



# Sports

## UNH's Comeback Sinks SBU 63-60

By CHRISTOPHER HUNT  
Statesman Editor

Frustration flooded the Stony Brook University women's locker room as a disappointed coach and dejected players stormed out of the building after a 63-60 loss to New Hampshire, Tuesday night.

No player more dejected than a red-faced Jill George.

Playing the team held personal implications for George, who is from Manchester, New Hampshire. The Seawolves needed a win in a tightly packed conference where four other teams were one game above .500. SBU dropped to 5-5 in conference play with the loss.

"It was very important," George said. "It didn't look like it was. But it was important."

Like any player against their hometown team George wanted to give a special performance. Opportunity knocked when New Hampshire's Maren Matthias committed her fourth foul early in the second half.

Coach Trish Roberts told the team to find George in the post and attack Matthias, who didn't want to foul out.



Courtesy of www.goseawolves.org

**America East's leader in rebounds only managed five boards against her hometown team.**

George's job was to be aggressive. "I didn't do it," she said. "That's what everyone said."

With their leading scorer, Sherry Jordan, limited to seven minutes in the first half because of foul trouble, the Seawolves still managed to head into

halftime with a 30-29 lead. Bojana Bogetic, in her home debut, found SBU an eight-point lead with her only basket of the game and about 10 minutes remaining.

But the Wildcats fought back, cutting the lead to three before Jordan scored the next two baskets, giving the Seawolves a 60-53 lead with four minutes left. Jordan finished with 14 points and nine rebounds in 27 minutes.

New Hampshire answered with a 7-0 run, tying the game at 60-60 with less than two minutes to play. A tentative Stony Brook team turned over the ball four times during that stretch.

No turnover more costly than a backcourt violation after Theresa LoParrino fumbled a pass with 33 seconds left.

"They played not to lose," Roberts said. "When they don't attack... games like this are going to happen."

LoParrino's turnover resulted in a three-point play when New Hampshire's Aubrey Danen made a lay-up while being fouled by Jordan. LoParrino spent the rest of the game

trying to make up for that one crucial mistake.

After a timeout, Jordan pushed the ball upcourt and passed to George in the post. When New Hampshire collapsed on George she kicked it out to a wide-open LoParrino waiting at the three-point line. She missed.

The Seawolves got one more chance to tie the game when a jumpball gave possession to Stony Brook. With eight seconds left no one could get the ball to Erica Shipley, who shot 6-9 for the game and finished with a team-high of 19 points.

Instead, Sarah Burkett found the ball and drove to the basket missing a lay-up but gathering the rebound with three seconds in the game. She threw the ball out to LoParrino about five feet behind the three-point arc.

She missed off the front rim. The game left Roberts questioning her team's effort. "They want to throw in the towel or play like they did earlier in the conference," she said. "It's up to them."

## Women's Basketball Falls To Maine 75-61

Courtesy of www.goseawolves.org

**Feb. 9, 2002** - The University of Maine women's basketball team trailed by 19 points in the first half and 15 in the second half before defeating Stony Brook University, 75-61, Saturday afternoon in front of 2,208 at Alford Arena in Orono.

The win improved UMaine to 12-9, 5-5 in America East while Stony Brook dropped to 12-8, 5-4.

UMaine outscored the Seawolves 46-21 in the second half. A 14-2 run in the second period cut the margin from 48-34 to 50-48 with 10:09 left. With 7:28 remaining, UMaine's Heather Ernest scored inside to tie the game for the first time at 55-55 and start a second 14-2 run. Melissa Heon followed with a three-pointer for a 58-55 lead.

Stony Brook's Erika Shipley answered with a jumpshot, cutting the edge to 58-57 but UMaine responded with nine straight points. Missy Traversi hit a three-pointer then Julie Veilleux connected on a

jumpshot from the foul line.

Ernest added two free throws, then Monica Peterson scored inside and suddenly it was 67-57 UMaine with 4:51 left in regulation. The Seawolves never recovered, managing four points the rest of the way.

Heon led UMaine with 17 points, 13 in the second half. Traversi added 14 points, while Peterson contributed her second straight double-double and fifth of the season with 11 points and 12 rebounds. Peterson and Heon both drew Stony Brook leading scorer Sherry Jordan defensively.

The duo helped hold her slightly below her season average (16.4 ppg) with 14 points. Peterson blocked a career-high five shots while Heon recorded a block and a steal.

UMaine held a 42-24 edge in rebounding, including 21 offensive rebounds. Stony Brook's top rebounder, Jill George grabbed just four boards and scored 10 points while limited to 22 minutes due to foul trouble. She left the game with four fouls, prior to UMaine's first 14-2 run at 15:24.



Courtesy of www.goseawolves.org

**Erica Shipley tallied 12 points and six assists in Stony Brook University's loss to conference rival Maine.**

In addition to Jordan's offense, Shipley also scored 12 points and dished out six assists for SBU. Sarah Burkett

tallied 11 points, nine in the first half for Stony Brook.

The visitors built a 40-29 intermission lead on superior shooting. Stony Brook made 15 of 28 shots from the field (54 percent), including 67 percent (8-12) from three-point range.

Stony Brook entered the contest as the league's ninth-best three-point shooting team. UMaine shot just 38 percent in the first half, but made 55 percent (17-31) in the second 20 minutes.

### Seawolves Notebook

SBU's men's basketball team won their third game of the season on Sunday with a 57-53 victory over Maine. JonPaul Kobryn led with a team-high 18 points.

Seawolves guard Larry Jennings underwent foot surgery last Friday after his already injured left foot didn't heal correctly. He is expected to be out 12 weeks, ending his season.

