



A STUDENT PUBLICATION - STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

BLACKWORLD

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ONE NATION

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Senior kills freshman in car accident



Hyundai Elantra that hit a Stony Brook University student on Circle Road, Stony Brook University campus.

Photo by James Calhoun, *Newsday* photographer.

BY JOAN GUMBS
EDITOR IN CHIEF

"It is definitely a wake up call to let us be aware of our surroundings as it could happen to anybody," senior, Sharobi Chowdhury, said referring to the car accident that occurred on the Stony Brook University campus on Thursday, December 8, at approx. 9 a.m. Her friend, Umaima Mahmood, 30, was trying to get to her exam on time, when upon approaching Roosevelt Drive, she accidentally struck 19 year old freshman Simona Grobocka with her Hyundai Elantra. She was rushed to the Stony Brook University hospital by SBVAC paramedics Andrew Wong and Ahmed Belazi, where she died early Friday morning.

"It was a very innocent and unfortunate mistake, I know the driver, and she feels horribly and horribly guilty about that incident happening," Chowdhury said. According to Police report, Mahmood ran the stop sign because she said she was blinded by the sun's glare, which prevented her from seeing stop sign and ultimately Grabocka. Glinka Mizaku, Grabocka's aunt, in a

Newsday interview said the parents, Pavli and Raganda, who lived with their daughter in Ridgewood, Queens, were inconsolable. Their daughter, who, like Mahmood, was a straight-A student, wanted to be a doctor or scientist. "This is a tragic accident..." Deputy Chief Douglas Little told News 12 Long Island, which covered the accident for two days.

It was only a week earlier that another student was hit in the same vicinity and had to be hospitalized at the University hospital. The student, who wishes to remain anonymous, suffered minor injuries and was eventually released. "A traffic light is needed," said sophomore Kevin Yuan Kim, a Clinical Laboratory Sciences student, who arrived on the scene moments after the accident. "And the road is too short... maybe expand it a little bit."

"I hope University officials will take this into consideration that that intersection has been way too busy and the stops signs are way too ambiguous," Chowdhury said. "[I hope] they will consider putting traffic lights and better restrictions at that intersection."

In response to a comment made about a previous fatality, University Media

Relations Officer, Patrick Calabria, said, "As far as previous accidents, in my six years here, this is the only fatal accident of which I am aware that has occurred on campus ... the main entrance roadway has been re-configured and traffic lights are being installed to address safety concerns in that area."

Due to a family situation, Dean of Students, Jerold Stein, who spent the night at the hospital with the family, was unavailable for comment. However, President Shirley Strum Kenny said, "The whole campus community is deeply saddened by the loss of Simona Grabocka; we join her family in their sorrow. Arrangements have been made for counseling for any students who request it. We are also immediately studying the traffic patterns ... to make the campus as safe as possible for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors."

As of printing, Mahmood was not charged, and according to a Newsday report, is not expected to be charged. However the report said the investigation is ongoing.

Stony Brook football gets its second head coach

Stony Brook, N.Y. -- In a news release sent to the campus community on Saturday, Stony Brook University Director of Athletics Jim Fiore announced the hiring of Chuck Priore, the former head coach at Trinity College, as the new head football coach. Priore, who led Trinity to four consecutive New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) titles and a current 30-game winning streak, becomes the second coach in the program's history, coming to Stony Brook after six years at Trinity and highly successful assistant coaching stints at University of Pennsylvania and Union College.

"Chuck Priore is an outstanding coach and educator," said University President Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny. "He has been successful at every level, and he is just the right person to guide our football program and to shape our student-athletes. According to Fiore, "We are thrilled to welcome Chuck Priore to our Seawolves family. Clearly, Coach Priore brings an outstanding track record of success both on and off the field to our University. Equally as impressive, he understands the integral influence a coach has in the development of the overall student-athlete experience."

The three-time NESCAC Coach of the Year guided Trinity to a No. 1 ranking in New England, four straight conference titles and three consecutive undefeated seasons, going 31-1 during that four-year stretch. He was recently named 2005 America Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Division III Region I Coach of the Year for the second consecutive season. "The opportunity to be part of Stony Brook University and specifically the Department of Athletics is extremely exciting for me and my family," Priore said. "President Kenny, Jim Fiore and the administration's passion and vision for Stony Brook football is what ultimately attracted me to be part of the Seawolves family..." Priore is a native of Long Beach, N.Y. and graduated from Maria Regina High School.

Priore takes over from Sam Kornhauser who retired after 22 seasons. A press conference will be held on Wednesday, December 14 at the Indoor Sports Complex to formally introduce Coach Priore. It will begin at 12:30 p.m.

FROM THE DESK OF EDITOR

Happy Holidays!

Welcome to the final issue for the fall 2005 semester, and I must say, what a semester! We've had the best (two championships in one day), and the worst (student killed in car accident), and with Christmas around the corner and reported to be the worst time of the year in terms of car accidents, who knows how the year will end. Let's hope that the year ends peacefully and the New Year starts productively.

Freshmen Tripling

Last time, in my Editorial I made reference to a proposal being submitted to the President by the Housing Plan Advisory Committee chaired by Daniel Melucci, Associate Vice President for Strategy Planning and Analysis, and deputy to the president. Unfortunately, I inadvertently said that the proposal put to the President was about the 8 semester rule. That is not so. The recommendation is that tripling of freshmen should not apply to out-of-state residents and International students, but should be for New York students only. What this means is that, bona fide New York residents

paying their state taxes, will have to share room with two other New York students, while their counterparts from out-of-state or overseas are comfortable in their double rooms. The committee's objective is to attract new students to Stony Brook. Without going over last weeks editorial, let me say that this move is not a productive one for our school and I hope our president will throw it out because it's not worth the paper it's printed on. What do you think? Write the president and express your displeasure with such a proposal. Let her know that such a proposal is unfair to New York residents, who, if any preferential treatment is being meted out, should be the recipients of such treatment.

Congratulations, Graduates!

Commencement is on December 18, 2005 and congratulations are in order! To all the graduates I say, "You have made it! You should be proud!" in spite of all the commute, the blackouts, the bad food, the bureaucratic red tape and the poor transportation system. You knew what

you wanted and you made it happen. Blackworld newspaper is proud of your achievements. However, now that you have "arrived" don't forget us. Be a Stony Brook ambassador so others may be inspired and come to get the same great education you acquired here.

Happy Holidays

In closing let me say Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, and Muharram to you all. In a time when Political Correctness can be taken too far, and intolerance of one's religious persuasion has gotten so out of control that politicians can embarrass priests in public, we need to take a "chill pill" and realize that everyone has a right to express his or her opinion without fear of repercussion.

Let us take the time to enjoy our friends, enjoy our family and give thanks for the opportunity to live to enjoy it. So many of us left home in the morning, and never returned. Don't take it lightly. Be thankful and grateful! See you next year!

From all of us here at Blackworld: Drink responsibly... see you soon!

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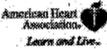
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Celebrating 31 years! 
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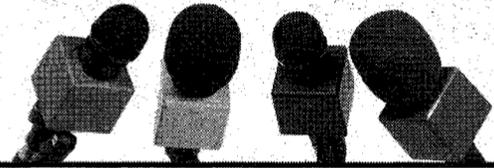
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Opinion & Editorials



Is it ok for me to commit crime as long as I'm doing it to pass a class?

BY GARVIN REID

PRODUCTION EDITOR

Having a 4.0 g.p.a. isn't everything. Even when you apply to medical school they don't only look at your g.p.a., they look at your personality. What kind of extracurricular activities did you engage in? Are you a people person? You have to be able to survive in the world outside of academia and that world as rules and laws that one must follow. Last week Thursday the message I got from campus police was a sad one: "As Long as I have a 4.0 and I'm rushing to get to an exam I can get away with anything on campus even taking a life."

I'm sorry, campus community, but that is not the way it works. I am sure by now that most of you have heard of the tragic accident that took the life of a young freshman last Thursday, as she made her way to class. This poor girl was just starting her first semester on campus, full of hope and not as jaded as most of us are who have been here for more than a year. She was mowed down by another student who was in a hurry to get to exams. Let's look at the situation and

work with her: Physic majors you'll understand where I'm coming from.

A person is driving down the road on a college campus, speed limit being 15mph with four stop signs. At what velocity must this person be moving to hit a pedestrian so hard, she lands on windshield, and suffers serious head injuries -According to sources she was brain dead by the time she got to the hospital. It takes time to go from zero to thirty miles per hour, so the fair presumption is the person driving must not have stopped at any of the stop signs before reaching the one where the sun glared in her eyes.

Which leads us to raise the following questions 1) If a student drives on campus, especially a commuter student who drives to campus almost every day, should she not be aware of the stop signs even with the sun glare, especially since there were three other stop signs before that one? And 2) If the sun is glaring in my eyes and I can't see where I am going, should I not pull over, instead of continuing to drive, regardless of how late I am? It surprises me that the police on this campus ruled this case an

accident. The circumstance surrounding this case seems a little fishy in my eyes. From my personal experience, I have been in a car where my friend was driving and we come to a stop sign and slowed to stop and was pulled over by the Police. We got a ticket because they claim we did not come to a complete stop, but that was not the case. Now you're telling me this young lady runs the stop sign (this is what the Police said), and kills another student, and she doesn't even get as much as a ticket? Come on, gimme a break, what is really going on here? All I'm hearing on the news is that this girl had a 4.0 g.p.a., and she was 30 years old. So what exactly does that mean? And what about the poor young lady who lost her life and didn't get a chance to prove she could get a 4.0. According to her aunt, she was a straight A student. The only difference it seems to me is that she was a freshman and did not get a chance to have enough "roots" on campus to get at least a wreath at the scene.

