

The
**Stony
Brook**

PRESS

Vol. III No. 12 • University Community's Weekly Paper • Thursday, February 11, 1982



**Polity Freezes
Statesman's budget;
resignations sought**



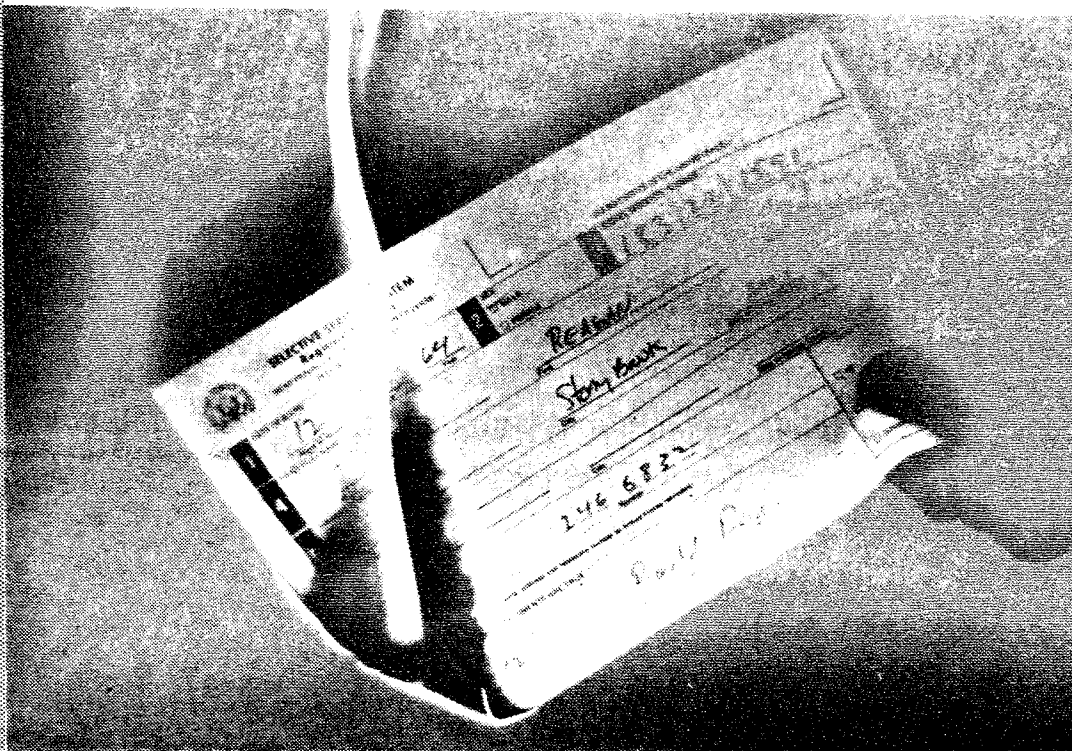
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The Fourth Estate: Editorial

Prelude to War

While the United States continues to support the "Christian Democratic" junta in El Salvador both economically and militarily, violence in the country's civil war escalates and the hope of instituting a truly democratic government has completely deteriorated. Though any causes may be offered: ineffective land reform policies, dissenting farmers, a ruthless Oligarchy, and a government whose only policy is repression, El Salvador's military forces and their persistent quest for absolute power casts a dimmer light on the future than any other contemporary Salvadoran political or social institution. Underlying each institution however, is an ideology which perpetuates the people's acceptance of military rule, an ideology which is essential to understand since many americans registered for the draft may soon be headed there.

A major United States foreign policy flaw has been, and is, the inability to perceive and comprehend a society on its own merit, without drawing conclusions based on what we don't know about a country's people. This ethnocentric attitude is best exemplified most recently by the Iranian hostage taking situation, an event which few americans truly understood, and many still don't, including foreign policy makers. That a "backward" nation would consider abducting ambassadors, envoys, charge d'affairs, and Central Intelligence agents was absurd. The history of Islam, the history of repressive regime in Iran, and the mounting desperation during and after the Shah's rule, were not analyzed or taken into serious consideration by the United States when the Shah's asylum was granted.

Today, the United States faces a similar crisis because of its arrogance in dealing with so-called "hot spots" throughout the world where economic sanctions, military intervention, or both, are employed. One of the hottest debates over

US foreign policy centers on a country the size of Massachusetts in Central America.

El Salvador, the coffee capital of the world, has during the past few years become the site of the most flagrant violations of human rights today. According to Amnesty International and the World Council of Churches, nearly 30,000 deaths have been attributed to the country's military forces, an outfit supported by \$68 million in United States military aid. But, no amount of money, advisors, arms, or economic support will change the direction of El Salvador's future.

Since Hispanic culture in Central America tends to dominate in the power sense, and the institutions of Hispanic culture such as the family, the church, army, educational institutions and economic systems, are essentially authoritarian in nature, most Salvadorans are conditioned to frequent acceptance of dictatorship, violence and military rule. In large measures, the social structure of El Salvador is a growth of Hispanic heritage, conquest and colonialism, and still reflects the system of social privileges, militaristic rule and class values established at that time. From the conquistadores to the present general who rules the country, El Salvador and many of its people have learned what their station in life is, what advantages it entails, and what segments of society to respect, be it wealthy landowners, the military, or both.

Since the military in El Salvador has been, and is the largest and most homogenous occupational group of the country, its influence in politics and government is overwhelming. Military members have traditionally developed strong ties with those in control of the country's production. Today is no exception. And, since the demands on Salvadoran military units to fight foreign enemies is low, military personnel

and material can be mobilized against local opposition in support of the ruling class. Nothing is plainer about the politics of El Salvador—that the army retains control, regardless of the means through which manipulation takes place, and whatever obedience it has rendered has been to the interests of El Salvador's aristocratic society rather than to the country at large.

Though bands of armed farmers are currently attempting to overthrow the government, and for the first time are questioning their leader's right to rule, a "successful" revolution will more than likely result in another repressive and authoritarian government ruled by different leaders. Coup d' etats are a process as necessary to the military and oligarchy in order to perpetuate their control, as land reform is for the farmers. Government and policy making never succeeds in a country dependant on authoritarianism, and with deeply rooted Spanish influence sharply conflicting with Western thought, democracy in El Salvador will never be realized. In addition, where large populations continue to live in abject poverty exploited by an elite component of society, the traditional order, (landholder dominance) and politics (military rule), continue to prevail.

Strong historical ties to Spanish culture shed only pessimism on the United States' quest for democracy and stability in El Salvador. The deeply rooted values and attitudes—the respect for individuals who can assert their authority over others, and the inability to identify with external goals to which others may identify—are conducive neither to the development of democracy nor to economic progress. If the United States' foreign policy makers refuse to recognize the futility of El Salvador's situation and continue to increase military commitment there, young men will once again lose their lives for a cause which will never be realized.

Letters

SOAKING STUDENTS

To the Editor:

This is to inform the campus community that since F.S.A. [the Faculty Student Association] has increased the price of the laundry machines from 35 cents to 50 cents, it is now much cheaper to do your wash off campus.

The machines on campus only hold 17 lbs. of laundry. Off campus, for example, the laundromat by Waldbaum's, it is 85 cents for 30 lbs. and \$1.20 for 50 lbs. Let's break this down into a comprehensive comparison: on campus it is 29 cents per lb., 87 cents for 30 lbs., and \$1.45 for 50 lbs.; the laundromat by Waldbaum's is 28 cents per lb. or 85 cents per 30 lbs. in the 30 lb. machine, and 24 cents per lb. or \$1.20 for 50 lbs. in the 50 lb. machine.

The driers at this laundromat are also 10 cents but only for 10 minutes instead of the 20 minutes on campus but they require half the drying time and hold much more laundry, again presenting a savings to the student.

What about convenience? Do your laundry and food shopping with a friend, roommate, mate. One of you can do the laundry while the other buys the food at either Waldbaum's or Pathmark, or find out if there is a laundromat by King Kulen and Finast.

F.S.A. is supposed to provide services to the students of this campus at a less expensive cost than off campus and at a greater convenience (or so I've always been told and have always read), yet why have I rarely seen this to be true?

—Mace H. Greenfield

BRADY REPLY

As the original "decaying fiber" behind the November 12, 1981 James Brady/Ronald Reagan "stray of the Week", I feel that I should explain my little joke to Mr. Ken Esser who took the time to compose a thoughtful, sincere, and only slightly cliché-ridden letter of outrage against it.

Like the end of Stanley Kubrick's *A Clockwork Orange*, wherein the Minister feeds bed-ridden Alex both food and surreptitious promises to protect his maleficence in return for some flattering publicity stunts, the Reagan/Brady press room renovation antics (which were the occasion of the pilfered photograph) proved that these monsters will turn any disaster to their advantage, or at least smile trying. They actually had this poor sucker propped-up in a chair before the photographers and reporters and lights, and Ronald Reagan actually co-doddered Brady's hand to cut the pretty ribbon with the scissors. Pure show business. In the same vein, witness the Lenny Skutnik ovation at the State of the Union address (mind you, Skutnik jumped into the water not to save a drowning person, but because he was American).

By pushing their gall only a bit further—by making it irredeemably obscene, if you will—I hoped to point out the farcical immorality of the affair as it really happened. Mr. Esser was right in calling the piece "satire", but he missed the rest of it.

—Ron Dionne

The Stony Brook Press

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March of the Would Be Soldiers

Reagan continues draft registration

DEAR SIR,
GREETINGS!

AS OF April 4, 1983, YOUR NAME WAS SELECTED AT RANDOM IN RECRUITMENT LOTTERY 11841/09 ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN BY THE SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM.

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO REPORT FOR INDUCTION INTO THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AT THE EXAMINATION AND ENTRANCE STATION LOCATED AT THE ADDRESS GIVEN BELOW. YOU MUST REPORT FOR INDUCTION NO LATER THAN April 14, 1983. IF YOU BELIEVE YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR EXEMPTION OR DEFERMENT, YOU MUST COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED CLAIM FOR EXEMPTION OR DEFERMENT FORM-ED611/59.

FAILURE TO EITHER APPEAR AT THE EXAMINATION STATION OR FILE AN EXEMPTION OR DEFERMENT FORM IS A FEDERAL OFFENCE PUNISHABLE BY FINE OF NO LESS THAN \$10,000, TERM OF IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING FIVE (5) YEARS, OR BOTH.

CONGRATULATIONS.

by Ned Goldreyer

If you are a male between 18 and 26, it is more than likely you will be receiving such a notice, via Western Union Mailgram, within the near future. On January 8th of this year, President Reagan announced he would be continuing draft registration, which was initiated by President Carter one and a half years ago. Carter's decision revived the functions of a disintegrating Selective Service System that had been placed in virtual suspended animation by Gerald Ford in 1975. Citing the taking of American hostages in Iran, growing violence in Central America, and Soviet aggression in Afghanistan, conditions which have been exacerbated with the passage of time, Carter announced during his final State of the Union Address that registration would resume "to meet future mobilization needs rapidly if they arise."

Reagan's decision not to cancel registration, based on findings by the Military Manpower Task Force headed by Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger, was a complete reversal of his position on the issue during and shortly after his campaign. At his first press conference, held nine days after his term began, Reagan stated he did not feel that advance registration would significantly reduce the time necessary to create an army should an emergency arise. In other words, President Reagan believed a draft could be conducted spontaneously, without giving the government prior knowledge of the names of prospective draftees, a situation which has not occurred since the Civil War.

According to Weinberger, the information on which Reagan first based his position indicated that registration would save only three to five days between notification and mobilization. This, in Weinberger's words, was "incorrect . . . whereas we now know it will save somewhere in excess of six weeks—about seven weeks, actually."

The question then is no longer one of whether registration will continue (it will), whether it will save time (it will), or how much time (seven weeks). It is now much simpler: Seven weeks until what?

