

THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

Volume LVI, Issue 6

Monday, October 8, 2012

sbstatesman.com

Voter sign-up deadline nears

By Christine Powell
Assistant News Editor

Election day, Nov. 6, is fast approaching and the window of opportunity to get involved is closing quickly.

According to The Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), which conducts research on the political and civic engagement of young people out of Tufts University in Massachusetts, there are 46 million people ages 18-29 years old who are eligible to vote. That demographic makes up 24 percent of the eligible voting population in the United States.

In 2008, 51 percent of the youth voting population came out to vote, which was a 2 percent increase from the 2004 election numbers and an 11 percent increase from those of the 2000 election. While this number is low compared to the adult demographic, in 2008, 84 percent of young people who were registered to vote cast a ballot.

The key to improving the youth vote, then, is not encouraging the young to get to their polling place on election day; it is, rather, encouraging them to register and educating them on how to do so.

The deadline to register to vote in New York State is 25 days before the election, or, this year, Oct. 12.

Ben DeAngelis, regional campus

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MCT CAMPUS

Julia Shomenta wears an armband as she registers to vote at University of Texas, Dallas.



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

The Seawolves won their first opening conference game of the season, Saturday, defeating Charleston Southern University 49-7.

Minority graduation rates on the rise at SBU

By Matt Sacco
Contributing Writer

Last week, The Education Trust released a national report highlighting Stony Brook University's dramatic success in improving the graduation rates of its underrepresented minority students. Between 2004 and 2010, Hispanic graduation rates increased from 42 percent to 58 percent, virtually matching the white graduation rate of 59 percent. The university was also lauded for its continued success with African-Americans, who graduate at a rate of 71 percent.

The Education Trust cited Stony Brook's minority-assisting programs as significant factors in this growth.

"Stony Brook was successful because their diverse programming succeeded in creating close-knit communities of students," said Mary Nguyen, an analyst with the Education Trust and co-author of the report. "SBU has programs targeted specifically to low-income students and students of color, and various STEM [Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics] programs that help support and engage students in their academics."

STEM smart is an umbrella name for a variety of subsidiaries that provide support for disadvantaged high school and college students who wish to pursue degrees in the hard sciences. College students receive tutoring services and financial aid if needed, and they also attend career preparation workshops. In addition, many are offered internships or research opportunities with faculty,

and achievements are a result of problem-solving workshops, learn proper study habits and are educated about college costs.

David L. Ferguson, a professor of applied math and statistics at SBU, is the director of several STEM smart programs. "Over the last 25 years," he said in an email interview, "Stony Brook University has come a long way in advancing diversity in STEM. Programs have been evolving,

and collaborative efforts among diversity programs, faculty and staff, and new curricular approaches in such areas as chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics and engineering."

Ferguson was ecstatic about the report, adding that he "was delighted to see our university recognized for the great advances that we have made in boosting the graduation rates of Hispanic and African American

students."

In the email, he touched upon several programs operating under the STEM smart banner: the Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP), which is funded by the New York State Education Department, and the SUNY Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP). Of

Continued on Page 5



MCT CAMPUS

Minority students file into commencement ceremony at Fresno State University in May 2012. Minorities are graduating at higher rates at Stony Brook University.

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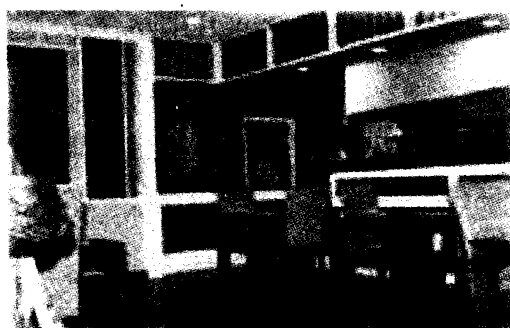


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What's Inside

NEWS:

Unemployment rates down, part-time employment up

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) September jobs report, the unemployment rate dipped to 7.8 percent; this is the first time the rate has fallen to less than eight percent in nearly four years, arguably boosting President Obama's potential for re-election. Additionally, employers added 114,000 jobs and, overall, the total number of people who said that they were employed rose by 873,000.

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Report: obesity rates expected to double by 2030

The 2011 obesity rate in New York State is 24.5 percent and is expected to reach 50.9 percent by 2030, a recent report by the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation found.

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Poll: young voters not as enthusiastic about elections

The 2008 presidential election made history among young voters. Rallies on college campuses paired with social media activism brought out one of the highest turnouts of 18 to 29-year-olds on election day—more than 22 million.

Habib's stay of removal renewed

Nadia Habib, an undocumented Stony Brook University student who faced deportation to Bangladesh last year, was granted another stay of removal last week, which will allow her to remain in the U.S. for at least another year. Her mother's stay of removal was also renewed for the same period.

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Skateboarding club fighting for recreational space

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ARTS:

Have an interest? Start your own club on campus

Stony Brook students are encouraged to join clubs and organizations that reflect their interests. There are almost 350 clubs for students to join. However, even with such a wide range of options, students sometimes find that the club they want to join does not exist and that they need to create it themselves.

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Pitch Perfect is the newest film to capitalize on funny women

Recent years have played host to a rise in female empowerment in Hollywood. Women are in the front of the comedy field. Tina Fey has gone from top writer at "Saturday Night Live" to having her own Emmy winning show. Her former Weekend Update partner Amy Poehler is the star of the NBC comedy "Parks and Recreation." Kristin Wiig, another "Saturday Night Live" veteran, wrote, starred and scored an Oscar nomination for "Bridesmaids," one of the best and most successful comedies in recent times.

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SPORTS:

Essington throws 5 TDs in victory over Buccaneers

The Stony Brook football team crushed the Charleston Southern University Buccaneers 49-7 in the team's opening conference game of the season.

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Men's Soccer loses to BU in overtime

The men's soccer team lost this weekend to Boston University, who scored a goal midway through overtime to beat the Seawolves 2-1. The loss ended Stony Brook's six-match winning streak. SBU is now 7-3-1 overall, with a 1-1-0 record in the America East.

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NEWS

Journalist who broke PSU scandal talks to SBU students

By Lisa Setyon-Ortenzio
Contributing Writer

Sara Ganim, the reporter who recently won a Pulitzer Prize for breaking the Penn State University sex abuse scandal, said yesterday at Stony Brook University that any good reporter “always [has] to go beyond the obvious” when writing.

“Reporters always have to think about moving the story forward,” Ganim said. “News happens so fast these days that all you have to do is pull yourself away and tell the readers something they don’t already know.”

Ganim, who writes for “The Patriot-News” in Harrisburg, Pa., and is a correspondent for CNN, came to the Student Activities Center Auditorium last Wednesday as part of the “My Life As...” lecture series, sponsored by SBU’s School of Journalism, and spoke for more than one hour to a room full of students and faculty.

Throughout the evening, Ganim explained that writing about the Penn State sex scandal was not an easy task. It required a lot of work by Ganim and her fellow staff including getting a lot of feedback, talking to bosses and lawyers and knocking on doors until they got there.

“What I’ve learned while reporting on this scandal, is that

you should never underestimate the fact that people will lie to you,” Ganim said. “You have to read people. It’s a huge part of this job.”

Ganim said she became a reporter at the young age of 15. She began as a freelance reporter for “The Sun-Sentinel” in Florida before interning with the Associated Press. Ganim graduated from Penn State University in 2008 and was working as a crime reporter for “The Centre Daily Times” when she received a tip about Jerry Sandusky. In January 2011, when she took her position with “The Patriot-News,” she had already been pursuing the sex scandal for almost two years.

“While writing about the Penn State scandal, I realized that we have to love what we do to make it work. If you are not passionate, then find another vocation now,” Ganim said.

Ganim said her experiences helped her to better understand the job of a journalist.

“When you leave these first jobs, you’ve got the skills to do really well at your next job,” Ganim said. “Your first job cannot be your dream job or there has been a misstep.”

In addition, Ganim said her experiences helped her to understand life.

“The impact of this scandal on



KEVIN LIZARAZO / THE STATESMAN

Professor Dean Miller interviewed Sara Ganim on Monday night. Ganim came to Stony Brook University as part of the School of Journalism’s “My Life As” series.

my own life as well as the victims’ has been huge,” Ganim said. “I have learned that good things can come along with bad things. Because of my reporting, lots of victims who have been raped have managed to talk about their own experience.”

One of the students in the audience, Miguel Estrelia, a freshman electrical engineering

major, said he really enjoyed the speech.

“I had to come to this speech for my news literacy class,” Estrelia said. “At first, I didn’t really care about the class, but I have to say that this speech helped me a lot to see what people go through. Overall, Sara Ganim’s speech was really empowering.”

Ganim finished her speech by

offering a life lesson.

“You have to realize that you are not going to be the best every day,” she said. “Everything happens for a reason. I’m here today because I have worked a lot for it. I have made some mistakes in the past that actually helped me to move on because I’ve learned from them. Every human being needs to accept his own limitations.”

Voter registration deadline is Friday, Oct. 12

Continued from Page 1

supervisor for the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), a non-partisan, student-directed research and advocacy organization, said that one of the most popular questions from students that he helps to register is whether or not to register under their Stony Brook University address or their home address.

DeAngelis said that he encourages people to register under their

campus address. Students spend the majority of their year here, he argues, and it allows you to get your vote in more easily when you can walk to the Student Activities Center instead of sending in an absentee ballot or driving home.

But DeAngelis also said that by voting under their campus address, students can directly influence policies that affect the State University of New York system.

“There’s a real correlation between the politicians who invest in SUNY and the amount of young people

registered in their districts,” he said. “The more students we register here, the stronger the message we send to local politicians that they’re accountable to students.”

However, DeAngelis stressed that the most important thing is simply voting in the first place.

“I don’t care who you vote for or what you vote on, just recognize that the election not just about presidents,” DeAngelis said. “It’s really important that people pay attention to all of the issues and all of the candidates, not just what they

see on ‘The Daily Show.’”

Registering to vote

There are many ways to register to vote both in person and online. On campus, both the University Student Government office and the NYPIRG office distribute applications, and once they’re filled out the offices will mail or deliver them to the appropriate location for you. Additionally, the Stony Brook College Democrats register voters from a table in the SAC lobby most days.

Otherwise, you can go in person to your local County Board of Elections or Department of Motor Vehicles.

There are also many methods online. Two popular and user-friendly websites that register voters are rockthevote.org and vote411.org, a project of the League of Women Voters.

Knowing your candidates

There are many ways to educate yourself about the candidates, including visiting their official websites. But there are also websites that personalize and streamline the process for voters.

Vote411.org allows you to enter your address and then brings up a list of all the candidates that will appear on your ballot. From there, you can compare two candidates running for a position at a time by seeing their responses to questions

about key issues side by side. Additionally, you can ‘choose’ your preferred candidate as you move through the varied positions, and then print out or email yourself a list of your choices to bring with you to the polls.

Alternatively, votesmart.org/voteeasy offers an interactive tool. You are prompted to answer questions on issues like abortion, immigration and education, and indicate how important each issue is to you. The tool also provides a short summary of why people generally agree with or object to the question at hand.

Meanwhile, the candidates are displayed at the bottom of the screen, and as you answer questions a percentage of “how similar they are to you” is calculated. At the end, you are given a “best match.” You can then further explore information about the candidates, which ranges from their basic information to their voting records and campaign finances. The tool works for both presidential and state candidates.

Additionally, isidewith.com offers voters what is, essentially, a survey. There are a series of questions to answer and, again, you are prompted to put a weight on the significance of each topic. In the end, you are given results of how all the candidates stack up in comparison to you, measured by a percentage. The results also break down by percentage which parties you side with. Currently, though, the survey is only offered for presidential candidates.



TAYLOR BOURAAD / THE STATESMAN

NYPIRG representatives help students to register to vote in the SAC on Friday.

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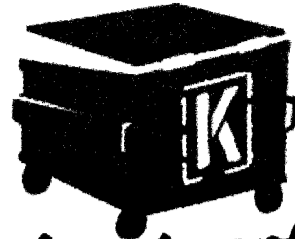
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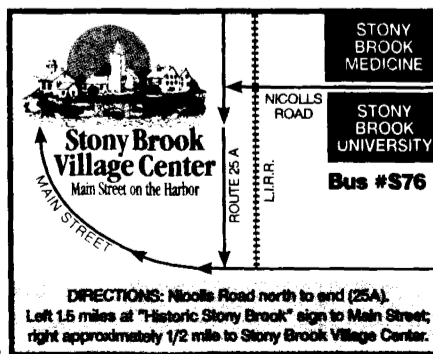


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Unemployment rates down, part-time employment up

By Christine Powell
Assistant News Editor

JOBS UPDATE Every month, the Bureau of Labor Statistics puts out a jobs report describing the current job climate. Christine Powell will analyze and contextualize the report.

In a struggling economy, simply finding a job can be more of a priority than finding a job that requires you to use your college degree or maximize your full potential.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) September jobs report, the unemployment rate dipped to 7.8 percent; this is the first time the rate has fallen to less than eight percent in nearly four years, arguably boosting President Obama's potential for re-election. Additionally, employers added 114,000 jobs and, overall, the total number of people who said that they were employed rose by 873,000.

But while the report seems to demonstrate a step in the right direction, it's important to recognize the finer implications.

The number of involuntary part-time workers, or persons employed part-time for economic reasons, rose to 8.6 million in September from 8 million in August.

Public-sector jobs shrinking

Public-sector jobs at the state and local level continue to be cut in contrast to a private-sector job growth.

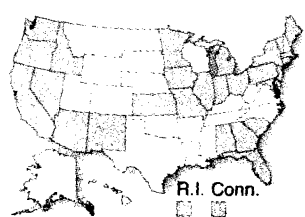
Public vs. private jobs

Change in number of jobs, in millions

	Feb. '10	Feb. '11
Private	106.8	110.7
Public	22.5	22.0

States with public job losses

27 states had government job cuts, Dec. 2007-Jan. 2012

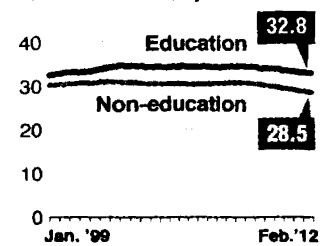


Most jobs lost

Calif.	124,100	N.Y.	21,700
Fla.	42,700	Ill.	19,900
Mich.	35,300	Ariz.	17,700
Ohio.	29,800	Conn.	15,100
N.J.	26,800	Pa.	13,500

Education jobs cut less

State and local employees per 1,000 residents, by month



• Education jobs lowest since Aug. 1999; non-education lowest since March 1986

Source: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Graphic: Judy Treible © 2012 MCT

Four decades of employment numbers

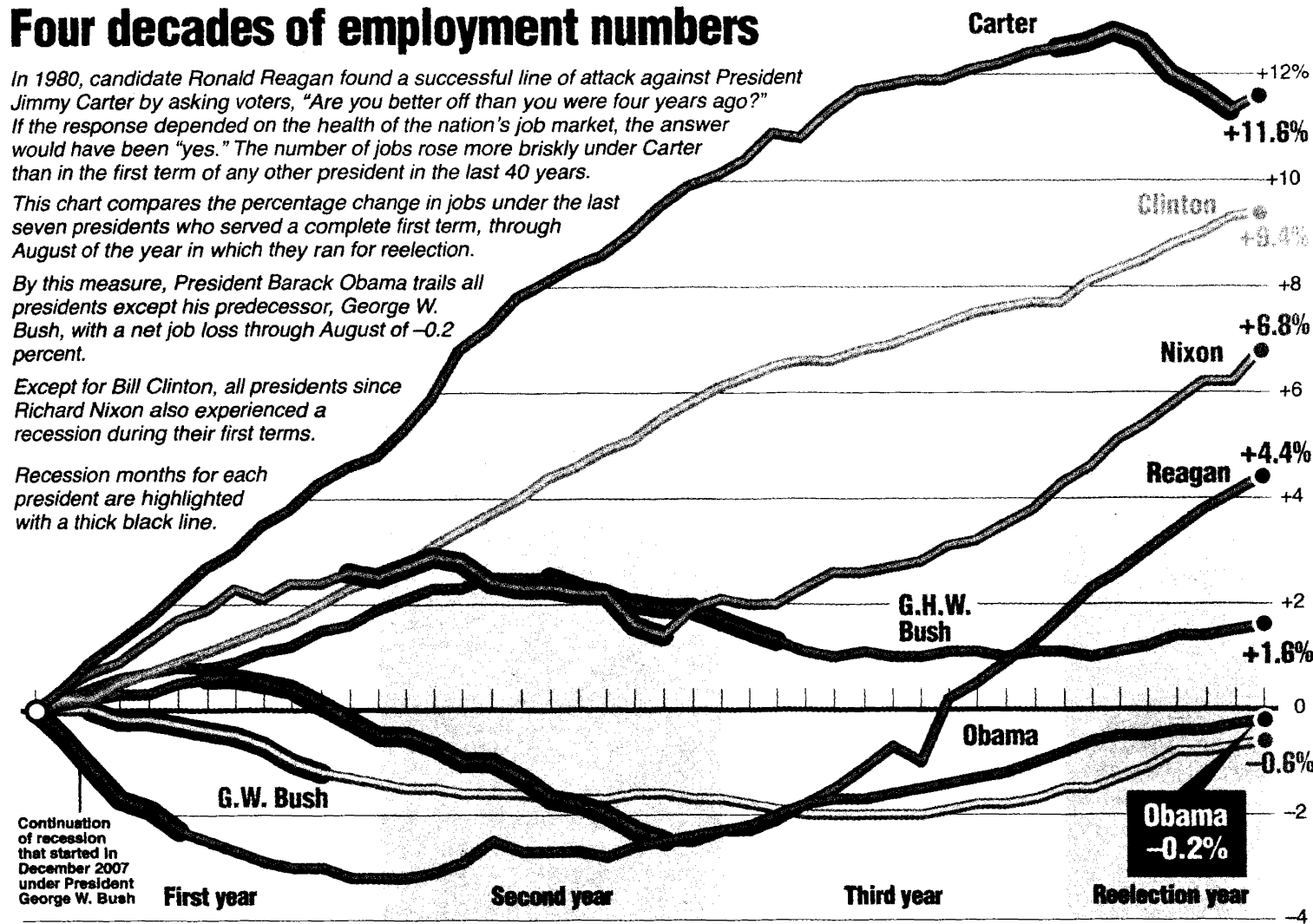
In 1980, candidate Ronald Reagan found a successful line of attack against President Jimmy Carter by asking voters, "Are you better off than you were four years ago?" If the response depended on the health of the nation's job market, the answer would have been "yes." The number of jobs rose more briskly under Carter than in the first term of any other president in the last 40 years.

