

# news and blues

Volume 4, Number 1 The Newspaper of Stony Brook Graduate Students August 2003

Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, working together is success.

## Blackout at Stony Brook

Former News and Blues Editor, Pegine Walrad gives us a glimpse of the effects of the Blackout 2003 in our small world. The blackout that started somewhere around 4:00PM on Thursday, August 14th, affected the North Eastern States of America and extended as far as Canada, due to a failure in the North Eastern Grid system. Pegine gives us a student's per-



photo courtesy of Jasmina S

spective of the impact on Stony Brook.

For those of us with ambitious plans to eventually graduate from Stony Brook, this past weekend was a nightmare of a setback. Despite the multiple news reporters who interviewed New Yorkers at bars or streamed into ice-cream parlors making jokes about their "precious supplies" being at risk, many of us truly had much more at stake. Many irreplaceable stocks, samples and equipment were threatened, damaged or completely lost because of the inept emergency systems in place at Stony Brook (not to mention the United States' energy system as a whole...) and many of us will carry the burden of the fallout. You'll forgive my bitter tone today, but while others took this weekend as an impromptu holiday - I spent the majority of my weekend scrambling to keep my project together; trying to keep my supplies from denaturing and fruit flies from dying. After the power was restored late Friday, the air conditioning was not - so the heat from the machines operating combined with the ventilation system that recycled the hot air - made for mid-90degF temperatures for Saturday's experiments. I realized with humble seriousness that my life's schedule and career direction are completely dependent upon fruit flies. I am at the mercy of their will, as well as too many others. But that is the grad student's lot - I suppose it's a humiliating initiation of sorts.

-cont's on page 6

## Jim Fiore Brings Talent To Stony Brook

Jim Fiore, a highly regarded administrator at two Ivy League institutions, was named the ninth Director of Athletics in the history of Stony Brook University, becoming one of the youngest people to hold that title at the NCAA Division I level. The 34-year old native of Long Beach, L.I. began his new duties on his birthday of August 13.

Fiore arrives at SBU after serving as senior associate director of athletics at Princeton (1999-2003), and the assistant director of athletics at Dartmouth (1995-1999). He will be responsible for the oversight of the university's 20 intercollegiate

athletics programs, which is made up of 10 men's and 10 women's sports.

At Princeton, Fiore served as the senior associate director of athletics under Gary Walters. During Fiore's tenure, Princeton has achieved unprecedented success on the fields of play and in the classroom. Ranked the No. 1 College/University by U.S. News And World Report, Princeton has finished among the Top 25 in the Sears Director's Cup standings in three of the last five years and is the only non-scholarship institution to ever finish in the Top 25. From 1999-2003, Princeton teams combined to win 60 Ivy League champi-

## Dr. Martin Welcomes The New Grads

Welcome to Stony Brook! President Shirley Strum Kenny and Provost Robert McGrath join me in welcoming our new graduate students to Stony Brook University and we congratulate you on winning admission to your program. This is a great University and your timing in coming here is excellent. We thank you for joining us as graduate students are the lifeblood of a research university. Our faculty and staff do great research, scholarship and creative activities but it is the regular replenishment of the graduate students working with them that keeps them on their toes and able to do their best work. Stony Brook is a young University, we awarded our first Ph. D. 1966, but we have risen to become nationally and internationally renowned for our research and educational programs. The most recent assessment by the National Research Council ranked Stony Brook as the best public research university in northeast. In The Rise of the American Research University (Graham & Diamond, 1997, Johns Hopkins University Press) our per faculty scholarly productivity led to our being ranked equal second among public research universities with only UC Berkeley doing better. Our externally funded research exceeded \$135M last year and is growing steadily. The faculty at Stony Brook are inventive and our patent and royalty income places us in the top 12 universities in the nation. Stony Brook's meteoric rise to national excellence was recognized with an invitation to join the American Association of Universities (AAU, the elite group of top research universities in North America) in 2001. Last year our already stellar faculty was augmented with the addition of internationally celebrated musicians, the Emerson Quartet, and world renowned conservationist and anthropologist, Richard Leakey.

Stony Brook has also become recognized as a national leader in the integration of education and research. President Kenny chaired the Boyer Commission on "Reinventing undergraduate education in the research university", which set out a national agenda to take full advantage of the special opportunities offered by a research University for the education of undergraduates. Stony Brook was one of ten research universities in the nation to win a National Science Foundation Recognition Award for the Integration of Research and Education. Stony Brook's Graduate School was also awarded the Council of Graduate Schools/Peterson's award for success in promoting an inclusive graduate community. We are committed to the preparation of our graduate students as future faculty and research professionals in many walks of life and we offer opportunities to get involved in programs that are regarded as national exemplars.

You arrive at Stony Brook at a great time. We have recently opened the Charles B. Wang Building for Asian American Cultural Studies that will host many campus events and will soon feature a six cuisine Asian food court. The second stage of SAC opened last fall as did the athletics stadium and we are working on a complete rebuilding of the Humanities building and Heavy Engineering.

Long Island offers extraordinary intellectual resources. Stony Brook is the lead partner in the management of Brookhaven National Laboratory, 15 miles to the East, which is one of the world's foremost scientific research institutions. Twenty miles to our west is Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory long viewed as one of the world's leading biological science research institutions and headed by James D. Watson (discoverer of the structure of DNA). Stony Brook partners with CSHL in running the Genetics Ph.D. program and about 55 of our doctoral students from four programs are doing their dissertation research there at present. Stony Brook is also close to New York City, which offers extraordinary intellectual and cultural resources. We are a member of the Inter University Doctoral Consortium, which enables our students to take advanced doctoral courses at Columbia, CUNY Graduate Center, Fordham, NYU, Princeton and Rutgers. Long Island is also a beautiful place to live. Its beaches welcome the rich and famous, and us, each summer and the east end of the island offers tours of wine country and pastoral settings. Stony Brook village is a modest walk from the campus and offers shopping, coffee shops and access to Sand Street beach.

-cont's on page 5

onships and nine national championships. Sport Illustrated for Women ranked Princeton as a Top 10 athletic program for women.

Fiore accepted the Stony Brook offer on his third wedding anniversary on July 15. He and his wife, Lisa, have a son Michael who is 17 months old. Fiore succeeds Dr. Richard Laskowski, who guided Stony Brook from the Division III level to NCAA Division I status, and announced in April that he would step down.

(For exclusive interview, please see Page 7)

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## Goodbye to old friends.....

Pegine Walrad and Jasmina Sinanovic, my colleagues for the whole of 2003-2004 were active models of student involvement. Three editors from different ethnic and educational backgrounds sat together to work for a common theme, standing by the motto of our newspaper ; it was truly not just a demonstration of unity in diversity but also a perfect example of how the arts, the sciences and engineering could blend together and produce a worthy read! It had been a great year for News and Blues. Our primary focus had been to bring about standard pages to the newspaper, incorporating different aspects of student life while giving them a glimpse of the organization that has been trying to speak up for them. My acknowledgements to my friends and the contributors of last year, each of whom has definitely made a difference by adding their talent to better the standards of the newspaper.

I wish to also take this opportunity to thank my coeditors for their daring, the breadth of their understanding of the campus life; a few work ethics should not fail mention. Jasmina taught me how to multitask, plan and talk over the phone and work on the computer all at once- it was just amazing! Pegine made me realize that it takes guts to be bold but it is well worth it! It has been a great lesson! My best wishes to two strong women and hope they continue to inspire and succeed in all their endeavors.

Smitha

## Note from the Editor

So friends, I hope you have all survived the blackout and have cooled down to pleasant weather. To my new Graduate friends, let me say, welcome aboard to a great University, and a great blend of cultures. The new Academic Year is just about to begin and with it the uneven transition to fall weather. While this is a difficult time for America, in many ways, economically and politically in term of terrorist resurgence, you can definitely find ways to keep yourself happy. There is a lot on this campus, gather your wits, and get on to a great start. There is nothing like a cheerful spirit to drown all those study blues which you might be contemplating.

As for my old grad friends, while it must be sad to think of the Summer vacation nearing its end, I am sure you have all recharged your human batteries and are ready with your coffee mugs and bags of chips. A word of advice to my friends new and old, look out for happiness in even the little things you do, and use those to get better and better. So good luck again to a bold beginning, and may the stars shine brighter, for you this year!

Regards

Editor,  
News and Blues

Dear Readers,

While News and Blues has tried to accommodate the breadth and variety of the student population, it will be our constant endeavor to find new and exciting ways to cater to your special interests. In this edition, we have included two special pages, one on diversity and an orientation special page to cater to the needs of the new incoming students. Please feel free to give us your valuable comments and suggestions at [nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:nusnblus@ic.sunysb.edu)

Editor, News and Blues

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Due Acknowledgements to our printer:  
WebPro East Setauket. Ph.631-246-5514

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### Answers-Angeliki Field Pollatou, VP

**PERSONAL** Name- Angeliki Field-Pollatou, born in Athens, Greece, fourth year in the Dept of Physics and Astronomy, undergrad degree from Physics Dept of the Univ of Athens, Greece, live off campus.

the most memorable day-my wedding day  
inspiration-Marie Curie

My favorite film is 'Despinis Diefthidis' and my favorite actress is Tzeni Karezi. Both the film and the actress are Greek.

Although I was raised a Christian Orthodox, I am still searching for the answers to these questions.

I would spend money on my family like buying them a house and maybe a boat so that they can take vacation whenever they want. I would also spend money on different charities, to my undergraduate school and of course GSO! the weirdest thing-To answer these questions!

I do not believe in astrology, but to answer your question I am a Gemini. Any greek food is my favorite, I like track sports, blue color, strawberries, dogs, decorative painting.

Love has no definition, when you find love you just know it!

10 years from now-Somewhere in Europe, hopefully doing research.

