



The Patriot

No. 2

APRIL 2005

MONTHLY

Republican Conspiracy Revealed!

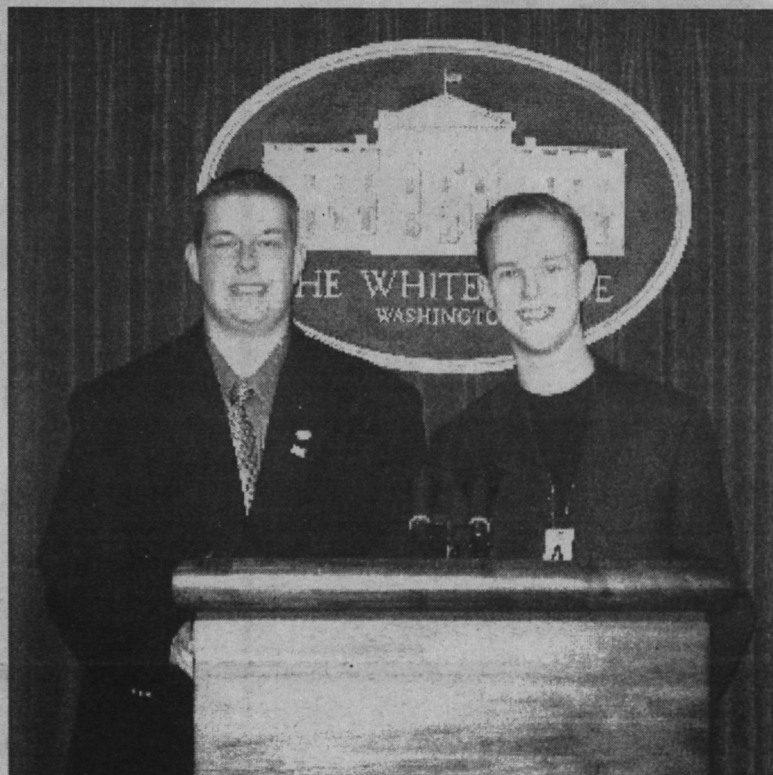
By Tim Cole, Jeff Kruszyna, and Jared Wong

It all started on a hot day in Texas. Now that the Taliban had fallen, President Bush gathered his cabinet at the Bush Ranch to decide where next to take the war on terrorism. There were the usual shouts of Iraq from Wolfowitz and Rumsfeld, but from the back of the conference room came a new voice of reason. It was Tim Cole, who had gone to Washington D.C. under the pretext of a White House internship, but had quickly risen to prominence as one of the Republicans chief strategists under the guidance of boy genius Karl Rove. Tim asserted that the real attack on America came not from places like Iran or Syria but from his very college campus at Stony Brook University.

He went on to say that unless the Republicans could orchestrate a takeover of the Undergraduate Student Government there, the dream of a free and conservative America could never be a reality. In typical fashion Colin Powell objected to a USG takeover, insisting that places like North Korea were far more dangerous. Quickly though he was out-voiced by Rove who claimed that a Republican takeover of the Undergraduate Student Government at Stony Brook could be the centerpiece in the President's upcoming re-election campaign. President Bush gave young Cole full authority in coordinating "Operation Wolfie" and requested weekly reports to be delivered at White House cabinet meetings (see picture at upper-right).

Returning to Stony Brook, Tim immediately enlisted the help of College Republican President and fellow conspirator, Jeff Kruszyna. If the Republicans were going to take over the USG the first step would be finding someone to run for President. Kruszyna had the perfect candidate: Jared Wong. Not only was Jared a registered Democrat but he also contributed money to the Democratic National Committee. No one would ever believe that he would help the Republicans conduct regime change at the USG!

It wasn't long before Wong became President and began placing Republicans into every facet of USG. However, fearing a left wing uprising Wong began recruiting a secret army called the GOP Unit to help protect the USG Republican stronghold. A GOP Unit training camp was set up in the secret tunnels that run underneath Stony Brook. Here new recruits were brainwashed into the Republican cause and trained to use any means necessary to protect the conspiracy (see picture below).

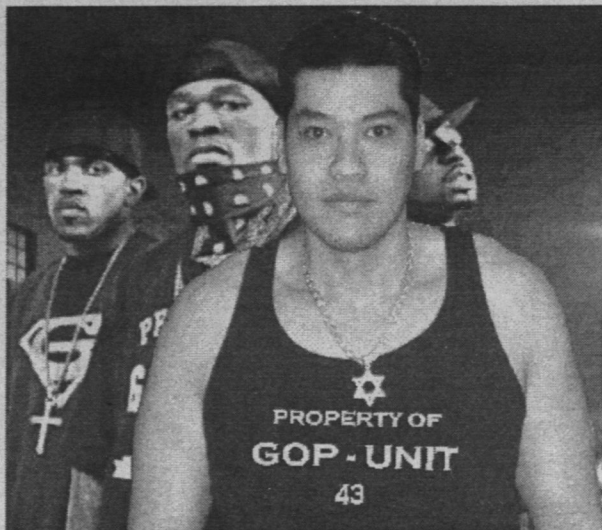


College Republicans President Jeff Kruszyna and Vice President Tim Cole visit the White House to discuss their USG takeover strategy with Karl Rove.

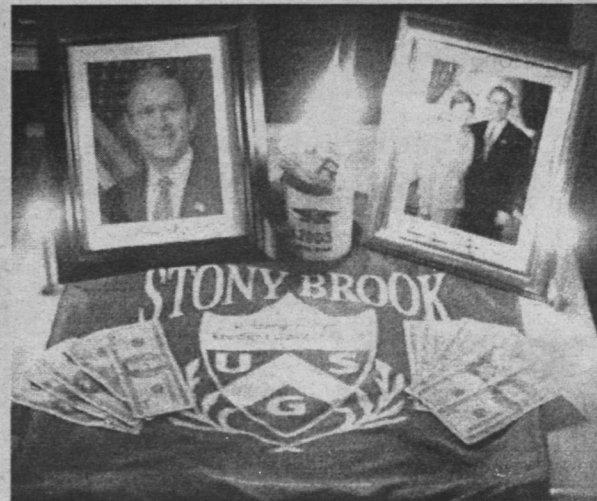
In a bloodless coup, less than a year after Wong was elected, the Republicans had fully taken over USG. The immediate impact was enormous: Bush regained the White House, North Korea opened to negotiations, and gas prices went up. Cole and Kruszyna had solidified their positions in the party and began to set their sights on the White House. Having orchestrated a full takeover of the USG, the Republicans paid ritualistic tribute to their savior, President Bush (see picture at bottom right).



The GOP Unit training camp attracted many followers as the Republicans proselytized their message of limited government and personal responsibility.



Jared Wong, President of USG, recruits 50 Cent, Lloyd Banks, Young Buck, and the rest of the GOP Unit.



Victorious, co-conspirators Jeff Kruszyna, Jared Wong and Tim Cole celebrate their new Republican stranglehold over the USG.

A Printing Solution?

By Rachel O'Brien



No. 2 March 2005

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Students using the university's computing site in the library are in for a big change. Recently, the SINC site implemented "Pharos"-a trial printing program that was created by the Instructional Computing Services staff by mixing and matching different aspects of other SUNY printing systems. Pharos allowed for any of the 115 computers to be used for printing. Students were able to print from the computer they were sitting at by simply entering a username and password for the print job and then going to the computer on the printing row designated "Pharos" to finish the printing process. This system's purpose was to have lowered waste of paper and ink as well as decrease wait times on lines.

However, the system was removed just two weeks after being implemented. It backfired, causing the opposite of what it had intended- longer lines and more paper being wasted. Although the trial program was removed, the name "Pharos" is still being used in the current print system- a setup which simply asks for a username when printing in order to have organized control over the influx of papers being printed.

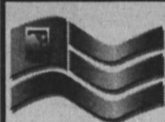
Next fall, however, Pharos will be in for a drastic change as students will be charged to print if they exceed the print limit they will be given. The printing limit will be given to each student who has

paid their technology fee of \$165 per semester and monitored by requiring students to sign in with a method of identification. After exceeding this limit students must pay for any additional pages they print.

Commenting on the upcoming system, Nancy Duffrin, Director of Instructional Network Computing Services said, "[Pharos] will let us give people a quota so that they will control the wasted paper and printing and get people to think twice before they print." Duffrin explained that \$110,000 was spent on toner and paper in the last year. That includes 9 million pages printed, tripled from just 3 million pages three years ago.

Although students are concerned with the wait time on lines to print, Duffrin said, "It's not on my priority list. Actually having lines discourages students from printing excessively and it's having lines that helps reduce waste due to excessive printing." Duffrin added that the massive amount of printing and long lines are partially caused by people who print, go off without their print job, which will then get thrown out, and come back later to print again when the lines are shorter.

Duffrin describes an ideal printing program as one that will reduce waste of both paper and time, having "students helping other students instead of wasting time behind the counter handing out printed papers."



Stony Brook
University

College Republicans



Present:

"The Liberation of Iraq - A Soldier's Story"
with special guest:

Lieutenant Colonel Scott Rutter

Wednesday,

April 20th

1:00pm

SAC 302



Co-sponsored by the Enduring Freedom Alliance, Veterans Student Organization, Office of Veteran's Affairs, Office of the Dean of Students, and Undergraduate Student Government's President Jared Wong.