This chart compares the percentage change in jobs under the last seven presidents who served a complete first term, through August of the year in which they ran for reelection.

By this measure, President Barack Obama trails all presidents except his predecessor, George W. Bush, with a net job loss through August of -0.2 percent.

Except for Bill Clinton, all presidents since Richard Nixon also experienced a recession during their first terms.

Recession months for each president are highlighted with a thick black line.



NOTE: Job figures are for nonfarm employment, seasonally adjusted
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Graphic: John Duchneskie, The Philadelphia Inquirer

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"The general good news is more jobs and a lower unemployment rate," Michael Zweig, a professor of economics and founder and director of the Center for the Study of Working Class Life at Stony Brook, said. "But then you look at what kind of jobs we are adding. There's a big increase in involuntary part time employment."

Many who need full-time work, the report suggests, are now taking part-time positions to avoid long-term unemployment.

The report also showed that the number of people unemployed for less than five weeks declined by 302,000 to 2.5 million, but the number of long-term unemployed people, 4.8 million, changed little.

These two figures suggest another trend, according to Zweig,

"When there's an increase in employment, the most recently unemployed are hired back first," Zweig said. "The people who have been unemployed long-term have an especially hard time returning. So if someone loses a job, they need to get a different job as fast as they can."

While not an ideal situation, Marianna Savoca, director of the career center at Stony Brook, said that those students who recently graduated or are coming up on graduation should try to make their best of part-time positions.

"Use this part-time gig to establish yourself as a good worker and establish yourself by taking it seriously," Savoca said. "You could miss out on an opportunity to showcase your professionalism, and you never know how that could work out for you in the long-term."

She also said that if you take a job in an industry that is not

related to your career intention, it is important to dedicate a few hours per week to some volunteer work in the area you're looking to enter.

"It's a small but significant opportunity for these young professionals to get exposure," Savoca said. "There are communities you can help serve that will add to your résumé and connect you to good people and build your network. It's important to understand that a service activity could be a better return investment for them than searching for jobs on monster.com"

Ultimately, Savoca said the cliché that "it's all about who you know and who knows you" is true.

To find such opportunities, Savoca said that both students and alumni of Stony Brook should look at ZebraNet, an online tool provided by the Career Center that has both job or volunteer listings and a database of employers.

Even if jobs are not posted under the listings, Savoca said it is key to become familiar with the employer directory. From there, students or recent graduates have access to more than 7,000 employers who post their information.

"It's a tool to learn more about what companies are out there," Savoca said. "Go through the directory, learn about the companies, go to their websites, see if they have volunteer opportunities or even positions that aren't in the job listings."

In September alone, 640 jobs were posted to ZebraNet. Among those, 216 were full-time, entry-level positions, 160 were full-time experienced, 112 were part-time and 130 were internships.

Minority grad rates on the rise at SBU

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the 300 students in the programs, 46 percent had GPAs that exceeded 3.00 and 25 percent made the Dean's List. In addition, 12 percent received academic merit-based scholarships from such institutions as NASA and the National Science Foundation.

Sophomore Wilka Carvalho, a physics major and participant in LSAMP, was interested in attending a research abroad program in Taiwan, but had difficulty finding a path towards acceptance. "I had only been in large classes, with little chance to interact with my professors," he said. After asking LSAMP for assistance, he was given help in paying for the program and received a recommendation letter from his adviser.

"One of the benefits of LSAMP and other such programs is that they give students, especially underclassmen, interaction with staff that can potentially be very helpful," Carvalho said. "Through that program I was able to enter a physics and astronomy research program as well." Carvalho, who is Hispanic and black, is slated to graduate in 2015.

The Education Opportunity Program (EOP), another subsidiary of STEM smart, was also given special attention. Established on the SBU campus in 1968, the EOP offers several workshops meant to prepare neglected minority and low-income students for college

coursework, including a five-week summer 'boot camp' program, mandatory study skill workshops for students who fall behind and personal and academic advising.

Cheryl Hamilton, the director of the EOP, told the Education Trust that the students and faculty participating in the program form family-like bonds. "Each adviser knows you by your first, middle and last name," she said.

Ferguson says that underrepresented minorities were disconnected from one another when he first arrived at SBU in 1981. In addition to the STEM smart programs, student-run organizations rose to the challenge of finding ways to organize underrepresented minorities into a like-minded community.

"[We help] not only Hispanic students, but all minorities in the STEM fields by developing their leadership, professional, and academic skills," Dana Angelo, president of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, said. "SHPE helps Hispanic and minority students in the STEM fields succeed by creating a supportive environment where each member can be a role model and be an example for one another and their community. Our upperclassmen members give advice and mentor the underclassmen so that they do not feel alone in their struggles."

Report: obesity rates expected to double by 2030

By Barbara Donlon
Contributing Writer

The 2011 obesity rate in New York State is 24.5 percent and is expected to reach 50.9 percent by 2030, a recent report by the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation found.

Being obese and being overweight are not the same thing. A person who is obese has too much body fat while a person who is overweight weighs too much. The causes of obesity usually are no exercise or not enough exercise, eating more food than necessary and drinking too much alcohol.

As obesity continues to rise, students who go away to college have to start watching what they eat. Students have heard of the 'freshman 15,' a phrase used to describe the weight that freshmen students going away to college put on.

Causes of weight gain are also the same causes as obesity: too much alcohol, not enough sleep, lack of portion control, grabbing whatever is around and the like.

The food served at college usually is not very healthy. Stony Brook University lists calories, fat, sodium and carbohydrates at its dining facilities, but the nutritional information for these foods often leave students unhappy.

"I wish they had more of a variety of food that is less fattening," said Na Lee, a sophomore biochemistry major at SBU.

The Student Activities Center offers a variety of foods such as soups, pizzas and burgers, but most of it is high in fat and carbs.

Students are always rushing, staying up late to get assignments done, drinking and grabbing whatever is in front of them all because of the rush. Lack of sleep has also been found to cause weight gain and lead to obesity.

Obesity not only causes extra body fat; it can also lead to many health problems like diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart problems and more.

The adjustment to college can be hard on everyone. Students need to find a healthy balance to get their work done, sleep and eat meals that are healthy.

At the same time the choices the school offers aren't the healthiest and it makes it harder on students.

"I have gained a few pounds since college, mostly because I'm not eating healthy stuff," said Destinee Salomon, a freshman studying psychology and political science. She also said she used to go the gym a few times a week but stopped due to a lack of free time.

Students such as Lee are also



MCT CAMPUS

Hershaw Davis Jr., left, is trying to eat better and exercise more to control his weight, but finds his 12-hour, overnight shift as an ER nurse at Johns Hopkins Hospital makes it difficult.

frustrated by the high prices of the food sold at dining halls.

"The foods are unhealthy and expensive. It's too much," Lee said.

Lee, who eats at least twice a day on campus, said she was aware of the obesity rates'

rising and tries to make healthy substitutes.

Lee eats brown rice instead of white rice, holds off on salt as much as possible, skips dairy and keeps portion control in mind when eating.

Right now 12 states have

obesity rates more than 30 percent. Four years ago, only one state had an obesity rate that high.

Most of the states with high obesity rates are down south. On the list of obese states, New York ranked 42.

Poll: young voters not as enthusiastic about elections

By Alexa Gorman
Online Editor

The 2008 presidential election made history among young voters. Rallies on college campuses paired with social media activism brought out one of the highest turnouts of 18 to 29-year-olds on election day—more than 22 million.

This year's race, however, forecasts a completely different turnout. According to a poll from the PEW Research Center, 63 percent of 18 to

29 year-olds, known as millennials, definitely plan to vote this year; this is down from 72 percent in 2008.

The lack of enthusiasm compared to that in 2008 is reflective of both parties, according to PEW. Rob Altenburger, a senior English major at Stony Brook University, said that groups on campus have reached out to him to make sure he is registered to vote, but he has not really gotten involved in the election so far because he has been busy with school work.

He did, however, watch a clip of former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney's nomination acceptance speech.

"I watched the first 10 minutes and I found that he wasn't really telling me anything," Altenburger said. "For me, that kind of turned me off a bit because I wanted to know about what he was going to do, or his plans."

During campaigns, it is easy to get caught up in the so-called 'mud-

slinging,' where candidates and their Political Action Committees, known as Super PACs, produce advertisements focused on negative characteristics or actions of the opponent. This bombardment of negativity can also discourage people from wanting to learn more about the candidates and get involved.

The drop in voter enthusiasm also reflects a significant decrease in voter registration compared to 2008. According to the PEW Research Center, 50 percent of people under the age of 30 are sure they are registered to vote—the lowest number in the last 16 years.

Amanda Farnbach, a junior biology major at SBU, shows that not all polls are reflective of the majority. While Farnbach was eligible to vote in 2008, she did not register. Now, she and her friends feel compelled to get involved.

"From my group of friends, I see that they care a lot more or pay more attention to what's going on politically," she said.

A study by Generation Opportunity, a non-profit, non-partisan organization focused on 18 to 29-year-olds, reflected Farnbach's views more closely. In a study released on Oct. 3, Generation Opportunity reported that 76 percent of millennials plan to vote this year.

Paul T. Conway, president of Generation Opportunity, said the number of people who plan to vote has not changed, but their motivations for why they will choose a candidate has changed significantly. The top things that will determine

millennials' votes are the candidate's record in office and stance on issues, according to their poll. These two determinants outweigh the candidates' character and personality.

Conway said that the millennial generation is misunderstood by elected officials.

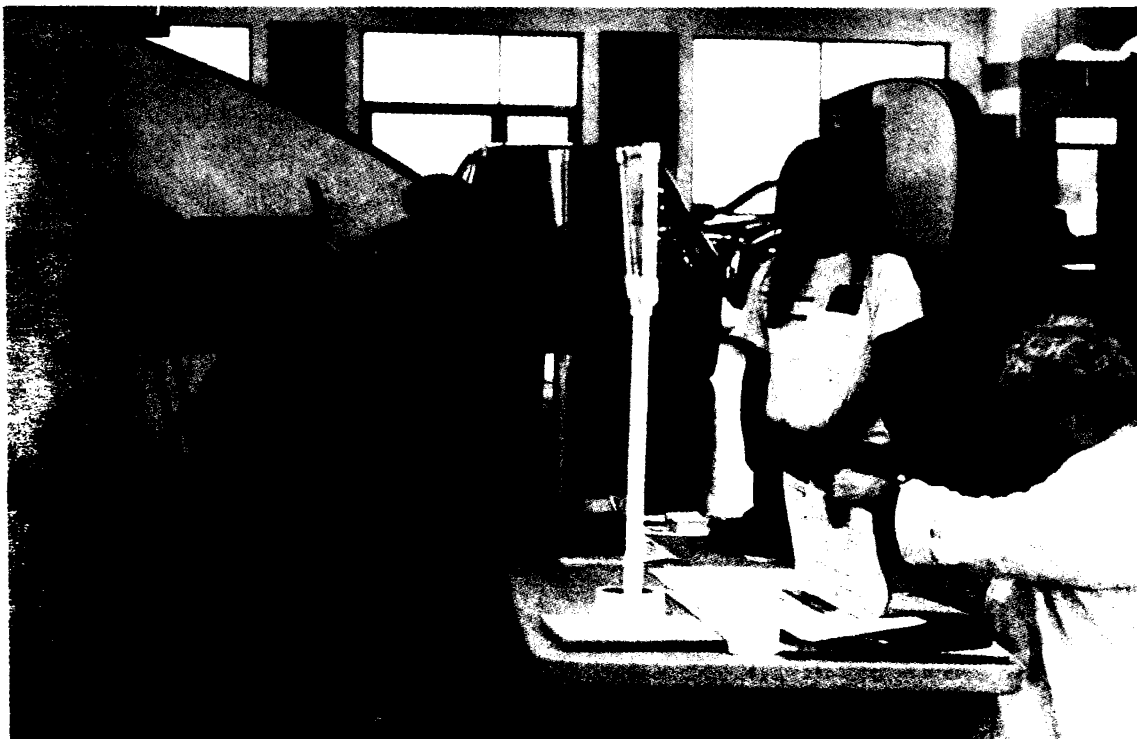
"There's a narrative out there... that somehow young adults are self-absorbed, they're only interested in their technology...they're withdrawn," he said. "But we 100 percent reject that. What we think these numbers represent is the intelligence of this generation."

James Car, an undeclared freshman, is voting for the first time this year. He said each candidate's "interpretations of what to do with student loans" is the most important factor in determining his vote.

So the enthusiasm is not as apparent for one candidate over another, but for reforming and fixing the nation's problems.

"The passion that was felt in 2008 has become much more temperate and stronger and much more focused on how to actually get the country going in the direction that you had hoped would go in in 2008," Conway said. "Your generation is much farther ahead than elected officials give you credit for."

The amount of information consumed by the millennials pushes them to think in terms greater than party lines. According to Conway, the young vote will be determined this year by the facts and the future plans, not on the charisma and character of the candidates.



MCT CAMPUS

Ohio, on Tuesday March 6, 2012, as Savannah Ball with Youth at the Booth waits to take Don to the voting machine. Voters in 10 states are at the polls amid Super Tuesday, the most delegate-rich day of the 2012 GOP presidential campaign.



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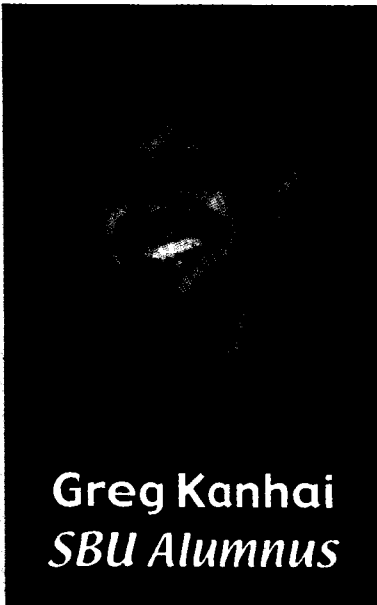
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Confessions of an SBU Alumnus

ALUMNUS FILE



**Greg Kanhai
SBU Alumnus**

Skills Development

"Working while studying solidified my time management and study skills. Still, the experiences I gathered while working at Campus Dining Services provided me with guidance and confidence in making decisions as I now work toward my master's degree in biochemistry."

Developing Contacts

"Instead of the job being an onus on my social life on campus, I became familiar with so many more people than I would otherwise. As a matter of fact, I met a future house mate working at the SAC more than a year before we actually became house mates."

Accommodating Schedules

"Although I was reluctant about working in food service, Campus Dining Services was the only organization on campus that would allow me to work between classes and on weekends."

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The lipid: humble origins to cancer and aging treatments

By Ruchi Shah
Contributing Writer

The same lipids that make up the membranes of our cells are now being found to play a role in the development of cancer and aging.

For years, these fat molecules—including those called ceramide—were thought to only be important for structural reasons. The role of these lipids was only to provide a boundary for each cell and control what enters and exits the cell.

Recent research has documented the role of these lipids in cell signaling, revolutionizing the way scientists examine the mechanisms behind aging and cancer.

The extent of this change can be seen in a search of scholarly articles. From 1960 to 1985, only three articles were published regarding the lipid ceramide and its role in signaling. In the next 25 years, this number increased by more than 900 times as 2,825 articles have been published regarding the topic from 1986 to 2011. This incredible growth was reflected in the sentiments of Dr. Lina Obeid, dean for research and professor of medicine at Stony Brook University.

“The interest in genomics eventually turned into an interest in proteomics because genes code for proteins,” Obeid said. “Now,

the interest is turning to the lipidome because lipids are the products of the proteins. Lipids are the next step, the unstudied future, and the new frontier.”

Obeid is dedicated to exploring this new frontier and her research is the first to document the role of ceramide in cancer and aging. Ceramide and its products play an important role in cancer and aging, and the function of the lipid is dependent on key enzymes that Obeid has discovered. These enzymes work like fixed-size wrenches that can only screw and unscrew bolts of a specific size.

Beginning with ceramide, Obeid explained, the enzyme cDase unscrews the structure, creating an intermediate product. Then, another enzyme, SK, screws the molecules into a new structure making sphingosine 1-phosphate, another lipid, Obeid said. Therefore, as Obeid noted, the enzymes are key to regulating the amount of ceramide and sphingosine that is present. Each product causes drastically different results. Ceramide plays a role in cell death, which is beneficial when cells are cancerous or made incorrectly, but it also plays a role in aging, according to Obeid.

Contrastingly, Obeid also noted that sphingosine plays a role in cell growth, which can lead to inflammation or

proliferation of cancer cells. The goal, as Obeid enunciated, is to regulate the enzymes and in turn regulate aging and cancer. Obeid’s preliminary studies have shown great promise in achieving this. She has shown that when the enzyme SK is knocked out and sphingosine cannot be made, cancer does not occur.

However, this means that the compound is present in higher quantities as ceramide, and can potentially accelerate aging. On the other hand, if ceramide production is regulated, aging can be reversed, but there are greater chances for cancer. While explaining this, Obeid joked about this catch-22, saying that “it seems that there are only two choices, aging or cancer.”

All joking aside, Obeid is dedicated to translating these findings into clinical use. She plans to focus on specific drug development to inhibit pathways and target or deregulate enzymes of sphingosine production in an effort to treat cancer. These drugs can be optimized depending on the specific symptoms and needs of individual patients.

The humble lipid has transformed into a key player in the battle of cancer and aging. Understanding and regulating its role is sure to revolutionize treatment options in the near future.



STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

Dr. Lina Obeid, dean for research and professor of medicine at Stony Brook University.

More campuses allowing concealed weapon carrying

By Brittany Stapelfeld
Contributing Writer

While Stony Brook University’s rules regarding guns will remain the same, other colleges in the nation are being pushed to make surprising changes in their policies on weapons.

Recent incidents of gun violence that have dominated the media and shootings at schools in the past few years, have led a continuing debate on keeping guns off of campuses. However, some organizations are petitioning—and succeeding—to ease gun restrictions to allow students to defend themselves in case of an attack.

