

# The Patriot

Vol. 4 Issue 1

A non-partisan forum for debate

September 2007



STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY'S #1 PAPER!



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# Hoping for Swimming Success

By Bryce Cullinane

The Stony Brook Swim Team, an NCAA DIV I squad, has taken on 18 new men and 14 new women this year. Hailing from Canada, Croatia, Russia, Poland, Michigan, Rhode Island, New Jersey, California, and New York, it is an enormously diverse and talented group that is cited as fast, with a wide range of depth.

Although numerous people graduated or chose not to return after last year's season, coach Dave Alexander, head coach of the Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Program, says that the team's dynamic is radically different, with prospects that are "exciting and wide open, anything could happen."

Alexander predicts that the specialties of the team will change this season, shifting from last year.

Official practices started the second week of classes and Alexander is "excited about a new season" and as always, "keeping an eye on championships in the spring."

This year, the America East Swimming and Diving Championships will be held at the University of Maine in early



February.

With a large and largely untested team, Alexander says he is looking forward to the opening meet, which is being

held at West Point on October fifth.

To catch the Seawolves in action, come and watch them reface Maine, at Stony Brook, on November tenth.

# Who Actually Visits the Bank?

## Survey: Younger People (Surprise!) Prefer Online Banking

By Erik Berte

Do you hate having to go to the bank to drop off your paychecks? You are not alone. A recent survey found that younger people prefer doing their banking online over visiting the branch or using an ATM.

The telephone survey, conducted by Ipsos-Reid for the American Bank-



ATM eats debit card and then reboots. It's no wonder younger folks would rather bank online.

banking method they use most often.

The survey cited that 30 percent of participants between 18 and 34 use online banking the most and 25 percent go the the branch more often, while overall, 36 percent prefer going to bank branches and 23 percent prefer online banking.

Not surprisingly, almost half of those 55 and older prefer physically going to the bank. Only 13 percent said they use on-

ers Association, asked 1000 people what line banking more often.

# The Patriot

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**Our Mission:** 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 and libertarian 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 and libertarian 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.*

Send questions and comments to [info@stonybrookpatriot.com](mailto:info@stonybrookpatriot.com)  
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The Patriot is a paper of the Enduring Freedom Alliance:  
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The views expressed in the opinions columns are not necessarily the opinions of *The Patriot* or its staff as a whole.



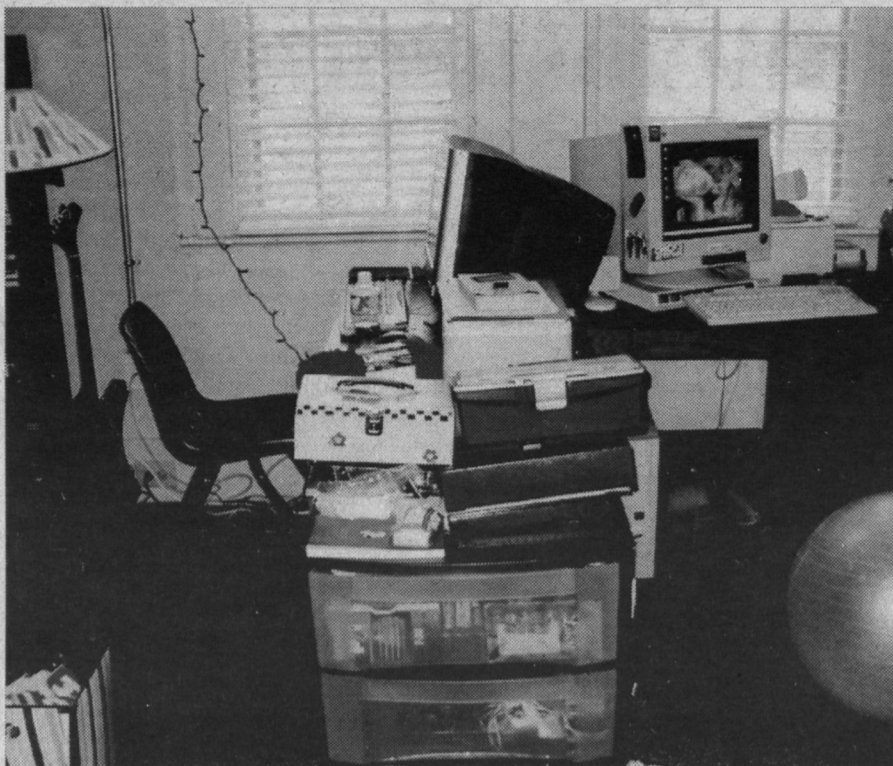
# College Dorm Fires on the Rise!

## Things to Consider to Keep Your Room From Burning to the Ground

By Erik Berte

- There were 3,300 housing fires in 2005.
- That is a 24 percent increase over the last 25-year average.
- There is a higher risk of fire in dorms than at home.
- Some dorms may not be wired to handle the amount of electricity that students require today, since many were built so long ago.
- Halogen lights should be kept away from blankets and curtains, as they can get hot enough to set them on fire.
- Avoid putting extension cords underneath rugs or placing furniture on top of them; this can cause them to overheat, creating a fire hazard.
- Use some common sense. If an appliance that you are using is causing the lights to flicker, there is probably something wrong.

Source: Electrical Safety Foundation



Dorm room full of electric appliances and lights. Careful what you plug in; some dorms might not be wired properly to handle such huge electric needs.



Let's do our part to make sure this doesn't happen at Stony Brook.

# September In History

## September 2, 1789:

The U.S. Treasury is established by Congress.

## September 3, 1783:

The Treaty of Paris is signed, ending the American Revolutionary War.

## September 5, 1774:

The First Continental Congress assembles in Philadelphia.

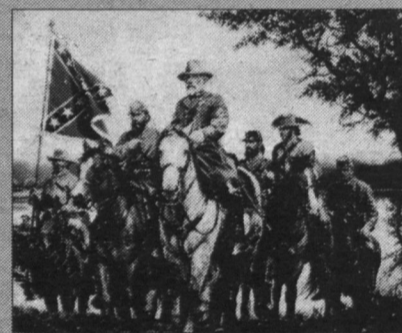


## September 8, 1900:

A hurricane with winds up to 120 mph strikes Galveston, Texas, killing over 8,000 persons, making it the worst disaster in U.S. history.

## September 11, 2001:

The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurs as four passenger jets are hijacked and crashed by Islamic terrorists, killing nearly 3,000 persons.

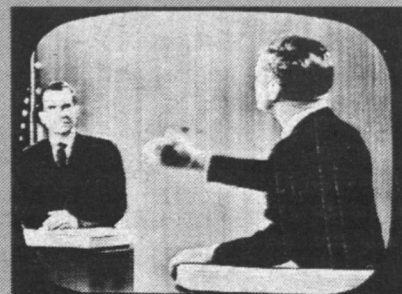


## September 17, 1862:

Bloodiest day in U.S. military history (26,000 dead, wounded, missing) occurs as Gen. Robert E. Lee and the Confederate armies are stopped at Antietam, Maryland by Union forces under Gen. George B. McClellan.

## September 24, 1957:

President Dwight Eisenhower orders the National Guard to enforce racial integration of schools in Little Rock, Arkansas.



## September 26, 1960:

The first-ever, televised presidential debate occurs between presidential candidates, John F. Kennedy and Richard M. Nixon.

# Don't Besmirch the Research (for Election 2008)

By Kerry Keegan

With daily media coverage of the 2008 election, it is difficult to not want to assign yourself to a particular candidate. Groups of your peers are rapidly befriending Hillary, Barack, and Rudy on MySpace and Facebook; why should you miss out? How important is it for you to decide in September of 2007 who you might be able to vote for in over a year? If you still feel the need to submit yourself to an ism, which is a real word, by the way, Ferris Bueller did not coin the term, you should get ready to do some research.

The internet is currently overflowing with various tests and calculations to help you identify yourself in the latest political fashion, but most lack specific terms. How will you describe your beliefs to your new girlfriend's father? You explaining that "my Facebook political compass says I'm just a quarter of a notch between Anarchist and Statist," will not score you many points.

As all good college searches should, this one begins AND ends, with Wikipedia. Armed with reasonably current statuses on



potential candidates, it also offers easy links to more information about their values, voting history, favorite winter sport, and so forth. As it is unimaginably difficult to align yourself with a single candidate in this fashion, it is now time to test your political and social morals to generic websites.