Dude, Where'd Everyone Go?

By Elizabeth Alonzo

Last September, former news-editor for *The Statesman*, Michael Nevradakis, accused former *Statesman* editor-in-chief, Mansoor Khan, of violating *The Statesman* constitution by not holding elections for editorial positions. Nevradakis, Maury Hirshkorn (former *Statesman* staff writer), Dana Gomi (former *Statesman* sports-editor) and other *Statesman* editors discussed Khan's position as editor-in-chief wherein they, according to Hirschkorn, all agreed that his leadership was dissatisfactory. The discrepancy was taken to the USG Judicial Council as case 001. If proven guilty, their funding would have been revoked even though *The Statesman*, besides being a student organization, is an independent corporation which receives much of its funding through advertising.

In response to the allegations, Mr. Khan stated, "an almost insensible number of charges were based entirely on subjective opinions and petty accusations" and the argument between him and Nevradakis "grew into a public spectacle shrouded in a tremendous amount of misunderstanding and assumptuous accusations."



Photo Courtesy of Stonybrook.edu

Former *Statesman* Publisher Mansoor Khan.

Khan did not attend the court case. He "did not believe the judiciary offered a fair chance to both sides" which is why he protested the hearing.

This issue appears to be more about the inefficiency of last semester's Judicial Council more than anything else. Although a ruling was expected this semester, so far no decision has been made. Apparently, Chief Judge Artie Flynn, who heard the case, has disappeared. According to

Chief Justice Vlad Frants, Flynn had transferred out of Stony Brook University without so much as telling him or anyone else. Judge Yelena Natanson, who also heard the case, has not returned my e-mail.

When questioned on the failure of a Judicial Council ruling, Justice Alexandra Borodkin explained that a ruling cannot be made for two reasons. First, Flynn did not record sufficient information for the current Council to continue the case. Second, the Judiciary Council by-laws state that three members of a judicial council must be present to hear a case. Only two members (Flynn and Natanson) were present for this case, making a ruling unconstitutional. In short, if both parties wish to seek a court ruling, Mr. Nevradakis and Mr. Khan will have to file a petition to pursue a retrial.

James Bouklas, the current editor-in-chief for *The Statesman*, informed me that the new administration is abiding by their constitution and is currently holding elections. In the meantime, Michael Nevradakis has moved on to become editor-in-chief for *The SB Independent* and Mansoor Khan resigned from his position.

Letter From the Editor

Dear Reader,

I'd like to take this moment to thank you for your interest and support over the last month. I cannot express how happy I am that I am writing this for our SECOND ISSUE. That's right... this is our second issue and we're still going strong. In fact, we're doing better than ever. Quite a bit of good news has been brought to our attention. After being told that since our paper is not a "recognized media organization," and that we were not entitled to the same rights these organizations have, we just had to do a little research into the issue. After looking through the Club and Organization Bill of Rights (passed in April of last year), we stumbled upon Section 5: Right of Student Media.

Okay, there's nothing new here; we knew that media groups had special rights. But reading further we noticed subsection D which states: "Published, broadcast, electronic or otherwise distributed media of any club or organization shall be recognized and treated as a product of free speech, guaranteed to all people by the US Constitution. All such media shall be granted the same rights as given to student media."

Need I say more? I think not.

I'd also like to thank *The Press* because they've played a central role in the largest advertising campaign we've had yet. And best of all, it was completely free! We laughed with *The Press* in most of its parody, though we think they went a bit too far in some places. Still, we'd like to acknowledge the incredible amount of publicity they've provided us with.

In what was probably the only decent article in that parody, the "Who's Looking Out for You in USG" piece, Mike Billings made quite a few comments and corrections that were, in fact, true. I wrote the original "Who's Looking Out for You" article in our last issue and I would like to correct some of the mistakes I made in that piece not mentioned by Mr. Billings.

I believe I was wrong when I began by saying that I thought the USG might actually be getting better; it only seemed that way during the first few meetings. Thanks to a horrible decision, the Senate has been at a

stand-still for a while now. Apparently, due to this new system of using Senate time for subcommittee hearings, representatives from all clubs seeking funding must schedule a time to present their case to the Senate. This was originally going to take up an hour of each Senate meeting for several weeks, which would have been a total waste of time, but thanks to the snow it was even worse. It seems that at least one meeting has been entirely devoted to this purpose. I think it's ridiculous that when the Senate can barely get anything done in two hours, they want to devote time to this during the meeting rather than after or at different hours. Why can't the senators hang around for just one hour after the meeting and ask the parliamentarian to leave so this doesn't interfere with Senate proceedings? Apparently that would make too much sense.

Though I still believe Richard Hsu is looking out for you, I do now see that there were serious issues with the SU&AHELP Act and I think that there are better ways of pushing the changes he wants to see in USG. However, problems with the NOIRFAN Act have also been brought to my attention.

Well enough retractions from me, let's talk about this month's issue and the retractions we're going to make for *The Press* since they're too "goddamn arrogant" to do this themselves. Don't get me wrong, I thought most of their parody was hysterical; in fact, it inspired us to make our paper a bit more humorous. However, there were quite a few accusations made against us (and other groups and people) that were unwarranted and flat out untrue.

I hope you enjoy this month's issue as much as we enjoyed making it. I believe it's a significant improvement over our last issue and I've made it my goal to ensure that each issue released is even better than the one preceding it. Thank you again for your support and keep reading!

Sincerely,
Erik Berte
Editor-in-Chief

Mission Statement of THE PATRIOT

The goal of THE PATRIOT is to offer an alternative point of view to the students of Stony Brook University. It is a paper dedicated to raising awareness of student issues on campus, and conservative issues on the national scene. While it does not actively seek controversy, THE PATRIOT strives to offer opinions and news that will encourage the students of this campus to ask themselves what their true values are. It is dedicated to building upon and fostering the conservative views that are strong among so many of us, yet suppressed in our community. But ideology aside, all of our news will be bound to three standards; we will always be *factual, sensible, and reasonable*.

For the last 200 years, this country has stood for truth, justice, natural rights, individual liberty, freedom, and independence. Become a part of the tradition. Please send your submissions and contributions to THE PATRIOT.

stonybrookpatriot@gmail.com
www.stonybrookpatriot.com

A paper of the
Enduring Freedom Alliance:
<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/efa/>

Disclaimer: The views expressed by the writers in these columns are not necessarily the opinions of THE PATRIOT or its editorial staff.

The Fate of Freedom

Commentary by Robert J. Romano

When in the course of human events, it was determined by men far wiser than we that in order to separate from a tyrannical monarchy, to sever those bonds which had held the American colonies to Great Britain, that for the reasons of the American Revolution to be deemed acceptable by future generations, that it was necessary for those reasons to be articulated for posterity. And hence, the founding document of our great nation, the Declaration of Independence, was drafted and then signed on July 4th, 1776. Based upon a belief in self-evident truths, Nature's God, and the Laws of Nature, the Declaration clearly and distinctly articulated that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. --That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness..." This was certainly not set forth for reasons light and transient, indeed, it was implemented for the sake of the freedom of a people who had determined that a tyranny existed which could not be tolerated, and that it was the *right* and *wise*

choice to order it abolished. The colonies agreed to take up arms in the defense of freedom and independence, and they declared war upon the hegemon. In order for their rights to be secured, a new government had to be established, and in order for independence to be established, security had to be put in place and the war had to be waged. The Revolution was necessary, and they gathered their forces together, fought admirably and honorably, and won their freedom.

The natural rights philosophy that our nation was founded upon is of the utmost importance at this critical juncture in human history, because today it is under assault from the forces of evil. Never safe for posterity, freedom often demands that sacrifices be made in its defense, and today is no different as we take up arms in the war on terrorism and tyranny. This is not singularly a war that is being fought upon the battlefield, as it is also being fought by our intelligence agencies, our law enforcement agencies, our diplomatic missions, and perhaps most importantly, it is a war that is being fought in the hearts and minds of humanity. Do we still hold the truth of natural rights to be self-evident?

One strain of conventional wisdom holds that it is not our responsibility to spread freedom and democracy globally, that certain peoples cannot ever live in freedom due to their cultures and religions, and that we are not the world's policemen. Such isolationist tendencies have been common throughout America's history, and they are no less dangerous today. Such inclinations have in the

past led to the stalemate in Europe during World War I, allowed fascism and Nazism to take hold in Italy and Germany during the run up to World War II, and let Hitler conquer mainland Europe without America so much as declaring war on the tyrant. It was not until America was attacked by Germany's ally, Japan, that she took bold, decisive, and courageous action to defeat the Axis Powers. Afterward, such inclinations were decisive in shaping opposition to the Cold War, as the isolationists then attached themselves to a policy of appeasement against the Soviet juggernaut, and made the mistake of pride to hold America blameworthy for the realities posed by that war. It shaped the opposition to all actions taken against the communists globally, including the Korean and Vietnam Wars, but also actions taken later on by the great President Reagan to defeat the Soviet Union. None of these conflicts would have ever been won had the naysayers been listened to, and freedom would have suffered greatly, if not for the leadership provided by the Presidents of those eras, and most especially if not for the bravery of the armed forces who paid the ultimate price to defend freedom.