This leads one to ask the question, "Is the life of a student with 4.0 more valuable than that of a student with a

lower g.p.a.? Or is there more to the story? Is there something we are not being told? I want to know why the administration seems so afraid to deal with this issue. I remember when the young man committed suicide on campus, there was an immediate announcement by the president via email. To date, we have not gotten any word from Administration besides what Pat Calabria told News Channel 12 Long Island, and even that is paltry. We know the issue is very sensitive because the families are hurting, but right now it seems as if it is "business as usual" on campus, and all I can hear everywhere we go is "Did you hear what happened?" "How come no one is talking about it?" The Police weren't afraid to give us tickets for alleged traffic violation before, so why when there is a clear case of a violation they don't want deal with it? Nothing they do can bring back this promising young woman, but at least if the driver gets a ticket for running the stop sign I will feel better!

Editorials

Speed Demons

Over the last few weeks there have been a number of traffic accidents here on campus, the most serious of these accidents happening just this past week where a girl who died in one of those accidents. This is a very unfortunate event, but not unexpected.

During my time here at Stony Brook I have noticed that many drivers often drive past the posted speed limit allowed on campus, especially around the dorms. I have seen some drivers driving as fast as 30-40 mph on the small roads by Kelly and Roosevelt. I have also seen many near accidents because of the speed the drivers were driving at.

I remember one time in particular when I was walking back to my dorm from the Kelly dining center and was try to cross the street by the Greeley parking lot. A small four-door Sedan was trying to turn right when this grey coup came flying down the street and had to slam on the brakes and swerve in order to miss hitting the Sedan.

Over the summer the university

changed the driving patterns around Kelly, Roosevelt, and the West apartments turning both roads into one-way streets. Though this was a much needed step in order to ease a lot of the congestion on the streets, there still has been nothing done to enforce the speed limits around the area. Many students still race through campus without any concern for the other students who have to duck and weave to avoid these crazy drivers.

Also, I have personally seen a number of drivers driving THE WRONG WAY on the one way streets by Kelly and Roosevelt. I guess the drivers assume that no one is coming the other way, or that if they drive fast enough they will get by anyone who is driving down the street in the right direction. I'm surprised with all the tickets that the university police give out for traffic violations that they aren't doing more to stop people from speeding or driving against the flow of traffic.

Tis' The Season...For late night Cramming and stressing

Well it is finally here, the semester is pretty much done and that could mine only one thing, finals and final papers. Oh joy, what could be better than spending night after night staying up till four or five in the morning trying finish reading an entire 400 page text book for your exam at ten, or trying to finish a 10 to 12 page paper due promptly on your professor's desk at 9:50am. And they mean 9:50, not 9:53, not 10 o'clock, or even two weeks from when they wanted it.

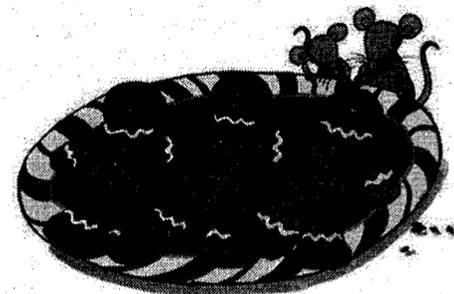
And then of course there's the realization that the semester has not gone as you had originally planned it. Remember back in September when you thought you would be able to ace every class, and now you are happy just to get a B-, or even elated just to get a C- to get rid of that stupid behind DEC requirement.

But do not stress yourselves out too

much my fellow tired and worn-out Stony Brook students, there are only about two weeks left in the semester and then, and only then will we get a chance to rest. A chance to rest our over burdened minds and relax, take in a movie, catch up on any books, oh lets be honest, play video games till three in the morning, or party our butts for a few weeks before its school, once again.

Happy Holidays and good luck on your finals from Blackworld newspaper.

- Paul Gregory Akins Jr.
Managing Editor





Campus News

Hot turnout for Kold Nights

By KAMOY-YA DILLION

COPY EDITOR

On Thursday Dec 1, 2005 the Distinguished Brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi (KAY) Fraternity, Incorporated hosted their annual poetry reading event titled Kold Nights. Dubbed a night dedicated to Poetic Minds, a large number of students crammed into The End of the Bridge restaurant in order to see some of Stony Brook's most talented students perform their original pieces.

Of course this event started a little later than was advertised, but that has become the norm among campus events. Attendees were welcomed by the brothers of KAY Fraternity, Inc. as president, Steven Mellerson greeted everyone at the door, while brother Francois Severin handed out red roses to the female attendees. The host for the night was Jason Davis, who is also a brother of KAY Fraternity, Inc. The sounds of old school R&B provided transition between performances,

while Davis attempted to add a comical twist in-between the mostly emotional filled performances.

The first performer to grace the mic was Madge. Her first poem "If I Believed in Love" was a sad proclamation of the qualities that she would bring into a relationship. She proceeded to warn the audience that her second poem contained profanities, but that was hardly enough warning in comparison to what came next. No one was prepared for the continuous expletives and vulgar language of the appropriately titled poem "Angry." The next performer was KAY own, Steven Mellerson, whose poem "I Apologize" was his personal apology for being black among other things.

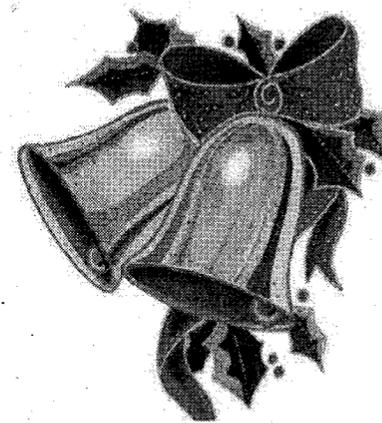
Tracy who has established herself as a regular at these events was next. As usual, her performance elicited huge amounts of response from the audience. Both her poems "Taking Chances" and "What About Love" were about love and relationships. The former being about friends wanting to take the risk at crossing the line of

friendship, while the latter was about men who are unwilling eliminate their 'player' mentalities and settle into relationships. Anna was next, and her first poem "The Perfect Man" was a description of the qualities that her ideal man should possess, while the second "I'm Still Hurt" described the pain that lingers after a nasty breakup.

The night's most comical performance was by Hollywood, who was also the only non-Stony Brook student to perform. His poem "Pussy" was hilarious as he spoke about his obsession with the female genital. He explained that the "pussy" plays a major role in his daily activities, but in the end he surprisingly announced that he'll no longer be chasing after a girl's pussy, but instead he'll go after her heart.

There were also performances by Romanza, Kimberly and Quindell. The event was scheduled to end at 1am, however it ended at midnight. The host apologized to those who didn't get a chance to perform and explained that there was confusion with the building

manager who refused to let them stay past midnight. He proceeded to give the night's final performance. With Marvin Gaye's Sexual Healing playing in the back ground, he ordered the female attendees to close their eyes as he tried to seduce their minds with the poem "Relax You". At the end of the night Kold Night seemed to have been a success. "The performances were good" said student Nikki Jones, "I wish it hadn't ended so early, but all in all I had a pretty decent time" she said.



'Our lives, our fight: Fight it'

By BETTY BAZILE

STAFF WRITER

"Get up, stand up and fight apathy; knock AIDS out!" This is one of the many slogans that were recited at the Fight Apathy Tour. Stony Brook University was privileged to have the Fight Apathy Tour in SAC ballroom A on Nov. 29, 2005; they had previously performed here in April 6, 2005. More than 300 people attended the show while MTV cameras captured the performances. A segment about the tour ran nationwide on MTV Networks days later.

Although the student turnout was a little less than the first show, the turnout was good nonetheless. There were tables at the side of the ballroom which provided information on how to get tested, AIDS awareness bracelets, condoms, and a CD by one of the members, Brent Chuttleworth. To start off the show, one of the Fight Apathy members Brent Shuttleworth, played fresh rhythms on his guitar, which led into talk about sex, love, and relationships. Poems were recited by POST Midnight on "sex and violence" and "She loves me, she loves me not." Although the poems had profanity, it was to keep the realness, just like AIDS needs to hit reality and taken seriously. Poet, Carlos Andres Gomez, recited poems such as "Genocide", which is about how

politics, class, sexism and media literacy are all related to HIV/AIDS. And a next poem was about politics, "It's illegal to kill the president, but he does not care if we die, but somebody needs to try" Gomez said. Songs were recited and the crowd joined in singing "How can we see tomorrow, when we can't see today? I know time is borrowed, do we fight or runaway?" All three gentlemen interacted with the audience by asking questions and having the crowds participate in some of the songs. The ending song "My heart will still rise" was very touching, the audience recited along and clapped.

