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Sen. Hillary Clinton



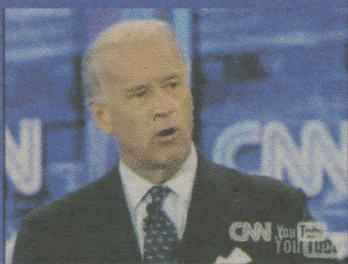
Sen. Barack Obama



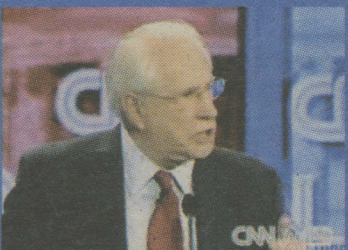
Sen. John Edwards



Sen. Bill Richardson



Sen. Joseph Biden



Form. Sen. Mike Gravel



Rep. Dennis Kucinich



Sen. Chris Dodd

*Voice your
opinions about all
of the presidential
candidates at
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Are the troops dying in vain? **No Child Left Behind -
scrap or revise?**

Did race play an issue in the response to Katrina?

America's Going Broke! What will you do?

Does your healthcare plan cover undocumented workers?

**How many
more soldiers
need to die?**

Will my taxes rise if a Democrat takes office?

How will your policies reduce energy consumption?

Are you a liberal?

Would you agree to be paid the minimum wage?

Do you support gay marriage?

How do you address being "black enough" or "woman enough"?

Democrats Face the YouTube Nation

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

Last week, the eight Republican candidates vying for their party's nomination for the 2008 presidential election met in Florida to answer questions posed by users on the popular video website YouTube. The debate was a first for the Republicans, but the Democrats held their version this past summer to much fanfare by YouTube, television distributor CNN, and the general population. So just how similar (or different) were the two debates?

On July 23rd, the Democratic candidates took the stage in Charleston, South Carolina for the

first-ever YouTube debate. Users were urged to submit questions on the website in the weeks preceding the debate.

The first questioner of the night asked the candidates why they as president would be any different from past leaders who have all sworn to take action and yet failed to do so once they reached the White House. Senator Chris Dodd from Connecticut was the first to answer, claiming that his experience of 26 years in the Senate working with both Republicans as well as Democrats will help him unite the country and bring people together.

Illinois Senator Barack Obama lies at the other end of experience,

with just one term in the federal government under his belt. But his supporters claim that his fresh approach to the governmental workings allow him to be a catalyst for the change that so many people are seeking.

In contrast with the Republican debate, there were more casual questions asked to the Democratic candidates than their counterparts. Questions like "Who would you pick as a Republican running mate?" and one asked by a concerned and melting snowman are just two examples.

Regardless, the issues that

Continued on page 5

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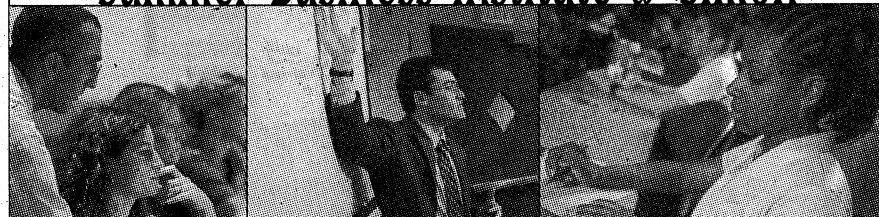
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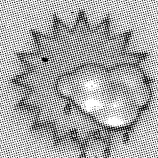
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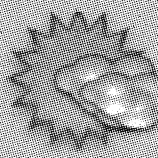
Thursday:
High 35/Low 23
Mostly sunny



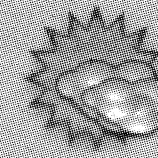
Friday:
High 39/Low 32
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain and/or snow



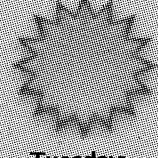
Saturday:
High 46/Low 30
Partly cloudy



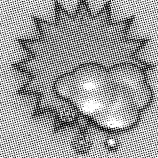
Sunday:
High 40/Low 33
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain and/or snow showers



Monday:
High 50/Low 33
Mostly cloudy with a chance of rain



Tuesday:
High 44/Low 34
Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers



Wednesday:
High 45/Low 32
Partly cloudy

High pressure will move east into the Northeast today as the Alberta Clipper system that affected us Wednesday quickly exits. The area of high pressure moves off the coast by Friday and with that, a moderation of temperatures into the 40s will occur as an area of low pressure moves into the area. Rain and some mixed-in snow is possible for Friday afternoon. As that system exits, a cold front enters the area on Saturday. The frontal boundary then stalls out just south of Long Island and stays there until Monday, when high pressure pushes it further south. However, high pressure does not last long as another area of low pressure develops over the Great Plains and moves into the region Tuesday.

By Alex Kahn

Burglary Central

Stolen Laptops, PS3 and Xbox Go Missing

Police Blotter Nov. 30th - Dec. 4th

COMPILED BY BEN HAYASHI
Staff Writer

Residence Hall Police Reports

Burglaries

Around 6:20AM on the 1st of Dec., a laptop was reported stolen from Gershwin College.

Around 12:54PM on the 1st, a Play Station 3 and video games were reported stolen in Whitman College from an unsecured bedroom.

Another laptop was reported stolen from Mount College around 5:15PM on the 1st.

A burglary was reported taking place in West Apartments E around 7:10PM on the 2nd of December.

Around 1:45PM on the 2nd an Xbox, Play Station, and assorted games were reported stolen from Cardozo College.

Marijuana Incidents

Around 11:53PM on the Nov. 30th, one referral was given for

smoking marijuana in a room in Baruch College.

A separate report of marijuana smoking occurred in Greely College around 12:45PM on Dec. 3rd.

A report of marijuana smoking occurred in Baruch College around 12:50AM on Dec. 4th.

Possible Hazing

A group of 20 people in an inner quad area were reported of suspicious behavior. Students were found hazing 11:10PM on the Nov. 30th. Upon police arrival all was reported to be normal.

Food Fight

Around 2:51 on December 1st, reports were made of people throwing food in Kelly Cafe. The situation was corrected before police arrival.

Vandalism/Burglary

Around 6:00AM on the 3rd of December, two vehicles in Tabler

Quad, near Sanger College were found with damaged windows.

A third smaller John Deere cart was stolen and recovered in the woods near the scene.

Campus Roads Police Reports

Car Accidents

Around 6:50PM on the 30th of November, a car was found damaged by another car near Dana Hall.

A separate car accident happened near the Main Entrance around 9:00AM on the Dec 1st. No passengers were severely injured.

Another motor vehicle accident happened near the main entrance around 9:30AM on the 2nd of December. There were no reported injuries.

In the University Hospital Emergency room parking lot, another motor vehicle accident occurred when a car struck another. No major injuries occurred.

'Tis the Season for Wintry Weather at Stony Brook

BY ALEXANDER KAHN
Staff Meteorologist

A storm system that brought wintry weather to the Upper Midwest this weekend entered the Northeast Sunday morning and provided Stony Brook with its first snowfall of the 2007-2008 season.

The storm system, which was blamed for 16 deaths in the Upper Midwest and Northeast, dropped 0.6 inches of snow in Stony Brook until precipitation switched over to rain late Sunday night. A winter weather advisory was in effect for Nassau County, Suffolk County and the boroughs of New York City through Sunday night as snow showers fell throughout the day.

Other rainfall amounts on Long Island ranged from only two tenths of an inch in Shoreham to 1.8 inches in Oceanside in Nassau County, according to a statement posted on the website of the National Weather Service's Upton, NY office.

Behind this system would

be gusty winds that affected the region through Tuesday afternoon. Winds approaching 25 miles per hour were recorded in observations Monday night at Farmingdale's Republic Airport, Islip's MacArthur Airport and Shirley's Brookhaven Airport. Some gusts up to 35 and 40 mph were also reported as well at these locations. This would cause some delays at area airports and as well as contribute to isolated power outages across Long Island.

However, these winds would diminish as the region was removed from the effects of a vigorous and exiting upper level disturbance on Tuesday afternoon. The strong northwest flow also had a hand in the brief snow showers that gave Stony Brook a light dusting Tuesday.