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## Proposed TAP Cuts Move NYPIRG to Action

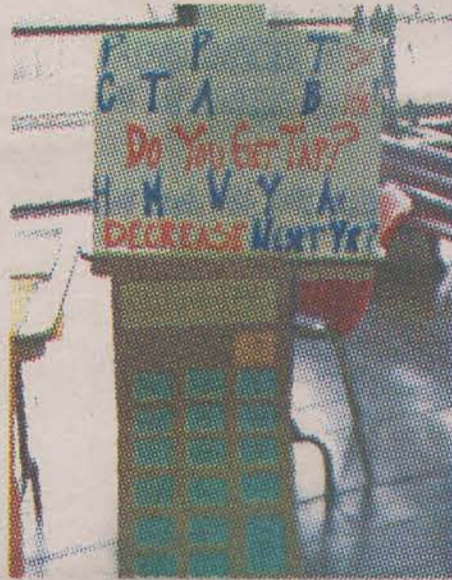
By PAUL CONRAD  
Statesman Staff

Currently, 255,000 New York college students receive aid from the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Governor Pataki's proposed 2002-2003 budget, outlined in a speech delivered on Jan. 22, includes a 55 million dollar cut to TAP. Pataki has also said he will not restore cuts made last year to childcare and minority opportunity programs.

Acknowledging the magnitude of these potential cuts, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) has launched efforts that include letter writing and phone drives, press conferences, and a Mar. 4 statewide lobbying day.

"The Governor is balancing his budget on the backs of college students, by failing to increase funding for SUNY and CUNY, failing to restore last year's cuts to opportunity programs and childcare, and proposing an absurd cut to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP)," Camille Rivera, the NYPIRG Board of Directors Chairperson, said in response to the budget proposal.

The quarter of a million New York students receiving TAP aid represent



Statesman/Kelly Brown

NYPIRG students set up a TAP information table in the SB Union Tuesday.

approximately half of all higher education students in the state. The proposed budget will reduce awards by one-third.

Because the program issues awards based on a sliding income scale, financially disadvantaged students face a loss of vital funding, and NYPIRG is encouraging all college students to become self-advocates.

"It is essential for students to advocate for their own rights, and

defend access to higher education. By cutting TAP funding, the governor is taking money directly out of your pocket," Meagen Reeve, coordinator of Stony Brook University's NYPIRG chapter, said.

To explain cuts made in his proposed budget, Governor Pataki stressed that, due to the crisis faced during and after Sept. 11, sacrifices were unavoidable.

"We are facing a budget shortfall in this and our upcoming fiscal year totaling \$6.8 billion... Today, I am submitting a budget unlike any of the previous seven that I've presented... either we control the crisis, or the crisis will control us," Pataki said.

In addition to cutting TAP funds, the governor's proposed budget would institute a policy allowing funds to be issued only after a student graduates. Though NYPIRG acknowledges that the state of New York faces a serious budget shortfall, the group questions the rationale behind taking the money from higher education.

"The TAP cut is a tuition hike for the state's poorest students, who will be required to pay an additional \$1,000 or more each year for their higher education. Students need financial aid to

help pay for college when they are attending college, not after they graduate," Rivera said.

In response to the proposed budget, NYPIRG also noted the cumulative effects and problems caused by consecutive cuts in higher education. Because of cuts last year, many services and programs will be years behind on budget needs if and when funding is increased again.

NYPIRG's efforts to prevent proposed education cuts from becoming a reality will culminate on Mar. 4 with a statewide lobbying day. Reminding students of the direct effects these cuts have on them, NYPIRG encourages all students to let their voices be heard.

Ironically enough, Governor Pataki's own words from Jan. 22 have become the mantra of NYPIRG activists: "We face tough decisions. Reducing our commitment to education is not among them. It's not an option. We won't do it."

For more information on how to become involved in NYPIRG's campaign, log on to [www.nypirg.org](http://www.nypirg.org) or contact Meagen Reeve, campaign coordinator, at extension 2-6457.

## Competing for the Same Customers

By KAREN RICE  
Statesman Editor

There is a difference of opinion among Stony Brook students when it comes to the University Bookstore versus Stony Books. Both stores offer different selections, different return policies, different promotions and different services.

Many students also choose to buy and sell books both online and from each other in order to save some money. All of these separate entities are constantly competing for the same customers.

Alishe Zene, a transfer student from South Dakota, was in the University Bookstore seeking a text book for her computer science class. "This store is pretty good," Zene said. "Compared to South Dakota State, this store is more organized and has a larger selection."

Junior Robert Ayzin prefers Stony Books, however, because he feels that they have a greater selection of used books.



Statesman/Gene Tulman

The University Bookstore constantly battles against Stony Books for the patronage of Stony Brook University students.

A junior who identified herself as Nina chooses to sell her books online. "Most of the time my roommate and I go to the bookstore to see how much the books are selling for,"

Nina said. "Then we sell the books for five to ten bucks less. I'm usually able to sell the majority of my books that way."

Nina first tuned in to selling online

when a student handed her a flyer advertising [Criterzzz.cjb.net/books](http://Criterzzz.cjb.net/books), a website where Stony Brook students can sell their text books for free. There are approximately 600 books for sale on the website.

Many Stony Brook students, like Nina, say they "feel cheated" by the prices the two bookstores offer them. However, it is not the bookstores who create the prices. In most cases, the price is determined by the

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# Bird Song: Composition 17



BY KRIS LEE  
Statesman Staff

They left but I remained, wallowing in my own memories, raking in every last one but nothing turned up about a hospital or job interview, parents, or childhood. My only existence was with Crista. Devastated, I finally rose and walked out of the restaurant, stumbling every now and again.

I was a blind man just realizing that I had been blind my whole life, and yet there were memories. Happy times, sad times. Memories of Crista. What did it all mean?

What kind of man was I? Pushing and looking into her past when in the end it was myself I should have been looking at. I screamed, I cried, I pounded the ground, I had woken up from a nightmare and fallen into hell. It was then that He appeared. I didn't think I would see him again.

Was he there to gloat? To see how his little

subject of pain was going? Who knows, but I started hitting him, screaming at the top of my lungs.

"YOU! Its all your fault! Why does it have to be this way? Why must I suffer? You know who I am, why I'm here. Tell me! Tell me who I am!"

I fell apart and wept into his coat. I felt so tired, my body just wanted to sleep forever. But before my eyes could close he stepped back. He knelt on the pavement with me and placed a palm on my head.

