



EZRA MARGONO / THE STATESMAN

The Wizzer boat charges across the finish line at the 2010 Roth Regatta. See pgs. 6-7 for more photos.

Students Raise Money for Legal Action to Fight Campus Closure

BY ALESSANDRA MALITO
Staff Writer

Students, parents and faculty not only filled the streets of local towns but also of elected officials' offices in the last few weeks to fight to keep the Southampton campus open.

Students raised thousands of dollars for legal action, contacted their local officials to make important announcements and even planned a trip to the state capitol, after feeling as though they had been giving a raw deal and lied to by Stony Brook University.

"I specifically asked about the security of the school's future since it was new, innovative, but a part of the state university system in a state that was facing budget cuts all around," said Julie Semente, a parent of a Southampton freshman. "I was repeatedly assured that the state and SUNY had a 'huge commitment invested' and the school's future was 'secure.' New construction was pointed out to prove it."

See **LEGAL** on 3

Letter From The Editor:

It is no secret that The Statesman's budget for next year is teetering on a USG tightrope.

The governing body has cut our budget by over \$20,000. If the cut is not reversed at Tuesday night's senate meeting, it will be difficult--if not impossible-- for The Statesman to overcome.

With the exception of the April 26 news article regarding our court case, The Statesman has chosen not to publish on this subject. We have been criticized in other campus media for doing so. We made the decision to not publish because we are not interested in using the paper to promote the agenda of The Statesman. That's not journalism.

However, when rumors start to circulate--no matter who they are about or from where they have originated--it is The Statesman's job to get to the bottom of it and provide the campus with the truth.

The truth is The Statesman does not have \$90,000 in assets. This number has been brought up time and again by Undergraduate Student Government Treasurer Moiz Khan. When asked where he is getting this number from Khan will tell you it's from The Statesman's last audit report. This was correct--in July 2009.

The treasurer has never asked about the current state of this number, and despite our best efforts

to inform him of our current assets, the rumor persists. Our books are open to the public and available for all to see that the treasurer's number is outdated.

With a 50 percent decline in advertising revenue over the past year, The Statesman has been forced to dip heavily into these reserves because we are fiscally responsible, unlike what the treasurer will have you believe.

2009 was the worst year in decades for newspapers according to the Newspaper Association of America. Unfortunately, although we are a campus newspaper, The Statesman is not exempt from this trend.

Our paper is actually Statesman Association Inc. and is a non profit company registered with Albany. We file state and federal returns, pay out of pocket for business insurance,

employ full time staff and pay yearly for an audit that is required for USG so they can see all of our finances.

All money granted to The Statesman by USG is accounted for and spent only on printing costs.

In fact, the student government knows more (or should know more) about The Statesman's funds than they do about any other club on campus. Maybe that's why we are in this boat to begin with.

Whatever the reason, I implore the campus community to speak up and to not let the student government take away a campus tradition that has been around since the days of Oyster Bay. Help us save Statesman.

APRIL WARREN
EDITOR IN CHIEF

IN THIS ISSUE

SB Idol Winner Belts It Out

As the sun beat down on the audience of students and staff scattered across the Staller steps on April 7 for the finale of the Stony Brook Idols competition, the six contestants awaited

their turns.

Veronica Scoria, a petite 21-year-old, climbed onto the stage.

See **IDOL** on 11

Does Stony Brook Really Suck?

This campus could do much more to facilitate indoor events during the winter time, holding more concerts and fun things students actually want to go to would help make the cold

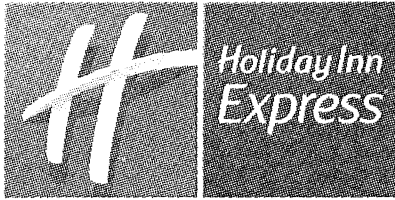
months a lot more bearable.

Things like a campus wide snowball fight or snowman building competition would a great start.

See **STONY** on 9

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SPORTS

The Athletic Department's MVP

From MVP on 12

Sanfelippo's typical day begins at 8:30 a.m., and her work ranges from checking if the student-athletes are in class to tutoring them, which could last until 11 p.m. Her passion and dedication for her job is admired around the Athletics Department, especially by her boss, Senior Associate Director of Athletics Donna Woodruff.

"She is probably the most passionate person that I know for what they do," said Woodruff. "She loves her job, and she loves working with young people and helping them succeed."

Woodruff said that if Sanfelippo wasn't as dedicated as she is, the student-athletes would not be as successful in the classroom.

"She has a hard job that requires a lot of time, love

and passion in order to be successful," said Woodruff. "If she went through it 9 to 5, I don't think our student-athletes would respond as well as they do."

That sentiment is shared with senior Eddie Castellanos, who has played on the men's basketball team for four years and met Sanfelippo when he visited Stony Brook while he was being recruited out of high school.

"Truthfully, without Courtney I don't believe I would be graduating this spring," he said. "She's like the unknown secret of Stony Brook athletics, and without her I don't know if a lot of our student-athletes would be as successful as they are."

At just 32, Sanfelippo said she is very happy and currently has no plans beyond Stony Brook.

"I'm so happy here and I think we have so much more to do," she said. "I

don't look beyond Stony Brook because I have these students now. I have freshmen that will be here for four to five years, and I want to be here when they graduate."

Sanfelippo said she hopes to help Stony Brook win the America East Academic Cup, which recognizes the school with the highest overall grade point average in the conference.

"I think it would be great for Jim [Fiore] and it would be great for our student-athletes," she said.

Winning the Academic Cup would help her achieve her main goal of having her department recognized as one of the best academic staffs in the country.

"I believe that we have the best academic staff in the conference," she said. "I want people to look at my department and say that this is the best academic staff their son or daughter can join."

colleges for change

Changing the social acceptability of tobacco in the college community.

who we are

The Colleges For Change Program is grant funded by the New York State Department of Health Tobacco Control Program. The grant covers seven Colleges For Change grants statewide.

The grant has been designed to engage young leaders to work on and off college campuses to limit where and how tobacco products are promoted, advertised and sold, and to advance local and statewide policy advocacy approach to creating communities that support and reinforce tobacco-free norms.