Some snow flurries associated with an Alberta clipper system also fell in some areas during parts of Wednesday but fortunately did not complicate affairs very much as little to no accumulation occurred. In the meantime, temperatures would

remain between five and ten degrees below normal temperatures through Wednesday. These frigid conditions are expected to continue until Saturday, when relatively warmer air finally makes its way into Stony Brook and pushes high temperatures back into the 40s.

Those looking for more wintry weather in the coming months may not be satisfied by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) forecast of a likely warmer than normal winter. The outlook, which was issued on November 15th, is based on various atmospheric and climatic patterns as well as simulated data from complex computer models of processes between the Earth's atmosphere and oceans. One of the ocean-atmosphere patterns that played a significant role in this season's forecast was the El Nintildeo-Southern Oscillation (ENSO). The oscillation, measured by fluctuations in the sea

Continued on page 6

Transhumanism: Capitalizing Human Capabilities

BY ZEESHAN MUGHAL
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 28, students from the Information and Technology Studies (ITS) undergraduate college gathered to listen to the excited discussion about transhumanism, an ideology that vows to give limitless possibilities to humans. This event was required to attend by students in ITS undergraduate college as a part of their ITS 101 freshman seminar.

Students listened in upon discussions by Professor Eduardo Mendieta, latin american studies center and author of upcoming book on biophilosophy (including bio-piracy), and Dr. Michael Hadjiargyrou, associate vice president for research and faculty in biomedical engineering. Topics discussed included genetic engineering, role of artificial intelligence, and the future technologies underdevelopment that will be used to increase human horizons.

According to the lecturers, transhumanism is the ideology that gives humans limitless abilities. An ideology that promises the future would bring a great hope for the survival, cures for diseases that are undiscovered will be discovered, and humans would be able to live by overcoming natural death.

The lecturers mentioned, transhuman technologies would promise a great deal of intelligence that would enable humans to pursue and accomplish anything they want. Ultimately, humans would be able to live longer without any worry of involuntary death.

Presenters also discussed the counter arguments to transhuman philosophy. Some of the widely discussed counterarguments were if human life has no limit, then how the available resources on Earth would be able to meet the requirements of such a population. Moral aspects of this argument were overcoming an involuntary death is against God's will, and therefore cannot be achieved and should not be pursued.

Not surprisingly, the other most discussed counterargument was how immortal is transhumanism if it threatens human values and liberties. This is because transhumanism involves the implementation of advanced technology in the human body through genetic engineering. Many

Continued on page 12

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SUMMER DEBATE OVERVIEW

Democrats Speak to Constituents

Continued from page 1

were addressed were all ones that have divided the country. Topics like gay marriage and the Iraq war highlighted the evening. Dennis Kucinich remains the only major candidate running in either primary to fully support gay marriage, a position he made clear in the debate to huge applause from the crowd at The Citadel military college.

Both Obama and Senator John Edwards addressed gay marriage, and while both support strong civil unions, neither went so far as to support marriage between same sex couples.

The other key topic was the Iraq war. The first question of the evening regarding the war asked the candidates "how do we pull out now?" Obama and Sen. Joe Biden of Delaware answered the question by informing the audience that an immediate withdrawal of US forces was an impossibility. Biden said it would take a full year to withdraw the 180,000 troops that are currently stationed in Iraq, and Obama criticized the Bush administration for failing to chastise the Iraqi parliament for taking a month long break in August while our troops remained in harms way.

Sen. Hillary Clinton from New York defended the Democratic party's attempts to pass legislation to begin withdrawal of our troops, calling on the Republicans in Congress to join them in pressuring President Bush to set timelines for withdrawal. But Rep.

Dennis Kucinich from Ohio called the failure of legislative actions "a phony excuse, to say you don't have the votes." Instead, Kucinich suggested that the Democrats, who control both houses of Congress, "should tell President Bush 'no more funds for the war, use that money to bring our troops home.'"

One of the more pointed questions of the evening was addressed to Sen. Mike Gravel of Alaska, who had previously stated that the troops in Vietnam died in vain. Gravel reiterated his comments and asked viewers "what are [the troops] dying for right now in Iraq?" Obama and Edwards both disagreed with Gravel, not saying the troops died in vain, but were poorly directed into Iraq.

An interesting difference between the Democratic debate and the Republican one was the number of personal questions. Kucinich was asked if America would be better off with him serving as president ("I would"), Clinton was asked if she considered herself a liberal ("I consider myself a modern progressive") and Obama was asked if he was black enough ("When I'm catching a cab in Manhattan...I'm given my credentials.")

Race was another key topic in the debate. One YouTube user asked the candidates if they thought African-Americans should receive reparations for slavery. Edwards said he is not in favor of reparations, Obama said as reparations we need to focus on the school system, and once again

Kucinich was the only candidate on stage in favor of reparations.

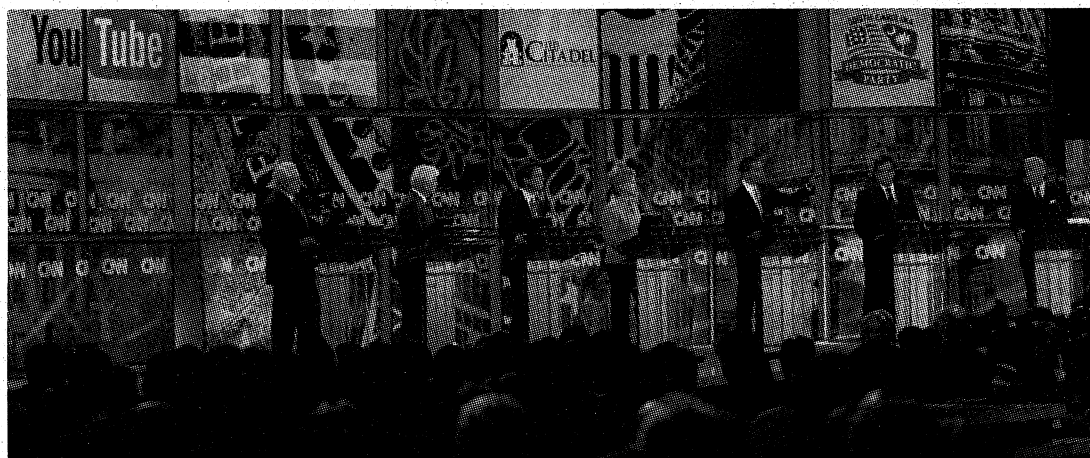
Also, the issue of race as it related to Hurricane Katrina was brought up by a YouTube user. Dodd called the handling of the aftermath of Katrina "a mark of shame."

Several other questions addressed throughout the evening touched on social security, religion in the US, and healthcare. For the full debate, go to: www.youtube.com/democraticdebate.

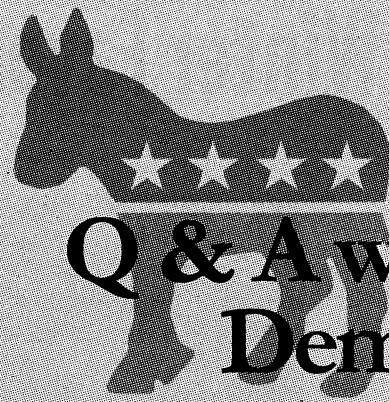
Critics of the debate question CNN's question-picking. Thousands of videos were submitted, and there was some speculation that a few more pressing topics, like talks of impeachment for President Bush and Vice President Cheney, were left out of the debate despite being the most popular questions on the YouTube community.

Secondly, Republicans felt the questions that were chosen didn't challenge the candidates enough. The cries became even louder following the Republican YouTube debate, arguing that the questions asked to the Republicans were more pointed than those asked to the Democrats.

This was just the first year of this style of debate. As the internet and its uses continue to multiply, the discourse of US politics will appropriately change with it. These debates—featuring user-generated questions—are likely to continue in coming elections. And if they do, we very well may have witnessed history these past few weeks.



Candidates for the presidential nomination from the Democratic Party at the YouTube debate this past summer. courtesy of youtube.com



Q & A with the Democrats

Q: Would a woman president be taken seriously in the Muslim world?

"It would be quite appropriate to have a women president deal with the Arab and Muslim countries on behalf of the United States of America."

-Senator Hillary Clinton

Q: Would you as President hold talks with the leaders of our biggest enemies like Iran and Cuba?

"The notion that somehow not talking to countries is punishment to them...is ridiculous"

-Senator Barack Obama

Q: How do we get beyond empty promises in Darfur?