Some recommendations include:

-Presidential Candidate Selector: Is a great idea, but make sure to do extra research.

-<http://www.selectsmart.com/president/2008.html>

-World's Smallest Political Quiz: Is an

option for those in need of a quickie.

-<http://www.theadvocates.org/quiz.html>

-The Political Gauge: Has an interesting spin on dividing up answers on tough topics.

-<http://politicalbrew.com/politest.cgi>

-The Political Quiz Show: Dictates where you fall in between similar political figures.

-<http://madrabbit.net/webrabbit/quizshow.html>

The answers given in the final link bring you back to faithful Wikipedia. Use your proximity to other figures to research their political leanings. Is she or he a Neo-Conservative, a Libertarian Conservative, a Liberal Conservative, or just plain, old Conservative?

While your quest for knowledge and social placement may be time intensive, it will give you something to procrastinate with while avoiding homework, giving you a fabulous start to a new school year.



# Opinions

## The Sky Mall Absurdity

By Eleanor Keisman

Recently, I flew from Florida to Long Island. Sitting on the plane, bored, I reached into the seat pocket in front of me looking for something, uninteresting as it may be, to read. I found something better: SkyMall, a catalog full of pointless extravagances that flyers, such as myself, can marvel at and think, "Wow! Wouldn't it be great to have a robot vacuum so I could sit on my backside and watch?" My next thought, however, was that the thing would probably short circuit and start smoking immediately after arrival.

I continued to flip through the catalog, which you can do on your own and for a laugh at [skymall.com](http://skymall.com), and came across a paper towel dispenser that operates by an electronic eye, which one simply waves his or her hand across to get the desired number of sheets. Are people that lazy? Has the world gone mad? How much work does it really take to grab that paper towel roll and tug off a few sheets? I, myself, have been obtaining paper towels manually for my entire life and have never felt deprived or mal-toweled. Woe-to-me, look what I have been missing. Thank you kind sir, whoever you are, for inventing this "indispensable" invention, who is probably some billionaire with way too much time on his hands.

Perusing the catalog further, so many products made me question their necessity. One item, in particular, made me burst out laughing: the Hollywood Cookie Diet. Are they serious? Our country is obsessed with weight loss but, interestingly enough, not interested in health. According to the Hollywood Cookie Diet, many people think healthy foods taste awful. Really? To tell you the truth, I believe it is these cookies that probably taste awful, like chocolate-flavored cardboard. If you are going to eat a cookie, eat a real cookie and enjoy it.

I have saved the best for last. The product that made me absolutely puzzled, hysterical, daffy, dumbfounded, confounded, and charmed by its utter absurdity was a toaster that costs \$130, yes; that is right, one hundred and thirty smackeroos. It is a toaster! And you know what? It toasts the freakin' bread! Just like every other \$10 toaster in the world, unless it catches fire and then, of course, you have to get rid of it. Well, to return to the subject, this revolutionary toaster boasts that it can tell you exactly what time your toast will be done, not to mention a whole slew of other buttons that pause, defrost, play, rewind, record, and self clean, etc., etc. ...

Why are these things necessary? I have a toaster and yeah, okay, it has its little idiosyncrasies. For example, if there is only one

piece of bread and I put it in the left compartment, it will pop up after only a few seconds, which is strange. So, I fix the problem by simply putting the piece of bread in the opposite compartment and my toaster and I do just fine. For some reason, this whole game does not happen when I use two pieces of bread; but you know what? I still know when the toast is done. Want to know how? THE TOAST POPS UP! Not toasted enough? Do as the rest of the world does and push it down a second time. More is not necessarily better; it is just more confusing.

I suppose SkyMall is not all bad. Once you get past all the gadgets, like carnival popcorn machines that Michael Jackson definitely has in his backyard (think he got it from SkyMall?) and the jet-operated pool floats that give new meaning to the word lazy, a few things may be quite useful to some people. Seriously, who would not want a pair of noise canceling earphones? Ah, the glittery gold of silence. I want those. Seriously.

So readers, if you find yourselves in an airplane and want something funny to read, look no further than the seat pocket in front of you. SkyMall will always be there. Open it, peruse it and soon you will be giggling, hypnotized by its idiocy. But remember: YOU DON'T NEED IT!

## Free Speech 101

By Alexander Ott

September has arrived and students are back in the classroom at one of America's most liberal institutions; college campuses. While state schools, like Stony Brook University, have zero tolerance policies for politics in the classroom, it is reasonably easy to ascertain where professors stand on government issues. While professors claim that reason is echoing from all corners of the classroom, other voices and opinions come creeping out, like a stray dog wandering aimlessly into a pack of wolves. They are all wondering why you are not conforming to the relentless ideology of liberalism.

It seems strange to hear a professor in an intensive Italian class use phrases like, "No, I don't like President Bush, I like Hillary Clinton." You definitely know where they are on the political spectrum. In a philosophy class entitled "Politics and Society" (PHI 105), you would speculate that the subject matter would be diverse and encompass different philosophical points of view; yet the lectures are tailored against the Bush Administration and the War in Iraq. The class has everything to do with the professor's politics and does not particularly present a philosophical journey.

Other classes in the history and political science departments appear to contain open discussion and debate, with many students in the political science program stating that an air of fairness seems to prevail. Being a history department graduate, I believe that most history professors have their opinions and often express them, yet have open minds and judge arguments on merit rather than emotion. It is discouraging, however, when professors use political talking points to get an idea or concept across. Politics in a classroom should not disenfranchise you from coursework or classmates and is not a reflection on the professor's quality.

You, and only you, must be the judge of the content and experience of the course, not the politics of it. Remember, Stony Brook uses evaluations towards the end of the semester. This is your opportunity to voice opinions of courses and professors that include political leanings and discussions.

The most important thing is to not let your own political leanings get in the way of your college experience, as it may be the best years of your life. Speak out often, but with well-researched arguments. Other students and professors will appreciate your contributions.

Remember where you are, use the knowledge base that you are acquiring and build upon it. This is one of the most effective tools to use in gaining the intellectual respect of your peers and professors, which often gains you the academic advantage needed in such a competitive atmosphere. If all of this doesn't work and you are not quite the public speaker that you wish to be, turn to the written word and express yourself in one of the school publications, such as *The Patriot*, that is always looking for contributors. Have a great year and good luck!

## A Resurgent Russia in a New Asia

By Alexander Ott

If you think that America won the cold war back in the early 1990s, many would say you're correct. I would assert, however, that the Cold War was never over. Instead, there was a retreat and pause which allowed Russia to revamp its economy, using assistance from its former enemies: America and Western Europe. Presently, a resurgent Russia is rearing its ugly head in many circles, challenging its former rival and economic savior, the United States, in many areas.

In a bid to gain power on political and economic home fronts, Russia has recently used its oil and gas resources as economic weapons to further its national security interests with the Ukraine. In 2004, President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, used siege on a Beslan school by Chechen terrorists as a reason to nationalize the oil industry. The attack also prompted many internal steps that curbed the new democracy such as: the government, based in the Moscow Kremlin, is now allowed to appoint, in lieu of electing, regional governors; the Duma, Russia's Legislature, is now elected from national party lists, instead of newly-prohibited smaller party blocs; the list goes on. With a threatened Kremlin able to interfere in national democracy, latent effects of these so-called reforms can feasibly limit and control political competition on both local and national levels.

Russia's freedom of the press is also becoming exceedingly censored. As an essential component of any democracy, journalists are unable to report on controversial subjects that relate to Chechnya and President Putin; they live in fear of their lives being threatened.

Prominent Russian journalist, Anna Politkovskaya, a critic of Chechen policy, was murdered outside of her Moscow home last October, some say by government hands.

Some also suggest the Russian government was involved in the radioactive poisoning and assassination of former Russian KGB and Federal Security agent, Col. Alexander Litvinenko. Murdered in London last year, he was believed to have been targeted for speaking out against the Putin-led government.

Putin has also asserted his presidential power by asking for the resignation of his Prime Minister, and has named former cabinet official and personal friend, Viktor Zubkov as a replacement. In order to accomplish this Putin fired his cabinet and dissolved the government just short of parliamentary elections in December and presidential elections in March of 2008. It appears Putin is setting himself up for the Presidency after the next election since he can not under the Russian Constitution run after two back to back wins, however he may after another president is elected.