The defeatists are no less mobilized today, and their target is the morale of the American people. These isolationists and the terrorists share a common goal: the withdrawal of America from the world's stage as the catalyst of freedom in lands that have not known it. Our belief that freedom is God's gift to humanity is paramount, and our ac-

Continued on Page 8

New Election Laws Protect Free Speech

Commentary by Robert J. Romano

The freedom of speech, and of the press, applies to every person in this country. The right to peaceably assemble is similarly guaranteed to everyone. The First Amendment of the Federal Constitution protects every person's unalienable, equal right to petition the government for a redress of grievances. And since no State may deny to any person these privileges and immunities, neither may we at the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) of SUNY Stony Brook, which is a State-run facility. The Fourteenth Amendment ensures equal protection under law for the marketplace of ideas in New York State. This means that in legislative acts and executive policies, the USG is obligated to enforce these protections for the undergraduate student body. This includes the Elections Board Bylaws, which have been recently revised by the Elections Board to come into compliance with these constitutional principles.

The correct conception of freedom, in my opinion, is that freedom applies to everybody. This cannot be a chiasmus, though, for it would be a wrong principle to state that everybody applies freedom in their own ways. You cannot say that: for a candidate, freedom of speech means this, and for referenda groups, freedom of speech means that. You cannot tell clubs and organizations that freedom of the press means one thing for them, and then confer special privileges upon only media organizations. The First Amendment is clear on all of these points, inasmuch as it applies to every person protected by the Constitution, and that there is simply no role for the government to make laws and policies which shall abridge the freedom of speech

and of the press. Abridgement, by definition, means the act of reducing the length of a written or spoken text, and of cutting short and curtailing the distribution of the texts or the delivery of the speech.

The only purpose, under the previous Elections Board Bylaws, of restricting the amount of campaign posters and fliers which could be distributed was to curtail the freedom of the press for the candidates. By definition, how else are we to view the previous limits which applied selectively to certain groups? Under the previous Bylaws, if you were a candidate running for President, you were only allowed to distribute 800 campaign posters and fliers, spend only \$225 in expenditures, even though there are over 13,000 eligible voters; however, if you were a referendum group attempting to get an initiative placed on the ballot, there were no limits on posters or expenditures. This disparity had previously ensured a low turnout in the past, and limited the candidate's ability to communicate to the electorate. You cannot say that free speech has more than one definition depending on whom you are talking about! Equal rights means that under law no one person shall have any more or less rights than the next person.

A vote against the proposed revisions to the Elections Board Bylaws was a vote, in my opinion, against the principles and protections established in the First Amendment, principles of the freedom of speech and of the press. On Monday, March 14th, the Executive Council had an opportunity to correct these injustices and adopt the new Bylaws, but instead, though they voted by a margin of 5 in favor and 3 opposed, with 3 abstaining, this did not constitute the 2/3 majority required for agency operations manuals to be passed by the Executive Council.

The political epitaphs of those who sit on the Executive Council which opposed the revisions, indeed their legacies as representatives of the USG, should read: "Voted Against the First Amendment." Their opposition to removing the campaigning restrictions on candidates is an egregious offense to the liberty of the students. They have violated the principles of the Fourteenth Amendment yet again in a long string of encroachments on the equal protection of the laws by voting to keep in place Bylaws which apply differing standards of protection for the freedom of speech and of the press for certain groups of students.

Fortunately, the Elections Board adopted the new revisions to the Bylaws without the Executive Council's approval, as was allowed under the previous Bylaws by a 2/3 majority of the filled seats of the Elections Board, a curious requirement for amending agency bylaws in the first place, and one which too has been changed. Now, it is required for the Executive Council and the Senate to approve amendments to the Bylaws by 2/3 majorities.

Freedom applies to everyone, and it applies to everyone equally. By adopting the new Bylaws, the Elections Board has protected the freedom of speech and of the press for the student body, abolished the Grievance Board, removed unnecessary regulations, and expanded the campaigning process all in the interests of guaranteeing equal rights to influence the outcome of the elections and enshrining the liberty of the students for posterity.

Robert J. Romano is the Chairman of the Elections Board of the USG, and the Treasurer of the SBU College Republicans.

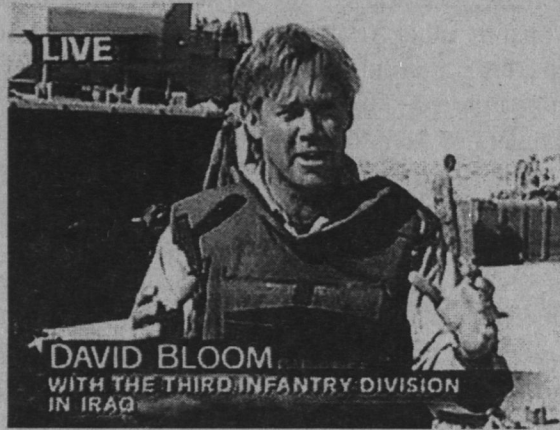
Embedded Reporters in Iraq

Commentary by James Davis

The current United States war in Iraq is the first full-scale military engagement to take place since the beginning of the so-called "Information Age." With the rise of cell phones and the ubiquity of the Internet, people have come to take for granted instant access to information. Following in this trend, reporters have become "embedded" with American and British troops in order to report stories direct from the conflict zone. Some have heralded these reporters as pioneers in the field of journalism. While this is indeed an unprecedented opportunity for expedient reports on war progress, the embedded reporters have, for the most part, used this advantageous position to push an anti-war agenda and present a general impediment to progress and the war effort in general.

In theory, the idea of having news reports fed directly from the front lines is an exciting one. However, all news reports are inherently limited in their scope. They lack context and can easily be slanted. According to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, the reports from Iraq present only "slices" of the war to the American public. News reports are relatively brief, and their content is subject to the whim and/or agenda of the corporation that presents it. The main problem at hand is not the limitations of the reports, but rather the fact that support for the war at home is influenced largely by these incomplete, and generally slanted reports.

The reporters in Iraq are no different from the ones here at home. Most are just as sensationalist and willing to indiscriminately report an exciting story regardless of how it may undermine the war effort. Many of these embedded reporters have repeatedly and unfairly berated the American soldiers as war criminals. For example, recently the media raised a fuss when an American soldier killed an injured and what appeared to be an unarmed man. The soldier eliminated the man



Picture Courtesy of NBC

with one clean shot. What were supposed to be objective news reports expressed outrage and bashed the soldier as a cold, ruthless killer, failing to include that the soldiers were facing opposition who were utilizing very unconventional and deceitful fighting tactics. Soldiers had encountered, multiple times, enemy combatants that had feigned injury, only to later kill multiple American soldiers. All the American public sees from this report is that a soldier "unfairly" killed a wounded enemy combatant. Instead, what most likely occurred is that the soldier humanely killed the man, in the best interests of himself as well as his fellow soldiers.

This is not an isolated case. Terrorists in Iraq have repeatedly and systematically violated the conventions of warfare, as well as many agreements of the Geneva Convention, the very foundation of the law of war. These violations have taken place extensively both on and off the battlefield. W. Hays Parks, the special assistant to the Judge Advocate General of the US Army for willow of war matters, gives but a brief list of the

perfidies of the Iraqi combatants: They have dishonestly flown white flags to feign surrender, and they have engaged in conflict dressed in civilian clothes. Both of these tactics have been used for ambush. The US Ambassador for War Crimes Issues, Pierre-Richard Prosper, adds that the terrorists have used civilians as human shields, and fired machine guns and mortars upon civilians fleeing to the safety of the control of coalition forces. They have used schools, hospitals, mosques, and even ambulances as military bases and warehouses for ammunition- as well as beheading innocents.

This is the nature of the opposition that our soldiers are facing. In this situation, it is unreasonable to generalize American soldiers as war criminals. Iraqi civilian deaths are, without a doubt, unfortunate. Ideally, they should be avoided completely. However, when confronted with a dishonest enemy that is indistinguishable from a civilian, civilian deaths are bound to occur. The media is quick to blame our own soldiers, when in fact it is the terrorists who are to blame, for drawing fire on their own people. In addition, many reporters frame the situation such that they claim this war is a second Vietnam. While once again, all deaths involved are very unfortunate and all deserve the utmost respect, this war is not on the same magnitude as what we faced in the late 60's and 70's. Vietnam cost us 58,148 American lives, and accomplished essentially nothing. As of March 7, the war on Iraq cost us 1,685 American lives. While I do not intend at all to downplay the significance of the sacrifice of these soldiers, the death toll of this war is far lower, and we have accomplished far more. We have caught Saddam and he will face trial. We have instituted free elections in Iraq. If we press on, we can accomplish our goal of a free and democratic Iraq, but we will need the support of the American public to do so.

Are You Sure About Moving to Canada?