Some might ask, "Why are they called Fight Apathy and not Fight HIV/AIDS?" Carlos Gomez explained that Apathy is the leading cause of death in the world, Apathy towards the silence, kills not just the silence. It only takes one voice to make a difference and cause another voice to be heard. Stop waiting for a savior and be your own revolutionary. The Fight Apathy Tour, for those of you who don't know began in April of 2004, as an idea between two friends, Eric Cioe, Founder and former President of NYC Student Initiative for AIDS, Inc. and Carlos Andrés Gómez, spoken word artist and friend of NYC SIA. It is a student-produced music and poetry show that seeks to combine NYC SIA's trademark of delivering benefit shows with the potential of the organization to inspire students

nationwide to start similar AIDS activism programs at their own universities. The tour consist of performances at campuses across the country and aims to educate students about the issues rooted in the AIDS epidemic while motivating and providing them with the tools to adopt NYC SIA programs such as its Discount Card Program. Students would sell \$10 discount cards redeemable at local businesses and 100% of the money raised would benefit HIV/AIDS relief in the developing world. Carlos recruited four other artists to join him, Brent Shuttleworth, Clara Sala, Celena Glenn and POSTmidnight.

Here is some vital information that I thought people might want to know: According to the New York State Department of Health HIV/AIDS Surveillance Semiannual Report, total people living with HIV/AIDS through December 31st, 2004 in Nassau and Suffolk Counties are 7,319. 73% are between the ages of 30, 49. 49% are white and 38% are black and 36% of infections are due to injection of drug use (IUD). At least 15,000 people are HIV positive; Long Island alone has more AIDS cases than 28 states.

We can help in many ways such as, getting involved in our community by donating to different AIDS awareness programs on-campus and off-campus. We can just inform another individual of what we know about HIV/AIDS and how

to get tested. There are many places you can get tested starting with the Infirmary right here on campus. You can help by bringing a friend or a loved one with you. Your voice matters, even if it is not heard in the present state it will be heard in the future. Get involved and you will see the joyous outcome it can bring to you and the different people around the world.

For more information about the tour you can go on their website, www.fightapathy.org

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The Entire Spanish Culture, Stereotyped

BY BETTY BAZILE

STAFF WRITER

On November 29, 2005, Latin American Student Organization (LASO) held a program that was titled "Latino Sexuality". This event started at 9pm in the Student Activities Center. Discussions included religion, stereotype, and sex in the Spanish culture. At the start of the program hostesses, Melany Centeno, Luna Casillas, Zulika Liriano gave out a survey about sexuality, religion and how it affects sexuality, and how does your upbringing of sexuality affect your sexual life. The audience was informed that 12% of Latinos have had sexual experiences before age 12. Cultures are proven to have effect on your sexuality.

Similar to other cultures, there are stereotypes that come with the Hispanic culture. Examples of the stereotypes pertaining to Hispanic women are that they are good looking, wild, and passionate. A question was asked "Why do you think the entire Spanish culture is being stereotyped?" A comment was made by a young man who is part of the LASO board, "Being Latino is romanticized. The culture is sexual in its music, dance, so they are stereotyped by their sexual natures."

Latina women are often sexually subdued to men. They are taught they had to be cautious when it comes to choosing their sexual activities. For the most part, they are choosy with their partners. Spanish men are also subjected to stereotypes; they are said to be insecure

when it comes to their sexual performances, they always try to make up for what they lacking.

Many Hispanic parents are said to be in a state of denial when it comes to talking to their children about sex. They assume that their children are all practicing abstinence. When they finally attempt to inform their children about sex, it's sometimes too late, usually after the child has experienced their first sexual encounter. They try to embody in their children's heads that women are supposed to be more reserved and men are to be more open; this can also be known as "Machismo". Once a woman gives her purity up, she is viewed as a sexual object. Why is it looked down upon when a female has had more than a certain amount of partners? And why is it

right for men to have sex with many partners? It comes into play in how they were raised; men are valued more than women if they have multiple sexual partners.

Throughout the program there were opinions expressed by the audience and the board members. Some had stories to share on how their parents first told them about sex and others had talks about the different stereotypes that surround the Hispanic culture. The "Latino Sexuality" program was very informative and it made me understand the Spanish culture more. This culture as well as other cultures is embodied in different stereotypes that they have to try to prove them wrong.

Death row inmate gets his due date

BY REBECCA DELIAT

STAFF WRITER

Stanley "Tookie" Williams a convicted felon in San Quentin State Prison, has been scheduled to die by lethal injection on December 13, 2005. Williams' controversial story has been stirring up the news these past two weeks. Williams co-founded the notorious gang the Crips in 1971 with his high school peer; Raymond Washington. In 1981 Williams was convicted of murdering four innocent people. He was sent to death row ever since. During his time in solitary confinement he has repented and since then, he has been an essential tool in the fight against crime and gang violence.

Williams was convicted of killing Yen-I Yang, his wife Tsai-Shai Chen Yang, and their daughter Yu Chin Yang-Lin in a Pico Rivers motel robbery. He was also charged for the killing of Albert Owens in a Seven-Eleven robbery. Williams claims that he is innocent in all these charges. Sources say that although there were physical evidences such as bloody footprints, and fingerprint at both crime scenes, neither one revealed Stanley as the perpetrator. The U.S. Supreme court has refused to hear his appeal and the California Supreme Court has refused to re-open his case. Williams only hope is Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. A governor is the only one who can grant clemency (mercy). Williams is scheduled for a clemency hearing on December 8, 2005, five days prior to his execution date.

Those opposing clemency for Williams argues that, thousands of people fell victim to the gang he founded. They feel he should pay for his actions, especially for the cold blooded killings of those four innocent people. The fact that Williams never admitted to

being guilty of those killings was interpreted by some as not being remorseful. Supporters of Williams responded by saying that Williams didn't receive a fair trial. Williams had an all white juror; three potential African-American jurors were removed. The prosecutor in Williams' case was also criticized for using numerous racial annotations. In an interview with Shirley Neil, Williams said that the case was based on testimonial evidence only and no physical evidence was linked to him. He maintained his innocence by pointing out that even the firearm that was supposedly used in the two crimes was later discovered to be an unreliable source.

Williams have many notable supporters, including Bruce Gordon, president and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Steve Cooley a Los Angeles District Attorney, Alfre Woodard an actress, Earl Ofri Hutchinson, a columnist and radio host, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Jamie Foxx, Danny Glover, Mike Farrell, and Snoop, along with many others. These people are supporting Tookie because of the difference he is making in our communities. Williams claimed that his "redemptive transition" occurred when he was in solitary confinement from 1988 to 1994. During this time he taught himself to read, and look to the bible as a guide and sword in fighting his inner demons. Williams have accomplished a lot behind that nine by four cell.

He has written a series of eight books targeted for elementary age kids called "Tookie Speaks out against Violence". He also wrote a book for middle age group titled "Life in Prison". He also wrote "Blue Rage, Black Redemption", a book especially for incarcerated teens and adults. He has created a mentoring program live and on

the phone, along side with an educational website. In "Tookie Protocol for Peace: A Local Street Peace Initiative" he supplies steps that communities can take to create peace in their neighborhoods. In Newark approximately two hundred Crips and Bloods have signed this peace treaty. Stanley commented that "The true stories I've written in this book are my living nightmares. My greatest hope is that the lessons these stories offer will help (kids) make better choices than I did". Williams' stories have even reached the big screens. Grammy winner Jamie Foxx played Williams in the movie Redemption. This movie alone has helped to reach out to many of today's youth. This convicted felon has been nominated for a Nobel Prize for Peace and Literature.

Paul McFadder, former gang member now a current active community volunteer voiced his opinions about Stanley saying, "Absolutely I think somebody can come out and reform themselves. I don't consider myself to be a reformed convict. I consider myself to be a man who's been awakened to reality. Tookie's story is more about the future than forgiving the past". McFadder like many others feel that, people are destined to face obstacles to be able to find themselves. Tookie is like a diamond in the ruff, his true beauty took time to shine, but now it shines for us all to see. Yes, Tookie is accused of four murder charges; however there are no real proofs that he committed them. Secondly, based on the testimonies received at his websites tens to thousands of people from kids, to teachers to even police officer have been helped by Tookie's work. A whopping one hundred fifty thousand lives have been said to be saved by his inspirational words. Is he not better to us alive than dead in this battle against violence and gangs.

Many people blame Williams for the violent acts implemented by the Crips, the gang he founded. Williams replied that "one thing I regret is having ever started the Crips; I didn't expect to become what it was. How can I be accountable for their actions when I was in solitary confinement? It's like saying all Whites are responsible for slavery". The Crips infamous reputation did in fact commence years after Tookie was confined. Williams expressed his apology publicly on his website on April 13, 1997.

There will be no script for the Terminator to follow when making his decision on the Williams right to clemency. Stanley "Tookie" Williams life is literally in his hands. If Williams do in fact live, plans have already put into play concerning him partnering with the NAACP on programs influencing at-risk youths to avoid gangs. In the interview with Shirley Neil, Williams say he cannot say sorry to the families to the victim cause that would be implying that he committed the crimes which he claims he didn't. He continued saying "I can empathize" with the family of the victims. William confessed that he isn't afraid to die, but he wants to live "Not for the sake of being there" but to reverse the wrong that he did when founding the Crips.

Williams: "Redemption has resurrected me from a mental and spiritual death. It symbolizes the end of a bad beginning as well as a new start. Being redeemed has enabled me to reunite with God, reclaim my humanity, find inner peace and discover my raison d'etre- my reason to exist. If I live I have much to do".

Sources BET.com, tookie.com, Bet news.