Colleges For Change Programs focus efforts specifically on those aspects of the community and college environment that most influence tobacco use among young adults.

what does that mean?

1. TOBACCO INDUSTRY SPONSORSHIP AND PROMOTION:

~Work with college student groups, community based organizations, sporting groups, local venues and community bars/night clubs to develop policies which prohibit the acceptance of tobacco industry support (both endorsement and financial), and prohibit sponsorship of events on their property.

~Develop and implement policies that completely ban the distribution of free tobacco products on campus and at community events.

~Educate the colleges and local community about the impact of tobacco industry sponsorship and promotion.

2. SMOKE-FREE MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS:

~Work with management of college off-campus housing to enact smokefree policies.

~Educate target audiences about the impact of secondhand smoke and benefits of living in smoke-free housing.

3. OUTDOOR TOBACCO-FREE POLICIES:

~Advocate with school and municipal offices and adopt binding policies, ordinances, etc. prohibiting tobacco on campus, local beaches, parks, and playgrounds.

what can you do?

Support and participate in tobacco control efforts on your campus

Make changes to your group or organization by saying "no thanks" to Big Tobacco and enacting a policy that prohibits tobacco company corporate giving, sponsorship, and promotion.

Encourage students, staff, and peers to make healthy lifestyle choices not only to protect themselves but to protect those around them.



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Randi Zito
Colleges for Change, Program Coordinator

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NEWS

Student Forecast

May 3 - May 7

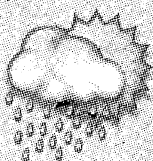


Monday:

High: 78°F

Low: 56°F

AM T-Showers.

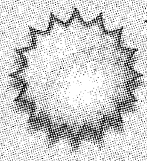


Tuesday:

High: 75°F

Low: 52°F

PM Showers.

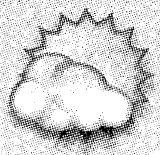


Wednesday:

High: 73°F

Low: 57°F

Sunny.

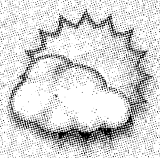


Thursday:

High: 80°F

Low: 58°F

Partly Cloudy.



Friday:

High: 75°F

Low: 55°F

Partly Cloudy.

From weather.com

Now, however, the campus is being cut out of the university's budget, which means students will have to transfer out or move to West campus.

Students are attempting to raise thousands of dollars for legal action, and did so by having people match large amounts of donations. Money was raised through fundraisers, including petitioning done on Facebook, to begin the process of a lawsuit against the SUNY system. Students and professors alike, along with other supporters, donated hundreds of dollars of their own money to continue the fight financially.

"My daughter was promised the opportunity to get in on the ground floor, helping to shape the curriculum and develop the school's direction," said Semente, who donated \$1,000. "She could have studied marine biology anywhere - even at the West campus - but she turned down acceptance to other colleges specifically for all these other promises. She did not go to Southampton for the major or for a Stony Brook degree. She went for everything else Southampton offered. Stanley needs to honor those promises."

Elected officials, including Assemblyman Fred Thiele and Senator Kenneth LaValle, also joined the fight and went to the historic windmill on their campus to hold a press conference on Thursday in order to present a proposal to keep the school functioning.

The property, which is valued at \$15-\$20 million, is saving the university \$6.5 million. Local legislators suggested buying the development rights using the Community Preservation

Students Raise Money for Legal Action to Fight Campus Closure



ERIKA KAÏP / STATESMAN FILE PHOTO

Students greet Dean Mary Pearl last month when the news broke that the Southampton campus would be shut down

Fund, or CPE, which is a one-time two percent tax on real estate transfers. About \$250 million have been generated from this tax over the past 10 years, according to Thiele.

Ultimately, no additional expense would be imposed upon taxpayers and Southampton would still be a part of the SUNY system, he said.

The legislators sent an email and formal letter to Stony Brook administration last week and has yet to hear back.

Assemblyman Thiele and Senator LaValle also signed a

letter sent to New York State Attorney General Andrew M. Cuomo about "deceptive practices in dealing with Stony Brook Southampton students," Thiele said. "The Senator and I asked to review Stony Brook University and what promises were made to incoming students."

Stony Brook administration had not heard of the investigation as of Friday.

When news of the campus closure did break, students were not informed of the decision by President Samuel L. Stanley Jr.

According to Lauren Sheprow, director of Media Relations at Stony Brook, they found out about the school being cut "in a way not planned by the president."

"There was a plan to notify students and staff at Southampton," she said. "This was the elected officials deciding how the community should be made aware."

There are 373 full- and part-time undergraduate students currently taking classes at Southampton, 61 of which are enrolled in one of the five sustainability majors and 70 percent enrolled in the School

of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences.

Of the Southampton students, 70 percent have been settled into programs on West campus for the fall semester - 286 have registered and 14 are expected to graduate in the spring or summer. There are 137 Southampton students who have selected rooms on West campus, and 114 of them are moving into the New Kelly/Roosevelt Residence Hall.

"We're doing everything we possibly can to cause the least disruption as possible," Sheprow said.

Selling Art to Save Art

By SEAN CAFFREY-AGOLIA
Staff Writer

Sophia Dang stood behind two tables at the Kelly Music and Arts Festival April 24. She wasn't selling ice cream or tie-dying t-shirts. Dang was selling artwork donated by undergraduate Stony Brook art students to help raise money for the Art Department. As Dang rushed from table to table to make sure the prints wouldn't blow away, a sign fluttered in the wind, "Goal to raise \$4,043, the cost of one adjunct teacher in the Art Department."

The budget cuts have hit the Art Department hard in the recent semesters, and they expect more cutbacks this fall. As a result, classes are

not being offered, supplies are running low and more students are being packed into classrooms.

"Choosing my classes for next semester was incredibly hard," said Laura Paesano, a senior Studio Arts major. "It was almost impossible to fill a schedule."

The professors in the department have noticed the soured feelings among their students.