Every draft registration in United States history has been followed by a draft, and there seems little cause to expect the current one to set a contrary precedent. What is perhaps even more alarming is that every draft since Lincoln first called up the troops in 1862 has been followed by a war in no more than two years. Given the situations in Poland, Afghanistan, El Salvador, and the perpetual imbroglios that burn unchecked throughout the Middle East, only the dead lack imagination enough to conjure appropriately horrific scenes.

Ed Hedmann, staff member of the War Resisters League, is certain that what we are now experiencing is only the prelude to an actual resumption of the draft.

"The government," said Hedemann, "never really wanted to get rid of registration. It simply had to bend under popular pressure." When asked if, under similar circumstances, he believed the draft would again be defeated purely through the actions of an outraged public, Hedemann replied that it could, although "it won't be like the sixties or the seventies again, mainly because we have that experience behind us as an example. Back then we were working from point zero."

Hedemann gave a list of other discrepancies that would distinguish an 80's draft from those of the past two decades, among them the facts that it would be widely unpopular from its inception, and that the possibility of women being conscripted now exists. "That [women would be drafted into combat] isn't very likely, but during Vietnam the attitude made it absolutely impossible."

In his report on Selective Service reform submitted to the Congress on February 11, 1980, President Carter remarked, "It is doubtful that a female draft can be justified on the argument that wartime personnel requirements cannot be met without them. The pool of draft eligible men . . . is sufficiently large to meet projected wartime requirements. Furthermore, men, unlike women, can be assigned to any military position, including close combat jobs."

Issue Brief IB79045 from the Library of Congress states that "At the present time there are legislative prohibitions restricting the assignment of women to vessels and aircraft assigned combat missions for the Navy (and the Air Force) . . . While there is no such legislative prohibition the Army, Army policy imposes similar restriction on ground combat assignments." Although these prohibitions cannot preempt women from being drafted into non-combat positions, and certainly not from being registered, even these remain conjectural. The likelihood of women being required to register in the foreseeable future is, in actuality, remote. Due to the Supreme Court ruling in June of 1981 in the *Rostker vs. Golberg* case, an earlier Federal court decision was overturned, the Court declaring Congress was within its constitutional powers in authorizing the registration of men but not women.

The obvious fear of those eligible is that the conclusion to registration will be a draft, and while these two events have never occurred separately in recent history, there are some who feel an impending draft is not inevitable. Hugh Cleland, associate professor of history at the University, believes that a draft right now would only "disrupt peoples' lives, be extremely expensive, and not contribute to the security of the United States." Cleland further states that at the moment, a draft isn't even being considered. "To say



Press Photo by Scott Hignam

that a draft is to follow registration would imply the Administration is carrying out part of a defence policy. The Reagan Administration has no defense policy." Should, however, a draft occur, the most likely locations for troop deployment, according to Cleland, would be Central America, because "any confrontation with the Soviets in Europe will eventually lead to World War III . . . and [in regard to Poland] even if our armed forces were doubled, there's no way we could vanquish the Russians in their own front yard."

Opponents of registration generally maintain two points in support of their stand: 1) registration is only a pretense for initiating a peacetime draft, and 2) peacetime registration is an unnecessary invasion of individual privacy. Senator Mark Hatfield (R-Ore.) said during a recent Congressional debate that "from the beginning of the draft programs of this nation, the draft has been considered to be contrary, alien, and foreign to the democratic American ideals, and there have been forceful actions taken to resist

(continued on page 5)

How to Get off

Should you one day be among those select few cordially invited to serve your country, and decide instead that other more pressing engagements await, there are a number of alternatives available. The easiest, as far as paperwork goes, is simply to flee the country. There are no forms to complete, no dependent requirements, and no need to justify your case. This will automatically earn you the classification of Deserter Status and render it impossible for you to re-enter the country through any officially recognized port or border without being subject to immediate arrest or deportation.

The other accepted method of avoiding combat service, or any service at all, is to file as a conscientious objector. At the moment there is no official way to alert the Selective Service of your moral objections to war. According to Naomi Thiers, associate director of the National Interreligious Service Board For Conscientious Objectors, "the only actions that can be taken at the moment are to compile a file of letters, essays and written testimony from others affirming that you have strong moral convictions against war that would prevent you from actively participating in good conscience." They also suggest presenting a copy of such a file to a peace group, such as the CO Board, in order to officiate yourself on record as a CO.

From the day an induction notice arrives, you will have ten days to file a claim for CO status, which can be done by completing a form enclosed within the draft notice. Once the claim has been received by the Selective Service System, a date will be set for you to present your case before a Hearing Board. This is when the file you've been building will earn its keep. You may also have a lawyer present for consultation.

In the event the Panel decides in your favor, they will assign one of five exemption classifications, depending on the nature of the evidence you've presented in your support. They are:

Conscientious Objector 1 O - excuses the draftee from any military service at all.

Non-Combatant CO 1 A O - the draftee does not have to take part in actual fighting, but must serve on a hospital staff or in a similar capacity.

Hardship 3 A - this indicates the draftee's family will suffer in extreme without his physical presence.

Study for Ministry 2 D - self explanatory (all religions)

Minister Exemption 4 D - self explanatory (all religions)

There are other assignments, known as Administrative Classifications, that do not require a hearing, although the number of these have been greatly reduced in recent years. Student deferments, for example, have been eliminated, although being a sole surviving son still merits an exemption.

If you believe you qualify for one or more exemptions but still aren't sure, you can call the National Interreligious Service Board at (202) 393-4868, or write to them at 15th Street and New York Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C.

—Goldreyer

EROS APPLICATIONS

The Peer Counseling and referral service for birth control, pregnancy, abortion, venereal disease and health care is now accepting applications for new members for the Spring 1982 semester. Applications are available in the EROS Office, Infirmary Rm. 119, Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. or call 246-LOVE.
Deadline for applications: Feb. 18, 1982



! BIEN VENIDOS !

The Latin American Student Organization will have its first general meeting of the semester on Thursday, Feb. 11 at 8:00 in the Union, room 236. We will be discussing many important projects including Latin Weekend and will need everyone's participation.



The Stony Brook Sailing Club will meet every Monday in Union room 216 at 5:30 p.m. All interested sailors, racers, and those interested in learning how to sail please attend.

ELECTION HELD MONDAY FEB. 15

GET READY FOR AUDITIONS

FOR

STONY BROOK'S FIRST ANNUAL
VARSITY SHOW,

MARCH 23, 24, 25!

(YOU'LL KILL YOURSELF IF YOU DON'T TRY OUT,
AND WE DON'T WANT BLOOD ON OUR HANDS.)

African Students Organization

IMPORTANT MEETING Thursday, Tonight,
10 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Cafe. Bldg., Stage XII



The "French Club" will be holding a meeting on Friday, Feb. 12 at 3:30 p.m. in library room 4006. All members are urged to attend. New members are always welcomed.



RESULTS OF RECYCLING CONTEST AS OF FEB. 5th 1982

KELLY E	3,065 pts.
AMMANN	2,566 "
TWO FER BREW (Commuters)	2,328 "
IRVING	2,207 "
O'NEILL	1,965 "
GERSHWIN	740 "
HAND	500 "
JAMES	418 "

Stony Brook Drama Presents

Mark Medoff's
(Children Of A Lesser God)

Award winning play

When You Comin' Back Red Ryder?

FEBRUARY 10th-14th
8:00 p.m., Theatre II, F.A.C.

Admission Free - Donations Welcome

THIS PRODUCTION
FOR MATURE AUDIENCES

Bottle Bill Opposition

Suffolk County's deposit legislation is threatened by lobbyists

by Henry Ellis

On April 1, a law requiring a 5 cent deposit on all beverage bottles and cans will take effect in Suffolk County. It is hoped that the "bottle bill," as it is popularly known, will cut down on the amount of roadside litter and decrease the amount of waste being buried in Suffolk County landfills, but it is not without strong opposition.

On Tuesday the Suffolk County Legislature scheduled two public hearings on the bottle bill for February 23. The hearings are to discuss a delay in the bill and possible repeal.

Legislator Patrick Halpin (D-Lindenhurst), the sponsor of the bottle bill, feels the public hearings will not affect the date which it is to become law. "The industry has mounted a counterattack. They don't want the law passed in Suffolk, because Suffolk is the cornerstone to beating the state bottle bill."

The beverage industry (Clare Rose, Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, et al) claims that the consumer will pay higher prices as a result. "The major reason for a price increase," said Robert Montana, vice president of Clare Rose Inc., a major beer wholesaler in Patchogue, "is the additional manpower and equipment needed to label the bottles and cans for sale in Suffolk."

Most major beer producers, such as Budweiser and Miller, have a single wholesaler for Suffolk County. These wholesalers want to be responsible for the labeling of the bottles and cans for sale in Suffolk. This would cause, the producers claim, a monopoly for the wholesalers, as the retailers and distributors could obtain beer only from them. The retailers want to do their own labeling, which would give them the option of going outside Suffolk for their stock.

If the bill goes into law as it stands now, there will be no restrictions on who labels the beer.

"The manufacturers are going to end up doing it anyway," said Ken Rosenblume, Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Consumer Affairs. "The

market will dictate that the most inexpensive way to label the beer, for everybody concerned, will be during the actual bottling process."

Halpin said that the beverage industry is trying to create an "atmosphere of confusion" in order to mask profit-motivated price increases. "The claims of the industry are grossly exaggerated," said Halpin. "They are using the bottle bill as an excuse to increase prices."

Opponents of the bill point to Connecti-

in refillable containers.

Legislator Anthony Noto (R-Babylon) stated that the bottle bill will hurt tax revenues and small businessmen. "People will just go over the border and buy their beer and soda in Nassau," he said. "We will lose the sales tax and the deli and grocery businesses in Amityville and Copiague will lose the customers." Noto was the sponsor of an amendment to the bill which would postpone its implementation until a similar bill is passed in



Press photo by Eric A. Wessman

cut, where beverage prices rose after the passage of a similar bill. However, in Oregon, the first state to pass a bottle law in 1972, the average price paid per case of soft drinks has decreased five per cent while in surrounding states, prices increased 10 per cent during the same time period. And a recent study by the Environmental Protection Agency on soft drink bottles alone revealed that soft drinks in non-refillable bottles cost the consumer 1½ times more than those

Nassau.

The Suffolk County Department of Consumer Affairs will be responsible for the enforcement of the law. The department has remained neutral during the ongoing bottle bill debates because after the law has been in effect for a while, Consumer Affairs is required to make an evaluation for submission to the County Legislature.

"We don't foresee any problems with enforcement," said Rosenblume. "Many

segments of the industry realize the bill is positive and inevitable." Rosenblume feels the law will be self-enforcing because consumers will buy only those beverages from which they will get money back. "It will be more inexpensive for the consumer to buy deposit bottles, which in the long run will cost them five cents less per bottle or can." He said that in other bottle bill states there is little need for enforcement because consumers buy only deposit containers.

But the proposed New York State bottle bill is having a harder time getting off the ground. Opposed to the state bill are business groups including the Business Council of New York State, the United States Brewers Association, Joyce Beverages, Clare Rose Inc. and many labor organizations. They claim that a state-wide bottle bill would cost the state as many as 3,500 jobs, and make it hard for retailers and small bottling companies to stay in business. They would like to see anti-litter legislation rather than bottle deposit. Assemblyman G. Koppel (D-Bronx), one of the sponsors of the state bill, said that anti-litter proposals would not help communities deal with the problem of solid waste, as would the bottle bill. "They don't deal with the reduction of the waste stream," he said. "The vast majority of bottles aren't litter. They end up in your garbage pail and go to your solid waste dumps on Long Island, which are filling up."

Proponents of a state-wide bottle bill include citizen and environmental groups such as the League of Women Voters, the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), the Environmental Planning Lobby, Suffolk County Executive Peter Cohalan and Mayor Edward Koch.

"There are already six states which adopted bottle deposit laws and the results have been very good," said Halpin. "And I'm convinced that if Suffolk stands firm and passes the bottle bill into law, it will have a direct effect on whether or not Albany passes a state bill."