"Its not your time. Not yet. Soon but not yet. You still have things to do. You know I cannot tell you who you are. I can only watch and guide you. Have faith in yourself. Go now, she is at the bird sanctuary with that man. You must hurry, time is running out for you and her!"

My body seemed to tremble, then I regained control. I nodded and left him. I knew deep down that the moment this was all over I would know everything. It was alright now. I knew what I had to do. I existed for Crista. I had nothing left but to go to the sanctuary. I had to save my strength. I would need it later.

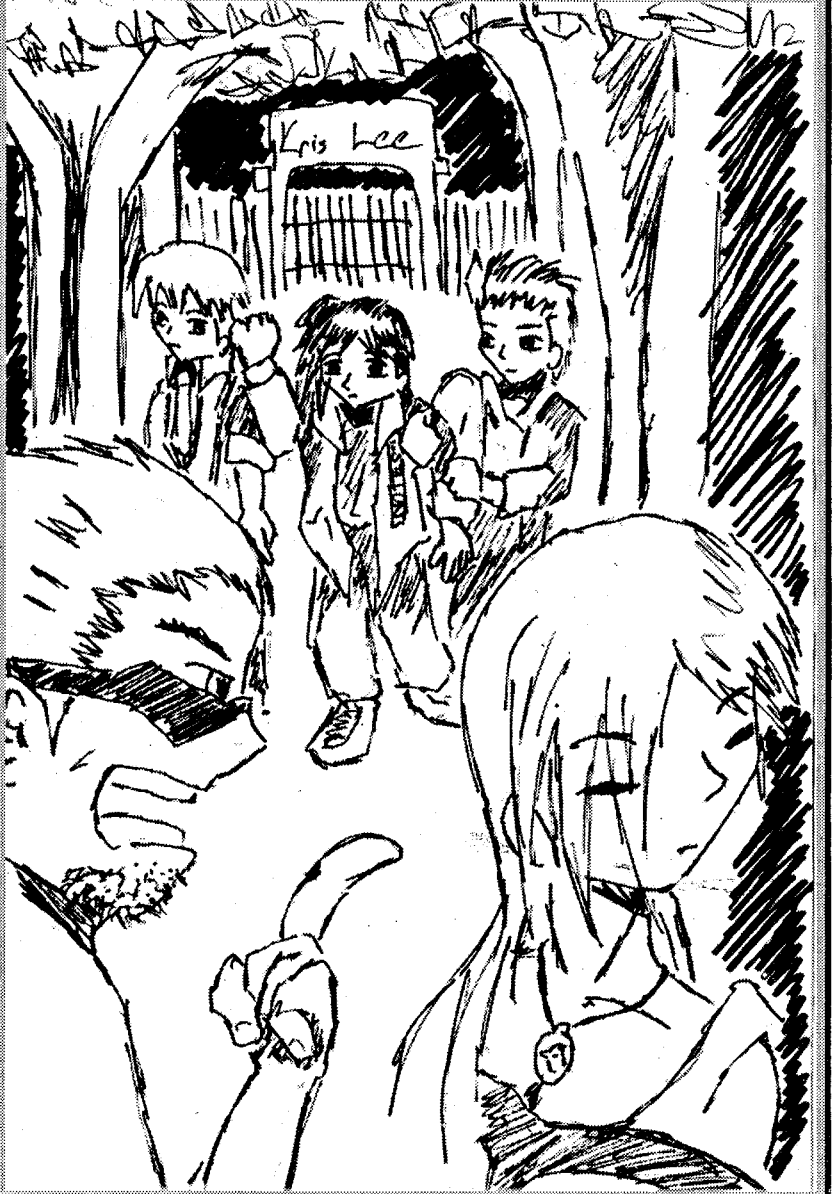
The rain had stopped but the oppressive after-rain smell resided everywhere. I walked through the wrought iron gates of the sanctuary, now a dark menacing portal into the pit of my pain. An itch in my chest, thoughts of nothingness; I felt it without knowing, my body knew what was coming. My death.

Everything slowed as I walked towards the main building in the center of the park. Two men from out of the shadows grabbed and dragged me to the man and Crista. I didn't resist.

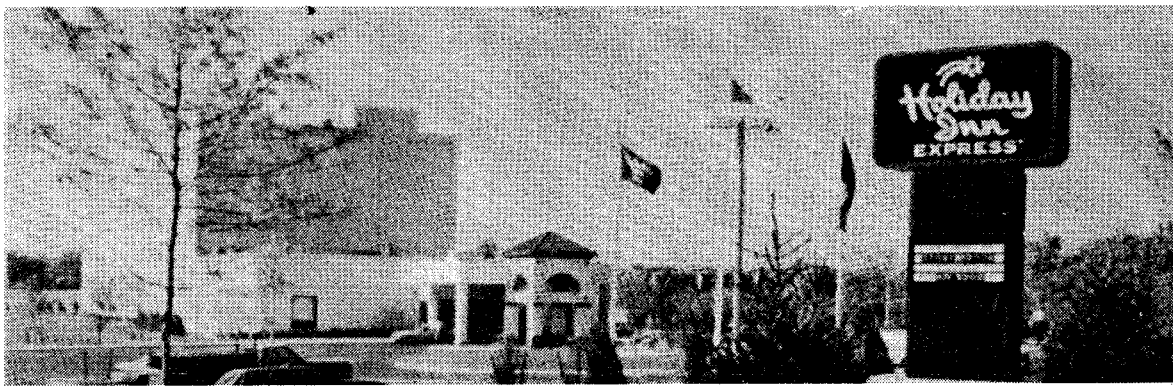
They were deep in argument, he screaming at her, she with her

back to him. Sound seemed inverted for me, although I knew exactly what they were saying. All the quiet, insignificant sounds deafened my ears as loud shouts became whispers in the wind.

His friends brought me in, causing Crista to lose her cool. She stammered and lost her sentence as the man in glasses grew ever furious. I let the men at my side hold me up. All my strength was gathering for my one last act.