"The answer here is caring about Africa, the answer here is not just thinking of our strategic interest as a country, like [in] oil"

-Senator Bill Richardson

Q: Do you support gay marriage?

"If our constitution really means what it says, that all men are created equal, then our brothers and sisters who happen to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered should have the same rights accorded to them"

-Rep. Dennis Kucinich

Warmer Winter Favorable, but Don't Count the Snow Out

Continued from page 3

surface temperatures off the coast of Peru and other points in the eastern Pacific Ocean, is known to have effects on weather conditions throughout both North and South America. The oscillation is currently in its La Nintildea phase, which provides a favorable setting for slightly warmer than normal temperatures and slightly drier than normal conditions in the Mid-Atlantic and parts of the Northeast.

The outlook is echoed by forecasters at the private weather prediction company AccuWeather. According to a forecast posted on the company's website on Monday afternoon, they predict a favorable chance for a warmer winter in a good portion of United States east of the Rocky Mountains. Despite these forecasts for a warmer winter, people should prepare themselves as periodic changes of weather trends are to be expected throughout the season and wintry weather is definitely within the realm of possibility.



A wintry sight last Feb. as the campus was covered layers in snow and ice.

David Stevens / SB Statesman



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SUPERBAD IS SUPER GOOD



By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

Judd Apatow. Learn the name. Movie critics are notoriously harsh when it comes to films featuring slapstick humor, horny boys, and crude language, but they all seem to reserve a special place in their hearts for Apatow productions. And for good reason.

A string of critically acclaimed but sparsely viewed television shows, (*Freaks and Geeks*, *Undeclared*) were just the set up for a career that has launched Apatow and his crew of misfits into the stratosphere of American comedy.

Superbad is of course no exception. The raunchy, dirty, teenage-angst laugh-fest raked in millions in the box office this past summer, and has become a cult classic the likes of which have not been seen since *Napoleon Dynamite*.

The movie focuses on the lives of high school seniors Evan (Michael Cera) and Seth (Jonah Hill). They have been best buds for most of their lives and are on the verge of leaving for different colleges. The movie picks up on the day of one of the biggest parties of the year, and the two young men set out on a quest to find... what else? Booze.

Trusty sidekick Fogell (Christopher Mintz-Plasse) has just come across a fake ID, and the three of them set out to the local liquor store and test it out. Oh, and the name on the fake ID happens to be McLovin. That's it. Just McLovin. If that doesn't make you chuckle...

The events that follow send all three boys down dangerous roads. Evan and Seth wind up at a party they were neither invited to nor wanted to go to, all in search of the beer they promised to deliver to the party of their own. Fogell winds up painting the town red with two cops who are so fantastically

out of touch with reality that their reckless actions (shooting a stop sign, drinking on the job) attract the attention of... other cops.

The sequence of events cause Evan and Seth to examine their relationship as best friends, giving the movie something that one might not expect: a touching story. We all have a relationship with a certified best friend, and the struggles that Evan and Seth face are all surprisingly relatable.

Perhaps the reason this movie succeeds where so many others have failed is because Apatow and director Greg Mottola have no reservations when it comes to depicting the lives of

teenagers in America. They are not afraid of an R-rating; instead, they embrace it with outstretched arms. Cursing pours from every open mouth and discussions all eventually end on what girl to get with and how.

The actors largely consist of Apatow

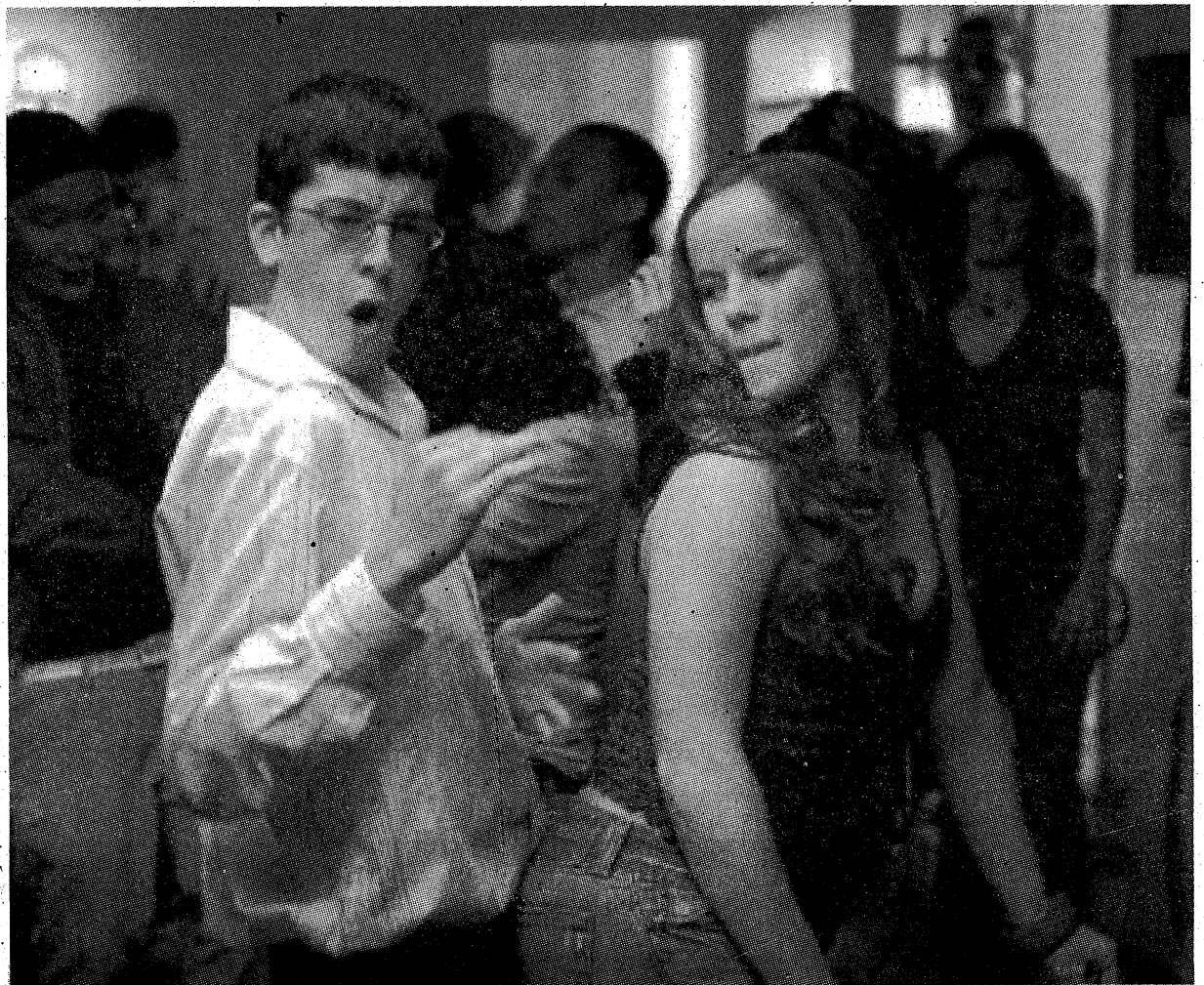
constants. Seth Rogan, who has worked with Apatow in previous films like *Knocked Up* has a smaller role as a childish police officer and Jonah Hill had a role in *Knocked Up* too, as well as *The 40-Year Old Virgin*. Michael Cera is best known for his portrayal of George Michael Bluth in *Arrested Development*.

Cera in particular gives a great, and convincing, performance. His job on *Arrested Development* gave him tons of practice playing a wonderfully awkward teen, and his exchanges with females are laughably tense.

This movie, as with all other comedies, will not be in contention come award season. It will not set box-office records; it will not be an international hit. But it will be remembered for its alarmingly familiar depiction of life as a teenage boy in *Anywhere, USA*. And as for McLovin? I'm guessing we will all be seeing a lot of him in the

coming years.

Superbad released on DVD on Tuesday. I recommend forking over the extra money for the special two-disc unrated extended edition. Worth every penny.



Courtesy of A&M/Octone

Ballads and Back-to-Back Hits



Courtesy of Jive

By JACKIE MONROE
Contributing Writer

First came Michael Jackson, then Usher, and now it's Chris Brown's time to shine. Chris Brown started out as Usher's placeholder, some might even say a substitute, but the substitute has taken the originals' place. "Exclusive" is Chris Brown's sophomore album and since his self-titled album in 2005.