**SERIOUS** Be ready to compromise because you might not find exactly what you are looking for here (in your academic career) but never give up on your dreams and hopes about your career, be patient.

If they are still around, it means that they know all the tips (or at least most of them), right?

I do not believe that war is an effective antidote for anything but I also do not know the way to combat terrorism. Unfortunately there is no perfect solution (or a realistic one) for it, if there was I am sure it would have been implemented. To continue my above answer, since I have no solution to suggest regarding the issue I feel that me judging a political action might be considered that I take the issue lightly and I do not. I have the hope that everyone tries to do their best of their ability and judgement and I can only dream and wish for a world of peace. Solve the housing crisis we face every year. Although it is in the plans to build a new housing complex. I am afraid the rent is going to be really high for the average students to live in it. In fact I believe that the higher rents on campus will cause the rents off campus to rise as well which means that all the students will face big problems. I hope the University can find a way to either subsidize housing or manage to lower the cost of renting house on campus. If this is done, it will effectively lower the cost of housing for all students since rents off campus depend on prices on campus (usually).

I think the some administrators have done enough, some have not but it is our responsibility as graduate students' representatives to keep speaking up for the people we represent. I am very grateful to all that contributed for our new University Cafe (President's Office, FSA, Graduate School, School of Medicine) and this is an example of what can be accomplished when people work together and compromise. As mentioned I think housing is an area that has been neglected.

The University Cafe, I feel I contributed personally for this venue and I am proud that we succeeded in making it happen and making it the place for all graduate students.

I would give GSO all the money they ask for!

Having to leave my country to come to U.S to study was one of the most challenging situations in my life. With the help of my husband and the friends I made here, I manage to cope with it every day.

'Be patient' and 'everything happens for a reason'.



### Questions for the new execs

#### Ten Personal/Crazy Questions

1. What are your personal and academic credentials
- Name, Place of Birth, Ethnic Origin? which department? where did you get your undergraduate degree from? what year at Stony Brook? On or off campus?
2. What was the most memorable day in your life that stands out?
3. Who is the person/persons who has(ve) most inspired you?
4. Which is your favorite film? Any hot favorites, actor, actress?
5. Do you believe in God? What is your spirituality source? Views on religion?
6. If you had a million dollars name five things you would spend it on?
7. What was the weirdest thing that ever happened to you.
8. Zodiac? Favorite food? Sport? Color? Fruit? Animal? Hobby?
9. What in your words is the definition of love?
10. Where do you think you will be 10 years from now? Country? Career?

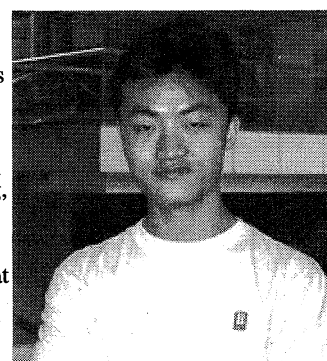
#### Ten Serious Questions

1. What is your advice to the new students/
2. Any survival tip for the old ones, students, I mean?
3. Do you think war is an effective antidote for terrorism? What would you suggest is one way you can combat terrorism?
4. What is your opinion of Pres. Bush's handling of the War on Iraq?
5. Name one thing that Stony Brook Administration can do, and hasn't really acted on?
6. How far do you think the administrators have done enough to take care of the interests of the Students at Stony Brook? What is a major area of neglect?
7. Name one thing about this campus you really feel proud of?
8. Had you been given the charge as President of Stony Brook University, what is the first thing you would do?
9. What is the most challenging situation you have ever had and how did you cope with it?
10. As a vanguard of the GSO what is the one most valuable lesson you have learned?

### Answers-Guofeng Hou, Prez

#### Personal

Name: Guofeng Hou, GSO President, Comes from China, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, my undergraduate degree is from Nankai University. 2nd year at Stony Brook University, lives on Campus.



The most memorable day -When I got the Master's degree at Nankai University on July 1st, 2001.

Inspiration-My parents.

Favorite film? actor, actress? Farewell the Imperial Concubine, a famous Chinese movie. Lianjie Li (Actor) I don't believe in God. Pursuing the truth is my spirituality source. I believe religions are good, even if I don't believe in any religion.

A million dollars to spend: To build up a Company in Information Technology, buy a yacht to sail in the seas, help the homeless people, donate to Stony Brook University, and support students to come to the United States to pursue graduate studies.

Capricorn. Seafoods. Soccer. Red. Banana. Dog. Sports and music.

The definition of love-Attractive to each other, share the ideas and understanding on many issues.

In 10 years-I will be in the United States and China in the coming 10 years, working in industries in the field of Information Technology.

#### Serious

Advice to the new students.-Work hard and enjoy the life here. Survival tip- Always find better ways to develop yourself.

Yes, I believe war can be a means to combat terrorism, but it is not the best means. If you cannot succeed by peaceful means and dialogue, only then as a last resort should you use war as the antidote.

I don't like the war, but I don't like Saddam either.

SB Admin could do-Improving the library system.

I believe they should cater to the needs of the students. I believe the research facilities and living conditions of the students are the major areas that were neglected. to be proud of-Chen-Ning Yang, the Professor of the Physics Department, Winner of the Nobel Prize.

As a Prez of SBU-Improving the library system and bring about better living conditions for the students. Challenge-Taking my PhD qualifying exam this April was a very critical moment for me. Considering the fact that only 30 % of the students who took the exam qualified and that I was able to successfully complete it with a week's preparation.

As a vanguard-The GSO should be attractive to most of the graduate students and advance their interests. It should pay more attention to the real needs of the students.

## EXECS WELCOME NEW GRADS

Dear New Stony Brook Graduate Student,

On behalf of the Graduate Student Organization (GSO), we would like to welcome you to the Stony Brook Graduate Student Community! The Stony Brook graduate student body represents many academic disciplines, and the GSO serves to unify the departments with academic, professional and social activities. We are your voice to the greater university community, and we encourage and welcome your participation and innovation.

The GSO has a number of important issues on the agenda for the upcoming school year. With goals of supporting academic and professional development, we have a long list of activities planned. Academic and professional growth is key to your success here at Stony Brook and the GSO has developed a number of ways to assist you in your endeavors. For example, we were able to help and support graduate student clubs and organizations to run smoothly. These clubs sponsor lectures, events and even competitions all focused on bringing together graduate students with similar interests. Additionally, we supported general cultural and social events, speaker series and conferences, student publications (survival guide and newspaper), departmental allocations, RAP (the graduate student conference travel reimbursement fund), and the new University Cafe for graduate students.

We hope that these events and services will continue to grow and offer graduate students a forum to come together and promote their interest.

Underlying all of our efforts is a desire to make your years studying at Stony Brook fruitful and fun. We sincerely hope that you will become involved in the GSO this fall and bring your ideas, concerns, talents and humor into our work this year. Watch our website at <http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/gso/> or contact your GSO department representative. In the meantime, please feel free to e-mail us with questions at: [gso@ic.sunysb.edu](mailto:gso@ic.sunysb.edu).

May you have a fruitful and fabulous graduate life at Stony Brook!

Sincerely,

Guofeng Hou, President

Angeliki Field-Pollatou, Vice President

Christopher La Barbera, Secretary

## An age of patience

Faith buried in the cocker shells in this sea of sands - One day, I would gather these and build my fortress - the invincible power of possessing what has eternally been mine. I can think of the overtures I have had to make to bring on such destinies as this. The long trail of caravans, patience, a mutiny to the subversive elements and an exaltation of the Sublime. Carnations, wild orchids and daffodils, I see them all in this garden, an ensemble of beauty caricatured well. Pastels and shades don this rubric, silence plays between the odd blends, and lends me the perfect story of a tomorrow of better dreams and higher visions.

I sit here naked in my room, not knowing how my pen wields itself to some arcane thoughts of a century old. The dawn has always held before me, in reverence, the inveterate paradigms of an age of Reason and Patience. Recalling those days when I would walk these beaches, taking in the earth and breathing into its titanic breaths, and whispering to every crevasse and every peak. I stare into the endless seas; the crest of a wave would raise faltered hopes, and then I would try to preserve such memories in the mothers-of-pearl.

### Come.....find me

When pain strikes you from the far horizons,  
Streaks of black lightning,  
Tearing through your soul,  
When the dark eye lashes of gloom,  
Brood perennially in the casinos,  
Playing to the tune  
Of drunken music,  
As you wait in that hall  
Of indifference,  
Seeing ghosts that walk,  
That deprive you of sight  
Or sense of touch,  
Of every single emotion,  
Of even mutual recognition,  
When all that is left,  
Is one peg of humanity,  
To gulp down your parched throat,  
Then you surely realize  
You must come to me,

I have a name,  
If you wonder.... what?  
Some call me hope,  
Some elusive faith,  
Some call me peace,  
Some call me silence,  
There is this complexity of definition,  
That confounds you ,  
Yet I am there,  
In the corner sipping vodka,  
Your mix, your choice,  
Sometimes,  
In the hallway as you take  
Her in your arms,  
Hoping her kiss  
Would melt your pain away,  
You see me sipping,  
Right there,  
Then they call me sanity,  
Or in the midst of a seductive glance,  
I hurl onto you one quirk of a thought,

Shaded by the consequence of things un-attempted, yet those that would always lurk, the fear that would always confound me, and make my battle a ridiculous line of wars with an embittered self, I would return to the boats that awaited me; the empty boats would tempt me to voyages, to be on my own a voyage, that could transcend the battles of the mind.

I held these treasured thoughts, precious as they were, and saw once more, the line of caravans, and the struggle of a journey.

The camaraderie of ideals, this has been my forte, my ever growing strength, peeling through the layers of weathered skin, rejuvenating me, like this sea breeze and the freshness of those downs.