The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, February 18, 2002



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**A Thought From Rabbi Adam**



Many may wonder about the Chassidim. Wearing the dress of yesteryear, decked out in black with funny out-dated hats and donning beards (see picture in upper left), one cannot help but ponder what motivates them. Ironically, Chassidim actually belong to a modern ideological movement in Judaism. For when one considers Judaism's 3300 year history, the 300 year old Chassidic movement is, by contrast, quite modern! In reality, the dress and the outfit are cultural, for Chassidism is about a philosophical movement. Based on a mystical approach to life, Chassidism seeks to reveal the esoteric secrets behind the moral principles of the Torah/Bible. The founder of Chassidism, the Ba'al Shem Tov, revealed new insights into the mystical writings of the Kabbalah, and sent his followers to share the knowledge with the Jewish masses. And what were his credentials to make such a philosophical innovation into Judaism by spreading his mystical interpretations to the masses? Well, the Ba'al Shem Tov's theological mandate is explained in a letter detailing a most unusual outer-body experience, "For on Rosh Hashanah of the year 5507 (1746) I engaged in an ascent of the soul as I [often] do and I saw wondrous things in that vision that I had never before seen. I went higher step by step [in the heavenly sphere] until I entered the palace of the [soul of] Moshiach (the Messiah). There I witnessed great rejoicing and could not fathom the reason for it so I thought that, G-d forbid, the rejoicing was over my own departure from this world [to join them]. But I was afterward informed that I was not yet to die. I asked the Moshiach, "When will the Master come?, and he replied, "You will know of it in this way; it will be when your teaching becomes famous and revealed to the world, and when that which I have taught you spread abroad so that others, too, will be capable of ...having soul ascents as you do.."

To learn about the mystical teachings contained in Chassidic philosophy, contact RabbiAdam@hotmail.com

# Hoping the Student Union Arcade's Game Isn't Up

By MARC NEWMAN  
Statesman Staff

Any casual Stony Brook observer would realize how often the word SAC is used. Being there at any hour of the day for food or entertainment means long lines and big crowds.

One would think any form of social life at Stony Brook is a good thing, but the popularity of the SAC has numbed the student awareness of another place on campus people go for fun: the Student Union.

Take a walk across that bridge by the library that once led to nowhere, and into the basement of The Union. There, one will find six professional billiard tables, maintained daily, and a lounge area with a big-screen TV. An arcade is located in the same area. A ping-pong table and dart board are also available for student use. One would think this place would be referred to as often as the SAC. But, strangely enough, the students who frequent the place and Godfrey Palaia, the general manager of the student arcade, call it the "black hole."

"When the Student Union arcade and billiard room opened 10 years ago, hundreds a day would drop by looking to play the arcade and shoot some pool. Today, the interest has dwindled," Palaia said.

There is a small contingent of



Statesman/Marc Newman

The Stony Brook Union Arcade may soon close due to lack of student use.

regulars at the game room, however. "It was the first place I brought a friend from Italy to when he came to visit me on campus. My friend speaks no English, but for him, it was just a cool place to hang out," student Maria Rivera said.

One could argue that arcades are passé and computer games are in. And it is true that the Faculty Student Association

"expected" a drop in business there when the SAC opened three years ago. But, surprisingly, it is the billiard room itself that is most in danger of being shut down.

When most dorm buildings on campus have crooked pool sticks, no chalk and worn tables, one would think the obvious place to go is this professional dig.

"This new generation that is no longer playing arcade games is also not aware of

this place. We've noticed as we advertise 'The Corner Pocket' more, the popularity of the pool tables has gone up" Hinda Liepmannsohn, the Student Manager of the Arcade, explained.

The Corner Pocket? How many Stony Brook students know that this place exists? Lack of student knowledge and attendance may very well shut the billiard room down. Palaia said that the arcade and lounge area, with its ping pong tables and dart boards, will likely follow.

"The philosophy here for the Faculty Student Association is 'use it or lose it,'" Palaia said. "Every year, they took a good hard look at the popularity of the place, and if students aren't coming, then they will shut it down."

Palaia hopes to generate student enthusiasm for this entertainment center in the Union basement, the kind of enthusiasm the SAC has received in recent years.

"We're just looking to raise student awareness that this fun, professional, safe and clean place exists," he said. "If this place were to disappear because students aren't interested, there would not be a relocation of it. In reality, with space being at a premium on campus right now, without student interest at the Union, this kind of entertainment venue would just disappear."

## Milosevic War Crimes Defense Begins

By RALPH D'AMBROSIO  
Statesman Staff

The trial of Slobodan Milosevic for war crimes continued with a four hour statement spoken by Milosevic, in which he blamed everyone for the atrocities that went on in the former nation of Yugoslavia except himself. He claims that the real crime was the killing of Yugoslavia as a unified nation and the crucifying of him.

Milosevic, the first head of state to be tried for war crimes, is charged with genocide against Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1992 to 1995. He also stands accused of wars crimes for wars in Croatia in 1991 and Kosovo in 1999.

The first part of the trial is focused on his alleged crimes in Kosovo. In his statement, Milosevic denied that his

troops killed thousands of civilians in Kosovo in 1999. He described the indictment as a mere fabrication.

Milosevic claims that his troops only fought against Albanian separatist terrorists. He connected the actions of his army with the current military actions by the United State in Afghanistan. He believes that while the actions of the United States to fight terrorism is considered "good" by the rest of the world, his attempts to fight terrorism receives universal condemnation.

Milosevic also claims that the Albanian rebels and NATO warplanes, which bombed Serbia and Kosovo for 78 days in 1999, were the ones responsible for the killing of civilians.

During his statement, pictures of the victims of NATO air strikes were



Courtesy of www.yahoo.com

Slobodan Milosevic is standing trial for his alleged war crimes during the mid-1990s.

shown by courtroom monitors. These pictures showed bodies, severed limbs, and heads. They also revealed bombed houses, factories and bridges. It is believed that the NATO bombing killed at least 500 civilians.

