

SUPERMAN

Salutes...

The Patriot

Vol. 3 Issue 1

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September 2006



**EVERYONE'S
READING IT!**



The Politics of Superheroes

Page Ten

PLUS:



The Patriot's guide to
food on and off campus

Page Five



All New: Delmar's True-
life Bus Stories

Page Eight

This Issue



Finding Emo... The Patriot's Guide to Everything Emo

Page 9



New! Medical Myths Exposed

Page 11

Studying Guide

What you need to know about one thing students hate most

Page 4

Drunk of the Month

Mel Gibson, of course, with his notorious anti-semitic remarks

Page 14

New! Be A Real Man: "Big Daddy O" Will Show You How

Page 7

Faculty: Park In Your Own Lot! Plus: Real Immigration Reform

Page 13

Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month: *Joy of Almond*

Page 14

Facebook Society

By Erica Smith

Seventy percent of Stony Brook Students now use Facebook.com, and 68 percent believe the online network is changing the social dynamics of the university, according to an August 2006 Patriot poll.

"It's the preferred connection of today's student" said Cristian Buitron, 26, in the Student Activity Center cafeteria.

Almost half of the students surveyed reported that they use Facebook at least once a day, and 24% reported regularly using it multiple times a day. Fifty students were interviewed.

"I check it every other second," said Hilda DeJesus, 21, giggling with her friend Jennifer Reyes in the Melville Library. When Reyes said that she didn't use it as much over the summer, DeJesus responded with mock astonishment. "You're missing Birthdays!"

Alerting users when their friends' birthdays are is one of the many features of Facebook. Students also use the website for sharing photos, sending messages and invitations, and coordinating study groups. Some say that at Stony Brook, it's even winning elections.

In the Undergraduate Government elections last fall, both the SUCCESS Party and the Reform Party formed Facebook group pages. "It's very possible that if we didn't do that, our candidate would not have won," said Robert Romano, vice-chair of the USG Reform Party, referring to Romuald Jean-Baptiste who was elected as USG president. Jean-Baptiste defeated the SUCCESS candidate, Sam Darguin, by only nine votes.

Some students find the site so useful that they are beginning to use other forms of communication less, like email, instant messenger, and phones. Sixteen percent of Stony Brook students even reported less face-to-face contact because of it. Yet most often students find the site brings them closer together. Of the Stony Brook users sur-

Matthew Sekzer's Profile
 Matthew Sekzer Rider '07
 Sex: Male
 Birthday: October 20, 1985
 Hometown: NYC, Staten Island ... shoolin ... the rock
 Interested in: Women
 Relationship Status: Single

Mini-Feed

Visit Your Poster Store!
 20% OFF SALE

View More Photos of Matthew
 View All Matthew's Friends
 Send Matthew a Message
 Poke Him!

Friend Details
 You are friends with Matthew

Mutual Friends
 20 friends in common.

Rider Friends
 274 friends at Rider.

Personal Info

Has Facebook changed the social dynamics at SBU?

Yes, a lot	52%
Yes, a little	16%
No	16%
Not sure	16%

Did Facebook help you better keep in touch with friends over the summer?

Yes, a lot	56%
Yes, a little	19%
No	25%

veyed, 72 percent said it helped them keep in contact with their friends this last summer.

The website is also bringing students closer in other ways. "Everyone I know has dated at least one person off Facebook," said Michelle Jarret, sitting on a bench next to her boyfriend, Carlos Thomas. Jarret grinned as she recounted how she met Thomas on the site.

Some are afraid, however, that sites like Facebook may foster shallow relationships. "All of the serious work involved in the relationship was done via a click of the mouse," wrote Patriot Staff writer Virginia Morgan about her own Facebook relationship, in her column, "Sex at Brook" last spring. "There is no substitute for good old fashioned one on one interaction."

But others insist that Facebook helps one meet more people, on and off the internet. "It breaks the initial ice, it's a good conversation starter," said Amit

Bhardwaj, explaining how students can approach each other with the words, "Hey, I've seen you on Facebook!"

Facebook was recently ranked the second most "in" thing for undergraduate college students by the survey group, Student Monitor. The website was tied with beer and second only to iPods.

Many students prefer Facebook to other social networks like MySpace because of the common assumption that only students and alumni can join, presumably decreasing the threats of internet predators and other unwanted contact. Some don't realize, however, that Facebook is also used by school faculty and staff, as well as over 1,000 corporations and non-profit organizations such as JP Morgan Chase, Microsoft, Pepsi and Teach for America.

Heather Ball, 24, who works at Star City Recording, smiled as she recalled her boss looking at the profiles of his

employees. "You've got to be careful what you put on there because you never know who's looking," she said.

Apparently some companies even check out profiles of people they are thinking of hiring, frowning as they discover another side that wasn't revealed in the job interview. Recently, the Omaha-World Herald reported that in some big companies, student interns are assigned to do these extra background checks. The paper also reported that small colleges are starting to use Facebook and other social networks to screen high school applicants.

Regardless of whatever disadvantages the site may bring, it is clear Facebook is here to stay. Facebook is currently the seventh most trafficked site on the internet and rising, according to comScore Networks, an Internet research firm. "I think it has changed the social dynamics of everywhere," said Bhardwaj.

For the last 200 years, this country has stood for truth, justice, natural rights, individual liberty, freedom, and independence. Become a part of the tradition. Contribute to *The Patriot*.

Please send submissions to:
submissions@stonybrookpatriot.com

Visit us online at: www.stonybrookpatriot.com

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

Disclaimer: The views expressed in the opinions columns are not necessarily the opinions of *The Patriot* or its editorial staff as a whole.

The Patriot

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Managing Editor
 Rachel O'Brien

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 Brian Holt

Copy Editors
 Megan Gaffey
 Alyssa Napolitano

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Welcome From Your USG President



On behalf of the undergraduate student body, I would like to welcome you back to Stony Brook University and especially to incoming freshmen and transfer students, to wish you luck in your studies here and I hope your term at Stony Brook will be successful! As President of the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) here at Stony Brook, I wanted to take some time for both returning and incoming students to learn a little bit about student governance, and also to inform you about what I and others in the USG have on our agenda. My goal, and that of the USG Reform Party coalition which I ran under last spring, is to unite all undergraduate students behind a comprehensive platform which will improve student life on campus and reform the administration of the USG.

In the area of student life, which are the issues that the university has direct control over that affect the quality of life on campus, your residential halls, your meal plans, etc., I have made significant progress over the summer. The way I've done this is to work with and inform the university on and about issues affecting student life, instead of your representatives remaining silent, leaving us wondering why nothing gets done. In particular I am pleased to inform you that the Faculty Student Association will be voting on the implementation of off-campus meal plans as soon as this September, something which I promised to work on when I campaigned last spring. I am very proud of this accomplishment, because heretofore, students with meal plans have only been able to use their meal cards on campus, but under the proposals now being considered, we would be able to use them off campus at certain vendors. This will save you money on your meal purchases by allowing you to devote a certain amount of meal points to off-campus purchases, which generally speaking, are a lot cheaper.

For funded and non-funded clubs and

organizations, I am happy to report that an online block-booking system is in the final stages of testing with Student Union and Activities, and should be ready for implementation this Spring. In addition, the university is in the process of getting all relevant club forms on the internet so that you will be able to book events (speakers, parties, dances, talent shows, etc.) online without having to make a trip to the Student Activities Center. My goal, which is being achieved in an unprecedented fashion, is that instead of standing in line to book rooms and events, you can simply go online!

In the area of revising the USG Constitution, I have notified all three branches of the USG that I want proposals to amend the constitution by early September. I am putting together a Constitutional Revision Committee to review all proposals from members of all parties and to produce a final proposal to be placed on the ballot in the fall elections. One of the chief problems with the constitution is that it is in violation of the SUNY Chancellor's Guidelines and Federal court rulings as it relates to referenda and ensuring viewpoint neutrality in the budget process. In order to avoid unnecessary legal liability where we could most certainly be sued, the USG must act immediately to revise these sections of the constitution. In addition, several clauses in the constitution are vague or create unnecessary obstacles for the USG to act in the best interests of the undergraduate student body. Another issue which I hope to address in revising the constitution is to give clubs and organizations more of a say in the budget process, and also to revise the budget process so that it receives a maximum amount of input by starting earlier and ensures that the budget gets passed on time.

Other constitutional issues which I feel we should be focusing on is removing unnecessary positions, better articulating the duties

of our elected officials, and creating the positions of a District Advocate and Public Defender. Having a District Advocate will give the USG the tools it needs to argue cases for the USG in our courts system, and to provide more accountability from elected officials and funded clubs and organizations by prosecuting violations of the law. And on the other side, having a Public Defender will protect the rights of students, of clubs and organizations, and elected officials if and when they are brought into courts on specific charges. Students could then meet with the Public Defender when they need to write briefs, whether for presentation in the USG courts, or in the Academic Judiciary.

Finally, another administrative issue that I have been working on in coordination with Senate members, the Treasurer, the Accounting Office, and the Administrative Director of the USG is to revise the financial bylaws of the USG to be in accordance with the constitution and established legislation, and to streamline the budget process and clarify the criteria for receiving and spending USG funding. This fall, the Senate will be presented with these revised financial bylaws so that all clubs, organizations, and branches of the USG have a comprehensive manual on how to apply for funding, and what rights they shall retain under our laws. For instance, I believe that voucher requests should only be rejected if they are incorrectly filled out or if they are a violation of New York State and/or USG law. I also believe that there should be an appeals process in place when vouchers are rejected, and also a very specific process of receiving court approval if a club's budget is to be frozen for noncompliance. One of the things the USG Reform Party ran on last year was that no club's budget should be frozen without due process. This comprehensive proposal provides for the appropriate safeguards to prevent abuses of governmental authority, and I

believe that the Senate should begin work on it immediately in the fall semester and pass it as soon as possible.

There are many other issues which I and my colleagues are working diligently on, and I hope that you have found this piece to be informative, giving you an idea of some of the policies that the USG will be working this coming semester and academic year. If you have any questions you can come and visit me in the Student Activities Center, suite 202, or call us at (631)632-6460. I encourage you to come by and make an appointment, as student feedback is critical to addressing your concerns, and especially if you are interested in running for an elected position or serving as member of our agencies or courts.

Romual Jean-Baptiste is President of the Undergraduate Student Government.

The Patriot

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

A Remedy For a Crappy Bus System



Students patiently waiting for a bus that often seems to never come.

By Erik Berte

In case you haven't noticed yet, the campus bus system SUCKS! I parked, like most other commuters, in the South P lot for almost three years before finally coughing up the \$75 it costs to get a stadium parking lot pass for one semester. The catch is that you've usually got to put yourself on a waiting list to get a spot because there are only so many available.

So, as most of you have probably noticed by this point, the commuter bus isn't exactly reliable. I can't tell you how many times I've been late for class because of the bus (the worst is when you get to the lot only to find

a mass of more than 75 students waiting for the next one... yeah, you're pretty much not gonna get on that bus).

Back to the stadium parking lot. Now this is one of many lots that are known as "Premium Lots." While the designated "Commuter" lots are free, these special lots have to be paid for. The stadium lot will set you back \$150 for a full year (or \$75 for half).

As the name suggests, this lot is located next to the stadium on campus, behind the Union. Depending on where your classes are located it could be a little bit of a walk to get there since this isn't as central a location as the SAC loop, but it definitely beats helplessly waiting for a bus that could take anywhere be-

tween two and twenty minutes to come by.

I should also point out that there is another lot next to the Life Sciences building that costs \$300 a year. Why it's more, I have no idea. It's not in a better location or anything. But that's the way it goes here at Stony Brook... few things make sense.

And how do you get your hands on one of these godly parking passes? The same system you used to register for the Commuter pass, you can use to sign up for a Premium pass with. Simply select one of the Premium lots (if any are available - at the moment it seems that only Stadium passes are being offered this year).

I suggest getting yourself a regular Com-

muter pass at first and then trying for the Stadium pass (since you'll likely just land yourself on a waiting list).

Eventually, if you hang in there, you'll get an email telling you that a spot is available to you. Jump on it! Once you get a spot, you're given the chance to renew it each year before anyone else can take it until you graduate. So no more waiting lists for you!

So in conclusion: South P Lot sucks, Stadium Parking Lot rules. Get your hands on a Premium pass as soon as you can and you'll save yourself from a lot of frustration (and pissed off professors who don't understand the crappy bus system).

Overcoming Procrastinitis at The 'Brook

By Matthew Reisch

Well, the summer has come and gone. To all the new students beginning their first semester at Stony Brook, welcome. Its time to party! Well not exactly. While socializing is an undeniable part of college life, it would be worthwhile to study, unless you don't want to be here at Stony Brook to party for a second semester. As a college student, you have a responsibility to allocate your time wisely. Here are some tips to help you find ways to study at Stony Brook.

Let me be blunt, there are quite a few temptations that will confront you and it would be a good idea to establish priorities. Just remember that studying should take up enough of your time to illicit good grades. Now, a word to the wise; when allocating your time you should try to study more than you do party- at least a 3:1 ratio.

Once you have scheduled the happy medium between socializing and studying, at least on paper,

you have to keep something in mind. People have very different studying habits; what works for your friends will not necessarily work for you.

Take studying groups, for example. Studying groups are a fairly common study method, and help when you need to compare notes and ideas for an exam. If you are a group learner, study groups usually materialize a couple of weeks before a midterm. They are held in places like the Student Activities Center's Traditions Lounge and the commuter lounges in the SAC and library. Unfortunately, sometimes people within the group believe that they can slack off and not read or attend their classes; essentially leaching off the groups' collective knowledge. In many cases, this does not work, so you should always keep up with your reading and try to attend every class even if attendance is not mandatory. If you choose to study in groups please take these tips to heart: Try not to study with your friends, they are usually a distraction. If you want

to get the full benefit of studying in groups, come prepared. Bring your books, notes and other study aids to answer serious questions which will benefit the group as a whole. Finally, refrain from petty time-wasting banter.

If study groups are not your cup of tea, than you are probably a "hermit" studier and prefer solitude when studying. Ear plugs are a must-have, for they are essentially instant solitude. Many "hermit" studiers prefer the library stacks as an ideal environment or their dorm rooms- often when roommates are not in attendance. Once you have found that ideal spot, take out your study materials and start taking notes. For those few of you with a photographic memory, note taking may be unnecessary.

For good measure, when attending classes you should take notes, or record a professor's lecture for later reference and studying. Transcribing class lectures helps in the memorization process and can really be effective in demonstrating mastery of the class.

Taking notes on index cards is also a good studying method and can really help when cramming for an exam.

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

A good way of relieving some of the symptoms of procrastination is organization. Write down what you have to study or complete for class. Finish off one assignment

at a time and take a break. Check your email or watch a little television. Reward yourself each time you finish off one of your assignments, but do not be careless and rush through your assignments leaving only a lackluster product. Train yourself to work efficiently and keep focused.

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

Have a productive semester and make sure to have a little fun too. Just don't over do it.

The Patriot's Food Guide: 2006

There are two types of food at Stony Brook. One you'll find in the dining centers around campus, but the other type you can only find at the wrap station in the SAC. Only one of them is edible, however. If you haven't guessed already, I'm talking about a person. Mr. Food is one of quite a few food service celebrities here at Stony Brook. Read on to find out more about him as well as other important things, like what the hell to eat on this campus as well as off campus.

"The campus food is okay. It's a little boring and bland, and they definitely need to add some more fun foods into the menu, but overall the food is pretty decent. The students who work in the food services are really great and do a fantastic job" – Stefanie Erin Keegan

Student Activities Center

The pizza's pretty good here, but they still haven't figured out how to prepare for the lines they get (hint: make more pizza ahead of time, guys). Philly's is also good, but it takes a while for your food to be cooked unless you're getting chicken fingers. The stir fry's not too bad, but again, it takes a long time to get your food made there.

A sort of celebrity at Stony Brook, 'Food' makes some kick-ass wraps in the SAC. According to Keegan, "Food is not really his name. I'm sad to say I don't know his real name, but I do know he's from Hong Kong and he's not been back in about twenty years. His favorite wraps are the chicken Caesar and the buffalo chicken with the chicken fingers in them, not the sliced deli chicken."

Other food service celebrities include Penny the Pasta Lady, who has her own Facebook group. "She's a sweetheart. In all honesty I think all the food service people should be considered celebrities; they work really hard and always do it with a smile," says Keegan.

Kelly Dining Center

The Coffee and Tea House is okay, but not as good as Starbucks. Mechanical Engineering major, Paul Wall, says that the food is disgusting at Kelly Quad when it's not fresh and they don't change their choices often enough. However, he admits that he still eats there since it's the closest food place to him. He suggests avoiding the "Mexican stuff... the worst for the stomach," but the mashed potatoes and chicken isn't too bad and the sandwiches at the deli can be good depending on who makes them.

Jasmine

This hidden gem lies in the deep, Asian depths of the Wang Center. They've got very, very good food, especially the General Tso's chicken. Here you can find many different Asian cuisines from Chinese to Indian. It's considered by many to be the best place to eat on campus, but it's usually a bit of a trip from where most students are.



The SAC has the best mix of different foods that are decent quality.

H Quad

Taco Bell = Good, but senior, Will Chung complains that, "The grill line takes way too long. You can be waiting there for 20-30 minutes at times. They should find a way to speed up orders."

There are also complaints that the variety of food on campus in general isn't too great and that "they raise prices every semester, but they don't improve the quality of the food or justify the price raises." "You can get better food and service in a restaurant for cheaper, says Chung.

Union

The Union Deli's pretty good. They've got Boars Head brand cold cuts at least. But food takes a few minutes to prepare so there's usually a wait.

The End of the Bridge (aka EOB): should be called Under the Bridge. The food's horrible in there and expensive. You're better off at Applebee's or Fridays if you want crappy food. And you'll save a buck or two there as well.

The Bleacher Club: Avoid at all costs, it's just gross.



SBU food service celebrity, Mr. Food, awaiting wrap orders from the next hungry student.

Dining Off Campus

If you're lucky enough to have a car with you on campus, you can find many more places to eat off campus. Some of the best food on Long Island is within ten minutes of the campus. Below are some descriptions of unique places nearby.

John Harvards: For the commuters and the residents fortunate enough to have a car on campus, you can get real, actual food at the plethora of restaurants in the Stony Brook area.

If you like beer, John Harvards is definitely the place to be. It's in the Toys R us shopping center by the Smith Haven Mall. This place is a microbrewery that serves all these awesome flavored beers that change during different seasons. Tip: Try out the "sampler" to get a small glass of five or so of the beers they're brewing. Plus it's cheaper than buying one large glass of one beer. Get a few! See the inside of the back cover of every issue of The Patriot for local happy hours, including John Harvards.

Carabba's: Amazing Italian food! That's all I have to say. It's about five steps up from the Olive Garden (where The Patriot would never bring our Uncle from Italy – as suggested in their commercials). They've got the traditional Italian-American cuisine (chicken parm, lasagna, etc.), but they've also got a lot of interesting specialties, including the Mezzaluna, which is a pasta similar to ravioli, but stuffed with chicken and smothered with a delicious crême tomato sauce. And definitely stick around for desert! They've got some excellent after dinner treats. Head west from the university on Rt.347, you'll see the place on the right just before you get to Terry Rd.

O Sole Mio: Another great Italian place, but it also serves as a pizza place. They've got some really good specialty pies from chicken parm pizza to bruschetta pizza. This place is right next to the Loews movie theater in Stony Brook on Rt. 347.

Ancient Ginger: When you've had enough of Jasmine, check out this place on Rt. 25A in St. James (the next town over from Stony Brook heading westbound – take Stony Brook Rd. to Rt. 25A and head west; you'll see the place in the first shopping center on the left). Great takeout, and an even better full-service restaurant inside. A bit on the pricey side, but it's worth the extra money for this premium quality food.

Bagels and a Hole Lot More: Next door to McDonald's on Rt. 347, this place has pretty decent bagels and a lot of different cream cheese flavors if you're into that stuff. They also serve typical egg sandwiches and other breakfast items in the morning and you can sit down and eat there because it's pretty big.

Hi-Lite Diner: Weird name, serious pancakes. No, really, the pancakes are amazing at this place so it's worth the hike to Port Jeff Station. Just head eastward from the university on Rt. 347. You'll find it on the left.

Salsa Salsa: If you're craving Mexican, this eatery is a major treat. Go east on Rt. 25A until you reach 142 Main St. (you'll have to make a right at the very end). You'll find it in quaint Port Jefferson, which has a very relaxing atmosphere so it's great to visit after midterms. Salsa Salsa itself looks like a little taco bar, with lots of high stools and counter space to eat on. Give them your order and they'll whip up huge burritos, spicy chili, or fresh taco salads right in front of you. To top it all off, they're definitely affordable, and you always get a lot for your money.

From
the

VAULT OF HISTORY

FEATURING:



Colonel William Prescott

"Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes." These famous words were spoken by Colonel William Prescott to the raw, untried American army at the Battle of Bunker Hill (June 17, 1775) as the veteran British troops advanced on their positions. Two British assaults were beaten back with heavy losses, but the brave colonists ran out of ammunition, and the third attack by the British took their toll and they were forced to retreat. Colonel Prescott was among those killed in the fight.

"Don't fire until you see the whites of their eyes."

Got Stony Brook Hockey?



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SBU Sports Photography

www.mmurphyphoto.com

Need a new room?
Don't like your roommate?
then join the...

**Stony Brook Students
Looking To Swap Dorms
Facebook Group!**

Stony Brook University dictates that dorming students can only relocate if they find another resident willing to switch with them.

The goal of this group is to make it easier for students to find someone to swap with.

Major or Minor: the Journalism Program Asks

By Rachel O'Brien

Stony Brook finally joined its college counterparts when its journalism major was approved by SUNY in July. For incoming freshman and high school seniors looking at Stony Brook, the journalism program offers a major that is one of the most popular in colleges now. But where does that leave the students at Stony Brook that are already journalism minors in hopes of choosing a career in journalism?

For students hoping to make a career out of journalism, the minor is selected after a major that may have little or nothing to do with journalism itself. English is the most common major chosen by journalism minors in hopes of making a career out of journalism, but majors everywhere from biology, pharmacology and sociology, to theater arts, women's studies and political science are chosen to couple the journalism minor.

Students currently in the journalism program are now given a choice to continue in their major or to change their major to journalism. For students serious about a journalism career this is a change worth considering.

The new major requires 47 credits, with the typical journalism program in the U.S. requiring 30-36 credits. An additional 80 credits are required in one of four multi-disciplinary concentrations; Global Issues and Perspectives, Public Affairs, Society and Diversity, and Science and the Environment.

That's seven credits more than Stony Brook requires for graduating. So for journalism minors hoping to graduate in a year or two, they need to decide whether a switch to the journalism major is worth it. Does staying at Stony Brook longer to earn a degree in journalism pay off when looking for a job in the media?

"The journalism program at SBU is what made me want to work in the field in the first place," said Cristina Desposito, a Stony Brook alumna, class of 2005, working as a fashion assistant at Redbook, a popular women's magazine. "I always knew I wanted to write but never knew what I wanted to write." Desposito graduated from Stony Brook with a degree in sociology and a minor in journalism.

"My major was sociology and yes, I would have preferred to graduate with a degree in journalism," Desposito said. "I think I would have been able to hone my skills more had I been enrolled in more journalism classes and, as a result, would have gotten more practice in writing stories."

Although Desposito recommends it, for many students hoping to graduate in May, changing their major now is simply unrealistic.

Amanda Rubenstein is a senior pharmacology major with a journalism minor who will be attending medical school after graduation.

"It's been a really great world experience," Rubenstein said. "It's the most hands-

on major I've heard of at Stony Brook and it has taught me a great deal." Rubenstein is a former reporter and editor for The Statesman and currently runs the Pharmacology department's newsletter.

Matthew Weinberger, a journalism student in his junior year, will be one of the current students opting to change his major to journalism. Hoping to enter the journalism field writing for a magazine or newspaper, Weinberger described his experience so far in Stony Brook's journalism program as great.

"Both journalism instructors I've had so far have had definite experience in the field, and it showed," Weinberger said. "Their enthusiasm definitely rubbed off." Weinberger is a staff writer for The Independent, an online news website run by journalism student George Agathos, also a junior.

Agathos has already declared the journalism major, one of the several journalism minors to make the switch.

"I may end up spending another semester depending on how the courses get rolled out somewhat, though I think I have it just perfect," Agathos said, referring to graduating on time in May '08.

"The journalism program has a lot of promise and a lot of good staff so far," Agathos said. "All the professors I've had have had a lot to bring to the table."

Is the major going to do more for one's career in journalism than a minor would do? Hard to say.

"It took me about six months to find a job at a magazine," Desposito said. "I searched a lot and networked my butt off. My general opinion is that graduates should expect to be looking for a job for at least six months and will probably even interview for a couple before landing one."

"If you want to be a reporter or work at a daily paper I think being a part of the school paper is something that is really helpful in gaining experience," she said. "If you are looking to go into magazines the best advice anyone could give you is intern! Intern anywhere, doing anything, for any magazine. The important thing is to learn what goes on and to get a feel for how it works. Most magazines won't consider you for a job unless you have 1-2 years interning experience."

Risa Goren, a former editor for The Statesman, has chosen a field in English, away from journalism. However, she has experienced Stony Brook's journalism program and had the following to say.

"I think the journalism program will separate those who are passionate about the field from those who are there simply because they think they should be," she said. "It's an incredibly demanding program, requiring commitment outside of class just as much as in - which is what sets it apart from many other majors. From what I've seen, Stony Brook is preparing its journalism students for the demanding reality of everyday life as a journalist, and that is great."

Be a Real Man!

By Alex "Big Daddy O" Ovtcharenko

Ahh yes, the modern young American Male. What a goddamn pansy! There you are, sipping frap-puccinos, plucking your eyebrows, drinking mimosas made from French champagne. What a bloody disgrace! Well, my un-manly readers, thanks to me you will be a wuss no more. Every month from now on The Patriot will bring you advice on how to be a Real Man <insert copy write logo>. In the fine tradition of great men like Tim "The Toolman" Taylor, if you keep up with the column, you will be able to use every, and I do mean EVERY, tool at your disposal properly.

And since we have already mentioned tools, let's talk about being "handy". You'd be surprised (well, maybe not YOU as you look rather wimpy) as to how many men these days don't know how to complete some simple testosterone-laden tasks, like mowing a lawn, using a chainsaw or killing an animal with your bare hands. Oh, laugh all you want, but when a girl asks you to hang the latest cliché Monet reproduction print and you show off your knowledge of using drywall anchors and proper laser level to give her what she wants, she will be on your lap in no time.

But, how does one learn how to do these Manly, He-man tasks that will make the ladies empty their bowels from delight and hump your

leg (hopefully showering in between, unless you are into THAT particular thing)? Well, there are a few different ways of going about it. First of all, ask your dad. Simply come up to him, admit that you are a politically-correct emasculated gimp and prostate yourself before his Masculine greatness. The downside of this is that you could be in store for a rousing five-hour tour down the memory lane of battlefields of Vietnam, complete with dead commies and napalm. On second thought, that sounds like one hell of a good time.

If you aren't blessed with a Manly-Man father-figure in your life or have the misfortune of being an offspring of one of those 1960's dirty hippies who protested bombing the reds to the stone age and pretended to be "sensitive" to get into your mommy's pants, then I have another option for you. Ask one of your friends, preferably the one with a pick-up truck (none of those queer-looking escalade SUV's though). How do you know if you should ask him? Ask yourself these questions: does he have a shotgun, farmer's tan and short hair? If yes, go beg him to show you the ways of Conan the Carpenter.

But let's be honest, if you are reading this, chances are that your friends are as pathetic in the Manliness Department as you are. And no, putting an ugly spoiler on your shitty Honda is not Manly, so don't even bring that up, or I'll be forced to rip it off and beat you with it until you regain your

senses and buy yourself a Dodge. But, I'm getting carried away here and you are still a helpless moron. So, here's your final option: call a professional. Now, pay very close attention to what I am telling you: THIS IS THE ONLY TIME IT IS OK TO CALL A CONTRACTOR. Why? Because you will sit your ass down and watch what he does. And ask questions. Most Men will gladly share the Secrets of Manliness when asked by another dude. We can't stand metrosexual light-beer drinking limp-wristed guys, so we'll always try to help you to be less helpless. But remember, it's OK to call for professional help that you have to pay for only ONCE in your life, unless it's a massage off Canal Street, but that's neither here nor there. And for Mr. T's sake don't wear some fruity pink Armani Exchange polo with your collar flipped up. That'll get you nowhere, as you might as well be flying a rainbow flag and singing along to the Village People.

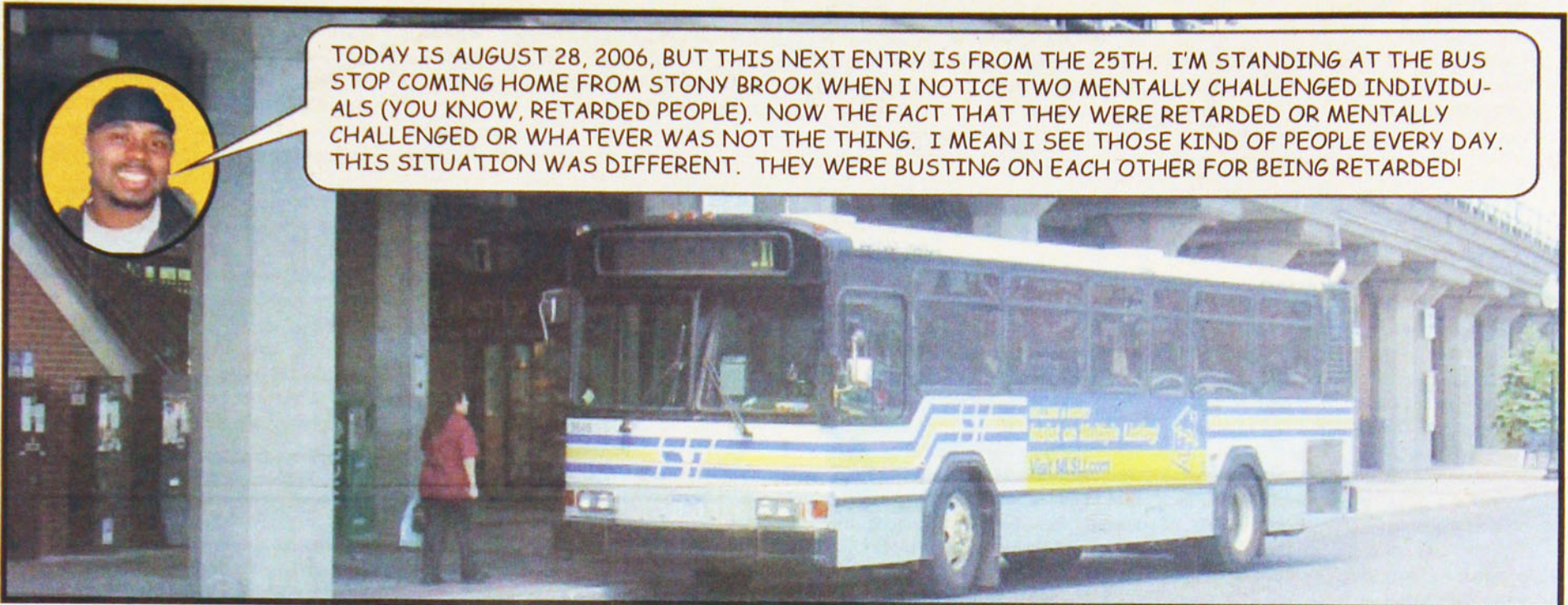
A word of caution: remember the dame I mentioned in the beginning that asks you to hang a picture, fix the sink or some other general stuff that women are incapable of? Well, be careful, don't become the "Fix-it" buddy. Unless you are ripping off her panties with your teeth (with her consent, of course, we don't need a feminazi rally) by your third call to repair something, she's either using you or she's a lesbian.

Next month: How to impress broads (without fixing their stuff).



Don't be an economic girlie man!

Delmar's True-Life Bus Stories



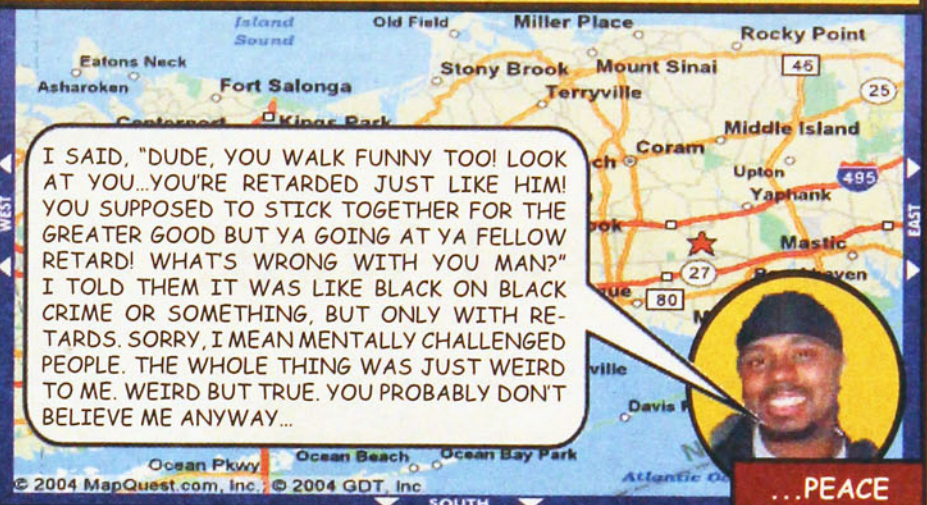
TODAY IS AUGUST 28, 2006, BUT THIS NEXT ENTRY IS FROM THE 25TH. I'M STANDING AT THE BUS STOP COMING HOME FROM STONY BROOK WHEN I NOTICE TWO MENTALLY CHALLENGED INDIVIDUALS (YOU KNOW, RETARDED PEOPLE). NOW THE FACT THAT THEY WERE RETARDED OR MENTALLY CHALLENGED OR WHATEVER WAS NOT THE THING. I MEAN I SEE THOSE KIND OF PEOPLE EVERY DAY. THIS SITUATION WAS DIFFERENT. THEY WERE BUSTING ON EACH OTHER FOR BEING RETARDED!

TELL ME WHY ONE RETARDED GUY HAS TO TEASE ANOTHER RETARDED GUY? WTF? I'M DEAD SERIOUS! THEY WERE DOING THAT! I'M THINKING, HOW YOU GONNA TEASE HIM FOR BEING F#%*D UP AND RETARDED WHEN YOU ARE TOO? "MENTALLY CHALLENGED" GUY NUMBER ONE SAYS...



"HAH HAH, LOOK AT HIM. HE WALK FUNNY. HE RETAWDED."

THEN MENTALLY CHALLENGED PERSON NUMBER TWO SAYS BACK TO HIM, "HE TALK FUNNY. HE TALK LIKE A RETAWD." THEY WENT BACK AND FORTH LIKE THAT FOR LIKE TEN MINUTES TILL I COULD STAND NO MORE. I HAD TO SAY SOMETHING...



I SAID, "DUDE, YOU WALK FUNNY TOO! LOOK AT YOU...YOU'RE RETARDED JUST LIKE HIM! YOU SUPPOSED TO STICK TOGETHER FOR THE GREATER GOOD BUT YA GOING AT YA FELLOW RETARD! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU MAN?" I TOLD THEM IT WAS LIKE BLACK ON BLACK CRIME OR SOMETHING, BUT ONLY WITH RETARDS. SORRY, I MEAN MENTALLY CHALLENGED PEOPLE. THE WHOLE THING WAS JUST WEIRD TO ME. WEIRD BUT TRUE. YOU PROBABLY DON'T BELIEVE ME ANYWAY...

...PEACE



Shawna Smith's

REPUBLICAN GEAR

FOR ALL THE GUYS WHO NEED A GIRL TO PICK OUT WHAT THEY WEAR



Subtle, yet conveys the message. Who hasn't wanted to kick a hippie every now and again?

Find these shirts and many more at:
<http://www.cafepress.com/rightwingstuff>



Bush: making America safer. Show your love for wiretaps with this great trucker hat.



Something for both guys and gals. Start your semester off with some republican lovin'.

finding emo



Smart Emo Look:

- Black-framed glasses
- Messenger bag with pins
- Brown hair
- Stud for nose
- V-neck sweater

Emo Boi:

- Army green cadet hat
- Square, black-framed glasses, imperative to the look
- Cigarette (lung cancer = depressing)
- Black, hooded sweatshirt (hot item for both males and females)
- Girl's jeans, of course

Emo Essentials:

- Black wrist-bands
- Uneven, multi-colored hair
- Heavy eyeliner
- Messenger bag laden with buttons
- Black, hooded sweatshirt

By Brandon Berte

emo is a very generic term. emo is short for emotional. you can be emo and a zillion other things. you can fit into the stereotype of looking emo without actually being emo. it's a combination of what you listen to, the way you dress, what you do, what you say. any of those things could be considered emo but that doesn't necessarily mean the person is.

according to sophomore, chelsie, "there is a difference between emo and scene. emo people are sad, and dress a certain way. they're always sad because they're emo. scene people aren't sad, they just dress like emo people."

how do emo people dress?

guys: wear girl jeans. everything is really tight, and you have to be skinny. if you're not skinny you can't be emo. it's like a rule. guys often wear make-up, usually eyeliner.

girls: their hair is usually three different colors. they wear weird stuff that usually doesn't match. they usually have a lot of pins on their bags.

what do emo people listen to?

hawthorne heights, the spill canvas,

something corporate, etc. these bands are considered emo because it's a combination of the lyrics and how they sound and how they come off to people. emo lyrics are usually about relationships, sad things such as death, and suicide.

what do emo people do?

you can call somebody emo based on things such as away messages on aim, their buddy info, and the way they talk on an everyday basis. their away messages/info would consist of emo lyrics from emo artists. emo

people often frequent shows. they also probably write lyrics/poetry of their own and play in a band.

what do emo people say?

emo people have a certain tone in their voices. it's hard to define. the

tone in their voice would be kind of sad. they have a certain attitude towards life that other people don't necessarily have. they often hate the world and speak out against society and the government. they're just sad.





Throughout the over two hundred years of American history only a handful of fictional characters have caught our imaginations as symbols of the American experience. No one in America has been untouched by the champion of "Truth, Justice, and the American Way."

The Man of Steel has reached out to the entire world in every medium imaginable: radio, television, books, plays, magazines, and film. He has thus become one of the United State's greatest ambassadors overseas. All over the world, millions have formed their opinion of the American way through the adventures of Superman. In short, he has become a part of American mythology.

Here then, The Patriot looks into how Superman and other influential comic characters have incorporated American political culture into their storylines.

The Politics of Superheroes

By Nathan Shapiro

According to a line in the new film "Superman Returns", Superman stands firmly for "truth, justice and 'all that stuff.'" The absence of the trademark "American Way" from such an iconic phrase raised a few eyebrows, with some viewers seeing it as a slap against America by a pair of liberal screenwriters, while others shrugged it off as inconsequential. Regardless, the response to the line by political punditry raises a interesting question: Is Superman a defender of liberalism's "social justice" or a crusader for the right's stand on "law and order"?

Perhaps as originally envisioned by his creators, two Jewish Canadian immigrants during the great depression, Superman was more the former, whereas today he probably falls somewhere in between. What about Batman? He might pass for a conservative, aside from his views on gun control. Meanwhile, Doc Bruce Banner built weapons to fight communists in the 60's, whereas his alter-ego the Hulk has issues with governmental authority, which may peg him for a libertarian.

Some fans say defining the politics of our superheroes isn't worth the effort because nobody cares about politics in what is oftentimes considered escapist fantasy. However, Marvel Comics is betting on just the opposite, and that bet seems to be paying off in their smash hit comic mini-series, "Civil War". Written by Mark Millar and drawn by Steve McNiven, the story of "Civil War" spills over into most of Marvel's regular titles and rewrites the rules of their entire fictional universe.

It all began when the News Warriors, stars of a superhero reality TV show, tried to apprehend a group of

super villains on live TV and things went horribly wrong. Nitro the Human Bomb, a villain capable of blowing himself up and reconstituting his molecules, detonated himself and obliterated part of a town, killing 800, including an entire school of children. The public immediately blamed reckless superheroes for the action and the response was swift: Congress passed the Superhuman Registration Act, forcing all people with superpowers to register their identities with the government and to receive training for their activities.

Suddenly, the ideologies of superheroes come into play. Some heroes, led by industrialist and former Secretary of Defense, Iron Man, consider the Act a means to restore public confidence in superheroes and to prevent future incidents of destruction by untrained superhumans. Others, led by World War II hero Captain America, see the act as an infringement upon their civil rights, and vow to oppose it.

The schism between the heroes have led to serious repercussions for each side. Spider-Man, in solidarity with Iron Man and in support of the Registration Act, publicly reveals his secret identity as Peter Parker on television. Captain America and his crew of rebels become fugitives from the government, hunted by Iron Man's pro-registration forces.

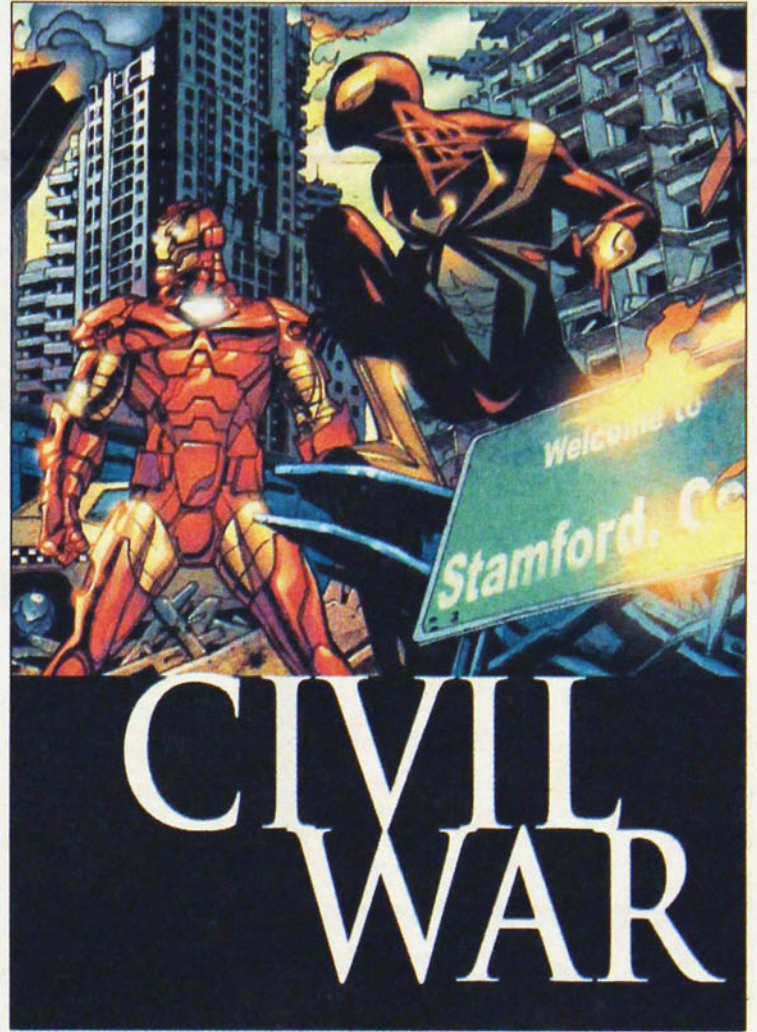
Comic fans that fall across the political spectrum have reacted in vastly different ways to the political undertones of the story. Conservative Captain America fans feel that making the Captain an enemy of the U.S. government is an affront to the character's patriotic past, while liberal Iron Man fans feel like their hero is being turned into a fascist government stooge.

Even with the politically-charged critiques of the story, sales on 'Civil War' continue to be red-hot, suggesting that fans are able to enjoy a little political acrimony in their fiction. Credit for that must belong to writer Mark Millar, who has been able to craft an intelligent and exciting action story without being bogged down by its ideological dimensions.

"Civil War" isn't the first time Millar has tapped into politics to tell a story. Another Marvel series co-created by Millar, titled 'The Ultimates,' is noted for storylines that touch on geopolitical realities of the world blended with the fantasy of comic books. In it, an alternate version of Marvel characters work for the U.S. government and engage in attacks on terrorists in the Middle East and fight off a counter-invasion of America by a coalition of international super villains backed by China, Russia, Syria, North Korea, Iran and rogue French agents.

Millar is able to juggle a variety of opposing viewpoints in his books so that both liberal and conservative readers can enjoy them. The Ultimate version of Captain America is a hardcore right-winger and loyal soldier of the government who once boldly declared to an invading alien, "Surrender?! you think this letter [A] on my forehead stands for France?" Whereas Ultimate Thor is a far left socialist who only joined the team when President Bush promised to increase the U.S. foreign aid budget.

All the skills used to tell his stories in "The Ultimates" are being utilized in "Civil War." Millar must take long-established characters and choose which side they stand on, without alienating conservative or liberal fans who might not agree with the positions he ultimately has



CIVIL WAR

them take. It is a task that, thus far, has been carried out successfully to navigate through the minefield of ideological differences found in his audience.

"Civil War" is resonating with readers because Marvel is having their characters choose sides in an ideological struggle that parallels the experiences of our nation. Following a terrible suicide attack that has left many dead, both we and our superheroes are stinging from a debate over

security versus liberty that has split our nation into red and blue states, and the Marvel characters into pro-registration and anti-registration.

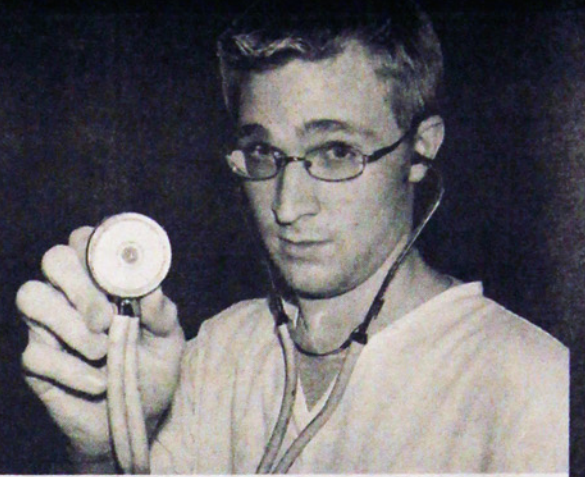
It may turn out that what breaks the heroes up into a civil war isn't nearly as important as what might eventually unify them. If, after all is said and done, Captain America and Iron Man can someday rejoin forces as allies and friends after coming to blows, then perhaps we as Americans might eventually do the same.



Patriot Labs Presents:

Medical Myths Exposed

With "Doctor" Erik



Can you catch a cold from being cold?

This is one of the oldest myths in the book. After two hours of shoveling my driveway after a snowstorm I walk into my house dripping with melting snow. I'm uncomfortable, but I'm more concerned with getting something in my stomach after such gruesome physical labor (that we should have just paid some illegal immigrant to do).

So I head up to the kitchen soaking wet and cook up some Campbell's chicken noodle soup. Within seconds my grandmother is nagging me to change my clothes. "You gonna catch a cold," she says in her Italian accent.

Well guess what, Nonna? (Nonna is grandma in Italian) You can't catch a cold

from simply being cold!

So what causes a cold? A virus. Can you catch a virus from the cold? Of course not. You can only catch a virus from being in contact with the virus. A virus must get inside you to infect you and if there's no virus around (say you're shoveling snow alone), there's no place for you to come in contact with the virus.

Now, although you can't catch a cold from being cold, you can be more likely to catch a cold when you are very cold. The stress from being cold lowers your body's defenses against infection, so if you do come into contact with the virus, you're more likely to catch the cold.

The best way to prevent this infection

is to wash your hands frequently, especially before eating, when you're around someone who's already sick. And if you do happen to catch a cold, the best thing to do is drink a lot of fluids (water, juice, chicken broth, etc.) and get plenty of rest.

There still isn't really anything you can take to make a cold go away. There are just medicines to help you deal with the symptoms. So until that day comes when some anti-viral drug for colds is produced (and it's not as far away as one might think; there are already anti-viral drugs for other illnesses on the market), we'll just have to deal with the occasional cold. But at least you'll know better how to avoid getting it now.

Wealthiest 1% of Homosexuals Torn in Midterm Elections

Satire By Damian Geminder

The expected defeat of the Federal Marriage Amendment has left many in the richest segment of the gay community conflicted over whom to support this November. Whilst most of them support the right to marry, many say that Republicans are right on the money with regard to the so-called "death tax."

"I oppose the efforts of the Religious Right to prevent me from marrying my, er, bottom, but I just can't stand these liberal tax policies," Alan Berry of Dover, Pennsylvania said via videophone from his private island near Key West.

"I used to be able to afford diamond-studded collars for my pet bulldog, Alanis," Ellen Ramirez of San Diego reports, "but I have been reduced to mere rubies by those damned Democrats."

Polls show that if the death tax were repealed, 58% of wealthy, male homosexuals would purchase shoes; 27% would adopt a small, pedigree dog; 10% would install track lighting; and 5% would have Cher perform in a private concert.

Amongst lesbians, an astounding 77% would buy "anything phallic that isn't actually an opposite-sex partner"; 14% would buy a diamond-studded dog or large cat collar; and 7% would get the entire Xena: Warrior Princess DVD set.

When rich bisexuals were asked whether they favoured the death tax, however, none of them could make up their minds about which answer to choose, and in the end, they all chose



both. Transsexuals refused to acknowledge that they were being asked the question at all.

With the also-expected defeat of the Flag Desecration Amendment, many are questioning the motives of the Republicans' recent focus upon domestic issues such as same-sex marriage and flag burning.

"The Radical Right Wing is so Hitler. Next they'll focus on abortion, which Hitler also opposed I might add," angry, lesbian feminist Rosie O'Donnell declared Sunday. "At least when our heroes tried to wipe out inferior races, they did what Margaret Sanger did and gave access to birth control to minorities, so they didn't have to thin out their numbers using coat hangers in back alleys later."

When asked what they most admired in a Congressional candidate, however, the vast majority of homosexuals polled, 97%, agreed, that "the carpet has to match the drapes." The remaining 3% went, "Uh-uh, guuurl-friend!" followed by a Z-snap and slap to the buttocks, before walking away swishing their hips angrily to and fro.

First Annual Exceptionality Awareness Convention

Monday, September 25 - Thursday, September 28
12:40PM - 1:40PM, and 7:00PM

Saturday, September 30
9:00AM - 3:00PM

Presented by the Council for Exceptional Children/Child Study Club
Saint Joseph's College

Speakers and organizations from Queens, Suffolk County, and Nassau County will be presenting at the Patchogue campus of Saint Joseph's College.

The group's goal is to raise awareness in the community and across Long Island of various exceptionalities (Autism, Down Syndrome, Mental Retardation, Traumatic Brain Injury, Learning Disabilities, Muscular Dystrophy, Physical Impairments/illness, etc.). They also want to provide a source of information for families, teachers, psychologists, students, and volunteers in the community about organizations and services that are available and needed on Long Island. Some organizations that will be hosting speakers are Developmental Disabilities Institute (Young Autism Program, parents), Association for Children with Down Syndrome, Cleary School for the Deaf, TheraCare, and Camp Paquatuck. Additionally, Dr. Ted Carr of the Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program at Stony Brook University will present his research in "Understanding and Treating Problem Behavior in Autism Spectrum Disorder." Moreover, Dr. Raymond DiGuseppe, Chairperson of the St. John's University Doctor of Psychology program in School Psychology will be presenting research in anger.

The Council for Exceptional Children/Child Study Club will also be having experiential events for the community and students to participate in. These will include wheel chair races and sensory searches.

Registration is free!
All are invited!

For more information, contact Laura Van Schaick at 631-484-9679 or lvanschaick@yahoo.com, or Nicole Entler at 631-697-9807.

Opinions

Israel's Military Strong Vs. Terrorism... Despite Defeat

By Jorge Sierra

Israel's failure to cripple Hezbollah during their month-long hostilities is a serious setback, even a defeat, for the country that has the most experience fighting against Islamic-linked terrorism. Even in defeat, however, Israel has demonstrated that it is much better suited to fighting the War on Terror than the United States is. If anything, Israel's unsuccessful war emphasizes its many advantages over the United States, and strongly urges us to cover our own weaknesses.

The Israeli Defense Force displayed more military flexibility and effectiveness against an entrenched enemy in a single month than our military has ever shown against al-Qaida and the Iraqi insurgents. At first Israel tried bombing the hell out of Hezbollah with air strikes. When that turned out miserably, what did Israel's leaders do? They admitted it and sidelined the head of their Northern Command for the duration of the conflict. Israel changed its military strategy and started a larger scale ground invasion. In the hours just before the ceasefire began, airlifted soldiers were able to surround Hezbollah forces and hold southern Lebanon.

Somehow Israel switched from the Rumsfeld Doctrine emphasizing massive air power and a smaller, mobile military to the Powell Doctrine emphasizing overwhelming force, accomplishing in a matter of days on the battlefield a type of transition that is taking us years to complete. In any event, the options we've exercised in Iraq and Afghanistan are very few.

Israel, reputed to have an excellent spy agency, was able to target Hezbollah's leader in an air strike almost immediately after hostilities broke out. At the close of the conflict, Israel claims to have killed the head of Hezbollah's special forces. That's almost as good as our record against Osama bin Laden, Abu Muzab al-Zarqawi, and their lieutenants in a lot more time. We have a shortage of Arabic speakers working for the government, you may recall.

Finally, and I'm not sure I want to call this an advantage, Israel has fewer qualms about moving into countries, sowing a path of destruction, and mov-

ing out. No one's saying Israel will have to "cut and run" once they withdraw their forces. Much of their war was fought with hit and run tactics, and even the ceasefire and impending withdrawal has "live to fight another day" written all over it. Israel did inflict more damage on Hezbollah (and certainly Lebanon) than it received in return. One of the best defenses in war is... not being there.

It's a little more difficult for us to jump in and jump out of countries that are halfway around the world, although we have done it before. In Afghanistan and Iraq, our military can't run because they are there to defend the people. President Bush's vision for Democracy in the Middle East makes it necessary for us to remain in Afghanistan and Iraq if we intend to fight new or re-emerging fundamentalists. Leaving and returning when the fundamentalists regain their strength creates an unacceptable risk to the governments we are trying to support, so we're forced to choose a costly occupation. Based on Israel's actions in Palestine and Lebanon, the survival of democratic Palestinian and Lebanese governments doesn't seem to weigh very heavily on Israel's shoulders.

All this probably won't save Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's government or Israel's military establishment, and rightly so. But we're almost five years into the War on Terror and three years into the war in Iraq, and the only people we've thrown out so far are Paul Bremer and Joe Lieberman. We can't throw out our Commander-In-Chief with a "no confidence" vote, and it takes other issues like gas prices to build enough anger to have a chance of changing party control in one house of Congress. We could still be stuck with a failed Commander-in-Chief and a leaderless Congress by the time the next Israeli Prime Minister razes Hezbollah to the ground.

Israel, surrounded on all sides by enemies since its existence, has always had to be able to hold its political and military leaders' feet to the fire at a moment's notice. Although we've seen that it is not perfect, the United States would be better off in the War on Terror if we were able to demand more of our government and our armed forces in more immediate terms. Failing that, we need the Israeli front.



BEN THE HEBREW HAMMER



answers

AMERICA

Dear Hebrew Hammer:

The genocidal brutality of the Zionist regime is evidenced by the recent actions against the innocent people of Lebanon. Clearly, your support for these monsters indicates that you are in league with Satan. Therefore, I ask that you and your fellow Jews congregate in Israel so that we will have an easier time exterminating you.

With hope...

Sheikh Hassan "Harry" Nasrallah

The Hammer Says:

Dear Mr. Nasrallah, you are definitely the biggest idiot to come down the pipeline in the past few years. You are a dumb, violent religious fanatic, and only in a place like the Middle East could a man of such low caliber be held in such high esteem. As a corollary, the fact that insane bigots like you are viewed so favorably is a damning comment on the people who reside in the Arab world.

Dear Hebrew Hammer:

I am writing this letter to demand that the Jews apologize for creating the fairy-tale myth of the Holocaust, a concept which they have placed above God and religion itself! For the past 60 years, the proud people of Germany, Austria and Switzerland have had to needlessly suffer from Zionist guilt. Even worse, the innocent people of Palestine have had to endure a true Holocaust by the hands of Israelis, who can be reasonably be described as the Hitlers of our time.

Tenderly Yours,

Dr. Mahmoud "Manny" Ahmadinejad
President of Iran

The Hammer Says:

Mahmoud, your neo-fascist rantings serve only to embarrass and isolate your crappy little country from the rest of the world. Furthermore, your Holocaust denial falls flat on its face when you compare Israelis to Nazis. I must admit though, watching you make a buffoon of yourself on a daily basis provides me with a certain feeling of amusement. However, such fun is tempered when I contemplate the prospect of a nuclear-armed Iran.

Dear Hebrew Hammer:

Although many in the Islamic world openly despise Jews, I am among the most enlightened leaders with regards to the "Jewish Question." The Jews are not a race to be hated, rather, they are to be emulated. Instead of responding to 2,000 years of persecution with violence, they used their wits to fight back. They invented and successfully promoted socialism, communism, human rights and democracy so that persecuting them would appear to be wrong, so they may enjoy equal rights with others, even to the point where they rule the world by proxy!

Tenderly Yours,

Dr. Matahir Mohammed
Prime Minister of Malaysia

The Hammer Says:

Good god man, you give the Jews of the world too much credit! What about the Freemasons, the Rotary club, and the Seven Sisters of oil, not to mention the CIA? Aren't they responsible for as much evil as the Jews are? A Ph.D. like yourself should have considered this possibility before writing this letter.

Park in Your Own Lot!

What To Do If A Faculty Member Parks In Your Lot

By James Davis

The blacktop surrounding Stony Brook University's residential buildings is shrinking. Political pundits and crooked CEOs have denied it for years, but new satellite photos confirm that the walls are indeed closing in on Stony Brook's resident motorists. An influx of red parking passes in dormitory lots has caused these lots to offer less and less effective parking space for students with each coming semester. This bane of the dorm experience is a phenomenon that, tragically, often starts with the best parking spaces. What's worse is that the process is not reversible. Should the students attempt to spill over into faculty lots, they will promptly be ticketed. However, misplaced faculty cars often get away with little more than an angry note on their windshield. As a fellow concerned student, I've compiled this handy list of actions you can take to reconcile your grievances with the parking pirates we call our faculty.



The University Police will ticket students but not faculty. The solution? Break up police-faculty cooperation! Tell a professor that the SBU chief of police told you, in confidence, that they are friends only because he felt bad for him. The seeds of distrust have been sown! Now you can go to the police station and report that you saw every single faculty member in the Student Union at 3 AM trading crack, smack, meth, X, hash, and dope. For added hilarity, refer to a drug as "goofballs" and make up some drug names of your own--- you're young, they'll believe you.

One of the more obvious solutions to counter "blacktop shrink" is to simply add more asphalt. We have more room to expand our parking lots if we pave over things of little consequence, such as trees, shrubs, anything with leaves, the Roth pond, the 2-Snow guy, and Greeley.

Should these pesky professors continue to park in

your lot, tow their car into a Heavy Engineering classroom. Do this at 7:30 AM and nobody will recognize the car by noon. Of course, it's not always practical to tow a car on a whim. Wearing the proper chemical suit and protective goggles, sprinkle the offending car with Roth pond water. In 2-3 hours the car will be reduced to a brown stain on the ground. Now call the Haz-Mat team and have the parking space thoroughly neutralized before you park there.

"Gain access" to the vehicle and paint their parking pass green. Eat ticket, vile fiend!

Bring this article to the attention of your RA and rally your building's LEG behind him or her. As a community we can defeat these malicious mis-parkers.

Disclaimer: This article is a parody and the methods described therein should not be attempted under any circumstances. If you actually do any of this stuff, you're either very stupid, or very angry and encourage-able.

Depressing Poetry Corner

For the times when you think
your life sucks

The Forsaken

By Alexandra Borodkin

My heart's broken
my soul's amiss
how could our love
bring sorrow as this

your heart foresaken
my love deceived
so many nights awakened
so many days I grieved

and yet could I hold you
could you stay for a while
bring back the light
in my saddened smile

leave me not empty
moonlight on snow
beautiful but lonely
with no place to go.

Tomorrow's Lunch

By Lena Tumasyan

I looked upon you with dreadful eyes
and swore my future would cease
I'm sorry I stole and told you lies
my heart did not live with ease.

I harmed you so often in different ways
I thought I'd never regain my touch
But I don't want to be the one who never pays
and waits to borrow at tomorrow's lunch.

I know the stupid explanation above
is simple but happens to be true
Truth is you're not the one that I love
But it's still not fair for me to ruin you.

Forget what I said, I still hate when you give me the bill
Waitress, please don't stop giving me my refill.

A Chance at Comprehensive Immigration Reform

Satire By Damian Geminder

Last May, the president addressed the nation on the topic of comprehensive immigration reform.

It was an eloquent, albeit flawed speech. His border reinforcement measures sounded, shall we say, completely unrealistic and unenforceable.

So, in lieu of Operation Wetback II: Electric Boogaloo, I am proposing another option: Alligators.

Alligators, the most humane means of deterring illegals: ferocious killing machines or a happy compromise between the two?

Think about it: Row after row of angry,



scaly beasts gathered at our border, threatening all those who trespass into their territory, and that's just the anti-Minutemen protesters.

There have been multiple alligator-related deaths this past spring so the effectiveness of the beasts is undeniable. I say, why not use our own home-grown weapons of mass destruction to help alleviate our immi-

gration woes?

Alligators are extremely cost-effective as compared with Terminators, and according to my research, they actually exist. Also, the introduction of aquatic reptiles to the blazing Southwest desert would surely be a nice change of pace for our carnivorous friends.