Hold, meadows, hold ocean, see me now, emerging from you, configuring my designs, in defiance of the ephemeral- Would You not wait, my soul, for the story to unfold, a tale of a man and his life, how they walked the same beaches and held on to the same ideals, and how the journey took them to different lands; An age of candles in the caves lit by a thousand Solomons touched by circumstantial grace, plundering mines of unused wisdom, to

They call me optimism,  
But you see me fade,

In the rush hour of New York's subways,  
You hear my music in the Navajo's flute,  
I stop you dead for a moment,  
Just a moment,  
And then you keep walking on,  
Your pain in a neat rucksack ,  
Well, I must admire,  
That all this while,  
You had been constant and faithful  
To a crazy lover,  
She isn't the dame you want,  
If you'd know

In this game of life,  
How often you encounter her,  
Sitting in the park benches doting on you,  
While I wait for you,  
Growing old in my archaic costumes,

Come home sometimes,  
I will treat you to goodwill,  
My name is faith,  
My name is belief,  
My name is that which you'd always sought,  
In your deepest meditations,  
And found in the stirring  
Blissful anchor of a moment ,  
But never recognized,  
I am there very much inside of you,  
Only come..... find me

Simone Hayat  
Compiled Stony Brook  
Campus, 2:20 PM

make come true the Truth. I have treasured moments as these, when I could sit and watch the scene of life wade, and I , an empty boat, would sail these seas.

How surreptitious glory sometimes is; I look at the charts I had prepared, the miles I had navigated in this vast ocean, and how trivial glory attempts to rob me of sanity. This sojourn has taught me wisdom, and I will now sit happy to see the butterflies, and wait to see them land softly on my shoulder.

I breathe in the awakening of wisdom, and of patience, to meet tomorrow, a promise of the vista of a journey through time. Prithree, my life, after every long sleep, reborn, the karma of my destiny laid bare, evolving through time, I will wait on to see my last metamorphosis.

proverb:

*the will of god will not lead you where  
the grace of god cannot take you*

## City Arts

### stages

The First National Transgender Theatre Festival

September 4th - 13th, WOW (59 East 4th, and Under Saint Marks, 94 St. Marks Place).

*Stages presents voices from trans communities as they have never been heard before.*

Trans issues have been coming more and more into the main stream sight. However, if you ever wondered what a trans theatre would be like this is your chance to see it. Hosted by WOW (women's collective theatre,

www.wowcafe.org) and presented at two different locations, these festival should bring some unheard voices to the city.



One of the shows at the festival will be *Butch McCloud, Your Friendly Neighborhood Lesbian Superhero, Episode IV*. Butch McCloud is a serial comedy written by Tom Leger and Riley MacLeod that follows events around women's collective bakery and their neighboring evil corporation coffee house ran by evil femmes. Episode III is scheduled for Aug 22, 2003 at midnight. The show already has a following so make sure to reserve tickets if planning to attend. Tickets are only \$5 and can be reserved by calling WOW at 212-777-4280. Even if you made reservations it is recommended to show up early if you plan to get good seats.

-Jasmina Sinanovic

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## Housing – Where is the Management?

It's that time of the year again – when students coming in from diverse countries and regions of the world will be pursuing their higher studies as Graduate students at Stony Brook University. And it's that time of the year when the authorities here will be welcoming these students and helping them settle to a lifestyle that is alien in most respects for these students.

At the core of this process of orienting themselves to the new environs lies the important issue of housing. Stony Brook is one of the few universities where graduate students prefer on-campus housing. Be it the cost of off-campus housing or the location of the university, the fact is that on-campus housing remains the most viable solution for newly arrived graduate students to find their first sweet home in this country. And the responsibility for ensuring that graduate students' housing concerns are taken care of (they have a lot many academic concerns to handle already) lies with the 'Division of Campus Residences'. Now, if one were to ask most graduates what their experience has been with authorities in charge of housing, most of them would paint a bleak picture.

The worrying thing is that the picture is all so rosy while the student is sitting in his home country, assured that his housing concerns have been taken care of as soon as pays a \$200 check upfront as early as May. Now picture this scenario (and this is no fictitious scenario) - the student sends in form in which he marks his preferences for roommates as well as other preferences like smoking/non-smoking partner and a hundred other things that seem to meet his concerns. In return, the student receives an e-mail confirmation that he is guaranteed a house and then another e-mail informing him that he will get to know his room-assignment as well as his room-mate by mid-July. But July comes and goes and there is no more news from the Campus Residences. And when the student finally lands here he gets the shock of his life when he is told that there is no availability of rooms and that the student is on a waiting list! This was a very common scenario till last year, with many students unlucky enough not to have a house till as late as September-October ..... In most cases, students were then provided with alternate undergraduate housing rooms that were way too costly for foreign students to be able to afford and obviously did not meet the same standards as that required for graduate housing. This would have been okay if the situation was explained to the student while he was back in his country ..... But why write the e-mails to students promising what you cannot deliver! The problems don't seem to end here. Once the students are settled into their apartments however, imagine this – a vegetarian sharing his kitchen with 5 non-vegetarians, no sofas, the exhaust fan not working; and all this due to the apathy shown by the authorities concerned. It is plain that issues such as vegetarians having to stay with non-vegetarians can be easily solved by making use of the preference forms that are filled by students while applying for housing (why ask for preferences when you are not going to act on them). Maintenance in the apartments is a living nightmare that students are putting up with. What is badly needed is a strong sense of commitment, good intentions and the willingness to set things straight. While there has been a sustained policy of yearly increments in the housing rents there has not been a commensurate improvement in the facilities provided. Overall, the opinion of most graduate residents is that they are given a raw deal when it comes to housing; and this does not augur well for the future of both – the residents as well as the authorities.

So, one can only hope that attitudes change, apathy is replaced by concern and a work-order is in place. A turnaround of thinking from the university administration that we students are badly in need of! -Ashish Patel

## Important Phone Numbers

Administration Registration	26175	Wellness Center	27209
Registrar	26885	Career Services	26810
Bursar's Office	21100	Univ. Counseling Services	26720
Student Accounts(Billing)	22455	Disability Support Services	26748
Student Accounts (Cashier)	29316	Laundry Services	25326
Campus ID office	22737	Kinko's Photocopy Services	2 1831
Student Health Services	26740	Lost and Found	26730
Insurance	26377	International Services	24685
Campus Bus	26418	Graduate School	24723
Post Office (Local)	29645	Graduate Student Organization	26492
Campus Residences	26750	Child Care Services	26930
Chapin Office	26755	Campus Dining Services	26530
Schomburg Office	21316	Library	27260
TFCU SAC	24600	Post Office (Stony Brook)	751-6245
WALK service	2 WALK	Police/ First Aid	333/911(off campus)
Sports Complex	27200	TFCU Hospital	631-444-3400

## Make right decisions from the Start

### Visit The Career Center

It's a common mistake to assume that the Career Center only helps undergraduates. But did you know that employers use the Career Center to recruit graduate students, too? Last year nearly 300 companies and organizations came to Stony Brook to hire students in industries ranging from information technology to health care. Searching for managers, programmers, researchers, and others, the companies seek to hire energetic and creative people who can apply theory to real problems. And doesn't that sound like you, a Stony Brook graduate student? You can understand complex problems, work independently, and thrive in a competitive environment. Come to the Career Center and you'll find out which companies are searching for your skills. You can make a counseling appointment or attend one of several workshops offered each term. If you need help developing a resume, then drop by the office during our Resume Review Period. No appointment is required for resume review.

Do you want to talk to employers without the tension of an interview? Then come to a company presentation to listen and learn. If you want to find out how other students are searching for jobs, then attend a career education workshop and gain valuable tips from your peers and the Career Center staff.

Our next job fair is on Wednesday, October 15 from noon to 4 p.m. in the Sports Complex. Be sure to visit the Career Center before then to find out about the latest employment trends and strategies for job seekers. Call 631-632-6810 for an appointment or visit our website [www.stonybrook.edu/career](http://www.stonybrook.edu/career) for information about programs and events. Best Wishes,  
The Career Center Staff

## TIPS! TIPS! TIPS!

So finally you have taken on the challenge to come here! So are you ready, academically and personally, to be on your own, to establish an identity for yourself, in a new and for those from out of this country, a vastly different culture? Well if you haven't come prepared, this is for you, from News and Blues with love! **Remember that you are going through a transition**

Remember that the first few weeks or months are going to be a transition for you, be it from the undergraduate academic environ or from living in a different setting- different country or region, or just because this is the first time you've been away from home. Keep your eyes open as you walk around the campus. Be open and receptive to new things and the variety around you in terms of lifestyles and personalities. It is natural to miss your parents and home and your old friends. We have all gone through that and survived! Most importantly, learn to give yourself enough time to get acclimated to the new surroundings.

### Academic Crisis?

If you are in an academic crisis, make sure you take up the matters with the people in your department; make sure you are clear of what you want to ask them; when I joined Stony Brook, I had to face difficulties because I was not sure

what I wanted; soon I realized my mistake and I made a point of writing things down before meeting with my graduate program secretary or professor.

### Don't hesitate because you are afraid of making mistakes.

Often fear grips us even for the little things something as trivial as registering for classes can be an obvious nightmare if you haven't done it before. So be sure to stop by and ask people questions you may be turned down once or twice, but it doesn't matter. There will always be someone who is willing to help you or direct you to someone who can!

### Don't Procrastinate!

Procrastination is a no.1 killer for students! It may stem from deep rooted fears anxieties or plain laziness; It is important for you to track down what is leading you to procrastinate. A difficult course? Lack of resources? Whatever your problem, try and write it down and make a plan preferably written to pin down the root of your problem. And most importantly get into the action habit! Do at least five productive things daily and you will find your confidence soaring. Start feeling proud of even the smallest victories, like getting your credit card account at the TFCU and cross that from your list of to do items.