Prior to his statement, Milosevic refused to recognize the legitimacy of the tribunal. His statement indicates that now he may try to turn the trial into his own political platform. He may attempt to cast himself as a fighter and victim against forces much larger than himself.

Milosevic believes that one person could not possibly do all of the things that the prosecutors in this case allege.

He requested that he be freed so he can prepare an adequate defense, which he believes his hindered by those that put him on trial.

## Stony Brook's Battling Bookstores

Continued from Page 1

publishing companies.

In addition, about 67 percent of the cost of a new book goes directly to Publishers and the National Association of College Stores. The remaining percentages are divided among the authors, the freight company, and the bookstore itself.

The University Bookstore is also required to give about nine percent of its earnings right back to the school. In short, only 12.5 percent goes back to the bookstore in earnings.

The campus bookstore, which is owned by Barnes and Noble, is also concerned about saving students money, according to store

manager Julie Masone. The bookstore has incorporated a program called Hot Books, which allows students to get half of what they paid on certain titles.

"We pick an assortment of titles and we guarantee 50 percent back," Masone said. "We pick books that are not going to become a new edition and books that the faculty will use over and over again."

The campus bookstore also honors vouchers given to student athletes and students with disabilities from the NAACP and other various organizations that aid disabled students.

"The NAACP gives out scholarship money that students are allowed to use to

purchase books," said Masone. "And we honor those vouchers."

Stony Books only honors vouchers from the athletics department, but also tries to save students money, according to store manager Nicole Palumbo.

"Number one, we give the students more used books," Palumbo said. "We have the books for cheaper prices and we are able to get used books and keep them in stock. Also, for a new book, we discount the list wholesale price by a few bucks, depending on the book."

Palumbo explained that Stony Books' prices are set by the same industry standards as the campus book store. Their new and

used book prices are determined by the publishers list prices.

The bookstores also differ in their return policies. Stony Books requires each student to present a receipt, a campus identification card, and a copy of the class schedule upon returning texts, in order to verify that the class or classes have been dropped. This is to deter the "high segment of people who use us like a library," Palumbo explained.

The campus bookstore has a more liberal view point on students who return books. "I don't discourage [returns]," said Masone. "I just know it's the student way of life. It's the ins and outs. We expect it."

## MEDIA MINOR LIVING LEARNING CENTER FOR MEDIA

Attend an information meeting to learn more about the SBU Media Minor and the Living Learning Center for Media

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### Teacher Mara Sidmore

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# SBVAC Hosts Ninth Annual NCEMS Conference

By **FREDERICK DAVIS**  
Statesman Staff

Fri., Feb. 8 kicked off the ninth annual National Collegial Emergency Medical Services (NCEMS) Conference, which this year was hosted by the Stony Brook Volunteer Ambulance Corp (SBVAC). This major event took place at the Marriot hotel in Islandia, and was a three day event featuring lectures and a skills competition, and culminating in an awards banquet.

Individuals involved in Emergency Medical Services from colleges all over the country came to take part in this national conference. There were 350 EMS personnel in attendance with representatives from as far as Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

The National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation's (NCEMSF) purpose is to support, promote, and advocate EMS on college and university campuses. The Foundation is committed to the advancement of existing response groups and assists in the development of new groups. The conference was a forum in which to discuss campus-based emergency response issues.

NCEMSF began in 1993, in reply to a need for information exchange among campus EMS groups. A loosely associated nationwide group of campus responders was formally brought together by Jon Diorio of Georgetown University. From there,

NCEMSF grew rapidly.

In April 1994, NCEMSF held its first conference at Georgetown University. Representatives from over 20 campus EMS organizations spent the weekend learning more about EMS. Every year since 1994, NCEMSF has been involved in this networking and

competition among participants from a number of corps. Each team of four had to deal with a medical situation, a trauma situation and a potpourri. They were scored on level of care provided, and the ingenuity and efficiency in providing this care.

Saturday began with a student lecture contest. Following this were

Leadership and Management and New Advances in Airway Management.

With fourteen lectures fitting into the tracks of medical, administration, and potpourri, these presentations fulfilled some of the needed Continuing Medical Education Credit requirements for recertification of EMS personnel. Throughout the lobby there were various vendors exhibiting EMS items of interest.

Saturday night concluded with an awards banquet, where all in attendance celebrated EMS and the strides and impacts each organization has made on campus. The NCEMSF board presented a number of awards, including Striving for Excellence Awards and an Outstanding Collegiate EMS Organization of the Year award. Stony Brook's own SBVAC walked away with first prize in the skills competition.

"SBVAC was honored to host this event. It turned out fabulous. I look forward to next year and next year's host," said SBVAC's Chief Joshua Moskovitz. The highlight of the whole event was the keynote speaker, Edward J. Wronski, the Director of EMS for New York State.

Wronski was sent by the governor's office to take part in the event. In his speech he expressed his amazement at the dedication present among EMS participants, and urged them to maintain involvement.

"This is like no other conference I have been to," Wronski said.



Statesman/Frederick Davis

Pictured from left to right: Joshua Moskovitz, Chief of SBVAC, Edward J. Wronski, New York Director of EMS, and George Koenig, President of NCEMSF.

information exchange among campus emergency responders.

The conference theme this year was "Professionalism Within Collegiate EMS."

The intention of the conference was to assist in further developing currently established practices. The lectures focused on aiding in the development of programs and policies of EMS protocols and operations.

The conference began with a skill

a number of lectures presented by some of the most esteemed individuals in EMS service.

The lectures spanned over two days and included a session on Head and Facial Trauma, a special Germ Warfare presentation, and an in-depth lecture on Designer Club Drugs. Other lectures addressed a variety of topics, ranging from Organizational Discussion Forums and Emergency Medical Dispatch to

# Hillel Club Holds Mock Jewish Wedding

By **BRAD JERSON**  
Statesman Staff

Wedding bells were ringing in the Student Union Bi-Level last Wednesday when two members of the Hillel Student Organization "tied the knot." The event was organized as a learning experience for students to see how a true Jewish wedding takes place.