Commentary by Chris Dolley

Really enjoy Box Day do you? Get a violent reaction whenever you hear Bush's voice? I still suggest you think twice before moving to Canada. However, if you like to pay an average 48% income tax plus all the other sales and local taxes that Canada gouges you with, I could be wrong. Maybe you occasionally even enjoy getting bussed back to America when the Canadian health care system doesn't have the resources for your necessary surgery. That's right- rather than have you go to a private clinic somewhere nearby, the Canadian government will sometimes pay three times as much to bus you to the U.S., for "philosophical" reasons. But surely you don't want to be taxed an estimated 41% of your income exclusively for socialist health care in 30 years.

Taxing varies depending on the province, but the heavily populated Ontario already spends about 40 percent of tax dollars on health care, according to the Canadian Taxpayers Federation. Despite the heavy taxing, there is a lack of physicians and nurses, funding, and state-of-the-art equipment plaguing Ontario; and over 10,000 nurses and hospital workers from the area are facing layoffs over the next two years unless the provincial government boosts funding. This kind of thing is the status quo all across the land of the maple tree.

But those aren't the only kind of problems the government health care system has - waiting



Photo Courtesy of healthcoalition.ca

time is also appalling. According to the Fraser Institute, a public policy think tank in Vancouver, the average wait for surgical or specialist treatment is nearly 18 weeks, up from 9.3 weeks in 1993. The individual can't do much of anything about this, because Canada has laws banning the purchase of insurance for hospitalization or surgery. The only other country with such laws is North Korea.

Another Fraser study found that the average wait time to see an orthopedic surgeon was more than nine months last year. Then after waiting to see the guy (or gal), you have to wait around nine months more, often longer, for your "elective" surgery to take place. Of course, this is all after waiting to see a family doctor for a referral. This is an alarming amount of time, especially when comparing it to the 3 week average wait in the States.

Elective surgery (any planned, non-emergency, non-life-threatening surgery) includes patients with "end stage arthritis", a condition in which the arthritis is so advanced that the joint cartilage has worn out and bone is grating upon bone. It's an agonizing condition. Patients requiring surgery for this type of surgery have very long waits upwards of 2 years. Orthopedic surgeons like Hans Kreder and Ted Rumble end up having to make decisions like whom to perform hip replacing on- a young person who needs it to work or an older person who is losing independence and might not live through the 2 year waiting list. The Canadian system does not have the efficiency to take care of these people in a timely manner.

An estimated 4 million of Canada's 33 million people don't have family physicians and more than 1 million are waiting for treatment, according to the Canadian Medical Association.

Socialists can and should learn from this microcosm of insanity. Despite being philosophically opposed to the individual's freedom to spend money where he or she chooses, Canada will soon need to come back to reality: humanity is best off when the individual, unchained by a nanny welfare state, is free to make his or her own decisions. The best solution that Canada can undergo is privatization of its health care system. But until then, watch out would-be former Americans- the maple tree might slap you in the face when you get there and then gouge your pockets for government health care while you're stunned.

Factcheck of the Press

Analysis by Federalus

In the spirit of setting the record straight, and fully reporting an accurate account of the events of campus, *The Patriot* shall report on our fellow colleagues, *The Stony Brook Press*, their credibility as a news source, and issue retractions on their behalf for their March 11th and future issues. In an issue in which *The Press* arrogantly claims to always be right, there were numerous factual inaccuracies as *The Press* rushed to print with a rash of accusations which were either incorrect or were unfair to the individuals whom were misrepresented or lied about.

On page 4 of *The Stony Brook Press*, in the article "Rampant Nepotism in USG" by Joe Filippazzo, it states, "Another Executive Council member who resigned due to personal difficulties was Vice President of Communications Rosario Minier. Almost immediately, President Wong appointed former USG Webmaster and current College Republican, Ilan Nassimi to the position. Surely this was another move made out of desperation, right?" First of all, Minier was the VP of Student Life, not the VP of Communications. Nassimi has taken over the office of VP of Student Life. Despite Filippazzo's accusations of nepotism, he leaves out of the story the fact that Nassimi, a staff writer of *The Patriot*, was recommended to take the position by the outgoing VP of Student Life, Minier, the former VP of Student Life, Jon Neman, the current Student Activities Board Chair, Pamela Williams, and the

Interim Administrative Director of the USG, Sonia Guttman. When reached for comment, Nassimi stated, "Any questions about my qualifications may best be referred to Alexandra Duggan, the Director of Student of Activities." In addition to organizing the Dave Chapelle, Kanye West, "Who's Line is it Anyway?", and DJ Envy shows here on campus, Nassimi has two years of experience as the USG web site designer, a former USG Senator, and the large events coordinator for the Student Activities Board. There are few servants in student government as active or as dedicated as Nassimi, or with as much experience.

In the same article, Filippazzo states that both President Jared Wong and VP of Clubs and Organizations Virginia Morgan were the founders of the Enduring Freedom Alliance, the club responsible for publishing *The Patriot*. This is incorrect. The Executive Vice President, Jeff Kruszyna, was its founder. Despite the article's claims, Kruszyna is no longer the President of the club. Upon assuming the office of Executive Vice President, he resigned the presidency of the Enduring Freedom Alliance.

In the same article, Filippazzo charges that the current Elections Board Chair, Robert J. Romano, is "[r]emoving the protections of the media and creating a system where a lower economic class is left at a serious disadvantage..." in reforming the Elections Board Bylaws. In fact, Romano never proposed removing free speech and press protections from media organizations. He did propose

extending those protections to all candidates for office, and clubs, organizations, and political party coalitions that make endorsements. According to Romano's March 14th press release, "Elections Board Bylaws [in the past had] trampled upon the rights of the students, and resulted in an unequal allocation of rights to certain student groups. As a result of these past grievances, the Bylaws have been changed to protect the right to not only vote, but to speak freely and to influence the outcome of the Elections..." Also, Romano removed previous restrictions on campaigning in order to extend the freedom of the press to candidates. Now, candidates may raise as much money as they like, and use that money to print up as much campaign literature as they like. According to the Elections Board Chair, "Whether or not a candidate is affluent, there are over 13,000 undergraduates who are eligible to vote, and who now have the same rights to influence the outcome of the elections as do the media groups. It does not make sense to restrict candidates and campaigning so as to ensure that poor people get elected. That's not the way a free political process works. Good candidates for office must be effective fundraisers, as any political science major could tell you. The previous campaigning restrictions did not prepare candidates for the real world of politics, where expenditures and advertisements are unlimited, nor did they prepare candidates for managing the student activity fee

Continued on Page 7

Academic Integrity in Jeopardy

Commentary by Artie Perri

In one way or another we have found our way into Stony Brook University. One would think our paths were ones of similarity, filled with honest hard work, involvement and academic success. But really how much of what we did in the past or what we are doing now is truly pertaining to moral standards? Today student's find themselves justifying actions every day in order to get the upper hand and succeed. Since we were young our parents wanted us to win, succeed and never fail to live up to our potential. This ambitious upbringing is not only found in our parent's insistence but also throughout American culture. From our winner-take-all electoral system to sports teams championships, job searches, and the college application process, everything that we seem to strive for is in the form of a contest where winning is all that matters. It is in these contests where we will do whatever it takes to succeed. But how far is too far in our quest for success?

At Stony Brook University academic integrity is stressed highly. First year seminar professors take an entire class describing what is cheating and what is not. Also in almost every one of our classes the ramifications of plagiarism is discussed at length and in many cases included in the class' syllabus. But is speaking out about cheating and academic dishonesty enough to prevent students from taking those paths in order to obtain success? The answer is absolutely not. If the answer was yes there would be no need for the Academic Judiciary committee here at Stony Brook. Some students just don't learn. It is not until they are caught where they realize what they have done is wrong. But sometimes even being caught doesn't stop them from cheating again.

The quest for success drives many people everyday to achieving their goals. Many work hard, be-

come involved in study groups and even take time out of their days to go through the extra lengths to succeed. On the other hand there are those who go the extra length to cheat, befriend and sometimes steal their way into getting a good grade. So why does one student maintain his or her integrity in the pursuit of their goals while the other takes an almost Machiavellian approach? There is a combination of reasons why there is diversity among student's thoughts on academic honesty.

While partaking in discussions during an Academic Advising meeting, several interesting findings came out on why students do not take academic integrity seriously. We first have to look at how they got into the University. Did they work hard all throughout High School or did they ride on the coattails of one of their smarter buddies? While putting together their resumes did they 'fluff' some of their references or activities? What about the definition of cheating and can it change according the circumstances? These are some common instances which occur prior to their acceptance as well as the beginning of their careers at Stony Brook. Once here, do these particular students' perceptions change? No, the only thing that changes is the students' set of goals. We all have goals and currently our goals here at the University are to graduate and get a good paying job that we love. It is the success in finding that job which drives many of us through college.

As I grow and mature, I have come to question why do some people have to lie, cheat and befriend one another just so they can get what they want? By looking around I was sure to find some reasons why people are the way they are. Stemming from the belief that most people are driven to succeed, sometimes by any means necessary, would help explain their actions. One explanation for why some people decide to take the dishonest path towards their success may pertain to the media. The media promotes more negative stories than positive

ones and it is here where some people may justify their actions. Today many of the headlines tell of steroids in baseball, murder trials and corporate scandals. These stories are intended to raise awareness of what is going on nationwide. However ultimately it serves as a justifying example for each and every one of our actions. You want to take steroids to get bigger and stronger it's okay because the pros are doing it. Insider trading, one may interpret the lesson as if you are going to do it don't get caught. Granted these are the more extreme examples of where we find people cheating, lying and stealing their way through life. But my point is in justification.