In Russian military matters, it appears that massive oil profits have led President Putin to exponentially increase funding. Last month, Russia ordered the renewal of Cold War tactics, resuming long-range bomber patrols that had been dormant since 1992. The United States issued an immediate response through State Department spokesman Sean McCormack.

"If Russia feels as though they want to take some of these old aircraft out of mothballs and get them flying again, that's their decision," said McCormack.

Flying routine missions over the Atlantic and Pacific, these planes are in nuclear-

tipped weapons striking range for the United States. Even more disturbing, Russia has been looking east, towards China, as a new ally. In 2006, Russia and China coordinated the Shanghai Cooperation Organization in order to become a regional military bloc. This bloc has demanded the United States' withdrawal from Central Asian Republics that have allowed military and support forces to utilize territory after 9/11 for the War in Afghanistan. In August, Russia and China invited observers to joint military exercises that were conducted in the Ural Mountains, however, the United States was excluded. Russia has also been building alliances with India, a strategic partner and prime source for major weapon systems. The two countries also held joint military exercises in India during 2004.

A day after the six-year anniversary of 9/11, Russia announced the testing of the "Dad of all Bombs", a weapon which is the most powerful air dropped non-nuclear bomb in the world, signaling to the world community that Russia is a secure and formidable player on the world stage.

Through domestic and foreign policy initiatives, Russia, along with China has signaled to the United States that it intends to challenge and, possibly, change Asia's existing balance of power.

Japan, along with Taiwan, remain the United States' only steadfast allies in the region. While the former Eastern European states align themselves with the West, Russia looks eastward, building alliances in order to present an even more formidable rival than the former Soviet Union at its height during the old, cold war.



Let The Patriot's own style expert,  
Amanda Fredericks, show you what's

**HOT RIGHT NOW!**

*Style By Mandy\**



More frustrating than men, school, or an extra ten pounds, is finding the right jeans. Among the impossible to find, are the jeans that will fit through all of this frustration, including those extra ten pounds. Do not let ill-fitting jeans discourage you this year. It seems like the fashion world is finally catching up with the denim dilemma that faces bodacious, curvy girls. While I was back to school shopping this season, I struck gold at Charlotte Russe, Express, and Gap.

Charlotte Russe is popular for their 'buy one get one 50 percent off ALL denim deal,' and until I gave it chance, I never expected such perfect fitting jeans. They offer four different fits, which are available in stretch and traditional fabric.

Express is also currently running a hot deal, with \$20.00 off all of their denim. While their lines are a more expensive than Charlotte Russe's, they are not more than \$40.00 and are made to fit. Offering three different styles and including length measurements, you are bound to walk out with bags. I recommend the Zelda cut.

This year, Gap is offering three new styles, with the trouser cut jeans offering a perfect fit for those thunder thighs. They are a bit wider in the leg, but are tight enough to look classy and trendy for any day or night.

With all of these options, everyone can hit jean JACKPOT just like I did! Remember: You can buy jeans that fit your genes, but not the other way around. Now, get shopping!

## WHAT'S COOKIN'?

*With Eleanor*



### Roasted Tomatoes and Onions With Pasta

(makes 4 servings)

**Ingredients:**

1 roasting pan (I recommend using a non-stick roasting pan, as tomatoes may absorb aluminum, making them bitter and more acidic.)

6 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil

3 lbs very ripe plum tomatoes, halved lengthwise

3 small onions, chopped coarsely  
6 garlic cloves, chopped coarsely

½ lb any kind of pasta (I recommend penne or farfalle, "bow-tie," pasta.)

1 cup shredded ricotta, Romano or Parmesan cheese

1 cup chopped, fresh basil leaves (4 tbsp of dried basil may be substituted)

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Put halved tomatoes, chopped onions and garlic into the roasting pan. Toss with 4 tablespoons of olive oil and season with salt and pepper. If using dried basil, add the 4 tablespoons to the mixture now. (Heat brings out the flavor of dried herbs, whereas fresh herbs tend to lose their flavor when cooked.) When well tossed, roast for about 1 hour, or until the tomatoes are juicy and beginning to brown.

2. While the tomatoes are cooking, boil water in a large pot and cook pasta until al dente (follow directions on box), and drain. When the tomatoes and onions have cooked for about an hour, take them out of the oven, add the pasta to the roasting pan and toss thoroughly, adding the 2 remaining tablespoons of olive oil. Next, add 1 cup of freshly chopped basil leaves if dried herb was not already used. Season with salt and pepper and serve into bowls with shredded ricotta, Romano or Parmesan cheese on top. \*\* Goes well with Chianti!!



Tomatoes are not only delicious, but surprisingly good for you. Various studies have found that compounds in tomatoes may play a role in preventing certain cancers, such as lung, breast, prostate, stomach, and colon. Tomatoes also contain lycopene and beta-carotene, two antioxidants that protect your body's cells from being damaged by free radicals. You can aid your body's intake of these important antioxidants in several ways. When choosing fresh tomatoes, keep in mind that the redder they are, the better they are for you. REMEMBER: NEVER REFRIGERATE FRESH TOMATOES! They will lose their flavor.



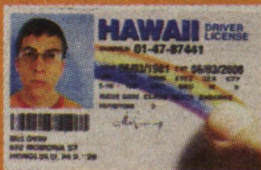
## Al Gore's COOL-O-METER



When not too busy fighting the "inconvenient truths" of global warming or accepting Academy Awards, our former Vice President combats climate change by discovering what's cool or not cool each month.

C  
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- McLOVIN
- Halo 3
- Jaba Chamberlain
- Grape Soda
- Improved Union Building



U  
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- CPAC Star Trek Nerds
- iPhone
- Webkinz
- Freshmen 4-to-a-room
- USG Rodents
- Mauve (the color in general)
- World of Warcraft

MONEY



BY JESSE COLOMBO

## Time is On Your Side: Why College Students Should Invest



My name is Jesse Colombo, and I have been investing in stocks since the age of fourteen. This is the first out of a series of articles that I plan to write for the Patriot, attempting to teach college students how to profitably invest in stocks and other related investments. This preliminary article will make a case for early investing, while subsequent articles in the series will provide specific details of how the stock market works, opening a brokerage account, and how to pick stocks.

Why bother investing at our age? Because time is on the young investor's side. Investing early, even if you start with only a few thousand dollars a year, can amount to having a million dollar nest-egg later on in life. Nearly every young person can realistically become a millionaire without the prerequisite of a high paying job. In order to make this goal a reality, you must harness the power of financial compounding, a concept that Albert Einstein called, "the greatest invention of all time."

Compounding occurs when

you reinvest your investment profits, rather than spend them. An example: If your stock portfolio increases 15% in value in the first year and you re-invest, making an additional 15% the second year, you would have made a 32.25% total profit instead of the 30% profit that was expected from adding each year's return. This leaves a favorable 2.25% discrepancy. If given enough time, compounding will result in such a dramatic discrepancy that your investment will have ballooned to many times its initial size.

Let me illustrate how your stock market compounding, success story can play out. Imagine that you are twenty five years old, have been working for several years, and have managed to save \$10,000 by living below your means. You decide to invest in the stock market and not withdraw any of your funds for a minimum of thirty years. If you manage to maintain a 15% annual return, your portfolio will be worth a cool \$662,117 at age fifty five. At age sixty five, you would be worth a

whopping \$2,678,635! In the game of compounding, profit is a direct function of time—a commodity that benefits young people. The younger you start investing, the better.

I find it quite impressive that these staggering returns are realized with just a \$10,000 initial investment, without any subsequent outlay of capital. If you are disciplined enough to invest a small amount of additional money from your earnings each year, your final portfolio value will be worth many times more than a portfolio that did not receive any additions.

American common stocks are, without exception, the most effective instrument for achieving decades of exponentially compounding growth. In my next piece, I'll show you how to become part owner of companies like Coca-Cola and Wal-Mart, with stocks that have consistently enriched investors who employ the power of compounding. Until then, start a habit of saving as much money as you can—it may become millions later on!