Registration

(continued from page 3)

its imposition of involuntary servitude... I think we had better start looking at military policies...and political policies, that if somehow the American people are not willing to rise up on a volunteer basis to give defense to their nation and homeland...there is something basically wrong with the recruitment system we are using to get military manpower."

Arguments for registration rest primarily on the grounds that our current ability to mobilize rapid troop deployment is inadequate and presents a serious threat to national security. Proponents like Secretary Weinberger point to statistical evidence in support of their position that, without registration, we will be unable to marshal sufficient manpower fast enough to respond to an emergency, while offering no solutions to such emergencies other than intervention by force. Even in situations where alternatives present peaceful, if more expensive, means of averting conflict, they seem to favor blunter, less complicated methods. The

situation in Poland serves as a prime example, as a grain embargo against the Soviet Union would almost certainly have an effect devastating enough to force them into reconsidering their military presence there. Secretary of State Haig, however, maintains that the cost of the subsidies such an embargo would incur are prohibitive, and that in general he is "not a strong advocate for sanctions."

Regardless of the arguments, registration is here and will soon make its presence even more widely felt as the "period of grace" ordered by Reagan for those who have not registered draws to a close. The prosecution of approximately 800,000 young men, and their possible convictions, are certain to inspire new public examination, if not condemnation, of the registration procedure. Even more poignant questions will ensue if prosecutions do not result in convictions, for then the millions who have registered (many solely to avoid legal consequences) will be obliged to reevaluate their own positions, and probably do so aloud.

Stray of the Week

P.F. Sullivan (1960-1982)

The Stony Brook Press regretfully acknowledges the passing of one of its finest writers, the inimical Petrushka Fitzcarraldo Sullivan, who died earlier this week of glandular over-exertion. Known to his broad readership as P.F., but to his friends and copedants at the Press as Petty Fitz, Sullivan will leave behind him a legacy of the most venomous disdain for the film industry ever expressed outside the Soviet Union.

"I hate the goddamn movies, and I hate the people who make them," Sullivan once said, and dedicated his life to proving just that. The only child of Egon and Balthazara Sullivan to be born live, Sullivan left his home and family at age eight, during the Great Arts Famine that struck West Orange in 1966. That same year he fell in with a traveling workshop of theatre critics, forced into their nomadic lifestyle by a real estate misadventure which Sullivan blamed on the beach party movies then beginning to go out of vogue. During his brief association with the workshop, Sullivan developed and honed his now famous technique of reviewing films based solely on their ad campaigns, earning him the praise and respect of film esthetes from here to the corner.

In 1975, with uncanny foresight, Sullivan joined the Stony Brook Press four years before it came into existence. Starting as a virtual office fixture, fit only for the most demeaning of mechanical writing assignments, Sullivan soon badgered his way to the top of a virtually adequate arts department. It was at this pinnacle that Sullivan maintained the excruciating level of intolerance he set himself throughout his career, and it was here on Monday last, that he fell into the coma from which he did not recover, upon receiving notice he would review *The Boogens*.

We will miss and remember him dearly.



STONY BROOK CONCERTS

WBAB
102.3

PRESENTS

An Evening With ...

James Taylor

FEBRUARY 13th, 1982

9:00 p.m., Gymnasium

*10⁰⁰ Reserved, *8⁰⁰ General Admission

SOLD OUT

King Crimson

With

Adrian Belew

Robert Fripp

Tony Levin

Bill Bruford

FEBRUARY 28th, 1982

9:00 p.m., Gymnasium

Tickets on sale Friday, Feb. 5th, at the Union Box Office, 10 a.m.

STRICTLY NO CAMERAS, FLASH UNITS or RECORDERS

S.A.B. SPEAKERS

presents

Timothy Leary

FEBRUARY 18th, 1982

8:00 p.m., Lecture Hall 100

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!



The Pre-Health Professions Society

There will be a general meeting for all students interested in any of the health professions on Thursday, Feb. 11 in Lec. Hall 110, at 7:00 p.m. If you're interested in Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing or Allied Health it is important for you to attend this organizational meeting. The agenda will include the following:

- 1) Information on an MCAT, DAT Review Course on campus.
- 2) Organization of a Pre-Allied Health Club
- 3) Activities for the Pre-Dental Society
- 4) Activities and Events of the Pre-Nursing Society
- 5) Membership Drive for anyone interested in any of the Health Professions

Get informed about the Health Professions, attend this first meeting of the Pre-Health Professions Society for the Spring 1982 semester!!!

C.O.C.A. Schedule Spring 1982

FEBRUARY

2/12 - 2/13 EXCALIBUR
 2/19 - 2/20 KENTUCKY FRIED MOVIE
 2/26 - 2/27 JOHN WAYNE WEEKEND:
 2/26 STAGECOACH
 2/27 THE SEARCHERS

MARCH

3/5 - 3/6
 3/5 - 3/6 THE GREAT SANTINI
 3/12 - 3/13 MEL BROOKS WEEKEND:
 3/12 THE PRODUCERS
 3/13 THE TWELVE CHAIRS
 3/19 - 3/20 BEING THERE
 3/26 - 3/27 American Werewolf in London

APRIL

4/16 - 4/17 ARTHUR
 4/23 - 4/24 MARX BROTHERS WEEKEND:
 4/23 ANIMAL CRACKERS
 4/24 HORSEFEATHERS

MAY

4/30 - 5/1 ROBERT DENIRO WEEKEND:
 4/30 MEAN STREETS
 5/1 TAXI DRIVER
 5/7 - 5/8 STRIPES

★★★

ALL FILMS
 IN
 LECTURE HALL 100
 AT
 7 p.m. - 9:30 - Midnite
 Free With I.D.

Are you tired of being told what to do?
 Do you like to be in charge?
 Do you go for all the gusto in life?
 Then you can be the new co-chairperson
 of the **Student Blood Drive**.
 Call now!!

Kurt 6-3726 or
 Jay 6-4441

TEN REASONS WHY YOU CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT NYPIRG: LEARN THE ISSUES.

NYPIRG invites everyone to attend a *General Interest Meeting* this Thursday. Walter Hang, NYPIRG's noted staff scientist will be our guest speaker. Refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome.
 (Thursday, February 11th at 7:30 in the Union, room 231)

PUBLIC INTEREST RADIO PRESENTS:

An Interview With ...
TED GOLDFARB
Professor of Chemistry at Stony Brook
 Topic: **Environmental Issues on Long Island**
 Time: *Monday, February 15*
 6:00 p.m. on WUSB, 90.1 FM

Foreign Aid Supports Salvadoran Travesty

The Reagan administration approves \$68 million in military aid

by Barry Ragin

The Foreign Aid Authorization Bill passed by Congress in December required, among other things, that within 30 days President Reagan certify the government of El Salvador:

1) is making a concerted and significant effort to control gross violations of internationally recognized human rights;

2) is achieving substantial control over all elements of its own armed forces, so as to bring to an end the indiscriminate torture and murder of Salvadorean citizens by these forces;

3) is making continued progress in implementing essential economic and political reforms, including the land reform program; and

4) is committed to the holding of free elections at an early date and to that end has demonstrated its good faith efforts to begin discussions with all major political factions in El Salvador which have declared their willingness to find and implement an equitable political solution to the conflict, with such solution to involve a commitment to:

a) a renouncement of further military or paramilitary activity; and

b) the electoral process with internationally recognized observers.

On January 28th the President sent his certification to Congress and in so doing, Reagan ignored statistics provided by the Salvadoran Catholic Church and the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission's Legal Aid Offices which attributed Salvadoran government forces with the responsibility for over 30,000 deaths over the past two years. Most of these victims have been women, children and the elderly and many had been raped and tortured, according to the Legal Aid offices.

The most blatant example of Reagan's support for these tactics has been exposed over the past two weeks.

An offensive by leftist FMLN guerrillas in January 1981 demonstrated the Salvadoran military's inability to contain the rebels. The U.S. responded by training a 1500 man counter-insurgency strike force, the Atlacatl Brigade. U.S. Green Berets played a major role in this training. The creation of the Atlacatl Brigade was in part justified by the need to establish a military unit free from the traditional Salvadoran practice of rape and torture of unarmed civilians. Throughout 1981, despite numerous government offensives, the guerrillas were holding their own, particularly in the Northern and Eastern parts of the country. In early December 1981, the Atlacatl Brigade launched an offensive against guerrilla strongholds in northern Morazan province. The FMLN, apparently outnumbered, fled into the northern mountains to avoid combat. On Christmas day, FMLN forces returned to the villages that had been the subject of the government offensive. They found nearly a thousand tortured and raped bodies scattered throughout the village. Half of the victims were under 15 years old and survivors identified the attackers as the Atlacatl Brigade.

On December 26, Radio Venceremos, the FMLN radio station, broadcast the discovery of the massacre, and an urgent appeal for international verification of the incident. The Human Rights office of the World Council of Churches investigated and confirmed the reports. On December 30, Pacifica News Service broadcast the first reports of the Morazan massacre in the United States. The New York Times, Washington Post, and the major networks, declined to present the story, citing lack of independent verification (although this provision had been ignored by the media two weeks earlier in reporting rumors about martial law in Poland).

Finally, on January 27th, the New York Times and the Washington Post both published verified reports of the massacre. Raymond Bonner, in an undated article from Mozote, Morazan, described dozens of "charred skulls and bones." Survivors again identified the attackers as the Atlacatl Brigade. The Salvadoran Human Rights Commission placed the death toll at 926.

The Salvadoran government has, of course, denied these stories, describing them as fabrications by subversives. Our own State Department says it can neither confirm nor deny the reports, lacking independent verification. It strikes us as odd that from a country like Poland, which is behind the so-called Iron Curtain, so much news concerning the current crisis is forthcoming, but from El Salvador, which is a member of our



own Organization of American States, we hear nothing.

President Reagan's actions on Jan. 28th clear the way for \$68 million in military aid to El Salvador's junta. 1,600 Salvadoran soldiers will be receiving counter-insurgency training in the United States this winter and spring, supported by taxpayer money.

During 28 months, the Salvadoran military-civilian junta has killed over 30,000 people without halting the insurrection, and without a single military victory.

On Jan. 27th, FMLN guerrillas destroyed the Salvadoran Air Force's remaining 6 Huey helicopters, on the ground. It is clear that our money and training will only be used to further the genocide of the Salvadoran people. This blood is on our hands, and cannot be removed unless we act to stop the slaughter. Despite all his blathering about freedom, our President still needs to be taught the true meaning of liberty. El pueblo unido jamas sera vencido!



IN THE UNION BASEMENT

MON-WED
9:30 AM - MID
THURS - FRI
9:30 AM - 1 AM
SAT
10:30 AM - 1 AM
SUN
10:30 AM - MID

FEB 11: Live, 10 PM - "WILD ORANGES" - Jazz (TONITE!)

FEB 12: Live, 10 PM - "EQUINOX" - Jazz (FRI.) Schlitz on Tap - Buy one, get one free (kissing couples only!)

FEB 13: Live, 10 PM - "NORTHERN STAR BAND" (SAT.) - Rock 'n' Roll Favorites & Originals

"You've Got a Friend" Special:
Beck's on Tap - Buy one, get one free 11 PM - 2 PM,
(kissing couples & James Taylor ticketholders!)

FEB 14: Live, 9 PM - "POULENC CHAMBER PLAYERS" - Classical (SUN.) Wine by the glass - Buy one, get one free (kissing couples only!)

Discrimination Continues Here

Racism at Stony Brook Part II

by Eric Brand

This article, the second in a series, will explore how institutional racism—the racism of benign neglect—has affected the Africana Studies program and the newspapers at Stony Brook, and examine the dichotomy of viewpoint discovered between white and black leaders and the final weapon against distressing, pervasive racism—hope.