### Keep yourself Organized

At the core of a successful life in and out of school is organization. Make sure you

write down your goals, have a daily and weekly plan, even a semester plan. Tack a poster size calendar onto the wall. Mark important dates, exams, appointments, deadlines, etc. That way you'll know when your apartment rent or library book is due. You would save a lot of precious money from paying fines. Take time to review your daily jobs list at the end of the day and mark out what you have accomplished.

Believe me, it pays a great deal to know that you know what you have accomplished and figure out what you learnt from your failures. That way you'll learn to cope better.

### Keep Resumes Handy

As you enter academic life, one thing that goes hand in hand is the never ending job search. While on campus jobs are competitive, do keep your resumes handy. Explore possibilities in different departments. Though the SOLAR system jobs are not updated, get hold of phone numbers and keep calling.

### BE POSITIVE

And beyond everything be positive. Remember that a positive attitude and persistence are great assets that can take you places. It is worthwhile to remember that we as humans have great resilience and can cope even with the hardest times, and you are no exception! So good luck on a prosperous Academic Life at Stony Brook! -by Smitha

## Dean Greets New Students-

cont'd from page 1

Get the most out of your time here. Graduate School is a major step from undergraduate work. Now you will create, discover and interpret, rather than acquire, knowledge. Success in research is strongly dependent on a good mentor relationship so you should select your mentor with care and work to establish a strong professional relationship that may be with you for life. Further, a majority of people who attend Graduate School end up with a life partner who they meet while in Graduate School so be alert to these possibilities also and be sure to participate in activities that will involve students from other programs. Remember that involvement in teaching will help you to develop communication skills that will help you to get a job, whether in industry, commerce or the academy. Getting the most out of your time here means more than just working all of the time. Go to Friday night movies at the Staller Center, use the sports facilities and attend athletic events, go to seminars and lectures whenever you can and attend concerts given by our own students and by visiting musicians. You will rarely have access to this rich an array of intellectual and cultural resources, so take full advantage of them to enjoy your time here and to make sure that you're happy as well as successful.

This is a great place to be, we're delighted to have you with us and we wish you the very best with your studies.

## STALLER ROCKS AGAIN!

...There is no film festival in the United States quite like it. All the filmmakers are put up in a three-hundred-year-old historic inn, and then brought into a packed house of enthusiastic, educated film goers. - Terry Allen Green, writer/director, *Almost Salinas*

29 films made either their World, U.S., East Coast, Regional, or New York premiere at the 2003 Stony Brook Film festival. It ran from July 16- 26 on Stony Brook's Long Island campus at the Staller Center for Arts. More than 37 films were screened during the 11-day festival, including over two dozen Independent films in competition.

Todd Komarnicki, the writer and first-time feature director of the film "Resistance," which screened Opening Night of the Festival and starred Bill Paxton and Julia Ormond, told the audience, "When the entire house of almost 1200 gasped at the same place in the film, it was a career highlight for me."

The winners of the Stony Brook Film Festival were presented with awards by Stony Brook Film Festival's director, Alan Inkles, at the Closing Night Awards Reception at Stony Brook University's Staller Center for the Arts, Long Island, New York, July 26. "Undermind" and "Outpatient" tied for the Jury Award for Best Feature and "100 Mile Rule" and "American Gun" were tied as Audience Choice feature favorites. Campbell Scott accepted a Festival Award for Excellence for "The Secret Lives of Dentists."

Many recognizable actors appeared in the winning movies:

"Undermind," starred Sam Trammell (Tony Award nominee for "Ah, Wilderness"), Erik Jensen ("Black Knight"), Celia Weston ("In the Bedroom"), and Susan May Pratt ("Ten Things I Hate About You"). Written and directed by Nevil Dwek. Produced by Fred Bernstein and Marc Tarlov, "Undermind" is a psychological dramatic thriller about one man on a journey to find himself-a trip that takes him to a parallel world. Derrick, a corporate lawyer with a large trust fund, and Zane, a criminal, live in opposite social spheres. Although they never meet, their lives are more connected than either one of them could ever imagine.

"Outpatient," is a stylish neo-noir thriller of duplicity, dance and the descent into madness. When a soft-spoken

young writer-inadvertently committed to an asylum for years-is released in the "real" world, his writing begins to blur the boundaries of reality and paranoid hallucination, leaving his therapist to suspect she has unleashed a ruthless murderer. Written and directed by Alec Carlin. Produced by Scilla Andreen-Hernandez and Carlo Scandiuzzi. Starring Justin Kirk (Love! Valour! Compassion!), Catherine Kellner (Pearl Harbor), and

gled web of blackmail and betrayal, leaving them with the aftermath that will change their lives forever. Directed by Brent Huff. Written by Drew Pillsbury. Produced by Eric Gustavson and John Nelson. Starring Jake Weber, Maria Bello, David Thornton and Michael McKean. Director of Photography, Giovanni Lampassi. Courtesy of Curb Entertainment



Alan Inkles, far left, greets 2003 Fest Winner, photo courtesy Julia Green

Tomas Arana (Gladiator). Director of Photography, Andres Garretton. The New York Premiere of "100 Mile Rule," starred Jake Weber, Maria Bello, David Thornton, and Michael McKean. It shared the Audience Choice Award with "American Gun," a disturbingly relevant tale and James Coburn's last film, which also starred Virginia Madsen, (who also starred in the festival film "Artworks,") Barbara Bain ("Mission Impossible") and Alexandra Holden. In this dark comedy, Bobby, one of three Detroit salesmen on a business trip to Los Angeles, isn't looking to abide by the "100 Mile Rule" espoused by his co-workers which promotes "harmless" guilt-free infidelity as long as they travel more than 100 miles from home. All good intentions fall by the wayside when Monica, a beautiful waitress, sends Bobby on a roller coaster ride of panic and fear after she threatens to reveal their affair unless he pays a hefty ransom. The three dysfunctional Musketeers attempt to extricate themselves from a tan-

reality become blurred. Denis Leary is marvelous as Scott's patient/conscience and Robin Tunney rounds out the cast as the couple's dental assistant. Directed by Alan Rudolph. Screenplay by Craig Lucas, based on the best selling novella *The Age of Grief* by Jane Smiley. Produced by Campbell Scott and George Van Buskirk, for Holedigger Films Inc. and Ready Made Film. Director of Photography, Florian Bellhaus. It takes a lot of homework to bring in outstanding films. This year the "call for entries" was advertised in leading independent film magazines (Filmmaker and The Independent, as well as Film Festival Today), and web sites that filmmakers visit frequently, (filmthreat.com) carried ads. Film departments at Universities were notified about the Festival and the Stony Brook Film Festival received student work from the University of Florida, among others. Three shorts from the Florida group were chosen.

"The Secret Lives of Dentists," Alan Rudolph's offbeat, black comedy starred Campbell Scott ("Roger Dodger"), Hope Davis ("About Schmidt"), Denis Leary and Robin Tunney. "Teeth outlast everything. Death is nothing to a tooth. Life is what destroys teeth." In a blend of humor and realism the film prods at the complexities, paradoxes and tender beauties of marriage. It is a universal, insightful and complete human portrait of a "perfect" couple caught at a crossroads in their relationship. Campbell Scott and Hope Davis star as husband and wife dentists. When he suspects his wife of having an affair, Scott's boundaries between fantasy and

## Stony Brook Black out,

cont'd from page 1

A friend in another lab was directly ordered by the boss not to open any of the freezers or incubators to attempt to save the supplies. It was "for the common good" the lab was told... now they are forced to do a month's worth of experiments to simply determine whether their samples are useable after a 2-day heat shock. If not, they will have to reorder, restock and rebuild for the next 6 months to a year. For those of you of different majors, Biochemistry & Cell Biology generally keep supplies at either -80deg, -

20deg, 4deg or room temperature. The samples that are kept at -80deg are particularly unstable, and to keep a freezer at this temperature is quite an electrical drain. If keeping such supplies at the right temperature seems trivial to you, consider the supplies of the "Center for Infectious Diseases" that occupies the CMM's 2nd floor, and you might gain insight... Another friend of mine was in the middle of a radioactive experiment when the lights went out. The failure of the emergency generators to work for her building, and the complete lack of windows made it impossible for her to continue. She carefully disposed of the mess in the

dark. Ironically, the building I currently work in was one of the few whose emergency generator did work - and we are currently without a building manager due to cutbacks. Perhaps cutbacks could be taken in a less-essential place... such as Administration. Buildings need managers - particularly after such a demonstration of our systems' inadequacies. There were bizarre inequities: the elevators were fully operational in the CMM building, while the staircases in the Main Library were pitch black tunnels. If the situation is to be corrected, this should become a priority. It is irresponsible to run a University in this

manner. I know that many, many others lost tremendous amounts personally: from stores losing fresh goods, to families having to throw out groceries they can't afford to replace. I even heard stories of expectant mothers whose health was put at risk by ERs without air conditioning. This was the case at our own hospital, no air conditioning for the patients, workers or machinery to run properly. A building with over 20 floors became a stair workout in hell as the dedicated crew attended to the patients under dangerously sweltering conditions. It seems ironic to me that our nation and our University should

focus so much time and effort to an illusion of "Homeland Security" and monitoring of our international students when it appears our greatest weakness lies in our laziness. More focus and costs should be directed towards the basic running of the facilities we have before additional systems' installation or construction of new buildings. This was a close call that could have been worse. Here's hoping you all came out well enough to start this semester with your sanity and graduate career intact! This weekend doesn't have to become an omen of the year ahead... Hey - at least we're not in California.

## University Café 2003

Written by Shawn Pottorf

The University Café, a graduate student lounge that will be opening its new doors to the Stony Brook University community for the first time this fall semester, will be offering a fresh, relaxing, and enticing element to life on this campus. The Graduate Student Organization (GSO), composed of the graduate student community, saw the need to create a new lounge that provides a general service to a diverse community. With the help of the President's Office, Graduate School, and FSA, the GSO was able to break ground on its vision of providing a café style lounge to the campus community.