"My students are frustrated because students can't take classes they want," Andreas Centsch, a visiting photography professor said.

The cutting of the only Lithography class for next semester has stood out as one of the most significant cuts. Lithography is a form of print making by using stones and oil-based paint

to create images on paper. M.C. Escher was one of the pioneers to use lithography in his work. Lithography has been offered every year at Stony Brook for the past 25 years and is not offered anywhere else on Long Island.

"The class is full but they're not offering it," said Sumana Ullas, a senior and studio art minor.

Approximately 100 prints were donated by art students to be sold at the festival. The prints ranging from the size of a postcard to the size of a notebook, sold for between \$5 and \$15. According to Dang some of the work donated had sold for hundreds of dollars elsewhere, but the artists "were all willing to help."

"It's for a good cause so it didn't bother me," Paesano said.

Many of the students at the festival stopped by the table to browse through the prints, and some even bought a couple.

Marcos Dominguez, a junior English major, bought a print titled, "Alice in Wonderland," by Sumana Ullas.

"I'd love to hang it up in my room, it's very cool," Dominguez said.

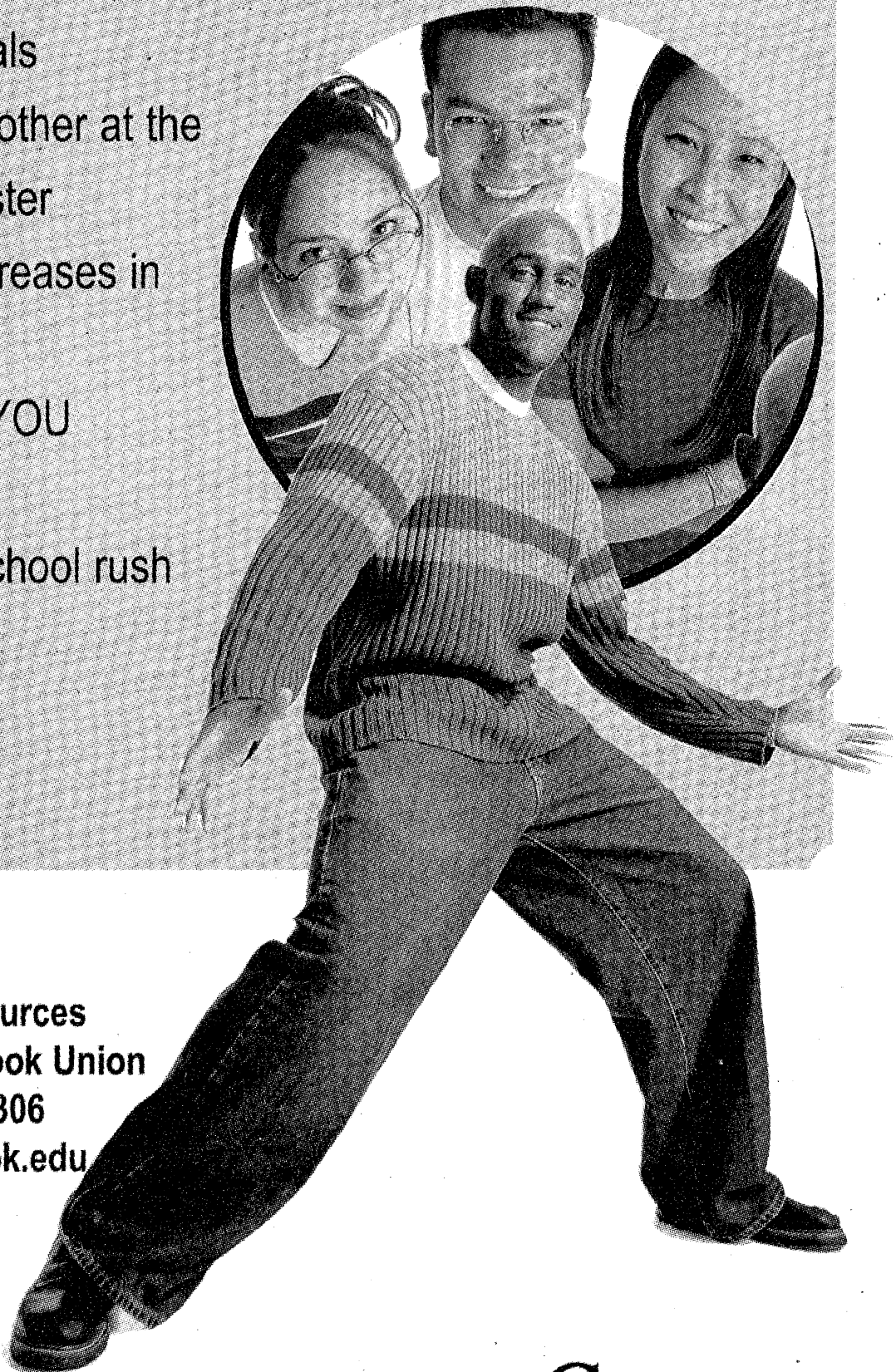
Dang ended up selling almost \$300 worth of prints at the festival, with all of the proceeds going directly to the art department. She plans to try to get permission to sell more prints in the dining halls and the Student Activities Center.

"The artwork is really very good," Dominguez said. "I think it's a shame that we're going to lose out on this," he said.