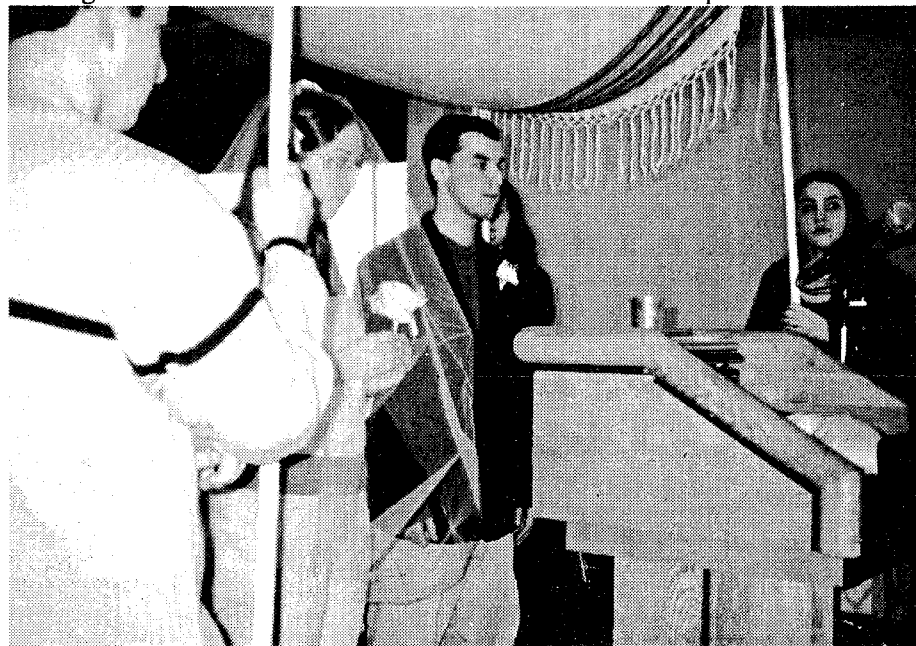
"[The mock wedding] was an accurate portrayal of the customs and traditions of the culture," Rachel Habush, Hillel Jewish Campus Service Corps (JCSC) Fellow for Stony Brook, said. "Involving students in the different aspects of a Jewish wedding really allowed them to get a lot out of it."

A traditional Jewish marriage, called "kiddushin" is divided into eight stages. The first two, "shidduch" and "vort", are the matchmaking process and engagement announcement, respectively. Hillel combined those first two when they announced that freshmen Adira Gorelik and Michael Skall would be the couple of attention. Although Gorelik was excited to actively participate in a traditional ceremony, it was a shock to the future mock-in-laws of the groom.

"It was really fun to actually be the bride, although my parents were a little surprised about my spontaneous nuptials," said the blushing bride.

Hillel's Rabbi Joseph Topek, who

performed the marriage ceremony, was very careful to make sure the wedding remained absolutely mock. At the beginning of a ceremony, a real bride and groom would sign a "ketuvah," or marriage certificate. Gorelik and Skall



Statesman Contributor/Rachel Habush

Freshmen Adira Gorelik and Michael Skall took part in Hillel's mock wedding. The event was intended to share with students the customs of traditional Jewish nuptials.

faked this step to prevent the nuptials from becoming authentic.

The next part is comprised of the hoisting of the "chuppah," or canopy, which is a decorated piece of cloth held aloft as a "symbolic home for the new

couple," according to Rabbi Topek. When the bride arrives at the chuppah, she is supposed to circle the groom seven times with her mother and future mother-in-law, while the groom continues to pray. The number seven parallels the seven

days of Creation in the Jewish belief.

As he would when performing a real marriage ceremony, the Rabbi recited a blessing over a cup of wine (grape juice, in this case), and the beverage was sipped by both Gorelik and Skall.

Next, the groom would place a plain gold ring on the bride's finger, which symbolizes the concept of the groom encompassing, protecting, and providing for his wife. However, because of the seriousness of this step, it was also omitted from the mock wedding.

Rabbi Topek recited the next part, the "seven brachos," or seven blessings praising God. This was followed by what may be most well-known part of the Jewish wedding, the breaking of a glass under the groom's foot. As the glass is broken, the guests scream

"Mazel Tov," an exclamation of congratulations. Best man Menachem Ejdelman and maid of honor Lorrie Stern led these mock wedding cheers.

The final step of a ceremony, which was also left out from the mock wedding, occurs when the newly married couple is escorted to the "cheder yichud," or room of privacy, in which the bride and groom usually eat together after fasting the whole day. In addition, the bride and groom's traditional post-marital kiss occurs here.

Following the mock-ceremony, the wedding party and all guests enjoyed an extravagant buffet in attendance. "It was a lot of fun planning the entire event," Joy Werner, Hillel President, said. "After all, who doesn't love a wedding?"

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## Editorial

# A Time to Appreciate Science

A wise individual once said that "time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once." The statement certainly applies to modern scientific progress, as well as technology's role in our daily lives. We have a tendency to think that rapid change is unfavorable to our well being. Such was the case with the advancement of weapons of mass destruction, not to mention the legalization of abortion in the United States in the early 1970s.

Some feel it is repugnant to even consider such concepts as stem cell research or cloning. Meanwhile, the science enterprise has some sort of a "radical" mechanism of rapidly turning science fiction into reality.

As a matter of fact, last week, researchers at Texas A&M reported that there is now a cloned kitten in our world. They are now perfecting cloning techniques that would allow wealthy individuals to clone their pets.

The last time researchers surprised

mainstream society with cloning endeavors was when the sheep Dolly was genetically duplicated in the late 1990s. This, to be sure, caused quite a tempest in the bioethical realm.

We as a society have had time to prepare ourselves for whatever the next scientific wave has brought. Surely, we cannot stop the progress of science. What we can do is learn to appreciate all that scientists have given us.

