomedical engineer, but is going to keep the tradition of music in his family.


At the end of his performance, Martin took a bow in his fuzzy slippers and the audience rowdily applauded. His sister Eva ran to the stage and handed Martin a bouquet of roses. His smile was wide and his cheeks tinted pink as he walked proudly off the stage.


According to Deaver, this concert is a highlight for the orchestra each year. When Hershkovitz and Deaver were asked if they thought the concert was a success, both responded, "Absolutely."

"It was an exhilarating experience that any kid would dream of having," said Martin.

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colleges for change

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who we are

The Colleges For Change Program is grant funded by the New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program. The grant covers seven Colleges For Change grants statewide.

The grant has been designed to engage young leaders to work on and off college campuses to limit where and how tobacco products are promoted, advertised and sold, and to advance local and statewide policy advocacy approach to creating communities that support and reinforce tobacco-free norms.


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 - Develop and implement policies that completely ban the distribution of free tobacco products on campus and at community events.
 - Educate the colleges and local community about the impact of tobacco industry sponsorship and promotion.
- 2. SMOKE-FREE MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS:**
 - Work with management of college off-campus housing to enact smokefree policies.
 - Educate target audiences about the impact of secondhand smoke and benefits of living in smoke-free housing.
- 3. OUTDOOR TOBACCO-FREE POLICIES:**
 - Advocate with school and municipal offices and adopt binding policies, ordinances, etc. prohibiting tobacco on campus, local beaches, parks, and playgrounds.

what can you do?

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OPINION

the stony brook
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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.

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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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PHEEIA: The Students Dilemma

By **CRAIG MCCARTHY**
USG Senator

PHEEIA is a very interesting subject at this moment. It is interesting to see passionate people on both sides for and against it. The people visibly acting out against PHEEIA can be described as radical in one way, or as a passionate student advocates in another.

The people for PHEEIA can appear to be either "with" the administration, as if they are on the Dark Side, or concerned about the declining quality of their education and the integrity of the school. There are both good reasons for and against this complicated piece of legislation.

I have read through PHEEIA, absorbed many articles ranging from UUP's stance to Stony Brook University's own administrative position, listened to the many different presentations held during the University Senate meetings

and Undergraduate Student Government meetings.

I have sat in on conversations between prominent Stony Brook officials, spoken to protestors from GSEU, lent an ear to any student that has an opinion on the matter and been Vice Chair of the USG Ad-hoc Committee to Examine Potential Tuition Changes.

Because of this, I have noticed that each side must first make some sort of assumption to justify their stance.

A very good method of describing these assumptions would be to use the fundamental problem within game theory known as the prisoner's dilemma.

Stony Brook University students have a dilemma before them. Stony Brook is facing the chance of a \$30 million cut in funding this year. There are predictions of additional cuts of \$15 million for the next four years as well.

These budget cuts could be considered our first variable.

We can either take a \$30 million cut or somehow be lucky enough to defeat it.

The second dilemma is that PHEEIA could pass or fail. If PHEEIA passes then revenue could increase. Even though the increased revenue would not cover all the budget cuts, it would produce a consistent income that would allow for loans and other opportunities to cover that rest of the gap.

If PHEEIA fails then there would be no safety net. Major cuts would have to be made to Stony Brook University.

The figure provided summarizes the student's dilemma. If budget cuts pass and PHEEIA passes then Stony Brook may have the ability to maintain the status quo. If the quality and integrity of your education is important to you then you should be trying to avoid the section labeled "Lose Funding."

If budget cuts pass and PHEEIA fails then Stony Brook will lose funding. That could

mean that faculty and staff will have to be let go, numbers of available classes cut, and supplies for classes reduced.

The good situation would be if the budget cuts failed. If both budget cuts and PHEEIA failed then the school may be able to maintain the status quo. If, on the other hand, the budget cuts fail and PHEEIA is passed, then Stony Brook University would have an increase in funding. This increase in funding may go towards hiring more faculties, increasing the number of classes, and upgrading hardware and supplies.

In order to avoid the potential of Stony Brook University losing funding, you can see why the administration would support PHEEIA and hold a stance against budget cuts.

Yes there are other factors at play here as well. I understand that trust issues arise with who should have the power to raise tuition as well as subjects such as differential tuition.

I can only hope that you make logical assumptions and come to educated conclusions on your own. Please do not jump onto the bandwagon because your friends did.

Do you really think that the Stony Brook University administration would allow tuition to increase to upwards of \$80,000 a year? Use your mind; that is the reason we are in college anyway.

	PHEEIA Passes	PHEEIA Fails
Budget Cuts Pass	Maintain Status Quo	Lose Funding
Budget Cuts Fail	Increase Funding	Maintain Status Quo

The Health Care Bill: A Healthy Solution?

Deciding whether or not it is all worth it...

By **JOE LABRIOLA**
Contributing Writer

The recent passing of the health care bill marks a decisive moment for not only Obama's tenure but also American society. Health care reform is an issue that few can claim not to have an opinion on, unlike most other divisive debates;

and health care is rapidly evolving into one of the most partisan conflicts of our time. It is a topic of fierce personal and philosophical contention on both sides; each of which is quite certain of their opinion as being the unequivocal moral answer to very real problems.