# Out on a Limb With Nick the Liberal

## "Stop Grabbing Her Ass!"

By Nicholas Katchen

You are at a crowded party. The music is loud and you are krunked. Ahead of you is a crowd of people that you have to get passed. You have two choices. You could politely say, "Excuse me" and tap the lady in front of you on the shoulder, or you could palm her ass and push her out of the way.

Stop grabbing her ass. Yes, you. The drunk, meat-head who spans from Drift in Hampton Bays to the frat houses of SUNY schools. Do you know her name? No. Have you made eye contact with her? Nope. Yet, as you pass a woman in a crowded party, you feel compelled to palm her backside instead of excusing yourself. The music is not that loud; I promise she will acknowledge you when approached politely. If you lifted so much weight earlier in the day that you are unable to bring your arms high enough to tap her on the shoulder, maybe a tap to the lower back would serve better than grabbing her waist. I am sure your drunken request in her ear would be more pleasantly received than your sloppy caress.

Do men at a party have the inability to respect women enough to not touch them inappropriately, or are they too drunk to

know what they are doing? Unfortunately, the ability to remain anonymous in a crowded bar spawns these sexual assaults on poor, random women. At the library, no one complains about getting touched inappropriately. If so, the woman might actually be able to identify and confront the d-bag that broke the basic rules of decency in a civilized society.

I have a novel idea on how the problem can be solved. It is possible for men to break the habit; we can be helped. Maybe, just maybe, we could slow down to avoid becoming ridiculously inebriated. Chances are, if you already got turned down for something more than a dance, going in for a second (or third) try is not going to do the trick.



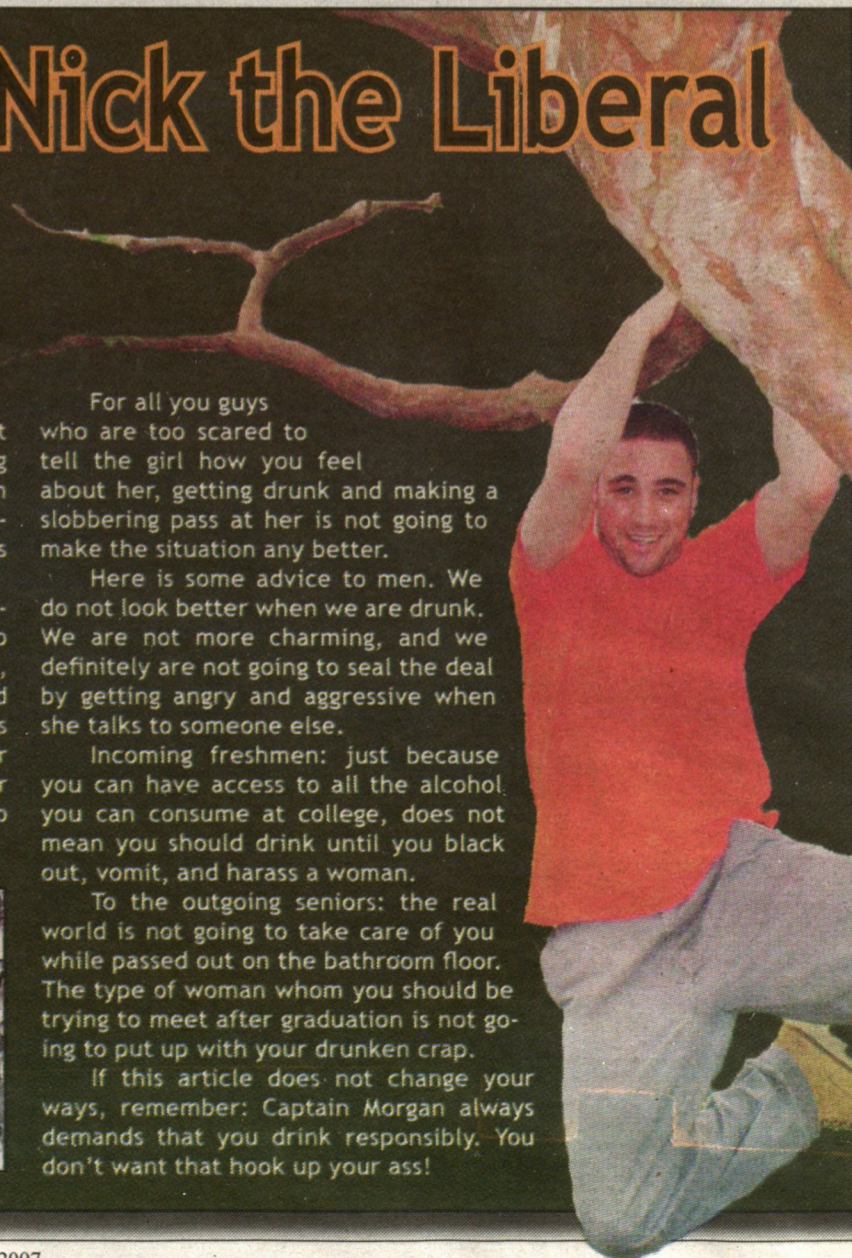
For all you guys who are too scared to tell the girl how you feel about her, getting drunk and making a slobbering pass at her is not going to make the situation any better.

Here is some advice to men. We do not look better when we are drunk. We are not more charming, and we definitely are not going to seal the deal by getting angry and aggressive when she talks to someone else.

Incoming freshmen: just because you can have access to all the alcohol you can consume at college, does not mean you should drink until you black out, vomit, and harass a woman.

To the outgoing seniors: the real world is not going to take care of you while passed out on the bathroom floor. The type of woman whom you should be trying to meet after graduation is not going to put up with your drunken crap.

If this article does not change your ways, remember: Captain Morgan always demands that you drink responsibly. You don't want that hook up your ass!





# World War II Movies



Let The Patriot pick the best films to rent so you don't have to waste your time finding them yourself!

## THE PATRIOT'S NETFLIX QUEUE

### TORA!TORA!TORA!

The Incredible attack on Pearl Harbor as told from both the American and Japanese sides.



From 20th Century-Fox. The most spectacular film ever made.

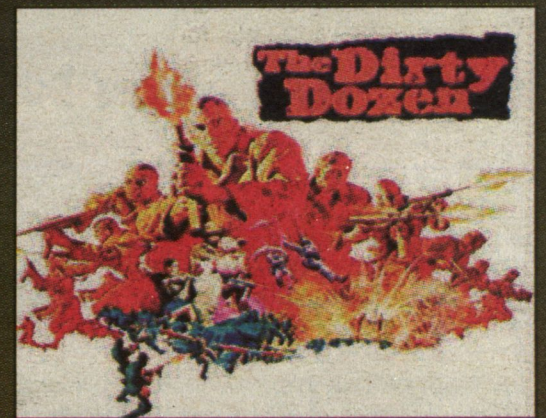
Tora, Tora, Tora (1970)

Movies about Pearl Harbor range from terrible (ask Ben Affleck) to the incredible. If you want to see one that's incredible -rent Tora, Tora, Tora. When Clint Eastwood made his epic back to back WWII films last year, everyone made a big deal that he made films that showed both the American AND Japanese sides to the epic battle for Iwo Jima. While it was a great and noble effort by the great Mr. Eastwood, the idea of having both sides' stories represented was done 36 years earlier in this film. And they had Japanese actors speaking their native language just the same. So yeah, it's a film that goes back and forth between the American and Japanese points of view and despite what the title says, it's not a movie about a bunch of singing and dancing Jews.



Stalag 17 (1953)

I doubt anyone reading this will be old enough to remember the old 1960's sitcom Hogan's Heroes, but this is the film that inspired it. For those that don't know, it was a comedy about American POW's in a German prison camp during WWII. Yeah, that's right it was a comedy with Nazis. Imagine getting away with that nowadays? The film that inspired that show was extremely successful in its own right. It combined humor, drama, satire and about any other adjective you could think of to describe a movie. William Holden won an oscar for Best Actor for his performance in it and it was well deserved. Stalag 17's overall success was not just inspiring a sitcom and winning awards however, it also spawned an entire sub-genre of WWII films -prison camp movies. The type of film that culminated with 1957's The Bridge on the River Kwai. A film that went on to win 7 oscars including Best Picture and Best Director.