The University Café is located on a quaint end of the Student Union with access to a lovely garden patio adjacent to the venue. A wide swath of windows and oppositely facing mirrors allows the Café to provide enjoy-

able scenery inside or out. The Café offers items usually in demand by those searching for higher education: lots of premium and tasty coffees and teas and the occasional adult beverage. To go along with the beverages the Café also provides delicious snacks and desserts.

As you enjoy the wonderful scenery and food, the Café also provides you with a broad range of evening entertainment such as live music performances, karaoke, and staged plays. The venue is also open for use by the campus community to accommodate their various functions or gatherings and provide a unique atmosphere to them.

The University Café is open during the hours of 12 to 5 Monday and Tuesday and from 12 PM to 2 AM Wednesdays through Saturdays. The GSO hopes that

you will enjoy and come to appreciate the University Café. So as you explore campus and get your bearings, make the Café your landmark as you meet us under the chestnut tree at University Café.



## Jim Fiore brings talent to Stony Brook

Exclusive Interview

*In the midst of the blackout, I was impressed by Mr. Fiore's readiness for a few questions for the News and Blues. His willingness to do it over the weekend emphasized his commitment to his job, and gave me a glimpse of the personality. He seemed to be a very approachable and accessible person and that made me feel really comfortable as a student. I must say, as a personal opinion, that he will indeed be a great investment for Stony Brook, which will see glorious benefits in the months to come.*

Excerpts from the telephonic interview with Jim Fiore on Saturday, 16th August, 2003, 20:30 hours.

Sm: What inspired you to come to Stony Brook?

JF: First and foremost, Shirley Strum, the President, when I met with her, and then with Dan Belucci, the vice-president, I felt this is it. The most important thing for an Athletic Director is to support a strong academic mission for the University. You need to affiliate a strong academic resource to an equally strong athletic backing to effectively effect and manage positive change. Thirdly you need to build on the foundation that has already been set.

Sm: What do you attribute as the secret to your success at such a young age in the professional arena?

JF: The core of who I am, my parents and my professional mentor, Gary Walters. One thing you have to know about Athletics is that we work dog year nights; the fact that I had to deal with many issues and work long hours, always beating the pressure had been a vital part. I care about people, and am passionate about my work, and feel that a great deal resulted from the strong substantive relationships I was able to build, kind of like a family; I was disciplined. It may sound clichéd but you have to learn to treat people the way you would like to be treated.

Sm: What are the first few steps you would take to inspire new students into Athletics?

JF: Encourage student body participation in some form of the other; I would emphasize the need to balance the highest aspirations in terms of athletics with a strongly bonded academics side to it. I will encourage the students to find some form of sport by either involving in

clubs, programs, intramurals or intercollegiate programs. While this would be indeed very important, I would take great care to see that students with a real potential for reality division 1 levels, would be induced into such programs, so that we do not compromise quality.

Sm: It is always a challenge for the administration to find the right ways to blend academics and athletics. What do you suggest to students who might have been grappling with a dream of being in the NCAA division 1 and has to fight bad grades in school on the other?

JF: The NCAA and the State have very expanded programs, that stretches into months, taking a lot of the student's time, I would vouch for a traditional out of season, cut that back as a league and division 1. But changing a state policy would be a slow process, one that we cannot count on, for now, at least. I would build on the strong academic support base that Stony Brook has; The lessons you learn as a student athlete will absolutely translate into future success, prioritizing responsibly between family, your student life and your sports career; while on the field, students tend



photo courtesy Rob Emmerick

to learn how to handle adversity, losing publicly, etc, and these can convert into valuable life experiences that (s)he can use in his/her student life.

Sm: What is your message to the new students?

JF: The athletics program needs your support, and we would love to meet you at our facilities and take advantage of the various sports programs; extract all that the university has to offer; Be open to learning, appreciate the different cultures. I would speak towards the different cultures that we have in Stony Brook, diverse backgrounds, to learn what you have not been used to; in short get out of your comfort zones and experiment with new things, new ideas, and new ways...

Sm: What are your views on increasing the women par-

ticipation in Athletics?

JF: The thing about female athletes is that if they are not in the team or are not playing they will walk away, while the men tend to find camaraderie and hang around just sitting there on the field benches and watching their peers play. There is a definite difference in the way the two look at the game. In terms of scholarships, I would go for an equitable distribution of funds, and such. I would definitely encourage women participation.

Sm: In five years from now, what milestones would you see Stony Brook having achieved?

JF: Five years...let me see now, it is too early for me to talk about a five year plan right now. I need to see where Stony Brook stands, what its resources are, I need to evaluate the whole system here, that would take about three - six months, and by that time, I would go to Shirley Kenny with a five year program for Athletics at Stony Brook.

Sm: The importance of Athletics in the big picture of a University's overall bearing is an important matter for any university today. Do you see Stony Brook coming to the likes of Princeton or developing a unique talent of its own as a great public research university with an established well rounded sports program?

JF: I speak of this often, while at Princeton and elsewhere. The athletic side of the University needs to raise its standards. This Athletic Dept( here, at Stony Brook) is very young, just about fourteen years old. You need to crawl before you walk and walk before you run. We're just about crawling. The onus is on the students involved, the coaches and the administration. We need to build on this tradition here at Stony Brook, but we have to be patient.

Sm: Finally, one last question, Sir, before we close, let me end on a personal note. In what ways has your family helped you in your career journey?

JF: I would not have even been remotely in this position were it not for my family, my wife, my parents. Without her, the growing support -she has been very receptive to picking up and moving places - I would not have made it to where I am today. It has been real difficult for her at times, but she has been very patient, and that has made a very positive impact in my career as well. My parents, my father, has given me the opportunities to do things that he could not as a child, and that drives me to give to my children what I could not afford. This is what drives me to work so hard; it is for them and because of them.

Sm: I would like to thank you, Sir, for a very interesting session, for taking the time to share your varied experiences with us!

JF: It has been a pleasure. Thank you, and have a good night!



## Antidote to Stress – Keys to a successful academic life

*Does it seem like no matter how many hot baths you take and relaxation candles you light, you still feel tense and tired? 15 minutes of exercise or any relaxation technique like yoga/ meditation could be the key to helping you chill out .*

It's well known that exercise helps relieve stress, but it's usually when we feel we can least afford the time to do it that we need to workout/ relax ourselves the most.

'There's no doubt that physical exercise has a positive effect on stress and can calm the mind and relax the body,' says Lorna Lee Malcolm, Director of Reebok University UK. 'Big companies that have encouraged their employees to exercise have seen improved decision making, greater concentration and a drop in absenteeism.'

Though surveys have not been taken round our campus of how students who regularly go out to the gym/ play games like soccer/basketball or badminton for an hour or so compare stress levels and overall efficiency with other sedentary students, health authorities the world over have always correlated healthy balanced life styles and good exercise patterns to overall efficiency. This is most pertinent to us as students who are at a major crossroad in our lives as we try to battle the odds of surviving a hectic academic life and eke out time for our personal life, friends, family, etc.

Potential graduates tend to worry about failing. Students are competing daily with not only their peers on campus but with students on other campuses as well. Several fields of study demand a competitive spirit be had in order to attain the job aspired upon completion of college.

A challenging work-out such as a Aerobics class or a twenty minute cycle will give you time to clear your mind and provide a healthy outlet for pent up tension and frustration. It will also cheer you up as exercise releases endorphins - the body's feel-good hormones.

After being stuck with a math problem for half an hour, a dynamic workout that works the cardiovascular system and raises your heart level, such as an aerobics or martial arts class, could do wonders for stress levels. Maybe in an hour or so, you'll find that solution to the algebraic equation creeping out of nowhere!

'Working with weights can also help alleviate stress and ease tense muscles, but it's important to do lengthy warm-up first. A good ten-minute warm up will mobilize the joints, release tension and feed muscles with blood and nutrients. Muscles will then be relieved of stress tension before they go into exercise tension.'

There are many stress busters available to you on and off campus. Design your own stress plan, be it yoga, meditation, a trip to the gym, playing basketball, pool or a refreshing swim. Even a walk by the woods, or the early morning jog could be sure to make your day begin right from the start!

Make sure you utilize the resources available to you, instead of vegetating and letting your talents go wasted, when all it needed was a bit of revving up with a 15-30 minute anti-stress plan. Don't give in to lethargy. Be active, exploit the resources available at Stony Brook and its neighboring areas. All it takes is 15 to 30 minutes to be stress free. Sounds good?

### HAVE YOUR BEER AND DRINK IT TOO!

Some things just work well together, like hand and glove, movies on a rainy day or college and beers.

How about beer drinking and flabby abs. You know what I'm referring to, that dimpled, bumpy thick skin of a look. Well, it does not have to be that way. In order to maintain that flat toned sexy midline, a few suggestions might be in order.

Drink light beer (105 cals) vs regular beer (150-200 cals)

Limit the no. of beers to 2-3 per 100 lbs of body weight.

Eat 1.5 oz of lean protein per 50 lbs of body weight (~10 gms of protein per 50 lbs), just prior to the beginning of your drinking fest.

If you chose to eat after the fest is over, then choose a low fat meal consisting of small to moderate amounts of protein and carbohydrates.

These four simple suggestions will make the difference in your midline. BE consistent and soon you will develop habits that will allow you to party while still looking good.

CHEERS!!!!!!!!!!

