

*The* **Stony  
Brook**

# PRESS

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## Budget Bonus

*In the age of Reaganomics,  
Stony Brook comes up a winner*



## Radar Love?

*University researchers charge  
WUSB with radio interference  
in their experimentation*



## 'I'm Not Shaft'

*Stony Brook's new VPSA  
outlines the future of  
Student life and the  
university*

## Accelerated Education

*The 13 week semester is  
questioned for both its  
cost effectiveness and  
academic credibility.*

## Surviving Stony Brook

*A semi-comprehensive  
guide from free food to  
cheap thrills is offered  
to indigent students*

# The Fourth Estate: Editorial Communication

State Higher education is quickly becoming superior solely in cost, not quality.

Once again the new year discovers a continuing dilemma which typifies a major problem inherent at Stony Brook. Communication.

Our current 13 week semester schedule denies students not only the right to obtain a competent education, but, prevents them from fully realizing their potential in a university environment. Though many administrators claim they encourage extracurricular activities, the establishment of a shorter, and consequently pressured, academic scenario, prevents students from participating in any meaningful way. Out of "fear of failing," priority must be given to course work over social, political and true educational activity. And for an accelerated academic atmosphere which discourages "out of classroom" activities, students will be paying \$100 more this year.

When the initial decision to cut two weeks from the academic calendar was made in 1979, the difficulties students would encounter in meeting university and academic deadlines were not considered. It was derived under other considerations.

On September 12, 1979, then Academic Vice President Sidney Gelber created the Ad Hoc Calendar Committee, in response to vast disapproval of past calendars. Immediately, the Committee was caught between State Educational guidelines, which mandate necessary clock hours per credit, and SUNY Central guidelines, which require that classes be terminated before Christmas and prevent classes on religious holidays. Other pressures were also felt: student summer employment generally ended before Labor Day; off-campus housing was unavailable until after the holiday; and faculty conventions traditionally fall in the latter summer months.

There seemed to be little alternative: either classes begin prior to Labor Day, permitting a 15 week semester, or begin afterwards, requiring that course-work be completed within 13 weeks. The Committee chose the latter for a two-year experiment.

With the semester accelerated, class periods were extended from 50 and 75 minutes to 60 and 90 minutes. But this cut the overall class to 2,250 minutes, the bare minimum established by the already meek State Educational Guidelines. The original 15 week semester had offered students 2,400 minutes class exposure time.

It is interesting to note that although student needs were supposedly addressed, only one student represented the undergraduate constituency of 11,250, and only one student represented the graduate populace of 4,700 during the Committee's proceedings. According to a memorandum from Gelber to Acting University President Richard P. Schmidt, the only other student input was made editorially by Statesman.

In a November 30, 1979 editorial, the paper asserted, the calendar's benefits are obvious. By shortening the semester, costs will be lowered. An additional week for winter recess will mean lower fuel costs, for instance. Also, individuals who have summer jobs will be able to work until Labor Day.... Let's hope the SUSB Senate acts wisely and approves the change."

Yet, just seven weeks prior to advocating the 13 week semester, Statesmen was taken over by representatives of many campus student groups who felt so strongly that the true tenor of student thought was not reflected in Statesmen they were compelled to physically occupy the publication's offices and submit the truth. To conclude that Statesmen's viewpoint on the calendar in 1979 was representative of

the students' would be ludicrous. And it is.

A group of learned faculty and administrative members who because of their positions must make policy decisions affecting sensitive and crucial educational areas, should consider more carefully student sentiment prior to concluding their proceedings. A referendum run last semester indicates undeniably that students are dissatisfied with a hasty education; 659 students voted in favor of the 15 week semester, as opposed to only 372 for the shorter term. Surveys of public opinion after legislation, however, serve only a limited and token function. If the Calendar Committee was truly interested in obtaining student input, why didn't they run the referendum rather than Polity? Is it possible this University discourages student involvement in decisions which affect us directly?

Until lines of sincere communication are opened, and left open, Stony Brook is destined to experience and re-experience all which has plagued it in the past. Without equal student representation in the upcoming decision making years, this University will never realize the goals the new administration has set. The solution to fragmentation and incohesiveness within this institution is better communication.

Visions of grandeur, and the policies instituted to make clear those visions, are often two distinct entities. One sounds good in speculation, the other unpopular and hypocritical in practice. When an administrator debases students by saying to them, "You do not determine...the rules," as did University President John Toll, in 1977, or when committees decide for students what is best for them, the entire educational experience is placed in jeopardy. Without communication, without cooperation, we are left only with stagnation.

## The People's Press

With this issue, the Press begins its third year of publication. To the wizened, grizzled veterans of this paper's genesis and to the excited new collaborators in its endurance, this issue reflects a milestone: the realization of an idea, the personification of an ideal and the establishment of a tradition.

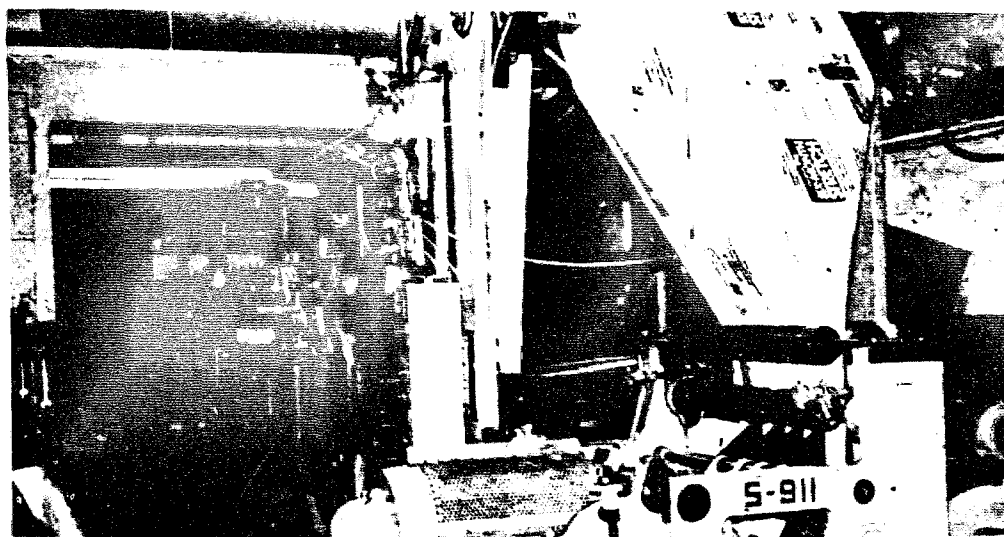
The idea: to bring to the campus a balanced, thorough accounting of the news, investigative reports, and somewhat incisive analysis of the day's and the era's significant concerns.

The ideal: to be honest with ourselves in recruitment and policy-making, and honest with our readers in the range of topics covered and

the sweep of opinion given voice.

The tradition: to lay the foundation for a new force in the University community, one which would provide a balance in the campus information flow and keep the other guys honest; set an example for other and future underdogs in the bureaucracy; continue and thrive forever or until Stony Brook and the grand experiment cease.

It is the hope of each Press editor and staff-member that these ideas and ideals are understood, if not embraced, by their readers. If so, then the tradition is on the path to permanence, and 1981-82 looks like a good year.



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# Budget Bonus

*In the age of Reaganomics, Stony Brook Survives*

Eric Brand,

Ronald Reagan and his pet piranha, David Stockman, go swinging their budget-cutting ax through the night, felling both mighty social programs and tiny special interest projects. But there is one institution that goes whistling along in the light of day, relatively unscathed by the merciless attack. One institution which may even profit from the onslaught.

Stony Brook.

That's right. It seems that for the most part the worst thing to happen to old SUNY at SB will be slowing in its rate of growth. Not only that, but enrollment may swell here due to students hit by cuts in financial aid seeking cheaper education. And you thought newspapers printed only bad news.

Cuts in federal funding to education fall, obviously, in the two main areas in which Washington is involved: research and financial aid. The Economic Development Program is scheduled for total demise, and the Endowments for the Humanities and the Arts, the social science research program of the National Science Foundation and the applied research areas of NASA are being cut about 40 to 50 percent, to name a number of major areas of research slashing.