It has been rare to turn on the T.V. in the past few months, flip to any major news channel and watch the

daily feed without at least a mention of the seemingly sluggish progress of the health care reform bill. It's notable, however, how bogged down in partisan debate this issue has become. Health care reform has been sitting on the backburner of the political agenda, while on the forefront of many Americans' minds for years now. With a democratic president and large numbers of his

party in the House and Senate, the battle over health care reform was bound to come to a head, which, in this case resulted in the House passing and Obama signing into law, what cnn.com proclaimed "the most sweeping social legislation in the past four decades."

See **HEALTH** on 7

Guidelines for Opinion Submission



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

ARTS

Music Festivals and Concerts to See This Spring and Summer

By IVANNA AVALOS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Spring has finally arrived, and with the showers and the flowers in bloom, now comes one of the best parts of the spring and summer season—concerts.

This year there are some tours of up-and-coming bands, along with a few seasoned vets who have toured over the span of several decades and travelled continents.

Here is a list of a few of the concerts and festivals to check out this spring and summer.

Music Festivals:

The Bamboozle Festival returns to New Jersey's East Rutherford for its 7th annual, two-day, rain-or-shine event on Saturday, May 1 and Sunday, May 2.

Headlining Saturday's event are Tennessee rockers

Paramore and hip-hop artist Drake. On Sunday Weezer and MGMT will headline.

Two-day passes are currently sold-out, but single day tickets are still available. For a look at the full 2010 line-up go to the Bamboozle website.

The Vans Warped Tour officially begins on April 9 at Key Club in West Hollywood, Calif., and will travel across the United States throughout the summer with the last leg of the tour ending on August 25 in Hillsboro, Ore. Warped Tour, an outdoors festival, will have a stop in Uniondale, Long Island in the Nassau Coliseum parking lot.

There are over 100 bands currently scheduled to perform on various dates throughout the tour. For a look to see which bands are performing in a certain town, go to the Vans Warped Tour website.

Artists on Tour:

In mid-April, '80s rockers The Flaming Lips will go on tour with their first show scheduled in Virginia. Although their New York City concert is already sold-out, there are still tickets available for their show in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. on April 17.

Texas quintet Flyleaf is currently on tour in the United Kingdom, and will return to the U.S. in late April for the Unite & Fight Tour and will stop for shows with Sugar Red Drive. Their first U.S. show is April 28 in Belton, TX.

They are playing three shows in the tri-state area, two in New York—Poughkeepsie and New York City—and one in Atlantic City, N.J. Flyleaf will perform on May 21, 22 and 24, respectively.

Vampire Weekend, a

See **CONCERTS** on 7



www.paramore.net

Paramore (above) and Drake (left) are headlining The Bamboozle Festival's Saturday show. Weezer (below) are headlining on Sunday.



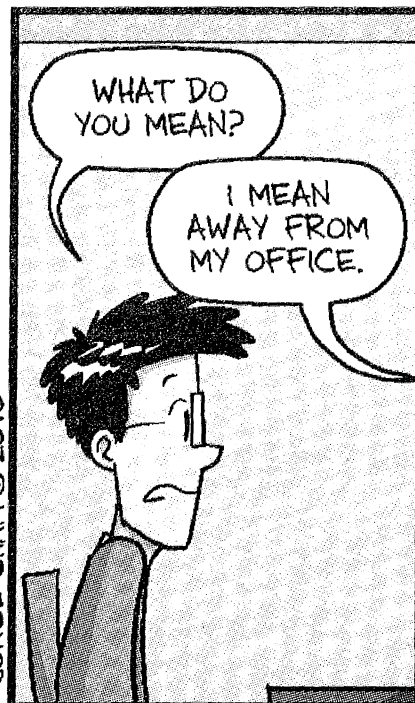
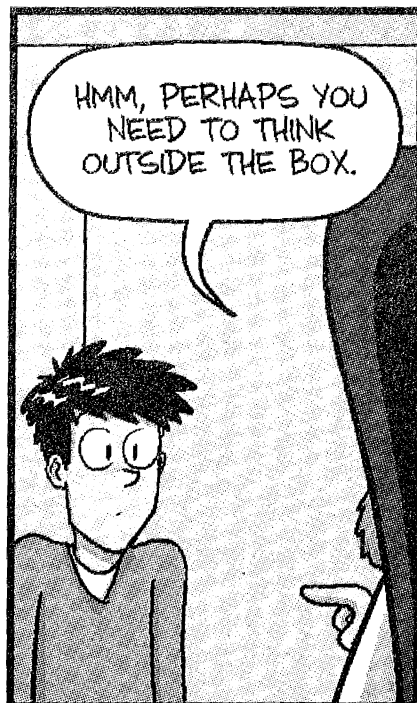
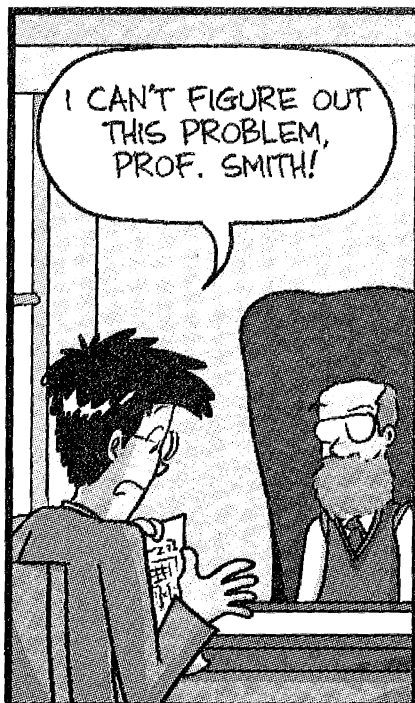
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Spring and Summer Music Festivals and Concerts