*Eric R. Huner is a certified personal trainer with a Master's degree in nutrition, with over 20 years of experience in the area of weight loss and body sculpting. Eric can be reached at Gold's gym of Port Jefferson for Private Consultations (331-6100)*

### West Nile Virus -Facts and Preventives

by Susan Donelan

The mosquito season is upon us, and with it brings the possibility that some of us may become infected by organisms carried by these pests. One of these infections is West Nile Virus (WNV), thought to be a relative newcomer to the Western Hemisphere. Here are some important things to know about West Nile Virus infection:

Mosquitoes become themselves infected by feeding on other infected animals. Humans become infected when an infected mosquito feeds on us. So it is important to minimize the chances of being bitten by mosquitoes. How can you do this?

\_Cover up with long sleeves and pants, weather permitting, whenever mosquitoes are active (usually dawn and dusk).

\_Sparingly apply a repellent containing DEET including lightweight clothes, as a mosquito bite can penetrate through. Avoid hands of children, since many things go into their mouths.

\_Be vigilant about avoiding areas of standing water – be sure to empty out the bottoms of flower pots, kiddie pools and other containers.

\_If you see pooled water in a public area that does not quickly evaporate, report it to Environmental Health and Safety at 632-6410 during business hours.

-cont'd on page 12

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## Did ya Know?

Which is the US State with the longest shoreline?

The tidal shoreline of Alaska wraps up around three-fourths of the state, stretching for almost 34,000 miles. Another 6,600 miles of coastline fronts the open sea.

Which is the World's fastest fish?

Although it is difficult to measure the exact speed of fish, a sailfish once grabbed a fishing line and dragged it 300 feet away in just 3 seconds. That means it would have been swimming at an average speed of 68 miles per hour just higher than the average speed limit on the highway! Sailfish are large and on average, 6ft long but can grow up to 11 feet. They have a spear at the end of their snouts.

Which is the country with the most bicycles?

Netherlands has more bicycles than any other country including China. There are an estimated 16 million bicycles in Netherlands, which average out to one bike per person in the country. Most people have realized that bicycling is an easy way to get around pollution.

Which is the country that drinks most coffee?

During one year the average person in Finland consumes more than 24 pounds (10.8 Kg) of coffee. That is equal to 4.5 cups per day, or an amazing 1,650 cups a year. This means that around 531.5 million gallons of coffee are sipped each year within the country. Men drink slightly more coffee than women.

Which is the world's highest bridge?

The Royal Gorge bridge in Canon City, Colorado spans the Arkansas river, 1,053 feet above the water. Built in 1929, the bridge is 1,260 feet(384m) long and 18 feet (5 m) wide. About 1,000 tons of steel make up the bridge's floor which can hold in excess of 2 million pounds. The cables weigh about 300 tons each!

## Laugh a little...and more

Quoting one is plagiarism. Quoting many is research.

My husband and I divorced over religious differences. He thought he was God, and I didn't.

I don't suffer from insanity. I enjoy every minute of it.

Never let school get in the way of your EDUCATION.

Early bird gets the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese

I love defenseless animals, especially in a good gravy

Mental backup in progress - Do Not Disturb!

What do you call Santa's helpers? - Subordinate Clauses.

What do you get from a pampered cow?  
Spoiled milk.

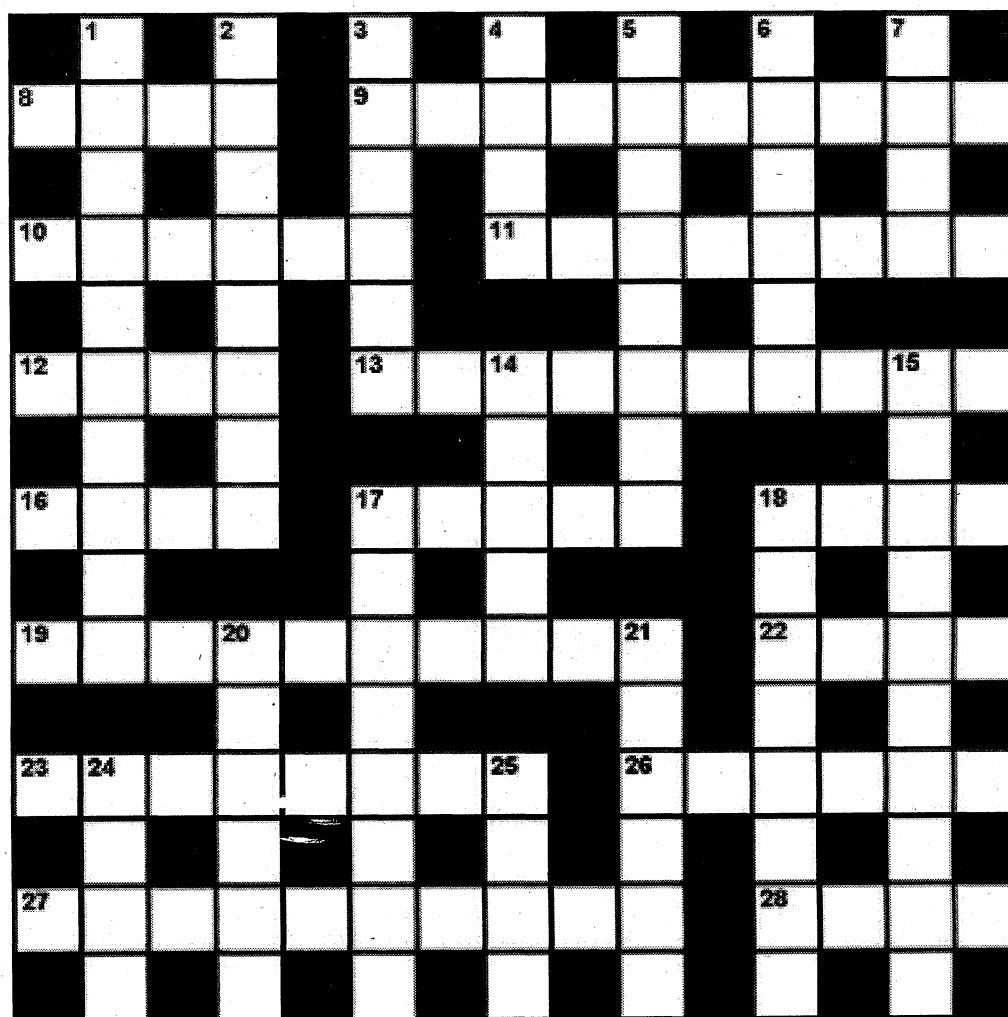
What lies at the bottom of the ocean and twitches?  
A nervous wreck

Energizer Bunny arrested, charged with battery.

Join the Army, meet interesting people, kill them.

Laughing stock: cattle with a sense of humor.

## Have A Crossword treat!!



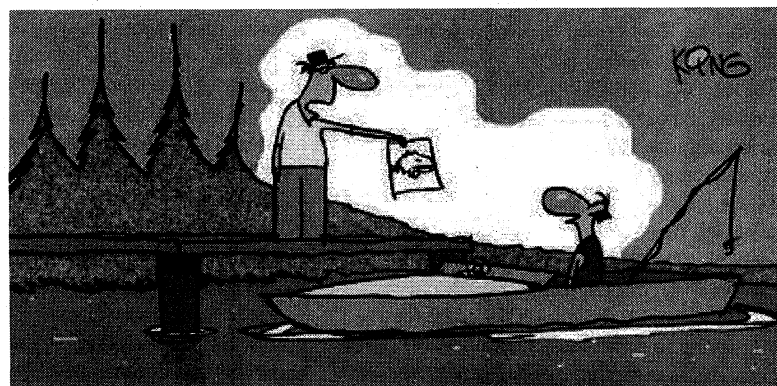
Across:

8. Store (4)
9. Swift (10)
10. Stove (6)
11. Of a mother (8)
12. Stake (4)
13. Grotesque imitation (10)
16. Elevator (4)
17. Musical Show (5)
18. Snatch (4)
19. Foresight (10)
22. In addition (4)
23. Kind of phone (8)
26. Animals with two feet (6)
27. Protuberance (10)
28. Amount (4)

Down

1. Nucleotide Sequence (10)
2. Disease (8)
3. Class (6)
4. Particle (4)
5. Hodge Podge (8)
6. Belgian Detective (6)
7. Kind of Bread (4)
14. Large Bird (5)
15. Express enthusiastically (10)
17. Aromatic (8)
18. Most inferior (8)
20. Book (6)
21. Distinctive badge (6)
24. Deserve (4)
25. Grade (4)

## Puzzel Time @#?!\*&\$#@



Going to have a shark for company, aye, mister?  
MYKRASPOAH CN

## NEWS SNIPPETS

### Idi Amin Buried

Former Ugandan military ruler Idi Amin, blamed for hundreds of thousands of deaths in the 1970s, has been buried in Jeddah, according to media in Saudi Arabia. Medical officials said Amin died in a Jeddah hospital on Saturday at the age of 80. Amin, who had lived for years in exile in the port city, had been on life support since July 18, after slipping into a coma. He died at 8:20 a.m. Saturday at King Faisal Specialist Hospital, The Associated Press quoted an unnamed official as saying. According to the CIA World Factbook, during his eight years in power, Amin's "dictatorial regime" was "responsible for the deaths of some 300,000 opponents." Exiles said he kept severed heads in his refrigerator, fed corpses to crocodiles and had one of his wives dismembered. He was also accused of cannibalism.

### Heat takes toll of human lives in France

The newspaper quoted unnamed sources at the health ministry as saying the death toll since July 25, previously estimated at 3,000, could rise to 5,000 when the government unveils final figures next week. Mattei said after

visiting emergency health workers on Sunday that he was not aware of these numbers and the death toll would probably be at the high end of the government's forecast range of 1,600-3,000. Victims were mainly elderly people with heat-related conditions. Many were found at home alone as the traditional August holiday exodus leaves city centers deserted. Raffarin cut short his vacation for an emergency meeting last Thursday to tackle the crisis after temperatures topped 40 C (104 F) in parts of the country.