Twenty-four states allow colleges and universities to make their own policies regarding the carrying of

concealed weapons, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures’ website. New York is one of the 21 states that ban it completely. The New York State Penal Law, which is the body of New York law that deals with crimes, states that the unauthorized possession of a weapon on the grounds of an educational institution is illegal.

SBU’s current policy regarding weapons, which was last updated in 1996, states that “shotguns, rifles, firearms, or any device capable of use as a weapon by release of noxious material or projectile, shall not be carried on the campus”. The only exceptions to this policy, and to the NYS Penal Law, is for members of the military and law enforcements agencies who are on official duty or

employees who are fully licensed to carry a weapon and are approved by their employer to do so if they have to perform job duties like transporting money.

SBU Chief of Police Robert Lenahan said the policy has recently been updated and is waiting to be approved, but that it will remain basically the same as the current one.

Discussion about this topic has been fueled by recent fatal gun violence on college campuses. In 2007, a student killed 32 and wounded 23 others when he opened fire at the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, Va. In 2008 at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill., a former student killed five, injured 21 and then committed suicide when he brought three handguns to campus.

These incidents have motivated individuals to push for a change in policies at their schools. Students for Concealed Carry is one of the organizations that is fighting for less restrictions on gun use on college campuses. The organization was started after the Virginia Tech shooting and wants to both educate the public about the misconceptions of concealed gun carrying on college campuses and push administrations to change their current policies.

The group believes that “recent high-profile shootings and armed abductions on college campuses clearly demonstrate that ‘gun free zones’ serve to disarm only those law-abiding citizens who

might otherwise be able to protect themselves,” according to the organization’s website.

An article published in the Wall Street Journal in September said that in 2008 only one school allowed students to carry guns. Five campuses now allow it, the article said.

Recently, 25 states have proposed bills to allow concealed carrying of weapons by students. However, laws were only passed in Mississippi and Wisconsin.

Opponents to these organizations say that allowing people on college campuses to carry weapons could cause more harm than good between the risks for bystanders if students attempt to stop a shooter and if guns are misused under the presence of alcohol and drugs. The organization Gun Free Kids is working to stop legislation that would allow for the concealed carrying of guns on campuses. According to its website, over 345 colleges have joined their campaign, including SBU.

Nabeel Nazir, a sophomore biochemistry major, agrees with the views of Gun Free Kids.

“I don’t think weapons should be allowed on campus because if students have them handy they might be more prone to using them in situations that aren’t life threatening,” Nazir said. “What are the chances of a student who has a weapon coming in contact with a shooter? There are better people at the university to deal with these

situations.”

Members of SBU’s police department agree with this.

“I am opposed to the concept of allowing students to carry weapons on the Stony Brook campus,” Lenahan said. “In fact, I see additional dangers associated with accidental discharges, as well as the possibility that legal firearms may fall into the wrong hands. While incidents like Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois are extremely unfortunate, they are very rare and there is little evidence that individuals without proper training could mitigate an active shooter scenario and minimize the amount of potential victims.”

As far as being prepared in the event of a shooting, the university police department said that it has been extremely proactive in providing training to officers on what to do if an active shooter is on campus. The university police department has also participated in preparation exercises with local law enforcement agencies like the Suffolk County Police Department.

SBU’s police department is also a member of the university’s Behavior Assessment Committee, which works to prevent campus shootings by helping to identify students that may be troubled. Lenahan said that although instances of illegal firearms on campus are extremely rare, the campus police take the threat of those situations very seriously.



MCT/CAMPUS

Ann Smith loads a Smith and Wesson as part of a gun education class at Linwood-Bay Sportsman's Club in Linwood, MI, on Nov. 12, 2011.

Habib's stay of removal renewed

By Nelson Oliveira
Assistant News Editor

Nadia Habib, an undocumented Stony Brook University student who faced deportation to Bangladesh last year, was granted another stay of removal last week, which will allow her to remain in the U.S. for at least another year. Her mother's stay of removal was also renewed for the same period.

Habib and her mother, Nazmin,

met with an Immigration and Customs Enforcement official in New York City on Monday, Oct. 1, to try to renew the stay of removal they were given in 2011 after they were almost deported. Habib said the meeting took about 10 minutes and went "very smoothly."

"I was actually really surprised," Habib said.

Habib said the official took the fact that neither of the women has a criminal record into

consideration.

The 21-year-old student came to the U.S. when she was only a year old and has never left the country since then. Habib also said she cannot speak Bengali and doesn't know anyone in her home country.

Habib has recently applied for President Obama's Deferred Action Program, which allows eligible undocumented students to stay in the country legally for at least two years.

Police Blotter

Vandalism

An unidentified person lit a bulletin board on fire in Lauterbur at about 12:30 a.m. on Sept. 25, according to Stony Brook University Police. The case is still under investigation.

Harassment

A female student reported another female student in her class for harassment on Sept. 25, according to a police report. The complainant stated that she was hushed by her classmate and felt threatened, the report shows. She later dropped the charges.

Golf Cart Stolen

University Police said a golf cart belonging to the facilities department was stolen on Sept. 26. This case is still under investigation.

Money Stolen from Car

Money was stolen from the center console of a car parked in the hospital parking lot, and

the console of the car was also damaged on Sept. 26, according to a police report. This case is still under investigation.

Hospital Gate Bent

A non-student bent the gate at the university hospital on Sept. 27 after driving through it, according to university police. The driver was found and will need to pay restitution, a police report shows.

Male Student Arrested for DWI

A male student was arrested for DWI near the main entrance on Circle Road at about 3 a.m. on Sept. 27, according to a police report.

-Compiled by Ashleigh Sherow

USG Senators vote to amend constitution

By Mike Cusanelli
Contributing Writer

At this week's meeting, Treasurer Allen Abraham introduced a proposed amendment to the USG constitution that would make it easier for USG senators to approve future constitutional amendments in the future. The proposal marked the first effort to amend the constitution in six years, according to Executive Vice President Aimee Pomeroy. In order for the proposed amendment to go into effect, it would need to be approved by at least two thirds of the senate. On Thursday, the senate voted to amend the constitution, allowing the proposal to be passed along to the Executive

Council for a vote on Friday. If approved, the amendment will be used on the ballots for the upcoming fall elections later this month.

Candidate Approvals

Candidate Stephanie Vivecia's approval to run for Election Board was temporarily delayed as a debate broke out among the senators as to whether or not a candidate should be present before the senate votes on their approval.

Senator Ryan Heslin objected to the vote, saying that the senate should consider Vivecia's absence from the meeting as a reflection of her devotion to the position. Senator Heslin said that Vivecia's absence may

or may not speak to the nature of her character if she could not attend the meeting, despite Vivecia's claim that she was in class. Despite her absence, the senate voted to approve Vivecia as the final candidate for the fall elections with a vote of 17 for and three abstentions. Francis Keating was also approved to run for Election Board.

SBU TV Revival in the Works, USG Looking to Book Arena for End of Year Concert.

In her monthly report, President Anna Lubitz announced that she is working

Continued on Page 10



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NCUA

Skateboarding club fighting for recreational space

By Khloe Meitz
Staff Writer

It would be difficult to find anyone who hasn't seen skateboarders outside the campus bookstore every now and then.

What may be less apparent, however, is that the skateboarders' meetings are not as spur-of-the-moment as they might appear.

There is a Stony Brook University Skateboarding Club, and it plays a large part in trying to develop and maintain a skater community on campus through a Facebook page and a phone application called GroupMe.

"Right now we're more like a network between all of the skateboarding students and very much like an enthusiasts' club," said senior Ken Myers the club's president and founder.

Murmurs have lingered around skating circles on campus of the hope for a recreational area designated for skaters to use without having to worry about the police or pedestrians.

"We'd like a place that we can call home on campus," said senior Chris Lu the club's secretary, and said that even a flat stretch of land "in the middle of nowhere" would satisfy him. Lu also said that such a designated area would "help us skate and comply with the university because we're not here to try and break the rules. We're trying to work with the system."

The university's policy on skateboarding, rollerblading and cycling is that they cannot be done recreationally on campus and should be used for "transportation purposes only on sidewalks that are clear of pedestrian traffic."

The granting of a 'designated area,' however, seems slim. According to Myers, there's not much that they can do about it.

"There are other universities out there where they have a skate park, but at Stony Brook University if you want land set aside for anything you have to go through the state, and that can take a long time," said Myers, who is also a USG senator.

Myers said that during his freshman year at the university he had tried to speak to the Associate Dean and Director of Student Life Susan DiMonda and Director of Student Activities Anthony LaViscount about the club's desires, but neither were able to help him.

DiMonda tried to help the club in other ways, though, Myers said. That same year, DiMonda wrote a letter to the Chief of Police on the Skateboarding Club's behalf, asking that they sit down with Myers and hear the club out over a change in policy. According to Myers, the only response had been "a big 'no.'"

The university's policy also states that skateboarders, cyclists and rollerbladers are prohibited



NINA LIN / THE STATESMAN

Christopher Lu skates outside the campus bookstore, a popular spot for skaters.

from "wearing radio/cassette/mp3 players, head phones, ear phones, ear buds or similar listening devices" while traveling and they may not be "towed by bicycles or motor vehicles."

The policy further states that people breaking these rules are liable for "disciplinary action" and legal citation; however, skateboarders who have been confronted by the police say that they are rarely more than verbally reprimanded.

"They show us a little more leniency because we're students versus people who are just in the local area," Lu said. "We go here. We pay to go here, and we do use it, per the handbook, for transportation."

Myers said that he believed the rules had mostly come into place because people in the local community who weren't students were coming onto campus and wrecking handrails or destroying cement.

"They kind of ruined it for the rest of us," Myers said.

Lu said that in the early 1990s, SBU was renowned among the skating community for its skate-friendly design. But because of the strict rules and the skaters' general attempts to follow the spirit of them (not skating in places where they can easily be heard in classrooms and not defacing school property), the club isn't left with many event options.

"We don't do that many events," Myers said. "We can't have a skateboarding contest on campus. We'd probably get in trouble for it or the police would stop us because of insurance problems or something like that."

And so the skateboarders continue to meet in one of the only places where they find they're generally left alone—that black-top outside the campus bookstore.

They can usually be found there during Campus Life Time, teaching the new kids old tricks, the old dogs new tricks and sharing a hobby they enjoy with any who are interested.



SARA SUPRIYATNO / THE STATESMAN

Skateboarding at SBU is limited to transportation only.

Campus News Briefing: USG

Continued from Page 9

on getting the student run SBU-TV station running again. Lubitz said she felt that it was important for students to have a way to see news relevant to the student body, including USG senate meetings, which could possibly be filmed and posted to YouTube for those unable to attend the meetings. SBU-TV was shut down in early 2011 after a controversial appeal process was denied to the student-run station.

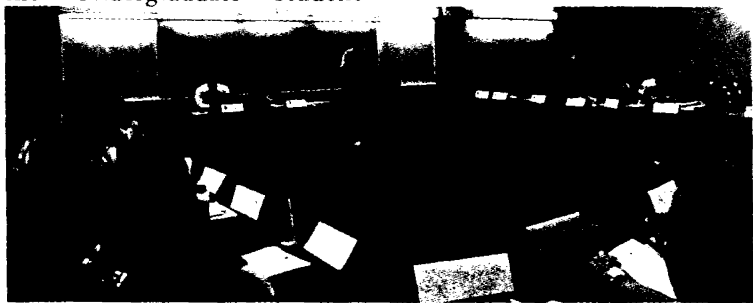
Lubitz also announced that USG is working on getting permission to use the football stadium for this year's end of semester concert, which is scheduled to take place in spring. Lubitz did not say who the Undergraduate Student

Government is considering for this year's concert. However, VP of Communications Sophia Marsh announced that over 500 students had responded to a recent survey on which artists they would like to see perform for this year's concert.

Miscellaneous

Juan Pablo Cordon was appointed student liaison for the P.A.S.S. tutoring program.

After a lengthy debate, the Oxfam America SSC budget application was approved, with the club receiving \$595 for the academic year, including funding for their Hunger Banquet event this month.



MIKE CUSANELLI / THE STATESMAN

Treasurer Allen Abraham explains a proposed amendment to the USG constitution at this week's senate meeting. The proposed amendment would clarify the language of the original document, allowing the senate to approve the amendment with a two-thirds majority of voters.

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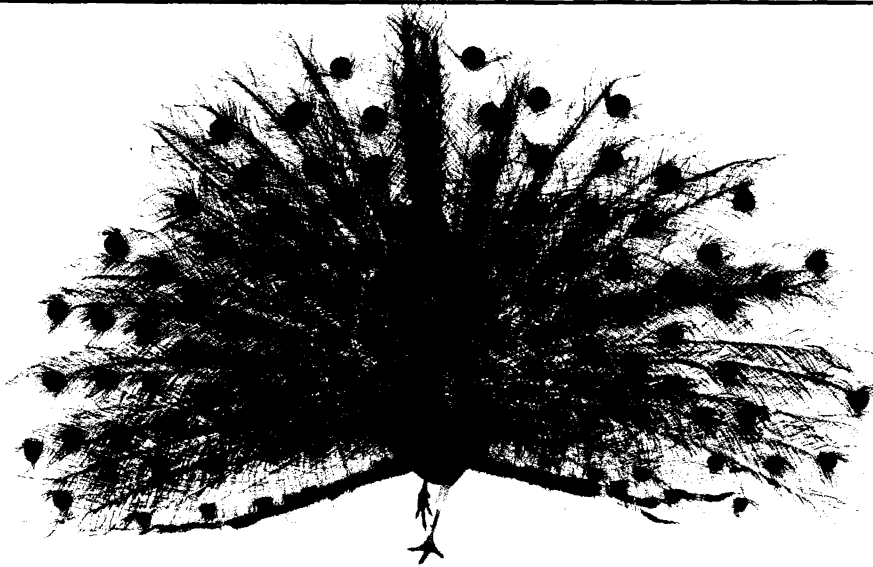
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Have an interest? Start your own club on campus

By Ashleigh Sherow
Staff Writer

Stony Brook students are encouraged to join clubs and organizations that reflect their interests. There are almost 350 clubs for students to join. However, even with such a wide range of options, students sometimes find that the club they want to join does not exist and that they need to create it themselves.

That is exactly what Michelle Figaro, one of the four founders and the current president of the German Club, did. Last semester, Figaro, a senior studying linguistics and German language and literature, had the idea for a club that celebrated German language and culture.

Starting a club at Stony Brook University requires students to go through a step by step process to become an official club. The first step for students interested in starting a club is creating an SB Life profile. SB Life is a new online tool for students where they can promote and manage their club. Director of Student Activities Anthony LaViscount hopes that this will ultimately help students manage their group. Before this new system, files and passwords could easily be lost, but now everything will be saved in SB Life.

Once the members of the executive board (e-board) have created their accounts, they submit an application for their club. Diane Redo, assistant director of student activities, then looks over the mission statement of the club and makes sure the club is not too similar to one that already exists. She also checks that the club's e-board members are in good standing with the university and have at least a 2.0 GPA. She is also there to help any student struggling with the process. "The club wouldn't have existed without her," Figaro said.

After a club's mission statement has been approved, students on the e-board are given access to a Blackboard course for new clubs and are given an exam based on the course.

When the e-board members pass the course, they submit their

constitution to Redo for approval. When Figaro was in the process of making the German club an official club, she decided to use the sample constitution that was provided instead of creating her own. As president, she is able to add amendments to it if necessary.

After the constitution is cleared, students receive confirmation that their club is registered on the SB Life portal. According to LaViscount, this takes approximately two to three weeks, though it is not unheard of for the confirmation process to be done quicker. From there, students are able to request space for their club meetings and can request funding after a year. Students also need to re-register their club every year to provide student activities with new information, such as new officers.

Overall, Figaro said she found creating the German Club to be a very positive experience. "It was great, they [Student Activities] definitely treat each idea of a club with respect and they do help you when they finally get in contact."

As an experienced club creator, Figaro has a few words of advice for those who want to start a club. First, she says, students should know their e-board in advance. While trying to get the German Club approved, the club found that it did not have a treasurer and had to scramble to appoint one. Students also need to have a faculty adviser. Also, students should know the steps to creating a club and should know where to go.

She also shared ways to promote a new club. Besides the usual flyers, members can go to classes where students may be interested in the club. For the German Club, Figaro spoke to students in German classes after getting approval from the professors, who were excited about the club. Also, she had the club promoted in the European Language Newsletter.

Starting a club is a great way for students to get involved on campus while pursuing their interests. For a full list of clubs and organizations visit <http://studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/sac>, and if the club you are looking for isn't there, start your own.



ANDREW ZHANG / THE STATESMAN

The Union-based Animated Perspectives Club caters to anime and manga fans.



ANDREW ZHANG / THE STATESMAN

The Science Fiction Forum, established in 1968, maintains a large membership.

THREE ARTSY EVENTS

1) Fashion Studio: Jewelry Making

Every Tuesday night at 6:30 p.m., the Craft Center will be hosting an open craft studio for free. The Craft Center is located in the basement of the Union.

2) David Sanborn

Six-time Grammy Award-winning alto saxophonist, David Sanborn, is coming to Stony Brook's Recital Hall on Oct. 13 from 8-11 p.m. Admission is \$42.

3) Open Mic Night

Student Life is hosting an open mic night on Oct. 13 at 6-10 p.m. in SAC Ballroom B. There will be free refreshments.