When he first came out a lot of people didn't think much of him. They thought he would be one of those artists that would be here today and gone tomorrow. But he has remained at the top of his game, and his new album just solidified his spot.

Chris Brown releases another album full of his teenage loves songs like the track "Take You Down," and dance tracks like "Kiss Kiss" featuring T-Pain. Listening to "Exclusive" you can tell that at 18 years old, he has not only matured into a man but has also matured as an artist.

Since Chris Brown is a performer and dancing is what he is known for, he has to have good beats on his albums. But some of these beats are crazy. "Wall to Wall"

and "Kiss Kiss" are just a taste of the beats on this album, my personal favorite beat would have to be the track "Picture Perfect" featuring Will.i.am.

Not only do his dance tracks have good beats, but his ballads have good beats behind them as well, they are not just your typical slow jams. I would have to say that his best ballad would have to be the track "Take You Down" and with the track

"With You" coming in at a close second.

Surprisingly, "Exclusive" is one of those rare albums that just has back-to-back hits. Every single song on this album could be released as a single and easily become number one on the Billboard Charts.

He has six artists featured on this album including T-Pain, Will.i.am, Big Boi, Lil Wayne, Kanye West and Game, but this album would have been a hit without them. Those artists just added to what was already a good album. "Exclusive" is currently number three on the Billboard R&B charts right under Alicia Keys and Jay-Z, which is exactly where it should be.

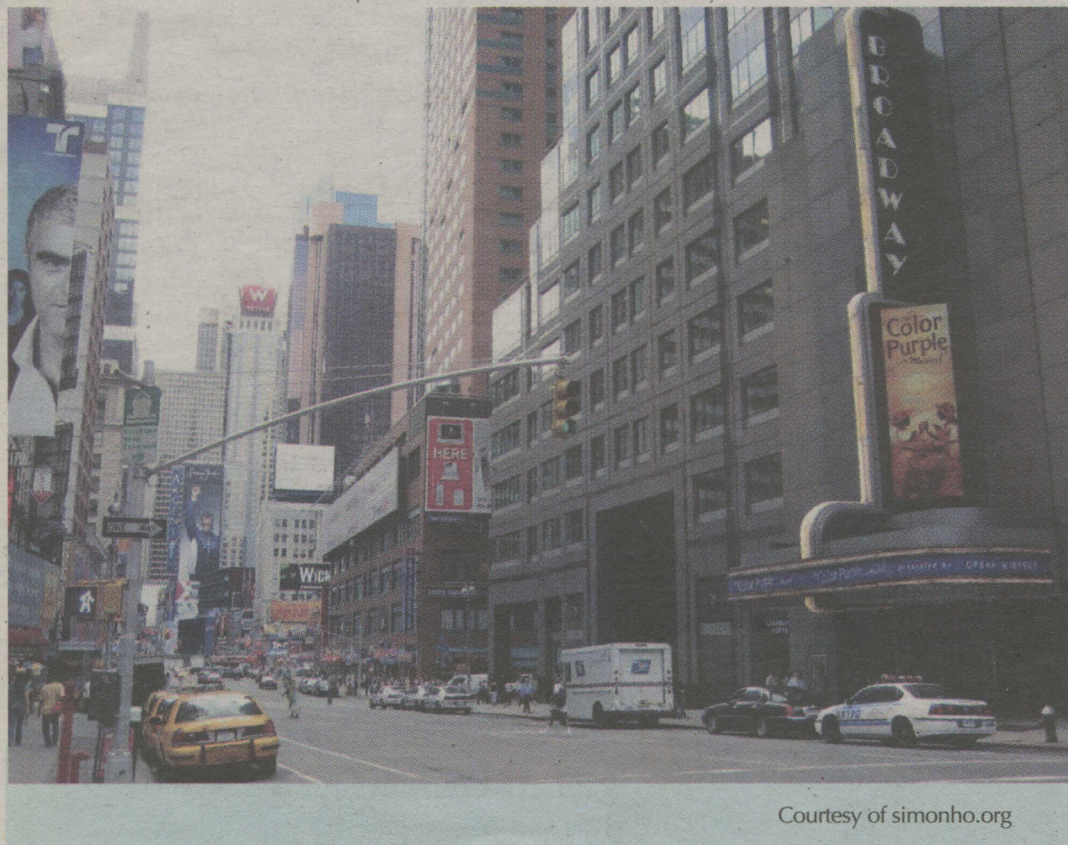
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On the Stage The Show Must Go On!



Courtesy of simonho.org

By KAYLA ROSE
Contributing Writer

That is the most famous rule in the theatre industry and that is exactly what happened last week. Theatregoers lined up for tickets Thursday as Broadway returned to business following the temporary resolution of the 19-day strike that cost producers and the city millions of dollars.

"Broadway is exciting. It's New York. It's alive," said a young Brooklyn native as she waited on line around the TKTS discount-ticket booth in Times Square. It, too, reopened on Thursday.

Crowds lined up for tickets as actors and crews returned to the once-darkened theaters. Broadway thanked theatregoers for their endless support and patience by offering a limited number of discounted tickets last Thursday. Tickets sold at a remarkably low \$26.50 in a special promotion as people lined up for the musical "Chicago."

Both stagehands and theater producers reached a makeshift agreement Wednesday night that

ended the strike. The deal came on the third day of the long-drawn-out sessions between the stagehands union, known as Local 1, and the League of American Theatres and Producers. Negotiations had been ongoing since late May.

Local 1 is expected to vote on the tentative agreement on Dec. 9. For close to three weeks over two dozen Broadway shows were shut down, including the popular "Wicked," "The Phantom of the Opera," Disney's "The Little Mermaid," and a holiday favorite, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas."

New York City lost roughly \$2 million dollars for each day that the strike lasted, affecting not only the theatres, but also hotels, restaurants, and stores. With the theatre district deserted, Times Square shone a little less brightly.

However, let us forget the \$40 million-dollars NYC lost because of the strike. What about the devoted theatregoers who were turned away at the door? Some people purchased their tickets months in advance. Others bought them only a few days

earlier. Both ways plans were made, hotel rooms reserved, and flights booked. People were not happy. The city expects to lose more revenue as refunds are given on unused tickets.

There is no business like show business. And the business is back! Broadway reopens just in time for the holiday season. Most shows are offering tickets at extremely low prices to certain performances; however, this generosity is not likely to last.

If you are interested in cheap tickets anytime, visit one of NYC's TKTS booths. There is one located in Times Square on 46th Street that offers day-of-performance tickets only. The lines are usually very long, although not as bad in cold weather.

If you do not mind taking the subway, there is another, lesser-known TKTS booth in the South Street Seaport. Located at the corner of Front and John Streets, this booth sells day-of-performance tickets as well as matinee tickets as early as the day before. The lines are much shorter, if there is a line at all.

A Homage to Donda West



By JESSICA WHITE
Contributing Writer

Kanye West, an accomplished hip-hop superstar who hails from Chicago, was recently hit with devastating news about his mother, Donda West. She had succumbed to complications from an abdominaloplasty or "tummy tuck" and breast reduction procedure, that she underwent at the hands of Doctor Jan Adams, a plastic surgeon who has been plagued with numerous malpractice suits.

At the time of her death, Kanye was unaware that she was having plastic surgery procedures that day, and disapproved of the idea. This shocking death not only resulted in the loss of a mother for Kanye, but also the loss of a friend. He often confided in his mother who had been his number one supporter.

As a distinguished English professor, Donda always emphasized the importance of an education to

her son. When he decided to drop out of college and pursue his music career full time, Donda was disappointed, but she never ceased in her undying support of Kanye and his endeavors.

The bond the two shared was special. Kanye openly spoke of the close relationship that he had with his mother. His confidence, or cockiness as some would describe, is something that was heavily influenced by Donda. She constantly told Kanye to believe in himself and his abilities and always encouraged him to strive for success. And so, under the guidance of Donda, Kanye has developed into the rapper/producer/writer that we see today.

When we remember Donda West, we shouldn't simply think of her in relation to Kanye solely. We should instead remember that she was a mother, a daughter, a friend, a preacher, a scholar and a person whose life was cut tragically short.