We as humans seem to sometimes find ways of justifying our very own actions. For example, one may obtain a test for a class that has yet to be given only to justify that action with stating, "the tests are hard enough and everyone is going to fail so I might as well get a leg up on the test." These are the justifications which are totally immoral and wrong. Sometimes just because the path is easier to take does not mean it is the right one. Couples cheat on one another and are dishonest to each other and justify their actions by saying, "they deserved it." The whole purpose of this article for my peers that read this is to understand that just because you are doing something that is dishonest or of no integrity don't think you are not hurting anyone, because you are. By asking yourself if what you are doing is ethical, it may save not only your grades, but also friendships. I haven't forgotten we are competing against one another for a job in the market but that does not justify any reasons for us to dispel any friendships or cheat. For it is within ourselves to promote morality and well-being and if we are not the leaders of this then there will be no followers to brighten to future. So remember next time when passing through the SAC or Library and you are in a rush, take a quick glance back and hold the door open for the person behind you to let them know that good people do exist.

Factcheck

Continued from Page 6

and being good public servants. All they accomplished was restricting a candidate's ability to even communicate with the public. The people have a right to hear from the candidates."

In the same article, Filippazzo names Mohammed Ali Torab Parhiz, the newly appointed Special Services Council Chairman, "a Republican cohort..." Parhiz is, in fact, a registered Democrat.

Another supposed College Republican, Jared Wong, is also a registered Democrat, and voted for John Kerry in the last election.

On Page 7, *The Press* responded to Robert J. Romano's letter to the editor by stating that "If you are not under [student Irfan] Syed's control, you should take it up with him since he is the one who says differently." Syed has denied stating this, and claims Romano is not under any control. In fact, according to Romano, him and Syed disagree on some issues: "I disagree with the way the CORE Laws were established and initially enforced, Mr. Syed's views on direct democracy, how best to interpret viewpoint neutrality, and a few other issues. What strikes me is that *The Press* never took the opportunity to ask me if I had ever spoken to him, or what the nature of those conversations were."

On Page 8, *The Press* had a bit of satire, a picture with a list: "Top Ten Things the J in 'Robert J. Romano' Stands For." None of the selected names actually matched, however. In fact, the J stands for John, and was named after President John F. Kennedy. His first name, Robert, was named after U.S.

Attorney General and Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Romano's parents, who named him, are both registered Democrats and regular voters, and had never voted for a Republican for President until George W. Bush recently ran for re-election.

On Page 60, Benjamin A. Bravmann wrote in an article entitled, "World War III is scheduled for June": "The administration... has us occupying a country in order to remove weapons of mass destruction that never really existed." Actually, those weapons most certainly did exist, and we know that because the former Iraqi regime used them on its own people and took videos of it. We now know that while the stockpiles of weapons we expected to find are not in Iraq, the regime retained the strategic capability and intent to reconstitute its weapons programs. The remnants of the regime's programs were financed largely by illegal oil deals conducted under the auspices of the UN-sanctioned Oil for Food Program. Several officials, including the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) have stated the possibility that portions of Iraq's WMD programs may have been dispersed into neighboring countries prior to the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), and proliferation concerns remain.

The ISG, in finishing up the work of the UN inspectors, also uncovered Iraq's illicit missile programs, which were in advanced phases of development, and violated the ranges set forth by the UN cease-fire agreement and subsequent UN Security Council Resolutions. The overall violation of the UN Security Council Resolutions was in fact the rationale used in the Congressional authorization to use force against Iraq, and the actual execution of OIF followed 11 years of noncompliance by the Iraqi regime of those resolutions.

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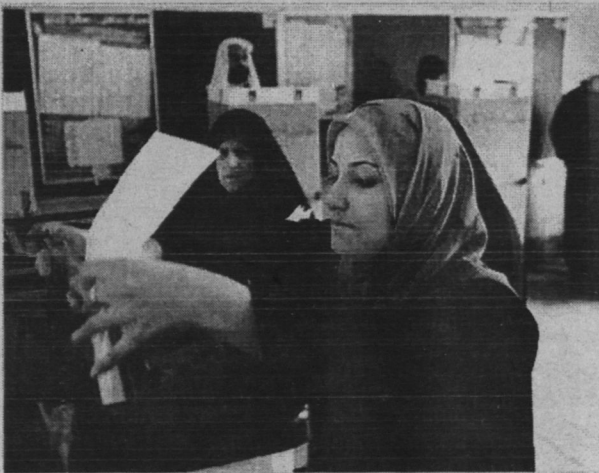
Freedom Emerges in the Middle East

Commentary by Erica Smith

Is it possible that the Middle East is beginning to shed its coat of tyranny as a result of the liberation of Iraq? Hundreds of thousands across the Arab world are coming forth, declaring their right to Liberty.

On February 10, the monarchy of Saudi Arabia allowed the first municipal (local) elections in 42 years. The three-stage elections, which end in April, are for half the seats in 178 councils across the kingdom. The other half of the members and the mayor will continue to be royal appointments. This is Saudi Arabia's first step toward democracy; but many in the country and around the world claim it is not enough. Not only will half of the members and mayor still be appointed, but also women are not allowed to seek office or vote. However, it looks like the next elections will be different. In early March, Kuwaiti women staged protests challenging their country's laws against their suffrage, eventually gaining their governments support for women's right to vote. The Saudis quickly gave in to the pressure, saying they too would allow women to vote in the next elections. "The steps have to come slowly so the society can accept it," said the mayor of Riyadh, Prince Abdel Aziz bin Muhammad bin Ayaf al-Mugrin, "But there is no going back..." (quoted in *New York Times*).

Under pressure from abroad, last fall Egypt's Hosni Mubarak begrudgingly announced there will be multi-candidate elections for president, the first time in the country's history. Ayman Nour, is one of the candidates who is running, and is campaigning to "spread freedom." Although his campaign was temporarily halted by his arrest last



A woman votes in Iraq. Photo Courtesy of AP



Protests in Lebanon against occupying Syria. Photo Courtesy of Reuters

February for allegedly forging signatures to register his party (his real offense most likely was his threat to a power hungry dictatorship), Nour con-

tinues to campaign and gather vast support. One of his many supporters, a Cairo University chemistry professor, described the populist feeling now in Egypt, "The winds of freedom are going around the world, and the leader here (Mubarak) wants to isolate us... [Nour] represents change, change for freedom." (quoted in *Pittsburgh Tribune*) Although Mubarak will most likely win a 5th term, Egypt will not be content to stay submissive to a dictatorship much longer.

Lebanon is another country that has recently become ripe for freedom. Syrian forces have occupied Lebanon since 1976, when troops were sent to help quell a civil war - despite a UN Security Council Resolution passed last year calling for their departure. On February 14, former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, a leading voice for Syrian withdrawal, was assassinated; triggering numerous demonstrations asking for Syria to finally relinquish power. Last month, over a million demonstrators gathered for the biggest protest in the country's history, peacefully showing support for their cause as well as the countering a smaller Hellbolah pro-Syria demonstration that appeared on international television the week before. The Bush administration, along with European allies and the UN have joined the Lebanese in their pressure on Syria, emphasizing the importance of the occupying troops and intelligence agents removal before Lebanon's May elections. Earlier in March, Syria's President Bashar al-Assad told Time magazine "Please send this message... I am not Saddam Hussein. I want to cooperate" - which is good news for the freedom-loving people of Lebanon.

Freedom's Fate

Continued from Page 4

tions abroad over the course of history have been a direct result of it. The price of our failure to succeed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere in the war on terrorism and tyranny is catastrophic. Abroad, the terrorists will inevitably acquire weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, which they will use to murder on a scale never seen before. Domestically, the only way we shall fail is if the defeatists are able to persuade the American people that it is acceptable for some peoples to be free, and for others to not. Their greatest tactic to achieve that end is to discredit the natural rights philosophy that our nation was founded upon. If they succeed, the cost will be apocalyptic. If the American people are persuaded that foreign wars in the defense of freedom are not worth the cost of casualties, and furthermore that only certain peoples can conceivably live in freedom because of their superiority, our form of government as we know it will have been effectively corrupted and most certainly abolished. The march of freedom will have been turned back, and inevitably, our ability to defend ourselves from the forces of evil will have been dulled. For, if rights are not natural, if all people do not have the same rights under natural law, the very foundation of our republic will dissolve.

The stakes could not be higher, and for these reasons, it is incumbent upon the American people to once again rally to the cause of freedom, and to honor the mission of spreading democracy

around the world. The will and resolve of the people to win this war must be bolstered, and it is imperative that our leadership in Washington make the resolution to unite our people. Nothing has ever been more important in recent history, and no longer lasting legacy could be left than to have honored the ideals upon which our nation was founded by succeeding in our mission.