Is there truly anything unethical about animal cloning? Perhaps. Is it of any great benefit to humanity? Absolutely. Just think of the possibility of having a loved one who is in dire need of a liver transplant. What if we were able to artificially create a genetically appropriate liver?

The bottom line is that cloning is an inevitable by-product of biomedical research. Instead of resisting such progress, it might be advantageous to take time to prepare for whatever else science and technology can throw at us.

## Commentary

### Feminist Rant: A Culture of Heterosexism

BY MARIE HUCHTON  
Statesman Editor

I've kept most of my columns to relatively non-controversial topics and my discourse on sex at an academic level. Breaking with that pattern, I am now going to venture into the muddy waters where personal and religious belief are stirred up and epithets of hatred are casually spewed forth. With that said, I am now going to delve into gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues.

When was the last time you walked down the street and saw a man and a woman holding hands, kissing in public, engaging in some serious deep-throat diving? I'd wager that it's been less than two hours, perhaps less than two minutes.

When was the last time you walked down the street and saw two men holding hands? or two women? Have you ever seen two women kissing on the street? I'll bet you a million dollars that you have never been walking on the academic mall and seen two men seriously playing tonsil hockey. Why not?

Perhaps it's the fear of being stared at or of having names screamed in their faces. Perhaps it's the whispered comments or threats of physical violence. Perhaps it's the fear of being stigmatized and discriminated against. Perhaps it's that American society condones hatred towards homosexuality and anyone who doesn't conform to gender norms. Perhaps it's all these reasons that keep non-heterosexual and unconventional couples from public displays of affection.

Homophobia is being hated for what you are, rather than

who you are. In the same way that racism is an extremely negative culture-wide phenomena, so is heterosexism. Heterosexism is institutionalized homophobia, positing heterosexuality as the norm and anything outside heterosexuality as a threat to this dominant convention.

I can't tell you all the reasons why heterosexual society is so afraid of anyone who does not neatly fit into their male/husband-female/wife scheme. There is not just a single thing that sparks fear in the average person. For some, it is the inferred threat to their own masculinity or femininity. For others, it is the non-conformity to society. For still others, it is simply that they have been taught to fear and hate this particular facet of society. Whatever the basis for this hatred, be it religious or socially justified, it is born out of ignorance.

The majority of homophobic people have never knowingly had gay friends or exchanged more than a few derogatory comments with anyone outside their heterosexual sphere. These people base their judgments of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) community upon stereotypes and misinformation. No community is defined by the stereotypes that characterize it. It is only through interaction with LGBT individuals that this ignorance can be dispelled. It is only by recognizing that stereotypes are inaccurate and harmful that fear and hatred can be eradicated.

I doubt I have caused a campus-wide outpouring of acceptance for LGBT individuals and issues, but hopefully I have raised some awareness regarding this culture-wide homophobia.



# Mike on the Mat: A Letter to Vincent K. McMahon

By MICHAEL ADLER  
Statesman Staff

Dear Mr. McMahon:

The deal was that if the alliance lost at Survivor Series this past November, your daughter and son, Stephanie and Shane, respectively, would never be seen on television again. It would seem that Stephanie has reneged on your promise! For the past month, your daughter has been on camera with a vengeance, messing everything up.

As Stony Brook University's Sports Entertainment columnist, I can only hope that someone in your superb organization will read this, and show it to you. Stephanie has got to go. Not just from her on-air appearances, but from her booking (writing) duties as well.

Don't get me wrong, your daughter is a beautiful and intelligent woman. However, she's poison on the microphone. Fans all over the world cringe whenever she gets in the ring ready to spew forth her vomit inducing monologues. Her screeching, whining rants are intolerable and her acting ability is atrocious.

Stephanie's crocodile tears over the past few weeks were pathetic.



Courtesy of www.wwfstaff.com.

Stephanie McMahon is living a soap opera in the world of sports entertainment.

Fans do not boo her because she is an "evil" heel, but rather because her incessant kvetching is intolerable. At the very least, it's a good thing that the pregnancy angle was aborted so quickly, and that she and Triple H split up. Screams of "Hunter!"

Continued on Page 8

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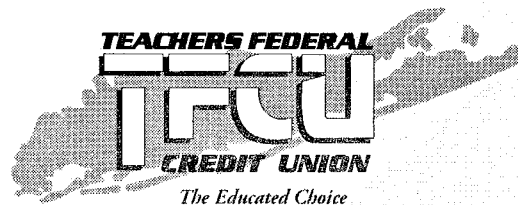
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# Mike on the Mat: To Vincent

Continued from Page 7

coming from ringside surely ruined every Triple H match in the past two years.

As for her booking abilities, well, they're worse than her on-air acting. I've noticed a distinct decline in the quality of the story lines since Stephanie stepped up to the plate and started writing. Sure, plots have been dropped before without explanation, but these incidences have seemed to increase since she took the helm.

She sure isn't doing anything to alleviate the problem. Stephanie has also increased the soap operatic nature of some of the story lines. Yes, sports entertainment is often

called the male soap opera, but we do not need six love triangles every month, and pregnancy!

Also: Bookers should not get on-air time!!! This is a conflict of interest. They have a tendency to get intoxicated with their creative power. This leads to overexposure and an inflated sense of importance with respect to the on-air product (see also: Nash, Kevin). This is something I'm sure that you, Mr. McMahon, know very well.

Do not fear! For I have the solution to put everything right. Obviously, Stephanie cannot be allowed to deal with anything entertainment related in your company.

However, she should still be taken off TV in a clean manner, so as not to cause any illogical discontinuities. Stephanie and Chris Jericho must form an anti-Triple H alliance. The right thing to do would be to let Y2J keep the Undisputed WWF Championship going into Wrestlemania X8, with Stephanie at his side.

Regardless of the result, he dumps her after the event. If Jericho wins, he decides he doesn't need Stephanie anymore, and if he loses he blames her for his loss and dumps her. This ends the Triple H/ Stephanie affair and cements Jericho as a top player.

Let Stephanie do corporate work.

She'll learn to love it after a while so both she and the fans are happy. Thus ends the problem.