From **CONCERTS** on 6

New York City-based band that has quickly created a name for themselves in today's music scene is currently on tour. Their international tour has the band travelling between the states, the United Kingdom and Australia until the middle of September, where Vampire Weekend will perform three shows in New York City's Radio City Music Hall.

Hip-Hop artist Lupe

Fiasco has already started the first leg of his U.S. tour, Steppin Laser. B.O.B., a hip-hop and R&B artist, is joining Fiasco on stage for some of the Chicago rapper's tour dates. He will make a stop in New York City's The Fillmore New York at Irving Palace Fiasco on April 11 perform his last show on the U.S. tour in Seattle, Wash on May 7.

In February, former Beatle Paul McCartney announced he was going on a small tour this spring after the close of his Good

Evening Europe. He is set to perform May 28 at the Jobing.com Arena in Phoenix, Ariz., with three other shows in the U.S. — two in Los Angeles and one in Miami—one in Puerto Rico and five in Europe. McCartney will end his tour in Hard Rock Calling in London on June 27.

U2 is going on a North American tour this summer. Interpol, Lenny Kravitz and the Fray will be supporting acts on various dates of U2's 360 Tour. The 14 stop tour will kick-off in Salt Lake



www.arktimes.com

Flyleaf, currently on tour in the United Kingdom, are returning to the U.S. in late April to start their Unite & Right Tour. The Texas band is performing tracks off their latest studio release, "Memento Moir."

City, Utah and end in New York City's Meadowland

Stadium. For information on who will open for U2

on specific dates check out U2's website.

Arts at the Brook

UNIVERSITY CAFE:

Mark Erelli, a singer/songwriter, will perform at the University Café's Sunday Street Acoustic Series at 2 p.m. on March 28.

STALLER CENTER:

Christian McBride, a jazz bandleader and composer, will perform in the Staller Center's Recital Hall on Saturday, March 27

at 8 p.m. McBride will be accompanied by his band, the Inside Straight Sunday, March 28 at 1 p.m. The Staller Center is showing a projected, encore performance of "Hamlet" by the Metropolitan Opera.

The representation of "Hamlet" is part of the Staller Center's The Met:Live in HD Series.

SPRING BREAK:
*There are will be no events or performances on campus during Spring

Break from March 29 to April 4.

Programs in the Staller Center will resume the same week classes begin. The Staller Center's first performance back from break will be Thursday, April 8.

OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION OPINION

The Healthcare Bill: A Healthy Solution?

From **HEALTH** on 5

On the surface health care for all sounds great, but the actual bill and ideological divisions between proponents and opponents is much more complicated.

The vote last Sunday could not have been more representative of the conflicting views of democrats and republicans.

While the majority of democrats in the House voted in favor of the bill, more than 30 opposed it, with zero republicans approving the passing of this historic measure.

Between die-hard democrats, uncertain moderates, and zealously opposed republicans, the health care reform bill vote was a clear indication of the deep ideological rift regarding this crucial piece of legislation.

Perhaps the main and most important question

is who wins and loses once this bill becomes law? Certainly the more than tens of millions of currently uninsured Americans stand to gain the greatest undeniable utility.

Having any health care at all is a huge step up from nothing. The debate then lies in all those who are currently insured, and those who will be picking up the cost for the still uninsured and the poor whose insurance will be subsidized by the government.

Rather than an answer regarding what is right and wrong, the emphasis now lies in contending what it fair for whom and how much.

Early on the main opposition to health care reform seemed to stem from the suddenly revived republican value of fiscal responsibility that was strangely absent during most of the Bush years of record deficit spending. The same politicians who



approved war funding to blow billion-dollar holes in deserts on the other side of the Earth could not seem to console adding any amount to the already billowing national debt.

Perhaps realizing the contradiction in such a mindset, the argument swiftly swiveled onto a much more contentious and tangible issue than

intangible numbers of dollars.

We have all heard the woeful warning wails of "death panels" and most recently "baby killer." These emotional outcries seem to be the right's best hope of contesting what will soon become law.

With little hope of stopping health care reform from actually happening,

republicans can at least shout their opposition now, in hopes of saying "we told you so later."

After all, the republicans have a lot to lose. The wealthy will be picking up some of the tab when reform goes into effect. Perhaps more dangerous than the actual monetary loss is the social precedent being set: rich subsidizing the poor.