The Dirty Dozen (1967)

The one and only Lee Marvin and it's his finest badass role. The tagline for the Dirty Dozen was -Train them! Excite them! Arm them! Then turn them on the Nazis! Basically, a ragtag bunch of miscreants and convicted killers get trained by Lee Marvin and then they all go on a suicide mission to carry out a mass assassination of Nazi officers in a fortified castle. Jim Brown is in it. So is Charles Bronson. So you know it's good. It's not an epic. It's just a kickass movie.



Sands of Iwo Jima (1949)

If you ever venture out to Los Angeles, you will probably visit the handprints outside the famous Chinese theatre on Hollywood Blvd. If you do, you might notice that John Wayne's cement block is a different color than all the others. It's not because he was the most iconic American actor of all time. It's because when he was asked to leave his prints for posterity, John Wayne asked that the cement used for the occasion was to be made from sand brought back from the island of Iwo Jima. That's how near and dear this film was to him. The Sands of Iwo Jima may have been a personal film to The Duke, but it also provides us with one of his greatest performances. It was enough to get him an oscar nomination for best actor -the closest he ever came to winning it. If you get impressed with the special effects thinking, "how'd they do THAT back in 1949?" That's because the makers of this film had access to real battle footage from the war. And if it's authenticity you're after, look no further than the recreation of the famous flag raising scene at the top of Mt. Suribachi. The guys recreating that scene were the real deal. They got the real-life surviving Marines to re-enact their roles from the most reproduced photograph in American history.



A Bridge Too Far (1977)

Epic and massive in ways modern films don't reach nowadays. Just look at the cast: Sean Connery, Anthony Hopkins, Laurence Olivier, Robert Redford, James Caan, Michael Caine, Ryan O'neil, Gene Hackman and about 30 other big name actors that go on and on. A lineup like this doesn't happen anymore unless you're in a select group of George Clooney's friends. The film itself is a masterly chronicle of the greatest armada of troop carrying aircraft ever assembled for a single battle. Focusing on a vast cast of characters, from Dutch civilians to British and American strategists to common soldiers and commanders, this film brings to life one of the most daring and ill-fated operations of the war.



## Free Software!

By Erik Berte

Who needs to illegally download a copy of Microsoft Office when you can get it for free, legitimately? Attention all Stony Brook University students: thanks to your technology fee, you can pick up a free copy of Microsoft Office 2007 or pay only \$15.75 for Windows Vista Ultimate.

Stony Brook University's Division of Information Technology has an agreement with Microsoft that allows all registered SBU students to access several Microsoft products for significantly discounted prices or free.

These free titles include: Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007, Microsoft Office 2003 Professional, and Microsoft Office Professional 2004 for MAC users. Heavily discounted software includes: Windows Vista Ultimate at \$15.75, which normally retails for \$399, Microsoft Visual Studio .NET 2005 at \$31.25, and Microsoft SharePoint Designer 2007 at \$10.60.

Worried about Vista's bugs and afraid to play guinea pig? While supplies last, Windows XP Professional is still available for \$11.45.

Students can pick software up at the Seawolves MarketPlace in the Student Activities Center (SAC) or at the HSC Bookstore on level two of the Health Science Center. A valid Stony Brook ID is required and you must be registered for classes at the time.

Even though you may be upset by the extra fees, you should definitely take advantage of this offer.

## <3 Media Love

Fellow Students, we here at The Patriot wish to welcome you to a new year of Stony Brook Student media. And as representatives of the media, we diligently read other publications on campus. This semester, we seem to be on the minds of practically every writer and editor of all other publications.

### What others are saying about the Patriot:

"Now, the Patriot. What Marvel hero represents this bastion of right-wing semi-journalism? Venom. "Now, wait just a minute!" I hear the protests, "How can you compare one of the coolest characters goin' to that rag?" I assure you it works. Venom is a twisted, shadowy version of Spider-Man, born out of a burning hatred for him. Whether this makes Jorge Sierra the alien symbiote is a question entirely to itself, but I think that fairly well sums up the EFA's little newsletter. A self-styled "Lethal Protector," Venom sees himself as a hero even though he tends to kill people and maybe eat a brain or two. Besides, any lingering respect for Venom should have been exorcised by now, what with the symbiote having bonded with Mac Gargan. And the way Brock was portrayed in Sensational #38 and 39 was all out character assassination. (I know what you're expecting me to say next, but I thought Topher Grace was a brilliant casting choice for Venom. So sod off.)" - *Alex Walsh of The Press*

"If I hear that you ignored any of my guidelines, I swear I will tie you to a chair and read you satires out of The Patriot" - *Joey Safdia of The Press*

"Even on campus, the word (Patriot) has been perverted. The Patriot student newspaper, published by the oh-so-American-sounding Enduring Freedom Alliance, is an outlet that is used to spread conservative talking points to all twelve of their readers." - *Adam Peck of The Statesman*

## Why myPhone Won't Be an iPhone

By Alexander Ott

Early this summer, people camped out and lined up outside AT&T and Apple stores, waiting to purchase an iPhone, as if it were the last Harry Potter novel. Sure, the iPhone's touchscreen sounds amazing. I could not wait to see how it morphed images when, for example, an email was deleted. I wanted to surf the Web using an available, WiFi connection. I wanted to have an all-encompassing device for my music, data, camera, and phone calls.



1.) **AT&T is a lousy wireless provider.** If you want the iPhone, you have to sign up with AT&T. In recent surveys, AT&T ranks at, or near, the bottom of the pack for cellular service. Many former subscribers have switched to Sprint or Verizon for the networks' functionality and data service offerings. In mid-August, AT&T had officially dropped its claim as having the network with the fewest dropped calls, claiming improvements to Verizon's nationwide network had forced them to recant. Furthermore, while several British firms claim to have codes to unlock the phone, AT&T has threatened litigation. This litigation may go nowhere, however, as the U.S. Copyright Office determined that owners may legally unlock their own phones in the fall of 2006.

2.) **Slow data and unsecure connections will drive you, and your IT people, crazy.** Apple engineered the iPhone to work only with AT&T's EDGE data network, which is barely faster than dial-up Internet access. What good are the iPhone's pretty graphics if you have to wait eons for them to load? Security issues are a bit fuzzier, but some corporate IT administrators worry that the iPhone will not be as safe for company networks as BlackBerrys.

3.) **You can not swap out the battery.** A spare battery is essential to any smart cellular user. If you are going to use an iPhone as an all-purpose, multimedia/phone/Web/e-mail/messaging/photo device, it is going to burn through the juice, even with Apple's souped-up, built-in battery. Inevitably, your phone will die at some critical moment when you can not recharge it. Then what are you going to do? When the battery dies for good, which is estimated at 400 charges, you will have to send it back to Apple for replacement at an undisclosed fee.

4.) **Version 1.0 syndrome.** It often takes companies a few rounds to work out the kinks in a new product. Apple's first-generation iPods had all kinds of problems, most notably, with the batteries. No one has used a first-generation iPhone long enough to know what kind of issues it has. For example, will that beautiful, glass touchscreen really resist scratches and dings for months and months of use? What happens if you drop it, which is an important question, since AT&T refuses to sell its normal cell-phone insurance for the iPhone?

5.) **It is difficult for third-parties to offer cool software applications.** You do not really need extra software on an iPod, but you do for the iPhone. The iPhone lacks a bundled instant messaging client and has no voice dialing, functions that third-parties would love to offer. The iPhone is a closed system. Outside developers must use the Safari Web browser for any software offerings, which limits their options.

## Non-Fiction Editor's Picks

### The 9/11 Commission Report

This is a very interesting book for anyone who is interested in learning more about terrorism or the facts of the September 11th attacks. It contains fascinating information on Al Qaeda, the responses of government workers that day, what we knew before the attacks, and issues of security at home. If you are still not sated, check out Without Precedent: The Inside Story of the 9/11 Commission. Written by the two chairs of the 9/11 Commission, it is reported to explain issues that have been neglected and others that currently need to be confronted.

### Living a Political Life by Madeline Kunin

Written by the first female governor of Vermont, it is a must for anyone interested in this dynamic account of a female politician in an overly masculine, political world. Describing her many campaigns along the road to the State House, Gov. Kunin describes dealing with issues such as family, motherhood, compromise between parties, and femininity as an elected representative.