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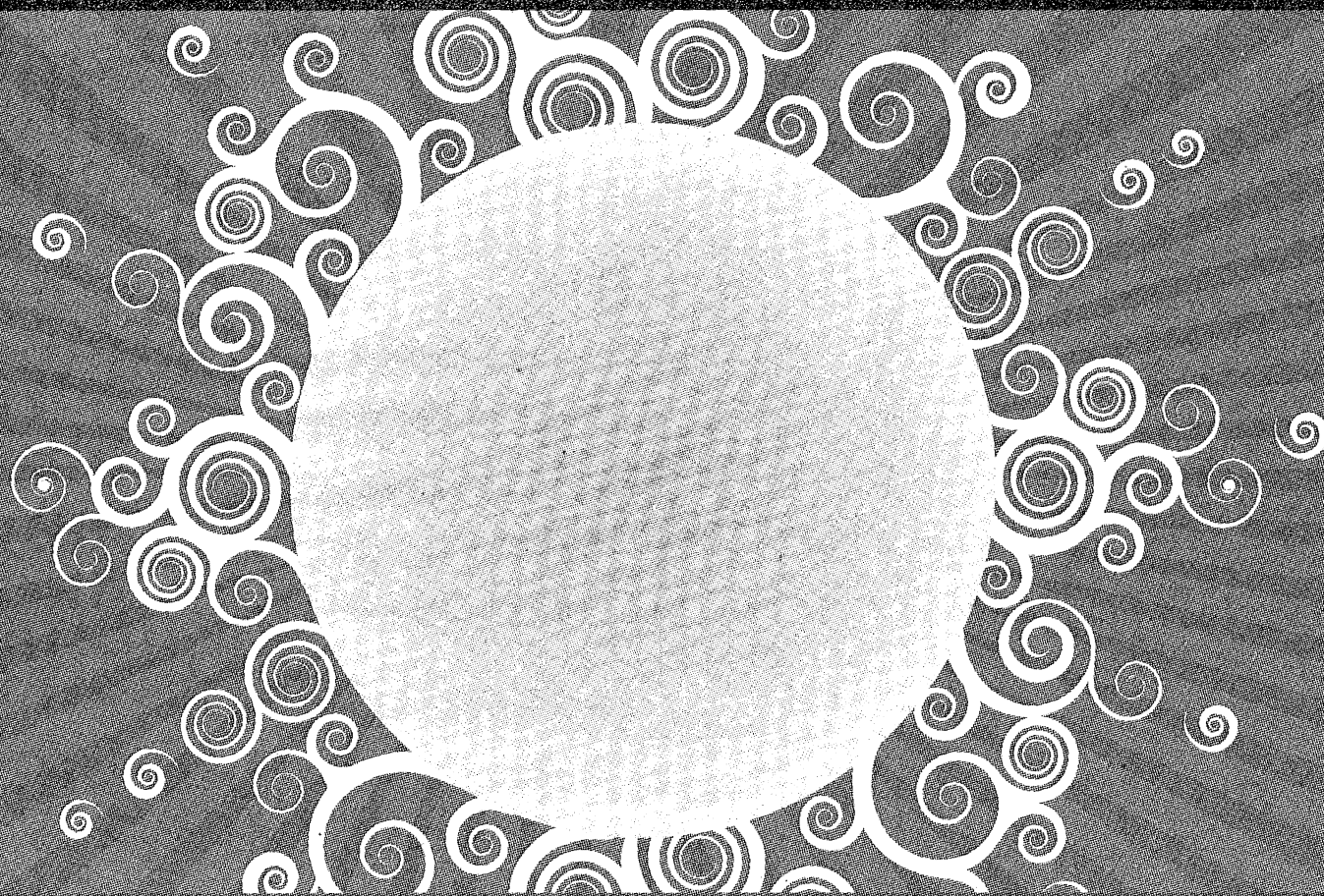
For more information:

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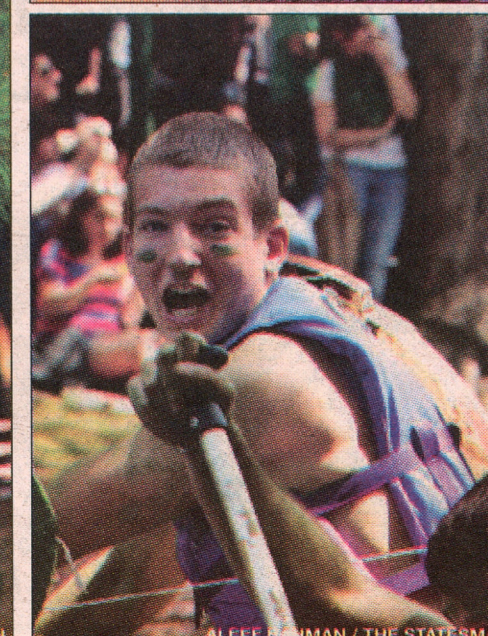
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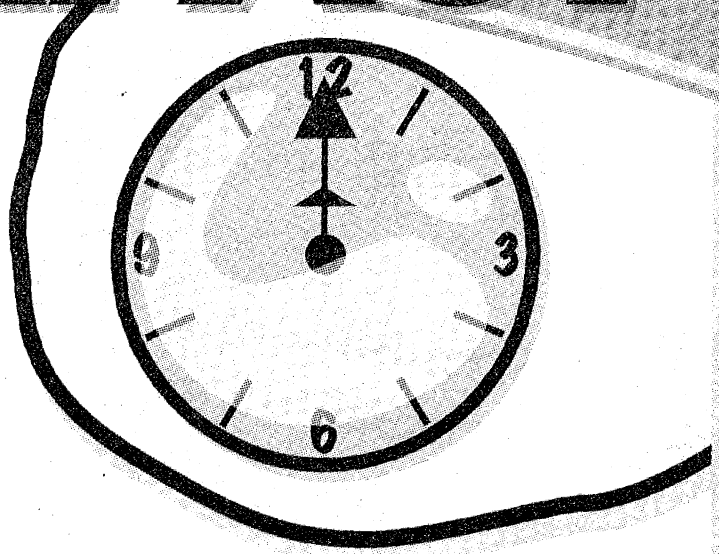