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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 Sucplan" 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 Stony Brook Statesman is published twice-weekly on Mondays and Thursdays throughout the fall and spring semesters.

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Thefts Need to Stop

By SURAJ RAMBHIA
Editor-in-Chief

Stolen laptops? A PS3 and X-box gone? I don't understand how we can tolerate the continuance of such robberies.

I understand SB isn't the safest place. But as I have been going through the police blotters over the past couple of weeks, I couldn't avoid noticing reports of thefts, mostly at the residential colleges.

Why can't we just lock our doors? Thieves have no place in this world, definitely not at a university. Students bring laptops, gaming stations, ipods, cell-phones, and lots of cash around with them every day. The only way to prevent the occurrence of thefts is to lock all doors and windows, and hope the University Police do something to find the criminals lurking among us.

Every couple of days, we get

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FEATURE

Get Ready to Ace your Finals

By LYNN HSIEH
News Editor

With only one week of school left, the fall 2007 term is coming to a close. Most of us are excited about the winter holidays with the promise of family festivities, outrageous parties and the beginning of a new year. However, before even thinking about the holidays, we must first overcome the multiple papers due in our class as well as the dreaded finals! After hearing the word "finals," most of us are dreading the end of the semester just thinking about that one test which, for some students, can either make or break you.

But don't fear, the Statesman is here! The lovely staff here has compiled a list of advice for willing students to ace their way to an A.

The first advice we have for you guys is not to procrastinate. As fellow college students, we have all fell into the dreadful pit known as

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Republican Debates a Grand Old Disappointment

By ZACHARY KURTZ
Columnist

When I first heard that the November 28th Republican debate was being co-hosted by both CNN and Youtube, I was excited. Finally, there was a chance for average Americans to ask the important questions of important people. As a registered Republican, I was especially interested in hearing how various candidates would answer questions about the Iraq War and the economy, which will perhaps be the two most important issues Americans will face in the upcoming years.

Because of the Youtube format, I expected candidates such as Rep. Ron Paul and former governor Mike Huckabee, who have a large online following (especially Paul) to get fielded many good questions. However, CNN disappointed; while Huckabee has a decent showing, Ron Paul got disappointingly few questions, and did not talk until at least a half an hour into the debate.

You would think that out of the thousands of questions submitted by Youtube, CNN could have found questions that dealt with relevant issues. However, more than half the debate, in my estimation, was given to abortion, immigration and gun control; and even one question about flying the confederate flag. While these may be important topics, I think they could have easily been covered in half the time. Abortion, especially, is not a hot button issue for me, and I think for many Republicans not part of the religious right.

Ron Paul was fielded two questions that were not very important to his campaign; a question about a potential North American Union and whether he'd run as an independent candidate if he didn't receive the party's nomination (he's stated dozens of times that he has no intention of doing so). Issues where Ron Paul stands out from other republicans, especially foreign policy and the economy did not come up in the questions.

I expected Ron Paul to have the more speaking time. His support has been growing, seemingly exponentially, since the last republican debate. He stunned the mainstream media by raising \$4.2 million dollars in a single

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THE CHATTERBOX Subways or Quiznos?

By AISHA AKHTAR
Web Editor

Subway- Eat Fresh. The logo clearly tells you what to expect. Personally, I have always enjoyed their "Veggie Delite," but their menu offers a vast variety of other tasty subs. You can get all kinds of meat varieties, and make your order with special combos and side orders. Don't forget those melt-in-your-mouth chocolate chip cookies. They are the perfect ending after eating the perfect sandwich.

The Subway brand has expanded to 28,000 locations within 85 countries. It is the largest sandwich franchise worldwide. The menu literally consists of foot long subs with any combination of condiments, bread, meat, and vegetables- all catered to your taste.

Many items feature low fat options, and are part of a balanced diet. There are numerous subs that contain only 6 or 7 grams of fat. With such a healthy alternative that tastes so delicious, why eat at other fatty, greasy, fast food restaurants?

You may have seen the commercials with Jared, the subway guy who lost 245 pounds by eating Subway subs. You don't see a "Quiznos guy" feeling good about all the weight they lost by eating Quiznos subs. This is just proof that Subway is healthy when compared to counterpart restaurants.

Stony Brook students, do yourself a favor and go down to the Subway around the corner from campus. It's close by, and you can even get a student discount. It will always remain the original and traditional sub stop.

images courtesy of subway.com, quiznos.com



Quiznos SUB
MMMM...TOASTY!

By ADAM PECK
Asst. News Editor

There is something a little questionable about eating in a place called Subways. Call me crazy, but when I picture a subway, clean, delicious food is not the first thing to come to mind. Of course, in all fairness, when I picture a Subways, the first thing I think of is a filthy, disgusting rat.

In any event, Subways-both the fast food joint and the mode of transportation-are no places to eat. I have little faith in the origins of their cold cuts, even less in their produce; the lettuce looks like someone peeled it off of a discarded Big Mac. When

your food doesn't compare favorably to McDonalds, you are doing something wrong.

If you are looking for a good sub, there is only one fast food place to trust. I speak of Quiznos, the cutesy, perhaps more upscale version of Subways. Their subs are all toasted to perfection, their ingredients all look edible, and their portions are more than reasonable. Sure you may shell over a few more coins in your pocket, but it is totally worth it. The aesthetics are pleasing, the people are friendly, and their food is delicious. Might I recommend their tuna sandwiches?

Alas, subways do have their uses for all you city dwellers... take one to the nearest Quiznos.

Recommendations from The Statesman for Handling Finals Week Stress

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procrastination. First we'll delay studying by an hour. It's only an hour you'll say as you browse through the TV or surf online. Before you know it, three hours have passed. Then you'll convince yourself that it's not a big deal. You'll make up that time later. But before you know it, there's only four hours before the test and you're stressing like no tomorrow. This is a no-no! Half hour breaks are understandable, 15 minutes are advisable. But anything more and you're playing with fire. FACEBOOK is the devil, but spending some time to glimpse through the Statesman is recommended. We are a viable outlet for stressed students to catch up on some campus news.

Following this vein - don't cram. Granted, for many of us this seems like the only option at this stage of the game, but try to study in sessions. Study a little every night so you can slowly absorb the information. No one is rushing you. Instead of studying for 20 hours straight, spend a couple of hours on one subject and take a nap. Spend a couple of minutes stretching, snacking and chatting with friends. Splash a little color back into your life and come back to reality. If you're really tired, take a half hour nap. Then tackle another subject.

Now that you have the basic knowledge of your subject down, try studying with friends. Go to tutoring if you have identified topics you are not familiar with. Always go to the review sessions recommended by your professors and NEVER skip class. You never know what you're missing when that happens.

Most importantly, don't stress.

A recommended stress reliever is the midnight breakfast. A well-known Stony Brook tradition the midnight breakfast is held right before finals week. This year the breakfast will be on the 17th so make sure to catch it. Get there early though, or you will have to suffer the trials of a long line.

If you're having problems finding a quiet place to study, relax. Here is a cache of hidden places that we are willing to share to our devoted readers.

The first place we're fond of is the Chemistry Library on the second floor of the Chemistry building. Although, the library can be a bit stuffy, it is usually so quiet that a pin drop could be heard throughout the area.

The Health Science Center Library is another tremendously quiet area, even if it's a bit far from campus. It is on the third floor at the HSC and a frequent spot for many HSC students. However, if you're a political science major or an english major, don't feel discriminated. All students are welcomed, so I have heard.

For those students unwilling to commute to the HSC and battle the harsh winds of winter, the fourth floor of the Melville Library is a well-known jewel within the heavily trafficked library. The library stacks are usually uninhabited.

Finally, the last place we recommend that students go study is the Social and Behavior Sciences building. Never crowded, students in need of isolation can find a reliable corner to study in.

Now close your eyes. Take a deep breath. I think you're ready.

Republican Debates a Grand Old Disappointment

Continued from page 11

day last month, a record in political fundraising. He has raised over \$10 million dollars this quarter and is expected to exceed his quarterly goal of \$12 million, due to another planned mass fundraising day on December 16th. He's one of the few republican candidates whose fundraising has improved this quarter.