The Pell Grant, (also known as Basic Educational Opportunity Grant or BEOG), is being pared back, both in its allocation from Congress and in the award to the student. The Guaranteed Student Loan (GSL) will be restricted to students in "financial need," and then only at the current market interest rate. All student Social Security benefits will be phased out over the next four years. This disastrous predicament for the student will be explored next week. Meantime, what disastrous results await Stony Brook in the wake of the research cuts?

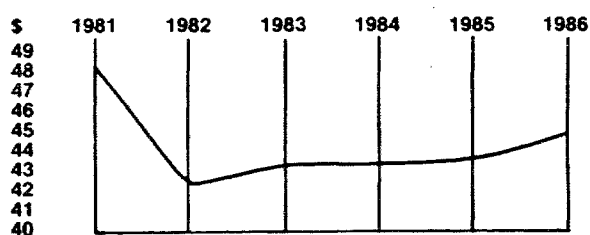
None.

"I can't think of a single program that's going to be crippled," said Associate Provost for Research Bob Schneider. In fact, he said, Stony Brook is "the only SUNY center with a substantial rate of growth." This "success" story is due to Stony Brook's relatively short existence and concurrent rapid—indeed, explosive—growth.

According to Schneider, the "increase in externally-funded research-related activities" for this year over last was 25 percent. The increase, claimed Schneider, is unrelated to the Health Sciences on campus, but more impressively comes on the heels of a modest 11 percent increase of externally-funded research the year previous.

Dr. John W. Kalas, Director of Research Development at SUNY's Research Foundation, painted the big picture in his article, "The Reagan Budget," printed in *Chronica*, the Research Foundation's bi-monthly magazine: "Those investigators that can survive 1982 and move into 1983 will be all right. After that, a gradual but steady recovery will follow." He illustrates this with the following chart:

FEDERAL TOTALS FOR PROGRAMS AFFECTING SUNY  
(in billions)



Now, overall, Kalas reports that "SUNY has experienced a relatively steady growth rate of 10 percent per year over the past few years, "but that this may be endangered by the federal budget cuts. In its relations with Stony Brook, however, Schneider said that "as bad as the state has been, it has been generous with Stony Brook." Indeed, while footing about 70 percent of Stony Brook's budget, SUNY increased its allocation by 25 percent in 1980. With the following year, federal funding jumped 25 percent, from 13 percent of the SB budget to 15 percent.

The interesting (finally) part of this is that all this success is—though not quite a step backward—not a step forward. "The cuts have a particular impact on us," explained Schneider, because they cramp areas that were just taking off." In other words, the growth has stalled,



and we will settle into a "status quo."

Kalas wrote in "Chronica" that he felt funding would continue its growth after the initial cuts. But, as Schneider pointed out, the whole ordeal will "sharpen the competition for dollars. The highest quality proposals will still find funding." The feeling at Stony Brook is that most of the programs are of high quality and should continue. Additionally, there is strong support for the steady, and even driving growth that has marked the University in the past.

One question which has some members of the campus community worried is will the narrowed field and cutthroat competition force some research groups to turn to agencies they otherwise would not deal with—i.e., the Department of Defense (DOD)? Schneider said that while "There's no evidence that DOD is picking up the programs cut from other agencies...one would not be surprised to see an increase in the proportion" of DOD-funded research on campus. Schneider added that an increase should not cause alarm as "The proportion that Stony Brook gets from DOD...is way below what one would expect a major research institution to get."

In another strange twist to Reaganomics, the cut in financial aid may ultimately benefit SUNY, and in turn,

Stony Brook. If a poster-flyer from the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) is to be believed, 50,000 students in New York State will not return to college this year, as a result of the new "national priorities." NYPIRG goes on to warn that an equal amount would have to change schools. It stands to reason the switch would be to an institution with a lower tuition—usually a state school. Speaking from Albany, Kalas guessed that this would be the case. He added, though, that "the one thing we are sensitive to in SUNY is calling too much attention to it." Kalas indicated that the boon for SUNY did not justify the overall cuts, and that the administration's rhetoric was just that: "I don't believe a bit of that crap," he said.

In Stony Brook, Assistant Vice President for Finance and Business Dick Brown, who is also Controller of the University, cautioned against hasty conclusions. There may be more students, but there may also be less money. "Will the effects balance out?" he asked. Only time will tell.

(Figures for Stony Brook are from the official "Annual Financial Report," except figures for 1981, which are the Press' own projections.)



# Interview

by Scott Higham and Eric Brand

...Dr. Fredrick R. Preston, Stony Brook's new Vice President for Student Affairs, has an impressive track record.

...Stony Brook does not.

...After a three month, nationwide search, Dr. Preston, who was Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at University of Massachusetts' Amherst Campus, was chosen from nearly 300 candidates to succeed Dr. Elizabeth Wadsworth, who was pressured from her post last year. Effective August 1, Dr. Preston took over the crucial and oftentimes controversial job of Vice President for Student Affairs.

...Upon receiving a doctorate degree in Curriculum Development and Humanistic and Urban Education in 1971 from the University of Massachusetts, he immediately became an Associate Professor at the Amherst campus.

...From 1972 to 1976, Dr. Preston was Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and, between 1972 and 1973, he also served as Acting Director of the Student Development Center, which is Amherst's Counseling and Career Placement Service Office.

...In 1976, Dr. Preston took a one year leave of absence to become the University's Acting Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. He was also elected, in 1976, to a continuing position as Member Consultant of the N.T.L. Institute for Applied Behavioral Sciences—one of the industry's leading management consulting firms.

...At Stony Brook, Dr. Preston will be responsible for student services and activities on campus, housing, admissions, financial aid, orientation, records and registration, the Stony Brook University counseling services, career development, special student programs and international student affairs.

...Dr. Preston will be kept extremely busy.

...Throughout Stony Brook's history, a lack of communication and cohesiveness plagued educational expansion. Stony Brook experienced years of violent protests, delayed and incredibly thoughtless construction, departmental fragmentation and administrative apathy. University policy makers had grander visions of what Stony Brook should represent. Students were excluded from that representation.

...Though Dr. Preston stated he "didn't come to Stony Brook to solve all its problems," he most certainly has ideas on how to effect change in student life at Stony Brook, from bars in dorms and an unpopular meal plan, to tuition increases and the role of student government.

...The Press interviewed Dr. Preston this week at both his home and office. The Student Affairs suite in the Administration building already bears his mark—as he is quick to point out—more chairs, some risqué, cozy signs. At his new home, where he lives with his daughter — Mrs. Preston's in Massachusetts pursuing a new career in engineering—Preston ironed shirts and spoke comfortably on several issues. Following are excerpts from those conversations:

**Preston:** I know I want maximum input, and I'll be able to operationalize. I know it's one thing to say it, and another to be honest and be able to make it. But there's a caveat to that: I'm not willing to be dishonest, and I don't think Jack Marburger is. We don't live in a world, unfortunately, where everybody's wants and desires are totally up to your decision. There are a lot of things in this world, where if it were totally my decision to make, as a citizen and hopefully a responsible one, that sometimes no matter what I feel about it, the decision is made for me. Someone had that responsibility whether I like it or not. President Marburger was saying, essentially, this is an issue that no matter what your feeling is about it, I feel strongly enough and I've got to take the responsibility for it—you see, something happens to a student out there as a result of that bar, Marburger's the one whose going to have to answer to it. You understand what I'm

honest. There are some areas—but they're limited—that have to deal with health and safety things....Now let me add another caveat to that: I try not to be inflexible as much as I can about anything. I've really got to feel super strong about something, but I take the consequences. I'm gonna take the consequences. I FIGURE, "Hey, if the bottom line is I feel this way very strongly, and it's not 'cause of anything it's gonna do for Fred.... If people want to call me paternalistic, or whatever, and that's what they want to dub it, if that means folks don't want me around after that: can it...."

**Press:** The job description of VPSA in the Policy and Procedures Manual is the only one that lists "she-her" rather than "he-him." That's because Liz Wadsworth was the only woman and-or minority at cabinet rank. When she was pressured out of her job, many observers declared that the next person to hold the position would have to be either a woman or a minority. How does that affect you? Does it bother you that some say you may have been picked just because you're a minority?