Battle of the Toons: Roth Regatta 2010



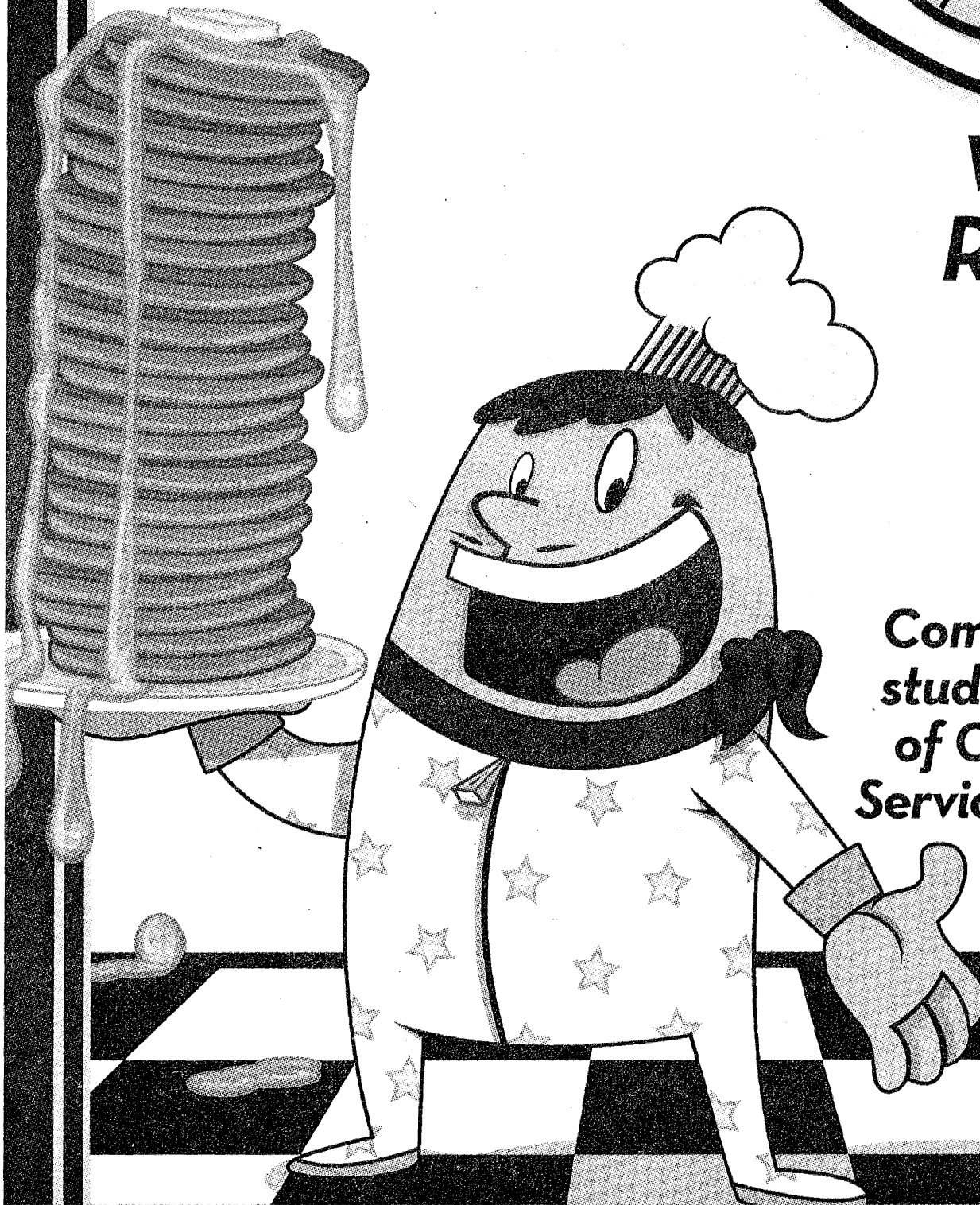
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For advertising inquiries, call us at (631) 632-6480 or visit us online at sbstatesman.com.

WHO WE ARE

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

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

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

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Does Stony Brook Really Suck?

By RAVNEET KAMBOJ
Opinion Editor

This campus could do much more to facilitate indoor events during the winter time, holding more concerts and fun things students actually want to go to would help make the cold months a lot more bearable.

Things like a campus wide snowball fight or snowman building competition would be a great start.

Stony Brook had been called the most depressing campus in America by the Princeton Review two years ago. The atmosphere here can indeed be dreary but it doesn't take long to realize there is a lot of things to do and amazing people to meet.

It seems that Stony Brook always takes a beating when it comes to its reputation, and I, for one am saying that despite what can sometimes seem like a bureaucratic and lethargic school administration there have been a lot of events lately.

Earthstock and the upcoming Strawberry Fest draw attention to environmentally friendly ideas as well as garner support for organic farmers in the community. Numerous battle of the bands and music performances like RockYoFaceCase made their way onto campus as well.

The question is, how come all of these events are all focused around the end of the semester? It might have to do with the warmer weather, but during the winter this campus can be truly dreary.

The school might benefit by actually asking students what they want on campus, setting up a student board that is in touch with what we want may help the campus hold better events. College students are also the most thrifty creatures known to man, so if anyone can help the school administration to organize a low cost, but enticing event it's the students themselves.

Another serious issue that really brings down student morale is the over crowding and lack of classes going into next semester. I am lucky that I came into Stony Brook with a bunch of extra high school credits often bumping my registration date up before my fellow classmates.

Too many times however, my friends as well as freshmen that I know are being locked out of classes

that are essential to their major and are often forced into summer class or into horribly deformed looking schedules.

If the school can address the overcrowding, lack of funds, lack of staff and lack of events in the colder months then students here may start to become more satisfied.

The town of Stony Brook is not extremely exciting either so distributing information on things to do in close towns like St. James and Port Jefferson would be really helpful to incoming students.

With a lot of effort from both the administration and students we just might be able to make Stony Brook awesome again like it was in the 1960s when famous music acts like Jimi Hendrix knew it was the place to play.

Illegal Law Promotes Racism in AZ.

By LAMIA HAIDER
Contributing Writer

What makes an individual look American?

Such an inquiry should not be given weight when it comes to the formation or application of the law. Yet Arizona's new immigration bill introduced by Arizona state senator Russell Pearce definitely takes this issue of race into account, albeit in a covert manner.

Passed on April 13 by Arizona's Republican-dominated legislature, the new immigration bill is an infringement of one's rights by condoning racial profiling. Not to mention it was penned by proven racists.