(It is important to note that the scope of this series is limited to its subject, and therefore does not credit other areas in which certain characters or organizations have excelled. Specifically, Polity has achieved much this year in terms of activities, internal organization and public relations. Though this does not mitigate its failures in affirmative action, it must be remembered that the latter is only a part of Polity's program.)

Africana Studies

Chairman of the Africana Studies program Les Owens said that since 1970, "The department has had a varied kind of existence." He explained that the "educational base of the department is not sound" because of various manifestations of institutional racism in its history. It was not until 1979 that the program acquired a tenured professor, and it still has no more than one. "In effect," remarked Owens, who is now on sabbatical, "it never had any senior faculty members. You can't have a stable program unless someone in it has tenure." In fact, though it had no tenured professors then, the department in 1975 had six faculty, compared to the current five, and in the Bulletin listed 28 courses offered, as opposed to 26 now. Obviously, the department has not been targeted for growth by the administration.

Yet in 1979 Owens recalled meeting with administrators who told him that the University wanted a program of national importance. He recruited poet and playwright Amiri Baraka, a figure of national importance, and did his best to bolster the department. But he received only partial reimbursement for speakers he brought to the campus, and it was not until a large rally outside the administration building and Owens himself resigned that the University capitulated to several demands.

The program was given more office space and room for a small library in the Social and Behavioral Sciences building. But as Linda Martin, department secretary, pointed out, while the space is adequate for what they have now, there is no room for expansion. Unfortun-

ately, there is no expectation for expansion. Additionally, there are no funds for a worker to lend out books from the library, and most of the material must be donated.

Currently the program, despite outstanding faculty members and eager students, is in a state of stasis. Though there are Teaching Assistants for some courses, Acting Chairman Fred Dube pointed out, "we have to depend on other departments for them," as there is no graduate program. This creates problems, he said, because often other departments send over those TA's they don't want. "Even though we have not yet gotten enough funds," said Dube, "in some cases, we have been getting a little bit." So while the program cannot, for instance, buy the journals it needs, it can finally purchase video equipment it has planned for.

The lack of growth that was most likely the result of institutional racism is now more reasonably attributable to University- and state-wide cutbacks. But as Professor Dube said, because of cutbacks in the past, "We feel the pinch even more."

The Newspapers

It is essential to discuss the campus newspapers for several reasons. To begin with, as large campus organizations, with members, leaders, high visibility, recruitment, services, funding from Polity, etc., they provide typical contexts in which to examine treatment of minorities. Secondly, they are the main sources of information on the campus. Like the press in the outside world, information is disseminated through them, and in a large part, opinion is formed by how the papers cover events or issues, what they choose to cover, and their commentary thereon. Those choices are made, of course, by the editorial staffs of the two papers, and so the background, ethnological or otherwise, of the staffs is instrumental in the final product of the publications. Both the coverage of the papers and the memberships have fallen under attack at various times.

Statesman, though appearing only three days a week, is basically a daily newspaper, analogous to *The New York Times* or *Newsday*. Its job is to cover the day-to-day events, the breaking stories. It is the established paper on campus, twenty-five years old, with an annual Polity budget of \$60,000 and offices in the Stony Brook Union. *The Stony Brook Press* is a feature paper; it appears once a week, basically akin to *The Village Voice*. Its job is to cover the story-behind-the-story and to investigate. It is only 2½ years old, with a \$16,000 annual budget, and offices in the Biology building. The paper was founded by former *Statesman* editors dissatisfied with the established paper, which now probably has more influence than *The Press* due to wider and more frequent circulation.

"The editors of *Statesman* and *The Stony Brook Press* have taken the responsibility of reporting the campus as a whole," observed Pat Hilton, president of the Haitian Club. But, he said, the coverage does not reflect the whole community, i.e. the minority sector. "I think," Hilton continued, "the problem is [the editors] don't realize what the community is. And then the minority community turns around and says, 'Okay, we don't need the *Stony Brook Press* or *Statesman*.'" Tommy Lim, president of the Asian Students Association, lamented, "I don't think they have been doing such a great job at covering minority concerns." Though *Statesman* Editor-in-Chief Howard Saltz, a white undergraduate, protested

that "I think we've covered things of interest to black people and black groups better than in the past," it is true that both papers have been lax in reporting incidents of racism, minority weekends, homecoming events or other club activities. The seemingly benign disregard for a vital sector of the community is not the only problem, though. Occasionally, a lapse into overtly racist exhibition occurs.

Several years ago, *Statesman* buried a story of a cross-burning on the lawn of Brookhaven NAACP head Ken Anderson, and added the insensitive headline, "Cross-Burning Worries Black Family." Other incidents have been cited over the years. But the most blatant example belongs to *The Press*, which earlier this year printed a transcript of an interview with Vice President for Student Affairs Fred Preston. Taking a quote out of context, *The Press* printed in huge letters the headline, "I'm Not Shaft." "We didn't really think through the implications of what we were doing to Preston and all the blacks who read that," said *Press* Editor Scott Higham, who, along with this writer, thought up the headline. "It's perpetuating the joke that a black is only a Shaft—and that's all he's worth." Higham said he "most definitely" learned something from the incident, and wrote



Press Editor Higham and Statesman Editor Saltz.

an editorial describing the situation, exploring its meaning, and finally condemning it. The editorial was met with a huge positive response, more so than any previous editorial. "The first step to alleviating racism," said Higham, "is to recognize it. As long as you're honest with yourself."

Saltz, in an impressively honest interview, admitted there were racists on his paper, but assured that "racist views do not get reflected in editorials." Asked why this was so, he replied, "I don't think there are any racial issues this year." This may be akin to President Regan's observation that there was a time this country did not know it had a race problem. (Incidentally, Saltz explained that *Statesman* editorials have been more of a commentary-type than a crusading or ideological type, because "I don't pretend to be an editorial writer. I'm a news writer.")

Tommy Lim stated that there "should be more minorities on the papers," because then "certain issues about certain groups could be best explained by an insider." Indeed, if one of the main objects of newspaper writing is to gather information, can this be fully realized when the news-gatherers are basically of the same background? Accusations have been slung for years that *Statesman* is a white male Jewish newspaper. "It still is, primarily," said Saltz. "I know there have been black editors," he continued, "but you're talking about individuals. It's certainly a big problem. It's easy to identify the problem. Coming up with solutions is the hard part. I'm not going to be naive and say they're free to join if they want." What steps has he taken to get minorities on the paper? "You don't put out a recruitment ad saying, 'Blacks Welcome.' That's absurd." He revealed there were no efforts to go to special interest clubs for recruitment, either. "There are those here at *Statesman* who I think are racists, but they call themselves realists, who say, 'They can join if they want to.' Maybe someone will read this and think, 'Hey, they really want me.'" A solution to *Statesman*'s dilemma? "You ask a liberal like me, and I shrug my shoulders . . . I wish to God someone would help me out."

At *The Press*, things seem a bit more promising, though currently the only bona fide member of a minority

group on the staff is an Asian freshman named John Tom. "I don't think it's a question of whether these people want or don't want to get on a newspaper, or any organization," said Higham. "I think it's a problem of just racism in every organization dominated by whites, and every organization in America is dominated by whites." Though he stressed that "This is not intentional, for the most part," Higham admitted that *The Press* "would not be an exception . . . They don't want to work for an organization because the organization doesn't want them to work for it. They see that it's dominated by white people, and they get no encouragement." Higham explained *The Press*'s seeming disregard for minority recruitment by saying that all the staff's energies have been devoted to "getting the paper rolling. It's been very tough in the last two-and-a-half years." Now, it's time to pay attention to the particulars, to make the paper reflect Stony Brook. *The Press* has touched on issues important to disadvantaged people, but it's time to bring on different perspectives." Has *The Press* taken any steps toward minority recruiting so far? "On an individual basis," said Higham. "Going to black people we know of, and asking them to write for *The Press*. You [Eric Brand] went to SAINTS meetings to recruit minorities," in which he might assign one person as a kind of affirmative action officer, put ads in *Blackworld*, put flyers up. "I'd like to get a good cross-section," he said. Was he worried about tokenism? "We don't want minorities on the paper just to hold them up and say, 'Look, we've got a Chicano or a Haitian,'" he responded. "It would be an excellent education for the staff and for the minorities."

There is a possibility of good things to come on the newspapers, but no guarantees. At the very least, there is an awareness of a serious problem.

While most of those interviewed, be they student, faculty member or administrator, sang the same tune as far as the racial relations situation on campus, there was a subtle but marked difference in the tone and character of remarks by minority and non-minority persons. The heightened frustration and increased sensitivity of the minority campus leaders illustrates the importance of having minorities in those positions, in touch with trends and emotions not in the mainstream, and able to convey those same to the mainstream.

Observations of minority community sentiment and activism ranged from the isolated and unaware to the sympathetic. Editor-in-Chief Saltz said he was guardedly optimistic on the issue, but that he did not "see any sort of movement at all. I have no idea," he said. "I don't even want to guess."

"It's undoubtedly difficult for them to organize," said former Polity Treasurer Chris Fairhall, "and I'm not going to conjecture on why that is." However, Fairhall continued to supply an explanation: "I think the reason for that is they don't think they can get organized." Despite several minority rights rallies in the past, Fairhall stated, "The only one who organized was Frank Jackson. You don't see large numbers doing anything."

The only white leader interviewed who speculated a more activist trend amongst minorities was Editor Higham. He felt there is "a little bit of both frustration and acceptance" for the minority community. He warned that "the only way for the improvements to hold any water is to stay on top of it." Would demonstrations and the like be in the offing? "Probably," he replied.

Vice President Preston's indictment of the campus (see last issue) was, of course, more vitriolic than the president's. But this may have reflected more than bureaucratic restraint on the part of Marburger. "I really don't know if there's been an improvement," said Preston. "There may be a lot more under the surface than anyone realizes. . . It's not like there aren't signals around us every day. [There's just] a lack of sensitivity to pick up on those cues . . . That no one is marching or protesting does not mean it is improving." Preston may have been giving an unconscious call to arms when he said, "Unfortunately, the non-minority community awareness is only piqued when there's a demonstration or something."

Finally, the students who are at the receiving end of all the oppression and all the programs were saying something quite different from the words of Howie Saltz. Hilton, a veteran of *Stony Brook* politics, said, "If I couldn't deal with the [Polity] Council, I wouldn't hesitate to do what we did before: take over the office for days. I appreciate being able to do things the easy way,"

he stated. "But I wouldn't hesitate to do things the hard way." Hilton expressed his frustration with institutional racism, and Polity in particular: "There seems to be an attitude of, 'Well, we've given them that much, why can't they wait a little longer?' Our future is very much at their mercy."

"We're not preaching violence at all," assured Hilton, but "it might come down to that if there's no choice. I'm afraid that's what may happen."

Laura Pegram, black and vice president of SAINTS, her voice rising in anger with each statement, told of the "indifference and frustration" of the minority community, "and yet you have those who just sit back. There are a few," she warned, however, "who are not just gonna sit back and accept things as they are." She said the atmosphere "needs a stirring around." What about active protest? "It's not going to happen," she replied. "You've got to make it happen." Then, her voice ringing with understatement, she said, "We're not sleeping on it."