**Preston:** No, I don't think that that had to do with my being hired. And that might be a concern given a different style on the part of President Marburger. But it's fairly obvious that he is a person who knows very specifically what he's looking for in terms of talent and skills, and really quite aggressively goes after someone who he thinks is talented. I might add that coming here is as much a consequence of my choosing the institution as of the institution choosing me...In the case of Jack Marburger, his selections—whether minority or non-minority—are honest assessments of what he feels the institution needs. On the other hand, I think it's fortunate for the institution that I am a minority because there are a range of assets that I bring that are a consequence of my experience as a black person that are intangible. You can't easily capture them on a job description or resume...But anybody who gets hired for any job can have people thinking that it's due to something other than his qualifications. If a white man is hired, they could say it's 'cause of the "old buddy system."

# I'm Not Shaft

tution, and a state institution, we've always got to ask the question, at some point proximity becomes more than accessibility. It becomes influential in terms of actually influencing students to consume more alcohol: students coming for the first time to college, and peer pressure, and being close to locations [of bars] can develop alcoholics. Now, I really fear that—not for myself, but for those students. Alcoholism kind of sneaks up on you, and I've been on a campus where that was a major problem.... I've seen, even where it was a great walking distance, depending on what time the bar opened it influenced the students' drinking. We had another campus where the bars opened early in the morning, and they didn't go to class. And not that the students went there with that intent. You know, you sit there, and after a while you start feeling mellow, and you say you were gonna cut class anyway, especially if it was a boring class: Hell, why don't I sit this one out? I say to myself: a higher education institution purports to want to have a major reputation—in academics and what-not—already has not the best reputation in its own state with regards to students and what takes place on the campus.

**Press:** What kind of reputation was it that you encountered?

**Preston:** I think an unjustified one. Essentially, that students are wild—do bizarre things, and... [At this point, Angela Towle, Preston's charming and efficient secretary, interrupted to say that politically insecure Mitch Gerstel, Assistant Executive VP, had some "pictures" and had to speak to Preston. It sounded like blackmail, but turned out to be snapshots the new VPSA had taken of flood damages in Stage XVI.] Wild. Just, almost like animal behavior—and I come from a campus that happens also to have a similar reputation. But in the system here, that's how other people look at it, within the SUNY system. And that's not uncommon for state institutions. Outside the state, the reputation is very good, because the reputation is not focused on what happens in the dorms and what-not; it's focused on the academic reputation.

**Press (Brand):** The reputation is funny, 'cause this is one of the dullest campuses—everyone with their noses in books. That's my impression. I think the drug busts in the 60s created the reputation, and that's kind of hung on.

**Preston:** Yes, but—

**Press (Higham):** There's still a lot of partying going on on this campus.

**Preston:** Really? I—

**Press (Brand):** But it's mostly pot and quaaludes.

**Preston:** Well, that's another thing: this campus is behind the times in terms of drugs. We're where everybody else was three years ago. That affected the search [for the new VPSA], I'm sure. "I ain't goin' there, you kiddin' me?" These are really good [student affairs] directors, who love working with students and are into educational programming, and if the major issue on that campus is whether we're going to have a bar in the dorm or not, it's not very encouraging for the kind of people that everybody says they want to come here. I had the same reaction: "I'M GONNA BE SPENDING ALL MY TIME DEBATING whether we have a bar in the dorm or not? Hell, I can go to Philadelphia—in the city—and get the same thing." And I don't think it does justice to the students here. And I don't think having a bar that close fulfills any desperate need. Having it closer, I can't think of any particular growth goals it fulfills so desperately that quite frankly wouldn't be filled a hell of a lot better by having

*'Drug trafficking is a crime,*

*and I don't think it can be tolerated in the dorms.'*

talking about in terms of how the state sees it? Believe me, they'll say all sorts of things about the student, but quite frankly they're not going to come and see the student about it. If you're going to pay me all these bucks, quite frankly there are some decisions that I have to make. Now hopefully, we're talking about a very narrow range of decisions, and hopefully we're talking about health and welfare kind of things. Now, it would be easy for me to say, "I'm taking your decision no matter how I feel, and whether it's my responsibility or not." And that's just the easy way out. I've heard people say that in interviews. Uh uh. I'm going to be

**Press:** The bars in the dormitories have been a cause of controversy on the campus, directly involving the Office of Student Affairs. Could you summarize your view on dormitory bars, Stony Brook's in particular?

**Preston:** I'm not for the bars. I think the bars are in the dorms at this point primarily because of a lacking on campus, and not necessarily out of a huge desire to have them. The campus lacks a facility where one can have some exciting and diverse night recreational and social kind of thing.... As an educational insti-

# New VPSA Dr. Preston

## Talks of Life, RAs

### Stony Brook and Sex



a real quality recreational and social institution....It's something that I'm trying to develop. I'm not positive of the vehicle yet. But I'm thinking of having a task force that will take that question along with the issue of the student Union. Because they're directly related. Conceptually, what are we talking about?... How's it want to serve people? Given the concept first, then you can decide what the heck goes in each facility.... It's all new to me, but people here seem to discuss something a little bit—they take just a small piece of it—and they arrive at a conclusion very quickly, and then they start arguing over whose going to pay for it; no one wants to pay for it, so it never gets done!

**Preston:** There's no question the RAs are there to watch out for the interests of students. There's no confusion, at least in my mind, about that. I think however, sometimes when you're looking out for the interests of someone else they don't always agree with how you do it, and they don't want you to do it...Theirs is a particularly difficult job because of the context that they have to work in. At times, it's extremely well appreciated, and at times, it's thankless...

**Press:** Recently, the RA program has been questioned because of their dual role as counsellor to students and employees for the University. Where do you draw the line?

**Press:** Drugs in the dorms: It's illegal but it's accepted. What are RA's to do?

**Preston:** I make some distinctions, if you're talking about the RA's—I don't see the RA's as narcs or cops...However, if we're talking about a situation where students are smoking pot or whatever and it looks like it comes to their detriment especially then I hope the staff in the dorms will either provide some sort of counselling and advising in that area themselves or refer people to the appropriate sources—I think that's an educational process. That's different, though, than trafficking in drugs. I personally don't have any sympathy for trafficking at all, having seen what some of the consequences of serious drug addiction are. It's a crime, which I think is a serious one, and I don't think it can be tolerated in dorms. I think our staff, be they RAs, MAs or RHDs, have as much of a civic and social responsibility for what goes on around them as Joe Citizen would have out in the community, and having the shelter of a college campus doesn't all of a sudden excuse you from actualizing that particular form of your humanity. In those situations where they see trafficking I think it is their responsibility to at least inform the appropriate authorities that it is taking place.

**Press:** If there was another raid where Suffolk County felt there are a lot of drugs and something had to be done because it was getting out of hand, and they came to you, since you do have jurisdiction over the dorms, how would you handle it?

**Preston:** You're talking about an area now that would primarily involve campus security. However, if I found out that something was going to be done that I thought was wrong, I would be just as vocal and active about it as I am about anything else. I don't know—if something like that is going on on campus. I don't think they can be kept off campus, but I think that's why you want an effective Public Safety department, especially because you want to make sure that if something like that has to come on campus it's done in a manner that's within reason. The law enforcement agencies have not always conducted themselves properly in that regard...we have to be very sure that things are not done in a way that violates the rights of the students involved...

**Press:** As Dr. Marburger has stated, food is one topic which underlies many problems at Stony Brook. It seems that Lackmann food service, which seems to do well at some places, but not Stony Brook--

**Preston:** I would challenge you not to guess at that. It may be very true, but--

**Press:** Well, there's only so much you have to work with. Everything's institutionalized.

**Preston:** But I'm saying--and hopefully this is not the case--the institution may be contributing as much to the problem as Lackmann is. It's always too convenient when someone says it's somebody else's fault--and just their fault--I'm always suspicious. That is rarely the case. Now, I'm new here; I don't know. I know that as a concept FSA [the Faculty-Student Association], generally speaking, I like it; I think it's great. It's nice when you can really get the different facets of the community involved in that way, and give the students a fantastic vantage point from which to get involved, to run things--I think that's great. But that puts the burden of responsibility on whoever's involved to make the damn thing work. I can't accept any more excuses from them than they would accept from the administration. When I hear it's Albany's fault: I don't want to hear that. So when they say it's Lackmann's fault: I don't want to hear that either. If FSA's the one responsible, then make it work. That's the bottom line. You gotta serve students. Dammit, make it work. Whatever you have to do, make it work...

