

The
Stony
Brook

PRESS

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Utility Strike

SCOOP and FSA businesses are closed today to increase awareness of the effects of the state-imposed utility fee.

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The University Sees Itself



by Joe Caponi

The final draft of the University's Self-Study report to its accreditation review board was printed yesterday, outlining the steps needed to make Stony Brook one of "the nation's top institutions of higher learning," by stressing improvements throughout Stony Brook, but setting the reform of undergraduate education and the quality of Stony Brook life as its highest priorities.

Ranging over nearly all of Stony Brook life, the report is a necessary prelude to the accreditation review of the Middle States Association of the Commission of Higher Education, which conducts such surveys of every college and university every ten years. Lack of Accreditation is fast death for any school.

The 173 page study, prepared from 50 smaller studies, was organized through the provost's office, and directed by Professor Joseph Katz. A full look will appear in the next Stony Brook Press, but here are included some of the more significant statements in the report:

John Toll, President from 1965 to 1978, designed an organization that would allow him to build a major research university virtually from scratch in a very short time. President Toll had a grand design in mind for Stony Brook, coupled with very high ambitions and driving energy. He faced essentially two tasks: to erect the buildings and to recruit a high-quality faculty. His main challenge involved executing ambitious plans for the University under a state government heavily ruled by multiple bureaucracies, complex procedures for expenditure and program approval, and intricate budgetary restraints. He designed a rather traditional university structure, heavily centralized, with many avenues for information to flow up administrative chains, but with all important decisions essentially made at the top.

With the advent of President Marburger in 1980, Stony Brook underwent radical changes in structure and management style. John Marburger has sought a more decentralized model, with delegation of authority to powerful middle managers. He has concentrated more powers at the vice presidential level, while designing structures capable of handling complex budgetary and programmatic issues at lower levels. For example, the Academic Vice President became the Provost, who is "preeminent in the conduct of academic affairs University-wide."

(Continued on page 6)

Pay or Perish

With a slogan of "do more with less," Governor Mario Cuomo cut thousands of jobs from State agencies, including the State University system, and increased every fee imaginable in order to look like he was keeping a campaign promise of balancing the budget and not raising taxes. It is this perplexing dichotomy between politics and effecting solid and rational policies, and the strange way in which the two interact, that can help to explain why Stony Brook students today will not be having their morning coffee served from the Main Desk, why they will find the Rainy Night House has closed its doors and be unable to find open some of their more typical campus night spots.

New York state has been in fiscal trouble since the mid 1970s, and since then both the Governor's office and the Legislature have understood the need of generating additional revenues without raising taxes, which, as all politicians are aware, are highly correlated with incumbents losing elections. The age old trade-off of fighting for one's political future or working to improve in both a short run and a long run the future of one's constituents led politicians to further increase the state's deficit, and cut funding for those programs, services and groups which possessed relatively little political clout.

It was in this environment in 1980 that the Division of the Budget, an Executive agency of the Governor's which is responsible for drafting the state's budget, among other things, decided that there had to be creative means of generating additional revenues. A utility fee for SUNY campus businesses seemed to be a good idea for several reasons. First, the FSAs throughout the State had never paid for utilities in the past, and the State could view itself as having been a paternal figure to the FSAs while money was not in short supply, and merely exercising sound business judgement during tougher economic times. Second, and more importantly as well as pragmatically, a fee or an increase in an existing fee is one of the most difficult things to fight in a political arena. The reason for this, simply, is that a fee affects only fairly small groups which are generally incapable of waging effective political leverage to do anything about it.

The utility fee's timing also made it difficult for various

groups throughout the university to take even a small stand against it. Prior to 1981, Faculty Student Associations were responsible for paying rent to the State. In actuality, this seldom happened, and on paper FSAs owed millions of dollars to the State. Only several months before the fee was imposed did it become clear that the State was going to release the FSAs of their rental liabilities. And in that light it was very difficult to complain about a fee which, at that particular time, was miniscule in comparison to the hundreds of thousands of dollars that Stony Brook's FSA no longer owed to the State.