The extremist terrorists are trying to shake our will, the defeatists are playing along in concert with their common goal, and that end is to discredit natural rights. They must be made to fail in this pursuit, for our very liberty is at stake. Our leadership must believe that we've got the right mission. From here on in, our ultimate success in the war on terrorism is going to depend upon our will and resolve to see through the mission of transforming societies that have suffered under tyranny into free societies. If the American people do not support the effort, then hope may be broken.

This author had hoped that the President's re-election with a majority of the popular vote had proven that a majority of the American people believed in the course we are on: that freedom can transform societies. There are even deeper implications which are troublesome if freedom fails abroad. If natural rights are discredited, then so too will the philosophy that our nation was founded upon. We must not fail, for our very freedom depends on it. You either believe in natural rights or you do not.

The fate of freedom is in your hands.

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A True Patriot to Visit SBU

Commentary by Jeffrey Kruszyna

Last week's anti-war protest was more like a showcase of everything that is wrong with the Stony Brook establishment. Besides the flagrantly anti-American atmosphere - the festival's sponsor, the Social Justice Alliance, seems to loathe those brave men and women who put their lives on the line every day in order to defend our freedoms. In the wake of what was proclaimed a "Festival of Resistance" the Stony Brook community yearns for balance.

On April 20th the Stony Brook University College Republicans plan to counter the liberal orthodoxy by presenting: "The Liberation of Iraq - A Soldier's Story" with special guest Lieutenant Colonel Scott Rutter (Ret.). The event is co-sponsored by the Enduring Freedom Alliance, Veterans Student Organization, Office of Veteran's Affairs, Office of the Dean of Students, and Undergraduate Student Government's President Jared Wong. The event will not only include an awe-inspiring look into the life of a decorated veteran, but also a dynamic slide-show presentation of the liberation of Iraq. The principal intent of this program is to defend the integrity of our armed forces by focusing on the real life experiences of Lieutenant Colonel Rutter. So who is LTC Scott Rutter and what does he stand for?

A native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Lieutenant Colonel Scott Rutter is the epitome of an all American soldier. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in History from Campbell University in 1983 he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Regular Army. From there he served his



Lt. Col. Scott Rutter will visit SBU on April 20th.

country valiantly, earning numerous commendations including the Bronze Star Medal with Valor Devise for his brave leadership in the first Gulf War. So when his country called for help in the spring of 2003 LTC Rutter responded.

As the commander of the 2nd Battalion 7th

Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division (MECH) he led the main effort during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In this role LTC Rutter led his battalion in the hopes of removing the tyrannical regime of Saddam Hussein from power in Iraq and as a threat to the national security of the United States. In commanding over 150 combat vehicles, including Bradley Fighting Vehicles and M1A1 Tanks, and over 850 soldiers in Operation Iraqi Freedom - LTC Rutter was in fact the leader of the crucial force held responsible for the capture and renaming of "Baghdad International Airport," which ultimately set the stage for the collapse of the Hussein Regime.

LTC Rutter's troops in the 2nd Battalion 7th Infantry Regiment were ranked the most highly decorated combat unit in Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his role in the effort LTC Rutter was awarded the Silver Star. This honor is only bestowed upon those individuals whom exhibit heroism in action against an enemy of the United States while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force.

LTC Rutter exemplifies everything that is right about America. He served his country gallantly for two decades in defense of our God given rights to life and liberty. So please join the Stony Brook University College Republicans in welcoming LTC Scott Rutter on Wednesday, April 20th at 1:00pm in SAC 302.

Jeffrey Kruszyna is the President of the SBU College Republicans, and the Executive VP of the USG.

The Two Sides of the Berlin Wall

Quotes from the Left and Right of Politics
Compiled by Alexandra Borodkin

"The things that will destroy us are: politics without principle; pleasure without conscience; wealth without work; knowledge without character; business without morality; science without humanity; and worship without sacrifice." - Mahatma Mohandas Gandhi

SOCIAL ISSUES EDITION

Feminism

The left: "Whatever point [Harvard's Lawrence Summers] was trying to make, he ended up making this one: It's not female aptitude that's the problem, it's male attitude. He confuses the roles society assigns to women with what women might really want. The 'different socialization' Dr. Summers talks about may be getting worse, thanks to goofballs like him. How did he get to be head of Harvard anyway?" - Maureen Dowd

The right: "If I were Harvard President Lawrence Summers - given Womanhood's reaction to his suggestion that innate gender differences might account for men's higher achievement in math and science - I'd be sorely tempted at this point to say: 'I rest my case'." - Kathleen Parker

Morality

The left: "Indeed, what is moral about forcing a woman to continue a pregnancy when she is unable to care for a child? When she doesn't



Conservative commentator Ann Coulter.

feel ready to become a parent? When she wants to finish high school? The underlying question in all of the above scenarios is: What is moral about the government interfering in one of the most private decisions a person can make - whether or not to have children? Most Americans believe that abortion should remain legal...." - Louise Melling, Director of the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project

The right: "Abortion was not terribly popular when Roe v. Wade was first concocted in 1973 - by seven male justices and their mostly male law clerks. Abortion - like other liberal priorities over the years including forced busing, gay marriage and removing "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance - is an issue liberals believe is best voted on by groups of nine or fewer." - Ann Coulter

The Right to Die

The left: "Just a couple of things about Ms. Schiavo's condition. She has been in this vegetative state for 15 years. It is her parents who want to keep her alive. They say she can be rehabilitated. They also say that she will now die a painful death, though there does not seem to be any support for that argument in the medical community." - ABC's Peter Jennings

The right: "The 'right to die' has become another liberal cause, part of the 'privacy' canon that extends through Roe (abortion) and Lawrence (homosexuality) and the Ninth Circuit's views on assisted suicide that the Supreme Court is taking up this year. Of course, it gets a little messy when someone is actually being killed, and a husband with a conflict of interest is the one who claims she wanted to kill herself, but the Left apparently believes these are mere details that shouldn't interfere with the broader cause. Thus the discovery of federalism. Terri Schiavo's case is a tragedy for her and her family. Beyond the immediate question of whether she lives or dies, her case may well have the salutary effect of demonstrating to the elites who want the right to kill oneself embedded into law that there is another side to the debate that is going to be heard." - *The Wall Street Journal*

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TION UNDER GOD,
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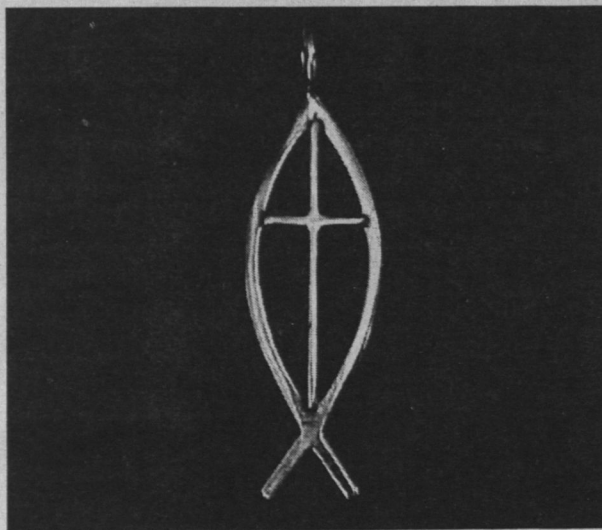
Timeline for Candidates and Referendum Groups for Spring Elections

Elections Board Timeline for Spring 2005

- 1) Tuesday, March 1st
Petitioning and Campaigning Begins.
- 2) Tuesday, April 5th
Mandatory Election Informational and Sign-up for Leadership Training at SAC 225.
- 3) Friday, April 8th
Petitions Due at 5PM at USG Suite.
- 4) Saturday, April 9th
Results of the Petitions Will be Posted by 5PM on the USG Suite Door - *Who is On the Ballot*
- 5) Monday, April 11th
Final Ballots Due at the Division of Information Technology of the West Campus
- 6) Tuesday, April 12th
Mandatory Election Information and Leadership Training from 6PM - 8PM at Colours Cafe.
- 6) Wednesday, April 13th
2nd Mandatory Election Information and Leadership Training from 12PM - 3PM at the SBU Ballroom.
- 6) Monday, April 18th
Debates for the Senatorial, Class Representatives, and Presidential Candidates from 8PM - 11PM in the SAC Auditorium.
- 7) Thursday, April 21st
Debates for the rest of the Executive Council Candidates from 8PM - 11PM in the SAC Ballroom B.
- 8) Monday, April 25th
Polls Open at Noon.
- 9) Friday, April 29th
Polls Close at Noon.
- 10) Saturday, April 30th
Results for Positions Will be Posted at 5PM.
- 11) Sunday, May 1st
Runoff Elections Starts at Noon.
- 12) Tuesday, May 3rd
Runoff Elections Ends at Noon.
- 13) Wednesday, May 4th
Final Results for Runoff Positions Will be Posted at 5PM.