### Love Stories: Sex Between Men Before Homosexuality by Jonathan Ned Katz

As one of the most acclaimed authors who deal with gay history, Katz explores the fascinating topic of gay male relationships before a heterosexual and homosexual dichotomy was invented. Katz discusses the open acceptance of male homosexuality before the 1880's, stating that the dichotomy between "queer" and "straight" was defined more by gender lines than by type of sex.

### For Which it Stands by Michael Corcoran

A simple and informative read, this book explores the little known field of vexillology, or the study of flags. Originally named for the Roman tradition of carrying flags into battle, called vexilles, the book traces the continued practice through a descriptive history of the American flag.

All of these books can easily be found on [strandbooks.com](http://strandbooks.com).



# Back to the Grind at SBU

Patriot Special Update

## Paid Too Much for Books?

Admit it, you're pissed off! Why? It's because you wasted your hard-earned beer money at the University Book Store. Read this and get it right the second time around.

By Matthew Reisch

So you just forked over several thousand dollars this semester for tuition and various student fees. And, for those of you living on campus, you and/or your parents just shelled out an extra four grand per semester for room and board. Even if you are not dorming, those of us with cars must factor in the wear and tear of commuting and, at least, basic maintenance. If you are like most college students, you are probably wondering: When will the madness end? and How much more money must I (depending on your attitude) throw at my education this semester? There is one, comparatively cheaper, expense that I failed to mention: books. Here is some helpful advice on book buying to save you from unnecessary, expense hemorrhaging.

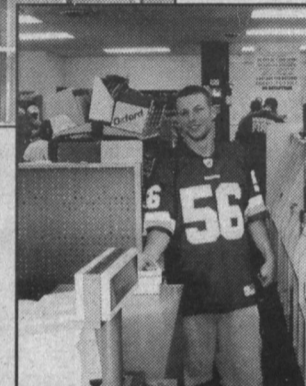
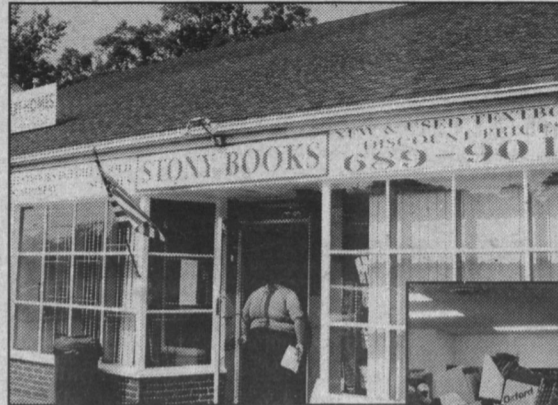
Book buying is very important; you can pay through the nose for tuition, but there is no guarantee that you will learn anything unless you buy the books. There are plenty of options for you to get access to the books you need.

First, after receiving your syllabus, check the Stony Brook University Book Store. Do not expect much of a bargain here. Even their used books are expensive, plus SBU does not need any more of your hard-earned money. Also, the lines are usually horrendous. If you do go, use their prices as very high benchmarks and then shop around.

Stony Books, a privately-owned store across 25A and the Stony Brook train station, is more reasonably priced, but the

lines can go out the door and around the block at times, especially during the first week of classes.

Your best option may be to shop online. I like to use Amazon.com, especially their marketplace, which allows numerous sellers to compete for my money, which is in stark contrast to the Stony Brook campus bookstore. I have ordered numerous textbooks from Amazon and its other sellers and have yet to be disappointed. I have purchased new books for a third of the price that the campus bookstore or Stony Books were selling them for. Shipping is the only problem; sometimes it is pricey, but if you buy a book for a third of the cost, why not spring for expedited shipping and still save. Be wary of shipping costs, though, because they can add up, so look for free shipping offers. Amazon offers free shipping on almost all orders over twenty-five dollars. This is only good for stuff ordered directly from them, however, and not any of their partners.



Look ma! No line at Stony Books Today!

Some other websites I have given my money to are half.com, which also has several sellers vying for attention, and strand-books.com, which is a large, brick and mortar, new and used bookstore in New York City. It is very reasonable and also has, relatively cheap shipping. All three of these websites sell new and used books, just make sure you pick the edition that your professor stipulated in the syllabus.

Another note to the wise, sometimes you can read the texts you need for free in the library, but please show common courtesy and read your selection there. Do not check it out and take it home with you, as others need to use the book.

And finally, shop around! Practice free-market consumption and do not settle for the grossly inflated prices of books on campus if you do not have to.

## How to Get an A in Five Easy Steps

By Matthew Reisch

Well, the summer has come and gone. To all the new students who are beginning their first semester at Stony Brook, welcome. It is time to party! Well, not exactly. Socializing is an undeniable part of college life; however, it would be worthwhile to study if you want to be around for a second semester so here are some tips for studying at Stony Brook:

**Establish Priorities.** Spend enough time with the books to illicit good grades. Remember, people have very different studying habits. While your roommate may be able to read "War and Peace" in one night, this will not necessarily work for you. A word to the wise: When allocating your time, try studying more than you party by at least a 3:1 ratio and, once you have found that happy medium between socializing and studying, stick with it.

**Study Groups: God's Gift to Man or God's Gift to a Lazy Man.** Study groups are a fairly common technique and may help when needing to compare notes or ideas for an exam. Usually materializing a few weeks before midterms, they are often held in the Student Activities Center's Traditions Lounge or in the commuter lounges of the SAC and library. Unfortunately, people in these groups sometimes believe that they can slack off and not read or attend classes; they essentially leach off of the groups' collective knowledge. This does not work in many cases, so always keep up with the reading and try to attend every class, even if attendance is not mandatory. If you choose to study in groups, please take these tips to heart: Try not to study with friends, as they are usually a distraction.

If you want to get the full benefit of studying in groups, come prepared. Bring books, notes, and study aids in order to answer serious questions that benefit the group as a whole.

**Professor Sanctioned Study Sessions: A Professor's Gift, but Only If You Attend** Most professors offer useful review sessions, but keep in mind that attending one review session before a major exam is not proper preparation, especially if you have not attended class. During these sessions, keep your ears opened for occasional pearls of wisdom. You may catch information that cuts down needed study time. They will give you hints, but you must make an effort to find them.

**Fortress of Solitude.** If study groups are not your cup of tea, you are probably a "hermit" studier and prefer solitude during cram sessions. Ear plugs are a must-have, for they are, essentially, instant solitude. Many hermit studiers prefer the library stacks to roommate-filled dorm rooms. Dorm rooms are not ideal study areas when your roommates are present, especially if you are easily prone to distraction or always up for a party. If it is a nice day outside, be a hippie and study amongst nature; find a tree, a bench or even one of those multicolored, metallic tables with the umbrellas. Once you have found that ideal spot, take out your study materials and start training your brain.

**It's a Syllabus, Not Material to Make Paper Planes or Origami.** Do not discard, deface or fold your syllabus into an aesthetically pleasing sculpture. While you might gain temporary enjoyment from any number of these paper disposal methods, your grades may

suffer a chronic bout of mediocrity. There are many reasons why syllabi exist: They provide you with a schedule for the completion of assignments. They also describe professors' policies on a number of topics, like attendance, makeup examinations, late submissions of work and finally, how your grade is attained. If it helps, cross off each week's assignments as they are completed; this helps you stay on track and not fall behind. Now that you understand the importance of the almighty syllabus, do not worry if you have already disposed of yours, professors usually post them on blackboard or have extra copies, but do not repeat the discard process again.

**Additional Suggestions.** For good measure, take notes during class periods or record lectures for later reference and studying. Transcribing lectures can aid in memorization and be an effective way to master the subject. Taking notes on index cards is also a good method, especially when cramming for an exam. Also, for the sake of your grade, try not to fall behind in classwork, which can easily become a very steep mountain to climb.

Everyone misses a class once in a while, but do not allow this to become your academic downfall. Most importantly, know the professor's attendance policy, as these vary wildly. Be responsible if you must miss class. Contact your professor, assuring him or her that you are a proactive person and wish to keep up with the work. This type of contact with your instructor may illicit leniency when the time for grading is at hand. Also, ask classmates for copies of notes or voice recordings for the days you miss.