You can learn a lot about agendas [from FSA]. You got so many other agendas, you're trying to meet 19 agendas, then the institution and FSA has to admit to themselves: our number one agenda is not really making it that; our number one agenda is these 15 things. And some of them compete. You see, there's a lot of pressure on them to make money, to show that they can operate [inaudible]. The only pressure I put on them is if we can get a satisfied student body. Others will put the pressure on them for money. I don't worry about that.... This is the first establishment

(Continued on page 15)

# The Neutron Bomb; A Deadly Decision

by Richard Reeve & Mitchel Cohen

We condemn the recent decision to produce neutron bombs as a dangerous and aggressive step by the Reagan administration in its unprecedented military build-up and moves toward war.

"The decision to produce and stockpile the neutron bomb is an electrifyingly dangerous development for the people of this country and the world. It was made despite the growing opposition of the American people here and of Washington's NATO allies. These 'kill-people, preserve-property' weapons will be added to a doomsday arsenal of 40,000 warheads, already capable of destroying all life on this planet many times over. The statements from Washington about the N-Bomb preserving the peace through deterrence must be viewed with alarm. This is a blatantly aggressive, not defensive, act and yet another perilous step which brings us closer to war," stated Dr. Michio Kaku, Professor of Nuclear Physics at the City College of New York and Director of the Institute for Safe Technology.

## WHAT IS THE NEUTRON BOMB?

The Neutron Bomb is a hydrogen bomb designed so that radioactive fall-out and the initial blast are minimized relative to the burst of neutron radiation released by the explosion. A "small" tactical battle-field N-Bomb, delivered by artillery or short-range rocket would devastate an area a few hundred yards in radius with its blast, and all life within approximately two miles would be destroyed by neutron radiation. Life further away would suffer permanent genetic damage resulting in cancer and generations of mutations.

The N-Bomb is lusted after on Wall Street and in corporate boardrooms across America where people are considered easily expendable, and where the accumulation of billions of dollars in private profits (at the public expense) is the sole aim. Since the N-Bomb is designed to kill people but to leave property intact (relative to other nuclear weapons), it is the ideal Bankers' Bomb! We can easily see the real priorities of the government. While Vietnam veterans have to struggle to obtain treatment for war injuries and exposure to Agent Orange, the U.S. government is still paying \$38 million every year -- money which could easily be

used to begin healing the wounds of Viet vets and providing social services -- to General Motors and to Ford for the U.S. Air Force's bombing of GM and Ford plants in Germany during World War 2, where both GM and Ford were making tanks and other arms for the Nazis! (See Red Balloon #1, Fall 1979, for more details).

## WHAT IS IT FOR?

The government's recent decision to assemble the Neutron Bomb was a major step in the build-up towards war. For the first time, the U.S. government is openly planning to use nuclear weapons against conventional forces. President Carter had ordered the production of the Neutron Bomb components in 1977, but was stopped from assembling them due to massive protests in Europe and in the U.S. The Reagan Administration, led in this instance by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger, has now decided to assemble the already-manufactured components in Amarillo Texas. The Neutron Bomb will soon be ready to spray its deadly neutrons and make the world safe for democracy, even if it means irradiating all the would-be voters.

NATO has decided how to "defend" us. For years it has been practicing how to fight on an "integrated battlefield" -- combining chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons with conventional. COINTELPRO revelations, obtained under the Freedom of Information Act (which Reagan is now trying to repeal), revealed extensive testing of chemical and biological weapons on civilian populations within the United States, particularly on rush-hour riders of the New York City and other metropolitan subway systems in 1964 and 1965. Some of these 'researches' will now be put to use in the European, African, Latin American, and Asian "theatres" and, when perfected further, may be used in urban areas within the U.S. to help put-down "food riots" and other domestic insurrections.

The Neutron Bomb remains the current favorite of the generals. The current justification for it is that it can be used against tanks with extreme effectiveness, and the tanks, with their occupants dead, can then be captured and used by the U.S. But this is just the cover story to manipulate public opinion.

The Neutron Bomb is clearly more suited as an offensive, not a defensive, weapon. As mentioned earlier, it destroys everything

living for many miles around. It lowers the threshold for nuclear war by introducing nuclear weapons into a previously conventional conflict. In all probability it would be the first step in a ladder of escalation leading to nuclear holocaust. Even if there was no nuclear escalation, use of the neutron bomb condemns thousands of survivors to life ridden with cancer and generations of mutations. As a U.S. General recently said: "Towns in West Germany are only a few megatons apart."

## WHAT CAN WE DO?

For starters, join with the Peoples' Anti-War Mobilization and the Red Balloon Collective in its marches against the neutron bomb and the war build-up every Saturday. We meet at 2pm at Meat Farms in Port Jefferson Station (near the Post Office) and march through Port Jeff, distributing thousands of leaflets, and letting people see and hear the opposition to the Reagan Program. We are also preparing a list of all corporations involved in the manufacture of the Neutron Bomb. We will begin activities of various kinds at these monsters, with the intent being the prevention of business as usual. We are also planning many marches and protests designed to raise public awareness of the incredible military build-up taking place at the expense of socially necessary programs -- food stamps, meaningful jobs, housing, mass transit, solar energy, education, and other things that we need to survive, and to improve the quality of our lives. We are also planning an enormous "All Peoples' Congress" to be held Oct. 16-18 in Detroit. Buses will be available from Stony Brook. To be effective, to draw up a peoples' platform, and to plan an offensive that will overturn the Reagan program of cutbacks, racism, war and sexism, we must include everyone affected by the cuts: national organizations, students, neighborhood associations, local daycare centers, trade unions, employed and unemployed; elderly and disabled; women and men; gay and straight; Black and White; Latin, Asian, and American Indian. Everyone who has a gripe about what is happening to them in this country, our country! Contact us now!!! Get involved.

(Richard Reeve is a Graduate Student in Physics and is an organizer for the Peoples' Anti-War Mobilization and the All-Peoples' Congress. Mitchel Cohen is a member of the Red Balloon Collective.)

## Letters

### Go Ronnie, Go

To the Editor:

About an hour after the final vote on the Reagan budget and "tax-cut-for-the-rich program," Reagan and his staff celebrated their victory with champagne and song. House Speaker Tip O'Neill (D., Mass.) called to say, "No hard feelings, old pal..." So this is the leader of the opposition?

What about you? Do you have hard feelings because the Social Security Minimum Benefit is to be scrapped in March 1982? Maybe it bothers you that one million people will lose all food stamp benefits, or that aid to families with dependent children (AFDC) has been cut by \$1.6 billion; or that striking workers will be ineligible for food stamps or AFDC even if they had been receiving it while on the job; or that the budget for school lunches and other child nutrition programs has been cut by 35 percent, public education by 20 percent, and legal aid for the poor is headed for the scrap heap, or that military marching bands will be receiving more money (\$89 million) than the entire National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities! In this time of high unemployment, maybe it bothers you that all \$3.8 billion worth of public service CETA jobs have been eliminated. Even

if you have a job, it's going to cost you more to get to work since \$1.3 billion has been cut from mass-transit funds.

But of course not all parts of the budget have been cut. The military will get \$326 billion in additional funds over the next two years. The \$1.6 billion cut from food stamps and \$1.5 billion cut from child nutrition will provide \$3.1 billion worth of nuclear weapons and the \$3.8 billion cut in CETA jobs will build an extra \$3.7 billion worth of ships for the navy. In fact, Reagan proposes to double military spending--to \$343 billion by 1986.

Maybe we should look on the bright side. After all, there will be massive across-the-board tax cuts in the coming years. Reagan emphasizes that his tax cut program is fair because everyone will get the same 10 percent income tax reduction next year. What he doesn't mention is that the top 20 percent of the taxpayers will get 60 percent of the tax cut and the top 1 percent of the taxpayers will get 11.3 percent of the cut. At the same time, a family of four earning \$11,000 will save \$60 on taxes. That family will also lose its food stamps, which provides \$1 a day for each member of the family, or \$1,460 for a full year. So this

family will suffer a net loss of \$1,400 from the new "fair" budget, while a family making \$100,000 per year will save at least \$1,840 in taxes and the oil companies, with profits of \$30

billion in 1980, will save \$33 billion over the next decade. In short, the Reagan budget is simply a redistribution of wealth from poor and working people to the rich, the corporations and the

military. David Wycoff

(David Wycoff is a Graduate Student in Physics and is a member of the Peoples' Anti-War Mobilization.)