It is also impossible to gauge exactly how much support he has. Wherever Ron Paul speaks, thousands of devoted followers show up. These "Paulites" have donated countless hours and dollars on their own grassroots campaign trail. One man even donated nearly \$100,000 to run a full page ad in USA Today the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, widely recognized as the heaviest travel day of the year. At the CNN/Youtube debate in St. Petersburg, Florida, approximately 500 Paulites showed up outside the arena to cheer on their candidate, armed with several planes and a boat, bearing messages supporting the candidate. While, from eyewitness accounts, Mitt Romney and Mike Huckabee had a few supporters show up each, they were sidely outshone in enthusiasm and numbers by the Ron Paul supporters.

If this is the case, why wasn't Ron Paul given more time to speak? I don't like to tout conspiracy theory, but it seems as if CNN had it in for Dr. Paul.

However, I don't think that Paul was uniquely 'teamed up' on. Relatively few of the candidates got a chance to speak about the important issues because they just weren't being asked about them. In fact, in the days after the debate, there was some very serious charges about how many of the Youtube questioners chosen by CNN seemed

to openly support Democratic candidates. Retired Brigadier General Keith Kerr, who is, incidentally openly gay, and asked a question about the military's 'don't ask don't tell policy' is an active campaigner for Hillary Clinton.

But so what? As long as the questions were good, it shouldn't matter what candidates the questioners support, right? Well, in theory, that makes sense, but in practice, the questions chosen by CNN seemed to pigeonhole republicans into stereotypes that democrats accuse them of.

For example, there were a few questions about the Bible and whether the candidates interpreted it literally. While it was interesting to see Mike Huckabee, an ordained minister, Mitt Romney, a Mormon, and Rudy Guiliani's, who I doubt has ever opened a Bible, responses, this issue couldn't have been less important to me. It seems as if CNN purposefully chose questions that would make republicans seem like fundamental religious righters and gun-toting rednecks. CNN has been accused of leaning to the left before, so it probably wouldn't surprise me if this was done on purpose.

In addition to the poor quality of the questions, for the most part, the candidates' performances weren't that impressive either. There were a few moments of greatness; besides for John McCain educating Mitt Romney about waterboarding, and Ron Paul's last remarks about his 'R3VOLUTION', for example. However, most of the other debate tactics, especially from Romney and Guiliani, were full of sly derisions and veiled personal attacks. Huckabee, while he gave a good performance, left the impression that there isn't much substance to him. He is a well spoken orator,

but his policies speak for himself; he is loved by the religious right because of his policies of social progressivism and desire to turn his personal morality into national law.

I left this debate with slightly more respect for John McCain, though I still believe his views on Iraq are misguided. Many of the other candidates leave much to be desired, a view expressed by the focus group of about a dozen republicans interviews by CNN at the end of the debate, although one of these 'republicans' admitted to being a John Edwards supporter.

My last issue with the CNN network, was that it lacked a text message poll that has been at every other debate, where viewers can decide on the winner. Ron Paul, has been voted the winner of every debate, save the first one (which he came in second); coincidence? Reader's may recall the last issue of the Statesman, where author Adam Peck cited Mike Huckabee as being the "victor of the debate. However, I have seen no nationwide poll conducted which awarded Huckabee awarded this title. While I agree that text messaging polls have their sample bias, it is better than no poll at all. It is certainly better than declaring a victor without conducting any poll.

At this stage in the game, it is impossible to detect how many supporters Ron Paul and the other candidates actually have as even professional polls have their sample bias. Generally, they are conducted over landline phones of voters who have registered Republican as of the 2000 election. This largely excludes young voters from registering in the polls.

We will have to wait for the primaries to see how much support each candidate really has.

NEWS CONTINUATIONS

ITS Students Weigh in on Lecture

Continued from page 3

people worry about how authorities who would have control over these technologies might abuse their power.

Fersoe Babu, a freshman computer science major, was overjoyed by the discussion. "Transhuman-

ism in unbelievably great," Babu said. "There are really several great opportunities available in this area; I might consider it as my research interest. I always wanted to do something different in my life, and I think transhumanism is the most different area of research I have heard thus far."

Another student, who decided to attend the event because of the intriguing title of the talk, John Connor, a computer engineering and philosophy double major, said he was disappointed by the discussion. "I cannot believe a human can violate the natural rights of other

humans. It is so terrible to hear that there is actually a group of scientists working in this field. Fine, this technology would allow humans develop cure for diseases, but how can you trust anybody? Authorities who have control can always misuse their power by any means!"

Overall, those who attended enjoyed the two hours long show. Some of the attendees were intrigued to follow the story.

On the other hand, some were disgusted about the topic, and regarded it as a future plan to violate natural human rights, as they put it: a completely immoral act.

Thefts Need to Stop

Continued from page 11

reports of all crimes that happen on campus. Many of these crimes are thefts, and they are reported to the police. However, we never hear from the Police Department, ever, if any stolen property has been found.

Several weeks ago someone came into my suite, in West Building A, with a bat and damaged a lot of property. Several desk lamps and a coffee maker were severely damaged.

A police report was filed. But despite a description given to the police of the individuals who were seen, nothing has been done. My suitemates and I haven't gotten any phone calls, or any assurances that something was being done.

We should have to live in fear of our valuables beings stolen. Somewhere on campus, there are students who wished they could have done something to prevent their valuables from being stolen. It's a hard feeling to digest.

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Men's Swimming Moves to .500

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first place finish in the 50-yard freestyle, with fellow Seawolves teammate Matt Descovich close behind in second.

Kissel was also a part of the 400-yard freestyle relay team, which also included freshman Jonathan Eldor, from South Setauket, New York, freshman Eric Gaffey from Bohemia, New York, and the junior Omer Ozcan from Brooklyn, New York. Despite the team's efforts, which placed first in that event with a time of 3:12.59, the team failed to garner enough points for a decisive win.

The women, searching for their first win of the season, traveled to Boston with high hopes. Although they put up a stringent fight, the team lost to BU 176.5-117.5.

The scoreboard did not show how well the women's team did. Anastasia Kiryushkina, a freshman from Moscow, Russia, continued her triumphant first season by placing first in the 100-yard breaststroke and the 200-yard breaststroke, with times of 1:07.76 and 2:24.54, respectively.

Contributing to a strong effort by the Seawolves were freshmen Maja Gudelj, from Split, Croatia, and Lisa Jackson, from Saratoga Springs, New York. Gudelj beat out the field of swimmers in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 53.91 and Jackson took top honors in the 400-yard individual medley with a time of 4:45.96.

Before the men could take first place in the freestyle relay, the women had done it first, beating the BU relay team with a time of 3:41.16. The team consisted of seniors Nyisha Green-Washington from Highland Mills, N.Y., Courtney Teague from Colorado Springs, Colorado, and freshman

Adrienne Policht, of Mississauga, Canada.

Spirits were low following the teams' defeat in Massachusetts, but they didn't last long as the team came back to Stony Brook to compete against the Iona University Gaels and the St. Francis Prep Terriers at University Pool in the Sports Complex.

With a head full of steam, both the men's and women's teams swept the Gaels and the Terriers. With the wins, the men's team moved to a respectable 4-4, and the women improved to 2-6, on the fast track to winning back the not-so-forgone season. The men beat the Gaels with a score of 76-35 win, and an 87-20 win over the Terriers. The women, similarly, beat the Gaels with a score of 76-35 win, and an 87-20 win over the Terriers.

Spotlighting the men's races was once again freshman Lukasz Ochmanski, shattered the Stony Brook record in the 500-yard freestyle. The previous owner of the record, none other than Ochmanski himself which he broke on the road, was overtaken with a time last night of an astounding 4:31.64, a good 35 seconds before the next place finisher.

Ochmanski continued a dominating night with a first place finish in the 200-yard IM, or Individual Medley, with a time of 2:01.25. When asked about Lukasz's performance on the night, Coach Dave Alexander could only come up with one adjective for his speed, short and to the point, "scary!"

Not to be overshadowed by the individual effort of Ochmanski alone, the men's team finished with eight more first place finishes, along with Ochmanski's two. The Gaels and Terriers heads

were spinning from the speed and ease with which Stony Brook was placing first in the events. They went in looking for the proverbial fight, and came out licking their wounds as the men's team looked for a convincing win.