While creating an effective study habit is a difficult endeavor, it is necessary. Many incoming students fall victim to a disease that effects the pleasure center of the brain, known as the limbic system—you would know this if you studied. This study-affecting illness is known as procrastination, in which the subject is very easily enticed to perform another task instead of studying. These tasks are usually time wasters, like Online Multi-player games, e.g. World of Warcraft, television, and the internet. Everyone has bouts of acute procrastination sometimes, but it is chronic procrastination that can really affect your grades.

Organization is a good way to combat the symptoms of procrastination. Write down what you have to study or complete for class. Finish off one assignment at a time and take a break. Check your email or watch a little television. Reward yourself each time you finish one of your assignments, but do not be careless and rush, leaving only a lackluster product. Train yourself to work efficiently and keep focused.

You will benefit if you take these little tidbits of advice to heart. Remember, the product is only as good as what you put into it. If you find yourself having difficulties understanding the work, do not be afraid to get help from professors, teaching assistants, other classmates or residential tutoring centers. For more information on residential tutoring centers, visit their website at [http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/sites/rtc/your\\_needs.jsp](http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/sites/rtc/your_needs.jsp). Lastly, the Writing Center in the Humanities building is a good resource if inundated with papers.



# Patriot Food Guide 2007

## On Campus

### Kelly Dining Center AKA "The Kelly Deli"

ZonaMexicana, KellyMarket (chicken), Portabella's Pizza, Origins (ethnic cuisine), MarketCarvery (carving station), Au Bon Pain Soups, Changing Palate, Terra Ve (vegetarian), Kelly Deli, Convenience Store, and Weekend Brunch (all you care to eat), & Breakfast.

### Campus Connection at H-Quad

TacoBell Express, OutTakes, TerraVe (vegetarian), MarketCarvery (carving station), Origins (ethnic cuisine), Nurture Our World (low fat/sodium), Grill Connection, Sandella's (flat-bread pizzas & wraps), & Weekend Brunch (all you care to eat).

### Student Activities Center Food Court

Changing Palate, Seasons (seasonal options), Toasty Subs, Portabella's Pizza, Philly's Campus Grill, the Salad Patch, OutTakes, Au Bon Pain Soups, Breakfast, & Double Treat Bakery.

### Union Commons

NEW dining location for Fall 2007 located in the Stony Brook Union. Featuring Calypso (Caribbean), Halal NY (featuring NY style Gyros, & hot entrées), Bamboo (Asian), Coyote Jack's (Southwestern Grill), and OutTakes sandwiches, wraps, & salads.

### Kelly Coffee & Tea House

The place to purchase specialty coffees, smoothies, teas, Asian bubble tea, and delectable desserts with a comfortable atmosphere to study, lounge, and connect to the Internet.

### Wolfie's

A NEW Stony Brook Athletics themed restaurant with large portions, great taste, and a super value.

### Starbucks

Opening Fall 2007 in the Stony Brook Union. Come in and enjoy your favorite Starbucks beverage, bring your laptop for wifi and bring a friend to enjoy over 70 comfortable seats.

### Fuzions Cuisine

The University Café will be the home of Fuzions Cuisine. A lunch concept featuring gourmet paninis and salads. All meal plans will be accepted.

### Tabler Café

Expanded for Fall 2007 to offer hot entrées during lunch & dinner. Tabler also offers Dunkin' Donuts, Freschetta Pizzas, assorted sandwiches, soups, snacks, and meal-plan vending machines.

### Jasmine Food Court

Operated by Café Spice Group of Restaurants, Jasmine is an Asian food court located in the Charles B. Wang Center. Only Flex credits may be used.

### Delancey Street

Our Glatt Kosher delicatessen and restaurant.

### The Union Deli

A full service deli located in the Stony Brook Union.

From [www.campusdining.org](http://www.campusdining.org)

## Off Campus

For commuters and residents fortunate enough to have a car on campus, you can get real, actual food at the plethora of restaurants in the Stony Brook area. Here are some of our favorites.

### John Harvard's

If you like beer, John Harvard's is definitely the place to be. It is in the Toys 'R Us shopping center by the Smith Haven Mall. As it is a microbrewery, watch out for awesome flavored beers that change during different seasons. Tip: Try out the "sampler" to get a small glass of five or so of the beers currently brewing. Plus, it is cheaper than buying a large glass of one beer. Get a few! Check out Ben Franklin's Beer of the Month on the following page; we're featuring one of their beers.

### Soup's On

(1099 Route, 25A Stony Brook): Hot, tasty soup, fresh salads, and a mix of hot or cold wraps, sandwiches, and paninis. It has a fantastic staff and very quick service. Watch out for a small seating area. An interesting mix, with soups changing daily, but you definitely pay extra for the fresh ingredients.

### Yin & Yang Restaurant

(2548 Nesconset Hwy RT 347, Stony Brook): A great buffet place with an inexpensive and fresh sushi bar that offers crab legs and shrimp alongside numerous, Chinese dishes. The desserts are okay. For the price, it is definitely worth the short trip from campus. It is located between Stony Brook Rd. and Nichols Rd. on the north side of the highway.

### Cheesecake Factory

(610 Smith Haven Mall, Space P-10, Lake Grove, NY 11755): An upscale, yet casual, expensive restaurant offering more than 200 menu selections. Try one of approximately fifty cheesecakes and desserts with a cappuccino or espresso. It is open seven days a week, with the restaurant and/or bar serving appetizers, lunch, and dinner. The food is also available for take out.

### Hi-Lite Grille

Weird name, serious pancakes. No, really, the pancakes are amazing at this diner so it definitely worth the hike to Port Jeff Station. Just head eastbound on Rt. 347 from the university and you will find it on the left.

### Green Cactus Fresh Mexican Grill

(1099 Route, 25A Stony Brook): A mix of traditional, Tex-Mex favorites and modern Hispanic flavors. Since it is a popular local spot, call and order ahead if you are in a hurry. The restaurant has an indoor seating area, along with a seasonal, outdoor patio spread. Make sure to take advantage of their salsa bar and chips, which are made fresh during the day.



Union Commons: a new dining hall in... you guessed it, the Union. They've completely renovated the place.



Libby Cipollina enjoys some asian cuisine in the new and improved Union Commons.

## Christopher Walken Denies Using Tap Dancing Skills to Solicit Gay Restroom Sex

Satire By Damian Geminder

Idaho Republican Sen. Larry Craig will announce his resignation from the Senate amidst outcry over his arrest and guilty plea in a police sex sting in an airport men's room, Republican officials said Friday.

One of the apparent signs Sen. Craig gave, implying that he wished to engage in lewd conduct, was his toe-tapping, according to the arresting officer.

Almost immediately, the discussion at dinner tables across the Nation was, "Where did Sen. Larry Craig gets such fine dance moves?" All signs pointed to Christopher Walken.

The veteran actor is known for his dancing skills and is a 2008 Presidential candidate, sort of.

Craig immediately denied both, that he is a homosexual and that he is connected to Walken, stating at a press conference, "I am not gay. I have never been gay. And Mousehunt was terrible."

Rumours that the Idaho Senior Senator is gay are nothing new and go back

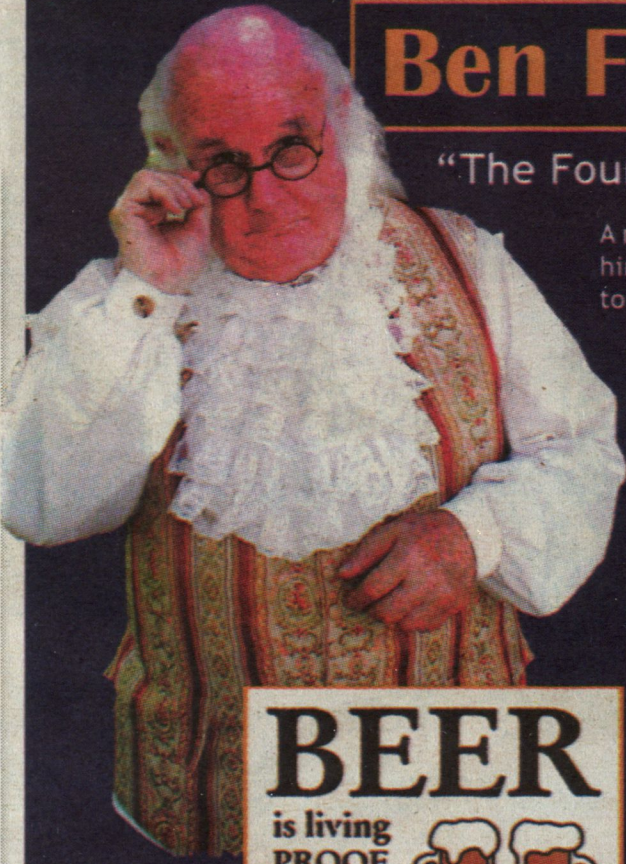


as far as 1982. Craig was interviewed by the Idaho Statesman in May of this year. He responded to the allegations, "I'm not gay, and I don't cruise, and I don't hit on men.... I don't go around anywhere hitting on men, and by God, if I did, I wouldn't do it in Boise, Idaho! Jiminy!" The Senator then muttered under his breath, "I'd do it in Minneapolis, Minnesota."