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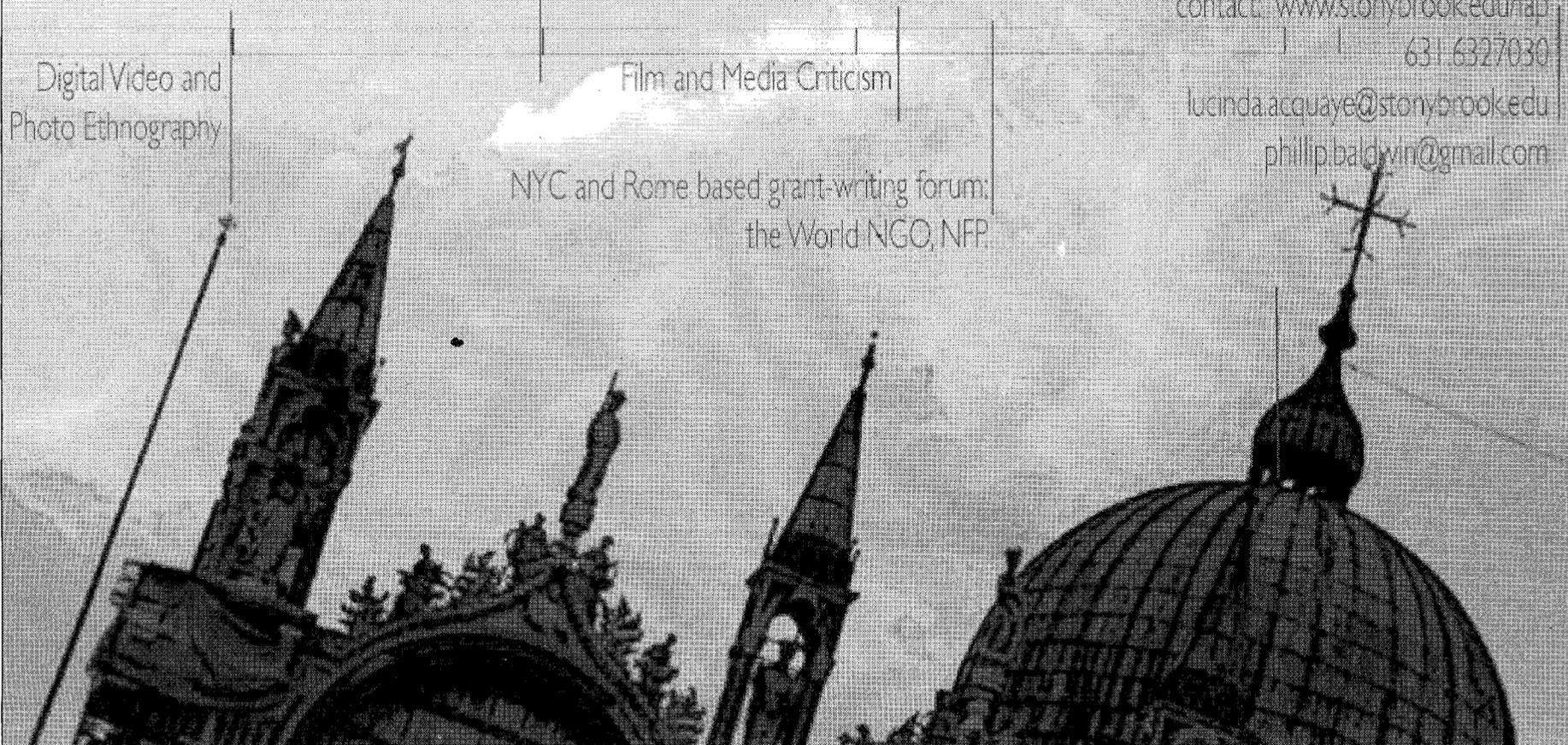
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THE CHRISTMAS CLASSICS

A CHRISTMAS STORY

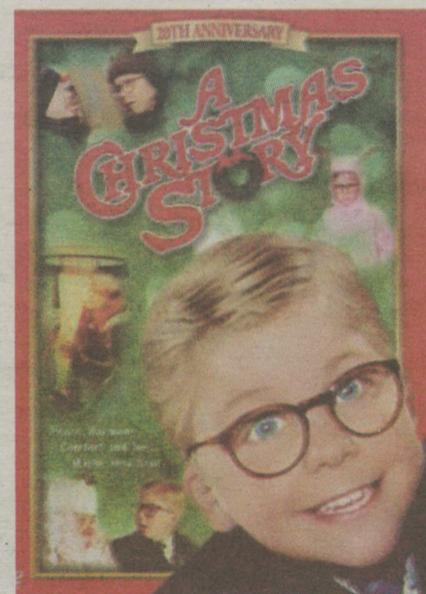


MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET

Starring: Maureen O'Hara, John Payne, Edmund Gwenn, Gene Lockhart, Natalie Wood

Director: George Seaton

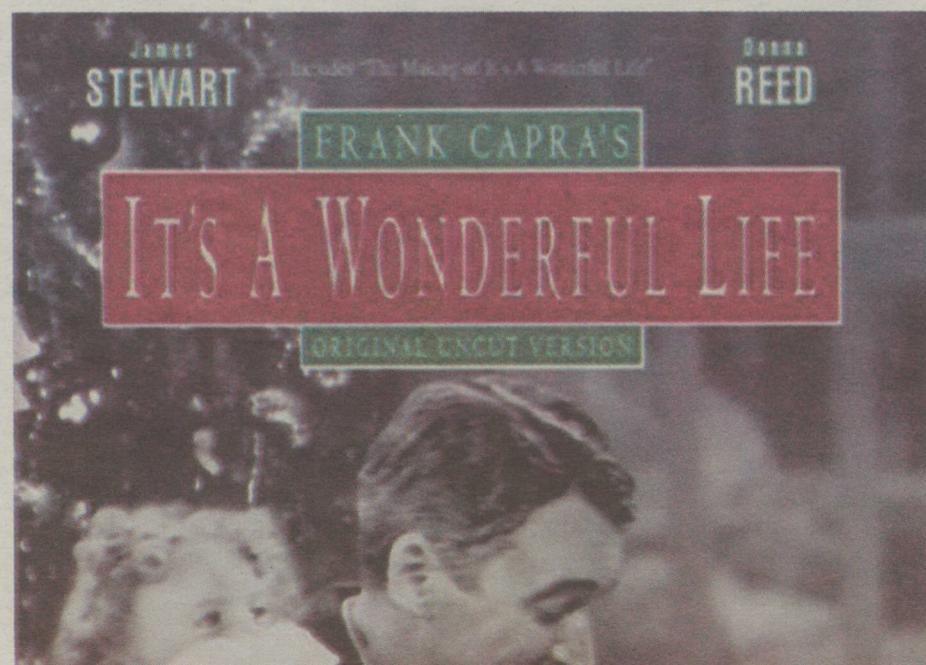
PLOT SPOILER: At the Macy's Department Store Thanksgiving Day parade, the actor playing Santa is discovered to be drunk by a whiskered old man. Doris Walker, the no nonsense special events director, persuades the old man to take his place. The old man proves to be a sensation and is quickly recruited to be the store Santa at the main Macy's outlet. While he is successful, Ms. Walker learns that he calls himself Kris Kringle and he claims to be the actual Santa Claus. Despite reassurances by Kringle's doctor that he is harmless, Doris still has misgivings, especially when she has cynically trained herself, and especially her daughter, Susan, to reject all notions of belief and fantasy.



Starring: Melinda Dillon, Darren McGavin, Peter Billingsley, Ian Petrella, Scott Schwartz

Director: Bob Clark

PLOT SPOILER: A Christmas Story is an annual holiday classic, one to keep on the shelf. All little Ralphie (Peter Billingsley) wants under the tree on Christmas morning is a Daisy Brand Red-Ryder BB rifle. He not only wants it, he's consumed with an aching desire for it. Unfortunately, his mother (Melinda Dillon) repeatedly crushes his dreams with the familiar, harsh mantra: "You'll put your eye out!" Among the movie's highlights are a surrealistic visit with little brother Randy to a department store Santa, and the childlike mixture of delight, pride, and awe with which Ralphie's dad (Darren McGavin) takes possession of a spectacularly gaudy prize he's won in a radio contest. It may have been directed by Bob Clark (responsible for the Porky's pictures), but it's based on the childhood memoirs of humorist Jean Shepherd (from his hilarious book *In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash*). And it is Shepherd's wry, deadly accurate and gently nostalgic comic sensibility that shines through in this kid's-eye-view of an all-American Christmas in the 1940s. --Jim Emerson (Amazon.com)



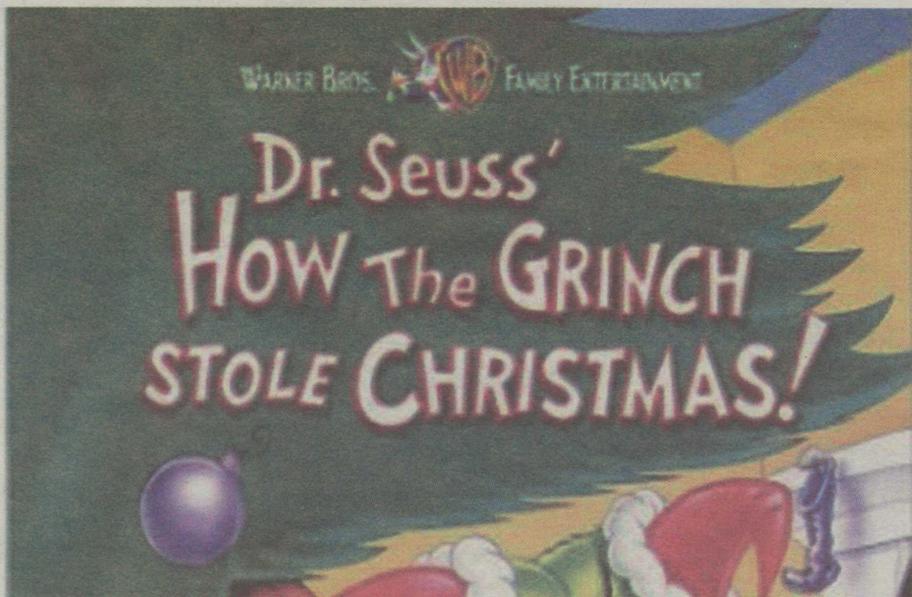
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

Starring: James Stewart, Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, Thomas Mitchell, Henry Travers

Director: Frank Capra

PLOT SPOILER: George Bailey has so many problems he is thinking about ending it all - and it's Christmas! As the angels discuss George, we see his life in flashback. As George is about to jump from a bridge, he ends up rescuing his guardian angel, Clarence. Clarence then shows George what his town would have looked like if it hadn't been for all his good deeds over the years. Will Clarence be able to convince George to return to his family and forget about suicide?