This is surely a trend that nobody making a lot of money wants to see, and definitely reason for contention against any kind of social change results in downward redistribution of wealth.

Perhaps the problem with the health care reform debate is that there is no right or wrong answer. As clear as there is right and left, red and blue, politicians and the politically active seek to divide issues into partisan problems with partisan solutions.

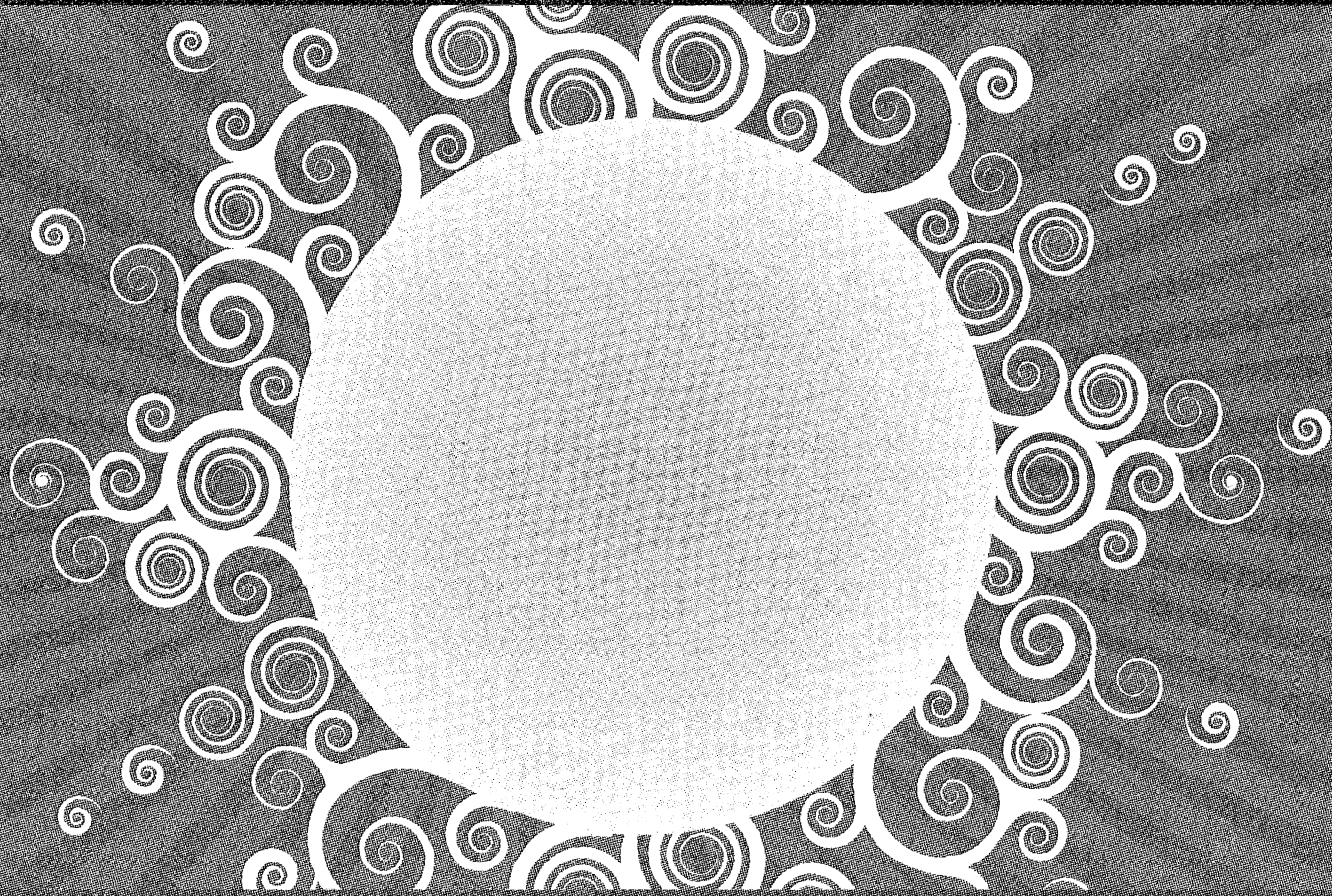
Instead, there are only

solutions and subsequent results. For this reason, health care reform is a good thing for the American people. You can argue about the slightly increased cost for all and potential lowering of industry innovation, but the fact remains that more people are going to benefit under the new health care laws.

Whatever happens in the future; health care for none, some, or all, there are going to be those who "win" and those who "lose." Nothing comes for free, and in the case of reforming health care, some will have to pick up the tab for the greater good of the majority.

Perhaps there are other solutions, but the republicans and former president Bush never offered anything substantial, and with the democrats and Obama hell-bent on reform, it will for now be the new way of health care in America. For now.

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Stony Brook Comes 21st in RecycleMania

By **CHRISTINA MULLIGAN**
Contributing Writer

The slogan "Wolfie says recycle!" can be found throughout residential halls, campus buildings and pinned onto students during the weeks of Jan. 17 up until March 27.