Hope

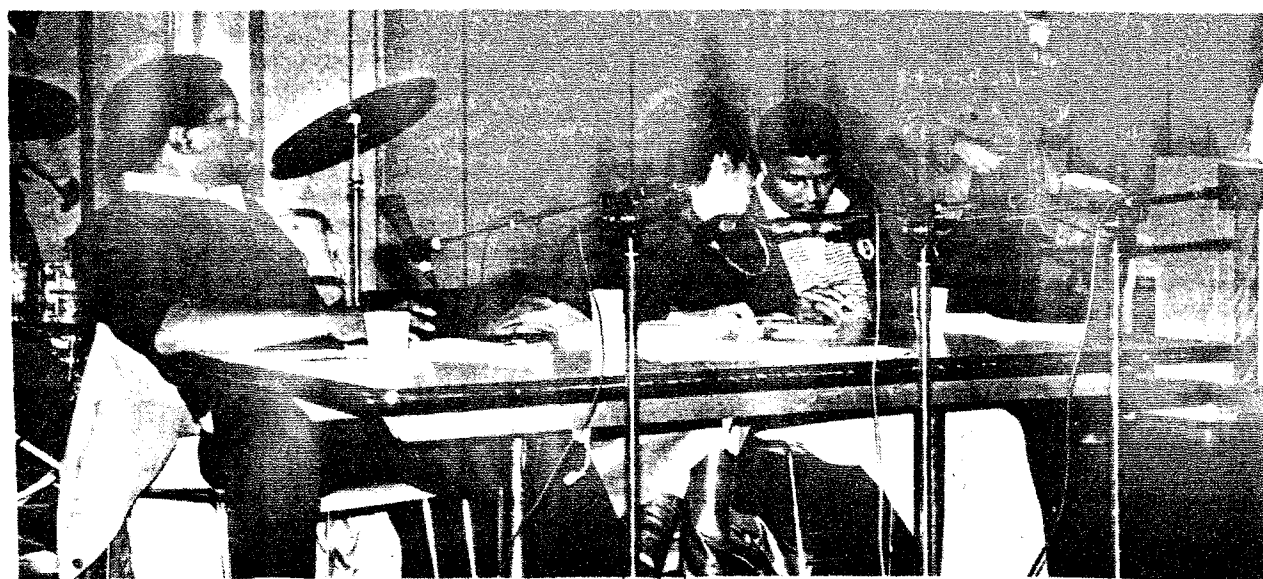
Despite what is very obviously a grim picture, there are a few rays of hope. Two of the four top administrative posts in the University have been filled by minorities, Vice President Fred Preston and Provost Homer Neal. The current administration seems very supportive of affirmative action. "I've gotten excellent support from Dr. Marburger," reported Beverly Harrison, the new affirmative action officer of the University.

According to the president, "The answer is to work much harder at affirmative action. And by the way," he added, "that applies to women, too." Marburger pointed out that he'd held a special meeting on the subject at the beginning of the year for all department chairmen, where he stated, "I take affirmative action seriously."

The campus, in Harrison, finally has a permanent affirmative action officer, after a two-year hiatus created when Malcolm Agostini resigned to move to Buffalo. Whereas a report by an ad hoc committee titled, "Affirmative Action Plan for Stony Brook, 1979" came down hard on the University for having only one employee working on the subject, now Harrison has a suite of offices in the administration building and three co-workers. She came here from the same position at SUNY/Oneonta, and attacked the new job with enthusiasm. An announcement in the second issue of the AA/EEO News read, "I'd like to emphasize that Affirmative Action is alive and well and here to serve the campus community." Later, she admitted, "It's not a fun job. When you have these minor victories, you can't talk about it. But," she added, "you get your rewards: when you see someone included in the interviews, and get hired, when he should have been hired a long time ago."

Fred Preston also has big plans. He would like "to do more things pro-actively in an educational mode, to try to improve things." He hopes to "try to involve the RA's more," feeling that this would have a "tremendous impact in regard to oppression in terms of minorities, or in terms of sexual preference, etc." He would like to develop a "better informed, more educated staff" which would have a "positive impact on the student body." Considering his vast experience in management—it was this that led to his placement, as his predecessor lacked those skills—these goals do not seem so out of reach.

In perhaps the most influential book on the civil rights movement by perhaps the most influential man in that movement, minorities were told by Martin Luther King *Why We Can't Wait*. But to quote SUNY Chancellor Clifton Wharton in his keynote address to the Annual Conference of Stony Brook's Black Faculty and Staff Association, ". . . and then they waited, but perhaps with dawning hope."



Themba Ntinga, June Jordan and Les Payne at Black Solidarity Day.

Press Photo by Eric A. Wesman

Examining the Insurance Sham

A guide to fighting high insurance rates

by Clark Jablon

The purpose of insurance is to spread the risk of high cost, low occurrence events amongst a large population of individuals. New York State law requires all motor vehicle operators to purchase automobile insurance to protect individuals against large potential losses in the event of an accident even though the risk of getting into an accident (for most persons) is relatively small. In spreading the risk, insurance companies attempt to place the greatest monetary burden on those who represent the highest risk. As any 18 to 25 year old, unmarried urban resident knows, however, this often means high rates regardless of one's actual driving ability. The system discriminates and needs to be changed.

New York State Insurance Law allows underwriters to place potential insureds into broad risk classifications based on factors which the individual has little control over. The principal factors used are age, sex, marital status and geographic location. Statistically, these factors are good indicators of the risk posed by the entire class; for the individual, however, these classifications do little to predict the likelihood that a person will get into an accident. A single, 21 year old, male, for example, is not automatically a less responsible and poorer driver than a 35 year old married female.

Unfortunately, there are inherent weaknesses in any system of risk assessment. The most accurate predictors of accident likelihood are behavior variables such as driving attitude, willingness to obey driving laws, and physical skill behind the wheel. These variables, however, are relatively difficult to measure. The system now employed by the industry, though, does not represent a good alternative.

Imagine this scenario: a lazy business professor who does not like making up test questions has acquired the following sociological data about her students:

1. Resident students get 20% better grades than commuters.
2. Married students get 30% better grades than singles.
3. Male students get 10% better grades than females. Etc..., you get the picture.

Now you walk into your business law final and start the test. There are 10 questions. The first two are business law questions and the remaining 8 ask for sociological data about yourself. All questions get equal weight. So for instance, the question on gender would be scored by giving 10 points to males and 9 points (10% less) to females. Of course everyone would immediately complain that this test is absurd and would resent a grade that is based on 20% knowledge of business law and 80% on sociological data which no one has control over. Nevertheless, they determine your auto insurance rates. Presently, your driving record accounts for about 15% of the formula whereas age, sex, marital status, and location of residence account for about 75% or more.

Automobile insurance classification is a competitive tool. It allows companies to provide lower premiums to targeted market groups at the cost of only higher rates to less desired customers. In fact, competition was the primary reason that classification was instituted. Classification generally affects only the distribution of costs among the policy holders not the total dollars in premiums that the companies collect. Theoretically, the role of classification is to stratify insureds according to predictable accident likelihoods or inherent risks. No law states that insurance companies must classify. Once classifications are made, actuaries can identify the costs each subgroup causes by examining accident statistics and can charge the groups accordingly. Very risky subgroups are charged higher premiums than low risk subgroups.

Figures 1 and 2 help to illustrate the problem of the present classification system. Both figures represent two sets of classes that have the same average expected loss (yearly probability of an accident x cost of accident). In this hypothetical example, class A is females who pay \$150 each year for insurance, and class B is males who pay \$300 for the same coverage. Examine Figure 1. The distribution of losses within these groups is small (standard deviation is small resulting in a sharp peak) and the two distributions hardly overlap. This is the mark of a fair and statistically accurate classification system. In other words, almost everyone in each class is being charged a rate of insurance proportional to their actual risk. It is very unlikely that the insureds are being charged an unreasonable rate of insurance.

Now examine Figure 2, a more accurate illustration

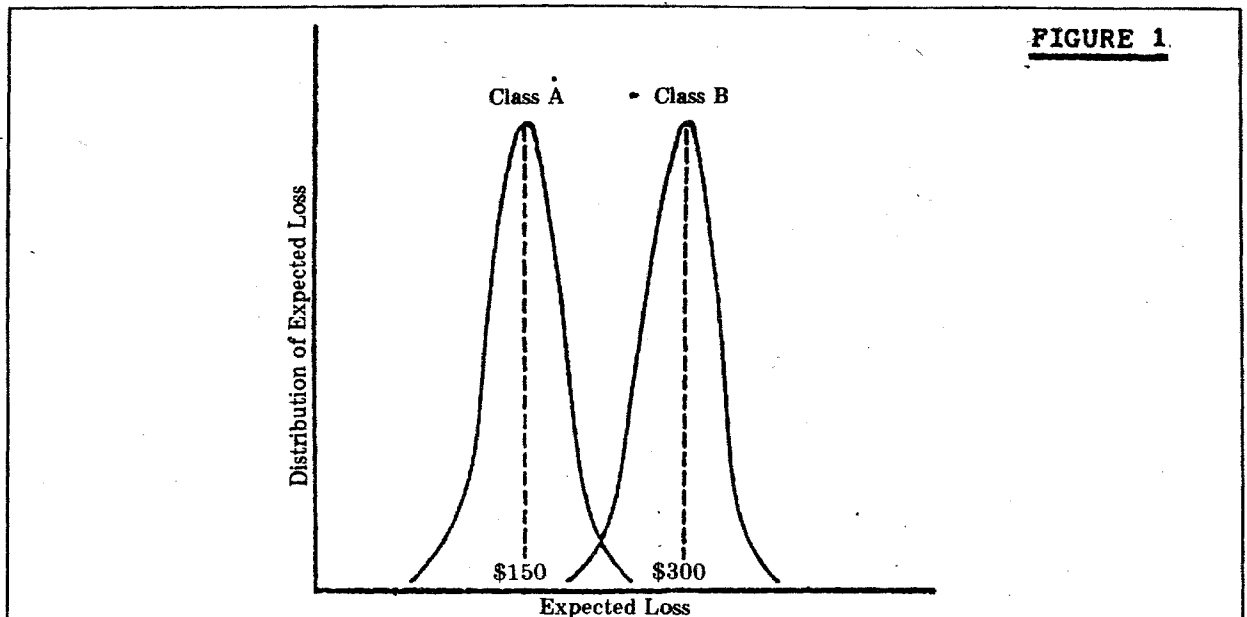


FIGURE 1

This graph represents the existing system, a bad classification system. Notice that most people within each class have very different expected losses. Many people in Class A (females) have losses which greatly exceed or fall significantly below \$150. Similarly, many people in Class B (males) have losses which greatly exceed or fall significantly below \$300. There is also a great

amount of overlap between the graphs. This indicates that many people have been misclassified. The system assumes that people in Class A are all better drivers than Class B and therefore, allows insurance companies to charge Class B drivers twice as much for insurance. Looking at the graph, though, many people in Class B are actually better drivers than people in Class A.