*The Stony Brook Press publishes letters and viewpoints weekly. They should be no longer than 250 and 800 words respectively. Hand written pieces will be burned.*





## From England to Elmhurst

*Violent rioting may not be indigenous to Britain for Long*

by Michael Kornfeld

"The Fire Next Time," which author James Baldwin warned of nearly 20 years ago, now rages in Great Britain. A mean-spirited government, hell-bent on sticking to its failed monetarist course and insensitive to the plight of disadvantaged ethnic minorities and of poor people in general, has prompted the worst civil disturbances Britain has seen in years.

The rioters' actions certainly cannot be condoned, but the frustration and anger which prompted them must be understood. Alienated youth, unable to properly channel their emotions, vent their anger, resentment and frustration against society by rioting.

Unemployment in Britain is fast approaching the three-million mark; that's better than 13% unemployment, 50% among inner-city black youths, with no job prospects in sight. Housing in the depressed inner city areas is horrendously inadequate and rapidly deteriorating. Recreational facilities for young people -- which might prevent them from just 'hanging out' and getting into trouble -- are lacking. Much needed social services and amenities in the blighted urban areas have been cut back. Yet Margaret Thatcher remains convinced that these are not the underlying causes of the violence. Deprivation and discrimination most certainly are contributing factors.

While it is wrong to say, as some extreme leftists do, that the Thatcher Government is intentionally and blatantly racist in character, there can be no question that its reactionary policies hit poor people, particularly minorities, the hardest, with them, in turn, being held up as the scapegoats for all the economic ills facing society.

It is a fact of economic life that during a serious recession, such as we are now experiencing worldwide, these are the people who are, at one and the same time, hardest hit and most held responsible. The rise of the National Front, The British Movement and other racist groups over the past two years are proof of this. As are the calls of 'racist' MPs for repatriation and deportation measures, which even the conservative *Daily Mail* maintains are "feeding longings for a simple solution that cannot be satisfied."

To her credit, Mrs. Thatcher has not heeded these calls; but she has over-reacted.

The Government's threefold response to the violence (establishing and inquiry after April's Brixton riots, increasing the presence of the almost exclusively white police force, and banning public demonstrations) is sadly predictable and alarming.

Although they won't own up to it, the Tory Government knows very well what has led to this situation. Lord Scarman's inquiry into the causes of the violence in Britain, if properly conducted, will simply reveal what some have been saying all along about the economic system: vicious supply-side economics in particular, is to blame. And, should that come out of the inquiry, it will surely be ignored.

Americans might recall that in 1969 the final report of the National Commission On The Causes & Prevention of Violence warned against dependence on police and other control measures. This is precisely the path the British government is presently taking.

While a public inquiry into police/community relations, set up by a coalition of community and trade union groups and the Lambeth Council (London borough which includes Brixton),

found widespread evidence of police intimidation, arbitrary arrests, misuse of laws, harassment and racism -- all contributing to an almost complete breakdown of public trust and respect for the police -- Mrs. Thatcher and her Government have put the police on a pedestal, praising them to the hilt.

While the police, as the supposed maintainers of law and order, should be in suspected and known trouble spots to protect the people, they should assume a low profile, not a heavy-handed approach, knowing that to do otherwise would only heighten tensions and precipitate further violence -- as a rejection of authority, if nothing else.

While community groups seek to improve relations between the police and the public, Tory MPs associated with the extreme right-wing Monday Club and the Tory Action group have called for special paramilitary forces to take the police's place in trouble spots. Tony Marlow MP has demanded tougher tactics "irrespective of the presumed effect on race relations."

The police should deter crime, not provoke it. One would have thought the British Government would have learned something from April's Brixton riots and from 12 years of civil war in Northern Ireland. Evidently, they have not. Then, as now, Home Secretary William Whitelaw imposed a senseless and unjustifiable ban on mass demonstrations in London, an action which in the past has only served to exacerbate the situation. You do not stop rioting by banning marches and public rallies. It's but another example of a reactionary government's attempts to silence its opponents through any means at its disposal, moral or not.

If Mrs. Thatcher truly wants to see an end to the violence which plagues Britain, she should change her economic course, as many within her own party ranks -- the so-called 'Tory Wets' -- have been urging for several months. Of course, Mrs. Thatcher will not do that; she's a resolute and strong-willed woman convinced of the correctness of her approach.

What the British people are crying out for is a new government which puts meeting human needs as its top priority, which realizes that, as our own National Commission On The Causes & Prevention Of Violence reported a dozen years ago: "The way in which we can make the greatest progress towards reducing violence is by taking the actions necessary to improve the conditions of family and community life for all who live in our cities, and especially for the poor concentrated in the ghetto slums."

The civil disturbances now sweeping the UK, the upsurge of trade union activism and recurrent strikes, and Labour's near sweep in the May 7 local elections clearly reveal where the British people's sentiments lie, and that's not with the heartless Thatcher regime. The people are sending a loud and clear message to 10 Downing Street. How long the Thatcher Government will be able to withstand this challenge without calling for new Parliamentary elections remains to be seen.

The riots raging in Britain in the Summer of '81 are strikingly reminiscent of the riots in America during the long hot summers of the turbulent 60's. Americans should pay close attention to what's happening in Britain under Thatcher for it could well portend things to come here under Reagan, a man who shares her economic views. Deprivation and discrimination abound here as well, and supply-side economics knows no continental bounds.

(The writer recently returned from London where he was a research assistant to Labour Member of Parliament Eric Heffer of Liverpool.)

**Iran Company**  
brings \$B?  
to contamination  
Long Island  
Questionable pra  
mar drug expe  
t of the S. Drugs at St.  
The S. Plan  
G. Gordon Li y defends  
his questio. ble past.

Get behind the headlines of  
Stony Brook's investigative and  
feature weekly, The Stony  
Brook Press. Room 042, Old  
Bio. Building,  
8PM. TONIGHT.



# The Stony Brook Survival Manual '81 - '82

This manual is not intended to be complete representative of all campus services. If you have any contributions, please bring them to The Stony Brook Press, Room 020, Old Biology Building or mail to P.O. Box 591, E. Setauket, NY 11733.

## Alternative Education

Unhappy undergraduates have a few courses of action. If staying in school is one of them you might want to check out the Federated Learning Communities or Empire State College.

**Federated Learning Communities:** By combining existing courses and focusing them into one theme, e.g. "World Hunger," "Human Nature," many students have found the ultimate in alternative education. For further info, visit Room 145 Old Physics or call 246-6107. **Empire State College:** This program provides a goal-oriented education which has proved successful for many adult students. Working with faculty members and large independent study programs are the major themes of this alternative. Room 198, Humanities, 751-6910.

## Food Stamps

If you are an independent student living on or off campus and can demonstrate financial eligibility you will receive about \$50 a month in food stamps. No, you cannot buy alcohol or cigarettes with them, but you can buy food products at any authorized store. To start: go to the Financial Aid office and obtain a food stamp application. Complete it and take it to the Social Service Building at 3600 Rte. 112 in Coram. Bring along proof of maintaining your existence, e.g. gas bills, oil bills, rent receipts, etc. Be consistent! For more information, call 348-4294.

## Free Oil

The Fuel Oil Assistance Program is open to any off-campus, independent person who can't afford home heating oil. You do not have to pay anyone back. To apply, bring evidence of income, a list of your resources (as limited as possible), and your last fuel bill to the Department of Social Services in Coram (3600 Rte. 112), at 8:30 am Monday-Friday.

## Freebies

Because we live in an affluent American community, most everything has a price. However money is no obstacle to a truly good time. Rainy Night House and the End of the Bridge feature free entertainment many nights of the week. Also keep an eye out for free concerts, plays and movies in the Union Auditorium, Fine Arts Center and library. Or invite a few friends of both sexes over for a Wesson oil party.