Those 10 weeks mark the third year in a row that all five campuses of Stony Brook University including Manhattan, Southampton, the Research and Development Campus and the Proposed South Korean Campus, are participating in an annual friendly recycling competition, Recycle Mania. Over 600 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada participate by measuring the amount of solid waste each one generates and then recycles.

As of March 24, Stony Brook was ranked 21th out of 346 entrants in the Gorilla Prize category for the highest gross tonnage of recyclables. Although the university has had significant success in separate portions of the competition, its overall rank has been low.

During the same week, the university placed 215th out of 266 colleges in the Grand Champion category, where entrants are ranked for their combined reduction in waste generation and recycling. In that category, Stony Brook's combined rate is about 17 percent, a whopping 54 percent less than the number one ranked, California State University at San Marco's.

Stony Brook, with about 30,000 full-time students and faculty members at its main campus, is at a disadvantage because it is much larger than most of its competitors, said Michael Youdelman, the university's manager of Recycling and Resource Management. Youdelman said Stony Brook's veterans' home alone, a 350-bed facility, accumulates about 40,000 pounds of trash a week on its own.

Though its main purpose is friendly encouragement to recycle, RecycleMania is a competition: The national awards for the high scorers come not only with bragging rights but also highly prized trophies made of recycled glass, said Alec Cooley, a RecycleMania program manager.

In addition, Stony Brook and other participants run in-house contests during the same 10-week period, with the dormitory quads and individual buildings on the West Campus competing against one another for "green bucks." Resident assistants distribute the game money to students they spot recycling or simply picking up litter; the "green bucks" can be redeemed later an auction of prizes. The top-ranked dorm is awarded an additional \$200 to go toward a program that the occupants desire.

The idea is to encourage students to recycle during those 10 weeks in the hopes the behavior will continue the rest of the year, said Marisa Jeffers, quad director and head of the campus competition.

"It is actually fun competing within the dorms since it is for a good cause," said Jack Kui, 20, "It is like we have started our own little Recycle Olympics. It will be interesting to see who actually takes the gold."

RecycleMania started in 2001 as a rivalry between Ohio University and Miami University. Miami won. The competition expanded in its second year to four entrants.



PHOTO CREDIT: FROSTBURG.EDU

RecycleMania continued gaining momentum and popularity, doubling its participants every year. In 2004, its organizers joined the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Wise program and took the contest national.

Today, RecycleMania is independently owned and operated by recycling managers from five participating universities that comprise the steering committee. This year's competition

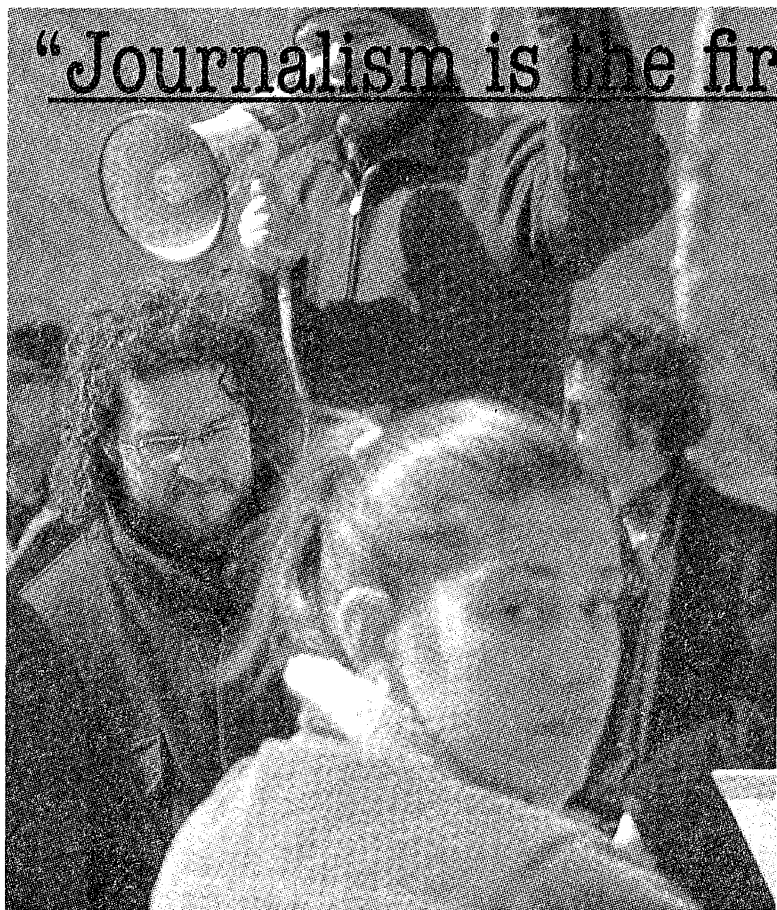
will be operating by the Keep America Beautiful association as well. RecycleMania's corporate sponsors include the Keep America Beautiful association and representatives of some major producers of solid waste, the Coca Cola Company and the American Forest and Paper Association.

With the help of Recycle Mania, Stony Brook University is making better efforts to decrease waste accumulation by

reusing office furniture and supplies, buying products with recycled content and also continuing to expand recycling, according to the Central Services Department.