THE CHRISTMAS FAVORITES



HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS

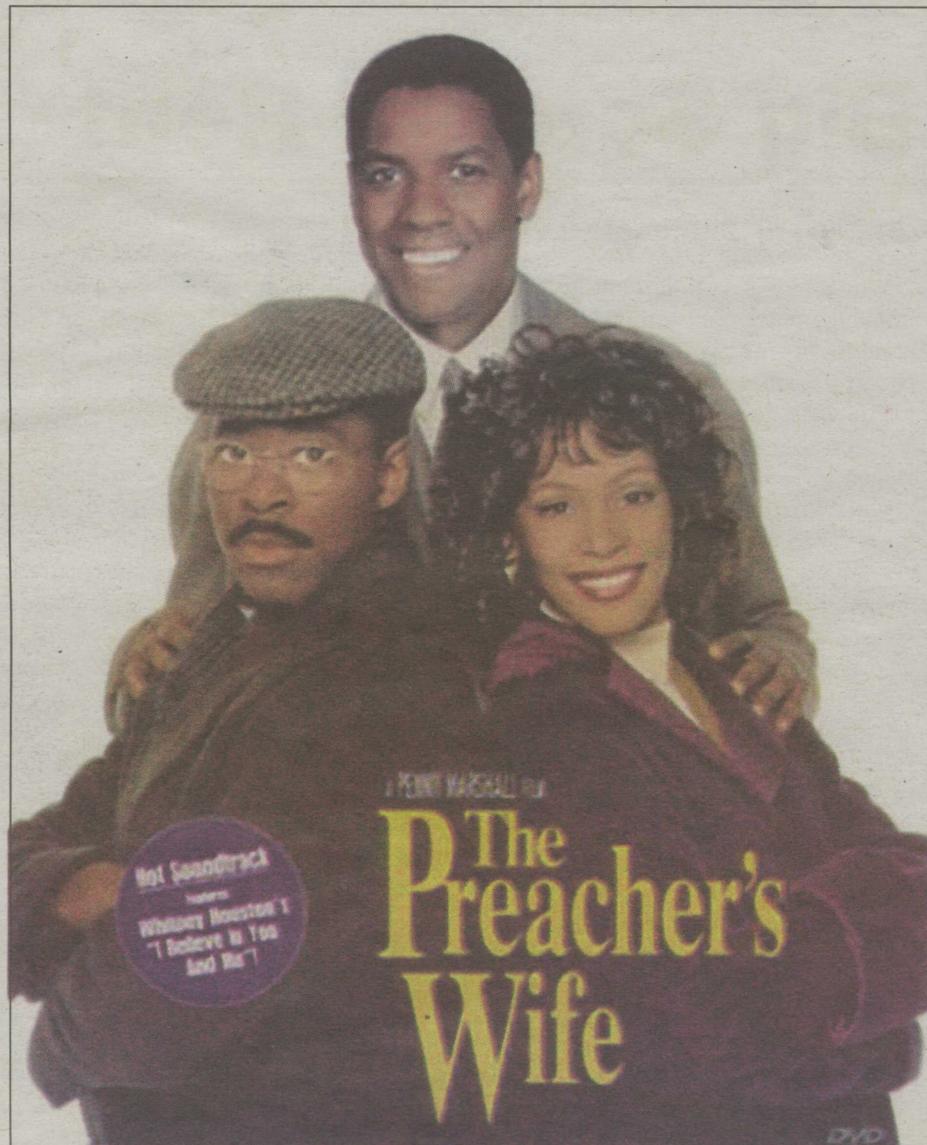
Starring: Hans Conried, June Foray, Chuck Jones, Thurl Ravenscroft
Director: Chuck Jon

PLOT SPOILER: A grumpy hermit hatches a plan to steal Christmas from the Whos of Whoville. Every Who down in Whoville likes Christmas a lot. But the Grinch who lived just north of Whoville did NOT! So the cuddly as a cactus Grinch tries to wipe out Christmas for the cheerful Who-villians, only to discover: Maybe Christmas, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas means a little bit more!

THE PREACHER'S WIFE

Starring: Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston, Courtney B. Vance, Gregory Hines, Jennifer Lewis
Director: Penny Marshall

PLOT SPOILER: Good-natured Reverend Henry Biggs (Courtney B. Vance) finds that his marriage to choir mistress Julia (Whitney Houston) is flagging, due to his constant absence, and caring for the deprived neighborhood they live in. On top of all this, his church is coming under threat from property developer Joe Hamilton (Gregory Hines). In desperation, Rev. Biggs prays to God for help - and help arrives in the form of an angel named Dudley (Denzel Washington). However, Dudley's arrival seems to cause even more trouble. Courtney Vance plays the part of the minister who is losing his church and his wife. The Angel Dudley accidentally falls in love with "The Preacher's Wife!" The attraction is very innocent, but holds your attention for sure! There is great comedy, acting, storytelling and this is one of those movies the whole family can enjoy.... There are some movies you just have to own. This is one of them!



AND FOR THE NEW YEAR...IN 2006:



UNDERWORLD: EVOLUTION

Starring Kate Beckinsale, Michael Sheen, Scott Speedman, Shane Brolly, Bill Nighy & Derek Jacobi
Director: Len Wiseman
Producers: Gary Lucchesi & Tom Rosenberg

PLOT SPOILER: *Underworld: Evolution* continues the saga of war between the aristocratic Death Dealers and the barbaric Lycans (werewolves). The film traces the beginnings of the ancient feud between the two tribes as Selene (Kate Beckinsale), the vampire heroine, and Michael (Scott Speedman), the Lycan hybrid, try to unlock the secrets of their bloodlines. The tale of action, intrigue and forbidden love takes them into the battle to end all wars, as the immortals must finally face their retribution.

Movie summary courtesy of:
<http://movies.yahoo.com>

THE SANTA CLAUSE

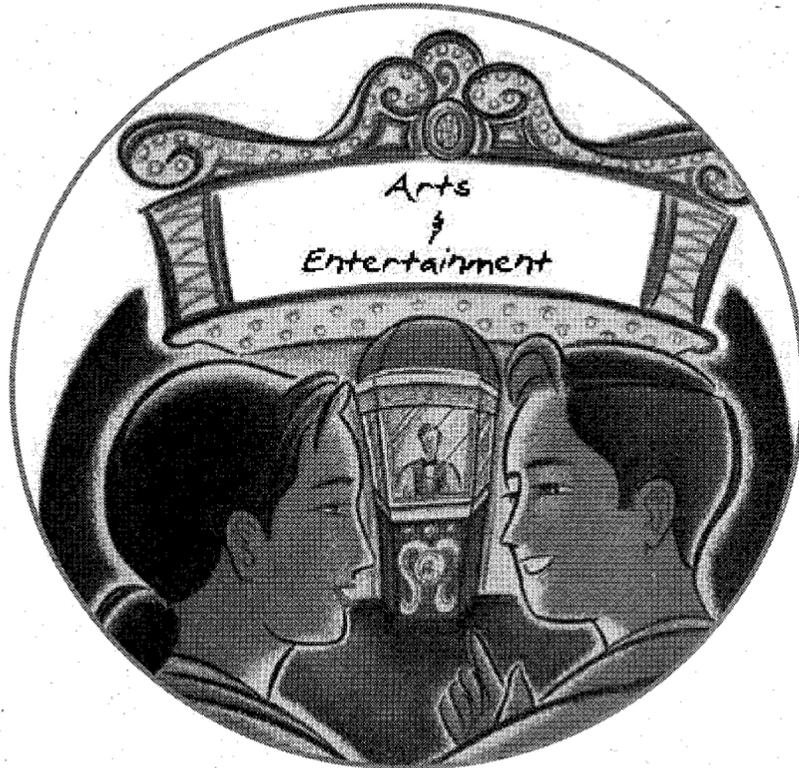
Starring: Tim Allen, Wendy Crewson, Judge Reinhold, Eric Lloyd, David Krumholtz
Director: John Pasquin