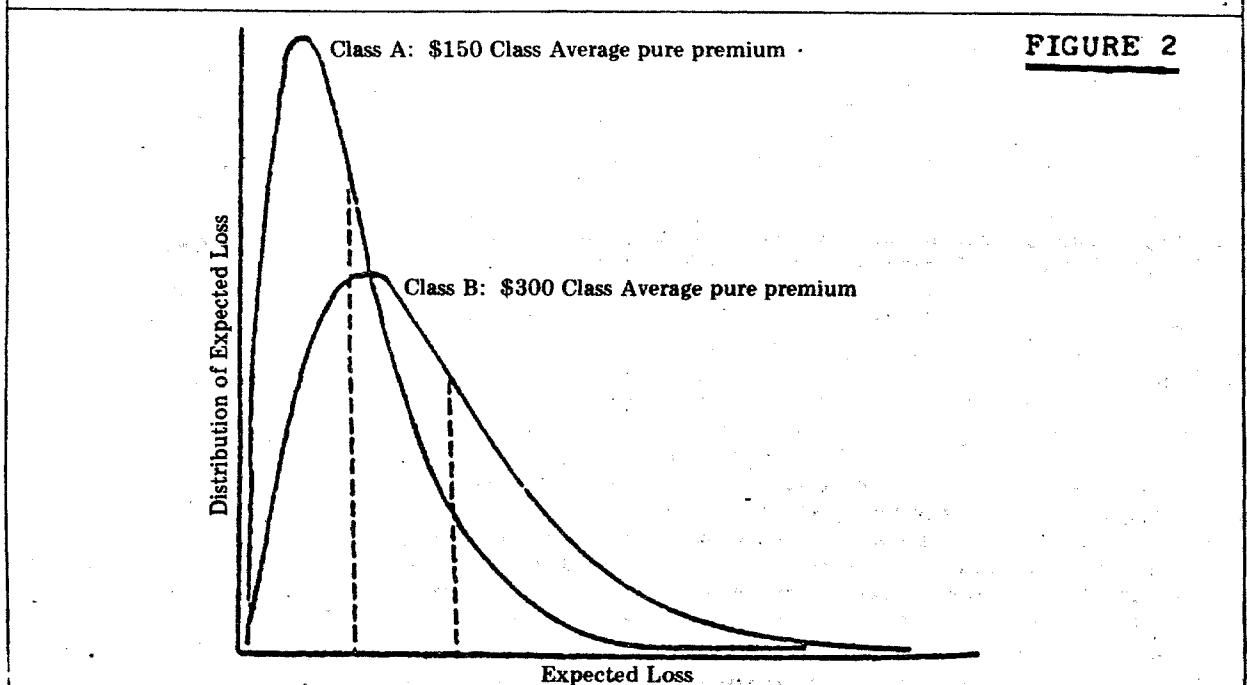


FIGURE 2

This graph represents a good classification system. Notice that most people within each class have similar expected losses. Few people in class A have expected losses which greatly exceed or significantly fall below \$150. Similarly, few people

in class B are expected to file yearly claims which greatly exceed or significantly fall below \$300. There is little overlap between the graphs. This indicates that few people have been misclassified.

of the risk posed by males and females. Here the distribution of losses is large (standard deviation is large) and the graphs overlap considerably. This is the sign of an unfair and statistically flawed system. Of the males, 28% have expected losses below the average for females but are forced to pay 100% higher premiums than is justified. Likewise, 13% of the females have higher expected losses than the average for males and are greatly underpaying. When other factors like age, marital status, and location of residence are considered, the results get worse. More and more people get misclassified.

Males and females under the age of 25, unmarried individuals, and urban residents are all overcharged under the present system. The finding that the present risk classification system is not a good risk predictor was documented in a study done by the Stanford Research Institute, ironically commissioned by the insurance industry. They discovered that only 20-25% of the variance in accident frequency can be explained by the use of all the discriminatory non-controllable factors. What does this mean? Suppose that the same business law professor gave another final and 80% of the students get grades that are much different than their actual knowledge of the class material while 20% get grades they feel they deserve (many students believe that the present sys-

tem is like that). The class and the professor would probably agree that this was an unfair test and it probably would not be counted. The next test would be redone to more accurately reflect the students' understanding of business law. The insurance industry in New York State, and in many other states, continues to use the present system in spite of its flaws.

A barrage of recent legislation and court rulings have outlawed this type of discrimination in areas like banking (mortgage and loan services), pension programs, life insurance, and in the credit industry. The New York State Insurance Department's own guidelines state that, "rates...shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory." The longstanding practice of making women pay more into pension programs than men was justified because women, on the average, live longer and will collect more benefits. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has taken a different stand:

"All that... sex-segregated actuarial tables purport to predict is risk spread over a large number of people; the tables do not predict the length of any particular individual's life."

(continued on page 12)

Trouble For Statesman

by Scott Higham

The Student Polity Association announced Sunday that Statesman's budget will be indefinitely frozen until the non-for-profit corporation can justify the misappropriation of \$1,176.56, and rectify mismanagement problems turned up during a Polity audit conducted over intercession.

Both Polity President Jim Fuccio, and Vice President Van Brown, stated that as a result of corporate and possible criminal law violations, in addition to non-compliance with the organization's bylaws, resignations from Statesman may be in the offing.

\$60,000 of Statesman's approximate \$150,000 annual budget is obtained from student activity fees, and as of yesterday, a balance of \$26,000 remains in their student funded account. The rest is secured from advertising revenues and typesetting jobs.

"The business managers (Cory Golloub and Alan Fedderbush) need to be gotten rid of," asserted Brown.

Fedderbush and Golloub, according to Statesman's bylaws, are responsible for all "expenditures of the Association. (They) shall have the power to make all expenditures reasonable and proper for carrying out the purposes of the Association." Polity, on behalf of all activity fee paying student shareholders of the corporation, has cited the business managers as being in violation of their own bylaws.

A report written by former Polity Treasurer, Chris Fairhall, entitled "Financial Mismanagement," states that two "loans" procured by Editor-in-Chief, Howard Saltz, the hiring of staffers to paid positions, the issuance of bad checks, the use of corporate funds for "business dinners," and the disappearance of \$1,176.56 from their account falls ultimately under the auspices, according to Statesman bylaws, of the business manager(s).

"The editorial board doesn't know what the hell is going on with the organization, financially," stated Brown. "I'm going to tell them (Fedderbush and Golloub) to be on their way (or) Polity will rescind their funding" completely. Fuccio explained, "It seems that this year three people

(Saltz, Fedderbush, and Golloub) were making all the decisions and the editorial board has basically no input. That means that three people had almost total control" over the entire budget.

Saltz explained he could not estimate at this time the effect losing student financial support would have on the thrice weekly newspaper. An informed source requesting anonymity suggested that Statesman may be forced to publish twice weekly.

Cory Golloub refused to comment on the situation, aside from stating that he felt the whole procedure was "a joke."

During a meeting Monday evening between Statesman's Executive Board and Polity representatives on the issue of mismanagement and possible solutions, "nothing was resolved," according to Saltz. Brown asserted, "They (Statesman) tell us in the (Monday night) meeting, 'Let us take a look through our books, we'll find it (classified revenue).' Bullshit they're going to find it."

Polity's audit was initiated last December when Statesman failed to remit outstanding bills and collect outstanding ad revenue. Polity discovered that, Saltz had taken a \$300 "loan" from the corporation to go to Florida, corporate funds were used to entertain "dinner guests as well as past editors during a reunion issue last semester, all but one full-time employee was either fired or forced to resign, staffers hired themselves to paid positions without board approval, and nearly \$1,200 is missing from their account.

Polity's attorney, Camillo Giannatasio, informed his clients that Polity could take a number of steps against Statesman which include: contacting the Attorney General's office and lodging a criminal complaint, instituting a student class action suit against Statesman, which would prevent officers to execute their duties, terminating funding (which has already been done), and compelling testimony from Statesman's officers before the Executive Council and Polity Senate.

"We want to handle the situation as fairly as possible," explained Fuccio. "The first alternative is the replacement of those who were responsible for the financial aspects of Statesman; the



business managers and possibly the editor-in-chief."

Brown concurred: "The positions of business managers have to be replaced by competent management who will straighten out the operational end of the paper." Both Fuccio and Brown stated

that a full time Executive Director position is likely.

The Polity Council will discuss Statesman's situation on this Sunday evening and executive officers from both organizations will meet again, according to Fuccio, "sometime next week."

Bob Wierd and the Midnites

(continued from page 16)

ent things. Such is the case with Cobham, who carefully explained a new attitude what you are doing. But there is a point which he has developed through his work with Weir and Bruce.

"The most significant thing for me, personally, that I've learned has been the use of figures in rhythm that's normally played by a rock and roll drummer that may take months and months and months for a rhythm section of that nature to get together," Cobham said. "I've worked out a theory I feel that's rather simple which is based on a psychological kind of thing. I really believe that if you really enjoy what you are doing and you do what is only necessary to get the point across, it will be done. By that I mean if you've been playing complexly for a long time, it's very, very difficult to turn around and go backwards because

you have to stop and really think about you can get to within yourself where you really utilize only what is necessary, and therefore cover any particular area."

Does this mean that Cobham's music will retain a minimalist approach? "On certain things, where it's necessary and to be effective. I feel that I could be comfortable doing it, whereas two or three years ago I would have been insecure."

Even after a hard night carrying all the lead vocals, Weir still retained his boyish, spaced-out quality which has made him the favority of many Deadheads. During the encore of "Too Many Losers," Weir yelled and screamed into the mike in such an exaggerated tone that he had most of the Deadheads in the throes of laughter. But you'd better believe no one was laughing during "New, New Minglewood Blues" and "Round and Round." They were too busy dancing.

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NO MSG

Examining the Insurance Sham

(continued from page 10)

In our view, any use of sex-segregated actuarial tables that result in the payment of different periodic pension benefits to males and females is highly suspect. Because actuarial tables do not predict the length of any individual's life, any claim that such tables may be used to assure equal pension payments over a lifetime between male and females must fail.

Guaranteeing individual rights does not allow classification for any purpose, including insurance. Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1969 permits differential treatment for pertinent characteristics the individual demonstrably possesses. It does not allow the attribution to an individual of the characteristics of a category that do not necessarily hold true for the individual. Although completely individualized treatment of insureds is not feasible, the public rightfully expects that factors related to behavior and not biological factors and social stereotypes should be principle determinants of mandatory insurance rates.

In New Jersey, the Insurance Department discovered that no company representative could produce a single report, survey, internal memorandum or anything in writing explaining the rationale for the initial choice of age, sex, and marital status as classification variables. Neither could they present a single traffic or population study of any kind relating to the establishment of existing territorial boundaries. If a company wants to use classification to treat individuals differently, the burden of proof must be on the company to show that the factors selected are the best, the most accurate, and the least discriminatory.

The solution that the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) proposes is not complicated and has been employed in other states. We have drafted a bill which would outlaw classification based on uncontrollable factors that have been discussed. Insurance companies would be allowed to place drivers into a small

number of experience categories, and within these categories, people with the same driving record would pay the same insurance premium. Thus, a 22 year old single male who had at least 3 years driving experience and a clean record, would pay the same rate as a married 50 year old female with a clean record. Rates would only vary if one insured had a safer car, drove fewer miles each year, or if either insured got into an accident or committed a traffic violation. The solution is often called a "merit rating system".

A merit rate system would yield insurance rates that are fairer to the individual. The elimination of most demographic variables would not result in an undifferentiated pricing system (everyone paying the same premiums). Drivers who have had accidents clearly deemed to be their fault and/or serious moving violations on their license would be surcharged. This would provide positive incentives for people to be better drivers while rewarding safe drivers whether or not they belong to high risk subgroups. The only positive incentive provided by the present system is to lie.

Another problem with the present system of auto insurance is the Assigned Risk Plan. The Assigned Risk Plan was set up to guarantee that uninsurable drivers (those with very poor driving records) could still obtain coverage since it is mandatory in New York State. The insurance industry has taken advantage of this program by placing large numbers of safe drivers in this pool, usually people from high risk subgroups. Nationally, 70% of the insureds in these state-run pools have perfectly clean driving records (no accidents or traffic violations). NYPIRG would like to see the Assigned Risk Plan replaced by a system which enables an individual to appeal a company's decision to place him or her onto the plan.

It is our hope that the new legislation will include the following elements:

1. No rate hikes for accidents not deemed your fault. This present industry practice penalizes innocent victims who have already paid for insurance.

2. Appeal procedure if an insurance company denies an applicant coverage without an explicit explanation. Presently, rejected applicants are placed in the Assigned Risk Plan and are picked up by a company at random, usually at a higher rate than the voluntary market. No explanation of rejection need be given and insurance companies are free to accept or reject anyone they like.
3. An end to territory classification until the insurance industry can produce statistically significant risk assessment data that can be applied to individuals. Driving patterns are determined by many factors that are unrelated to a person's place of residence.

In Michigan, a federal district court ruled that the traditional rating system was unconstitutional. Subsequently, Michigan adopted a merit rate system. Hawaii, New Jersey, North Carolina and Massachusetts have also adopted some form of merit rating and it is time for New York State to follow their lead. Driving records may not be a perfect predictor or future accident risk; however, they are a reasonable determinant. Furthermore, rather than broad demographic variables which are largely beyond the control of the individual is a much more equitable system. NYPIRG therefore strongly advocates that New York State adopt a merit rate system of automobile insurance as soon as possible.