"It doesn't matter who you are, everyone needs clean air and water, recycling helps maintain that need," Youdelman said.

The co-president of the Environmental Club, Greg Smith, said the club had no role in the competition but admired the schools participation in it.



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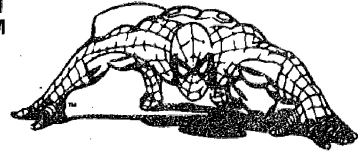
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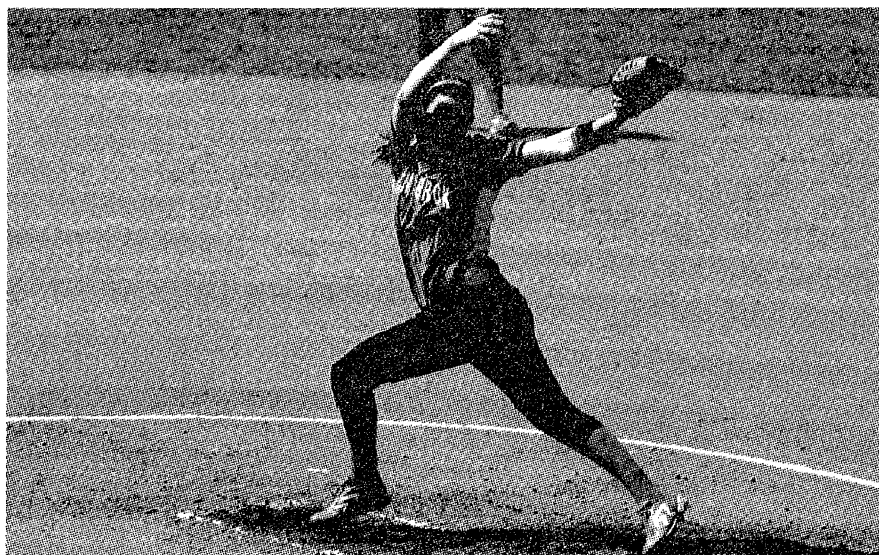
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Softball Wins Weekly Honors



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Seawolves pitcher Alyssa Struzenberg etched her name into the history books with her stellar play over the weekend.

By SARAH KAZADI
Sports Editor

The Stony Brook softball team has been on a hot streak as of late, and the squad was rewarded with honors from the conference this week.

Stony Brook senior pitcher Alyssa Struzenberg was named the America East Pitcher of the Week, and senior shortstop Vicki Kavitsky received the conference's Player of the Week honors.

Cruising through the Stony Brook Invitational, the Seawolves swept the competition and extended their winning streak to five games.

During the Invitational,

Kavitsky went 10-16 from the plate, good for a .625 batting percentage.

When Stony Brook shut out Fairfield 5-0, Kavitsky went a perfect 4-for-4, collecting a couple of doubles along the way and scoring two runs.

But it was Struzenberg's work on the mound that sealed the deal for the Seawolves, allowing them to dominate by giving the opposition little to no scoring opportunity.

The senior managed to be on top of her game for duration of the weekend-long invitational, not only throwing a no-hitter but also breaking two school records in the process.

Struzenberg is now Stony

Brook softball's all-time leader in wins and shutouts, picking up her 59th career win against Yale and her 19th career shutout in the no-hitter against Fairfield.

The pitcher gave up only five hits in 18.2 innings on the mound, also recording 20 strikeouts and not allowing even a single earned run.

The Seawolves are picking up steam and building momentum for the start of conference play, which begins Saturday against UMBC.

Stony Brook will travel to Maryland to take on the Retrievers in a three game series, which kicks off at 1:00 p.m. Saturday and ends with Sunday's game at noon.

Building On Year's Success Is Critical For Future Of SBU Hoops

By IAN THOMAS
Contributing Writer

When the final buzzer went off in Chase Arena on March 7, the Stony Brook men's basketball team found themselves in a unfamiliar position for this season: They had lost.

However, just even a year ago, making it to the second round of the America East semifinals would have been a huge accomplishment. But after a season where the Seawolves broke just about every program record, this bittersweet finish and a trip to the NIT for winning the America East regular season title will have to do.

And while their worst to first Cinderella story will certainly draw great attention to the university from the national community over the next few months, that interest will be short term unless the team can repeat on their success, and improve as well.

The question remains: will the next generation of Stony Brook students look back at this season as New England Patriot fans do of 2001, when a perennially poor team finally adopted a new mindset and created as close to a dynasty? Or will they remember this team as akin to the 1979 Tampa Bay Buccaneers, a glimpse of success by a program continually marred by losing?

For Coach Steve Pikiell and his staff, clearly the first option would be preferred, and much of that hope will rest on the shoulders

of the players they are able to recruit, as well as the continued development of the roster.

Stony Brook's most talented new recruit will likely be David Coley, a guard from Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, New York. Ranked 140 in the nation amongst shooting guards by Scouts, Inc., a national high school and college evaluation group, the 6'2" Coley is described as a hard working player with tons of energy, attributes that Pikiell was sure to notice.

While it will certainly be difficult for Pikiell to replace senior guard Muhammad El-Amin, who was named America East Player of the Year by Sporting News, his talented sophomore trio will more than likely pick up the slack.