Pitch Perfect is the newest film to capitalize on funny women

By Jon Winkler
Contributing Writer

3 out of 5

Recent years have played host to a rise in female empowerment in Hollywood. Women are in the front of the comedy field. Tina Fey has gone from top writer at "Saturday Night Live" to having her own Emmy winning show. Her former Weekend Update partner Amy Poehler is the

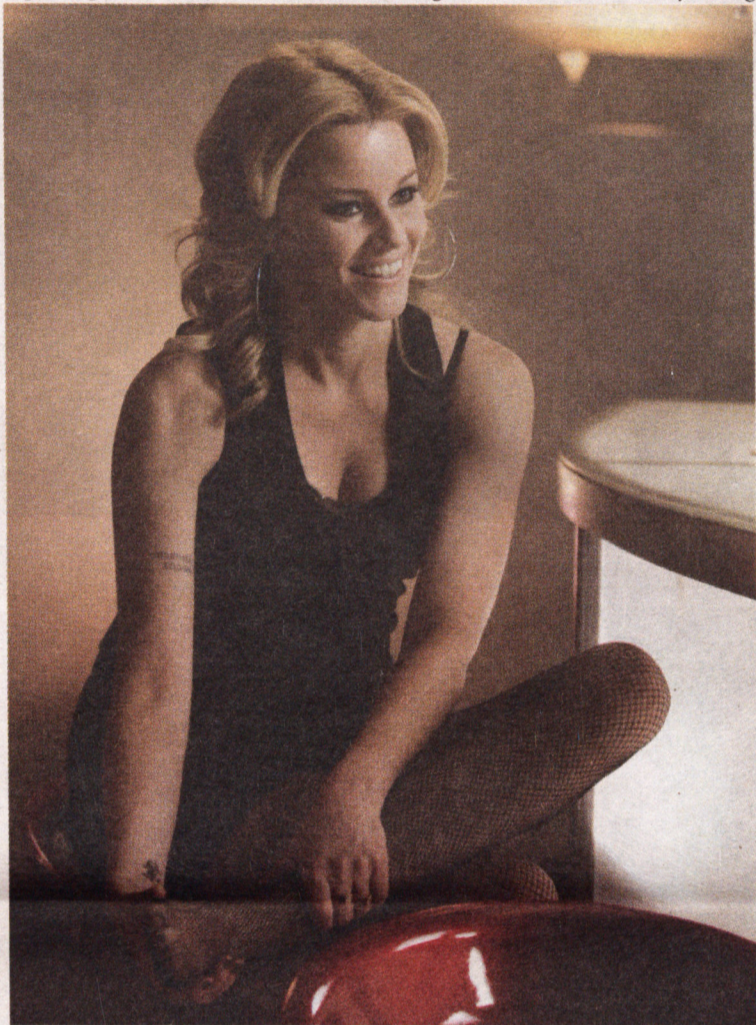


PHOTO CREDIT: MCT CAMPUS

Elizabeth Banks also makes a cameo in this comedy.

star of the NBC comedy "Parks and Recreation." Kristin Wiig, another "Saturday Night Live" veteran, wrote, starred and scored an Oscar nomination for "Bridesmaids," one of the best and most successful comedies in recent times.

Names like Chelsea Handler, Kat Dennings, Whitney Cummings, Zooey Deschanel and Aubrey Plaza also grace the list of successful female comedians, which continues to grow. Women are finally being

acknowledged as funny. When women finally get attention to show what they can do, that is real entertainment. As Matthew Perry said at this year's The Comedy Awards, "This wasn't the year women finally became funny, this was the year men finally pulled their heads out of their asses."

A prime example of women's taking center stage in comedy is the film "Pitch Perfect," which is good thanks to Kay Cannon's stellar writing and a fantastic ensemble cast. "Pitch Perfect" follows Beca (Oscar nominee Anna Kendrick), a snippy, wisecracking college freshman and aspiring DJ and producer studying at Barden University. Barden prides itself on its cappella groups, specifically the male-headed Treblemakers and the female Barden Bellas. The Treblemakers are cocky frat boys led by egomaniac Bumper ("Workaholics" favorite Adam DeVine). The Bellas are known to be tight-winded singers who dress like airline stewardesses and sing tired versions of "I Saw The Sign" and other recycled female ballads. Led by exuberant Chloe (Brittany Snow) and uptight Aubrey (Anna Camp), The Bellas are desperate to return to the national championships of a cappella. The group comprises an odd cast of singers, including characters like Fat Amy (Rebel Wilson) and soft-spoken Lilly (Hana Mae Lee). But although the Bellas don't look flawless, their singing and group effort is. Beca finds a cappella annoying, but nevertheless joins up to have her father pay for a trip to Los Angeles to kick-start her future. Beca also finds the Bellas bland and in need of a "remix."

Despite being as cliché as an episode of "Glee," "Pitch Perfect" makes up for its predictability with a dynamite cast of characters. Anna Kendrick is a



PHOTO CREDIT: MCT CAMPUS

Anna Kendrick stars as reluctant college student Beca.

great deadpan who knows her roles; her Oscar nomination was for her uptight, snarky role in "Up In The Air." She brings that with a bigger hint of heart as Beca, who lets the Bellas loose in a slow but sure manner. Camp's method of adding most remarks with an "acca" in the beginning can get annoying at times, but seeing her lose the habit later in the film is great. But the true star of this movie is Rebel Wilson as Fat Amy. Wilson has been great in small roles in "Bridesmaids"

and "Bachelorette," but this has got to be her breakout. She takes the comedy standard of awkward girl and makes it look fresh. We'll be hearing more from her very soon, hopefully.

"Pitch Perfect" is a delightful surprise at the theatre and continuously shows off the riotous new female talent emerging in Hollywood. The public is finally starting to take notice of all the female talent, and "Pitch Perfect" is a great way to continue.

Eat. Brew. Cook. Beer-battered grilled chicken

By Valerie Villanueva
Contributing Writer

Ingredients:

- Four chicken breasts
- 1 cup of sweet red onion, diced
- 1 cup of beer (any kind)
- 1 tablespoon of olive oil
- ¼ cup of honey
- Ground coriander seeds to taste (optional)
- 1 tablespoon of Dijon mustard (optional)
- Salt and pepper

Dinnertime for college students can be one of the most trying moments of the day. We're either starving for sustenance or slowly growing accustomed to missing meals. However, choosing to be innovative with your available ingredients can leave you full for the night and stocked up for days.

I decided to do exactly that with only a couple of beers from my fridge and chicken breasts. It was hard for me to imagine a can of Bud Light transforming my dinner into something savory, but my hunger left me without a choice. I had to try it. Who knew the leftovers from a Thursday night out could be the key to a hearty and satisfying meal on a Friday evening?

In less than 20 minutes and with very minimal effort, dinner was served. And despite my hate for beer, the barley-based flavors added a tasteful tang to the juicy, tender chicken. Serve it the way you want! Pair it with a side of rice or potatoes or wrap it cozily in a bed of greens.

Start by heating 1 tablespoon of olive oil on a pan over medium-high heat.

Season chicken breast with salt and pepper and char until



PHOTO CREDIT: MCT CAMPUS

This is what the finished beer-battered chicken would look like.

golden brown (cook on each side for 3-4 minutes).

Remove chicken breast from pan and let it sit. Cook red onions over medium heat in the same pan for about 5 minutes. After, return the chicken breasts to pan. Thoroughly whisk the

beer, honey, coriander, and Dijon mustard and pour over chicken breast. Let it simmer, flipping the chicken over several times to evenly coat it with the flavor. Cook until the liquid has thickened and reduced. Remove chicken from pan and drizzle

leftover juices on top. Serve with your favorite side.

Keep in mind that you can manipulate the recipe by adding or subtracting ingredients that as you cook. Simply cater to your own taste buds and bon appetit!

Playwriting contest merges creativity and science

By Supa Oh
Contributing Writer

Aside from being a well-known school, Stony Brook University has shown strength in artistic pursuits. The 2012-2013 Stony Brook University Science Playwriting Competition is expected to represent both the scientific and artistic characteristics that result in noticeable synergies.

The competition is currently in progress, and the deadline for submission is midnight on Dec. 1.

The competition calls for playwriting about science, especially physics and mathematics. The winner will receive \$500 as the first prize, and smaller amounts will be given as the second and third prizes. Staged readings will be performed for the prize-winning submissions on April 10, 2013.

Professor Christopher Herzog, who is an assistant professor in the Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, said that he came up with this idea after brainstorming with his sister, who was involved in theater.

Herzog ran a similar competition while he worked as an assistant professor at Princeton University prior to his current position at Stony Brook this year. He is arranging the competition in Stony Brook with Steve Marsh, lecturer and director of graduate studies for the department of theater arts.

With help from a National Science Foundation grant and support from the Simons Center, the C. N. Yang Institute and the department of theater arts, he received all necessary resources to successfully plan the competition.

Herzog hopes to obtain participants that equally demonstrate scientific and artistic components in their work.

"The entries will be evaluated equally from both the scientific and artistic aspect," Herzog said. "It is important to include how a play can resolve humanity problems in an interdisciplinary way." Herzog is confident that the competition will proceed successfully and hopes to have more than 20 entries compete.

Maria Froehlich, another involved member, also expects this competition to be a success. She has worked at the Simons Center as a special events coordinator for almost two years and mentioned a previous similar event, a staged reading of Berthold Brecht's epic play "Life of Galileo" that had drawn interest from all those who attended.



EFAL SAYED / THE STATESMAN

A Simons Center exhibit that represents the diversity of the various events that merge the arts and sciences.

Froehlich said she hoped that "this competition will be a good way to get the word out and involve the community." Froehlich also noted that "the Simons Center definitely wants to keep going on with this new and exciting competition. So be creative and keep it fun for good entries." She is motivated to continue to find entertaining playwritings and competitions for the future.

Deborah Mayo, an associate professor of the department of theatre arts, welcomed the merging of science and theater in the

aspect of diversity.

As an actress, she also performed in "The Clean House" at the Staller Center Theatre last month. Along with Alan Alda, Mayo founded the idea of 'theater workshops,' a program in which theater professors teach science students a way to communicate science through the use of theater.

"As human beings, the broader our awareness and understanding can be, the better our world would be," Mayo said. "For instance, in my one acting class I have very few theater students this semester. They are all

from different disciplines and everybody brings something different to the works. I think in the world, that's so important that we exchange ideas, passions and how to be respectful to each other."

As a piece of advice, she also stated "not to be afraid of what you know and not to be afraid to share it. And tell personal stories along with the science."

Mayo is enthusiastic to see the results from the competition.

The idea of science playwriting has been around for some time. Fine examples

of science playwriting that both Herzog and Mayo suggested included Michael Frayn's "Copenhagen," which won the Tony Award in 2000, and "Galileo," directed by Steve Marsh and performed in the Simons Center last year.

Both of these were successful plays and serve as an inspiration for the current competition. The competition is open to Stony Brook students, faculty and staff. This contest provides members of the campus community an opportunity to show scientific creativity in playwriting.



EFAL SAYED / THE STATESMAN

The outside of the Simons Center, one of the newer campus buildings that caters to both the arts and sciences.

New retro gaming store opens its doors for students

By Jared Schaffer
Contributing Writer

“Do you love the way you're treated by Corporate America?? How about those automated systems?? Yeah, we didn't think so.”

This quote, taken right from the website for The Revolution, just about sums up the idea behind Stony Brook's newest video game retailer. According to Mike Auricchio, the third-generation store owner in charge of the facility, the more established corporations and franchises in the gaming scene today, such as GameStop and Play N Trade, are far more concerned with making money than with customer satisfaction.

“When's the last time you walked out of one of those stores with a smile on your face?” Auricchio said of his competitors. He went on to explain his frustrations with big business, including times he would go into a store looking for a specific game and end up having the employees trying to force the newest trends on him instead.

The Revolution, located at 1099 Rt. 25A in Stony Brook, carries both current generation titles and the golden age classics alike. When it comes to finding retro games to stock, Auricchio goes straight for the good stuff. Shopping at Play N Trade usually entails hunting for that one copy of “The Legend of Zelda” buried in a pile of “John Madden Football '93” cartridges. At The Revolution, the shelves are lined with such greats as “F-Zero,” “Super Mario Kart,” “Star Fox” and even the original gold-painted editions of “The



The Revolution provides both old school video games and brand new releases on Route 25A for SBU students. JOCELYN VELAZQUEZ / THE STATESMAN

Legend of Zelda” and “Zelda II: The Adventure of Link” alongside contemporary releases for consoles like Microsoft's Xbox 360. Despite selling such coveted rarities, Mike says he is careful not to over-inflate the prices.

“You buy a game for \$60. You go home and check Amazon.com and realize ‘Oh, it's about the same.’ Maybe you pay a dollar or two less. Maybe you pay a dollar or two more.”

The Revolution also hosts

frequent tournaments. Mike expressed a desire to have his shop become a place where gamers can come and meet other gamers. For an hourly fee, the store also offers customers an opportunity to hang out and play games on any of the various enormous television screens on display.

First-time patrons are encouraged to sign up for The Revolution's free mailing list. By providing their name and email address, customers opt-in to

receive notifications on upcoming tournaments. Mike also explained his customer loyalty program through which he keeps track of purchases by frequent visitors to the store and personally sends them coupons or other perks via email in appreciation for their business.

When asked whether he had any plans to expand beyond gaming, such as into the realm of tabletop games, Mike said he would rather specialize in video games—a topic

on which he has considerable knowledge and expertise—than try to venture into areas that may not be as familiar so he would not come off as incompetent to consumers.

“I love tabletop, but Brothers Grimm is the biggest dealer in tabletop and trading card games in the entire Northeast, and they're right down the road! Why would I step on their toes? I have nothing to gain by that. That's their thing. My thing is console games.”



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THE STATESMAN

INFORMING STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY FOR MORE THAN 50 YEARS

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The Statesman is a student-run, student-written incorporated publication at Stony Brook University in New York. The paper was founded as *The Sucolian* 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, writers and photography staff are all student volunteers.

The Statesman is published Mondays during the fall and spring semesters while classes are in session. No part may be reproduced without consent of the editor-in-chief.

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The first debate to set the stage

Team Obama

Team Romney

By Keith Olsen
Assistant Opinions Editor

Well, that was surprising. Just when it seemed that his campaign had kicked the bucket, Romney lied his way into Frankenstein's laboratory and brought it back to life with a great performance. He seemed confident and sure of his words while Obama faltered. Although he had many opportunities to attack Romney on any of his gaffes that have held him back this electoral cycle, Obama held back which caused him to look feeble. This faltering wasn't entirely his fault, as Romney seemed to introduce new policies on stage and dismissed any old policies that moderate voters wouldn't agree with. The good news is that at least the moderator performed worse than Obama.

This debate's topics were all domestic, with an emphasis on health care, the main differences between the candidates' philosophies of governing, and the economy. It was expected that Obama wouldn't be amazing on these topics considering that these are the policies that his opposition have been demonizing for the past four years; even if he had done better, the mythology that the Republicans have painted would have caused him to look out of touch for continuing to support his "failed" policies.

In an attempt to play it safe, Obama didn't press the attack on Romney and instead expected the Republican candidate to damage himself with a mediocre performance. This backfired when Romney blindsided him by actually appearing to be a real person for once. In addition, Romney masterfully danced around his proposed policies by describing them in very vague terms, and then claimed that Obama was incorrect when he tried to confront Romney's vague statements. But who can really argue against a policy that hasn't been

By Chris Cloonan
Contributing Writer

After the infamous "47 percent" video was released, former Governor Romney's campaign took a serious hit. The pundits were saying it was all but over. The campaign rested on the debates, with the first one being especially important. It was Obama's chance to deliver the knockout blow. A weak performance by the former governor would be the final nail in the coffin.

However, the Romney that showed up in Denver was one that was starkly different from the awkward one often seen on the campaign trail and the evil rich guy portrayed in Obama's attack ads. It was a Romney who knew this was the biggest moment of his life, and, as one would hope from any presidential candidate, he seized the moment.

By explicitly stating to the American people that he would not reduce the share of taxes paid by the wealthiest Americans and adding that he would not raise taxes on the middle class but instead lower them, he was able to bolster his campaign while damaging Obama's attacks at the same time.

Romney also succeeded in negating the Obama ads tying him to George W. Bush and the so-called "failed Republican policies" of trickle-down economics. Romney was able to punch holes in Obama's straw man argument that Romney will raise taxes on the middle class to pay for breaks given to the wealthy.

Romney also accomplished something he had to do, and must continue to do in order to win this election: He appealed to the middle class, the largest part of the electorate. He emphasized

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Obama lacks bite in first debate, must step up to the plate

properly put forth?

This was visible right from the beginning of the debate when the moderator asked the first question about the economy. Romney proposed his plan to decrease the taxes for the middle class while simultaneously not raising the debt by reducing the amount of deductions that citizens can claim to reduce their income taxes. Obama attacked by stating that these reduced deductions wouldn't offset the tax cuts, which Romney countered by saying that they would. Obama then cited a non-partisan fact checking organization to prove his point, which Romney then countered by claiming that

the organization was biased. This back and forth, which amounted to little more than he-said, she-said, was absurd to witness in a Presidential debate.

Throughout the debate Romney kept coming back to the idea that the Obamacare bill cut \$716 billion from the Medicare budget, and that this will hurt the citizens that use the system. This is entirely inaccurate, and Romney knows it. In fact, President Obama mentioned these cuts first, and explained that this is money that was saved from the system by cutting excess spending and overpayments.

This is another case of the he-said, she-said in that one

of them is lying, and someone should be able to call them out on it. Unfortunately, politics have become so polarized that people listen to the viewpoints they want to hear instead of the facts.

One of the most highly publicized comments of the debate was when Romney stated that if he's elected President he would cut the funding for PBS, causing Big Bird to be a victim of the cut. The United States government currently spends roughly \$144 million on funding for local PBS stations, which contrasts with his support for an additional \$2 trillion in defense spending. While Romney claims that

he supports more funding for education, he apparently believes that the military needs the money more in this case. To put this into perspective, this additional \$2 trillion in funding that Romney wants for the military is roughly equal to 13,889 years of funding for PBS.

Why is military spending put on a pedestal above all other forms of spending at a time when everything else is on the table?

One of Obama's biggest handicaps in this debate was his demeanor, and it is something that he should make sure to improve for the next debate. Obama seemed to miss the

memo reminding him that the camera would always be trained on him; as a result, whenever Obama wasn't speaking, he appeared to be defeated and barely attempted to conceal his annoyance at Romney.

On the other hand, Romney was energetic and always smiling. The instant polls declared

Romney to be the clear winner, but the ads that have already begun to air have been attacking Romney for the many mistruths that he stated as facts. Only time will tell if President Obama will be able to improve and fend off Romney's attempt to lie his way into the Oval Office.

After debate win, Romney must press his advantage

that it was the middle class that has been suffering under the Obama administration, with "23 million people out of work" (actually closer to 16 million; the 23 figure includes underemployed people), and "one in six Americans on food stamps," an increase to 47 million from the 32 million when Obama took office. Obama cannot get around the fact that his economic policies have produced these results.

Romney was also able to appeal to an important part of the electorate that over-votes in relation to its population

size and is especially important in the crucial swing-state of Florida: seniors. Obama portrayed his \$716 billion cut (more accurately, a future non-payment) to Medicare as that of solving a problem of overpayments, perhaps fraudulent payments or doctors making money off of multiple tests, etc. Romney was quick to paint that as something that will hurt current seniors, as doctors will be less likely to take on Medicare patients, and something he would restore, demonstrating compassion for the nation's elderly.