Are you about to purchase auto insurance or do you have questions about your present policy? NYPIRG has a copy of the New York State Insurance Dept., "Consumers Shopping Guide For Automobile". It contains samples of rates, explanations of types of auto coverage, and phone numbers to call if you have auto coverage, and phone numbers to call if you have any complaints or questions about automobile insurance. Stop down to our office in Room 079 in the Stony Brook Student Union and look through it before you buy.

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No Mystery

by Ned Goldreyer

I enjoy watching Richard Robinson's blood flavored magic on late night concert shows. He performs the act in mime and although his tricks can be found in almost any stage magician's repertoire, he adds a touch of malevolence that sets the mood of his routine apart from other illusionists. The sword he slowly draws from the woman-in-the-casket is stained with realistic blood, and when he or his assistants needs to be bound, they wince convincingly in pain as the ropes are yanked tight. I had hoped that during his live performance, entitled "Robinson's Mysteries," Tuesday night he would convey the same attitude of sinister indifference for the audience and positive disdain for his two accomplices.

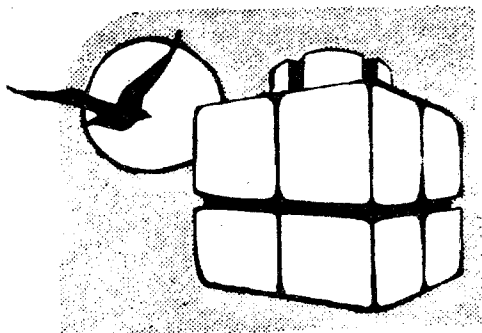
He did not. Robinson walked out half an hour late onto the cabinet cluttered stage to the sound of an over amplified heartbeat and introduced himself, in the dark, as a purveyor of mysteries and keeper of the Great Black Secrets of Ages Past. He opened the show with a card trick so obvious it defied belief and proceeded to do a number of gags that could have been bought in any novelty shop. He managed, however, to use his Gary Numan facial expressions to great advantage, partially redeeming these mediocre tricks at the last instant.

In all fairness I must commend his "telepathic" abilities for although his mind-tricks, too, have seen the stage for decades, they were performed convincingly, and with that Robinson twinge of anguish that made them that much more entertaining. He guessed the serial



number of an unseen dollar bill, copied a figure drawn by a member of the audience as she held it crumpled in her hand, and produced a letter from an envelope locked within three boxes that was addressed to a member of the audience, mentioning her name, phone number, and the fact that she had selected John Lennon as a dead personality to contact via magic.

The passion play acted throughout the performance between Robinson and his assistants was awful and unnecessary. "Amy" and "Didona" are not actresses of any merit, and it is to Robinson's credit that he chose to gain his television exposure in silence. I am pleased for these performers that the rest of the audience appeared to enjoy the evening more than I did.



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Music

Runaway

Runaway
Tom Champlin
Elektra Records

Most artists who reel off countless credits of past back-up experience usually crank up the volume on the opening cuts of their solo albums. They feel it lends them more credibility and diversity as a solo artist. Such is the case with Bill Champlin's very busy second solo release *Runaway*. However, it exhibits Champlin's important contributions to many of today's major acts.

Champlin has backed artists ranging from the Tubes to Earth, Wind and Fire. He has co-written such hits as Lee Ritenour's "Is It You" and George Benson's "Turn Your Love Around." He has a fine track record and, as you might expect, many of the people with whom he has worked have returned the favor by appearing on *Runaway*. The results are surprisingly good, given that session musicians usually lack the material necessary to make noteworthy albums.

The trick is that Champlin writes his own music, which has proven in the past

to be hook laden and, in combination with first rate production, very effective. Such is the case with the ballad "Sara," reminiscent of the aforementioned Ritenour hit. "Tonight, Tonight" is complete with a Jerry Hey ("After the Love Has Gone, which was co-written by Champlin) inspired horn riff, and the end product is in the same league as the EWF smash. The opening title cut, as mentioned, cranks up the volume, uses David Bowie phrasing, Toto guitar and, interestingly, is reprised in the middle of side one. Somewhat more discouraging is "One Way Ticket," which is one big, poor guitar riff without any semblance of a tune, leading nowhere.

1982 has brought us the return, some 25 years later, of Del Shannon, who was propelled to stardom with a song of the same name as this Champlin disc. While it is highly doubtful that anyone will remember Bill Champlin in 2007, *Runaway* gives some pretty good listening, and far surpasses skeptical expectations. —Feibel

Delicate Di Roma

by Alysa Chadow

The Virtuosi Di Roma is a 12-piece string orchestra whose performances in Baroque Music have won them critical acclaim throughout the United States and Europe. Monday night's performance at the Fine Arts Center was just one more display why.

The words "delicate" and "well-balanced" can certainly be considered earmarks of the group's playing. These noteworthy characteristics, however, were in some competition with the slightly slow start of Antonio Vivaldi's *Concerto in D Minor*. The unsureness of the playing added a feeling of heaviness and density to the first movement. This soon gave way to a lighter, tighter playing in the second movement, and the richness and luminosity of tone quickly eradicated the academic tone previously experienced.

The group's playing began to pick up with Franz Joseph Hayden's *Concerto in C Major* for cello and strings. The softness

and somberness of tone in the first two movements was not to be taken for slowness or technical looseness. The smoothness of execution in all three movements, especially the last, combined for a sensuality and lushness, making this piece a highlight of the evening.

The best-known piece of the evening, Vivaldi's *Concerto of the Four Seasons*, followed the intermission. The work is a personal favorite, making me especially aware of the group's handling of it. I was not disappointed, as their playing was phenomenal.

The Virtuosi played their encore with yet another Vivaldi piece, *Concerto for Four Violins in F Minor*. It was short, but no less spectacular than any of the other performances.

The Virtuosi Di Roma's performance at Stony Brook can certainly be considered a memorable one. The group's playing was both exquisite and jubilant, despite what I thought to be overemphasis on Vivaldi. No matter how large their repertoire, they were nonetheless excellent.

A Stranger in Worn Out Territory

A Stranger is Watching

Directed by Sean S. Cunningham

Produced by Sidney Beckerman

Screenplay by Earl Mac Rauch, Victor Miller; from the novel by Mary Higgins Clark

An MGM/United Artists Release

With Kate Mulgrew, Shawn van Schreiber, Rip Torn, and James Naughton

by Ron Dionne

What Sean Cunningham did in Friday the 13th that he didn't do in A Stranger is Watching was connect with his audience. However crass or ambivalently disturbing this connection was, it helped Cunningham turn a \$500,000 quickie into a \$70 million smash at the box office. His success landed him in only slightly more sophisticated material—A Stranger is Watching, the best-selling, mass-market novel by Mary Higgins Clark—with a production equipped with two somewhat-known actors (Torn and Mulgrew), and access to MGM's Hollywood studio editing facilities. But the upward mobility—a function of that capitalist alchemy Hollywood can never seem to get out of its system—bequeathed upon Cunningham nothing but the opportunity to prove that he was no more sophisticated than the slasher material that comprised Friday the 13th.

What makes A Stranger is Watching worthless—as opposed to Friday the 13th, which can be defended, as will follow—was the thematic pretension attached perfunctorily to a truly revolting series of impending rapes, “pussy” jokes, and arbitrary murders. This film is supposed to have something to say about urban uneasiness: what you don't see can hurt you. And the news media, represented by three of the four principle characters, are powerless in the face of brute evil, or worse, even contribute to it. Unlike The Howling, a werewolf horror movie of early last year that treated more intelligently the peculiar relationship between show-biz/news/hype and the lives of those who routinely watch the stuff at six o'clock every night, A Stranger is Watching does little more than establish its protagonists' professions as newspeople, and only hints at the responsibility the media can carry for wrongly influencing public opinion in areas where doubt casts a heavy shadow.

Rip Torn plays a psychotic but rather practical rapist-murderer who raped and killed the wife of a major news magazine editor (James Naughton) while her nine-year-old daughter (Shawn van Schreiber) looked on. Torn, being a nasty pervert, had recorded the crime on cassette and photographed the cowering little girl. Traumatized, she mistook a passerby attracted by the screaming for the killer, and Torn escaped.

Two years later, as the film opens, the passerby has been convicted and awaits execution. Kate Mulgrew plays a network newscaster covering the case, and we first see her in the editing room putting together a sensational rehash of the traumatized child, the trial and the passerby hysterically proclaiming innocence, all only minutes before air time. She is also Naughton's new girlfriend.

When she visits his house for a weekend and he is held up by train delays, Torn reappears and kidnaps both Mulgrew and van Schreiber, wraps them in carpet bags, and carries them through Grand Central Station into deserted places beneath the railways. There he keeps them, demanding ransom through telephone calls. He wires a bomb to the door of the room in which they are kept, and constantly threatens to rape Mulgrew, although he (mercifully) never does.

No one ever plumbs the depths of the subways but mentally deficient or ferret-faced bag ladies and homeless men. Van Schreiber, who only after spending a night or two underground and having bad dreams about her mother's death, finally realizes that Torn is the killer, at one point looks him in the face and declares: “I hate you.” When she tells Mulgrew who he is, Mulgrew feels guilty, really guilty, and is doubly determined to escape in order to keep that poor passerby from being electrocuted.

Eventually, of course, the little girl escapes into the arms of Daddy, and Mulgrew, surviving a spiteful aul to the ribcage, is found crawling around beneath Grand Central Station. But Torn escapes, without the ransom money that would have paid for that ranch in Arizona, which was all he wanted in the first place. So if Daddy doesn't, even after this second disaster, move out of his bloody house, that rapist could very well come back. And if that little girl is in the flower of puberty by then...

It's a truly hideous movie. It's full of red herrings. The



Press illustration by Maria Mingalone

cassette recorder and camera prominent in the dream recollections of the little girl are never focused on again. The father doesn't, as mentioned, leave his house after the rape-murder of his wife. The killer demands a sum of money that equals the amount of the mother's insurance settlement, but that doesn't lead anywhere. You never know if the passerby is executed. Mysteriously, this wanton murderer and rapist does not abuse Mulgrew. Yet this is what the audience is most afraid of. He bestially to escape. Is this supposed to be titillating? Or is it just there to fuel the audience's hatred in order to justify

Torn's steel spike-through-the-throat death scene?

The murders, which were the *raison-d'être* for Friday the 13th, never quite thrill. The menace is too revolting and the situation too complicated for Cunningham to pull off what he did in Friday. The audience feels a real dread of Torn's violence. He's a good actor, and his matter-of-fact New York-bred monster is believable. The result is discomforting. Sorry, but we don't want to watch Mulgrew be brutalized. When you find yourself thanking a movie for not doing something, you know you have a bad movie.

Friday the 13th had the simplest plot possible, the one most vulgarly appealing to the most ubiquitous members of the movie-going audience: unseen sicko menaces group of fun-loving, libidinous teenagers. It was so simple it worked, but only under particular conditions. Friday the 13th was like a kite. It needed the wind of screaming young lungs to make it fly. If you saw it on a Saturday night in a theater full of high school couples eagerly leaping into each other's laps, the chances were you too jumped when you were supposed to. As long as the film's in focus, the sound is in sync, and the opportunity to clutch your date is afforded, the evening's made. It's when the least bit of thought or sophistication intrudes (the extreme example of which is Kubrick's The Shining) that you get unwanted questions and demands on the suspension of disbelief. Finding someone in the wood with a slit throat—especially a friend with a slit throat—supplies an immediate problem: there's a killer on the loose, and he just might get you.

On the other hand, if you saw Friday the 13th at home on cable, or even in a theater with only a few people in it, and none of them noisy, screechy, giggly teenagers, you probably were rather bored and maybe offended. Films like Friday require a particular audience situation, as certain germs require particular substances in order to grow in petri dishes. There's a vulgar delight in being ravished by such a horror film, a delight that comes out of the random sense of community one feels in a theater full of strangers dying to be scared. One can sense, in the ideal Friday the 13th-type audience, an almost perverse silent group which says: hurt us but don't cheat us. If it's a ghost story, let there be ghosts throughout, without a hoax at the end. If it's a murder story, let there be murders.