1980-81 Polity Treasurer Chris Fairhall

An intrinsic problem with the utility fee is that it conjures up images of businesses paying bills for electricity and heating oil. The utility fee charged to FSAs, however, has absolutely nothing to do with either actual or estimated utility usage. In regard to its current allocation among SUNY campuses, it is based upon the total revenues that are collected from meal plans, in such a way that the more meal plan monies that a campus generates, the greater the

percentage its share of the fee. (In regard to a related topic, it is difficult to imagine the impacts of University President John Marburger's plan to increase meal plan enrollments.) It was only about six months ago that FSA at Stony Brook started working on its own estimates of utility usage.

The \$309,000 that FSA sent to Albany last month is in effect nothing more than a student services tax, paid for by increased costs in everything from meal plan rates to ice cream cones and cigarettes. And as there aren't any faculty or administrators on the meal plans, there is no guess work involved in determining who pays an extra \$10 or so per semester to eat on the Board plans. There is also no question in regard to which of the campus constituencies feels the greatest impact from price structures which have to account for the ever-increasing utility fee; after all, a faculty member earning in excess of \$25,000 per year can much more easily afford to spend a dollar per week in utility fee purchases than can a student who earns less than one tenth a faculty member's salary.

While it can be argued that paying utilities is one of the many prices of doing business, or more accurately explained, a cost that is passed on to consumers, there are very cogent reasons why university businesses should not be forced to pay utilities. Businesses operating in the real world, which is as close away as across the railroad tracks, are guaranteed fairly level amounts of revenues on weekly and monthly bases. Therefore, they can afford to hire and pay for managers and assistant managers, and pay their salaries on the expectation that they will generate substantial amounts of revenues during a 52 week year. In a university environment, there is still need of hiring these same managers and assistants,

Front Page Photo Credits: John Tymczyszyn

Piscopo by Mike Shavel

To The Editor:

What's happening with the university radio station? Why is WUSB, one of the most powerful radio stations on Long Island, funded though the student activity fee, misunderstood by the students?

College radio is different than radio most people listen to. There are no commercials. You won't hear Led Zeppelin, Michael Jackson or Kenny Rogers once every hour. You will hear a lot of different things; an interesting and informative lecture or conversation; jazz from the 30's, new music from the 80's, music from countries all over the world; a college basketball game, or local, national, and international news.

WUSB is considered by many people in the radio and music industries to be one of the top college stations in the country. It has the longest running reggae program in the U.S. It was the first station to play music by Billy Joel, the Stray Cats, and Joan Jett. Its signal travels well beyond the boundaries of the campus into Connecticut, Massachusetts, Nassau, Westchester and Rockland Counties. Lots of people are listening in these areas, too.

Back to the question, what's wrong with this station? Complaints I've heard range from "E-

very time I tune in it's the India Hour." to "You mean this university has a radio station?" You may not hear what you like 100% of the time but if you actually listen for a while you become aware of a new type of radio. It's not just wallpaper, it's educational, exciting, it's definitely different and it's supposed to be that way.

In the 1960's when FM radio was new, "progressive" radio stations played all types of music in a new and adventurous way. They were an alternative to the repetitious pop stations. College radio is serving this same function now. Bands that are popular today, like Duran Duran, Billy Idol, U2, Men At Work, Eurythmics, Heuy Lewis and the News, Prince, Madonna, Spandau Ballet, even Culture Club, were heard on WUSB, months, sometimes years before their mass acceptance.

So the next time you're fiddling around with the radio dial, try down near the end at 90.1 FM. It will open your ears. If you have any comments or complaints about what you hear call 246-7901 or stop by Union room 260. We'll be happy to communicate.

Jim Caligiuri

Music Director, WUSB

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Counter-Proposal

Marburger Declines Polity Dorm Cooking Offer

by Ron Ostertag

Awaiting the proposals of Fred Preston's Dorm Cooking Committee, University President John Marburger refused yesterday to accept Polity's request that buildings not be forced onto the meal plan in September.