Why Obama did not mention Romney's devastating "47 percent" remark remains a mystery to me. Nor did the president mention Bain Capital or the governor's "harvesting" comments. Obama came off as disinterested and boring. His straw man arguments were easily defeated by Romney, who accurately portrayed the president as criticizing plans that Romney was not proposing.

More important for Obama than attacking Romney and any of his negative characteristics is the ability for the president

to defend himself. Elections that pit challengers against incumbents are referendums on the incumbent. The American public is deciding whether or not it wants four more years of Obama, not whether it wants a Romney presidency. This is why Obama tied McCain to Bush in 2008; a referendum on Bush would surely result in an Obama victory.

It is also why Romney continues to appear vague in his policy suggestions; he knows this election isn't about him. Anything he puts out there will be attacked. He'd rather

be attacked for vagueness than turn off voters with a policy stance. It also speaks to why Obama has focused his ads on attacking Romney rather than promoting himself. Besides the fact that negative ads are more effective, Obama is trying to make this more about Romney than himself.

I expect the president to rebound strongly from this performance. He will come out with fire and give the governor all he's got. Romney must again be on top of his game if he wishes to work in the Oval Office.

Plain packing: Is it time the Government butts out?

By Brittany Macdougall
Contributing Writer

Smoking is bad for you. It causes cancer, emphysema, ruins your skin and can cause gross black stuff to grow on your lungs. You shouldn't do it. We get it. Yet people still choose to smoke, and many try unsuccessfully to quit. It's a burden on the health system, but a heavenly source of tax income for the government. In many countries around the world, governments and legislators have banned smoking indoors, within so many feet of entryways, at public sporting events and in most public places. They have made it as challenging as possible for people to light up. In the latest bid to encourage smokers to give up the High Court of Australia has upheld the Government's decision to ban branding of cigarettes being sold in the country.

From Dec. 1, 2012 all cigarettes—regardless of their manufacturer or brand—will be sold in olive green packaging plastered with alarming images of the impacts of smoking. And by plastered, I mean plastered. 75 percent of the packet's front will carry disturbing images; flip it over and the back will greet you with 90 percent

unpleasant viewing. The plain packaging is set to reduce the appeal of cigarettes to children and teenagers and deter adult smokers.

Big tobacco companies argued that the world's first plain packaging laws amounted to an acquisition of their valuable trademarks without proper compensation. Tobacco companies want compensation? WHAT?! It's not like they make enough money already for playing a part in providing people with

the means to acquire serious health problems and ultimately die. In Australia, one person dies every 28 minutes due to smoking. In America, 430,000 deaths related to smoking and secondhand smoke exposure were recorded.

2009 figures from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that smokers cost the US \$96 billion a year in direct healthcare costs, and an additional \$97 billion in lost productivity. The government bombards us with

toll smoking takes on the health care system, but the government controls the narrative. Do we ever hear both sides? No, because talking about the benefits of smokers is a little dark.

According to the CDC, smokers die some 10 years earlier than non-smokers. Those premature deaths provide savings to Medicare, social security, private pensions and other programs. For every pack of cigarettes smoked, the

country reaps a net cost savings of 32 cents. Isn't dying 10 years earlier a big reason to put the cigarettes down?

The plain packaging laws will impact children and teenagers who are brand-savvy the most. They want to be wearing the latest fashion, be seen with Apple products and are more likely to be influenced by advertising than their older counterparts. Teenagers go for what's cool and hip. Take the allure of shiny packaging away from them and they might just be deterred from smoking a cancer stick. What teenager wants to pull out an olive green packet covered in disturbing pictures out of their handbag or back pocket?

Smoking is the largest preventable cause of death and disease. Smokers are slaves to a plant and they line the pockets of the government and tobacco companies with serious cash. Some U.S. states are contemplating similar laws to combat the tobacco epidemic. Will the plain packaging laws work? Is it just a waste of everyone's time and money? Shouldn't the government just let people choose if they want to smoke or not? All eyes will be on Australia to see if its first-of-a-kind laws will be successful and save a few lives.

Costliest places to buy smokes

If Illinois enacts the \$1 state cigarette tax hike, the combined tax rate in Chicago would be the second-highest in the country.

Highest combined cigarette tax rates Per pack of 20 cigarettes

State	County	City	TOTAL
New York City		\$4.35	\$1.50 \$5.85
Chicago		1.98	0.68 4.66
New York state		4.35	4.35
Anchorage, Alaska		2.00	2.21 4.21
Rhode Island		3.46	3.46
Connecticut		3.40	3.40

NOTE: Illinois state tax rate includes pending \$1-per-pack increase

MCTCAMPUS

New experiences in NYC

By **Brittany Macdougall**
Contributing Writer

The last few weeks have been All American! I went to the US Open, Coney Island and the Stony Brook Seawolves football match. A trip to the Hamptons was planned, but we adjusted our plans once we realised it was going to take close to four hours on public transport and four hours back.

We just finished the Labor Day weekend. We had Friday through Tuesday off. A lot of students went home, so the campus was a ghost town. I didn't realise until the last minute that we had a five-day weekend. Had I known, a trip somewhere would have been planned. Friday was the highlight of the weekend.

I must say the US Open blew my mind! Live tennis is absolutely amazing. We (Emma, Sarah, Sam, Ash and I) left Stony Brook on the 7:46 a.m. train on Friday and arrived at Flushing Meadows at 9:30 a.m. for tennis. Our tickets were for the Arthur Ashe Stadium and Stosur, Djokovic and Sharapova were playing! We were pretty stoked with that lineup. I am not an avid tennis spectator at all, but seeing it live was amazing, and I will definitely be watching it more on TV.

The highlight was during Djokovic's match when he realised a win was pretty much guaranteed. He started putting on a real show and at the end was dancing and singing to "Call me maybe." There were a few blushing women in the audience, myself included!

It was an extremely hot and humid day at the tennis match, so I bought a US Open cap and Ash, Emma and I (the polar bears) moved into shaded seats. I watched five hours of tennis and escaped without sunburn; I hope you're proud of me, Mum!

As we were leaving we saw Lleyton Hewitt playing. Lleyton Playing can only mean one thing: Bec Hewitt was in the audience! As an old "Home and Away" fan, that was pretty exciting. Hewitt won in the fifth set, and it was great to see an Aussie making a comeback.

After tennis, we caught the subway to Coney Island. Coney Island has a beach, boardwalk and Luna Park. It was the last night of the summer fireworks, and we were told it was a must see. The fireworks were beautiful and we had dinner at Nathan's Famous Hot Dogs—home of the biggest hot dog eating contest.

From Coney Island, we made our way back to Stony Brook—no small feat with three hours and five trains. We arrived back to campus at 1:30 a.m. After a 21-hour day, I was exhausted and vowed to never travel that much in one day again.

Saturday included having a rest (they are few and far between), taking a walk to campus to buy Seawolves merchandise and then getting ready for our first ever American

College Football Game. Stony Brook has so much school spirit and put on a real show for its matches. The marching band is incredible and put on great entertainment throughout. It played One Direction and Lady Gaga songs.

The actual football part of it was confusing. All the players seem to do is run into each other and throw the ball around. I will have to do some research so I can understand the next one. We looked pretty great in our merchandise, though, and that's half the battle, right? GO SEAWOLVES!

The party scene was a bit lacking over Labor Day weekend, so we spent some time at the mall, went grocery shopping and had Sunday brunch at the Cheesecake Factory. I had the most amazing lemon ricotta pancakes with strawberries and a decent cappuccino—hallelujah!

I've been cooking more this week and have enjoyed salmon and vegetables, garlic prawns and salad, steak and salad and a few chicken dishes. Finding groceries similar to home has made me extremely happy!

Tomorrow (Friday) includes a trip to New York City to watch the Mets team and then the weekend will be spent exploring the city.

I am hoping for better weather. This week has been extremely warm and humid; it rained and stormed and has been generally unpleasant. I never thought I would say this, but on the top of my shopping list is a rain jacket and gumboots.

Five things I like about America

- You can wear gumboots and a rain jacket and it's considered normal
- They love Australians
- There are so many amazing things to see and do
- Things are generally cheaper than in Australia
- The academic staff are friendly and helpful

Things that annoy me

- The first amendment—It allows them to say and print completely ridiculous things and they can get away with it
- The public transportation system. It absolutely sucks! I love Translink
- The food
- The coffee
- The internet and phone plans

As you can see, all are quite trivial, so we are doing well!

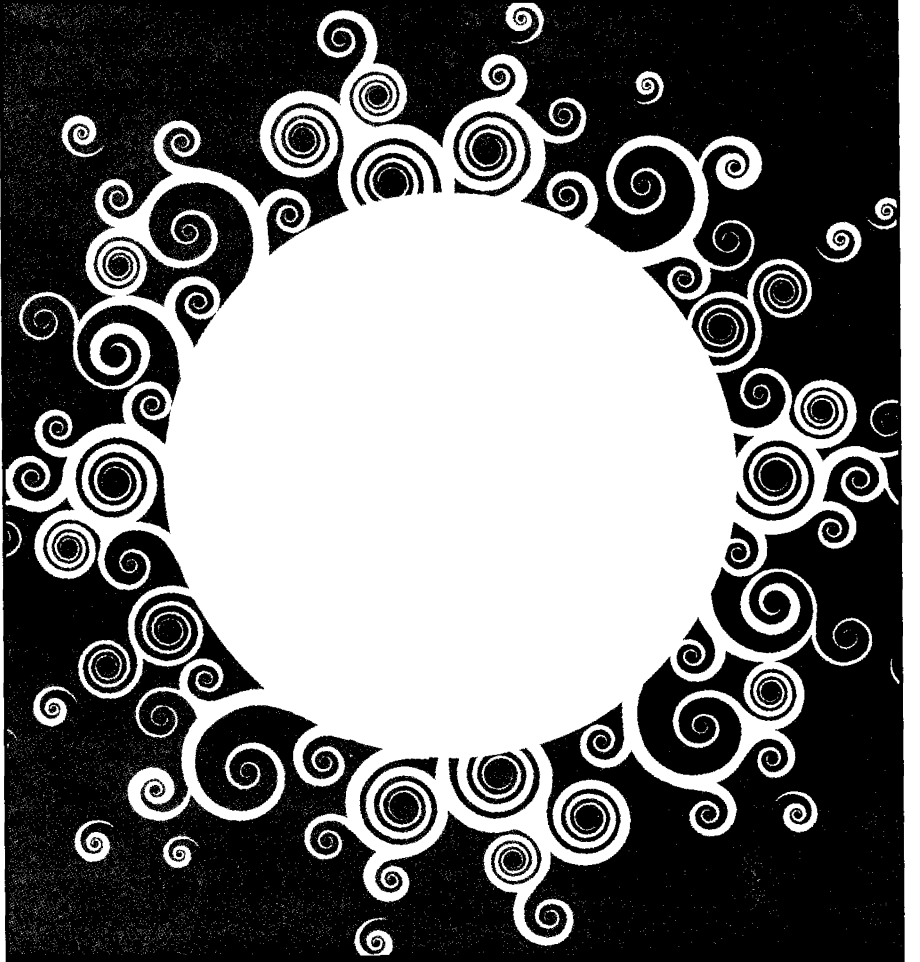
Until next time.



Fellow exchange students and I cheering on the Seawolves during Homecoming.

ANUSHA MOOKHERJEE / THE STATESMAN

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Stewart and O'Reilly battle it out

By Keith Olsen
Assistant Opinions Editor

The match was perfect. On Oct. 6, Bill O'Reilly and Jon Stewart stepped up to podiums in order to make their respective cases for the nation's ailments and what they believe it will take to bring the nation back on track. The topics ranged from funding NPR to entitlements, the tax code and foreign policy, all the while being extremely entertaining. Throughout the debate, both O'Reilly and Stewart constantly spoke over E. D. Hill, the moderator, which was more than reminiscent of how the presidential candidates treated the moderator of their debate.

The opening statements set the stage for the rest of the debate, with both sides claiming that the other was absolutely incorrect. O'Reilly made the argument that Obama's policies were causing the nation to become addicted to entitlements and railed against the huge increase of the number of people that are claiming disability from the government.

Stewart immediately challenged him with a statement that set the tone for the rest of the debate: "My friend Bill O'Reilly is completely full of



Comedian Jon Stewart hosts *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central

shit." He continued by claiming that the reason more people are on disability and food stamps is because a larger number of the population currently needs the help from the government because of the economy. In this exchange, Stewart caused the crowd to erupt with applause by asking "Why is it that if you take advantage of a tax break and you're a corporation you're

a smart businessman, but if you take advantage of something that you need to not be hungry, you're a moocher? It's ridiculous!" Stewart had a number of zingers throughout the debate, while O'Reilly came prepared with some visuals to illustrate his points.

Stewart fumbled on the national debt by assuming that because there was a budget surplus

under Clinton we didn't have any debt, but O'Reilly was quick to point out the inconsistency.

When asked about media bias, O'Reilly's claim that his show is "fair and balanced" caused Stewart to scoff and take him on this statement. Stewart quoted a survey (without citing a specific one) which polled viewers of O'Reilly's show, and appeared to state that most of his viewers

believe that Obama is secretly a Muslim and most don't believe in the Theory of Evolution. O'Reilly challenged him in response by basically dismissing the validity of the survey. Stewart didn't hold his ground and let it slide.

After cooling down during some non controversial questions, the debate heated up once again when the subject was changed to foreign policy.

While O'Reilly stood steadfast beside his statement that the Muslim Brotherhood can't be trusted, Stewart lambasted him by making clear the point that America only seems to support democracies in the Middle East when people it likes are elected. Stewart continued by questioning the idea that Obama projects weakness and calling it fiction.

The back and forth that occurred between the two competitors was very natural and flowing, most likely owing to the fact that they're comfortable around each other and that this debate doesn't have any real consequences to it.

In the end, the debate was a success and half of all profits will be donated to charities. Although the two rivals disagreed about almost everything in a civil manner, their friendship is still intact.

High Praise for the Elimination of Vacation Holidays

By Hillary Steinberg
Contributing Writer

There are about 1,000 undergraduates who identify as Jewish at Stony Brook University, and I am one of them. My name is Hillary Steinberg, and if you are familiar with Judaism, you would assume I am Jewish just from my last name. If you would really like to know, I am more culturally a Jew and was raised Reform. Within Reform Judaism, there is something called choice by knowledge. This means you learn as much as you can and then pick the practices that you feel observing would bring you closer to God. By "culturally" I mean that although among school, teaching and services I was at Temple about three times a week growing up, I don't necessarily attend services on a regular basis. I currently work for Jewish institutions, which include Temples, JCCs, and a sleepaway camp, and I lead services at all of them. However, I'm not Kosher and I don't practice in most aspects of my life.

So let me tell you something that is probably going to piss some people off; I have no problem not having classes off for High Holidays. This is coming from someone who led teen High Holiday services for three years. I don't feel it's necessary to cater to a religious minority when it comes to this university. Even if it weren't a minority I would

feel that way. I love that we're a public school; that, to some extent, means we are all equal in the eyes of our university. There is separation of church and state, and we are a public institution. We don't need religious holidays off. We live in a secular society and go to a secular school. Since the majority of aspects of the school are not inclined toward or include religion, it didn't make sense that days off previously did. We also must ask ourselves how many people actually would observe instead of go to class. I guarantee it is a small percentage.

I'm of the belief that religiosity is a choice. Truthfully, I did not fast this Yom Kippur, and that's because my relationship with God, if any, is a personal choice. College students are faced with many priorities they must juggle. I had work and classes during the times of services, so I made the choice not to go to them, because those things were my priority over my religion. That's how I feel, and Jewish students must also make that choice.

In no way am I saying that the people who choose to observe should be penalized. I want to make this clear. I entirely believe that these people should be accommodated in every way possible. Stony Brook University offers food under religious rules and houses services for various religions. To my knowledge, the majority of professors are willing to accommodate any students



Kosher wine and other items for Rosh Hashana

religiously. I believe it should be mandated that they make every effort to.

I don't believe this is singling

anyone out. Observant people are making the choice to have their priorities with observing, and should be proud of that choice

and stand behind it. I stand behind my belief that there's little reason all of us need any religious holidays off.

The Double Edged Sword: Made in America

By Ahmad A. Malik
Contributing Writer

Rewind the clocks four years. You couldn't wait for George W. Bush to leave office. Finally, the country would no longer be at the hands of an incompetent warmongering president. The secrecy of big business and the ploys of large multinational oil companies would no longer dictate the standards of living in America! This is the change we have been waiting for, no matter who wins the election!

Well, the show is over, folks. Those of us—both Obama and Romney supporters—who were under the impression that such deeply rooted nationalized politics could alter so drastically in the term of one presidency, or really just by the inauguration of another president, should have succumbed to the naivety of our expectations soon after President Obama took office. The problem here is that after such a coalesced and joyous election season in 2008, we are trying to replicate that sort of support and approach through a rather painstakingly different time in our history. Didn't we love all the pandemonium and celebrations that came with not only a milestone election, but also the one that was thought to change the course of the nation? Justifiably so, politicians—mostly those of the Republican party—are trying their very best to create an atmosphere that can harbor only hasty, unrequited change.

This in its very nature is the problem; progress for the sake of progress is the downfall of our democratic system. We are victims of our own freedoms. Yes, it is a sentiment to our holistically accountable legal system that we can not only evict our officials, but also attack their character while in office. The largest criticism of the

Republican Party is encountered through this reasoning. The bandwagon patriotic party of the nation has followers who are so 'pro-America' that they hold such a double standard just to achieve their short-term goals, that of control. What I mean by this is that they inherently bash President Obama at any and all shortcomings, however minor, but they plea to the case of American patriotism and belief in strong leaders, who at any time of crisis should not be questioned. Are we not in an economic crisis now? Republicans would be the first to say that! They were also fully behind the inherent failure of President Bush's economic and foreign policy. The double standard is starting to set in now. Some may say that this checks out though, as checking the system is the most patriotic thing one could do; but on the contrary, when is enough simply enough? A blind man could see the ever so failing ploys and arguments of the Republican party at this point—and this is not due simply to the interpretation of their policies—it's the intention.