These are harsh accusations to make but I have sufficient backing for them. The law mandates that an attempt must be made to determine an individual's immigration status if the officer feels "reasonable suspicion" that the person may be an illegal immigrant. Is any criteria given for what counts as being reasonably suspicious?

Not at all, that is left to the figures of authority to decide, and the primary way of rooting out those who may be worthy of suspicion goes no deeper than the color of one's skin.

Of course a police officer will suspect a hispanic man before he will even consider a caucasian man of being an illegal immigrant. All human beings are irrational and prone to bias, that is why laws exist, to promote fairness. However, this won't really work if the laws themselves are flawed and poorly worded.

Statistically speaking, countries like Mexico and El Salvador are

indeed the primary sources for America's illegal immigrant supply, however in no way does this make racial profiling acceptable. More often than not, targeting people based on their race will only lead to the detainment of innocents. The recent raid on an Arizona town has proven that this law is flawed. The town was supposedly harboring companies that smuggle immigrants across the border. 800 officers were utilized for the raid, 47 people were arrested.

However, only 17 of those people were actually present in the country illegally. This means that 30 of those arrested were completely innocent, yet had to endure the humiliation of arrest, and the inconveniences of police detainment. This was but the first implementation of the new law, further usage of it will mean the arrests of more innocents.

Being accosted for documentation of legal residency, and then being arrested when such papers are not conveniently on your person is dehumanizing when it is clear that the targets are primarily chosen because they are not white. And those who advocate the law, saying that it is of no effort to whip out your driver's license should pull their heads out of the sand.

Illegal immigrants can go to any of the states that do not require a Social Security number to procure a driver's license, so this is not sufficient form of ID. Full documentation would be required, but most of us do not tend to carry that around with us.

As if that was not enough to frustrate any rational human being the law also "allows a law enforcement officer, without a warrant to arrest a person if the officer has probable cause to believe that the person has committed any public offense that makes the person removable from



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the U.S."

So, if I understand this correctly, an officer is allowed to arrest somebody if they have a "probable cause to believe" that they are criminals? The word "believe," just like the word "suspicion," leaves these provisions very flimsy and flexible by being so non-specific, making this yet another excuse to make arrests based on the officer's prejudices.

Though the law is not blatantly racist those who are behind its formation certainly are. Russell Pearce, once sent his supporters an e-mail advocating a white separatist group called the National Alliance that said the media wrongly "forces" the public to believe in "a world in which every voice proclaims the equality of the races, the inerrant nature of the Jewish 'Holocaust' tale, the wickedness of attempting to halt the flood of non-White aliens pouring across our borders..."

If that is not enough proof he has also been caught on tape hugging a legitimate Neo-Nazi, swastikas and all.

Then there is the man who wrote the law, Kris Kobach. He is an attorney for the Immigration Reform Law Institute, the legal arm of an immigration group called FAIR, the Federation for American Immigration Reform.

FAIR happens to receive more than a million dollars of funding from a group called the Pioneer Fund, which finances research aiming to prove the superiority of white people. I'm sure Hitler would be beaming with pride.

If anybody else feels a little bit nauseated by this, then I urge you to further research this subject and whatever developments may follow. This may lead to more gastrointestinal discomfort but as citizens of this country we should be fully aware of its political happenings, since a lack of public awareness is part of what allows indiscretions like this to occur.

It is vital that we as Stony Brook students also participate in this debate and show that we will not stand for such intolerance in country that we all love.

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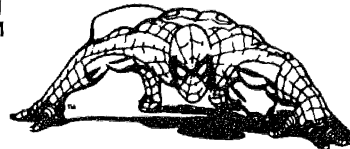
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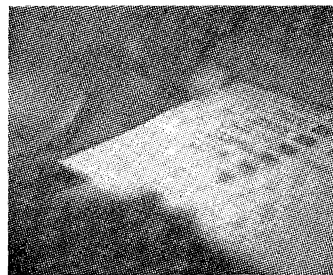
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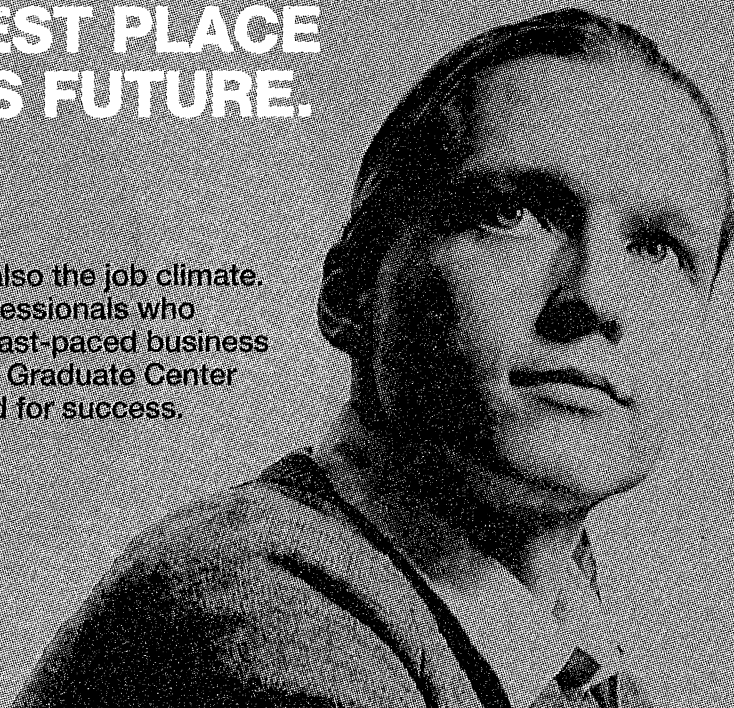
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ARTS

After Years of a Hushed Voice, Idol Winner Belts it Out

By CHRISTINA MULLIGAN
Contributing Writer

As the sun beat down on the audience of students and staff scattered across the Staller steps on April 7 for the finale of the Stony Brook Idols competition, the six contestants awaited their turns.

Veronica Scorgia, a petite 21-year-old, climbed onto the stage in front of the Staller steps to face the crowd of one hundred. She trembled with nerves.