PLOT SPOILER: Divorced toy company executive Scott Calvin (Tim Allen of Home Improvement and the Toy Story movies) is pleased to have his son Charlie for Christmas, though the boy himself isn't happy about it. But when Santa Claus accidentally topples off the roof of the house and falls with a thud in the snow, Scott finds himself taking the merry old elf's place and earning new respect in his son's eyes. When the night ends, the reindeer take them to the North Pole, and Scott discovers that by donning the fabled red suit, he's inadvertently agreed to become the next Santa Claus. The next morning he wakes up in his own bed and thinks it's all a dream--only Charlie remembers it with crystal clarity. (Courtesy of Amazon.com)



STEVE MARTIN CHEAPER BY THE DOZEN 2



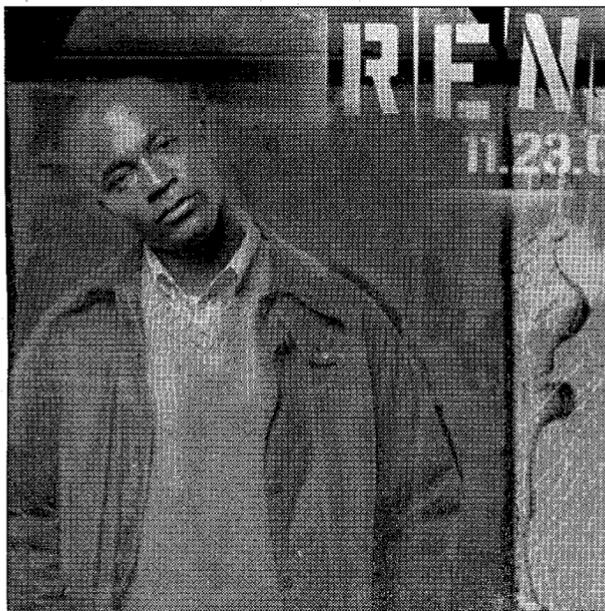


What is a Seawolf?

According to the Dictionary a Seawolf is "(a) The wolf fish. (b) The European sea perch. (c) The sea elephant. (d) A sea lion." This of course, is the 1913 Webster's Dictionary, for you won't find it in Webster's New World Dictionary.

It is also the name of a 1904 novel written by American author Jack London. "The Sea-Wolf tells the story of a soft, domesticated creature forced to become tough and self-reliant by exposure to cruelty and brutality ... he is picked up ... by Wolf Larsen. Larsen is the captain of the schooner, Ghost, bound for Japan. (Source: Wikipedia)

From Broadway to Big Screen: Rent



Taye Diggs photo courtesy of REVOLUTION STUDIO

BY NANCY SERGANY
STAFF WRITER

A breathtaking musical that will make your heart sing is how I would describe the highly anticipated hit movie,

Rent. After recently seeing it, I can truly say that I really enjoyed this fantastic movie very much! This is the film version of the Pulitzer and Tony Award winning musical Rent on Broadway. The Broadway musical show Rent is "Based on Giacomo Puccini's classic 1896 opera, La Boheme, Rent boasts a talented and hot young cast singing some of Broadway's most powerful songs, broaching controversial themes like homelessness, AIDS and drug addiction with compassion, and thrilling audiences of all ages with its moving tale of hopes and dreams," according to Broadway.com. The movie was also terrific as the plot thickened and the powerful songs touched my heart. I was in tears by the end of the movie. Junior and Sociology major, Christine

Delgado said "it was a tear jerker indeed." According to Broadway.com, "Rent is the smash hit musical that's infusing and reinventing Broadway nightly with its own brand of youthful energy. Jonathan Larson's rock musical is the joyous, breathtaking and inspiring story of a group of New York City East Village artists struggling to find their voices and find love in today's tough times." The movie's tag line is "No day but today," which sends a powerful proactive message to its viewers. The movie was directed by Chris Columbus, who also helped produced and direct the Harry Potter movie series. The movie's soundtrack is also exceptional. Songs include, "Seasons Of Love," "Light My Candle," "One Song Glory," "Take Me or Leave Me," "I Should Tell You," and many more wonderful hits. Jonathan Larson composed the music in Rent and did an awesome job. Here is a little sampling of the lyrics to "Seasons of Love:" "525,600 minutes, 525,000 moments so dear. 525,600 minutes - how do you measure, measure a year? In

daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee. In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife. In 525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year in the life? How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love. Seasons of love." Junior Melbin Thomas says that she is now a "Rent Head," as she is hooked on the soundtrack listening to it all the time. "I never get tired of it, it is so addictive!" Stony Brook student, Katie Frisch saw Rent on Broadway seven times and thought that the movie was a really good portrayal of the Broadway show despite deleted and added scenes in the movie. "The movie Rent absolutely did the Broadway show justice!" I would really recommend everyone go and watch the movie, no excuses, now that winter break is upon us... I would actually love to go and see the Broadway's Rent as I plan to save up and try to treat myself to the show. If you like musicals and want a great time go watch this movie; I guarantee you won't be disappointed!

It's Deja Vous...Again

BY REBECCA DELIAT
STAFF WRITER

On December 9, 2005 the SAC auditorium transformed into the APOLLO. Malik fraternity held their 15th Annual Star Search. Talents from all over the tri-state area and Long Island competed for the cash prize of \$200. The performances included talents in singing, rapping, dancing, stepping and poetry reading.

The show began with video clips of the African-Latino frat participating in the Puerto Rican Day parade. During the clips the Malik fraternity posed the question, "Why did you join this frat?" One of the members simply responded, "Why not?" Other stressed, "Malik isn't just a fraternity it's a life style." They continued with history facts about the commencement of their fraternity, which

was founded on May 13, 1977 on the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University. Empowering quotes as well as pictures of role models in our society were also presented. Although we felt like we were in history class, the video was very unique, informative and interesting, a good way to start the anticipated show. Two members of Malik fraternity, a young man from Hofstra and our very own Aluta, were the hosts of the show.

The first performance entailed rapping by two young men. The crowd booed their performance because of their degrading and distasteful lyrics directed at women. The second performance geared the show to a lighter and festive atmosphere with dances by "All the Right Moves," a dance group from SUNY at Old Westbury. This talented group danced to hip-hop, Soca and Reggae. The vocalist portion of the program had a very talented

young lady named Amanda who sang Tamia's song, "Stranger in My house", Mac who wooed the ladies in the audience with his smooth vocal skills; Mecca, a student here at the Brook, who read a funny poem about why he hates Stony Brook; Sal and Red from 4th Quarter, a club here at Stony Brook who blessed the stage with their creative lyrics. The step team from Hofstra performed as well as Caiden, a step team here at Stony Brook. In the vocalist section Mac was titled champion and Caiden won the step off.

The competition got heated in the dancing portion when Deja Vous, a dance group here at Stony Brook, performed a more diverse dance routine. Their performance began by celebrating their African roots, with native waist wraps and African music. They continued with three of their dancers' tap dancing, which was quite original. They continued with old

school as well as new school hip-hop and reggae, changing their costumes to go along with their music. Their performance was flawless. St. John's dance group performed as well. They wore Chinese costumes to go along with their theme. The crowd's applause roared all over the SAC. The competition was very tight. The judges did not know whom to declare the winners, so they asked the audience for help. With home court advantage on their side, Deja Vous won for the second year in a row.

The party followed the show, "Dollar Fridays," in the Stony Brook Union featuring the famous DJ Spider. Performances by the talented reggae artist, Stony Brook alumni "Troublesome," performed as well. How was it you ask? Let's just say I'll be seeing my beautician tomorrow!



Poetry in Motion



No Title

By Paul Akins Jr.

How long shall I try to love, and fail
 Before my heart decides to quit, forever,
 Must I play the fool, my heart lost to hell
 Love loves making my heart from joy severe
 She, like other dogs of her evil kind
 Do man no good, and live only to destroy
 I know what evil infests her mind
 And see the demon behind her cute ploy
 Yet, I fear with all I know about love
 I will always be her naive, lost fool
 For mine heart, through broken, is by hope pushed
 Because hope, like dreams, is but a sharp tool
 That love uses in her heartless demonic way
 To stab, cut, and plunge into my soft heart

December?

By Tracy Barnes

Is dedicated to celebration
 And a tribute to people of various cultures,
 As the month begins we show awareness
 Wearing red ribbons shows we care
 By standing up for what's right
 Helps recognize that AIDS affects us all
 Not only for one day or the entire month
 But everyday of the year,
 As the month goes on
 Different cultures celebrate
 Various holidays,
 Holidays bring us together
 And aid in keeping tradition alive,
 Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ
 For children it is time for gift receiving from Santa Claus
 Answer me this: have you been naughty or nice?
 Another holiday is Hanukkah
 Jewish individuals celebrate victory and spiritual values
 Over eight nights lights are lit in festivity
 As with Kwanzaa this weeklong holiday
 Honors African American heritage
 And establishes seven fundamental principles,
 As with each holiday this month
 It is a time to share with family and friends
 And to get ready for the New Year,
 Just understand that life is too short not to
 Celebrate so rejoice in a holiday in December.

*Dedicated to all the family members involved in the recent
 tragedy*

Don't Lose Hope

By Joan Gumbs

Things never seem to work out the way we want them to
 Sometimes life becomes real impossible
 Sometimes you feel like giving up
 Other times you feel like throwing up
 But be consoled.....
 No matter how impossible life may seem
 And how frustrating unfilled dreams
 There's always hope for a brighter tomorrow
 Always joys to quench life sorrows
 Don't be despondent
 Don't lose hope
 Remember faith will help you cope
 And if that faith sometimes desert you
 There is always someone that you can turn to.