## Switchboards

**Main Campus:** On campus, dial "0"; off campus dial 246-5000  
**Stony Brook Events:** 246-7103  
**Fire, Police and Emergencies:** 246-3333  
**Fire Safety:** If you feel your dorm is a possible fire hazard, call 246-3383  
**Walk Service:** Two students will escort you from 8 pm - 2 am. Call 246-3333  
**Child Abuse Reporting:** 800-342-3720

## Easy Cash

Between \$200 and \$3,600 a year could be yours if you exercise a little determination and a lot of patience. TAP, SEOG, BEOG, AIM, College Work Study, and other programs separately or combined could land you some free cash. To apply, go to the Financial Aid office, Administration Building, Rooms 287-294, and make an appointment with your counselor. If you're dependent on your parents, bring statements of their earnings, i.e. tax forms. If you're an independent student, bring your own statement of earnings. Telephone 246-7010.

## Help On The Way

If there is no other way out and you desperately need food and or a place to stay, there are some places to turn to:  
**Smith Haven Ministries:** 724-6161, can supply food 2-6 pm weekdays and-or a place to stay.  
**Temple Isaiah,** 1404 Stony Brook Road, Stony Brook, 751-8518.  
**Salvation Army.** For clothing and general assistance: Patchogue, 475-9782.

## Employment

**College Work Study Program:** Before taking a job which has nothing to do with your field of study, check with the financial aid office. You may be eligible for a study-related job on campus, depending upon your financial situation. Stop by Rooms 287-294, Administration building or call 246-7010 for appointment.  
**Student Employment:** Applications are available at the financial aid office for those who don't qualify for work study.  
**Off Campus Job Locator:** Call 246-7014.  
**Department of Labor:** 979-2822  
Campus and local newspapers, bulletin boards, laundromats, coffee houses, and food stores all may help you make a cash connection.

## Counseling

**Bridge to Somewhere:** Student staffed, walk-in counselling for, emotional, personal, social or education problems. Room 061 Stony Brook Union.  
**Career Counselling:** Career Development office, Library W0650, call 246-7024  
**EROS:** Student staffed pregnancy referral service and birth control information. Room 119 Infirmary, call 246-LOVE  
**Gay Hotline:** Confidential counselling for gay and bisexual people. 8 pm-midnight, 7 days, call 751-6380.  
**Group Shop:** The Group Shop is operated by the University Counselling Center and offers seminars such as stress management, overcoming writer's block, and dream appreciation. 2nd floor, Infirmary, call 246-2280.  
**Legal Advice:** Polity offers free legal advice. Call 246-3673 for an appointment.  
**Response:** 24-hour crisis counselling. Call 751-7500.  
**Victim Information Bureau of Suffolk:** Crime crisis counselling for victims of rape, sexual assault and family disputes. Call 360-3730.

## Cheap Thrills

**COCA Movies** are free with I.D. in the Lecture Center every weekend.  
**Tuesday Flick** shows movies in the Union auditorium for 50 cents and I.D. every Tuesday night. Check with the ticket office for shows, dates and times.  
**One dollar movies** at the UA Brookhaven Theater, Port Jefferson Station. Bowling in the Union basement offers the lowest prices around.

## Handicapped Survival

**Office of the Disabled:** Humanities Building, Room 135, 246-7011. Readers, notetakers, interpreters, aids, counselors, registration assistance and a limited transport service are among the many functions of this office. Volunteers are always needed, so drop by if you can help out.

**Students Towards an Accessible Campus** will also help any disabled student in any area. Call 732-1268.

## ...And Boogies

Check the Ride Board in the Union for rides to distant horizons. Call 584-6688 for \$1 Taxi Service kept within three miles of the campus). The LII 25 percent reduction during off-peak hours (tra Stony Brook after 8:20; trains leaving Penn Sta 4 pm or after 7 pm; all weekend trains.

Bored playing catch with your Handbook of Physics and Chemistry? The Gym has handball, squash, basketball courts and a pool. For schedule of fall activities, go to the Gym office or call 246-6790. If strenuous exercise isn't your idea of relaxation, try the Union Crafts Center. The Center offers courses in ceramics, bartending and auto mechanics, among others, and a darkroom. Stop by the Center in the Union basement Monday-Friday, 12-5 or call 246-3657.

## Miscellany

Weather: 936-1212  
Time: 936-1616

## Health Care

The Stony Brook Infirmary has a wide range of medical facilities. Call 246-CARE.  
**The Dental Care Center** in South Campus building K provides temporary emergency dental services. Throbbing mouths and such will be treated at the Center until you can get to a dentist. Call 246-2500.  
**Ambulance Corps:** 246-2285  
**Drug Addiction:** 979-9501  
**Central Suffolk-Riverhead:** 369-6000  
**Good Samaritan-Islip:** 321-2000  
**V.D. Hotline:** 979-2233  
**Poison Control:** 979-3000  
**Detoxification Center:** 582-4641  
**AREA HOSPITALS**  
**Brookhaven Memorial:** 654-7000  
**St. Charles, Port Jefferson:** 473-2800  
**St. Johns, Smithtown:** 360-2000

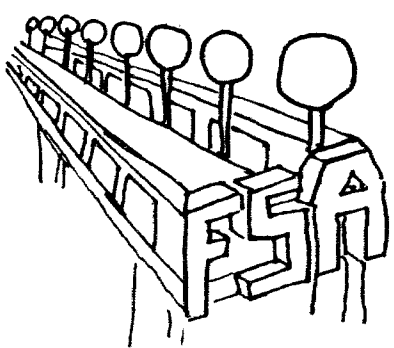
## Lost and Found

Call Public Safety at 246-3333 or check at the Union information desk. If you're missing your car call Public Safety—they may have towed it. If you're missing a friend call Public Safety or the Riverhead Jail (727-2176).

## Day Care Centers

Three child care centers operate on campus. Fees are on a sliding scale basis. **Benedict Day Care** (6-8407) and **Toecanial Day Care** (6-7150) handle three-five year olds and **Early Childhood** cares for infants (6-8407).





# Faculty Student Assn.

**WELCOME BACK!**

Introducing the  
following services:

- End of the Bridge Restaurant
- THE MAIN DESK
- Check Cashing
- UNION BOWLING CENTER (\$1.00/2 hrs.)
- Whitman & James Pubs
- TEE SHIRT SHOP
- Film Processing (\$1.99/12 exposures)
- CALCUTTERS HAIR SALON
- Dales Ice-Cream Parlor
- SODA, PHOTOCOPY, & LAUNDRY  
machines

# ENJOY!

# Thirteen is an Unlucky Number

## *The academic calendar evokes dissent*

by Jeff Zoldan

Stony Brook's academic calendar seems forever to be caught in the twilight zone. Each time a decision is reached regarding its length, factions of the University find fault with it and demand a change. This time an outcry comes from faculty and student alike over the shortcomings of the 13-week semester.

The Stony Brook academic calendar has always been a subject of harsh dispute. The most notable incident in recent memory involving student discontent with the academic calendar occurred in February, 1977 when 1,000 students participated in an occupation of the Administration building. Nearly forty students broke down Acting President John Toll's office door in response to a new calendar that eliminated the one month intersession and substituted a two-week Christmas-New Year break, followed by two weeks of classes and finals and a one week vacation. Twenty-five students were served with court orders and brought up on criminal charges for their participation in the takeover.

Though, as reported in *Statesman*, President Toll later said of the students, "You do not determine the academic calendar or rules," the calendar was changed and a 15 week semester was instituted the following year.

However, dissatisfaction soon arose over classes starting before Labor Day. "Before Labor Day everyone was unhappy. Students couldn't find off-campus housing and summer employment ended after Labor Day," stated William A. Stockbine, University Registrar. Therefore,

the Ad Hoc Academic Calendar Committee was organized in September, 1979 to recommend a new academic calendar. The committee, made up of administrators, faculty members and two students, proposed a change in the academic calendar for the 1980-81 and 1981-82 academic years that "would comply with pertinent external regulations, internal policy considerations, and would begin classes after Labor Day" by reducing the school term to 13 weeks. But in order to maintain the configuration of total class minutes and to comply with external guidelines established by the State Education Department and SUNY, class periods were extended from 50 and 75 minutes to 60 and 90 minutes, respectively.

The benefits of the new 13 week calendar came in the form of starting classes after Labor Day — no disruption in work and vacation patterns, housing availability or professional conventions — and that a longer intersession meant less money spent on heating and plumbing expenses for closed buildings.

But the pendulum has swung the other way.

In a referendum voted on this spring, the student body voted to change the academic calendar back to 15 weeks by a vote of 659 to 339. "We were aware of that referendum," said Dr. James McKenna, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Chairman of the Ad Hoc Academic Calendar Committee. "The faculty members have begun to respond."