I have found that the general atmosphere is now split down the middle. We have become a nation of whiners and complainers. On a college campus, its either "I hate Obama, he's useless and hasn't helped the country at all," or "Obama 2012." Notice that there is no mention of Romney in these statements. What does that point to, besides the uneducated nature of our environment? Keeping in mind my loyalties lie with the latter, that does not warrant a free pass for the current administration. But this entire election is a matter of perspective. Our culture has been so programmed to be critical now, especially since the current generation of college students was raised in the Bush era, which,

needless to say, was probably the most media-ensued frenzy of any American presidency. We are therefore victims to public opinion. Bashing Obama is now the standard, and I'm here to tell you to stop it. How can this be the solution?

First of all, most of the arguments against Obama don't check out. More importantly, though, the arguments of the Republicans tend to cave in on themselves and are driven by falsehoods to rile up the American people for change, as explained before. If you challenge this fact, simply check the validity of Paul Ryan's speech during the Republican National Convention. Furthermore, the election will not be lost due to Romney's ideology—it is because of his lack of discretion in choosing Paul Ryan as his running mate. But I digress; Republican and Democratic loyalties aside, the American people are prone to forgetting the facts through the smoke screen of political ploys. Everyone is so quick to say that Obama ruined the economy, and that's where they're wrong. His predecessor left him the job of cleaning up. No one wants to be the screw-up's replacement when they would much rather be the replacement's replacement (circa Mitt Romney). Last time I checked, the GDP is about the same, the unemployment rate is rapidly subsiding (which was initially a product of the winner-takes-all ideology of big business Republican dealings), and saving the American auto industry 1.414 million jobs isn't exactly a failure. But we spent so much money! This is 'crony capitalism' that isn't matched against the 'free market' that Romney throws out there so eloquently. Well, Mr. Romney, let's keep in mind when in Obama's presidency this happened—the very beginning—

it was the free-market system of George Bush. Remember that double standard? There it is again! And don't we love when Romney at the RNC attempts to undermine this massive win for the Obama administration by saying "we're not at the top of the auto industry—we're number two." Well, Mr. Romney, we wouldn't have an auto industry under you! Point for Obama. The point of homosexuality and abortion really is something that is an idea of human rights, and Romney's extreme prejudice against homosexuals and his inability to compromise is a testament to the type of presidency he wishes to ensue. You be the judge.

And then there's war. Let's go to war! Somehow Republicans think that going to war saves lives. That is a debate for a whole other time, but in a nutshell the Bush waged war on "terror"—which was a result of a terrible tragedy in the United States—was a far greater injustice to the people of the world rather than just citizens of New York City. Don't believe me? Look up the numbers of how many innocent people have died in the Middle East—and how many of our troops have also. It is well over 100,000. Fighting violence with more violence is not the key to peace, which somehow Republicans are so in favor of despite having a defense-spending plan that is through the roof. We attribute one fourth of our annual spending just to defense. This should really be named offense. Romney feels as though we are somehow undermining troops by taking them out of battle and saving their lives. The logic is flawless, isn't it? Defending our freedoms doesn't inherently mean defending other peoples freedoms, and freedom isn't waged by war anymore—this isn't the 1700s. If we should take anything from the

Civil Rights movement, it should be that killing another man will incite nothing but resentment—which, apparently, the entire world has for our nation, but who knows? Health care? Well let's just say if you vote Republican, you vote for paying into a system that won't be there when you need it. Paul Ryan wants to cut funds from benefits—Obama is cutting funds from reimbursements to insurance companies. The logic of Republican supporters simply bewilders me. Yes—pay the company—trickle down economics will work! That's what got us in this mess, and Obama's four years has been a constant struggle to amend those incumbent problems he faced.

Obama isn't perfect; no one asked him to be. But the standards of the general public insist otherwise. \$5 trillion added to the debt isn't a great number either. But to call his presidency a useless failure would be a deterrent and an insult to the great freedoms we have as Americans. The ability to say something does not require the necessity or even the privilege to say it. The hate on Obama is unrequited, undesired and really just a matter of people wanting quick change no realizing that this will revert us back four years. This is not a plea against Republicans; rather, it is a reference to the abolition of progress. Repealing Obama's policies would just be putting us back at square one. The Presidency is no longer a four year job, and considering we aren't a country that has gone to ruins, we should count our blessings, stop complaining, and be thankful that we have a leader that doesn't use his guns, God and glory to fight for 'American' values, but fights for what works—ideologies aside. When it's all said and done, that's how change really happens doesn't it?



Presidential candidate Mitt Romney (L) and President Barack Obama (R) at the first presidential debate in Denver, Colorado

DIVERSIONS

FOR RELEASE OCTOBER 8, 2012

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

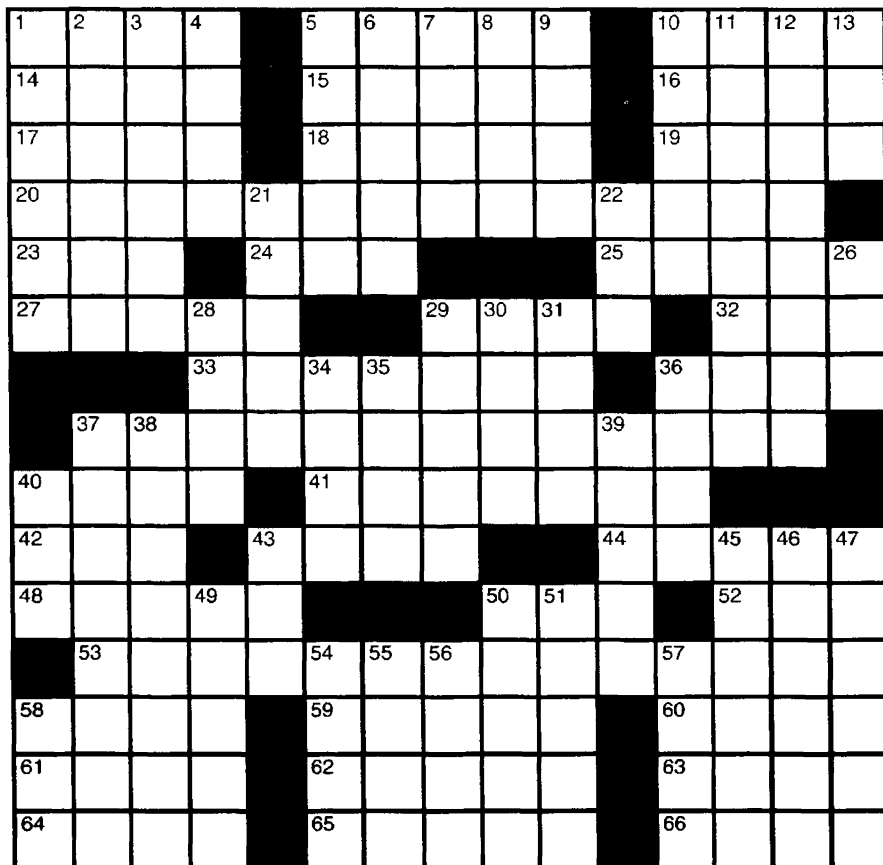
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Fermented honey drink
- 5 Put in the pantry
- 10 Prepare email
- 14 Fairly large fair
- 15 Symphonic wrap-ups
- 16 Fuel for a firepit
- 17 Take an ax to
- 18 Place for sporting events
- 19 Money in Milan
- 20 It makes sense
- 23 Roses-red link
- 24 Firepit residue
- 25 Seeing red
- 27 ___ au poivre
- 29 Takes a downturn
- 32 "Little Red Book" chairman
- 33 Nightstand spot
- 36 Camping trip dampener
- 37 It makes cents
- 40 Easy pace
- 41 Rested on one's laurels
- 42 Parking facility
- 43 Lines of pews
- 44 Painter of ballerinas
- 48 California's ___ Mesa
- 50 "Just ___ thought!"
- 52 Wagon wheel groove
- 53 It makes scents
- 58 Boyfriend
- 59 Threescore
- 60 GI sought by MPs
- 61 Uneaten morsels
- 62 They're blue when they're fair
- 63 Inca territory
- 64 Hissed "Hey!"
- 65 Fashionably dated
- 66 Periods in history

DOWN

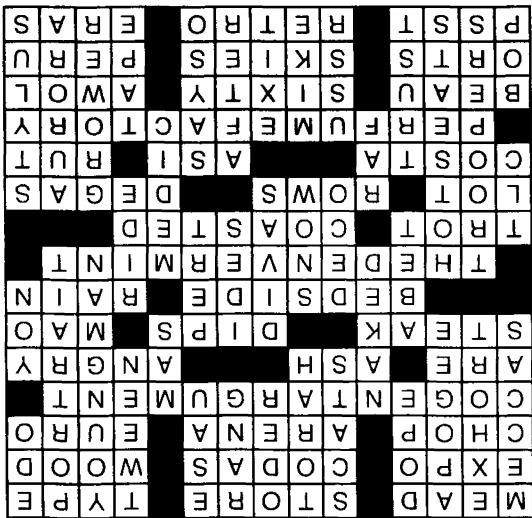
- 1 Popular tourist destinations
- 2 Caution earnestly
- 3 Highest point in a satellite's orbit
- 4 Info



By Dave Sarpola

10/8/12

- 5 Sings like Ella Fitzgerald
- 6 Synagogue reading
- 7 Poland-Germany border river
- 8 Sounded the bell
- 9 Biblical twin
- 10 Many a junior high student
- 11 Violin-playing comedian
- 12 Rogues' gallery item
- 13 Shogun's capital
- 21 In the buff
- 22 English Lit. majors' degrees
- 26 Over there, back when
- 28 Act the accessory
- 29 Opera headliners
- 30 Foreboding March day
- 31 Fresh-mouthed
- 34 Artistic style of the Empire State Building
- 35 Hoped-for Christmas weather



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephams Group

Level:
1 2
3 4

		4	5	2				
	4				9	7		
6			7					
					6			
7	8	1		6	4	2		
	1							
	3		4		8	9		
4	2				3			
		5	8					

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE

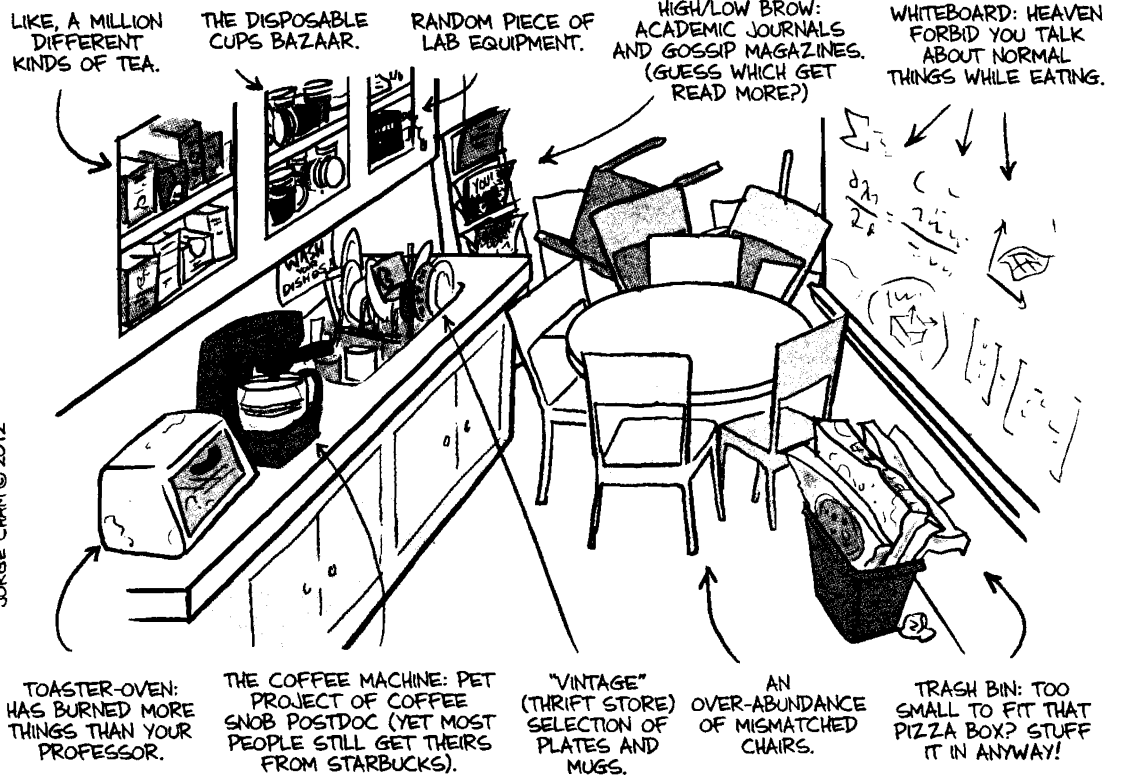
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7	2	1	6	8	3	9	5	4
9	3	6	4	1	5	2	7	8
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4	5	7	8	6	1	3	2	9
3	6	2	7	4	9	8	1	5
2	8	4	1	7	6	5	9	3
5	7	3	9	2	8	6	4	1
6	1	9	3	5	4	7	8	2

10/7/12

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THE LAB/OFFICE BREAK ROOM

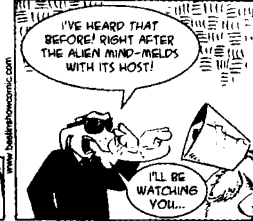
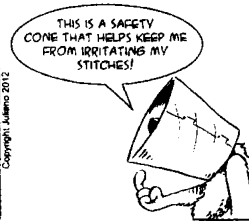
KEEP IT CLEAN OR INCUR THE WRATH OF THE OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR!



JORGE CHAM © 2012

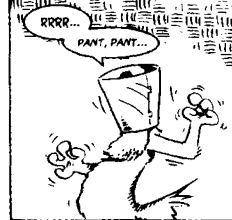
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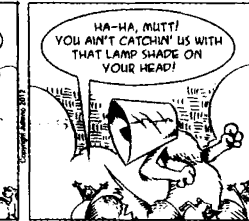
by Phil Juliano

Best in Show Comic



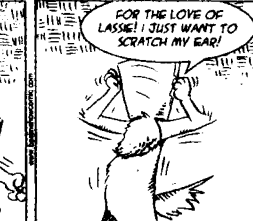
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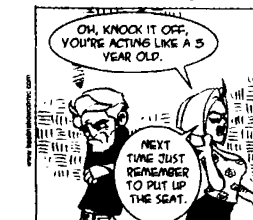
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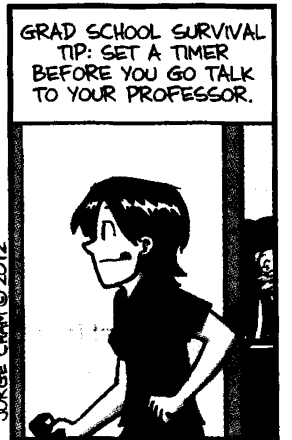


by Phil Juliano

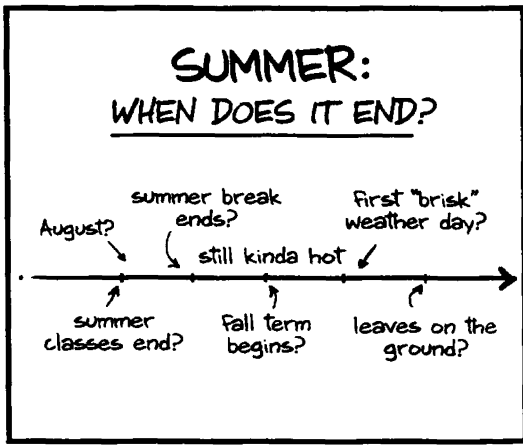
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Stony Brook to take on Coastal Carolina

Kershaw key to the midfield

By Adrian Szkolar
Assistant Sports Editor

Following Saturday's 49-7 blowout win over Charleston Southern to open up Big South conference play, Stony Brook, now with a 5-1 record, will be looking to continue its strong play against Coastal Carolina.

Stony Brook will be travelling to Conway, S.C. next Saturday. The last time the two teams played each other, Stony Brook came away with a 42-0 win at LaValle Stadium in the middle of a cold, rainy nor'easter.

In preparation for the upcoming game, head coach Chuck Priore limited the use of his star senior running back, Miguel Maysonet, last Saturday, who only had 11 carries in last Saturday's game, less than his season average of 19 carries per game.

"He's a little banged-up after last week," Priore said after the game. "He's carried the ball 64 times over the previous two weeks, our goal was to take some carries off his back, the opportunity to take some wear-and-tear off his legs this week was important."

Coastal Carolina has just finished the out-of-conference portion of its schedule with a 2-3 record. After opening up the season with back-to-back wins against North Carolina A&T and Furman, the team is on a three-game losing streak with losses to Eastern Kentucky, Toledo and Appalachian State.

The Chanticleers had a bye week and did not play last Saturday. The game against Stony Brook will be its Big South conference opener, as well as the school's homecoming game.

Coastal Carolina is led by quarterback Aramis Hillary. The



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

Maysonet broke both the Stony Brook and Big South career rushing yards records.

dual-threat quarterback has a 63.9 completion percentage, has thrown for an average of 254.4 yards per game, and has rushed an average of 23.2 yards per game.

The Chanticleer defense, however, has struggled this season. It has given up an average of 454 yards per game, ranking 104th out of 121 FCS teams in that category, and has given up an average of 37.2 points per game.

Over the course of the season for Stony Brook, senior wide receiver Kevin Norrell has become the go-to target for senior quarterback Kyle Essington. Norrell has been the recipient of 27 of Essington's 52 pass

completions.

"Me and the whole wide receiving core, especially Kevin, we all just keep building confidence week-in and week-out," Essington said. "I still don't think we have really hit our peak yet, I think we can still get better in practice and we're going to keep improving."

A rested Maysonet, who broke both the school's Division I record of career rushing yards held by Conte Cuttino, as well as the Big South career rushing yards record held by Liberty's Rashad Jennings, will look to have another strong game against Coastal Carolina.

"It felt good," Maysonet said on

breaking the records. "It's not an individual job, we all go out there as a team and get the job done, and I broke the record, two in one game."

With the team ranked fourth in the FCS with an average of 298 rushing yards per game, led by the duo of Maysonet and junior running back Marcus Coker, opposing teams have keyed in more on the running game, often stacking eight or occasionally more players in the box.