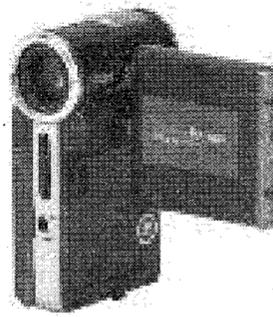
TOP 7 Gadgets For The Holidays

#1 Apple IPOD Video



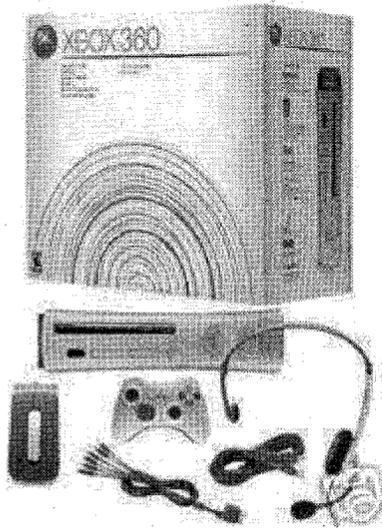
Now you can put all your music in your pocket and still have room for, well, practically everything else. Catch up on your reading with audiobooks. Browse your memories with photo slideshows, complete with music. Watch video podcasts, music videos and your favorite TV shows. Consult your calendar or look up an email address. Even check the time in another city or time your fastest lap.

#2 Samsung's Itcam-7



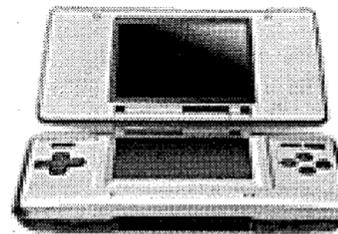
Part digital camcorder and digital still camera, part portable video player, part MP3 player, and part portable hard drive, Samsung's Itcam-7 Gadget Cam camcorder is the world's first hard disk drive (HDD) digital camcorder. Rather than tape, Samsung's Itcam-7 uses a 1.5 GB HDD to store still and motion pictures, as well as music, audio, and data files-- enabling it to hold more than 1 hour of high-quality footage.

#3 Sony XBOX360°



Xbox 360 is fully loaded. It's the unsurpassed gaming and entertainment experience right out of the box delivering the Ultimate gaming and entertainment experience for the best value.

4 Nintendo DS



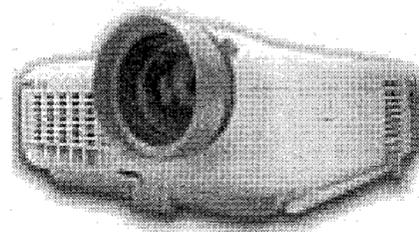
Nintendo DS revolutionizes the way games are played. With dual screens and touch-screen technology, wireless communication and built-in PictoChat software you have the power to draw, write and send messages wirelessly.

4 Light Weight Headset

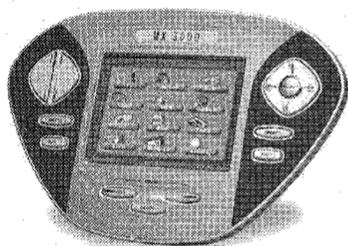


You'll forget you're wearing this cordless, hands-free headset phone until it rings, and then you can answer at the push of a button. Since the phone weighs less than 1 1/2 oz., you can leave it on for hours and never miss a call or have to stop what you're doing when talking. You can dial with the integrated keypad on the earpiece; an "in-use" light alerts others that you're engaged in conversation.

5 Wireless Digital DLP Projector



NEC's LT265 wireless-ready digital DLP projector has a smooth, egg-shell-white veneer that immediately makes it an attention-getter. There is much to like about this unit, but also a few drawbacks-- including an overly complex wireless setup.



7 MX-3000 Universal Remote

The Universal Remote Control design team set two goals when creating the MX-3000: to improve the elegance and usability of the touch screen through the physical design; and, reduce your time navigating through the touch screens to get what you want. They delivered on both of these and so much more!

Our Inner-city youths need help



BY PATRICE LOPEZ
NEWS EDITOR

I grew up in a predominantly Black and Hispanic area of the Bronx that was haunted by violence, drugs and teen pregnancy. I remember the sounds of gunshots and heated quarrels lingering through the late night air as I tried to escape into dreams of a better life. Where I was from, many teenagers felt that there was no escaping the harsh realities of life except through music. A song can be used to tell a meaningful story or it can be nonsensical jibberish over a catchy beat. Whatever the case, young people are impressionable and the music they choose to listen to can help shape their life and can even be used to determine who they are and/or who they want to become.

For a majority of inner-city youths, the type of music that is most

prevalent is rap. The most popular type of rap music is the kind that tells a story about the hardships of getting by what inner-city neighborhoods are referred to as the "ghetto". The rap artists that create these types of songs offer that the only way to get through life in these types of neighborhoods is by robbing, stealing, killing or selling drugs. This so-called "thug life" sends glorified images to young people of violence, greed and a false sense of security.

Some rappers have admitted that many of the topics they rap about are either embellishments of true stories or are completely made up. Incarcerated rapper, Shyne, has stated that many of the stories he's told are untrue and that he only created them because he knew they would sell records. Of course, young people aren't aware of this. They accept what they hear as truth because they have been exposed to rap music all their lives and haven't not been taught any different.

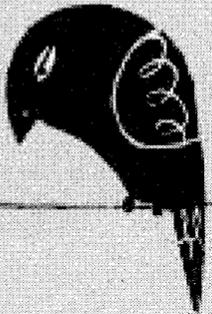
Since many of today's youths were born listening to rap music (mainly because it's been around since the late seventies), it has influenced their mentalities and their outlook on life. I can remember seeing the students from the local intermediate school in my

neighborhood reciting lyrics from rap songs and wearing similar clothes to the rap artists they listened to. It is quite obvious that they idolize these rappers which can lead to them becoming influenced by what they are saying. After all, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery and many of these young people have brought truth to that saying by taking on the fictional persona of their favorite rappers.

Rap videos and songs advocate lifestyles unattainable to the average young person in a low-income neighborhood. They feature rappers surrounded by beautiful women, living in the lap of luxury living a very "thugged out" and "ghetto fabulous" lifestyle. Rappers often talk about going from being poor and having to "hussle in the street" to becoming rich and having much success but still having to occasionally lapse into violence in order to be respected. When teenagers try to obtain this lifestyle, they end up in situations rappers seldom mention in their music. Some young people in urban neighborhoods see the rappers on television living it up and want the lifestyle so they develop these unrealistic expectations of becoming big rappers. They completely throw

out the idea of going to college for a chance at rap stardom. Unfortunately, when this dream isn't realized, they fall into the failures of violence, crime or just a dead-end job that pays an unlivable salary.

Not all rap is bad, however. Rap was about party anthems and hope when it was first created in the late seventies. Songs back then told stories about terrible conditions in poor neighborhoods that young urban people could relate to as opposed to telling stories that glorified living a negative lifestyle. Even today, artists like Kanye West, Talib Kweli, and Common are critically acclaimed for rapping about positivity in downtrodden neighborhoods like the one I grew up in. They have even criticized hardcore gangster rappers for making the music they do even though they are aware that young kids are listening to it and are basing their life on it. Unfortunately, these positive rap artists are not as popular with urban kids as hardcore rappers like 50 Cent and The Game are. If nothing is done to stop young kids by being influenced negatively by rap music, then there will be an on-going cycle of crime and poverty in the inner-city with no hope of things getting better.



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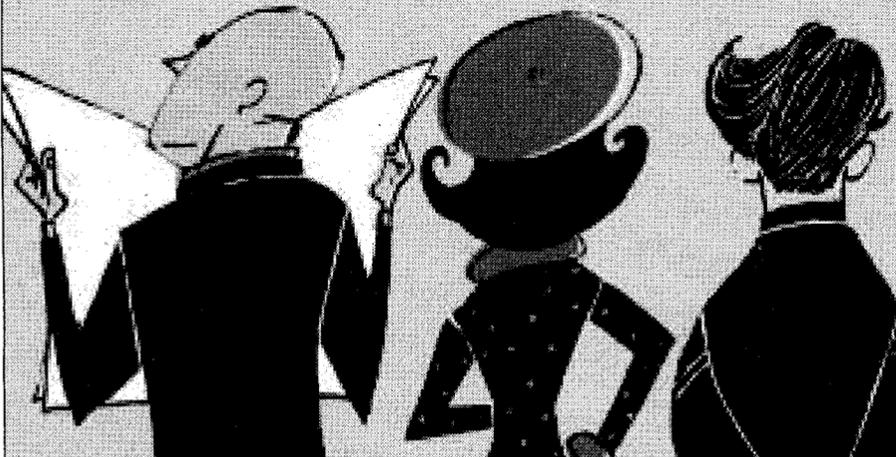
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FALL 2005 - FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