Her outfit consisted of jean shorts, red heels, a white tank top and silver hoops -- or "diva earrings" as she referred to them. It was the third time in her four years at Stony Brook she competed in the competition.

The first year she stole the competition singing "Vision of Love," by Mariah Carey. But the second time around she didn't place with her performance of "One Rock and Roll too Many," by Starlight Express. Now she took the stage for a third and final time.

Moments before the competition, Scorgia paced back and forth, taking in deep breaths that ended with a sigh. Once in a while she would suddenly begin jumping, whaling her arms around in the hopes of getting the nauseous butterfly feeling out of her stomach. "I was terrified to go on stage," she said. The end of spring semester would be the end of her senior year. She confessed that winning the competition would be the perfect ending.

Center stage, the microphone shook in her hands and her thoughts turned to her mission "do or die." The music to Christina Aguilera's hit single, "Ain't No Other Man," began to play. Scorgia opened her mouth and began to sing. Her voice carried all the way to the back row.

"Veronica really blew me out of the water," said Dr. Ellen Li, one of three SB Idol finals judges and wife of President Samuel L. Stanley Jr. "I was shocked that such a small woman could create so much energy. She gave Miss Christina Aguilera a run for her money."

Students lined up to place their vote in the proper bucket, while the competitors waited for the final decision. It came down to two finalists: Scorgia and Joshua Lim. Standing side by side off stage, Lim was pronounced as runner up, making Scorgia the SB Idol winner. As she rushed to the closest microphone, she gave the audience an enthusiastic "woo hoo."

"I was really excited," she said. "It really made my senior year so much better."

Scorgia's singing career began at the age of three when her mother bought her a Whitney Houston album, "I Wanna Dance with Somebody." Scorgia recalled singing and dancing to the album everyday of her childhood.

"I was young but every time I turned on that CD I couldn't help but sing along with it," she said. "I loved every second of it."

Scorgia never took singing lessons, and wasn't involved in the high school chorus. She was however, in school plays and outside theater groups, but always stayed in the back of the crowd.

"I did not have confidence singing at first," Scorgia remembers, "I always became a nervous wreck singing in public. I knew it was something I loved and was good at, I just needed a push to get started."

At first, Scorgia kept her talent a secret from her friends at Stony Brook. She was quiet, trying her best to blend into her surroundings.

Courtney Blankenship, 21, a friend of Scorgia, first heard Scorgia sing at dance practice. Blankenship was the one who suggested Scorgia try out for SB Idol in 2008.



KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

"I remember thinking that a talent like hers, shouldn't go to waste," Blankenship said.

Scorgia, however, didn't think she had the confidence to do it.

"I thought she was crazy," Scorgia said. "There was no way I was getting up and singing in front of a live audience alone."

Scorgia's dream is to sing professionally and take care of marine mammals as a side job.

Recently, Scorgia auditioned for a spot on Glee, a hit

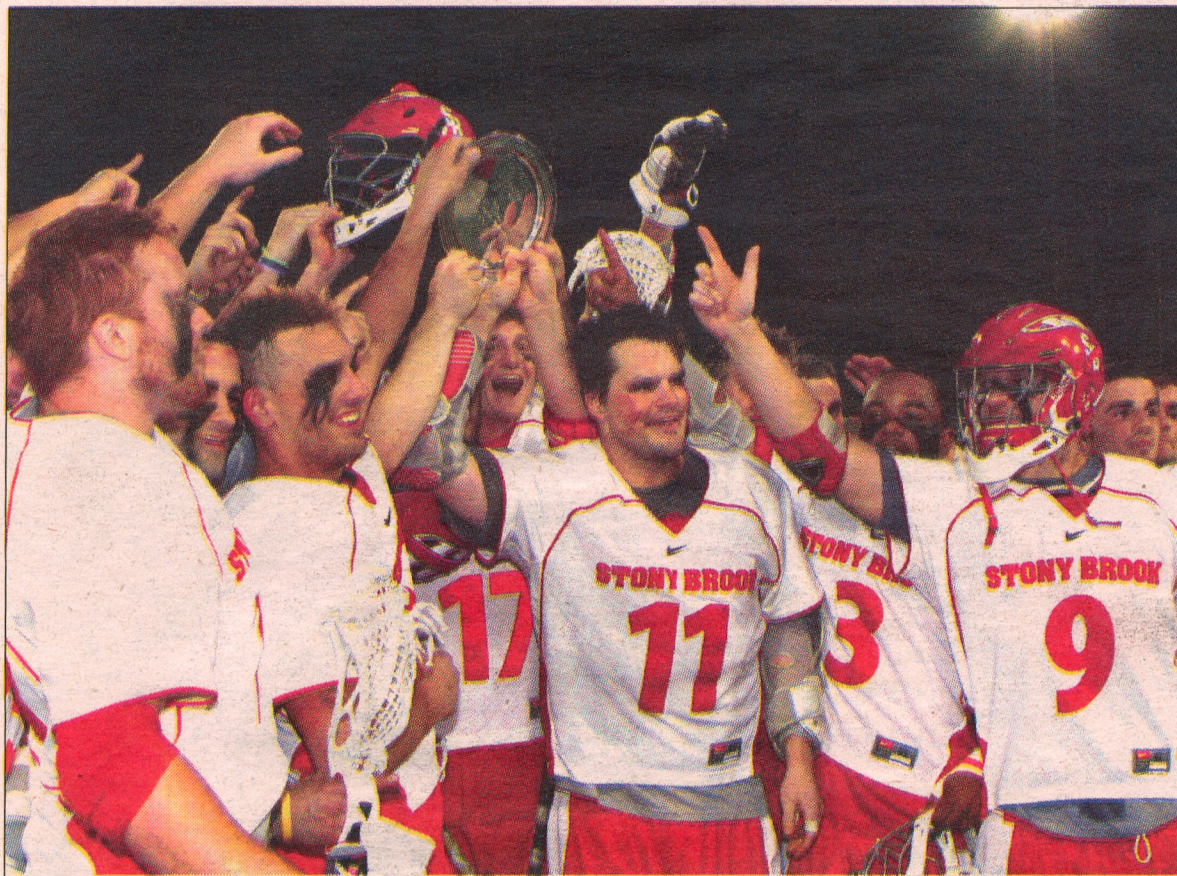
television show on Fox. Whether hired or not Scorgia is determined to make it as a singer.