"The way we run the ball, it definitely puts a lot of people in the box, any defense we go up against because they know we are a running team," Maysonet said.

the pressure Kershaw is facing. "I think sometimes as a senior, as the season goes on you start thinking oh my God, I only have seven weeks left...six weeks left... five weeks left," she said. "You start to realize 'this is it for me' and that becomes tough."

To help cope, Kershaw focuses on her freshmen teammates.

"I think the freshmen actually help lead us a lot because they're so young and they don't really know what to expect," she said. "They're just playing to have fun."

And Kershaw isn't looking toward the future, despite that looming graduation date. The Baltimore native says she doesn't know the answer to what she calls the "what are you going to be when you grow up" question.

"I really have no idea," she said. "I would like to [continue with soccer] but it doesn't really pay that well, so I'll probably find a real job behind a desk."

At present, she's just focused on the now: pushing her teammates to be their best and trying to keep their good season going. Her ultimate goal, of course, is to "win the America East and make it to the NCAAAs."

As for Ryan, she'll continue to bask in the glow of having such a great team player for a little while longer.

"She has a very strong personality and she has the respect of everyone on our team and I couldn't be happier with her as a leader," Ryan said.

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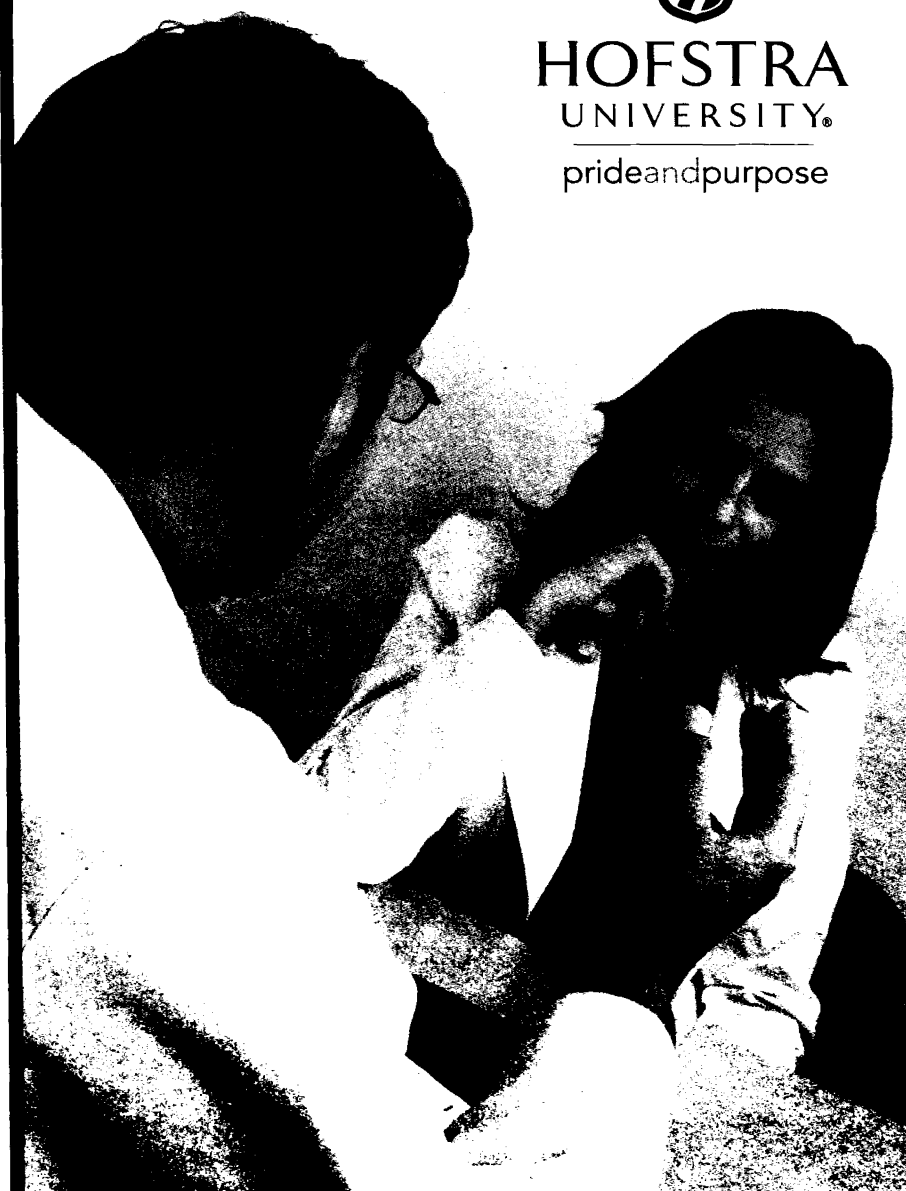
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Former Seawolf leaves team

By Adrian Szkolar
Assistant Sports Editor

Former men's basketball center Desmond Adedeji left the team training camp of the Halifax Rainmen, based in Nova Scotia, Canada, last Thursday morning, according to the player himself.

Adedeji, who was attending the team's training camp on a tryout basis, said over a Facebook message that the team made him a contract offer on Wednesday night, which he declined. He added that the team instead signed someone else for less money.

Adedeji did not respond to an inquiry for further comment.

In an interview with *The Statesman* the day before, Adedeji expressed confidence when talking about his chances of making the team despite the competition, which included players who had played in the NBA's D-League, being more difficult than he anticipated.

"I think it's going to come down to what the coach is looking for, the guy I'm fighting for my position, we bring different skill sets to the table" Adedeji said. "In the short time we've had, no one has pushed the coaching staff to say 'that guy's a starter, that guy's a back-up.'"

Adedeji also mentioned that the training camp was exhausting, and that he it was tougher than the pre-season workouts he had while he was at Stony Brook.

"It's a little different than in college," Adedeji said. "Fighting with

"Fighting with the pros, fighting for jobs and roster spots, it's competitive, you got to be sharp."

- Desmond Adedeji
Former men's basketball player

the pros, fighting for jobs and roster spots, it's competitive, you got to be sharp."

The Halifax Rainmen, founded in 2006, compete in the National Basketball League of Canada, which is in its second year of operation. The team finished second place in the league during the regular season, and

in the playoffs, lost in the finals to the London Lightning.

A transfer from Dayton, Adedeji played two years for Stony Brook, appearing in 22 games and averaged 4.5 points per game and 2.6 rebounds per game for the Seawolves in that span.

In his senior season, he averaged 7.7 points per game and had an America East-leading .647 field goal percentage in seven games before a torn ACL suffered in a game against St. John's ended his season.

Since graduating in 2010, Adedeji has played professionally for Valga/CKE Inkasso in Estonia and more recently for FUS de Rabat in Morocco, where he played last season.

"I really enjoyed myself," Adedeji said of his experience playing in Morocco. "In my down-time, I embraced the culture, and it was a first-class organization, I have nothing but good things to say about them."

Adedeji is one of several former Stony Brook basketball players to play professionally overseas.

Former America East Player of the Year Muhammad El-Amin is currently playing for Ferentino in Italy after previously playing for Albacomp and PVSJ Pannon in



GLOBAL SPORTS PLAZA AGENCY

Adedeji averaged 4.5 points per game for Stony Brook.

Hungary, and Halychyna in the Ukraine.

Recent graduates Dallis Joyner and Danny Carter are both playing

in Europe. Joyner signed on with Kouvolat Kouvola in Finland, and Carter returned to his native England, signing with the Reading Rockets.

Volleyball falls to New Hampshire, defeats Providence

By Joe Galotti
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook women's volleyball team's long road trip got off to a rocky start after it lost an important conference matchup against the University of New Hampshire on Friday. The Wildcats were in control most of the way and won by the score of 3-1 (25-19, 25-22, 20-25 and 25-16).

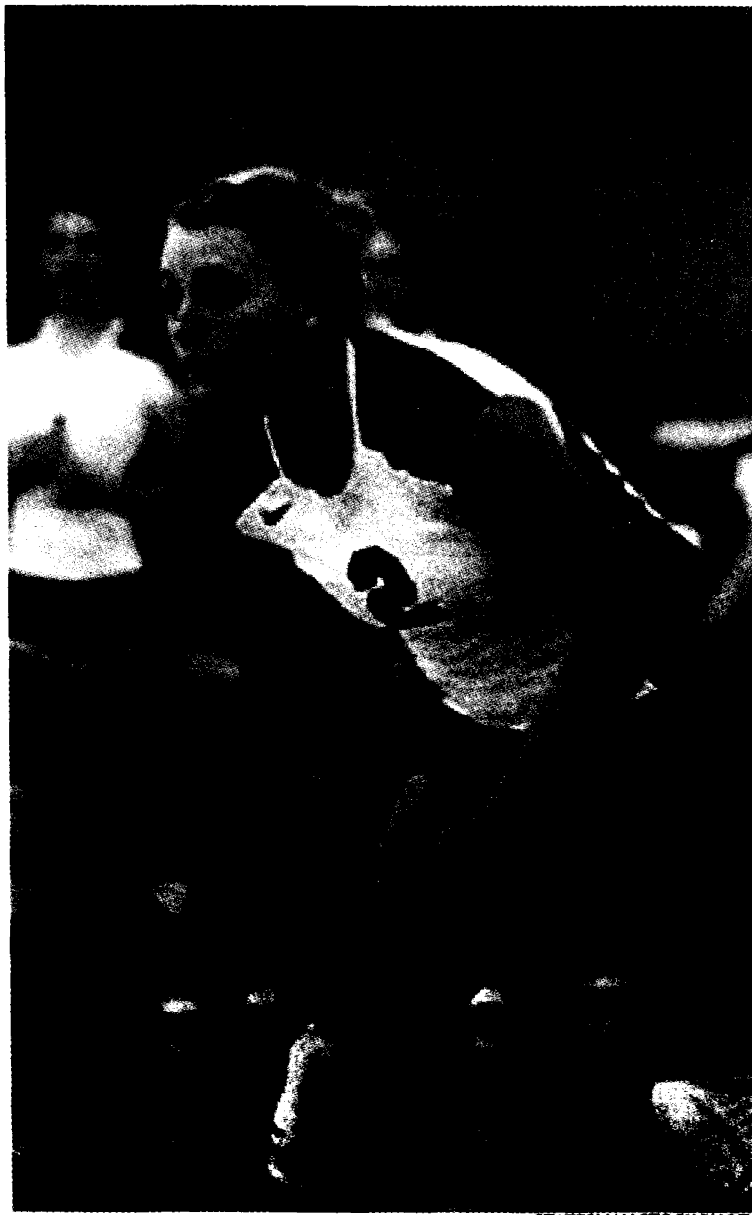
The Seawolves' overall record is now 6-10 and 1-2 in conference games. Stony Brook is in the middle of a stretch of 12 straight games against conference opponents in which it must play well to make the America East Championships in mid-November.

The Wildcats captured their seventh straight win and remain perfect in America East play, moving to 12-8 overall and 4-0 in conference play. New Hampshire outit Stony Brook on the night 19.5 percent to 11.7 percent.

Melissa Rigo once again had a strong game for the Seawolves, leading the team with 17 kills on the night. The freshman has now had double digit kills in her first 16 games with the team. Junior Evann Slaughter also had another impressive night with 11 kills of her own.

The Wildcats set the tone for match early on in the first set. The Seawolves were within two points, 10-8, but the Wildcats then proceeded to score six of the next seven points to take a seven point lead. Stony Brook battled back to get within three at 20-17, but New Hampshire finished off the set by scoring five of the last seven points.

Stony Brook led for most of the second set and had a two-point



STATESMAN STOCK PHOTO

Stony Brook improved to 2-2 in America East play.

lead 21-19. But the Seawolves continued to struggle with holding leads and allowed the Wildcats to rally for five straight points to win the set. Three of those five points came on Stony Brook attack errors.

Late in the third set the score was tied at 19-19, before a block

error gave the Seawolves the lead. Then Rigo and freshman Stephanie McFadden assisted on a pair of blocks, and Rigo put the finishing touches on the set with a kill assisted by freshman Nicole Vogel.

Stony Brook was unable to build on its third set momentum, as the

Wildcats hit at a 44.1 percent clip in the fourth set and finished with the night with a dominant nine-point win.

The Seawolves have been getting consistently strong performances out of Rigo and Slaughter but have not been consistent as a team. Stony Brook has been starting four freshmen for most of the season and its inexperience as a team has sometimes shown in the form of blowing too many early set leads and making too many late-game errors.

Stony Brook still has time to turn things around, as it has nine games remaining, all of them against conference opponents. Its six-game road trip continues on Sunday in Providence for a 1 p.m. matchup against the Friars. Providence will likely bring lots of energy as the game on Sunday is its home opener.

The Stony Brook women's volleyball team came up with a much needed win on Sunday afternoon. The Seawolves were able to spoil Providence's home opener by winning in three straight sets (25-11, 25-15, 25-22).

Freshman Melissa Rigo (15 kills, 11 digs) and freshman Nicole Vogel (25 assists, 10 digs) both notched double doubles in the match. Junior Evann Slaughter also added 11 kills and 2 blocks of her own.

Stony Brook improved its overall record to 7-10, but more importantly its conference record to 2-2. The Seawolves are now also 6-0 all-time against Providence.

Stony Brook was dominant over the first two sets. It got off to a fast start in the first set, taking an early 8-1 lead, which it would not relinquish. The Seawolves recorded

18 of its 25 points on kills in the first set.

Melissa Rigo and freshman Shelby Tietjen came up big for the Seawolves in the second set. Rigo had six kills and hit 46.2 percent while Tietjen had four kills, three coming in a four-point stretch that helped expand the Seawolves lead from 12-6 to 16-7.

The third set was much more competitive, as there were 12 ties and four lead changes. But Stony Brook was able to come up with the win in the set to close out the match, thanks to more strong play by star players Rigo and Slaughter.

With the third set tied 19-19, Rigo recorded kills on back-to-back points to push the Seawolves ahead 21-19. Slaughter followed with a kill of her own to make it 22-19. Rigo then put the match away with two final kills.

This was a game the Seawolves really wanted to win, not only because it was against a conference opponent, but also because of the level of the opponent. The Friars have struggled mightily this season, only winning once in 22 games this season, and are also 0-4 in conference play.

Colleen McCollom led the Friars with 10 kills and also added nine digs. Providence player Jordan Wiesler led all players in today's game with 29 assists.

Stony Brook will now have four days off before traveling to Binghamton and UMBC on Friday and Sunday next weekend. All of the Seawolves' eight remaining games are against conference opponents. Despite the team's early season struggles, a strong record in conference play could get the Seawolves into the America East Tournament in mid-November.

Norwegian players Krathe, Ofstad key for Seawolves

Continued from Page 1

of people they are, they have good, strong, character, and they are the type of guys you enjoy coaching.”

Krathe, a junior in his first season with the team, has emerged as a leader on the pitch for the Seawolves. He has started all 11 games for the team this season, and his strong play in the team's trip to the Kentucky Invitational last month garnered him a spot on the all-tournament team.

“Technically, he's very good with the ball, especially with the way we like to play out of the back, which is a quality you don't see all the time with defenders,” Anatol said. “He's very physical, he's good in the air, and he communicates very well, he really leads the back four; he does a good job of keeping them organized.”

Ofstad, a redshirt freshman, has played in all 11 games and started in three of them, contributing a goal and an assist.

“Sverre's a sparkplug, he's quick, he's dangerous in the attack, he can get behind the defense and really open them up,” said Anatol. “He can serve up a good ball, and he can score. He's a good explosive player in the attack.”

Both Krathe and Ofstad made the decision to go overseas to the United States as a way of continuing their education and experiencing a different culture.

“I really wanted to come to experience something different, I didn't want to go to college back in Norway,” Ofstad said. “It's a great opportunity to play soccer, but at the same time get a good degree, so I want to do both things.”

With Norway's lacking of a collegiate soccer league, the NCAA was a way that both could continue their playing careers while working towards a degree at the same time.

“I heard about the opportunity to combine education with soccer,” Krathe said. “If I stayed home, I'd have to choose between education and soccer, and that's why I came here.”

In Norway, Krathe played for Kvik Halden and Fredrikstad FK,

where he was captain of the under-19 squad. He was also a member of the Norwegian under-17 and under-18 national teams.

Krathe's first stop in the United States was at the University of South Florida, where he played for two years. Anatol, who was an assistant coach for the team at the time, recruited him to the school.

“A guy in Norway, he recruits players, and he knew coach Anatol because he was an assistant coach there, so that's kind of how the process went through,” Krathe said. “I liked the program, and obviously, I liked the Florida weather, beaches and stuff.”

Last off-season, he contacted Anatol, who had since moved from South Florida to take the head coaching job at Stony Brook two seasons ago, and inquired about joining him on Long Island.

“Two years in South Florida was enough for me,” Krathe said. “I had a good time there, but I wanted to experience something else, I wanted to check out other parts of the country.”