Faculty members, indeed, have responded, raising serious questions as to whether course materials can be

adequately covered in 13 weeks. Student consternation, too, has risen with the need to meet academic deadlines in a shorter span of time.

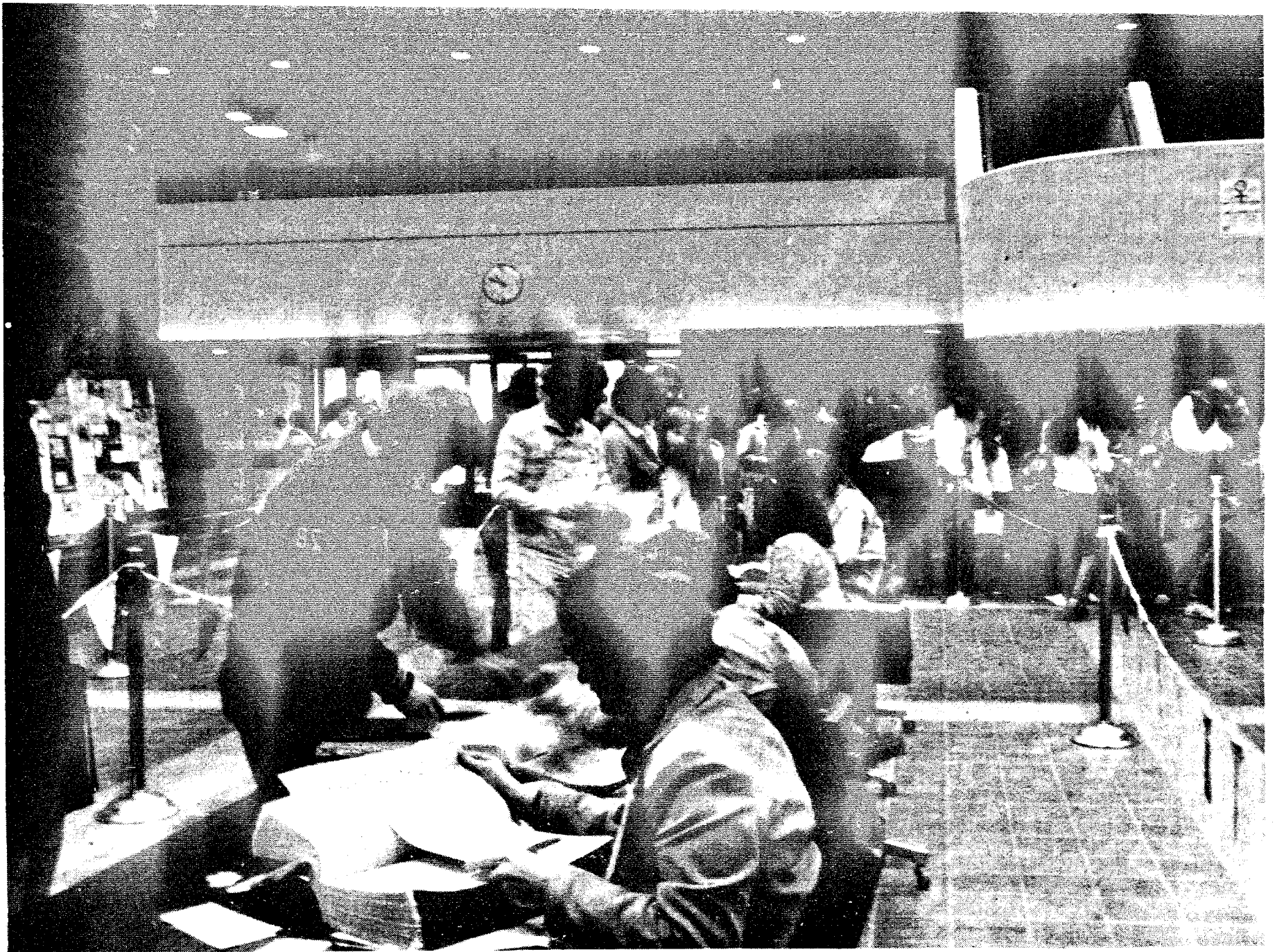
"I've heard they're (faculty) concerned about the compression factor, to have students absorb in 13 weeks what they would have normally done in 15 weeks," said McKenna. "But," he added, "do you want to start before Labor Day? You can't have both."

Activities outside the classroom have also suffered. The result has been less involvement with campus clubs and organizations. "It's put pressure on us and it's much more difficult," said Howard Saltz, Editor-in-Chief of *Statesman*. "We'll try putting out the same amount of issues as last year," he continued, "but when you try to accomplish a certain goal, it's tough" under these conditions.

It appears that the savings incurred from the extended intersession are offset by unexpected expenditures. The Fine Arts Center suffered extensive damage from frozen and burst water pipes, as did several other buildings on campus.

Theft and vandalism, too, sharply increased over intersession. Over \$35,000 worth of students' property was stolen from rooms in Kelly and Roth Quads, three times the amount of valuables lost to theft during the shorter 1979-80 intersession.

The current temper of the populace seems to demand a return to the 15 week academic calendar. But, as Dr. McKenna pointed out, "The calendar is good as long as everyone is happy with it."





# POLITY and FSA

Contributors: Stony Brook Foundation/U.P.S.A. Office



~ FEATURING ~

**CARNIVAL**

**BEER** 3 for \$ **1.00**

~ NO BOTTLES OR CANS ~

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th

- 4:00 p.m. - Carnival
- Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. - Full Hand (outdoors)
- 10:00 p.m. - Moffett Family (outdoors)
- 12:00 a.m. - Lou Stevens (End of Bridge)

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th

- 11:00 a.m. - Brunch

- 12:00 p.m. - Scavenger Hunt starts
- Pie Eating
- 1:00 p.m. - Kivetsky starts.
- 2:15 p.m. - Hank Stevenson Band starts.
- 3:30 p.m. - Kivetsky again.
- 4:30 p.m. - Dinner starts
- 4:45 p.m. - Hank Stevenson again.
- 6:00 p.m. - Scavenger Hunt ends.
- Harlem All-Star Steel Drum Orchestra starts.

EVENTS  
ALL DAY  
AND NIGHT!

- CLUBS and ORGANIZATIONS
- FOOD • BEER-SODA
- CARNIVAL

# PRESENT

Alumni Association ~ Graduate Student Organization



**FOOD, BEER & SODA**

**LIVE MUSIC, HAY RIDES & MORE!**

**SEPT. 11, 12, 13** ON THE ATHLETIC FIELDS

**S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook**

7:00 p.m. - Hay Ride begins.  
8:00 p.m. - Abbie Hoffman  
starts speaking (outdoors)  
9:00 p.m. - Fireworks starts.  
9:30 p.m. - Fireworks end.  
- Concert begins.  
(S.B. Folk/Rock Festival)  
12:00 a.m. - or after concerts,  
movies and cartoons begin.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th

12:00 p.m. - Lunch  
2:00 p.m. - Meade Brothers begin.  
5:00 p.m. - Asbury Park (outside)  
8:00 p.m. - Ralph Nader (Fine Arts)  
10:00 p.m. - Barn Dance  
(Outa Hand String Band)

Graphics and design by David Gamberg.

- ARTS and CRAFTS FAIR
- PARADE ANIMALS
- SHIRTS

**EVENTS  
ALL DAY  
AND NIGHT!**



# Restraining Research

*WUSB may have to move its antenna away from university*

by Scott Highnam

**What do radio stations and delicate research instrumentation have in common?**

**Not much.**

**"This university is primarily a research institution," explained Don Marx, Director of Communications Engineering, "and WUSB is affecting that research."**

WUSB, Stony Brook's radio station, has a transmitter 125 feet above sea level on top of the Graduate Chemistry building. The transmitter directs the station's radio signal towards its listeners to the south. Since nearly all on-campus research, from cancer and nuclear to astronomy explorations, are made in buildings directly south of the antenna, sensitive instrumentation is subjected to the "near field" of radio interference, which in turn causes undetectable and undiscernible transmissions. Professor Michal Simon of the Earth, Space and Science building equated it to being in a thunderstorm and attempting to operate a ham radio. Wires and components act as antennas, resulting in the reception of varying electrical interference. "Some instrumentation involves high speed electronics," explained Simon. "our amplifiers are similar to WUSB's so we pick up their frequency. Research is recorded with pulses, and with WUSB's interference, we're receiving stray pulses."