The American Dream

Commentary by Justin Cleveland



During the first few centuries of our calendar, Romans were shocked by a rapidly growing cult. Many of the adherents of this new branch of Judaism stood unshakable in the face of adversity and oppression, despite their heavy persecution for unorthodoxy and defiance to worshipping the emperor as a god, as well as slanderous assaults and demonizing from the opposing majority. Citizens sitting in the Coliseum were dumbfounded as Christian martyrs would die in grace and hope rather than shame and loss. What could make strong men and young women alike take the harshest of beatings, tortures, and executions with such

joyous, righteous conviction and valor (that would someday prevail over all other religions to unify the empire)? Well, the simplest answer would be great meaning.

It is only with some sense of a goal, ideal, or dream that man can actively pursue achievement. Without it, man is destined to regression. Obviously, unless a person has little faith in what humanity has accomplished, one can assume that many people throughout the centuries lived by their goals, ideals, and dreams. It was ambitious settlers from Britain who came to America for crown and country, prosperous wealth, or simply to start a new life with greater freedom.

About two centuries later, it was in the name of a much truer sense of freedom that American revolutionaries decided to lay down their lives for a chance at democracy. Empowered by this dream, a zealous George Washington charged the partially smoke-concealed silhouettes behind enemy gunfire, narrowly missing swarms of musketballs. At the end a single battle, he had three horses shot from underneath him, and dozens of holes riddled over his coat and hat (yet, miraculously, he was never hit). Though it may be disputable if this nation has lived up to the dreams of those who founded it, one thing is undeniable: our country was only made real through great strife in pursuit of a better tomorrow. But what do we, the inheritors of the first-and perhaps greatest-successful attempt at modern democracy, have to all call as our dream? What is the American Dream?

For More Information Please Visit
<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/usg/agencies/election.htm>

Sex at the 'Brook

Humor by Virginia Morgan

When it comes to love and relationships, the most satisfying thing is waking up one morning and realizing that you are finally over that certain someone. Whether you dated, were madly in love or just had a few nights of endless passion, you wake up and realize you're over them. There's no more should've, could've, would've. There's no more bringing on Ben and Jerry's while watching re-runs of *The Nanny* and *The Golden Girls* on Lifetime. And most importantly, there's no more feeling sorry for yourself because you were foolish enough to get involved with them in the first place. You feel great, you feel empowered, you feel sexy, and you feel like you can take on the world. Then at the most unexpected time, in the most unexpected place you have an encounter with that certain someone... whether it be on the train, at work or in the dining hall.

Depending on the circumstances, this experience can either reinforce those feelings of sexiness and self-worth or they can bring back those feelings of self-pity and depression that led you to binge on the Ben and Jerry's. Take my roommate for example, who ran into her ex at a hometown basketball game and found out he was dating a se-

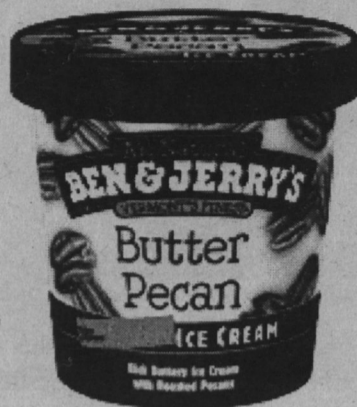


Photo Courtesy of BenJerry.com

nior in high school. Nothing is more wonderful and self empowering than finding out your 22 year old ex-boyfriend is dating a senior in high school. Not only does that situation provide an endless supply of cocktail party jokes (i.e.. Where is he taking his new girlfriend for Spring Break? He isn't, she's busy taking the Regents exam that week!). But it also provides a huge self-esteem boost, both of which turn what could be a huge faux pas into a huge ha-ha. Instantly.

However not everyone can be as fortunate as my roommate, for more often than not encounters with old flames can lead to awkward situations. For example- when I arrived home from a night out in the city one night, I found an instant message from an ex-boyfriend waiting for me. I haven't spoken to him in months so I immediately became intrigued. So when he sent me another message, my curiosity forced me to reply. According to him he was having a good week this week and couldn't find a reason not to talk to me. Well, when we broke up he claimed I was an "annoying, crazy, Irish girl"- sounds like reason enough for me. However, because he's having a good week he can go and ruin mine.

A situation such as this usually produces more emotional melodrama than an episode of *Dawson's Creek* but not this time. Why? Because I had woke up one morning, put down the Ben and Jerry's, turned off the *Golden Girls*, got over him and on with my life. Even though this means looking back at who I was when he was important to me and laughing my ass off, it's all worth it when I can look in the mirror and see who I've become despite it all. There's plenty of fish in the sea so why waste your time getting over someone when it can be better spent getting someone else?

Presidential Superlatives

Humor by William Olsen-Hoek

In light of the travesty that we have come to know as The Election of Aught Four, a great many Americans have taken an interest (or perhaps a disinterest) in politics and Presidential history. "Historians" and charlatan reporters on Fox News who attempt to present themselves as educated human beings, when they may be put in league with the goldfish in terms of intellect, often like to make up "superlative" lists of our former Presidents. Most often you get the old standby "Best President," usually topped by the likes of Abraham Lincoln, Franklin Roosevelt... or Ronald Reagan as in the case of recent conservative columnists.

But today our country is run by a gaggle of chauvinistic, Neoconservative Ideologues—and they reflect the will of the people. So does the American public really care who was the best President? No. In conforming to the same interests as their fearless leaders, they crave only to know who's the toughest, the most manliest—the Ballsiest President, if you will, in American history. With that in mind, I have created a list of Presidents who exude unbridled masculinity and toughness. Whether they ate leather for breakfast or quaffed pints of gasoline to quench their thirsts, these are the guys you run away from when they challenge you to a boxing match.

The Top 10 Ballsiest Presidents

10. Ronald Reagan: The weakest of the tough guys. Reagan took a bullet to the lung when John Hinckley, convinced his assassination of this jellybean-obsessed conservative would impress Jodie Foster, went on his shooting rampage. Not

to let a little bullet wound get him down, Reagan joked, "I hope you're all Republicans," to the doctors about to operate on him.

9. John Tyler: Who? Despite having a moderately successful presidency in which he faced an onslaught of Whiggish idealists in Congress, this man has somewhat lapsed into obscurity. It's unfortunate too, because John Tyler is literally the "ballsiest" of all the Presidents. Putting his unfettered virility to good use, he fathered no fewer than 15 children, the youngest of which died in 1947, exactly 100 years after the oldest was first laid to rest.

8. Ulysses S. Grant: Sure, he had one of the worst presidencies of all time, replete with joyous amounts of administrative corruption and blatant abuse of the veto prerogative, but who really cares? Grant was known for drinking heavily, imbibing excessively, plethoric boozing and being an all around tremendous sot. He was also known for womanizing. Legend has it one day Grant ate seven sticks of butter wrapped in bacon and deep-fried some eggs while banging a pair of brothel beauties in the Oval Office during a meeting with Vice President Schuyler Colfax. Oh, and he fought in some Civil War as well. But what's important is that he wasn't no teetotaling, Bible-thumping pus-bag like a certain President of recent years - cough.

7. Harry S. Truman: Truman annihilated two entire cities and all their occupants in a single second with a flick of his index finger. [This sentence has been censored by the author.] It's a little known fact that his middle initial, often cited as not being short for anything, actually stood for Slayer-of-millionsofinnocents.

6. Richard M. Nixon: One word: huevos.

5. Franklin D. Roosevelt: Just because he was confined to a wheelchair doesn't mean he didn't kick some ass. Roosevelt got more tail than Jack Kennedy and Orson Welles combined! When giving speeches, so as not to seem weak, Roosevelt would walk with braces and gallantly grasp the podium from which he delivered awe-inspiring oratory. If polio were Poland, FDR would be the Luftwaffe.

4. George Washington: He feasted on human babies to keep himself young and agile. He tore out a man's heart once and fed it to his children simply because the man didn't polish his boots properly. His impulsive attack on a French scouting party instigated the French & Indian War. During a frigid Christmas night in 1776, Washington and a group of his finest rebels crossed the Delaware River and attacked slumbering Hessian troops in what became known as the Battle of Trenton. What should be noted, though, is that during this crossing, Washington, in his infinite pomposity, still managed to find time to pose for Emanuel Leutze's famous 1851 painting. Heck yeah.

3. Abraham Lincoln: Everyone's favorite Freesoiler-turned-Republican! Historians remark that a lesser man would have overstepped his Constitutional authority when faced with imminent attacks from the South, and that although Lincoln pushed the limit of his responsibilities more than any other President before him ever had, he never once subverted the guidelines set forth by Article II. That's all well and good, but have they forgotten that this is a man who not only started a Civil

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French Women Don't Get Fat

Review by Elizabeth Alonzo

Girls, get ready, spring is right around the corner even though Mother Nature has been shooting stern looks our way and bombarding us with hoards of snow. But don't let the extended winter season fool you because before you know it, you'll be forced to pack away those camouflaging heavy sweaters and conveniently puffy coats, bust out the skirts and tanks, and face the cold, hard truth: no, the mirror doesn't add 10 pounds.

Don't worry! Mireille Guiliano, CEO of Veuve Clicquot and author of the charming book *French Women Don't Get Fat: The Secret of Eating For Pleasure*, offers good old common sense to women across the nation: eat in moderation, hold back on the extra cheese, and use the stairs once in a while. But we all know this, so can her age-old wisdom really help American women achieve the body they want? Or is her book just a pleasant read while scarfing down a yummy white mocha cold and creamy and popping in a few chocolate morsels of love and comfort?