The men's 200-yard relay dominated the event, placing first ahead of the Gaels by five seconds. Individually, freshman Nathan Fleshman finished first in the 1000-yard freestyle with a time of 10:34.23, Eric Gaffey finishing first in the 200-yard freestyle, Jonathan Eldor in the 50-yard freestyle, Alexander Demin in the 1-meter and 3-meter dives, Alexander Kissel in 100-yard freestyle, and Raphael Labour, Jr., in the 100-yard backstroke. A convincing win over Iona and St. Francis indeed.

Looking to prove they were better than the 0-6 record, the women showed up for their own events, taking first place in seven races. Gudelj finished first in the 100-yard freestyle with a time of 54.08 and the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.11. Once again, the men's and women's relay teams swept the 200-yard medley, as the women's team finished in first with a time of 1:53.72. Rounding out the other five top winners was Lisa Jackson in the 1,000-yard freestyle, Courtney Teague in the 200-yard freestyle, Talia Schizzano in the one-meter dive, and Lucy Liu in the 100-yard butterfly.

The men's team will take their .500 record against the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy here at the Sports Complex, while the women's team will not see action until Jan. 16, where the men and women travel to Pennsylvania to take on Lafayette University and Binghamton University. Come cheer on the men at 1:00 PM on Saturday.

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Stony Brook's notable players were freshman Kirsten Jeter, who led the team in scoring with 16 points, while grabbing 5 rebounds. Senior Dana Ferraro tallied another double-double with 15 points and 10 rebounds, while shooting an outstanding 7-13 (54%) from the field.

Stony Brook's next matchup is Wednesday Dec. 5, where they will travel to Yale, currently 0-5.

Hockey Program Left on Its Own

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Serese. "It's way too far from the school, and we don't get a lot of time during the week to practice. At the games we just get our parents... we don't get anyone from school."

Senior goaltender Drue Santora expressed similar sentiments. "The Rinx is a nice facility, but its location hinders the team," Santora said. "Without our own ice, it's hard to have practices at decent times and we're forced to practice until 11:30 PM. Since it's not our own ice it's also very expensive, and to minimize expenses we have to limit our practice time. Also, due to its location it's difficult to get a large audience," he said.

Garafalo has been trying to get the attention of the Athletic Department so he can present his plan to them, but so far has been unable to get in touch.

When contacted, Jim Fiore, the athletic director, said he was unaware of any previous conversations with members of the club hockey team, or The Rinx. "I don't recall a conversation in the last two years, at least," he said. "While we're not against it, it would be a huge financial undertaking."

Dr. Richard Laskowski, a business professor at the university, offered his opinion on the situation. According to the university website, Dr. Laskowski spent 19 years at St. John's University, serving as the Associate Director of Athletics of Varsity Sports in his final eight years, and was also the Director of Intramurals, Club Sports and Recreation for five years.

Beyond the money issue, the university would have to worry about following the law, he said. Title IX states that women must be equally represented in the athletic field. While the split can be representative of the entire student body, that is to say if men make up 60% of the total student body, they can make up

60% of the athletes, Laskowski says that right off the bat adding two new teams instead of just one would double costs across the board for the athletic department. On top of the 60 or so extra athletes, the university would have to hire trainers, supports staff and other administrators for the teams.

Then get to the actual facility. Laskowski estimated it would cost \$30 million to \$50 million to build an arena. "If you rent that ice out around the clock, it might take 100 years to recoup that money," he said.

Add in the political storm it would create with all that money being dedicated to a sports facility while the academic community would want the money for their own academic interests. "This is a good team," Laskowski said. "It's a good idea, but the funding is impossible."

Garafalo vehemently refuted Laskowski's assertion that a rink would be that expensive. He pointed to the LaHaye Ice Center, a rink built on the campus of Liberty University, another Division I club hockey team. The rink holds up to 3,000 spectators for Liberty hockey games, and according to Head Coach Kirk Handy cost only four million dollars to build. He also said it will "break even on the operational side." Garafalo thinks the four million dollars is attainable. "If the funding is there, will they build it?" he said.

While Garafalo is looking ahead to the remainder of the season, he hopes sometime in the future the club can improve its status.

"I wish the university would really take a good look at what we have done with limited resources and be able to see if they were to move us to the next level, we would be a great addition to the athletic department and bring a winning tradition to the school," he said. "But that's up to them."

Women's B-ball Ends Three Game Skid

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If This Isn't the Sign, Then What Is?

Another College Football Postseason Controversy

By WILL LAHTI
Co-Managing Editor

Ever since the origin of the Bowl Championship Series, used to rank teams at college football's highest level, Division I-A, there has been heavy criticism of how they're determining who gets to play for the national title, as well as calls for a playoff system, instead of the seemingly arbitrary rankings currently used. These rankings are based on a combination of polls and computer calculations. As it is now, there are 32 bowl games, allowing 64 teams to see the post season.

What I-A football needs to have a legitimate champion is a playoff. Several systems get tossed around in the media. One is to add a national championship game after the current bowls. The problem is that either you preselect the two bowl games you take the winners from, you essentially have a four-team playoff. If you don't, then you'll never satisfy anybody with which winners you'll pick.

Another option discussed is a 12-team NFL style playoff. The teams with the bye week have an advantage. Also, how do you determine who gets the byes? The best option seems to be a 16-team playoff. It would handle the parity of seasons like this one, and provide as equal a playing field as the ranking system allows.

Every time the "p word" is mentioned, there seems to be a laundry list of reasons why there shouldn't be a playoff, and they always seem to come from people with a stake in the current system. They always seem to be the schools that top the rankings, the cities that host the games, and the TV networks that broadcast them. Nobody will watch the regular season games, just as they don't for basketball. It isn't fair to everybody who wouldn't make the "postseason." It'll disrupt the students' studies, running through finals.

A playoff is good enough for every other level of NCAA football, and for every other sport, for that matter. 64 teams is far too many for the postseason in any sport, anyway. As for finals, basketball season runs through both the fall and spring semester, and they seem to do just fine. People will still watch regular season games. Basketball's problem is that its season is way too long, going from November to the beginning of April. Not to mention the possibility of three undefeated teams. How do you determine which two get to play for the title?

Then again, they don't even have one unbeaten team playing this year. Hawaii had a perfect season, but because of the rankings, and the voters not caring about Hawaii, they won't have a shot at the title. And while we're on that subject, if Colt Brennan doesn't win the Heisman this year, they'll be able to hear my screams from Honolulu. As it is, they'll play #5 Georgia in the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day. Meanwhile, the other bowls are filled with one- and two-loss teams. They should be ranked higher than #10, perhaps even getting to play #3 Virginia Tech. They should, however, get a shot at the title through a playoff.

Considering that most of the teams ahead of them have two losses, I'm not convinced that they're stronger than Hawaii, despite the "strength of schedule" factor. USC lost to Stanford, and they're ranked #7? Oklahoma is only ranked #3, despite destroying the then-#1 Missouri, which is still ranked #6. There will undoubtedly be questions to answer if Hawaii wins, and some of the teams ahead of them suffer big losses.

This year could be the one that proves the need for a playoff. Then again, last year was the one that proved the need for a playoff, with the controversial Sugar Bowl and BCS championship matchings ending in blowouts.

Yanks in Trouble

Will Young Guns Be Enough?

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

The thought that some Yankee fans are against trading PROSPECTS for Santana is unbelievable. Sorry for yelling, but I can't stress the word prospect enough.

Prospects are still just prospective talent. For every Melky Cabrera, there's a Shane Spencer. For every Robinson Cano, there's a Ricky Ledee. For every Chien-Ming Wang, there's a Hideki Irabu. Point is, for every successful prospect out of the minors, there's an unbelievable bust.

Two words that will reiterate my point that Yankee fans may remember, JEFF WEAVER. Weaver was an unbelievable talent, and as far as a prospect, he was once rated as high as Phil Hughes. After wooing pinstripe fans while he was in the minors and while a member of the Detroit Tigers, just like Hughes did while he was in minors, he later became a total bust, reminding Yankee's fans that nothing is a sure thing.

What about Zach Duke of the Pittsburgh Pirates? The next big thing two years ago, came up from the minors in 2005, started 8-0 and finished 8-2 with a 1.81 ERA. He finished 5th for the National League Rookie of the Year, where he was the top pitcher, after only starting 14 games. Now the Pirates are hoping their new pitching coach can revitalize their highly touted PROSPECT, after he finished 3-8 last year, with a 5.53 ERA.