### China's last SARS patients released

China's last two SARS patients, a college student and a middle-aged woman were finally going home, signalling the end to a traumatic period for the capital city. But the celebrations and self-congratulations were tempered by the fact that the struggle against the mysterious disease goes on. Beijing declared SARS under control last month and the World Health Organization lifted a travel warning to Beijing. Scientists however worry SARS could return. A team of WHO and Chinese government officials are in the southern province of Guangzhou, where SARS first surfaced in November, exploring

links between wild animals and the virus.

### Israel-Palestine work towards peace

Israel is considering a deal that would shield wanted Palestinian militants from Israeli arrest provided they halt attacks and remain in their towns, officials said Sunday. In a new step forward under the "road map" peace plan, Israel will hand over two West Bank towns, Jericho and Qalqiliya, to Palestinian control Tuesday, Israeli security officials said on condition of anonymity. Palestinian information minister Nabil Amr had said earlier the handover was expected Monday. Under the arrangement, wanted militants would be allowed to remain in their own towns with the Palestinian Authority responsible for them, provided they do not carry out attacks, a Palestinian security official said on condition of anonymity. In return, Israel has sought guarantees that Palestinians will act to rein in militant groups.

### Oil and Water Pipelines Hit in Baghdad

Saboteurs have been blamed for a series of explosions that have damaged both oil and water pipelines in Iraq. The US administrator running Iraq, Paul Bremer said the damage to the

oil pipeline would cost Iraq \$7m a day and "hurt the process of reconstruction". Two fierce fires are burning out of control within kilometres of each other along the country's main northern oil export pipeline - which had opened only days before the first blast hit it on Friday. About 300,000 Baghdad residents, meanwhile, feared they would be without water overnight after an explosion ripped through a water pipeline in the city.

### Hubble might stay on longer

There is a good scientific case to extend the mission of the Hubble Space Telescope (HST) for a further five years, says a report published on Thursday - but astronomers will have to make it a panel of experts commissioned by the US space agency (Nasa) believes the observatory has been so successful in unlocking the secrets of the Universe consideration should be given to keeping it serviceable beyond 2010 - its current termination date. This would ensure astronomers have access to a major space observation platform while they wait for Hubble's replacement, which is not due for launch until 2011.

### Worm threat Thwarted - says Microsoft

Software giant Microsoft says it is confident it has thwarted

threatened massive disruption to the internet from the MSBlast worm. The computer virus was set to bombard one of Microsoft's websites from infected machines around the world on Saturday, raising fears it would paralyze the network. Microsoft implemented a series of countermeasures and reported "no problems" hours after the attack was due to have begun. However, variants of the worm have already appeared and more dangerous versions are expected in the coming weeks and months, says the BBC's Kevin Anderson in Washington.

### SUNKEN TREASURE SPOTTED

American experts say they have located the remains of a sunken 19th-Century steamship that could contain one of the richest cargoes ever recovered from a shipwreck. The S.S. Republic was carrying thousands of gold coins, now possibly worth \$150m, from New York to New Orleans when it sank off the coast of Georgia in 1865, according to newspaper accounts and historical records. Greg Stemm and John Morris from Odyssey Marine Explorations, who have spent 12 years searching for the vessel, revealed on Saturday that they had found it last month.

## Wind - A Viable Energy Option

by Nick Misiti

America has had a long history of dependence upon fossil fuels to meet its energy needs. In the middle of the 20th century these resources began to run out in this country and without many other options we began importing more oil than we exported making us for the first time a net importer. The problems associated with such a dependence upon predominately Middle Eastern nations for a commodity so integral to maintaining the standard of living we have become used to has always been there but the fact that the 9-11 hijackers came from the country with the most oil, our friend Saudi Arabia, and the fact that we just went to war with our enemy Iraq, the country with the second most plentiful oil supplies have made the hazards of this dependence fairly obvious. It was common in the times of Nixon and then later in the times of Reagan to think that one day nuclear energy would provide our future salvation in terms of energy independence, it was once called the future "unmeterable energy", meaning energy would be created so cheaply that the cost to the consumer would be virtually unmeasurable. Nixon, who no one would ever claim to have been the most honest president, claimed that nuclear was an environmentally friendly technology because it did not produce the CO2, nitrogen, sulfur, etc chemicals like fossil fuels. Of course nuclear never realized its "unmeterable" potential as it costs just as much as any other technology; also, when you work out the cleanup of toxic chemicals, along with the legal fees associated with trying to pawn these chemicals off onto poverty stricken communities you find it is actually an expensive technology. On a local level the cost was recently shown on Long Island when a power plant was built and subsequently shut down by community activists in Shoreham, a small village approximately 20 minutes from Stony Brook. When it was finished the

plant cost over 500 billion dollars and never produced a watt of energy. It seems a close proximity to nuclear makes people feel uncomfortable and this fear has been magnified with the terrorist threat that a nuclear plant could be exploded or its waste used to manufacture a dirty bomb. This may seem unlikely but so did the twin towers falling. Currently there is a third option which is not only independent but also safe, and clean. This energy is renewable. On Long Island there is the option to build an offshore wind park, which potentially could supply all of Long Island's energy needs. This energy is not without controversy, and the controversy comes from an unlikely source. The main constituency against such technology comes from a segment of the environmental movement, citing the fact that some birds fly into the wind turbines and die. This was particularly controversial in California where the birds were endangered species, species that do not exist on Long Island. When the Exxon Valdez broke down and spilled oil into the sea it was estimated that 375,000 birds were killed as a direct result of this, the deaths attributed to the wind farm will not near this figure in 100 years of operation. Moreover, a spill that occurred in the Caspian sea released 98,000 gallons of crude oil into the environment, the energy this oil would of created could be provided by the wind farm in less than a day under average wind conditions. Another criticism of the wind farm is that it is unsightly, pictures are on the website ([www.lioffshorewindenergy.org](http://www.lioffshorewindenergy.org)) dedicated to this project show that the turbines will be barely noticeable from shore and you definitely will not be able to hear them from the shore. Try going to the south shore and yelling to a friend 20 feet away, these turbines will be miles from the shore. The real problem is this has the potential to be the first offshore wind project in the United

States and with progress comes fear and resistance. The main resistance will come from wind's competitor's such as nuclear and fossil fuels who feel threatened by the potential for a new technology without their inherent consequences. Fear can be overcome with education not only to the fact that 1000's of birds won't be washing up on shore with broken wings but with the knowledge that wind works, it works in California, it works in Europe, and it will work in Long Island. As far as overcoming the "old" energy ways that will be more difficult, we have a Whitehouse entrenched in the oil-nuclear-military mentality, the Bermuda triangle where Democracy goes to die. Overcoming this is going to be more difficult, Mr. Bush already has made it clear he is not going to do any more than blow smoke (probably latent with environmentally toxic chemicals) in the eyes of the American people in terms of really doing something to move toward energy independence. He claims to support fuel cells which utilize hydrogen to create energy, while in reality it takes coal, oil, or natural gas to obtain hydrogen so really nothing has changed except that these industries have more government money. To take something like wind energy serious a significant push will have to be made by the people, that is the only way anything ever changes for the better in this country. Although America has not had a true revolution since 1776, it has had significant cultural revolutions such as the civil war, the suffragettes in the late 19th century, and the student movements of the sixties to name a few. The time is ripe for a revolution in energy policy and Long Island could lead the way. In addition a revolution in the energy department could break open the incestuous relationship between the white house, oil-nuclear, and our military, who all lie in the same bed and work together. F\*\*\*ing the American people.

## Food for Grads

### GREAT COOKING IN THE BROOK

The recipes below are courtesy from Christina Weaver, a fellow grad who had been treating friends to her specialties. The Straw Berry Pretzel was made for the farewell party of Jasmina Sinanovic, one of our former editors. So enjoy and let us know how you liked it!!

#### Strawberry Pretzel Salad

1 1/2 cup pretzels, crushed	1/2 cup Confectioner's sugar
1/2 cup sugar	2 small pkgs. strawberry Jello
1/3 cup butter, melted	2 cups boiling water
8 oz. cream cheese, softened	16 oz. frozen strawberries, sliced
9 oz. Cool Whip	8 oz. crushed pineapple,
drained	

Mix together pretzels, sugar and butter and press into a 9x13-inch pan. Bake 10 minutes at 350 degrees; cool. Mix cream cheese, Cool Whip, and confectioner's sugar together and spread over cooled crust. Mix Jello and boiling water; add strawberries and pineapple, and put into the fridge. When Jello mixture is partially set (10-20 minutes should be long enough), spread over Cool Whip and cream cheese layer. Allow to set completely in the fridge.

#### Chocolate No-Bake Cookies (very easy to make, and one of my favorites!!)

2 cups sugar	1/2 cup peanut butter
1/4 cup cocoa	3 cups oatmeal
1/2 cup milk	1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup butter	

Bring sugar, cocoa, milk, and butter to a rolling boil for one minute. Remove from heat and quickly add the peanut butter, oatmeal, and vanilla; mix well. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto a wax paper-lined cookie sheet. Refrigerate until cool and hardened. Makes 2-3 dozen cookies.

## Sex in the Brook

By: C. Hebert  
The Artist

I am now always weary of artists after my date with Jon. Jon's ad seemed appealing, a bit juvenile (into SCI-F, gaming, Rocky Horror), he was four years younger than me, but interesting none the less. Jon and I went to dinner at a local American restaurant. He was dressed a little odd- wearing driving gloves and drenched in black. We talked about philosophy and politics. Jon had an interesting perspective of the world; he grew up mostly in Europe. We hit it off and I was really enjoying the conversation. I expected him to be very intense, but nothing prepared me for what came out of his mouth. Jon proceeded to tell me after dinner as we were deciding what to do next, that he had been drawing pictures of me since he was seven years old. He continued to tell me that we were meant to be together and that he had drawn hundreds of pictures of me. I had absolutely no idea what to say to him. I believe in karma and some mystical things but.... This seemed a little bit crazy and very sketchy. I mean we were getting along great, and at that moment I searched for the emergency exit. I made up a lie (a stomach ache) and claimed I must go home immediately. Jon called and e-mailed me a couple of times and then I told him I didn't want to see him anymore. I admit I was intrigued to see the portraits of me, but it was best not to go there.