"Singing is something I want to have a part of me for the rest of my life," she said. "Becoming a professional singer means the world to me. I'm not stopping at Glee. I have plans to audition for Broadway and also for a spot as the voice of one of Disney's musical [animation] movies."

Whatever stage Scorgia lands in the future, she will always remember the people who believed in her and her singing.

SPORTS

Men's LAX Beats Vermont, Wins AEC Title



The Seawolves celebrate after clinching the America East title.

KENNETH HO / THE STATESMAN

By SAM KILB
Assistant Sports Editor

Stony Brook University's #8/8 men's lacrosse team finished a perfect conference season by trouncing the Vermont Catamounts 16-10 at LaValle Stadium Saturday night, winning the program's first ever America East regular season title.

The Seawolves (10-3) finished conference play at a perfect 5-0, capping a six-game winning streak by clinching the regular season crown and homefield advantage throughout the playoffs.

Senior Tom Compitello scored once and added a career-high five assists. Junior Kevin Crowley continued his outstanding play at home with a five-goal performance, matching a career-high.

Senior goalkeeper Charlie Paar had 10 saves for the Seawolves in 52 minutes of work.

The Catamounts (3-12, 2-3 AEC) dropped their third straight, but continue to the America East playoffs thanks to Albany defeating Binghamton.

If there's one thing you can't do against the explosive Stony Brook offense, it's leave the defense on the bus.

But Vermont may as well have done just that, as the Seawolves jumped out to a 6-0 lead over the first quarter, adding a seventh 50 seconds into the second quarter courtesy of Crowley.

When Vermont finally got on the board at the 11:21 mark of the second quarter, the Seawolves hadn't been scored upon for 84:50. The Seawolves blanked Albany, 15-0, last weekend, and hadn't been scored on since Andy Cook of Binghamton scored with 6:31 left in the Seawolves' 17-16 victory. In that time,

the Seawolves had netted 25 goals.

Stony Brook scored just once more before halftime, as sophomore Kyle Belton score his 18th of the season.

But it was Vermont that enjoyed the majority of the possession, carefully measuring each shot with the understanding that a miss would unleash some of the nation's top scorers on the other end.

The Catamounts slowly carved Stony Brook's lead to four goals with 0:01 left on the clock and the teams headed into the locker rooms with the score at 8-4 in favor of the hosts.

Vermont scored first out of the break, but the Seawolves turned up the offensive heat once again, roasting the Catamounts for seven unanswered goals to take a commanding 15-5 lead.

It took Vermont another 15 minutes to find the scoreboard, finally scoring at the 11:25 mark of the fourth quarter.

But it was too late for any sort of comeback, as the Seawolves expertly handled possession in the final ten minutes.

Despite adding just one more goal, Stony Brook was able to dictate play, running circles around the Vermont goal and zipping the ball across LaValle Stadium's turf surface to hold on for the 16-10 championship-clinching victory.

Nine different players scored for the Seawolves on the evening, including Belton, junior Timmy Trenkle and sophomore Robbie Campbell who had two each.

A Binghamton loss on Saturday sets up a rematch at LaValle Stadium on Wednesday night as the fourth-seeded Catamounts will return to take on the top-seed Seawolves in the semifinals of the America East Championship Tournament.

The Athletic Department's MVP



goseawolves.org

Courtney Sanfelippo

By DORIC SAM
Staff Writer

She has been called the mother of over 400 students. The walls on her office are covered with tests and essays, similar to the way parents hang tests on the refrigerator when their child gets a good grade.

She has what might be the most important job in Stony Brook University's Athletics Department, and the majority of the student body does not know her name.

As the Assistant Athletic Director for Student-

Athlete Development, Courtney Sanfelippo oversees the academic careers and personal development of Stony Brook's 400-plus student-athletes. She provides student-athletes, coaches and athletics administration with detailed academic progress reports and also assisted in the development of a comprehensive program to evaluate continuing eligibility.

Sanfelippo earned her master's degree in secondary education, summa cum laude, from Seton Hall University in 2002.

"I'm a teacher at heart," she said. "I love the opportunity to see students grow, and that's where my passion from my job comes from."

That passion is what caught the attention of her mentor Robin Cunningham, who hired Sanfelippo as a graduate assistant in Academic Support Services for Student-Athletes while she was completing her master's degree.

"She was, even then,

brilliant and caring," Cunningham wrote in an email. "She was a master teacher and incredibly organized. She remains reliable, consistent, hard working, and passionate about helping people."

Sanfelippo refers to Cunningham as "the guru of academic advising in athletics" and said she models Stony Brook's student-athlete development program after the program Cunningham began at Seton Hall in 1980.

Since she was hired as an academic advisor in 2003, Sanfelippo has worked closely with Athletics Director Jim Fiore to help improve the program that had one of the lowest overall grade point averages in the America East Conference. Under their leadership, the grade point average of America East Seawolf student-athletes has risen from 2.86 to 3.05.

"She's the reason for the turnaround," Fiore said of Sanfelippo. "I give her full credit. She is our most valued employee."

There has also been a

turnaround on the field, as Stony Brook's teams have experienced a lot of success this year. This past fall the football and men's soccer teams won conference championships, and last month the men's basketball team won the conference regular season title and played a postseason game for the first time in program history. Despite the success of the student-athletes, Sanfelippo works to make sure their academics do not get overshadowed by their athletics.

"My goal is to have academics not take a back seat, and I've set that as the mission of the department," she said. "But it is a challenge to keep academics on the front-burner when they're missing so much school because of championships."

Despite the challenge, the work Sanfelippo has done has produced outstanding results: in February it was reported that a school-record 57 students were named to the America East Fall Academic Honor Roll.

See MVP on 2

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