And then there's the ultimate prospect bust, Rick Ankiel. After finishing in 2nd for the National League Rookie of the Year Award in 2000, where he went 11-7 with a 3.50 ERA and struck out 194 in 175 innings. The next year he only last 24 innings in the big league, while pitching an abysmal 7.13 ERA. He's now back with the Cardinals, but not as a pitcher, as an outfielder,

and is still remembered for his horrible control and wild pitches that ran Rick Ankiel, the pitcher, out of baseball.

As far as Melky Cabrera, he will be missed. A real energy guy, with a great arm, but I still stand by my prediction that the Yankees will sign Andruw Jones if they trade Cabrera. Even without Jones, the Yankees will have Johnny Damon. Yes he's a terrible fielder, but when healthy, which he has been the majority of his career, he's a terrific lead-off man and he won a World Series ring 3 years ago. The Yankees will also have Hideki Matsui healthy next season and Bobby Abreu back in the corner of the outfield.

Now to Santana, a 28 (soon to be 29) year-old lefty with 2 Cy Young awards under his belt. The guy is already proven. In the last for

years, these are some of his notable stats that make my mouth water: he's had 235 or more strikeouts each season, he's pitched 219 or more innings each season, he's accumulated 15 or more wins each season, including a 19 and 20 win season, his WHIP (Walks and Hits per inning pitched) was under 1 in 3 of the four years, with his one lone season over one being a 1.07. In the last six years, he's had an ERA over three in only two of his seasons, which were 3.07 and 3.33. In his worst year which was last year, he was better and more dominant than any Yankee starting pitcher. The Yankees "ace" Chien-Ming Wang won 19 games last season. He pitched 199.1 innings, in 30 starts, with a 3.70 ERA,

with a 1.29 WHIP and only 104 strikeouts. Santana won 15 games last season in 33 starts, with a 3.33 ERA, a 1.07 WHIP and 235 strikeouts, and that was his worst season in the last four years. Although he didn't win as many games as Wang, Santana pitched for the Minnesota Twins, who as a team scored 250 less runs as a team throughout the season than the high powered Yankees.

Let's take a look at a possible Yankees rotation if Santana wears pinstripes next season: Johan Santana, Chien-Ming Wang, Andy Pettite (if he comes back), Joba Chamberlain (If he's a starter, which is a major issue in itself), Ian

Kennedy or Mike Mussina. As far as Pettite, if Johan comes, so will Andy. He's not going to come back if they aren't a real contender without a real rotation. With Johan Santana, not only are they a real con-

tender with a real rotation, but they may jump ahead of Josh Beckett and the Red Sox as the early favorites to win the World Series.

If you are against Johan Santana becoming a Yankee because of the money he will require, which has been projected to be \$150 million over 6 Years, that's an issue worth discussing. However, if you are against him coming solely because they are losing two young talents, that's absurd. They will have a strong lineup next year without Melky Cabrera, and if they trade Hughes for Santana, they could have a rotation consisting of Santana, Chamberlain, Wang, and Kennedy for at least 10 years.

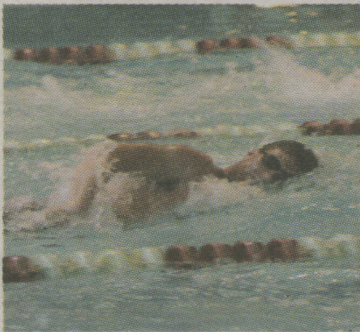




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Swimming Looking to Make Its Mark



Men's and Women's Swimming had a tough time against BU. Aisha Akhtar/SB Statesman

By MICHAEL FODERA
Staff Writer

It has been a busy week for the Stony Brook Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Team as both teams look to improve their record. Each team had yet to make a big splash in the NCAA standings, with the men's team off to a slow start with a 2-3 record and the women off to a lowly 0-5 record.

Despite their records, the men's and women's team took their first step this weekend last Saturday in trying to make a comeback. The result, however, was less than stellar.

The Seawolves traveled to Boston last weekend to take on the Boston University Terriers, a perennial tough match-up. Despite efforts from top swimmers Lukasz Ochmanski, from Lodz Poland, and Andrew Kissel from Amityville, New York, the Men's team lost to the Terriers 175-120.

Freshman Ochmanski finished first in the 1,650-yard freestyle with a remarkable time of 16:09.89, and also took top honors in the 400-yard individual medley with another outstanding time of 4:06.49. The senior Andrew Kissel did his best to propel the team into a win with a

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Stony Brook Hockey Looking to Move Up



Despite their success on ice, Club Hockey has had a hard time finding the funding and fan support from Stony Brook.

Drue Santora

By GENE MORRIS
Asst. Sports Editor

216 wins, 48 losses. That's the record of the Stony Brook club hockey team since the 1999-2000 season. But the team, which has become a national power at the club level, is not officially a part of the athletic department.

The club has been around since 1968, but began its meteoric rise in 1999 under the watch of General Manager Christopher Garofalo. The team currently receives \$80,000 in funding from the Undergraduate Student Government.

Garofalo said that falls about \$30,000 short of what the team needs, and the rest of the money is contributed by the players and various fund raisers. Garofalo graduated from Stony Brook in 1996 after playing four years on the hockey team. "Our ultimate goal is the get an ice rink built on campus and one day have our team become an NCAA program," he said.

The team has spent the last eight years as members of the American Collegiate Hockey Association. The ACHA is the governing body for all club ice hockey teams in the country. There are three men's divisions

within the association, and one women's division. Stony Brook hockey has competed in Division II since 2000. For the 2007-08 season, the team has moved up to Division I, which features 54 teams.

The ACHA requires that all players be fulltime undergraduate students taking a minimum of 24 credits a year and maintaining a minimum GPA of 2.0. The NCAA rulebook is used for all game matters.

In March, at the end of each season there is a national tournament for each division. Only the top 16 teams are invited. Stony Brook has been ranked in the top 16 of Division II for each of the last eight years and advanced as far as the finals in 2003 before falling to Colorado.

Stony Brook is also a part of the Eastern Collegiate Hockey Association, a sub-conference in the ACHA. The other members include Lehigh University, the University of Maryland, Towson University, Villanova University and West Chester University. The winner of the ECHA gets an automatic bid into the national tournament.

But building the rink is the first priority for Garofalo. The

team currently plays at The Rinx in Hauppauge, a facility that has two full size ice rinks and is open to the public. After the recent shutdown of Sportsplus in Lake Grove, which housed many recreational hockey leagues, The Rinx installed a third temporary rink to accommodate those with no where to continue playing. But Tom Palamara, the executive vice president of The Rinx, says the temporary structure is coming down March 1, and there are no plans to build anything permanent.

Palamara also said that officials from The Rinx met with President Shirley Strum Kenny in March of this year about the prospects of putting a rink on campus. He said The Rinx staff would operate and maintain the building and rinks, but the university was not interested.

Garofalo said his team pays the normal fee of \$410 per hour to practice at the Rinx. Because of this price, the team is only able to practice twice a week. This does not sit well with everyone on the team.

"Playing at The Rinx is awful," said junior forward Angelo

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Women's Basketball Dominates LI Rival

By BRIAN MORGAN
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Dec. 4, Stony Brook's Women's Basketball team traveled to Hofstra University and beat the Pride in their most impressive victory of the season. Kirsten Jeter's second free throw at 1:27 gave SB a 1-0 lead, which they would hold then entire game. SB ended with a 64-48 win.

This victory, which brings their record to 3-4, is by far their most important win of the season. This is the Seawolves first road victory of the season, where they were previously 0-3, and it broke their three game skid. Statistically, this game was important because Stony Brook proved they were able to dominate every facet of the game. Besides winning by their largest margin of the season, Stony Brook shot a better percentage, from the field (42.3-31.6) and 3-point range (42.9-31.6). They had 16 assists, compared to the Pride's 6, they out-rebounded Hofstra 44-34, which includes 12-9 on the offensive end.

In the first half, after a 3-pointer made by Hofstra's Niki Williams to make the score 6-9, Stony Brook then pulled away to the point of no return. The Seawolves went on a 17-4 run to make the score 10-26. After the first half, the score was 39-18, and Stony Brook held a 20+ lead for the majority of the game. Only when garbage time was upon them did Hofstra cut into the lead, and ultimately the final score was 64-48.

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