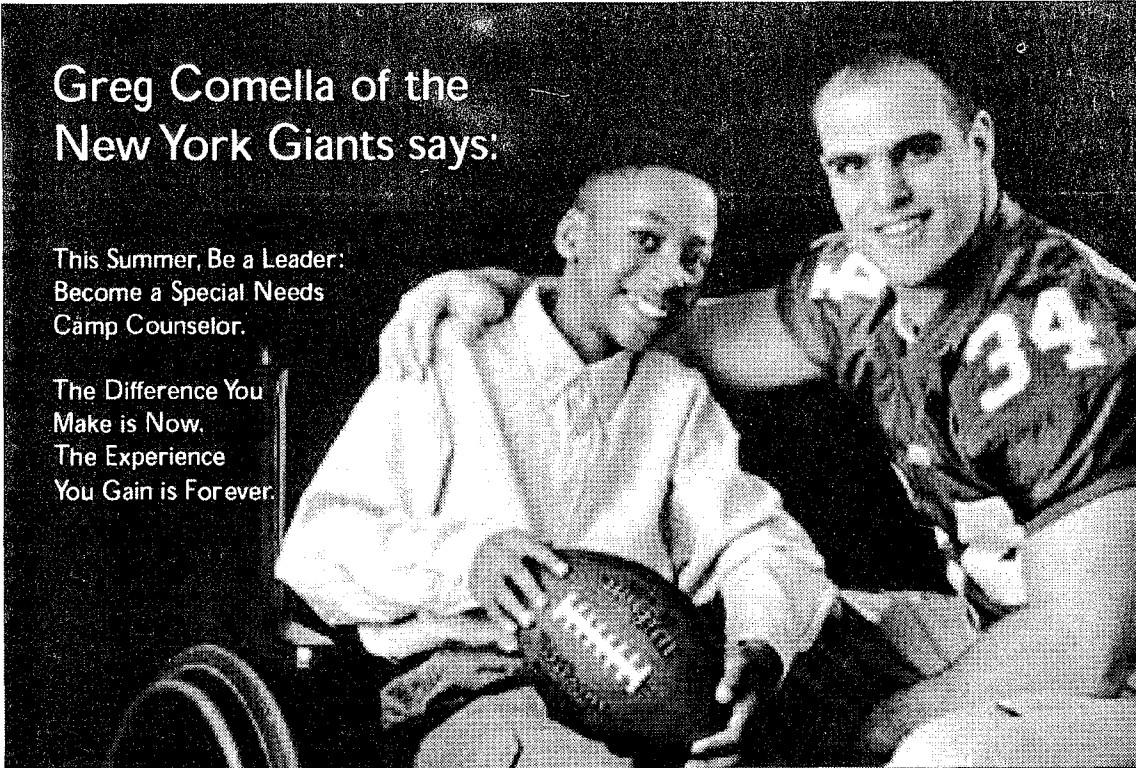
Please take this under advisement.

Your Friend,  
Michael Adler

Wrestling Trivia Question of the Week:

What is Stephanie's cup size?  
(Bonus for Biochem/Pre-med students: calculate the silicone to breast tissue ratio in her chest).

Email Mike Adler at [mantis\\_bog@hotmail.com](mailto:mantis_bog@hotmail.com) with any comments or questions.



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**Stony Brook Alumni Law Day** will take place on Thursday, February 28th at the Student Activities Center (3rd Floor). The event begins at 5:00pm, and is open to all students of Stony Brook University. Pre-Law students are especially encouraged to attend.

Get a feel for what practicing law is really like as Stony Brook Alumni who are working in the field lead panel discussions. Topics include:

- Criminal Law vs. Civil Law Practice
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# Color Blind Exhibit: Culture, Not Race

By CAROLE SIERRA  
Statesman Staff

Three translucent sheets with a map of the world on them hung from the ceiling of the Stony Brook Union Art Gallery on Friday. They were connected by small metal rings and had a sign underneath them that read: "Most of the human race has developed from cross-cultural borrowing and influences."

These sheets were part of the thesis exhibition by Kim Anderson, a graduate student at Pratt Institute for Design. The exhibit, entitled "Color-Blind", will be on display through Feb. 28.

Anderson and fellow Pratt classmate Pelin Turker decided to work together on this exhibition after

realizing how similar their thesis projects were.

Anderson, who has worked at Stony Brook University's graphic design office for ten years, chose to study visual media and how it interacts with culture. Turker's focus was on the collective consciousness that people today share.

"As a designer, focus should be placed on understanding psychology of culture, not on the pure surface or color of someone's skin," Anderson said.

In her pieces, Anderson stresses how significant culture is to design, as opposed to race.

"Genetically a human face is an identifier, but ultimately we are human beings that express ourselves through our experiences," Anderson said.

Cultural perspective in "Color

Blind" was influenced by Turker's status as a newcomer to the U.S. from Istanbul.

"We wanted to agitate people by being intellectually violent," Turker said. "This way people start to think how they position themselves in daily life."



Statesman/Mike Cortez  
Kim Anderson answered questions about the exhibit she created with classmate Pelin Turker.

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### Director Teng Wenji

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For complete schedule and ticket info, please visit our website at [www.CinemaArtsCentre.org](http://www.CinemaArtsCentre.org). To speak with someone in Chinese, please call China Century at 212-643-6399, or visit [www.PRCmovie.com](http://www.PRCmovie.com).

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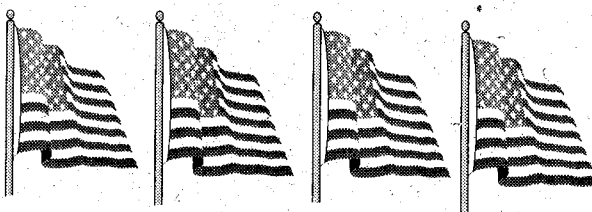
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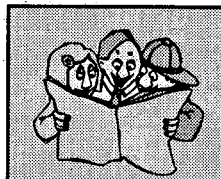


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