At the first meeting between Marburger and Polity's Dorm Cooking Task Force, Marburger referred all specific ideas and proposals to Preston and others, including VP for Campus Operations Robert Francis and DAKA boss Charlie Thrasher, and while he agreed in principle with much of Polity's proposals, he made no indication that he would consider their suggestions.

"The Proposal Task Force" is the Polity committee researching proposals for administration on the improvement and its implementations of campus dining services. Chaired by Polity Secretary Belina Anderson, the task force is comprised of about a dozen students, roughly two people from each quad. In their meeting with Marburger and Preston, V.P. of Student Affairs and head of the committee (half-students) on studying the initiations of a policy change, the Polity group made clear the essential proposals in their main "Proposal for the improvement of Campus Dining Services." This main proposal, which was prepared by Barry Ritholtz, V.P. of Polity and a member of the task force, essentially outlines possibilities in improving "The



John Marburger

press photo by Scott Richter

efficiency and management of the The Polity Task Force, concerned about any implementations of a policy change this fall, asked Marburger to wait at least for the facts. A study by the engineering department of the Dorm Cooking Program, which Preston showed interest in, was asked for by Belina Anderson. At best, Marburger agreed to "sanction" such a study, which would be completed by this November, but this was more appropriately, according to Marburger, proposed to Preston who heads the committee on this issue. Over the summer, as task force member Danny Cohens stated "improvements in the meal plan would be needed regardless," and after the summer the engineering reports would come in

"voluntary enrollment of the resident food service." derson. At best, Marburger agreed to "sanction" such a study, which would be completed by this November, but this was more appropriately, according to Marburger, proposed to Preston who heads the committee on this issue. Over the summer, as task force member Danny Cohens stated "improvements in the meal plan would be needed regardless," and after the summer the engineering reports would come in

and then allowing for a decision on dorm cooking with all the facts. "If you are going to implement anything this fall," said Cohen, guarantee a voluntary shift."

In response to Paul Rizzo's (Kelly A Leg. Chair) question if there would actually be any cooking free dorms, Marburger stated: "In the original memo to Preston I asked this. I would sure like to see one or two at least right away." Overall, he want to see "...a reduction from 70% (on Dorm Cooking) to at least the long range goal of 50%." Despite the reaction to the prospect of cooking free dorms, he still feels it "a rather modest goal since some dorms are already low in those who cook."

"The Proposal Task Force," attempting to persuade Marburger in their first meeting merely to wait and study more clearly, were sent to those who were involved with the study to propose their hopes for improvement and implementation. The Polity group has expressed their concern over any "quick fix attempt to ease the vast problems of adequately feeding the student population," and fear that a rash implementation of policy might occur this fall. As Neal Drobbonare expressed the group's concerns, "We find problems with assumptions made and methodologies used in reports. Other things must be investigated-not everything-but there is a definite need to lay our foundation."

Utility Fee

but their 52 per week salaries must be paid for from revenues that are generated during 32 active weeks of school. With few exceptions, and even before the imposition of the utility fee, most campus business lose money, and this is one of the biggest reasons. While campus businesses do not constitute the "academic mission" of the university, they are an integral aspect of the university experience, and as students will see today, their four or more years of college life would be bleak without them

In allocating the fee to various campus businesses, a precedent was established in 1981 that Polity as well as Graduate Student Organization businesses would be exempt from paying the fee. FSA President Chris Fairhall, then serving as Polity Treasurer, worked out an agreement with FSA Treasurer Dan Melucci and SCOOP Executive Director Joanne Young which resulted in only FSA and SCOOP businesses paying the fee. An integral part of the agreement also included FSA paying a portion of SCOOP's fee. This enabled SCOOP to continue its operations that year, and at the same time determine mechanisms for paying the fee in future years. In certain ways this plan was a blessing, and in others, it was a disaster. Obviously, Polity's representative did not want Polity clubs paying the fee, and for numerous philosophical and other reasons it was important that this policy was established. However, because FSA was able to cope with the fee in 1981,

there was no motivation to begin organizing against it. But, with SCOOP's existence in jeopardy in the upcoming year, or next two years, coupled with the damage that FSA faces, as well as the fact that ¾ million has thus far left the campus, it may well have been better to outrage students several years ago, in the hope that something could have been accomplished before now.