"There's nothing wrong with eating treats," Guiliano said as she guested on the television show, "The View". "As long as you don't eat the whole bag. Eat a piece of dark chocolate once in a while. But balance that with taking the stairs or walking to work." Guiliano also includes an account of her own personal mission to lose weight when she, as a teen, found herself looking "like a sack of potatoes."

Guiliano has been appearing on plenty of daytime shows, and spotlights in media publications such as The New York Times magazine. The difference, she says, between her book and a diet book is that she is not adding to the diet craze. She advocates

Presidents

Continued from Page 10

War that cost hundred of thousands of lives, freed the slaves and heroically left the depraved South in economic ruins (HOORAY!), but also survived for several hours after John Wilkes Booth busted a cap in his crown?! Lincoln could also breathe fire, levitate, and change water into wine. That, and he had one cool hat.

2. Theodore Roosevelt: I admit, it was very hard putting old TR at number two. TR grew up with severe asthma which he conquered by a self-run rigorous calisthenics routine. He loved killing things – especially African big game, grizzly bears, and Cubans. Boxing took his fancy, and he would challenge anyone on the White House staff to put up their dukes at any moment, bloodying up whoever dared face his fisticuffs of doom. While on the campaign trail in 1912, an assassin shot TR in the chest – the bullet missing his heart by a fraction of an inch thanks to his spectacles case and a thick speech folded in his breast pocket. Any other man would've died, urinating on himself, blubbing to God and choking on his own fluids, but Roosevelt went on to give a two hour speech whilst bleeding profusely, beginning with, "I do not know whether you fully understand that I have just been shot, but it takes more than that to kill a Bull Moose." YES!

...and the number one toughest President in American history is...

1. Andrew Jackson: The man's veins coursed icy water. His stare could kill the elderly. That tangled mess of hair struck fear in the hearts of Native Americans everywhere. His striking resemblance to John Kerry on the \$20 bill freaked out a 20 year old college kid. Who else could it be

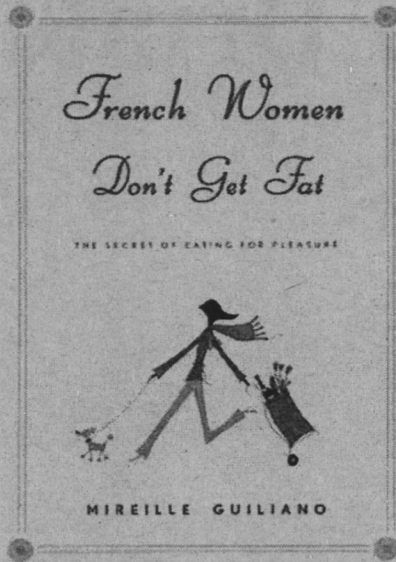


Photo Courtesy of Amazon.com

a lifestyle change rather than a fast and quick easy way out.

Thom Smith of the Chicago Tribune provides the major guidelines to which Guiliano centered her approach to eating:

"Trick No. 1: Keep a diary of everything you eat for three weeks.

Surprise, surprise! At school in Paris, Mireille passed 16 pastry shops and she was eating her way through each one. She was also eating on the run, standing up and not preparing her own food.



but Old Hickory? Andrew Jackson didn't take flak from anybody.

"Good heavens! This parrot knows foul language!"

Jackson taught his pet parrot, Poll, all sorts of four-letter words. Poll was excused from Old Hickory's funeral for cussing.

"Help me! Indians are peacefully living on the Louisiana Purchase!"

Jackson went in, killed every single one of them, wore their flesh in parades, and impregnated all their wives.

"Hey, Jackson! Charles Dickinson just called you 'a coward and an equivocator'!"

Jackson challenged Dickinson to a duel. Old Hickory took a bullet to the chest, which broke two ribs and became lodged in his spine. Holding his wound, Jackson fired back, killing the stupid bastard. Jackson went on to become President – and kept the bullet in his spine as a souvenir.

"I'm going to shoot you Jackson."

"The hell you are!"

In 1831, Richard Lawrence attempted for the first time in history to kill a President. He misfired twice. When nobody reacted, Jackson took the initiative and tackled his would-be assassin. We can only assume he made him his bitch in the process, and that Lawrence resorted to thumb sucking for the rest of his life, if he was ever again able to move his limbs.

So what did we learn today? Don't mess with Jackson.

Trick No. 2: Change your lifestyle. Not cold turkey. Gradually. Finding a balance has more to do with your mind than your stomach. Deal with the little demons. With her mind in gear, her body followed. Months later, Guiliano was down 12 pounds. Here's how she did it:

- Keep weight loss slow and steady.
- Keep variety in your meals.
- Drink lots of water.
- Make eating a ritual by dining at a table with real plates and cloth napkins. No TV or newspaper.
- Take occasional breaks between bites to enjoy what you're eating and drinking. Chew slowly.
- Control portions (none larger than a small apple).
- Don't stock offending foods. If it's not there, you can't eat it!
- Move. Walk, exercise, whatever.
- Find substitutes and pacifiers.
- Never go hungry. Have a tiny snack in case of a hunger attack.
- Give yourself small weekend rewards."

The book also includes several recipes from tasty veggie treats to elaborate desserts that you would expect to find in a recipe book rather than a diet book. Guiliano also offers her proven method in keeping weight down called the "zipper test": the minute you have trouble zipping up your jeans is when you need to stop the late night rendezvous with your fridge. People, it is THAT simple. Simply by adhering to her rendition of the French lifestyle, you can be the proud owner of a bigger smile and a smaller you.

Join the Enduring Freedom Alliance!

The Patriot

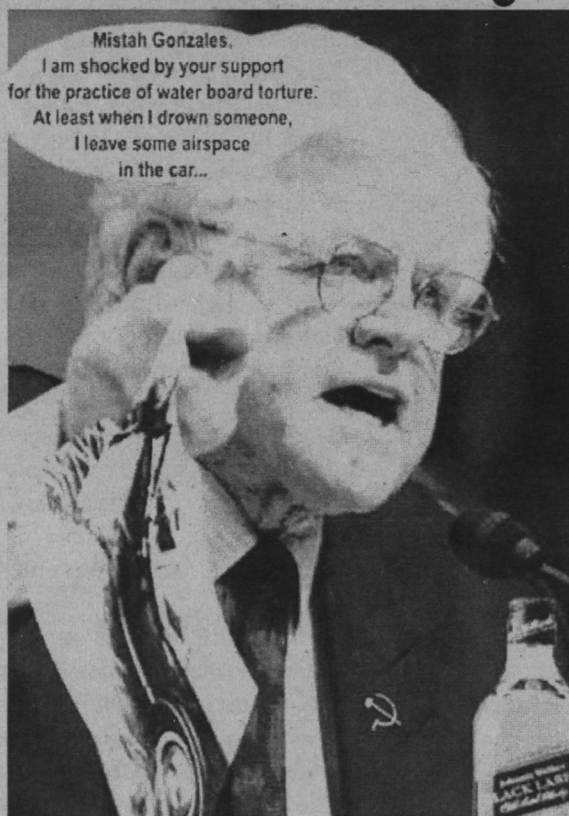


The March of Freedom and Democracy around the world shall leave terrorism and tyranny on the ash-heap of history.

The ENDURING FREEDOM ALLIANCE
Meetings Once Every Thursday at 5:30PM
SAC 312

Send Submissions to
stonbrookpatriot@gmail.com

Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month



Mistah Gonzales,
I am shocked by your support
for the practice of water board torture.
At least when I drown someone,
I leave some airspace
in the car...

Satire by Virginia Morgan

When not ambling through the halls of Congress or filibustering judicial nominees on the floor of the Senate, there's nothing Senator Kennedy likes more than kicking back on the shores of Chappaquiddick with a nice, cold drink in his hand. Each week this column will highlight one of Senator Kennedy's favorite drinks.

This Week's Drink: Black and Blue*

Ingredients

- 1 oz. Black Berry Schnapps
- 2 oz. Blue Curacao
- 2 oz. Vodka
- Ice
- Cocktail shaker

Directions

- 1) In the cocktail shaker layer the ice, Blackberry Schnapps, Blue Curacao and Vodka
 - 2) Mix thoroughly
 - 3) Pour into cocktail glass
- Enjoy!

** Not intended for the weak of stomach, faint of heart or those under the age of 21 and remember: don't drink and drive or drive with people who do!*

One Heart That Beats

Poem by Alexandra Borodkin

Don't go. Please stay. Don't you know that when you leave
my whole world goes gray?

The pavement under the lamplight
shines a pearly white
my footsteps in the evening
all alone tonight.

A thousand galaxies at night
yet only one heart that beats
a thousand promises at daylight
echoes on empty streets.

A thousand glances not kept
yet only one love to die
a thousand things to regret
yet only one soul to cry.

Too many times heartbroken
all numb inside
too many words spoken
familiar pain to hide.

Don't go. Please stay. Don't you know that when you leave
my whole world goes gray?



Picture by Erik Berte