Dating is not the easiest thing to make time for, especially if you're a graduate student. So where can one find love? This writer turned to Internet dating to spice up her life. Each week you'll find a different adventure in dating some good, some dates make me cry, literally. But one can always laugh and say, it's not my melodrama. All names of dates have remained the same and everything should be used against them. If you'd like to try Internet dating try some of these sites: [date.com](http://date.com) [nerve.com](http://nerve.com) [rightstuffdating.com](http://rightstuffdating.com) [update.com](http://update.com)

## stony love

by JZ Bich

My dear faithful (or unfaithful) readers. Here we are again for another year of your inquires and my wisdoms. I received one question over the summer so I am going to share it with you all. When you are done reading, grab your pens or pads and write up a question.

I will be waiting for it.

-JZ

Q: Dear JZ,

I have a question. OK, so I've always wanted to marry a redhead. But OK, one time, I read that it was more common for a person to be born with both sex organs than to be born with naturally red hair. Is that true? I guess what I'm asking is, if I want to marry a red haired girl with a penis, what do you think my chances are, realistically?

Thanks

Mikey S

A: Dear Mikey,

I think chances are you are not fully exploring your opportunities. Considering the repressive cultural tendencies to do the gender assignment surgeries on babies in case they have both sex organs and considering how rare true redheads might be, you might want to expand your tastes to include artificially created redheads (you know those who were born blonde, brunette or black haired and died their hair red later in life) and ask them to wear a naturally looking strap on. They have

some pretty real looking ones now days (check out Toys in the Babeland in down town Manhattan, on Rivington near Ludlow). If this is not enough, try The Village Voice ads. Some of the ads in the back provide you with a great selection of girls with penises and while I haven't seen any redhead offers for this week, persistence pays off. You could also post an ad in the same dignified newspaper (which btw can be picked up free off charge all over the city, and they have it in the Staller Center lobby, every once in a while). Finally, if none of this fits your needs you may want to go to the web. Though, I have to warn you, I tried looking it up for you and the amount of pop up porn crashed my explorer, so I give up, but you feel free...just close all other important stuff on your computer. As for the marriage part of your question (OK I won't start of with the critique of marriage as a passé institution) I can't tell what your chances are, but good luck anyhow.

-JZ

To ask JZ a question email her at: [jzbich@yahoo.com](mailto:jzbich@yahoo.com) or send a letter to GSO (for News and Blues/JZ Bich) SAC 227 Stony Brook NY 11794-2700

Or fax it to 2 8965, marking it for N&B/JZBich

\*BITCH=being in total control of herself\*



## SPOTLIGHT ERITREA

by Ashish Shah

Our planet is full of diverse landscape and species. God has created places that never fail to appeal to the spirit of travel and exploration in human beings. One such place is Eritrea located in East Africa.

Here the terrains are beautiful and people are friendly. Among the famous attractions are Asmara, Keren, Massawa and Qohaito. The nearly 4,000,000 people of Eritrea, a third of which are nomadic or semi-nomadic, are ethnically divided into nine groups: Tigrinya (the largest group), Afar, Bilen, Hedareb, Kunama, Nara, Rashaida, Saho and Tigre. Tigrinya is spoken mainly in the highlands, while Arabic has entrenched itself along the coast and the Sudanese border, and English is primarily the language of the urbane. In other areas, the dominant language depends on the dominant ethnic group, each of which have their own native tongue. Eritrea sits above the Horn of Africa on the vast continent's east coast. Over 350 tiny islands pepper the waters of the Red Sea to the east, over half of which make up the Dahlak Archipelago.

The capital is Asmara. Ethiopia's invasion of parts Eritrea since 1991 has destroyed infrastructure in the country, the war still goes on.

The animals most commonly encountered in Eritrea include wild cats, Abyssinian hares, jackals, warthogs and gazelles, plus over 500 species of birds; rarer sightings involve elephants and lions (in the west), oryxes and crocodiles. Life in the Red Sea includes significant coral reefs, dugongs and turtles. Food follows special rituals in Eritrea. Most meals are eaten at a low table, with the hands. The two staples are kitcha, which is a very thin, baked unleavened wheat bread or pancake and injera, a spongy pancake made from teff, wheat and/or barley, maize or sorghum. The national beverages are called Suwa, a beer-like alcoholic drink, mies, a fermented honey drink, and Zebib, a locally made anise-flavored liquor similar to Ouzo. Espresso and tea, always served with a lot of sugar, are very popular. Coffee is something of a delicacy and to be asked to take coffee is a special invitation. The Eritrean coffee bun, pronounced as "boon" is always made by a woman.

If you are looking for exotic destinations to visit, Eritrea is one country definitely worth a thought.

Ref: The Lonely Planet Website

www.lonelyplanet.com

West Nile Virus, cont'd from page 8

Despite best efforts, however, mosquito bites do happen. What should you know?

The vast majority of mosquito bites are harmless annoyances and carry no risk of disease transmission.

The incubation period is usually 3 to 14 days.

Most of those infected with WNV never know – they have an "asymptomatic" infection and develop antibodies (which can be detected through a blood test). Only about 1 in 5 will develop any symptoms. For most of these "symptomatic" persons, the illness is characterized by fever, headache, body aches, rarely a non-specific skin rash and some swollen glands.

Rarely (about 1 in 150 infections) an infected person will develop severe infection, and present with symptoms such as headache, high fever, stiff neck, disorientation, weakness, and seizures. Persons with any of these symptoms should be brought to the nearest Emergency Department.

The majority of symptomatic, infected persons recover without sequelae; a small number can die or have lingering neurological problems. These patients tend to be older and have pre-existent medical problems. Treatment is supportive only, and aimed at avoiding complications during recovery.

Remember: avoid bites whenever possible, empty (or report) areas of standing water, and seek medical care for the symptoms outlined above. Most of all, enjoy the summer! The new semester will also be in full swing before you know it!

-Susan Donelan. For further information, please visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

## Deadly virus---SARS

by Kate

More and more Chinese students noticed a new virus with the name SARS this March. How have their lives been affected by this wide spread deadly illness that took roots in Guangdong province in China? In the coming summer vacation most of them have to choose to stay in the campus instead of backing to their hometown in China because of the fear of SARS. But what is SARS?

"When infectious-disease experts first heard of a lethal respiratory disease spreading from person to person in Asia, they feared it could be the Big One they'd been dreading---a return of the deadly 1918-19 influenza epidemic. That virulent flu killed more than 20 million people around the world, including an estimated 670,000 Americans. But tests showed that the new ailment wasn't flu. For want of a better name, researchers dubbed it severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). Many now believe that it could be caused by a family of microbes called corona viruses---which they've found in infected people. Scientists who study the family say these bugs have the capability to mutate and create new strains. Scientists who study the family say these bugs have the capability to mutate and create new strains. But the known bugs typically cause a mild cold at most, so some scientists still wonder if another microbe could be the real culprit."

"About 80% of those who fall ill manage to recover in a couple of weeks. But the rest get desperately sick. About 3% to 4% of those infected die. The virus causes a fever, often accompanied by chills, headache, and body aches. After two or seven days, patients begin to cough. What's happening is that the capillaries in the lungs begin to leak fluid into the lungs themselves. In severe cases, the lungs fill up with so much fluid that patients can't get enough oxygen into their blood-streams. Respirators can help---but not always enough. Essentially, victims die from asphyxiation and lung damage, not from a massive inflammatory response to the pathogen as in many other dangerous diseases." (Business Week, April 14)

Chinese students here have organized a donation to support the fight with SARS in China. In fact, the panic of SARS caused by SARS in China may not be as serious as what people have imaged: "It's a common scene in Shenzhen and elsewhere in the booming Pearl River Delta. Despite the near-panic across the border in Hong Kong, few people in the region wear masks. And there have been virtually no reports of factory slowdowns or delayed shipments in the five months since the SARS outbreak began." (Business Week, April 21) "The Chinese have managed an amazing transition from a closed society to a dynamic, near-market economy. A new candor about public health would leave them stronger, not weaker." Chinese people have full confidence with this.

Kate (Yutchen) is a Graduate student from China

## The Diversity Scrambler

All you have to do is try and fit the Languages spoken indifferent countries to the scripts in the scrambler. Use the English translations, and the phonetics of matching words in the particular Language as hints.

Try cracking it, and you'll appreciate the diverse culture that you see around in the campus!

## Words/Phrases

## (Pronunciation)

Bye (Kwaheri)

Light (Noor)

Good (Gut)

Love (Ljoobav)

Flowers (Sviyaechae)

How are you? (Ni Hao Ma)

Woman

(Zenshcheena)

Intelligent (exsyoop-

nos)

Good Day! (iyi gunler)

Car (mahsheena)

Student (Shaagerd)

Hello! (Dumaela)

What is your name?

(commo tes yaama?)

Garden (jardaen)

Thank You (aachu)

Marriage (shaadi)

The Diversity Scrambler is property of Smitha Fathima. No part of this design may be copied without prior permission from designer.

## Languages

Bosnian

Serbian

Persian

Arabic

Hindi

Russian

Setswana (Spoken in Botswana)

Romanian

Swahili (Spoken in East Africa)

Greek

German

French

Lithuanian

Spanish

Chinese

Turkish

Thanks for words to:

Yi Liang, Nihal, Gaedus, Tania, Mojgan, Rooba, Jasmina, Bogdan, Angeliki, Sue Bucholz and Pabalelo