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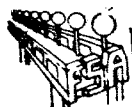
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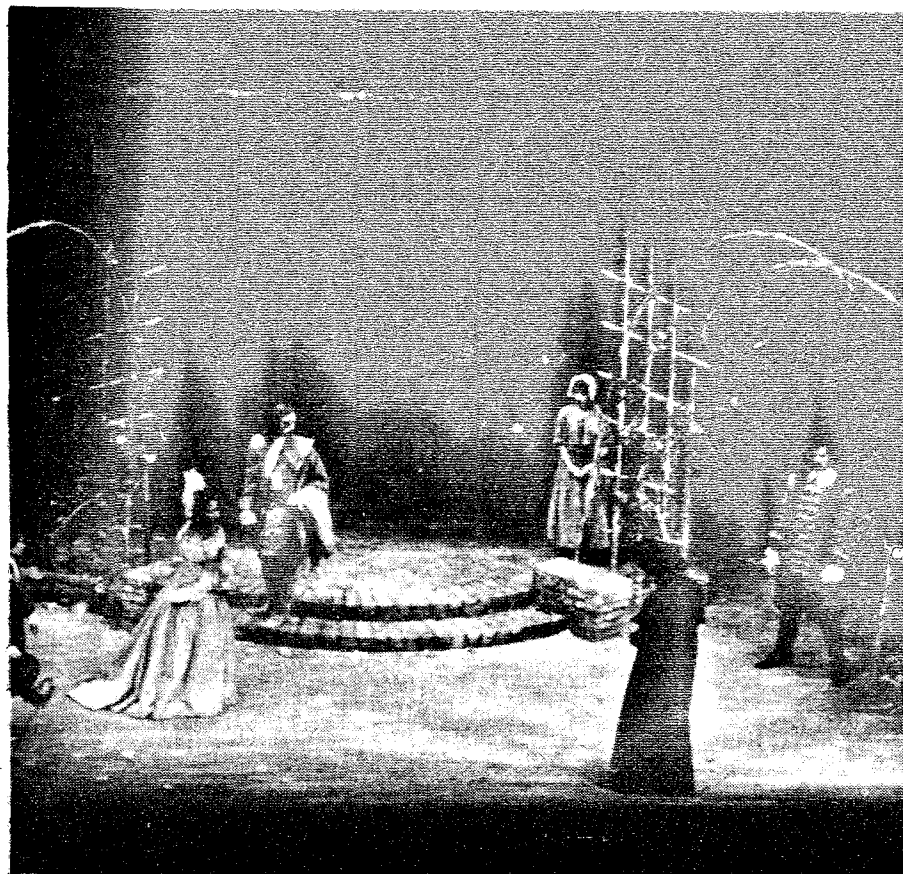
Twelfth Night : Competent But Uninspired

by Kathryn Klvana

The John Houseman Acting Company's production of *Twelfth Night* was essentially lackluster, though very much appreciated by the packed house which viewed it Saturday night at the Fine Arts Center's Mainstage. Either the audience was familiar with the play and wanted to be entertained, or did not want to appear uncultured by not enjoying the rather boring production.

Twelfth Night is primarily about the complications of love. Almost every character faces an obstacle in his or her desire for another. Viola, disguised as a boy, is taken into Duke Orsino's court to serve as his messenger to the woman he loves, Olivia. Olivia in turn falls in love with Cesario, the disguised Viola, who completes the triangle by pining for the Duke. The humor inherent in this situation must be capitalized on if the actors want to realize a lively production.

Much of the comedy, however, was lost. Pamela Nyberg as Viola did not exhibit any nervousness about her concealment, though Viola has been in the Duke's service for only three days, nor did she emphasize the bind she was in as a "man" attracted to another man. There was no tension onstage betraying Viola's desire for the Duke, played by Patrick O'Connell, nor any exposing of his interest in the soft girlish youth. These scenes had instead a low-keyed matter-of-factness which did not work effectively. This was especially so at the end, when Viola and



Courtesy/HSC Photography Service

Orsino pair up. One wonders when and how these two ever managed to fall in love.

Michele-Denise Woods as Olivia suffered from being too contemporary, making

her performance stand out like a hot dog vendor at a classical recital. Shakespeare's poetry was lost in much high pitched whining, and her love evolved into a sort of perverse, modern lust for Cesario. Ca-

sey Briggs, who played Viola's brother, Sebastian, simply had a technical problem with his voice: no one in the house could understand what he was saying. Other disappointments included the traditional "steal the show" role, Malvolio, portrayed by Jeff Rubin. He was fairly unnoticeable, except in the famous letter scene, when he is made a fool of by the other comic characters. In this scene a forged love letter leads Malvolio to believe Olivia loves him. This feeds on his vanity, and Rubin's conceited strut around the stage was humorous, although even that was not as funny as it could have been.

Much of the blame must rest with Director Michael Langham. The show was competent, but uninspired. Langham's version of *Twelfth Night* did not roll the ball towards some climax, some statement about desire and love. Sure, it was Shakespeare, but it was not quite engaging.

Despite the problems with the show, fine performances were turned in by Lynn Chausow as the bright, energetic maid Maria, Richard Iglewski as the drunken, lovable Sir Toby Belch, and Paul Walker as the foppish Sir Andrew Aguecheek. These actors came closest to playing the full comedy of *Twelfth Night*, and their freespirted rollicking was delightful. The music, composed by David Earling, compensated for those moments when set design and lighting fell short. The comedy and music rescued the audience from an otherwise substandard evening in the theater.

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Divergent Talent Creates Exploratory Music

by Jeff Zoldan

"Where be the Dead, so shalt be the Heads..."

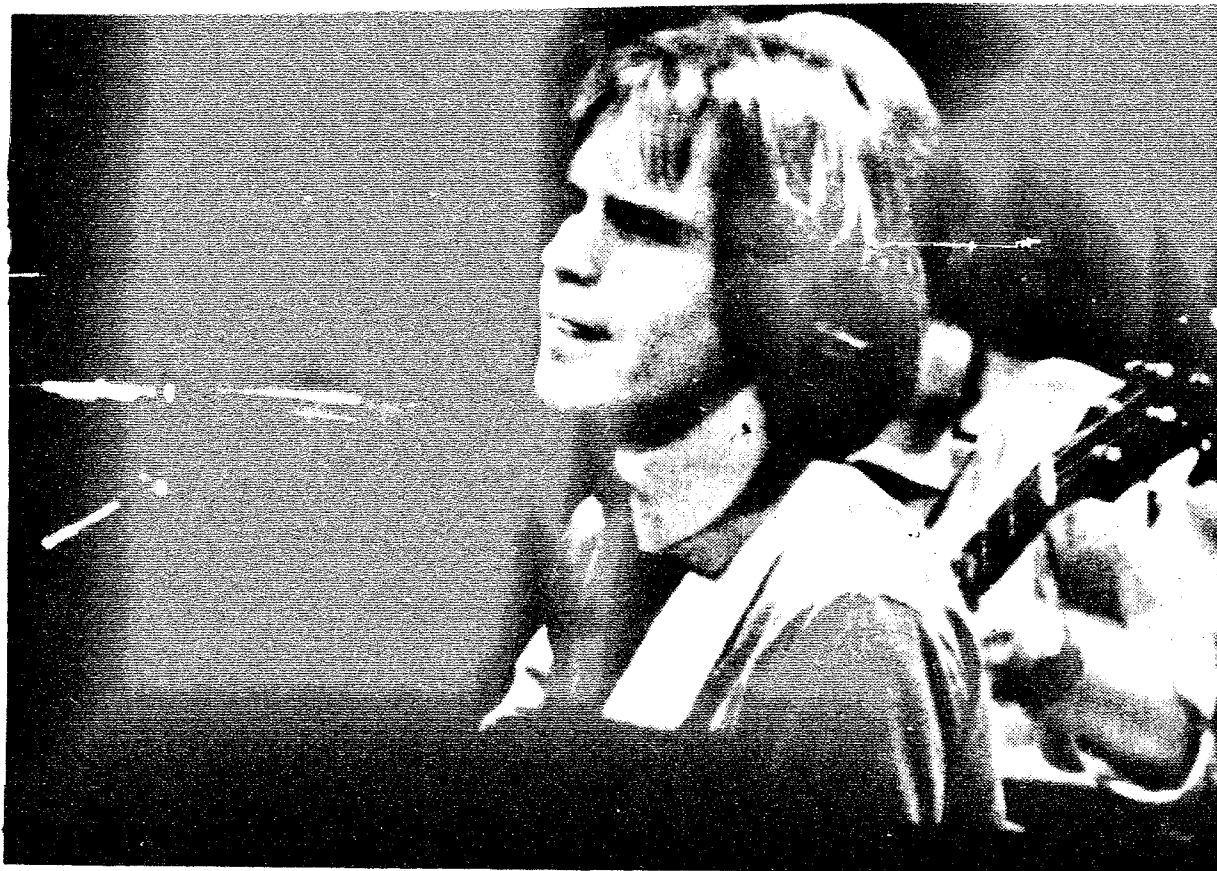
This sentiment has been the guiding light for millions of music fans over the course of the last fifteen years and holds true even when the Grateful Dead branch off on their own solo projects. Sunday night saw this phenomena come to life as the Dead's rhythm guitarist Bob Weir fronted an impressive array of talent that rocked and rolled the Stony Brook Gym.

Weir's current venture, Bobby and the Midnites, boasts an impressive display of virtuostic musicianship that furthers Weir's reputation as a musician of the highest caliber. After ending a grueling tour with the Dead on New Year's Eve in Oakland, Weir has retired to the only real home he's ever known--the road--to do what he does best--play music.

Sunday night's show had Weir strutting around the stage adroitly exercising his rhythm patterns as Bobby Cochran rattled off beautifully phrased and technically proficient leads. Backed by a powerful rhythm section of Dave Garland on keyboards, Alphonso Johnson on bass, and Billy Cobham on drums, Bobby and the Midnites reeled off over two hours of often changing musical idioms with the cohesiveness and grace that come only with years of experience as a group. Yet, the current line-up of the Midnites scarcely had time for rehearsals before hitting the concert halls.

"Bobby (Cochran), Billy, and I used to promote Ibanez (guitars) a while ago," said Alphonso Johnson in a conversation shortly before the show. "That was the molding of the rhythm section and then Cochran used to do some work with Weir on the Kingfish project, then Billy joined, and finally me." In fact, both Garland and Johnson had not played with the band on the LP *Bobby and the Midnites*; their roles filled by Dead keyboardist Brent Mydland and ist Tim Bogart.

Nonetheless, the tempo changes--from the first set's harder rocking elements of "Youngblood," "C.C. Rider," and an electrified Johnson bass solo to the second set's emphasis on jazz and pop with an inspired "Bombs Away," "Heaven Help The Fool," and a funky condition of Little Feat's "Women Are Smarter--"



were smoothly done and the segues perfectly handled.

The depth of the band was exhibited throughout the night, as Weir handsomely handled all lead vocals (save one Cochran tune). Cochran turned in many neat solos, and launched into several exploratory jams with the rest of the band. And throughout it all, Billy Cobham pumped away behind his double bass drum set, coupling the heavily layered rhythms with an energetic boost of percussion.

Of all the members of the band, Cobham's involvement with Weir is the most surprising. Until his work with

Weir several years ago, and most recently with Jack Bruce, Cobham's prolific credits involved intricate, complex jazz rhythms which make rock and roll percussion look like child's play. "Music is music is music," he said as he explained his current involvement with the heavy sounds of rock music. "This happens to be in the forefront right now, whereas in the future it may not. But this is the side of me that has rarely been seen. As with most musicians and non-musicians, life's daily reward is experience, exposure to new and differ-

(continued on page 14)

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