Brian Dougher, Dallis Joyner and Tommy Brenton all saw their roles increased this past year, and all stepped up to the occasion. All three improved their points per game total, with a similar increase to field goal percentage. Certainly more will be expected out of the them next year, as well as Chris Martin, Marcus Rouse and Danny Carter.

Along with El-Amin, F/C Andrew Goba and guard Eddie Castellanos will be graduating from the team this year. While the pair did not play as of important of a role as El-Amin did offensively, they both were active contributors to the defensive play that propelled the Seawolves to the levels of success they had.

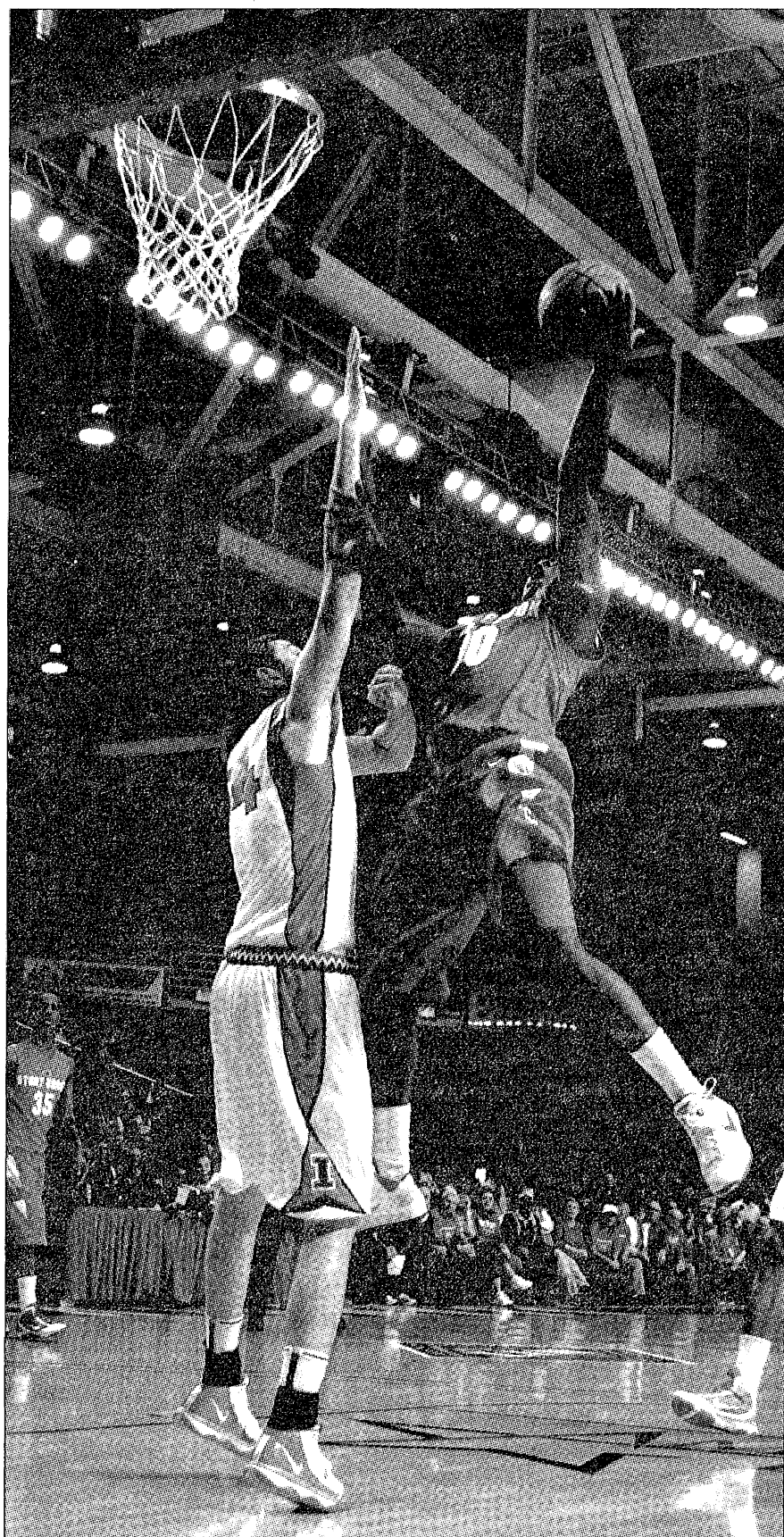
However, perhaps the most interesting subtraction from the team will be F/C Desmond Adedeji. By far one of the largest players in the America East in stature alone, Adedeji was looked at as one of the keys to the team's success going into the year, ideally used in a role where he'd be positioned under the basket as the ball moved through the perimeter. The plan was shelved quite quickly though, as Adedeji suffered a torn ACL in his left knee during a December matchup with St. Johns.

Pikiell and his staff quickly adopted a new, more up-tempo game strategy, and the team responded, winning 15 of their next 20 games. Now, with a full summer to tweak strategies and work on ball movement and shooting accuracy, it's quite possible next year's Seawolves look even better.