PERIODS--> 2.5 Hr. Periods	1 8:00-10:30 AM	2 11:00-1:30 PM	3 2:00-4:30 PM	4 5:00-7:30 PM	5 8:00-10:30 PM
Friday Dec. 16	MWF 10:40-11:35AM	MF 12:50-2:10PM	COMMON EXAMS CHE 133 CHE 321	NO EXAMS	NO EXAMS
Monday Dec. 19	MWF 8:30AM-9:25AM Or MW 8:05-9:25AM	COMMON EXAMS PHY 121, 122, 131 MAP 101,103 MAT 122	MWF 11:45-12:40PM	MW 5:20-6:40 PM	M 6:50-9:50PM MW 8:20-9:10PM-
Tuesday Dec. 20	TUTH 8:20-9:40AM	TUTH 11:20-12:40PM	COMMON EXAMS CHE 131, 132	TUTH 2:20-3:40PM	TU 6:50-9:50PM TUTH 8:20-9:40PM
Wednesday Dec. 21	MWF 9:35-10:30AM	COMMON EXAMS MAT 123, 125,126 MAT 127, 131, 132	MWF 2:20-3:15PM OR MW 2:20-3:40PM	MW 3:50-5:10PM	W 6:50-9:50PM MW 6:50-8:10PM
Thursday Dec. 22	TUTH 9:50-11:10AM	TUTH 12:50-2:10PM	TUTH 3:50-5:10PM	TUTH 5:20-6:40PM	TH 6:50-9:50PM TUTH 6:50-8:10PM

NOTES:

1. Saturday classes: Finals are scheduled for Saturday, Dec 17, 2005, during the scheduled class time.

2. To determine the time and date of your examination, find the time your class lecture meets (or the "common exam" box for large multi sectioned courses) and look to the left of the row to find the **day** of the exam, and to the top of the column for the **time**.

3. If your lecture meets one day a week at a non-standard time, the examination will be held at the previous standard lecture time (e.g., the exam for a class that begins at 10:45 A.M. on Monday will be held at the time indicated for classes that meet at 10:30 -11:25 A.M. on M/W/F).

4. Classes that meet on MW 5:00-6:50 will hold their exams during the MW 5:20-6:40 exam time slot and classes that meet on TUTH 5:00-6:50 will hold their exam during the TUTH 5:20-6:40 time slot.

Blackworld is looking for its next Leader

Think you have what it takes to lead an organization that according to the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP) is the fourth best newspaper in the nation at a four-year college?

Do you have the time and energy to remain until the end of production to ensure the accuracy of layout and production of a newspaper?

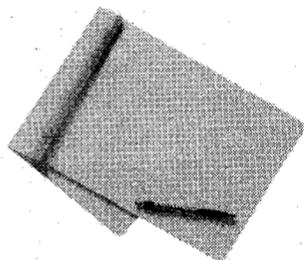
Do you have what it takes to be a liaison to other organizations on campus, to the student body, and the faculty and staff of Stony Brook University?

If this sounds like you, we are inviting you to join Blackworld newspaper. We are looking to find a replacement for our Editor-in-Chief who will be vacating the position soon.

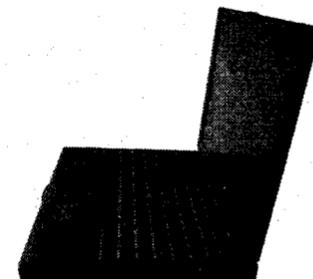
The Editor has to be a member of Blackworld newspaper and elected by majority vote. Therefore participation in the club is encouraged.

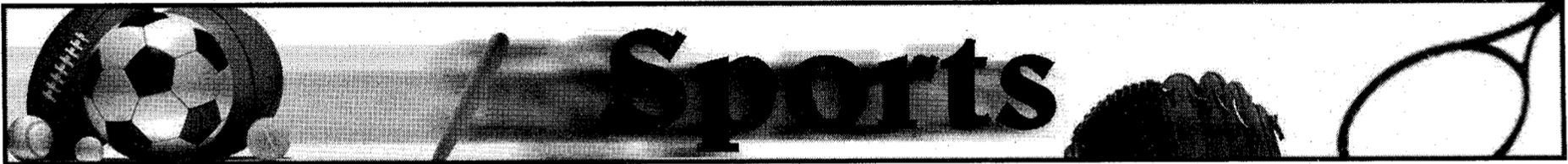
Come join Blackworld and be a part of the next phase!

We are currently the NUMBER ONE newspaper on campus according to popular opinion, and we intend to keep it that way! We are looking for a leader to take us to that next phase... THAT LEADER COULD BE YOU!!

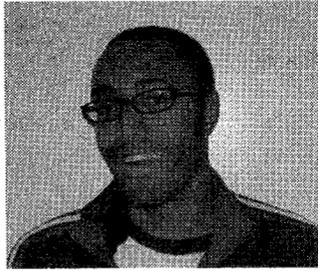


631-632-6494





Guard Your Grill



BY JUSTIN WILLIAMS
SPORTS EDITOR

While you're enjoying your Christmas ham and the company of your 3rd cousins over the break, don't forget about sports. Some big things are going to go down this winter and these are the predictions of the award winning, Guard Your Grill research team. Enjoy and remember these predictions are not only fact...they are science.

1. The University of Texas will beat Southern California in the NCAA National Championship Game- This game very well could be remembered as the greatest ever played in college football. But look for Vince Young to have a legendary day and send Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush home with a loss for once.

2. The New York Mets will be the talk of the off-season- The additions of Carlos Delgado, Paul Lo Duca, Billy Wagner and Jesus Christ (left field) are big news in a free agent market where I could get a multi-year deal to pitch for the Devil Rays. If general manager Omar Minaya manages to land Manny Ramirez from the Red Sox, watch as the wheels fall off an aging Yankee bandwagon. But here's the prediction. Even with their ridiculously talented roster, the Mets will still only win the wild-card. Bobby Cox and the Atlanta Braves will do it again. Watch.

3. Stony Brook Men's Basketball will win a game this season- I promise, once they get into conference play away from the Uconn's and St. John's of the world, things will get better. Don't fret Seawolves fans, help is on the way. Next year new Head Coach Steve Pikiell is bringing in the best recruiting class in school history. Among them is 7 foot 2 center Riiny Ngot.

4. Junior Point Guard Mykemma Ford, despite a scoreless disaster against Brown, will be a front runner for the Guard Your Grill "baller of the year award". Look for her to improve an

already impressive average of over 13 points and 6 assist a game. Ford can be dominant at times by creating her own shot off the dribble, running the floor, drawing off defenders and dishing the ball to her teammates in the paint. In short, Ford can be a coach's dream at the helm of the offense.

5. The Kansas City Chiefs will destroy the New York Giants- So what, as a native of KC Missouri I'm a bit biased. We need this win baby, the AFC is no joke! Look for the Giants to suffer their worst loss of the season against a Kansas City running game that is absolutely shredding defenses. Eli Manning will throw two interceptions, one to Greg Wesley and the other to Eric Warfield. Tiki barber will rush for a meager 60 yards. Quote me on this.

So that's what our team aided by IBM super computers and Mrs. Cleo was able to gather. If any of my predictions turn out to be wrong, I will give anyone who emails me...something. Until next time, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year...unless of course you're a Giants fan.

Look out criminals, Officer Shaq is on the beat

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) -- Shaquille O'Neal was sworn in as a reserve police officer Thursday, with the Miami Heat center choosing to skip a public event in favor of a quiet, no-frills ceremony. "Officer O'Neal is very considerate toward the other officers, and he was afraid if he was there he would have taken away from that moment for other officers," department spokesman Robert Hernandez said. "This is a very special time for them and their families."

The 7-foot-1 player will be able to carry a gun, wear a badge and make arrests, but with his celebrity status he most likely will not walk a beat or go undercover. He will work as time permits in the volunteer position. "He made it clear when he decided to come to Miami Beach that he didn't want to just be a poster boy for photo ops, he wanted to get down and dirty and do the job," Hernandez said. "He's here to conduct investigations and to make arrests." And in September he did just that. After seeing a man throw a bottle and yell anti-gay slurs at a passer-by, O'Neal trailed the man and helped an officer arrest him as a hate-crime suspect.

Betty Bazile's Word search:

"Finals Week" is approaching. If you find these words in under 4 minutes you are guaranteed to pass all your finals. :)

WORDS:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Reading Days | Library |
| Review Sessions | Pass |
| Books | Study Rooms |
| Midnight Screams | Fail |
| Papers | Sinc Sites |
| Nervous | Sleepless |
| Exams | Tired |
| Deadlines | Late night |
| Coffee | Computer |
| Group Work | Study |
| Candy | Office Hours |
| Snacks | Review Sheet |
| Caffeine | Quiet |

S N O I S S E S W E I V E R B S
 W L S T U D Y R O O M S N M S E
 T R A K X R B E I F Y V C I E T
 E S J T A Y M A G M D S O F N I
 I S O P E X W D S V N R F P I S
 U E I K M N T I E O A O F K L C
 Q L F A I L I N X L C U I R D N
 F P M R N X I G R U O L C O A I
 L E W V B E Z S H P M I E W E S
 N E M N F S P D U T P B H P D N
 Y L I F Y T E A W C U R O U F A
 U S A U Z D N Y S W T A U O B C
 G C L T E I U S D V E R R R K K
 E A T R J L A T I T R Y S G A S
 B H I P A P E R S O F T Q R D T
 M T M Y K T E E H S W E I V E R
 L D N E R V O U S B E X A M S O
 B M I D N I G H T S C R E A M S

*In Loving Memory of
Simona Grabocka*



*A Light Distinguished Before Her Time ...
May She Rest in Peace.*