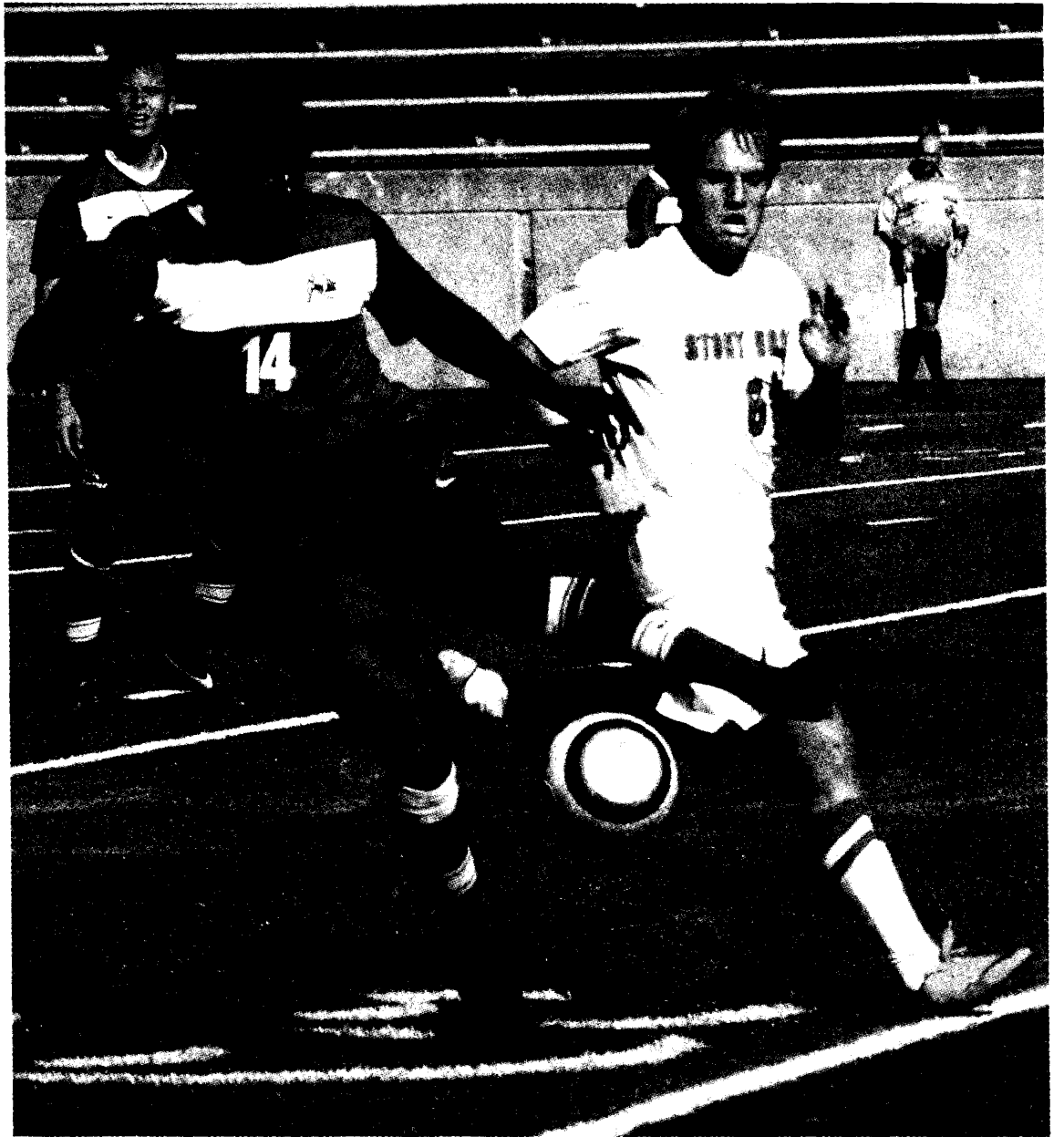
Ofstad joined Stony Brook last season after playing for Folio FK in the Norwegian Second Division and for Kolbotn IL in juniors, where he was named the team's player of the year.

“I got a couple offers from a few different schools, but I wanted to go to Stony Brook because it looked good, academically and athletically,” Ofstad said. “We [he and Anatol] had a couple of talks on the phone, and he really sold the school, and I really wanted to come because of him.”

Originally set to play a big role for the team at the start of last season, Ofstad suffered a season-ending leg injury in only the team's second game against Pittsburgh, forcing him to watch from the sidelines.

“I received the ball, and a kid just slide-tackled me right into my leg, and it just broke,” said Ofstad. “It kind of sucked, I just wanted to play, and I had to sit there, wanting to play.”

After redshirting that year, and



ADRIAN SZKOLAR / THE STATESMAN

Ofstad, right, has contributed to Stony Brook's attack with a goal and an assist.

by his admission a poor off-season of training over the summer, Ofstad feels that he is starting to get back into strong playing form, as does Anatol, who has been impressed with his attitude.

“He's done a good job, even when he was hurt, through the rehab and pushing himself to get back on the field,” Anatol said. “Even though he wasn't playing, he was out pushing the guys, and he was a good, positive influence in the group.”

Despite having to adjust to a new country, including a new culture, language and academic environment,

both players said that adapting to the United States was not a difficult transition.

“It was kind of rough going straight to school since I had a year off and didn't go to school, but it hasn't been that tough,” Ofstad said. “Guys on the team have been great, so it hasn't been difficult at all.”

Krathe also mentioned the camaraderie of the team helped him to adjust to the American lifestyle and to Stony Brook campus life.

“Our team, everyone gets along with each other and there is a good spirit,” Krathe said. “It's different,

the culture is different here than in Norway, but soccer is the same all over the world.”

With the successes of Krathe and Ofstad on the pitch, Anatol said that he will continue to use the contacts he has built up in Norway and recruit talent out of the country.

“I'm looking to bring in the best talent, it could be from Stony Brook, it could be from anywhere from across the world,” Anatol said. “We are looking at kids from Norway, the guys I have worked with have always been successful, so I would expect us to go back there in the future.”

Kershaw looking to lead women's soccer to NCAA's

By **Catie Curalato**
Assistant Sports Editor

Sasha Kershaw isn't the most talkative of girls, but she makes up for what she lacks in eloquence with leadership and sheer soccer skills.

The Baltimore native is helping to lead the women's soccer team to what could be its best season since 2008. With a 7-5-2 record at press time, the team has already surpassed last season's dismal record of 4-12-1.

A senior, Kershaw has seen the team go through some rough times.

“We have a lot to play for now and we want to win,” Kershaw said. “We don't want to go back to how it was.”

One of the team's three captains, Kershaw can often be seen inspiring her teammates through her talent on the field.

“She's an incredible competitor

and she gets better as the situation becomes more challenging,” said head coach Sue Ryan. Ryan has coached at SBU for more than 25 years, and she celebrated her 200th win this past September.

“When times are challenging on the field, she's the person that our team is looking to,” Ryan said. “She does that from a physical standpoint—through her play—and a mental standpoint, through her hard work and mental toughness.”

Kershaw often finds that her moods during the game can affect the rest of her teammates.

“A lot of people look up to me,” she said. “If I'm feeling it or I'm doing well, people start looking up; if I'm in a slump, everyone will be in a slump.”

Luckily for the Seawolves, Kershaw hasn't been feeling down too much this season. She and Larissa Nysch currently lead the team in goals scored with four,

and Kershaw has scored the game-winner in games against both Manhattan College and Lehigh.

Coach Ryan attributes this to the fact that Kershaw is what she calls the “engine” of the midfield.

“She plays in our midfield and our team runs through her,” she said. “And that is a very important aspect in our play.”

For a team that's made up of mostly underclassmen, Kershaw is a worthy model to look up to. Since becoming a Seawolf in 2009, she has played in every game and has started in all but three. So far, she has scored 16 goals in her time at Stony Brook.

Kershaw knows that she leads a team of younger girls who look up to her, but she is starting to feel the pressure that comes with an athlete's last season.

“Because I'm a senior, if something goes bad, I spiral the entire season down in my head from one play,” she said. “And that's



NINA LIN / THE STATESMAN

Kershaw has scored 16 career goals for the Seawolves.

not really good because everyone can notice when I do that.”

Ryan can definitely understand

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BU beats men's soccer in OT

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defender and crossed towards the goal to Dominique Badji, who poked in a goal at point blank range to end the game.

"In overtime, it can go either way," Anatol said.

It was a bad night for the Seawolves to lose, as they broke their men's soccer attendance record.

The previous record, set in 2009, was 1,096. Friday night's game drew 1,372 fans.

For the Seawolves, who were outshot by the Terriers 13-12, this was the sixth loss to Boston in a row.

The last two losses have been overtime losses.

Anatol dismissed the notion that

Boston is Stony Brook's rival.

"It was a conference game, there was three points on the line," he said. "All the conference games are valuable and that's how we treated it."

The refs gave out three yellow cards during the game, one each to Stony Brook junior Marius Krathe and sophomore Keith McKenna, and one to BU's Mac McGuire.

Gobeil's goal, his third of the season, put him at eighth place all-time for Stony Brook in career goals. He has 23 overall.

"I didn't think that we moved the ball well enough tonight," Anatol said.

The Seawolves are back in action on Wednesday at Binghamton. Game time is 7 p.m.

Women's soccer drops two this weekend

By Yoon Seo Nam
Staff Writer

The Stony Brook women's soccer team lost to Vermont 2-1 in the third conference game this season on Thursday at Kenneth P. LaValle Stadium.

Stony Brook drove Vermont to make many chances since the kickoff. At the 10th and 13th minutes, senior Taryn Schoenbeck had chances but could not finish them. Vermont could not make threatening chances in the first half.

In the second half, as the Seawolves scored, the game seemed to be under Stony Brook control. Junior forward Larissa Nysch scored the leading goal at 51st minute as Vermont goalkeeper Ally Ramos fumbled a cross from the right wing.

However, 12 minutes later, Vermont forward Bre Pletnick scored the equalizer, putting a rebounded ball into the goal after Seawolves junior goalkeeper Ashley Castanio blocked a long shot from the right side of the box.

The goal rallied Vermont. Vermont's offense developed and bothered Seawolves via both right and left wings.

The game was ended in overtime. Seawolves defender Ahriel Fernandez was given a red card, and Vermont gained a penalty. Pletnick failed the penalty, but Vermont midfielder Kerry Glynn put the rebounded ball into the goal.

"This is just the way that our conference works, every game goes down to the wire," Stony Brook head coach Sue Ryan said. "Where we should have done better today is

finish our chances during the regulation time and not have to let it get to over time."

Regarding the end of the unbeaten race at home, Ryan said that "it doesn't really affect" her team.

They fell to Boston University by a score of 3-2. Senior Taryn Schoenbeck and freshman Stella Norman both scored for the Seawolves, as they fell to the defending conference champions.

The Terriers scored in the 31st minute, as Madison Clemens scored on a breakaway down the middle of the field. Boston's next goal came just four minutes later, as Jessica Morrow's free kick found the back of the net.

The Seawolves got on the board just 19 seconds later, as Schoenbeck scored from 10 yards out. Junior Queli Ornelas scored her first collegiate point, as she assisted on the goal.

Boston went back up two scores at 75:01 when Taylor Krebs scored from 15 yards away. The Seawolves got back within one goal on Norman's goal at 83:49.

The Terriers outshot Stony Brook, 17-7, as they won their 29th consecutive conference game. Schoenbeck led the Seawolves with three shot attempts.

Seawolf goalkeeper Ashley Castanio stopped seven shots and Andrea Green blocked two for the Terriers.

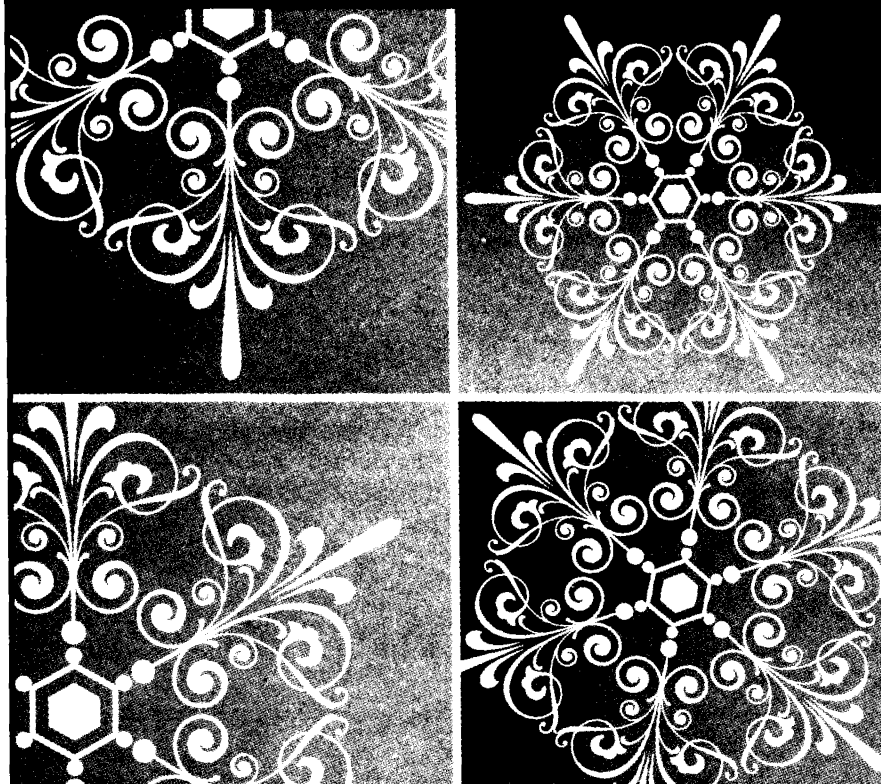
The Seawolves next game is home against Maine (5-5-2, 1-2-1 AE) on Thursday at 7 p.m.



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The Seawolves fell to 7-5-2 overall after losing to the Terriers.

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SPORTS

Essington throws 5 TDs in victory over Buccaneers

By David O'Connor
Managing Editor

The Stony Brook football team crushed the Charleston Southern University Buccaneers 49-7 in the team's opening conference game of the season.

"What we are doing as an offense is working," senior running back Miguel Maysonet said.

Even though they elected to kick off the ball to start the game, it was the Seawolves who got off to a fast start.

They forced the Buccaneers to a short first drive and took the ball for their own.

On its own opening drive, Stony Brook scored the first touchdown of the game with 10:45 left in the first quarter when senior quarterback Kyle Essington threw a 29-yard pass to fellow senior wide receiver Kevin Norrell, who would set his personal record for receiving yards and touchdowns through the evening.

Norrell finished up the night with a career-high 214 yards receiving yards on eight receptions, also a career high. He also made two touchdown receptions, tying a career-best.

"Kevin is really talented," Essington said. "I trust him to get open and bring down that deep ball."

The two teams exchanged unsuccessful drives as the first quarter gradually came to a close.

The Seawolves found themselves well-positioned at the end of the quarter as they had a fresh set of downs at Charleston Southern's 30-yard line.

They would make good use of these circumstances.

A 28-yard pass from Essington

led to a diving catch by Norrell, putting the ball a couple of yards from the end zone.

Maysonet would make the short run at the beginning of the second quarter to give the Seawolves a 14-0 lead.

It would be a big night for Maysonet, who broke both the Stony Brook and Big South conference record for rushing yards.

He ran for 88 yards on the evening overall.

"It's not an individual job," he said. "I try my hardest to run the ball; our line does a great job blocking for us."

"I trust him to get open and bring down that deep ball."

QB Kyle Essington
on WR Kevin Norrell

However, the Buccaneers would not let themselves be shut out completely.

With their next drive, they pushed down the field from their 24-yard line and scored their one and only touchdown of the game.

Buccaneer quarterback Malcolm Dixon threw a 28-yard touchdown pass to Will Hunt to

seal the deal.

But, from that point forward, it was entirely Stony Brook's game.

The Seawolves got down the field quickly in their next drive; Essington completed a 42-yard pass to Norrell and later made contact with senior wide receiver Jordan Gush to score Stony Brook's third touchdown of the game.

Gush had three touchdowns on the evening, a personal record.

Essington also had a strong night, completing five touchdown passes overall, tying a school record.

"We all just keep building confidence week-in, week-out," he said.

It looked as though the Buccaneers were going to keep themselves within striking distance, but the Stony Brook defense would only allow them to attempt a field goal on their next drive, an attempt in which they would not be successful.

Any prospects for their victory were quickly drifting away.

The next Stony Brook drive featured yet another long completed pass to Norrell, this one for 51 yards.

He would catch Stony Brook's fourth touchdown of the game later in the drive.

That would bring an end to the scoring in the first half.

It would not take the Seawolves long to pick up where they left off in the second half.

With less than three minutes in the books, Essington completed another touchdown pass to Gush.

The Buccaneers tried to make a dent in the scoreboard and inched their way down the field



KENNETH HOJ / THE STATESMAN

Running back Marcus Coker reaches for the end zone

to Stony Brook's 26-yard line.

But junior linebacker Reggie Francklin brought those aspirations to an end with an interception.

Instead of Charleston Southern getting closer, the Seawolves would increase the gap with another touchdown pass to Gush, making the score 42-7.

Junior running back Marcus Coker would score the last touchdown of the game later that quarter, making the score 49-7.

The starters would be withdrawn after having tied or broken a number of records.

The fourth quarter passed

without much incident.

The Buccaneers once again got close to scoring a second touchdown, but that drive was brought to an end by an interception as well.

With this game in the past, head coach Chuck Priore has to prepare for an away game against Coastal Carolina University next week. Next week's game is Coastal Carolina's first after a bye week, and it also their homecoming.

"I think at the end of the day," he said. "We've got five straight games against conference opponents. We've got to take it one game at a time."

Men's Soccer loses to BU in overtime

By Catie Curatolo
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's soccer team lost this weekend to Boston University, who scored a goal midway through overtime to beat the Seawolves 2-1.

The loss ended Stony Brook's six-match winning streak. SBU is now 7-3-1 overall, with a 1-1-0 record in the America East.

"It was a tough loss," head coach Ryan Anatol said. "I didn't think we had our best performance."

The Seawolves had a good start, scoring early on and holding the Terriers at bay for most of the game.

In the eighth minute, senior Berian Gobeil scored off an assist from fellow senior Leonardo Fernandes.

Fernandes got the ball in the box, passed a defender and crossed the ball past BU goalie Nick Thomson.

Thomson made a grab and missed, deflecting it right to

Gobeil, who chested the ball into the net.

"We scored pretty early and we continued playing the way we try to play," Anatol said. "I think the morale was good."



ADRIAN SZKOLAR / THE STATESMAN

Marius Krathe is one of the team's top center-backs.

After that, the game continued as normal. Both teams had several shorts at the goal, but couldn't complete the opportunities. Boston outshot the Seawolves 13-12.

BU's Carlos Ruiz brought an end to the drought in the 78th minute, scoring an unassisted shot to tie the game.

He got the ball after a Stony Brook turnover in front of the goal, allowing him to shoot the ball past SBU goalie Stefan Manz.

The already physical game got very intense for the next 12 minutes as both teams tried desperately to score.

Overall, 17 fouls were called—13 on Boston and four on Stony Brook.

"We're both pretty technical teams and I think in they know we're dangerous in the attack, so they tried to slow us down," Anatol said. Despite the 13 fouls called against Stony Brook, he thought the game was "fair."

Halfway through the overtime, BU's Michael Bustamante got a pass on the far side of the field. He beat a

Norwegians' play boost for men's soccer

By Adrian Szkolar
Assistant Sports Editor

With soccer's being an international game, men's soccer head coach Ryan Anatol has a wealth of foreign talent on his roster, including players from Canada, Hungary and Venezuela.

One nation in particular, however, that has provided Anatol with talent has been Norway, and that has been especially apparent in the way that the two Norwegians on the team, center-back Marius Krathe and winger Sverre Ofstad, have played key roles for the squad this season.

"I'm very happy with what they bring on the field," Anatol said. "But more importantly, for the type

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