For Pikiell, that level of teaching and development has been key, from the first day he arrived at Stony Brook when the program was struggling to fix leaks in the roof, to now when they will celebrate last season with the school's first championship banner. Only time will tell if that banner will be a stepping stone, or simply a footnote for what could have been.

Photo by KENNETH HO
THE STATESMAN

Stony Brook guard Chris Martin (right) takes it hard to the basket against an Illinois seven-footer.



SPORTS

17th Ranked Stony Brook Lacrosse Drops Second Straight

By SAM KILB
Assistant Sports Editor

Coming off a hard-fought loss to Denver on Saturday, the #17 Stony Brook men's lacrosse team dropped another close battle, losing to #7/9 Cornell Big Red, 12-9, at LaValle Stadium on Tuesday evening.

"I'm disappointed," Seawolves Head Coach Rick Sowell said following the loss. "But good times are ahead."

Junior Kevin Crowley (New Westminster, British Columbia) led Stony Brook with four goals. Cornell's Ryan Hurley recorded five goals.

The Seawolves went behind early, allowing Cornell to jump out to a 3-0 lead. But a four-goal streak by Stony Brook gave the home team the lead at the end of the first quarter.

Hurley scored early in the second quarter to tie the game. Crowley scored with 1:23 to go in the half to put the Seawolves back in front, but Cornell answered back

with five seconds left in the half to send the teams into the locker rooms at level pegging.

Cornell came out of the break with more energy, scoring five straight to put the game out of reach for good. Stony Brook couldn't manage a goal until the fourth quarter when sophomore Timmy Trenkle (Commack, N.Y.) scored with 11 minutes left in the game.

The Big Red would stretch their lead to 12-7 with a little more than four minutes to go.

A late Stony Brook comeback that consisted of a goal by junior Jordan McBride (New Westminster, British Columbia) on an assist from Trenkle and another Crowley goal with 2:55 on the clock came up short as Cornell retained possession for much of the final two minutes.

Stony Brook's next game will be its last non-conference game. The Seawolves will hit the road to play Bryant on Saturday at 1 p.m.

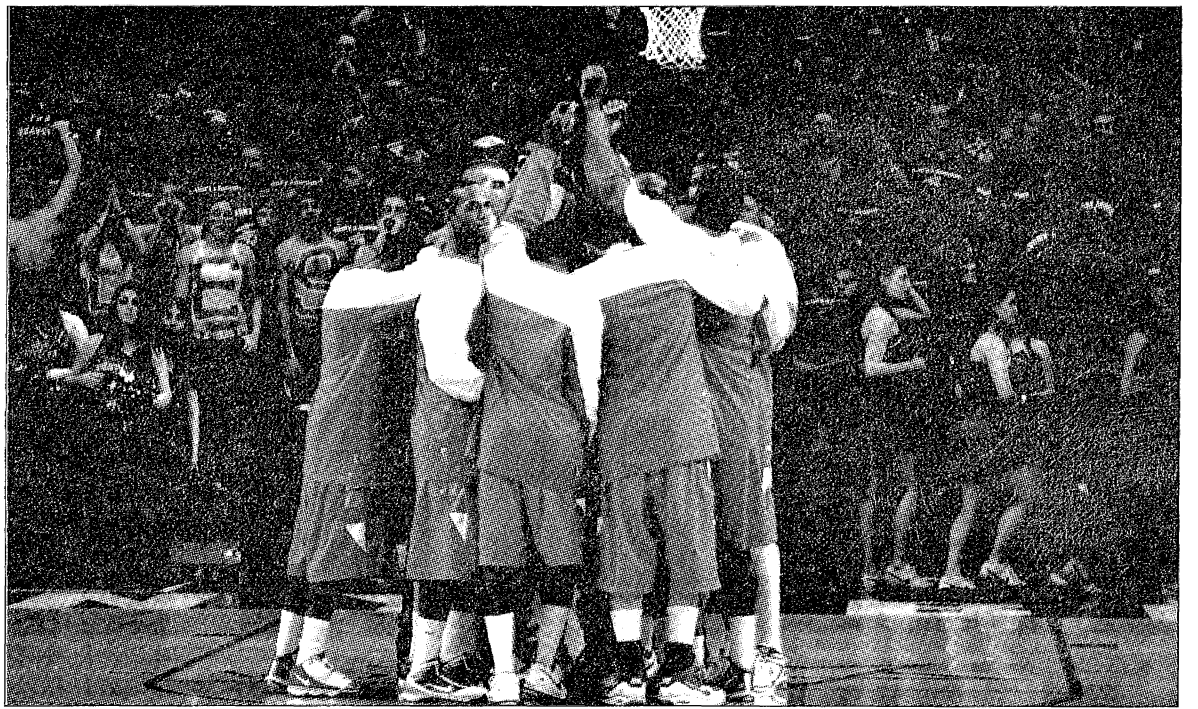


KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Seawolves junior midfielder Timmy Trenkel (above) scored one goal in Stony Brook's loss to Cornell on Tuesday night.

A Stepping Stone Or A Footnote?

Building On Year's Success Is Critical For Future Of SBU Hoops



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN