

News

An Alternative to Pricey Haircuts

BeautyandBrains preceded Studio 97 as a male barbershop. After it closed, the Faculty Student Association chose Maria Castro-Giovanni to lease the space as Studio 97. The Studio opened its doors on Halloween of 2008. This is the second studio Castro-Giovanni has owned.

» page 3

Opinion

Death of an American Empire?

Afghanistan has joined the ranks of climate change, healthcare reform, and Amanda Knox as a topic that is paid the most frenzied kind of attention to in the news these days. And, as always, everyone is suddenly an expert, offering their Wikipedia-assembled point of view.

» page 5

Arts

Rihanna Raises the Bar and Raises Brows

It was one of the most anticipated highlights for the 2009 American Music Awards. The buzz from reporters and raging fans awaited the arrival, the "come back" performance of the rock star of music, media, and fashion: Rihanna.

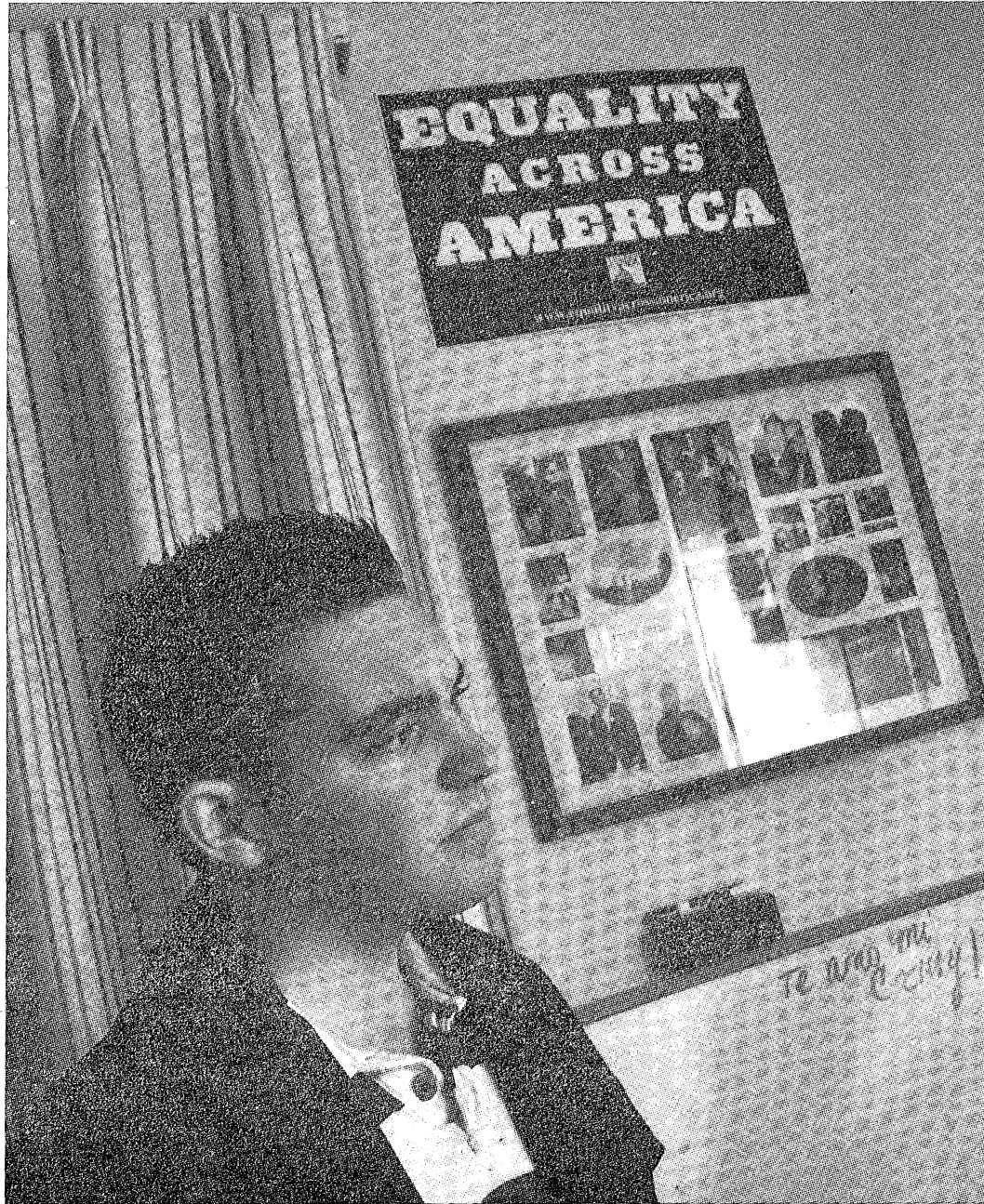
» page 6

Sports

Long Island Rival Drops Football Program

Stony Brook no longer has to worry about facing Hofstra in the annual football battle of Long Island rivals. That is because Hofstra football, which began in 1937, is no more.

» page 11



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman
In his dorm after the New York Senate voted down the marriage equality bill, Chris Moran reflects on the battle ahead.

With a Long Fight Ahead for Equal Rights, One Student Fights On

By ANGELICA FUSCO
Contributing Writer

Chris Moran's dorm room is a reflection of who he is and the things he treasures. The spacious room in West Apartments on the Stony Brook University campus, which he shares with a roommate, is decorated with a large picture frame that showcases photos of his friends and family.

Political science, sociology and bartending textbooks are stacked on the brown refrigerator next to his desk. An Italian flag hangs on the wall by his neatly made bed and the mahogany desk is well organized, with a Long Island Rail Road train schedule tacked on a bulletin board. There is enough room on the desk for a small tank that is home for his

pet beta fish.

But amid the stuff of student life and all of the odds and ends that make a college dorm room a home away from home, Chris Moran displays the things that announce who he really is.

Next to the flag that symbolizes his Italian heritage, hangs a poster from the movie "Milk" which tells the story of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay politician to be elected to public office in California. In a penholder on his desk, he's placed a rainbow flag – an emblem of gay pride – and on the softly humming brown refrigerator beside his desk he's plastered stickers that shout in large letters: "Gay Marriage Rights Doesn't Scare Me" and "From Legal Rights to Equal Rights."

Chris Moran – a 21-year-old

political science and pre-law major from Burlington, Vermont – is openly, unabashedly, outspokenly, and proudly gay.

And so it's no surprise that Chris and his partner, Henry Ha, a 19-year-old philosophy and sociology double major from New Jersey were on the front lines of the recent "Rally for Equality" in front of the Student Activities Center at Stony Brook University. Chris was the main speaker and helped Henry, who organized the event, which was sponsored by SBU's Social Justice Alliance and the Resident Hall Association to educate students about the same-sex marriage bill, which was defeated last week by the state senate, the Gender Expression Non-

Continued on page 3

Moving Away From The Old, A New Way to Teach

By ERIKA KARP
Assistant News Editor

In the Stony Brook University Union lecture hall, one student is engrossed in his Game Boy and another is piecing together his schedule for the spring semester, as their professor rambles on with as much enthusiasm as Ben Stein in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off."

"He just talks," Heather Dixon, a freshman political science major, said of her philosophy professor. "It's just boring."

But fortunately for her and other students, a survey conducted by the Cooperative Institutional Research Program, or CIRP, has revealed that this traditional way of teaching is fading. Professors are adopting more engaging and interactive ways of teaching, otherwise known as student centered teaching and learning.

According to the National Survey of Student Engagement, students have been shown to receive higher grades and retain more information as a result of this transition.

Patricia Aceves, director of The Faculty Center, a department at Stony Brook University, which works with professors to improve teaching practices and create student friendly learning environments, explained that the cause for this trend has a lot to do with the millennial generation, otherwise known as the Millennials.

These students are generally born between 1980 and 1994, tend to multitask, expect immediate results and surround themselves with all different forms of technology.

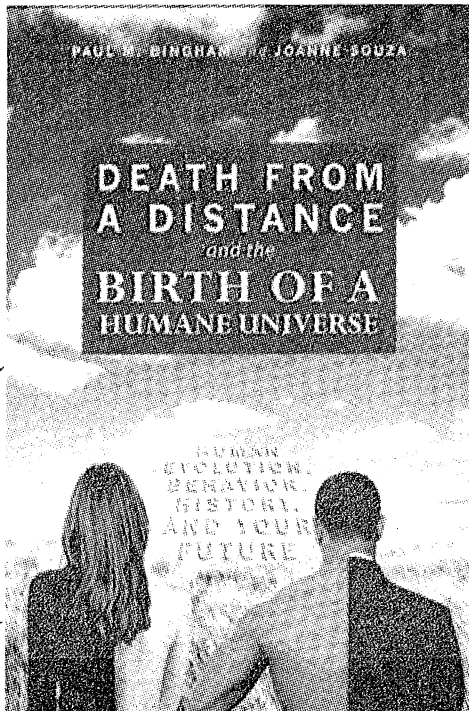
"You learn best when you are actively involved in the process," said Nancy Wozniak, a learning architect at The Faculty Center. "You have ownership and a sense of pride when you are actively participating."

Richard Howard, Dixon's philosophy professor, acknowledged his traditional style of teaching. He finds the large class size makes it dif-

Continued on page 9

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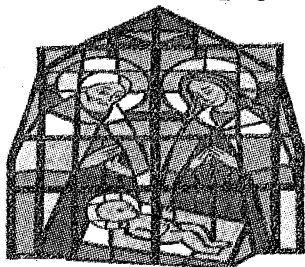
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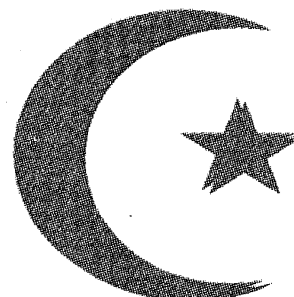
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Christmas



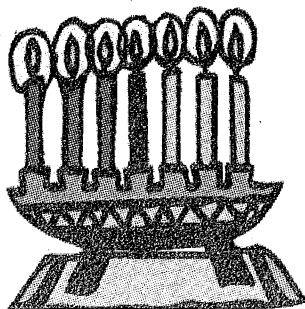
Ramadan

Festival of Lights

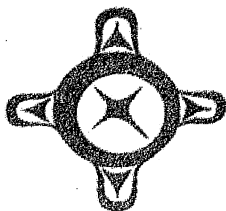
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With a Long Fight Ahead for Equal Rights, One Student Fights On

Continued from page 1

Discrimination Act, and the Dignity for All Students Act that were making their way through the New York State Assembly.

On that autumn day, Chris stood behind the podium and looked at the crowd confidently. He wore a black suit with a rainbow tie, and his dark brown hair was gelled and combed back.

Students chanted: "two, four, six, eight, separate church and state" and held signs high above their heads that shouted in large letters: "Another Straight New Yorker for Marriage Equality" and "Love is Love." Chris's booming voice carried through the crowd of 80 people, announcing it was time for gay New Yorkers to fight for their right to marry.

"He is very mature and very brave," said Michelle Isabelle, a friend and advocate for gay rights from Johnson State College in Vermont, where Chris was a student before transferring to Stony Brook. "He represents the gay community's fight for same-sex marriage."

But it wasn't always that way for Chris. Long before Chris became a strong lobbyist for gay rights, his dream was to be an archaeologist. "Everything about dinosaurs fascinated me," Chris said. When he was a boy, he would examine the large teeth of a dinosaur on the 12-foot-tall poster that dominated his room. He loved old universal movie monsters like Frankenstein, the Wolfman and the Creature from the Black Lagoon. Framed photos of his favorite monsters hung behind his bedroom door.

Chris's family didn't have a lot of money. When he was four, his father went on disability after a truck hit

him. His mother worked odd jobs to make ends meet and to keep the family together. But Chris never wanted for anything. His favorite toy was a creepy crawlers bug maker. And when he was 16, his mother got him a job at a local video shop. His 50-year-old boss, Ted was openly gay. Chris said Ted gave him the courage to come out. But it would be awhile before he came out to his family. And when he finally confirmed their suspicions, he says they were, and remain, supportive.

A few days after the rally, Chris sits at the kitchen table in West apartments and remembers the day he opened up to his closest friend Eileen Vasquez, a 20-year-old psychology major at the University of South Florida. "He was more comfortable with me because I was the most open-minded out of his friends," Vasquez said. "And he knew I wasn't going to judge him."

It happened four years ago. Chris turned on his computer, signed on to his instant messaging service and scrolled up and down his buddy list searching for Eileen's screen name. He was nervous, but he decided it was time he opened up to her.

"Me gustan chicos?"

"You're gay?"

"Yes."

"You've never judged me Chris, so I would never judge you."

And then a second later, the two friends were on to another topic of conversation.

By the time he was heading to Stony Brook, Chris was a gay rights activist. But it didn't happen overnight. Chris started out at Johnson State College in Burlington, Vermont. The school had a student population of 1,300 students, and only a handful of them – including

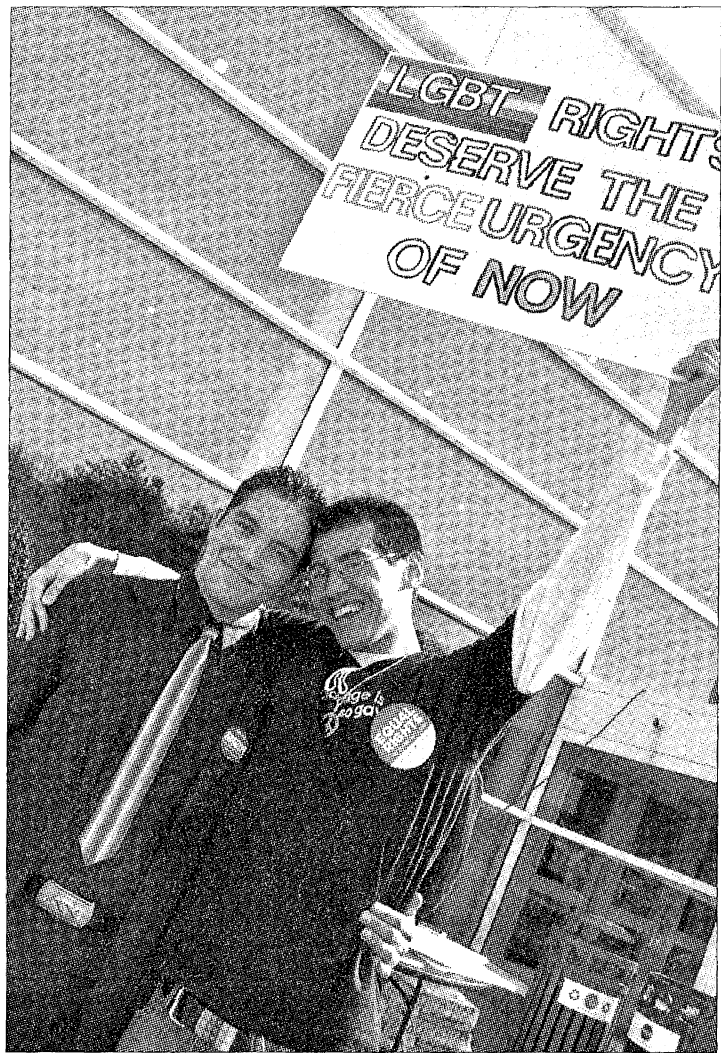
Chris – were openly gay.

He soon felt singled out as the token gay man on campus. Chris remembers how his political science professor, Jerry Anderson, turned to him during a class discussion about the same-sex marriage bill pending in the state legislature at the time. Chris gave a face to the same-sex marriage debate and his professor, whose views were against the bill, had a sudden change of heart. Professor Anderson said to the class, "Degrading homosexuals is the only thing we can do and still get more votes."

And then there was the gay pride parade he marched in. The gay marchers held a banner saying "Thank you Vermont," to thank the state's legislators for passing the same-sex marriage bill, and the people who rallied in support of it. During the parade he was tasered from behind by an unidentified person and rushed to the hospital. "I was shocked. Not that he was tasered, but because it happened to a close friend," said Michelle Isabelle. "He was tasered and it was just a headline in newspapers, nothing more."

For two years, Chris worked with Vermont Freedom to Marry, a non-profit organization dedicated to full civil marriage equality for same-sex couples. He is passionate about gay issues such as legalizing same-sex marriage and Proposition 8, which overturned the California Supreme Court's ruling that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marry. Members of the organization lobbied Vermont legislators to pass a same-sex marriage bill. In March 2007, they did, making Vermont the first state to legalize gay marriage through its legislature.

Massachusetts, Connecticut and



Aleef Rahman / SB Statesman
Moran and his partner, Henry Ha, at the rally they organized earlier this semester.

Iowa have legalized gay marriage by court rulings. However, Vermont's Republican Governor Jim Douglas vetoed it. In a 100 to 49 vote, the legislature overturned his veto, and as of April 2009, gay couples can legally marry in Vermont. "I was brought up as a Catholic," Chris said. "And I would like to have a traditional wedding. As a human being, I have a right to get married."

One of the pictures in the framed gallery on his dorm room wall shows Chris and Henry hugging and kissing. It's a snap shot of a happy couple who went bike riding in Battery Park

in Manhattan on their first date, and who took time out to see the play Rent.

Every Wednesday night Henry makes Chris watch the T.V show "Glee," and to reward him, Henry cooks dinner. Henry loves to play tennis and Chris stands on the sidelines, cheering him on. These are things that any young couple might enjoy, which is exactly what Chris has been fighting for.

"I stand in 40-degree to 90-degree weather so future gay couples don't have to fight for same-sex marriage like I have to," Chris said.

An Alternative to Pricy Haircuts



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman
Studio 97, a hair salon at Stony Brook, has been open since 2008.

By ALEXA GORMAN
Contributing Writer

"I would go only if I was desperate for a haircut," said Renee Fitzpatrick, about Studio 97, the salon located in the Union basement.

The 18-year-old anthropology major usually chooses her hometown salon, Capozzi and Company, to trim her locks. "I get a discount because my mom knows the owner."

But after finding out that Studio 97's prices beat her discount by \$15, she immediately changed her mind. "I would definitely go," she said. "It's right on campus, and cheaper than back home."

Men's haircuts are \$12, and women's cuts start at \$20. Nail

services range between \$12-\$28. Eyebrow shaping is \$7.

BeautyandBrains preceded Studio 97 as a male barbershop. After it closed, the Faculty Student Association chose Maria Castro-Giovanni to lease the space as Studio 97. The Studio opened its doors on Halloween of 2008. This is the second studio Castro-Giovanni has owned.

In a previous interview with The Statesman, Castro-Giovanni said, "I want this to be the [students'] salon, so that they have a stress-free place to go."

"[The studio] is different because it is unique in having to service students," said Castro-Giovanni. "Students are more creative and apt to try new things. They are a lot easier clientele to

deal with and I love being around them."

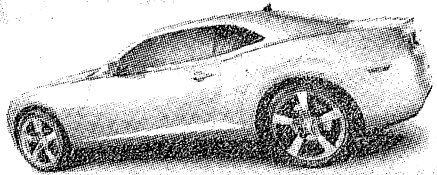
The studio is not open during breaks, but according to the staff, business remains constant during the school year. Hours at the salon vary. The salon is open Monday, Thursday and Friday, from 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Wednesday between noon and 8 p.m. Castro-Giovanni scheduled the time frames based on when she believed students were not busy.

Five hairdressers and two nail technicians currently staff the salon. Maria and the staff at Studio 97 make a trip to their salon a personal and down-to-earth experience. "When students realize we're trained professionals, they become more relaxed. They usually come back for all services."

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The Statesman encourages readers to submit opinions and commentaries to the following address:

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WHO WE ARE

The Stony Brook Statesman was founded as "The Socolian" in 1957 at Oyster Bay, the original site of Stony Brook University. In 1975, The Statesman was incorporated as a not-for-profit, student run organization. Its editorial board, writing, and photography staff are student volunteers while its business staff are professionals.

The Statesman is published twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Disclaimer: Views expressed in columns or in the Letters and Opinions section are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Statesman.

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By **RIDWAN HOSSAIN**
Contributing Writer

Afghanistan has joined the ranks of climate change, healthcare reform, and Amanda Knox as a topic that is paid the most frenzied kind of attention to in the news these days. And, as always, everyone is suddenly an expert, offering their Wikipedia-assembled point of view. The veracity of these views are inevitably confirmed with snazzy one-liners and quotes, the most atrocious of which has sadly made its way into public discourse: "Afghanistan is the graveyard of empires."

You can just imagine the tagline for tourists: "Afghanistan, where empires go to die!" Those who promote such sentiments, perhaps out of wishful thinking, are better dramatists than they are historians.

The most oft-cited example of Afghanistan bringing down an empire is surely the Soviet Union. The story seems suspiciously familiar: a global superpower supporting its local Afghan allies is violently resisted by foreign-backed guerrillas. Proponents of the "graveyard" hypothesis would be glad to stop the comparison there, but the plot thickens. The Afghan mujahideen, joined by foreign Muslims, were fighting what they saw as a godless, communist, and alien government. It would be too hopeful to call the Afghan gov-

Death of an American Empire?

"Our role in Afghanistan will not kill us, but losing faith in the values that inform our existence as a country will."

ernment of today a truly democratic one, but it at least competes with, rather than replaces, traditional society and power structures. Unlike the Soviet's pet regime, it has the option of defeating its opponents through cooperation and inclusion (as the Taliban before it did to some degree). Given time, it may even evolve into something of a representative government suitable for Afghanistan's complex and diverse society.

War, but because the war was just one of the many examples of the dictatorial Communist Party failing to fulfill the needs and desires of its people. Luckily for us, when one party fails us, we have the privilege of electing another, such as in the 2208 election.

What about Alexander? The Muslims? The Mongols? Fortunately, history is only ambig-

goals in some form or another.

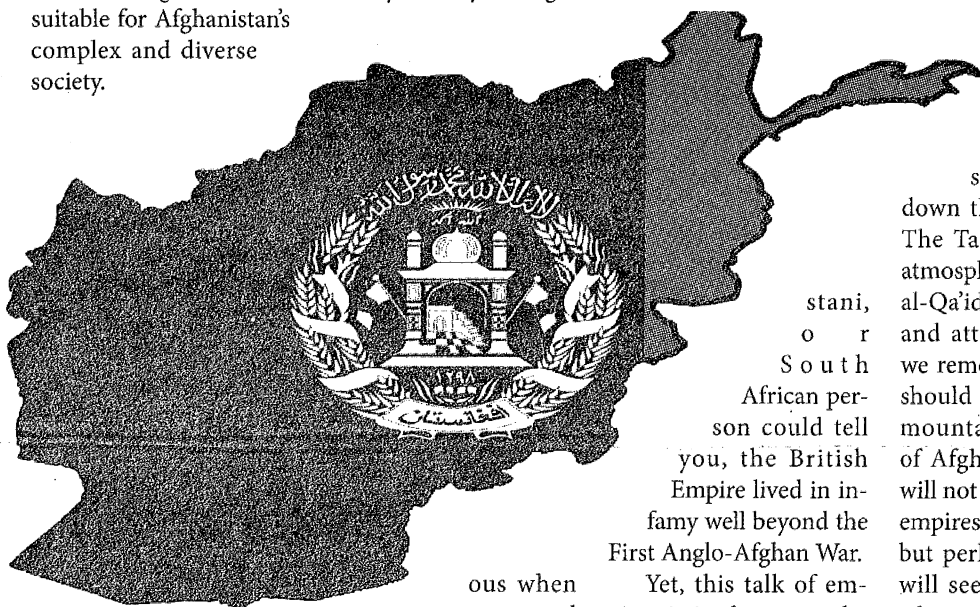
And what of the British? The largest empire to have ever existed lost an entire army to Afghanistan in 1842, leading to their withdrawal (lets ignore that they returned victoriously later) and, purportedly, the death of their empire. Yet, as any Palestinian, Indian, Guyanese, Pakistani,

World War II, the Soviet Union "liberated" Eastern Europe by shackling it behind an Iron Curtain; America's military occupations of Western Europe, Japan, and South Korea served the goal of protecting democracy and economic opportunity.

We are not in Afghanistan to rule it by force or by proxy. We don't seek their resources, their women, or their religious affiliation. There is no Great Game, no beltway conspiracy to put

down the bearded man. The Taliban created an atmosphere that allowed al-Qa'ida to plot against and attack America, so we removed them, as we should have. Search the mountains and valleys of Afghanistan and you will not find the graves of empires or superpowers, but perhaps one day we will see a modern state where none previously existed, protecting rights previously not enjoyed.

Our role in Afghanistan will not kill us, but losing our faith in the basic values that inform our existence as a country will. Freedom and liberty are not just buzzwords for use by the likes of Palin and Glenn Beck; they are the key difference between America and its more covetous predecessors.



Media credit: www.mapsof.net

The Soviet Union left defeated, not because Afghanistan possesses some mysterious, empire-killing quality, but because it was chased out by a determined, anti-communist resistance backed by the world's only other superpower. Furthermore, the Soviet Union fell not because of the Afghan

ous when you need to promote a platform. The mountainous terrain of Afghanistan has always made it difficult for foreigners to conquer, even doubly so in the ancient world (with its lack of helicopters, bombers, satellites, and advanced communications). Yet Alexander, the Islamic Caliphate, and the Mongols have all done it, achieving their political

stani, or South African person could tell you, the British Empire lived in infamy well beyond the First Anglo-Afghan War.

Yet, this talk of empires is irrelevant to the discussion of the United States in Afghanistan today. While some decry what they see as vicious American hegemony, the global role of our military is not one of bloodthirsty conquest. Empires swallow up states, peoples, and cultures, giving no borders to the oppressive methods they use to further their goals, however noble or evil. After

From the Editor: Introducing "SBstance"

Hello Statesman Readers,

Thanks for picking this issue up. I'm writing to announce a new concept for a column in this section based on NPR's "This I Believe" and the New York Times' "One in Eight Million" series. This periodic feature will offer us a brief statement of your perspectives--the ideas that guide the way you interact with people or dictate how you see yourself--in an informal, narrative style of 400 words or less. Check thisibelieve.org for sample articles, and send your contributions or any questions to me at op-ed@sbstatesman.com.

Guidelines for Opinion Submission



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Rihanna Raises the Bar and Raises Brows

Music Review for Rihanna's album, "Rated R"

By JIHAN ANTOINE
Contributing Writer

It was one of the most anticipated highlights for the 2009 American Music Awards. The buzz from reporters and raging fans awaited the arrival, the "come back" performance of the rock star of music, media, and fashion: Rihanna.

Rihanna, who was completely bound in bands, like a mummy, performed back-to-back singles from her new upcoming album. The award special, which aired on Nov 22, two days prior to the release of Rihanna's senior album, "Rated R," was the perfect power play to let the world know that "She's back!" Back from hiding, back from a damaging relationship, and back from the studio where she produced her most personal album.

"Rated R," which should stand for "real, raw, and maybe a tad raunchy" is



Media credit: www.abc.com
Rihanna performed at the American Music Awards on November 22.

an album which reflects Rihanna's feelings on a love lost and a life gained after the widely publicized incident between her and her then-boyfriend, Chris Brown, and represented her strongest musical outlet and emotional therapy. The cover photo, as she looks up while covering an eye, demonstrates Rihanna's willingness to expose herself and tell listeners her side of the story. With a triple dose of sex appeal and a few uncompromising positions, the album photos suggests that Rihanna is ready to exceed boundaries and the controversy that may come along with it.

The album begins with the captivating intro "Mad House," inviting listeners to come in and prepare themselves for a musical journey of sadness, anger and revenge. Two words to describe the rest of the album: "dark and deep."

Rihanna reclaims her independence and standing through a game of love and in her first single "Russian Roulette"-- "Calm yourself, he says to me/ If you play, you play for keeps/ Take a gun, and count to three"--and takes control in "Hard" featuring Young Jeezy-- "They can say whatever, I'ma do whatever/ No pain is forever/ Yup, you know this."

Compared to her previous albums, her Caribbean background, the Barbados, plays a new twist of Caribbean flavors while complimenting hard rock interludes in songs like "The Wait is Over" and "Rude Boy."

Unlike the classic bubbly pop-princess that used the mind set of female producers and writers to create personal love ballads, Rihanna looked to "the boys" to get the point across. Although Rihanna had major creative control and co-wrote five of the 13 songs, her team of pop's male major players included Ne-Yo, Justin Timberlake, The Dream, Tricky Stewart,



Media credit: www.rihannanow.com
Rihanna released her fourth studio album "Rated R" in late November.

and will.i.am to add the cutting edge to the love songs.

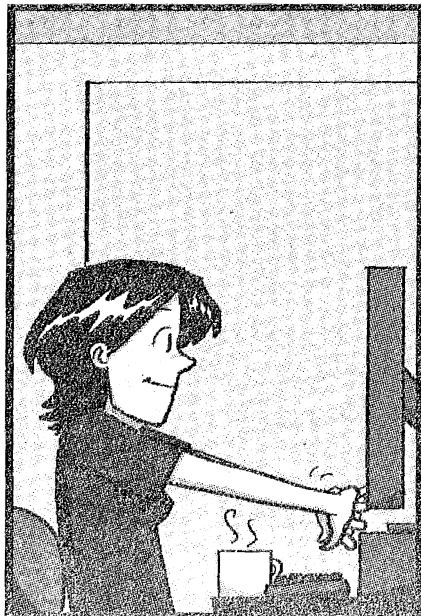
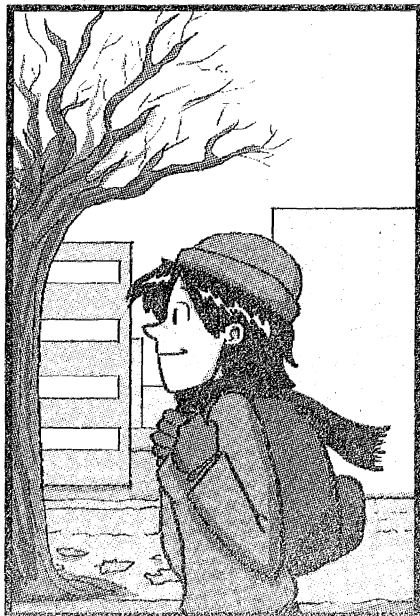
Justin Timberlake, who produced "Cold Case Love," feature powerful punches about the abusive relationship. "What you did to me was a crime/ Cold Case Love/ And I let you reach me one more time/ But that's enough." Will.i.am, who produced "Photographs," made personal references to Rihanna's past relationship and possibly the two major leaked scandalous photos of Rihanna, a few personal ones for Brown only and

the unforgettable photo of Rihanna's badly bruised face." "Fire Bomb," a song produced by Brian Kennedy, who wrote the past massive hit "Disturbia," was also a hard ballad that entailed that Rihanna was far from a victim to love and abuse.

This album has strayed away from the traditional, featuring meanings of love, heartbreak, and re-invention. Rihanna has used this album as her canvas to showcase her personal images of what happened in her past life, her present position and her plans for the future.

Comics

PHD COMICS BY JORGE CHAM



JORGE CHAM © 2009

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Literary Work

Sex Sells

By K.H.
Contributing Writer

Please pardon the pun as I punish those that penetrate young minds with

pronounced and prolific amounts of the P word.

Yes, I'm talking about P****.

What you must understand is that life is a restaurant and sex sells.

Johnson & Johnson, Vaseline, and Keri are a few beneficiaries as young boys lock doors and lock eyes on what life has on the menu

and for the next few minutes he feeds his appetite

moisturizing a part of his body you'd never know got ashy.

Guys are more visual, they'd rather SEE a sample of the main course

But a woman she has no issue reading the menu

running over the description a few times,

Trying to understand how succulent the beef and broccoli actually is

And thinking to herself, how will the sauce taste?

So these young girls exercise their imagination as they role play with

their mind

Turning the pages of novels each time their thoughts become more real

So basically Everyone grows up wanting to be a Chef

Spending extra time in the kitchen putting in work

And nowadays the cooks graduate from culinary school early

On that accelerated program

So a lot of times there's kid my brothers age cooking up a storm

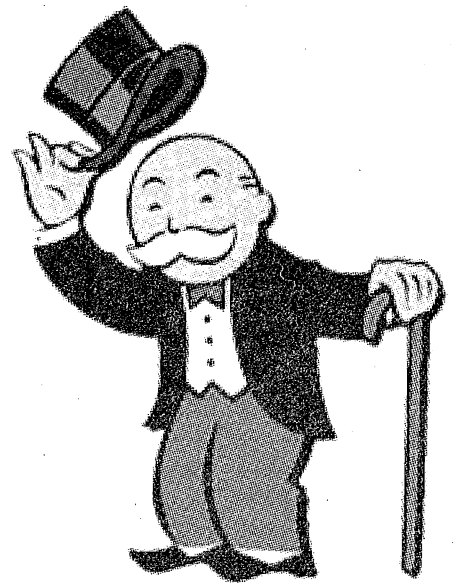
And he's only ten.

Problem is if your cooking without good knowledge of what to do

You can end up getting BURNED putting one in the OVEN

Guess he never knew he had to put on a glove.

Comcast



Media credit: www.stopthecap.com

A Dangerous Deal?

By FARJAD FAZLI
Contributing Writer

Comcast, the nation's largest cable company, announced last week that it had reached an agreement to purchase a majority stake in NBC Universal from General Electric. The deal values NBC at \$30 billion and creates a joint-venture media behemoth that is bad for consumers.

Under the terms of the agreement, Comcast will control not only the NBC broadcast network, which is currently fourth place in ratings amidst a deteriorating broadcast TV market, but more importantly it will have NBC's lucrative cable operations under its belt as well. These include CNBC, MSNBC, USA, Bravo, and SyFy, among others.

Broadcast networks are suffering from steep advertising losses, their only source of income, while cable networks make money from both advertising and the monthly subscription fee cable companies charge households.

The extent to which this consolidation will reduce competition is unimaginable. Comcast will own both sides of the court: content creation as well as content distribution. And it will be in a position where exercising anti-competitive actions greatly helps the bottom

line.

It could begin charging competing cable companies more to distribute NBC shows, a cost that will likely be passed on to the public.

Comcast's sports channel, Versus, would gain all of NBC's programming, including rights to NFL games and the 2012 Olympics, and

“This consolidation will reduce competition to an unimaginable extent.”

could easily ruin ESPN by denying SportsCenter replay privileges to those events.

Then there's the matter of Hulu.

Hulu.com, a site that offers advertising-supported streaming of TV shows and movies, is partly owned by NBC Universal. There have been talks that Hulu will start charging for content soon, and under Comcast that is even more likely.

Comcast also provides internet and telephone service to millions of

people, and thus the deal is a major setback for net neutrality (the principle that the Internet should remain free and open, and that content on the web should not be discriminated by internet service providers).

Last year, Comcast was found guilty of deep-packet inspection, or closely monitoring users' online activities, and then selectively throttling down connections from services it didn't like, such as peer-to-peer file sharing.

The story went like this: if Comcast provides cable television and internet to customers (and charges for both), why should they allow people to use the internet service to obtain television shows online? Comcast wants everyone to buy the television content from them, not get it from file-sharing sites.

Now, with all of NBC's shows behind them, Comcast has even more incentive to restrict this access. The same logic applies to telephone service—let's just say that Comcast is not particularly fond of Skype.

It is important to note here that this merger is still subject to regulatory approval from the Federal Communications Commission, which will hopefully see the potentially harmful implications of this deal and move to prevent it from completing.

MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST

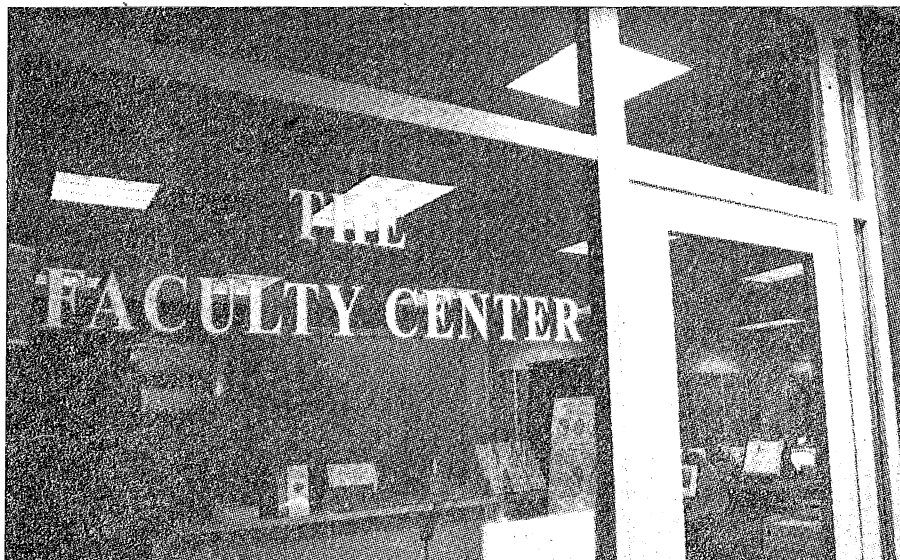
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Moving Away From The Old, A New Way to Teach



Frank Posillico / SB Statesman

The Faculty Center works with professors to improve and refine their teaching techniques.

Continued from page 1

difficult to have an interactive lecture class and encourages students to go to weekly meeting sessions where they can interact.

"There's no other way," he said. "It's brutal."

But Linda DeAgnelo, assistant director for research at CIRP at the Higher Education Research Institute, or HERI, at UCLA and co-author of the report, said they has been an increase in student centered teaching at all

different types of schools, from large research universities to small liberal arts colleges.

Stony Brook chemistry professor Joseph Lauher, along with a number of his colleagues, redesigned their organic chemistry course, the largest lecture class at the university. They made the class more interactive and engaging for students by broadcasting lectures online, using clickers, which are devices that allow students to submit answers to interactive questions and, most importantly to Lauher, leaving the stage

when teaching.

"You want students to enjoy the course," he said.

Since the changes, overall success rates have improved and attendance is the best it has been in 10 years. Clickers can also be used to take attendance in large classes where it can be difficult and time consuming to do so by hand.

According to Hilton Baxter, program coordinator for The Institute for Student Centered Learning at Binghamton University, the transition to a college learning environment can be difficult for new students.

"Many students come into college with an idea it's the teachers responsibility to teach them something," Baxter said. "Hopefully by the time people leave college they are able and responsible for finding information and new skills on their own... essentially becoming independent learners."

A study about the influence of active learning on college student dropouts from The Journal of Higher Education, showed that an increase in active student learning could play an important role in the retention rates of first year students.

Joan Kuchner, the director of child and family studies minor at Stony Brook, has tried to create a student centered learning environment. She tries to make use of the entire classroom and have students be vocally and physically active.

"I want to encourage students," Kuchner said. "Help them connect from the material... how they can reflect from it in their own lives."

According to DeAgnelo, there has been a great focus on teaching practices, especially

in the science related fields.

With help from The National Center for Academic Transformation, or NCAT, Stony Brook has redesigned an introductory physics course.

According to the NCAT website, the course has been redesigned, because the traditional lecture based format has failed to engage students and in order to accommodate a growth in enrollment. The redesigned course will encourage active learning and provide students more resources to get extra help.

Wozniak, Lauher and Baxter agree that there is a struggle to switch from the traditional model of teaching.

Wozniak and Lauher both said that the amount of work involved in redesigning courses could prevent professors from making the transition.

"One of the things that can be a challenge in a classroom is moving away from a lecture model, where the teacher just talks and everybody takes notes, thinking that's all you need to do to learn," Baxter said. "Move learning experiences to a higher level where students take info that they found themselves... can synthesize that knowledge... somehow apply it. That you wouldn't be able to do in a straight lecture class."

Back in Dixon's class, where the student is still battling away on his Game Boy, the other is still making his schedule and faint snores can now be heard in the back of the class, this traditional lecture model still stands.

"Maybe if he just stopped and let things settle in," she said. "Maybe more interaction and more discussions?"

HIGH TECH BEAM

The Next Step in E-mail: Google Wave

By CHARLES COSTA
Columnist

By now, virtually anyone familiar with the Internet has grown weary of playing email tag. However, the frustration associated with those tasks will soon be washed away with Google Wave, a heavily publicized service of the Internet giant which is intended to revolutionize the collaborative nature of the Web.

Although still currently at the invitation only stage, I'm mentioning Wave (wave.google.com) now as it is a very promising product worth looking forward to when it is open to the public, or more invitations are sent out. As Gina Trapani, founder of the popular technology/productivity blog Lifehacker.com described the service during her presentation at the packed auditorium of Manhattan's Javits Center at the recent Web 2.0 Expo, Google Wave is what email would be if it were invented today. Focusing on the fact that email was created approximately 40 years ago, the much used technology is essentially the cavemen of the technological world.

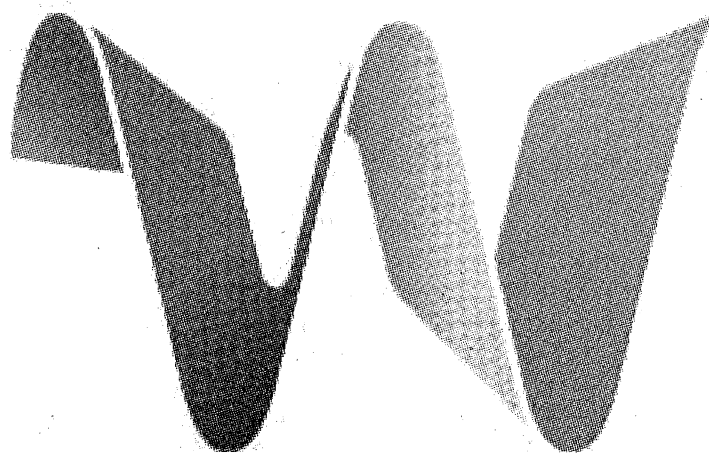
Google wave stands apart from email because it is an environment where users create "waves" - documents in the

program, which can be edited by users in real-time. Waves can feature photos, videos, attachments, text, and more, much like email. However, rather than bouncing copies between each user, people involved with the wave can all edit the document in real time and even replay the wave's activities from start to its present state.

According to Gina, Google Wave works well with project management, photo sharing, and interactive content. In particular, she also made a point that it's more for small groups rather massive projects.

In my test of Wave, I did a search for public waves and found a few interesting ones, such as one titled "Collaborative Writing Fiction Projects" which was a massive group of users all contributing to different story topics. Despite the interesting concept, the large amount of users made the experience confusing and fairly difficult to see what was going on, although the replay feature helped to see the happenings.

If/when you begin to use Wave, note that for technical reasons, it's better to use Chrome, Safari, Opera, or Firefox over Internet Explorer. Also, during my initial tests, I found Firefox experienced significant amounts of lag compared to



Media Credit: Google

Chrome, Safari and Opera. However, this issue might be resolved in the near future.

Wave is for more than document collaboration. As Google is planning to make Wave open source, there will be plenty of applications available for the program, similar to how Facebook has a wide array of applications.

For a much more detailed look into

the features of Wave, have a look at Gina Trapani's work The Complete Guide to Google Wave (completewaveguide.com), which is free to read online and a PDF version is available for purchase of \$6. The many features of Wave can also be found by viewing the presentation from the Google Developer Conference at <http://bit.ly/HzDVA> (this is a shortened version of the YouTube link).

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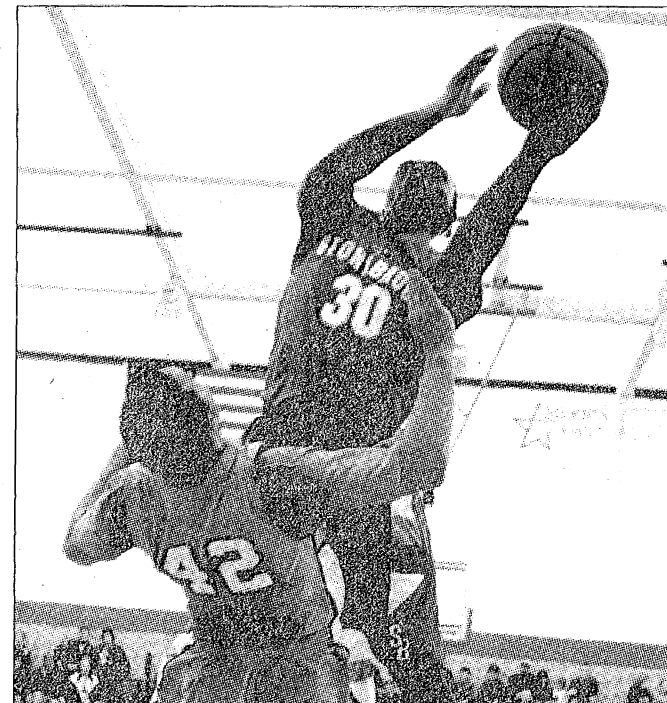
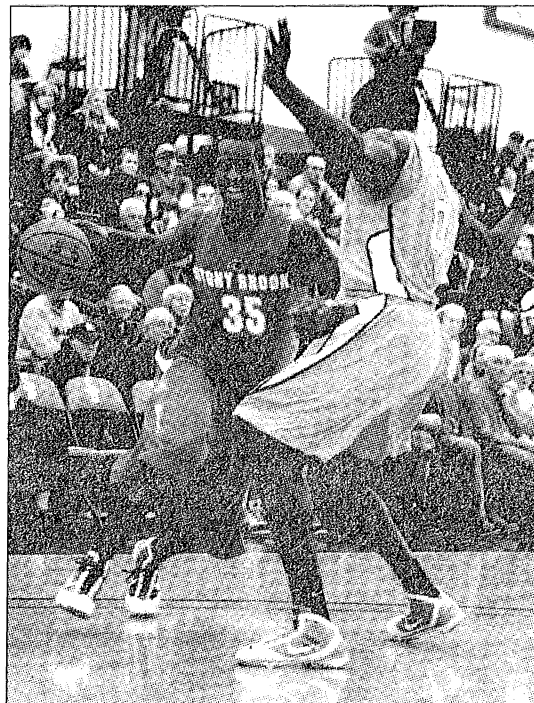
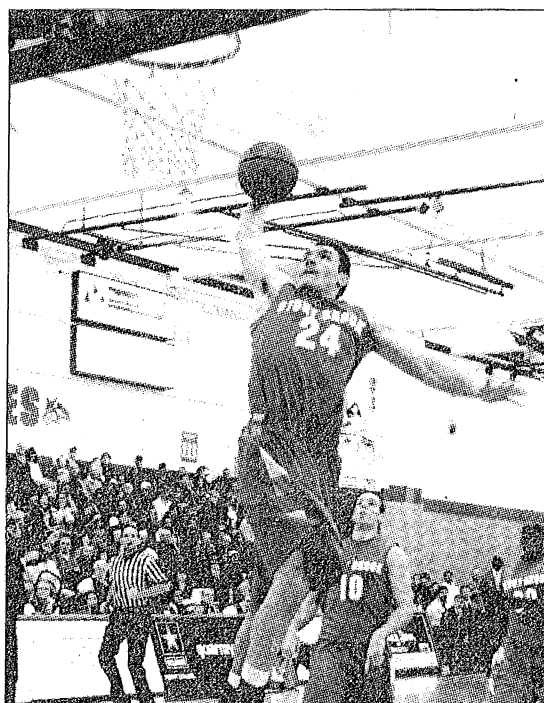
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Seawolves Bounce Back To Defeat Lions



Photos By Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman

Multiple Seawolves contributed to the comeback win, with forward Tommy Brenton (left) grabbing 11 rebounds, guard Muhammad El-Amin picking up 9 points, and guard Chris Martin racking up 18 points.

By DORIC SAM

Staff Writer

Stony Brook's men's basketball team rallied from a 12-point second-half deficit to defeat the Columbia Lions 63-60 on Saturday. Junior guard Chris Martin (Springfield Gardens, N.Y.) scored a game-high 18 points to help the Seawolves improve to 6-2, their best start since 1992-93.

"What a terrific win for our guys against a very good and experienced Columbia team," Seawolves Head Coach Steve Pikiell said. "We really played well on the defensive end in the second half, and then made enough plays down the stretch to get a hard-earned victory. I couldn't be prouder of my team."

After losing senior center Desmond Adedeji (Landover Hills, MD.) for the season, it was clear that someone would have to step up.

Adedeji, who led the team in field goal percentage, suffered a torn ACL during the battle against St. John's Wednesday night.

Stony Brook ended the game on a 25-10 run behind a combined 16 points from Martin and sophomore forward Danny Carter (London, UK). Carter and sophomore guard Bryan Dougher (Scotch Plains, NJ.) both finished the game with 12 points.

Columbia, now 3-4, went on a 10-0 run to take its largest lead of the game at 50-38, with 14:11 remaining in the second half. But seven combined points from Martin and Carter made it 50-45 and forced Columbia to call a timeout.

The Lions were able to push their lead back to six, but Carter answered with back-to-back three-pointers to tie the game at 54, with 7:30 left in the game.

After the Lions were able to break the tie on a jumper from Noruwa Agho, the Seawolves answered right back when sophomore forward Tommy Brenton (Columbia, MD.) found sophomore center Dallis Joyner under the basket for a dunk.

On Columbia's very next possession, Brenton was able to steal the ball and take it the length of the court, for a thunderous

slam that brought the home crowd to its feet. This was the Seawolves' first lead of the half, at 58-56.

Defense then dominated the rest of the game, as both teams remained scoreless for the next three minutes.

Martin ended the drought with a driving layup, pushing the Seawolves' lead to four.

The Lions would close within two, and then stopped the Seawolves on their next possession, giving them the ball with 40 seconds left.

But SBU forced its way through and Martin came up big once again, hitting two free-throws to push the lead back to four.

"When he gets to the foul line it helps our team tremendously," Pikiell said of Martin. "I always feel comfortable with him at the end of games, and that's a good feeling to have."

A layup from Patrick Foley brought the Lions back within two and then Dougher missed a free throw to give Columbia a chance to tie or take the lead with 11

seconds left.

But the defense came up big once again, forcing Foley into a missed jumper and Joyner grabbed the rebound with four seconds left. Carter then hit one of two from the line with one second left and the Lions were unable to get a shot off before time expired.

The Seawolves improved to 3-0 at home on the season.

Martin was clutch in the final minutes of the game, finishing 10-for-11 from the foul line.

Brenton recorded double-digit rebounds for the third-straight game, as he grabbed a game-high 11 rebounds. Senior Muhammad El-Amin (Lansing, MI.) also chipped in with nine points.

The Seawolves held the Lions to 38.2 shooting for the game, the sixth time this season the opponent was held to under 40 percent shooting.

Stony Brook returns to the road on Tuesday, traveling to the Bronx to face the Fordham Rams. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m.

Long Island Rival Drops Football Program

By SARAH KAZADI

Sports Editor

Stony Brook no longer has to worry about facing Hofstra in the annual football battle of Long Island rivals.

That is because Hofstra football, which began in 1937, is no more.

After organizing a two-year review of the team, the university's Board of Trustees voted unanimously to eliminate the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) program, in hopes of redirecting the \$4.5 million needed to maintain it towards "academic initiatives and need-based scholarships," according to Hofstra University President Stuart Rabinowitz.

The move comes just two weeks after fellow Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) member Northeastern University decided to drop its football team, which paints an interesting image for the association come

next fall.

School officials cited poor attendance, lack of interest, and high costs as the primary reasons for the move. Despite being offered free tickets, an average of about 500 students attended games at the 13,000-seat James M. Shuart stadium, with the general attendance averaging roughly 4,200 fans. Also, the team sold only 172 season tickets, whereas the Hofstra Pride basketball team more than quadrupled that amount, selling 750 season tickets.

Competing in the FCS, national media interest is scarce, and Hofstra's mediocre 5-6 record this past season did not guarantee more of it.

Despite having sent several players to the National Football League, like former New York Jets standout Wayne Chrebet, lack of national interest has plagued the team for the past few years.

Hofstra University's athletic depart-

ment has a budget of \$22.8 million, and a \$2.8 million chunk of that is for football scholarships. Overall, the team's annual \$4.5 million tab was the most expensive of the athletic programs. "In the end, we could not continue to justify the expense of football compared to the benefits it brought to the university," added Rabinowitz.

Rabinowitz assured that the university's 17 other teams are safe, and that the 84 players previously on the football squad will keep their scholarships if they remain students at Hofstra. However, many of them might transfer to other schools in order to continue playing the sport they love, like redshirt junior linebacker Rashad Swanson.

"It's devastating," said the San Francisco native in a statement to ESPN, "Football is pretty much our lives here. There's some guys who are thinking about staying. But me, personally, I'm thinking about leaving.

I can't be here if I can't play football."

If they transfer, the players will be able to play right away, instead of sitting out one year as per National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) rules. One of their destinations could be Stony Brook, being that it is the most competitive program near Hofstra. The Seawolves clinched as co-champions of the Big South on November 21, sitting atop the conference within two years of joining it.

Whatever the players decide to do, Hofstra University will no longer be a football home to them. Rabinowitz stated that priority number one "is to work with our student-athletes to ensure that they manage this transition in whatever manner is most comfortable for them."

He added that cutting the football program was a tough choice that will spell long-term success for the university as a whole.

STATESMAN SPORTS

Women's Hoops Routs St. Francis

By DAVID O'CONNOR
Contributing Writer

The Stony Brook women's basketball team picked up its second win of the season while denying St. Francis its first, defeating the visiting Terriers by a lopsided 71-40 margin in Pritchard Gymnasium Sunday afternoon.

"It's big for our confidence," said Coach Michele Cherry. "It's the way we played. We got contribution from everybody even if doesn't show up in the stats."

From the start of the game, the Seawolves showed a great deal of intensity. The home team jumped out to an 18-7 lead on a jumper from junior forward Kirsten Jeter (Elmont, NY.), cashing in on a nice dish from freshman Sam Landers (Springfield, VA.). The bucket led to a Terrier timeout, but Stony Brook kept pouring it on, getting contributions from various players to close out the first half.

"We played with more energy from start to finish," said Coach Cherry. "We've had that in spurts, but this time we had it for the entire game."

The Seawolves entered the second half with a 30-18 lead and avoiding the foul

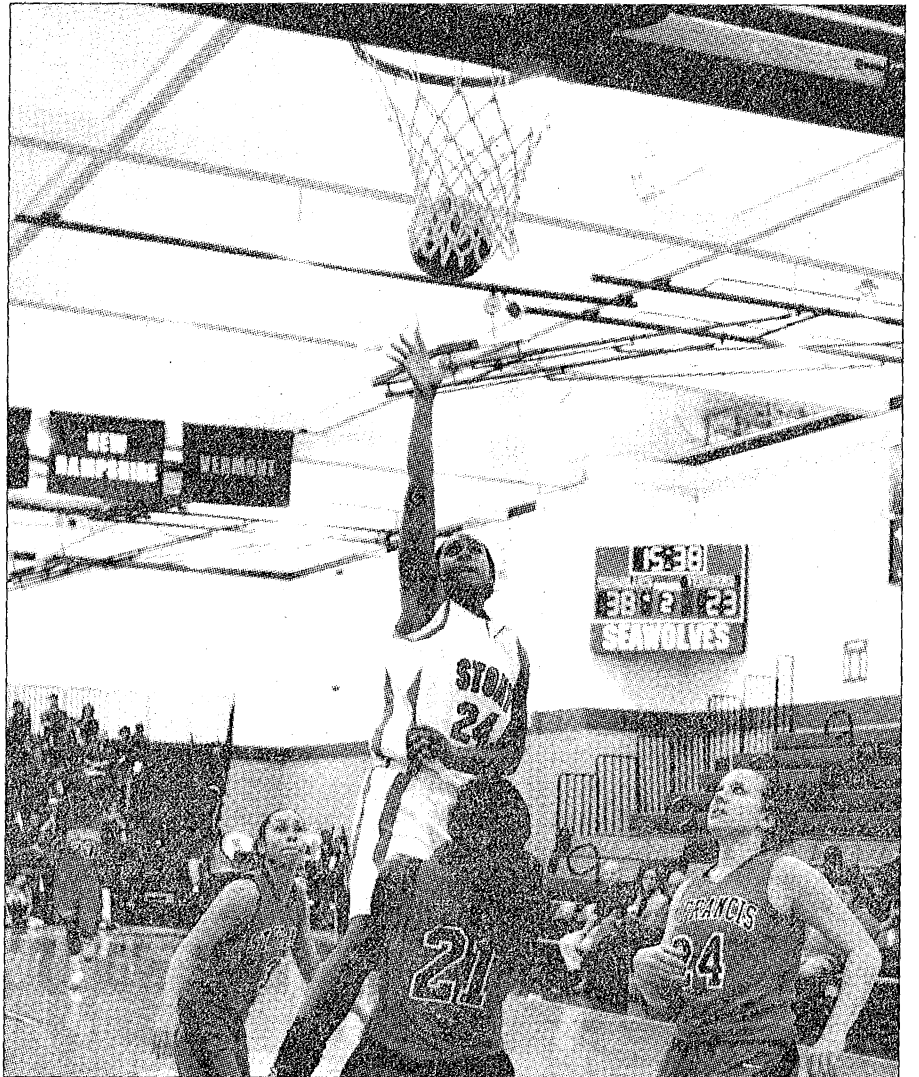
trouble that has plagued them early in the season. At the start of the second period, the teams exchanged baskets until Stony Brook began to pull away with good shots and strong defense. The Seawolves shot 48 percent in the second period, while forcing the Terriers into a poor 22 percent.

The coach also cited stellar post play as a catalyst for the win. "[Kirsten] Jeter will score. You can't stop that," said Cherry. "Destiny [Jacobs] was tough, getting rebounds." Stony Brook got 57 rebounds through the game, 11 of which were secured by the sophomore center Jacobs (Glen Burnie, MD.).

Jeter finished off the game with four of the last six baskets, making her the scoring leader with 20 points. Both Jacobs and senior forward Joia Daniels (Silver Springs, MD.) picked up double-doubles in the win, with Jacobs notching 10 points and 11 boards, while Daniels scored 15 to go along with 10 rebounds.

This was the third time this season that Stony Brook scored over 70 points and their largest margin of victory this year.

The Seawolves are back in action on Wednesday, hosting the Fairfield University Stags. Tip-off is slated for 7:00 p.m.



Kenneth Ho / SB Statesman
Forward Joia Daniels picked up 15 points and 10 rebounds in the blowout win.

Extra Points: *The FIFA World Cup And Other Ramblings*

By SAM KILB
Staff Writer

The draw for the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa was completed on Friday. The draw determines which countries are in which groups, and who plays when.

And the draw gods were smiling on the United States on Friday. The other members of Group C (in addition to the United States) are England, Algeria, and Slovenia.

Soccer in America is traditionally dismissed as unimportant. But everyone takes notice when the World Cup comes around. People who haven't played soccer since their days of minivans and orange slices will pay attention to the games and the results.

Thus, the World Cup has always been seen as an opportunity for soccer in the USA to gain popularity. And this year, the Yanks have got a real chance of making people take notice.

The best-case scenario for the US. Algeria and Slovenia are...well have you heard of their soccer prowess? Neither has anyone else.

This leaves England, our old colonial rivals. Soccer is as much a part of England as tea, crumpets, and the Queen, if not in fact then certainly in the perception of Americans.

Thus an upset victory over the English—and it would be an upset—would be huge in proving the legitimacy of American soccer. And it will be fun to watch a certain guy named David Beckham wear the op-

posite color from Landon Donovan after their early-summer row.

The best part is that the game with England should be the only time the USA drops points in the group stage, taking the pressure off.

The top two teams in each group progress, and if the United States takes care of business with Algeria and Slovenia (and England does as well) the outcome shouldn't matter.

And to the English that think it will be a walk-over? Remember our 2-nil victory over the World Cup-favorites Spain in the Confederation's Cup in June. Cheers, mates. See you on the pitch on June 12th.

Closer to home...

* I know. Students don't care about sports on campus. But you can't help but notice our men's basketball team. At 6-2, this is one of its best starts in many years.

The Seawolves only lost to St. John's by eight points, a slim margin considering St. John's competes in a Big East that has seven teams in the national top 25. And they are coming off a hard-fought win over Columbia.

Even better, the team is young and has even better years ahead of them. Coach Pikiell has done a fantastic job instilling a work ethic in the team, and it makes men's basketball a real contender for yet another Stony Brook conference crown this year. So come out to a game, you just might be entertained. I'll be there.

* Also, to the game operations staff... Empire State of Mind, while a great song, does not replace the fight song and alma mater after a game. Play it after, but not before.

* With the budget crisis in the SUNY system, there has been discussion as to the value of an athletics program. Hofstra, scared to face an improving Stony Brook athletics program, cut their football program in an effort to save money for academics. But the sports here are invaluable.

Our school already ranks among the least happy, and to cut athletics program will only make it so that there is (somehow) less to do here and will discourage students, even those focused on academics, from attending.

Sure, people go to Duke because it's a great school. But somewhere deep down, they just want to be a Cameron Crazy.