The slap in the face approach suggested by SCOOP, and endorsed by FSA, of alerting students to the disastrous consequences of the utility fee, by closing the majority of their businesses today, is indicative of problems which are of even greater magnitude than the fee, per se. The fee has thus far closed down one business, Baby Joey's, which existed in the basement of Irving College for over a decade; it was also partially responsible for helping to shut down the Henry James Pub, and in the upcoming year can likely result in shutting down businesses in several dormitories. Yet, no efforts were taken by Polity, FSA, SCOOP or students at large to do something about it.

In addition, effective next summer and semester, the GSO lounge will be paying a portion of the utility fee, as will certain Polity businesses operating in the dormitories. Thus, while Polity and GSO did not directly foot the bill for the fee during the last three years, their time appears due.

The utility fee, as it applies to FSA businesses seems recently to have been confused with a portion

of the dorm cooking fee that is reportedly used to pay utility costs. As the fee has nothing to do with reality in the first place, it has been surprising that Vice-President for Campus Operations Robert Francis has said that he will assess it to cooking facilities at the same rate that FSA is charged.

In another vein, campus businesses are also important because they provide jobs for hundreds of students. The \$30 to \$50 per week that a student can earn goes a very long way in everything from putting food on the table, paying the rent, buying books, and going to the movies. This is hopefully something that every administrator, faculty member and parent can keep in mind because from the way it is spoken about, it was not excessively difficult to get part-time jobs while they were attending school.

A less tangible but perhaps more important aspect of having businesses on campus is that they give students the opportunity to get involved in running and managing them. Aside from the pecuniary benefits that students receive from this, it enables them to develop leadership skills. In tight economic times, such as now, with an unemployment rate in excess of 20 percent for persons between the ages of 20 and 24, it is difficult to assess a value for these intangible sorts of skills. And most importantly, the university mission by definition is to provide an environment in which any student can become all that she or he is capable of being, and any avenue in which leadership skills can be established, such as through managing a business, is an integral component in ensuring that the university will live up to its mission.

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Hotline Expands

New Coordinator - Increased Research

by Ken Kruger

With a new director, plans are being made to expand Polity Hotline and turn it into an effective organization for bringing student's complaints and opinions to the administration.

Debbie Feinsilver, formerly Hotline Personnel Director, has been chosen new Hotline Director, filling the vacancy left when Tom Kan-yock resigned in December for financial reasons.

Polity President Dave Gamberg explained that Feinsilver had been chosen because "she was the best suited to carry out the dual task of expanding Hotline and bettering relations between the organization and the Polity Council and Senate. We felt confident that Debbie could accomplish this."

Hotline's Research Department is the area targeted for expansion. "There will be an increased level of research," Gamberg said but added that it wouldn't be overdone. "Students won't be getting a survey call from them every day."

Hotline Research Director Jay Cages explained their past work. "Prior to the point we did research on specific topics: Dorm Cooking, campus safety, etc. Each time we came up with results, some were expected and some were unexpected, but they were solid numbers from people you call, not meaningless statistics."



Hotline Coordinator Debbie Feinsilver

But this research was done on a limited basis on already well-known issues. "Now we're trying to be less reactive and more productive. We have to stay ahead of the game," Gamberg said.

In the future it is hoped that Hotline and Polity will be able to find problems and deal with them before they become major.

"Hotline does have the man-

power," Feinsilver said in regard to their expansion. "Once this starts we're hoping to attract even more people."

Feinsilver also said that a questionnaire was being drawn up and would be distributed around campus. "We weren't sure about what things affect the students the most so we're doing a survey."

"We'll be able to explore how

the campus feels about any issue," Gamberg added. "It's a good way to channel Polity's priorities. We'll be able to find out what's going on."

Hotline's expansions goes hand in hand with increased communication between it and the rest of Polity. "We want Hotline to have greater visibility as a unit of Polity," Gamberg said.