Mother Nature is already creating frightful new bear hybrids that threaten to invade us from the North. Combined with the illegal aliens from the South, they threaten to destroy our very way of life. This is literally two-thirds of the way to the creature Al Gore has declared will destroy us all (Man-Bear-Pig), and he's always right.

Just imagine it: One day, you're minding your own business, when all of a sudden, a Mexican-bear hybrid (commonly known as a Mexi-Bear, or *Ursus Illegalis*) steals your hub caps, takes your job and mauls you, all under the auspices of the Senate's immigration "compromise"!

No, my friends, we must not allow that to happen. Mark my words, there is indeed a tide coming, a tide that reeks of Taco Bell and wet fur. We must act, and fast.

Heed my advice, Mr. President, and place alligators at the border. Or you may find your occupation in private life to be the feeder or the feedee of a family of angry, welfare-receiving Mexi-Bears.

Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month

Satire By Virginia Morgan



A Joy of Almond

If you like the Buttery Nipple, you'll love this!
Not intended for the weak of stomach, faint of heart or for those who are under 21 years of age.

Ingredients:

1 oz Kahlua
1/2 oz Amaretto
Float 1/2 oz Creme de Almond

Directions:

Simply add ice and mix.

Yield: 1 serving

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

Each month this column will highlight one of Senator Kennedy's favorite drinks. This month's drink: A Joy of Almond

OFFICIAL Drunk of the Month

Mel Gibson

Best Drinking Story:

It started off as an average day. I had finished working on my latest film, Apocalipto, and like my hit film, The Passion of the Christ, and my favorite book, the Bible (First Edition), it doesn't have a single word of English in it. I took a break from studying ancient and dead languages to make my next film in (I'm thinking a film in wookie-speak might sell) and headed out to the bars to hang out with women-other-than-my-wife.

I had thrown back a few drinks when I realized it was Friday morning, and, out of respect to the Jewish community, I decided to attend evening Shabbat services that night. Realizing God had a strict no-driving policy come sundown Friday night, I drove home as fast as I could to get ready. Unfortunately, I drove too fast (and too drunk) and got pulled over by a few cops.

I tried to calmly and coolly explain to them that I was F#&%ing Mel Gibson, the guy who made Jesus a movie star, but they apparently weren't fans. And in the heat of the moment, I may have said one or two

things about the Jewish people that were completely inappropriate, and for that I apologized for. (And if any Jewish readers out there haven't yet seen my heartfelt apology, I forwarded copies to the ADL (The Jewish Anti-Defamation League), in addition to every Rabbi and Jewish International Banker I could find in the yellow pages, so ask them for a copy).

While we're on the subject, let's be totally honest. Had I insulted Asians for being bad drivers, nobody outside of Connie Chung would have given a damn, but since the Jews own Hollywood I'm suddenly blacklisted from film and television. What the ^#\$% is up with that?

[Editor's Note: The Patriot Staff would like to take this opportunity to remind readers that we do not share the views of Mel Gibson in this regard, nor do we advocate activities that take place in the 'Drunk of the Month Column.']

Anyway, the night wasn't a total loss (aside from the death of my career and reputation). I did meet a very nice woman in the police station named Officer



Get Wasted Like Ted at These Fine Locations



Stony Brook Area

Three Village Inn
150 Main Street
Stony Brook
751-0555
Happy Hour: 5-7

J&R's Steakhouse
1320 Stony Brook Road
Stony Brook
689-5920
Happy Hour: 4-7

Port Jefferson Area

Tara Inn
1519 Main Street
Port Jefferson
473-9602
Happy Hour: 5-7

Village Way
406 Main Street
Port Jefferson
928-3395
Happy Hour: 5-7

Printers Devil
105 Wynn Lane
Port Jefferson
473-1130
Happy Hour: 4-7

Billies 1890 Saloon
304 Main Street
Port Jefferson
331-1890
Happy Hour: 5-7

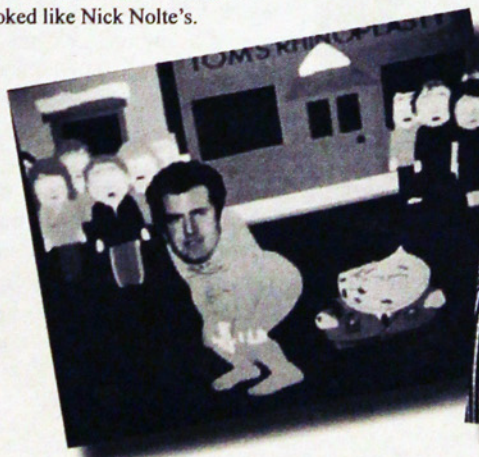
Lake Grove Area

John Harvard's Brewhouse
Smithaven Plaza
Lake Grove
979-2739
Happy Hour: 4-7



Candice "Candy" Sugartits. The media tried to pass that comment off as some sort of sexist remark, but her name really was Sugartits. I swear.

And it could have been worse. My mug-shot might've looked like Nick Nolte's.



Favorite Drink:

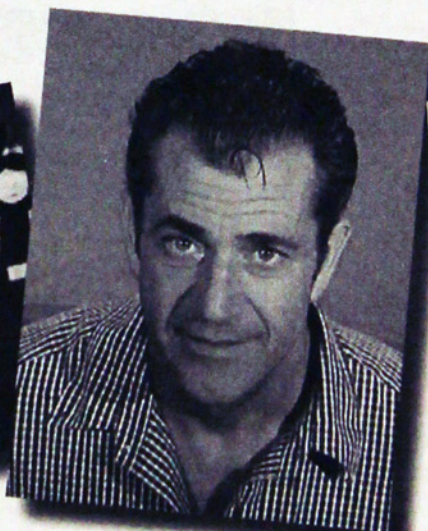
An opened bottle of tequila wrapped in a brown bag kept in the back of

Favorite Bar:

Moonshadows Restaurant in Malibu

Drunkest Ever:

There was this one time at Mass when I partook a little bit too much of Jesus' blood.



The Patriot | Sports



Sean Martin

SPORTS MINUTE

As the baseball season winds down, both the Yankees and Mets can coast through September on cruise control as they prepare for the playoffs. The Yankees did an excellent job overcoming several serious injuries early in the summer, you almost got the sense that they were just waiting to make their move on the Red Sox. This came after the Yanks were able to steal star Outfielder Bobby Abreu from the Phillies, who were looking to dump salary. Shortly thereafter the Yankees dropped the hammer on Boston, sweeping a 5 game series from them in Fenway, which insured that the Yankees would go on to win yet another AL East Crown.

Meanwhile the Mets were almost never forced to play any important games as they had a double digit lead in the standings for most of the season. The usual bad luck streak usually associated with the Mets never came (even a freak taxi cab accident injury could not keep them down) and the Braves bowed out without so much as a fight after winning

11 NL East Titles.

Both the Mets and Yanks are primed for runs in October, assembling 2 of the most potent offenses in recent memory. Both teams are getting healthy at the right time and there is no reason that we won't see a 2nd Subway Series between them this October.

The NFL season got underway this week, thankfully putting an end to 5 months of over hyping. Starting all the way back in May when ESPN began to run preview shows predicting everything from the best offenses in the league, even going as far as to predict all the playoff teams and who would win each playoff game. Adding to the media blitz was the 'Manning Bowl,' which for the first time in league history featured two brothers facing each other as quarterbacks of opposing teams.

I actually just came from the Manning Bowl and it was nice to see that both of the Quarterback Brothers appeared to be unphased by the media focus and play extreme-

ly well. (It was also good to see that despite all the focus both the Giants and Colts have extremely good teams surrounding the quarterbacks) Both Eli and Peyton threw for over 200 yards and 2 Touchdowns. In the end it was Peyton who got the best of kid brother, as Eli made 2 crucial mistakes in the 2nd half. However, everyone in the stadium left with a bitter taste in their mouth as poor officiating cost the Giants a chance to win this one.

With the end of Week 1 in football comes, as always, with media members and fans alike jumping off bandwagons in droves. After months of listening to overblown windbags like Mike and the Mad dog talk about how the Cowboys and the Panthers are going to be fighting it out for the Superbowl, tune in now to see how suddenly after only 1 game these teams shouldn't even show up anymore. And who knows, maybe even Jets fans will put away their 'Just End The Season' signs for a little while and start to believe in this team after they come out with a week

1 victory, despite their best efforts to give it away to a rebuilding Titans team in the 4th Quarter.

Another tradition that goes along with football that has become significant in the last five years or so in this country is the start of the Fantasy Football Season. Am I the only one that thinks that people who spend countless hours in a week pretending to be the GM of a franchise ridiculous? Chances are if you take a look around the classroom you're in right now you'll find at least one of these clowns who is stressed out because he doesn't know if his starting running back's performance will be impacted by the hangnail he read about on his 'insiders' web blog. It is possible that I am overreacting but I am having a difficult time not trying to throw my friends through the television screen when on Sundays, in the midst of watching the Giants get blown out, they sit there and ask 'Yea but Tiki score any TD's?'

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5:30pm
SAC Room 311

Also, check out the website:
www.stonybrookpatriot.com

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SAC 311