It is undeniable, at this point, that Sen. Craig's ordeal has effectively ended his future career in politics. Reports that he and former New Jersey Governor Jim McGreevey were in talks for a dual autobiography entitled, *Out of the Closet, Out of a Job,\** were unconfirmed at press time.



# Ben Franklin's Beer of the Month



"The Founding Father of Beer"

A man of many talents and interests, Benjamin Franklin had a natural curiosity about things that made him try to find ways to make them better. Following Ben's footsteps, the staff of The Patriot travels to breweries all over the island to find the best beer for your drinking pleasure.

## Pumpkin Spice Ale

It's that time of the year again! The hazy orange pumpkin spicy aroma of this distinctive ale is sure to bring you down to John Harvard's for a pint or two. And make sure they don't skimp out on lining the rim with cinnamon! It'll get you drunk!

# BEER

is living  
PROOF  
that GOD  
LOVES us  
& wants  
us to be  
HAPPY.



*B. Franklin*



"America  
cultivates best  
what Germany  
brought forth."

- Benjamin Franklin



## Picture of the Month



"Tinkerbell got fat!"

"Eating organic gives you wings"

"Bah!"

Don't like our quotes? Send your own!  
[submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com](mailto:submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com)

## Poetry Corner

### Hands By Eleanor Keisman

Don't speak,  
with your face nor your eyes.  
Tell me nothing I can hear,  
but something I can see.

Hold my hand in tangled unison,  
with long fingers, elegant and strong.  
They tell me more than you could ever say,  
and they always let me know you.

I won't speak,  
with my face nor my eyes.  
I'll speak with my hands,  
and give you a touch so you'll always know me.

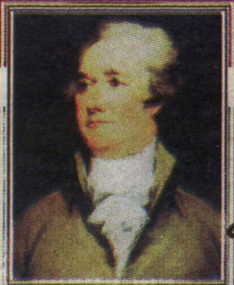
Eyes are tender and words are honest,  
but no eye could every be as tender,  
nor any word as honest,  
as your hands are when they speak to me.



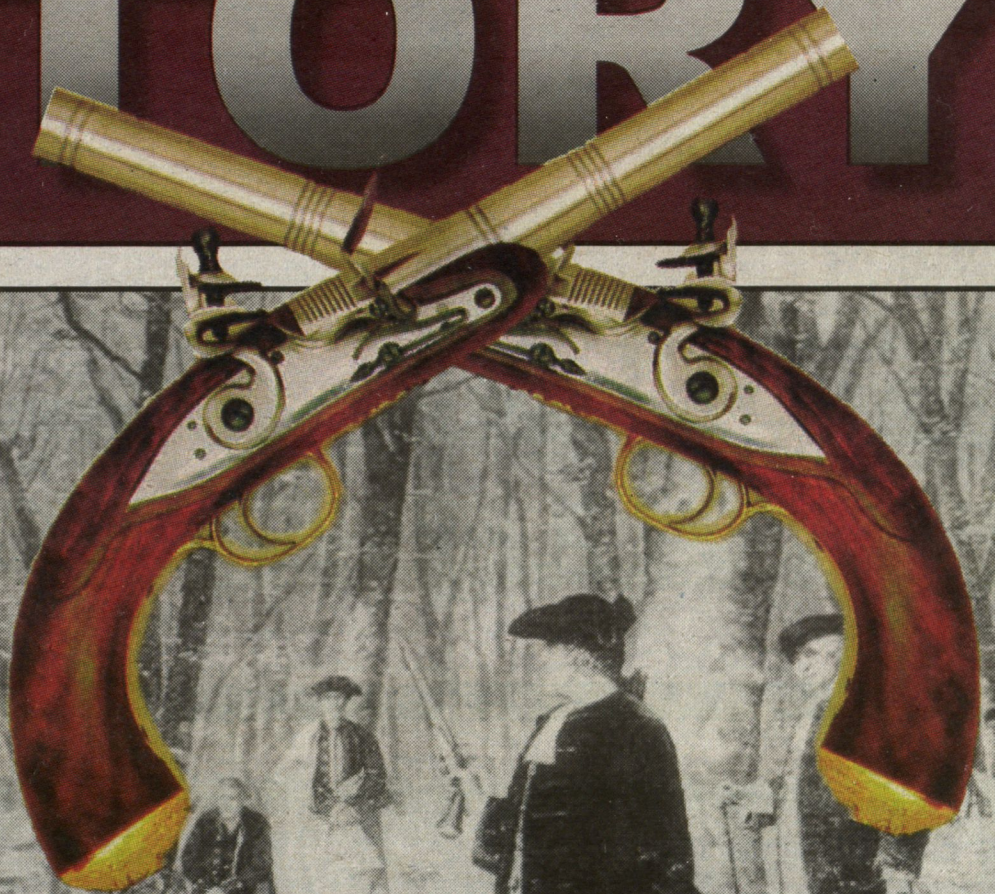


From  
the

# VAULT OF HISTORY



VS



By Matthew Reisch

When the name Aaron Burr is mentioned, most people automatically envision the duel with Alexander Hamilton that has brought him such notoriety. However, time has forgotten a trial involving Mr. Burr some three years after the infamous duel in 1804. Burr was indicted on the grounds of treason and other "high misdemeanors." How treasonous his actions really were are still up for debate, due to the popularity of land acquisition in the west, but here is what happened.

In order to fully understand this case, one must have the context and be versed in the political atmosphere of the time. The early years of the nineteenth century were a tumultuous time, Britain, Spain and the other old world empires were doing their best to conserve their political system after the successful revolutions in the United States and France. And on the North American Continent the United States was in a pretty precarious position, because while the Jefferson Administration tried to act as neutral possible toward

the other colonial possessors, the American inhabitants west of the Mississippi, were willing to take up arms against the Spanish, whom they saw as despotic, for the acquisition of Texas and Florida.

Now, here is where Burr comes into the picture. After leaving his post as vice president under Thomas Jefferson in 1805, Burr and his long time friend General James Wilkinson, the governor of the newly acquired territory of the west, allegedly corresponded frequently in code planning a scheme to dislodge the newly acquired Louisiana Territory from the United States.

Allegedly the plan was to first agitate the population enough to take control of the territory, than to declare himself ruler and from there to takeover the Spanish territorial possessions in Mexico.

Burr, in his many self incriminating notes to Wilkinson, spoke of his strategy, as well as his progress in acquiring volunteers (promising land and low taxes) and supplies for the expedition and finally that according to his contacts in Mexico, their willingness to side with Burr, if they "protect their religion, and will not

subject them to a foreign power..."

Burr's plans came to a screeching halt, when Wilkinson decided that he had enough of Burr's plan and contacted President Jefferson about the scheme. Jefferson promptly offered an Executive Proclamation stating that: "sundry persons...are conspiring...to...set on foot...a military expedition against the dominions of Spain."

Burr was a wanted man, and he ran. Eventually he gave in to authorities in Washington, Mississippi, where he was tried by a grand jury and acquitted. But it does not end there.

Burr, disguised as a boatman fled and meanwhile new evidence was found, and a warrant was made for his arrest. He was found and arrested in Mid February 1807. From there he was shipped back to Richmond, Virginia and charged with treason and high misdemeanors.

The presiding judge was Chief Justice John Marshall and after hearing a great deal of testimony, Marshall eventually found in favor of Burr because the defense "utterly failed to prove any overt act of war had been committed."

Thomas Jefferson was hardly pleased with this conclusion and stated "It now appears we have no law but the will of the judge."