If on-campus research were placed in the "far field" or north, of radio interference, where signals could be easily identified as WUSB's, "then we'd all be happy. The solution is simple," asserted Simon. "Move the antenna."

But the dilemma would seem to require the wisdom of Solomon for a solution.

Clearly, the antenna cannot be moved within the core of academic buildings where research is promoted since some experimentation would still be affected. "We just can't put it anywhere," said WUSB's Station Manager, Norman Pruslin. "Certain areas are zoned for antennas. We've just started to look into different possibilities and come up with potential sites."

"It's possible to have an on-campus site," stated Marx. "We have to make measurements, evaluations and surveys. Also, any move requires extensive FCC involvement." FCC approval, of an alternate site, he said, could take anywhere from one to five years. If an on-campus site is determined as inappropriate, the antenna has to be moved off-campus, property must be purchased for the new location.

"I don't know how much it will cost and I student government [which funds WUSB] will be the brunt of the move's cost," stated Pruss. If the move is confirmed, costs are undeterminable at this time. If the move is not confirmed, then, if available, a thorough evaluation of possible sites will be conducted. In addition, there is no guarantee WUSB will be able to move without interfering with other areas of reception if moved.

"The question is height. We have a 42 foot antenna 125 feet above sea level. Moving radio stations," said Pruslin. But regarding complications encountered by WUSB and the station will not be shut down, as New article published two weeks ago.

Pruslin charged Newsday with "creating feeling," by reporting the station may be sacrificed for progress. "It [the article] had a wrong tone. They are like WUSB intentionally caused all this interference. We're going out of our way to cause problems." Marx agreed. "The bottom line is to move the station's antenna." "Whatever the decision is, it's not our intent to shut the station down, as it serves a vital service to the Stony Brook community."

Assistant to the President, Paul Chase, explained that Dr. Marburger, Professor Marx and Pruslin will begin to look over the problem of cost, if the antenna has to be moved. "The President feels that Polity should not have to pay if the antenna is moved. It was the Administration who placed it there, and the Administration will cover most of the move's cost," said Chase. President Marburger was unavailable for comment.

"You're talking about real concerns," Pruslin summed up. "Research on campus and a public radio station. There are a lot of sensitive issues. With research, you're talking about these people's lives. We're working in a cooperative way. We understand what they have to do, and they realize our problems. Hopefully it will be resolved in an appropriate way."

Prospriety explained that radio interference is a natural problem in a metropolitan area. "Interference," he said, is "usually due to faulty insulation." Both he and Marx agree however, that insulation cannot resolve entirely the research problem, since a 25% deviation factor in sensitive equipment still exists with proper shielding. Televisions, short-wave radios and standard equipment can be effectively insulated from radio interference.

With insulation partially effective, site reevaluation costly and limited funds to defray those costs, Professor Simon views the "resolution of the problem as an administrative decision."

During the mid 1960's, an AM station did operate at Stony Brook using "carrier current." AM signals were carried through telephone lines to small transmitters located in residence buildings. Pruslin explained that a FCC license was not required but, "we still wanted an FM station."



In 1971, a broadcast organization was set up to explore the possibilities of establishing a university FM radio station at Stony Brook. At that time, three SUNY System FM stations were in operation, at Oswego, Buffalo and Geneseo. Between 1971 and 1973, SUNY Central set guidelines which established how to handle stations, how to staff them and who ultimately held the FCC License. In 1973 the SUNY Board of Trustees approved WUSB 90.1 FM, and currently possesses their license, along with 13 other SUNY system radio stations now in operation.

During 1973, WUSB applied for an FCC construction permit. Because of dial proximity and the fear of losing a portion of their

audience, WBAU 90.3, of Adelphi University, petitioned to deny WUSB's FCC application. In January of 1974, WUSB's permit was granted and six months later, the station was allocated \$100,000 in student funds.

Since their first broadcast day in 1976, WUSB has been transmitting from the Graduate Chemistry building. Professor Simon explained that the interference problem has intensified in accordance with increased research at Stony Brook. Stony Brook now receives more research funding than any other State University. It has gotten to the point, Simon stated, where something has to be done.

# Shaft'

like this--and I'm not bull-shitting you, now--that has a series of locks on the door!... You know, the End of the Bridge, the inside.

**Press:** That place is broken into about once a month. They stole their whole video system last year.

**Preston:** But whose stealing from who? These are issues that students have got to discuss with students. Somehow, we have to be able to operate a restaurant that has a dynamite lock on it, but doesn't look like locks on Forty-second Street. The environment affects how people feel, whether they come. Now it's improved, by the way. Let me pat FSA on the back....

**Press:** FSA now has big plans, in response to what they see as a need, and in response to this administration's emphasis on food, what with change in personnel at Lackmann, and a computerized meal card system, among other things.

**Preston:** They're going to give it a try. And everyone here--I know I will, I know Jack will--we're gonna let that try to happen.

**Press:** I sense an ominous note there.

**Preston:** At some point we're gonna find out that we're asking too much of ourselves, that we have the best of two worlds.

**Press:** With the concurrent slash in aid to students, how do you do to close the financial aid gap?

**Preston:** One thing is for sure, we have to take a close look at its financial situation. It's going to be. The big question is, when do we begin now, and make decisions about the amount of money we can take out of it. There are so many dollars--BUT we can't be a lot freer, a lot freer, a lot freer. We need was one category, but we need aid money could have it. The amount of money, you have to go to the bank.

I've been encouraging in terms of administrators. I would like to see if not more intern programs in the Vice President's office. My primary motive is educational. But again, that helps. Because if you lose some of the pressure from the financial aid crunch. I think also the institution can increase its efforts in terms of trying to help students find other sources for help....

Working, also, with the town, in terms of getting more job [inaudible] between here and Port Jeff.

Home base can also help out a lot; in terms of working with the home communities where some of our students have come from, to try to influence in anyway that we could those home communities to do what they could to support large numbers of students. This is something I used to feel--and still do feel--very strongly about....What if you could get one dollar--just one dollar--from each parent? Thirty-thousand adults: 30,000 dollars. If you're broke, in the sense that you're super-poor, missing that dollar is not gonna make too much difference: if you're gonna die, you're gonna die--know what I mean? And for those who don't have any money at all, people who have a lot of money can make up for them by giving five dollars, 'cause then they've covered five people who haven't given. That was a very simple basis. What we did [at Amherst] was we had a scholarship fund, and it was student-run. The only thing they didn't do was divvy up the money.... They had one day each year, which the governor declared Student Dollar Day. And they just canvassed their own neighborhoods.... They raise, one year, five or six-thousand dollars....Institutions don't do enough to encourage motivation in the community to develop scholarship funds themselves.

**Press:** Can we look forward to similar programs at Stony Brook, under your impetus?

**Preston:** I would most certainly like to do that, and a lot's going to depend on some other problems--if I can take those off my hands....

**Preston:** I think Student Affairs leaves a lot to be desired at this point, in terms of educational ventures involving faculty and students. And I want to do a lot of dormitory improvement. But most important is get the roach out of the dorms. 'Cause if the roach jumps in the bed with you, you're not ready to talk Sophocles, Plato--"Tell that sucker get outta here!"...But I'm not Shaft. I'm not Superman. I did not come here to solve all of STONY Brook's problems, or even look like I'm trying to solve Stony Brook's problems. I come here to join the effort in this community, to all work together. I will provide whatever leadership I can; and I think I can definitely provide some leadership....In some ways, though I think being a good administrator involves knowing when to get out of the way. Just getting out of the way and then encouraging things that you see.

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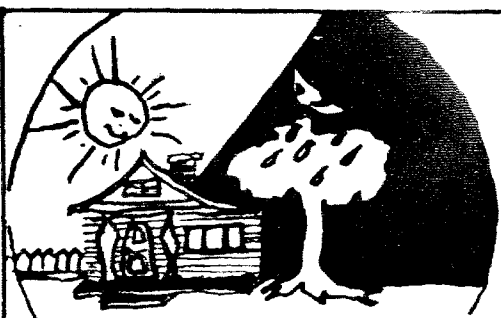
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