In the past there was no clear relationship between the organizations. Each went its own separate way, rarely interacting and then only on major issues.

Hotline acted almost entirely as a complaint and referral service. Currently they handle between 20 and 50 calls daily with the heavier loads coming early in the year. The calls they handle range from people complaining about lack of heat to people asking to see where they can get a parking permit. Hotline has a 95% success rate and these services will continue in the future.

"Council members are taking shifts (at the Hotline phones) now," Feinsilver said. "We hope we'll be working and dealing with the Council and the rest of Polity more efficiently."

"Each hand will know what the other is doing," Cages added.

"What we're trying to do," Gamberg said, "is make Hotline an effective organization in the eyes of students and the administration."

Viewpoint

SCOOP and the Strike

By Lorrie Krebs

In order to come up with the extra money SUNY needed, the Governor's Office imposed a "Utility Fee" on all FSA's in the SUNY system. Although the name implies that utility usage is the basis of the amount, this is not the case. The actual fee per campus is based primarily on the meal plan income of each school. The fee is charged to each F.S.A. under the assumption that their prices will rise to cover it, and students will unknowingly pay it.

Stony Brook's share this year is \$309,833.00. This has been divided up around the campus, amongst the several businesses. One group of businesses, the members of SCOOP, Inc., is struggling to stay afloat after the effect of the fee. Residents of Irving College may remember that Baby Joey's, a popular hangout in the basement of that building, was closed last year due to the impact of the utility fee on SCOOP. Other SCOOP businesses in danger of closing are the Hard Rock Cafe in Toscanini, SCOOP Records and the Health Shop in the Union, and Harpo's Ice Cream Parlour in Kelly A. While the Rainy Night House and SCOOP Audio Visual will not close, they will not be able to provide the same services to students as before. To put it plainly, SCOOP will be forced to fold. Over 200 students may lose their jobs, and our campus will lose one of the only entirely student-staffed, student-operated corporations in the SUNY system.

Today, March 8, many businesses on campus are closed to demonstrate what life as a student will be like without them. The idea originated with the SCOOP Board of Directors. The proposal was picked up by F.S.A. and the G.S.O., who also suffer from the effects of the fee. The point to be made is that our campus losing all of these services, and many students losing their jobs, is a very real possibility. With the scheduled increase of 45-50% for next years utility fee, it is almost a certainty. That is unless we, the students, strike back.

Outside each closed business is a letter writing table. We must make ourselves heard, and letters are a most effective method. If you are angry, if you do not want to lose the diversity of services offered here in Stony Brook, write a letter and let Albany know it.



press photo by Mike Shavel

SCOOP President Pam Leventer

A little extra incentive is offered as well. During the course of the day, a free cup of coffee is available for each letter written in the Union Fireside Lounge or the Commuter College. The fee for cashing a check at F.S.A. Check Cashing will be dropped in exchange for a letter. Some dorms have entered a letter writing competition to win free sound and lighting of a college party, valued at \$100.00, donated by SCOOP, in conjunction with Hollywood Boulevard, is raffling off a 19" color television tonight. One letter gets one chance for the prize. Considering the short term benefits, and the knowledge that we are saving our campus from the "ordinariness" it will surely acquire without all of our different businesses, isn't a letter worth the trouble?

(The writer is a supervisor for SCOOP AV and the Rainy Night House)

Self Study

Curriculum

(Continued from page 1)

In research, Stony Brook has already achieved high quality and continues to move toward the very front ranks of public universities. The same cannot be said about the quality of undergraduate education. Although eighty percent of Stony Brook students are undergraduates, the University has not established a widespread reputation as an institution offering undergraduates an imaginative curriculum, dedicated advising, and effective teaching. The dormitories are in disrepair, food service remains inadequate, and dormitory cooking leads to unsanitary conditions. Stony Brook has not been able to attract sufficient numbers of students whose level of performance matches the quality of its faculty and its offerings. Students tend to come from a narrow geographical radius unusual for a public university of Stony Brook's distinction.

The Self-Study has made the improvement of the quality of undergraduate education a focal concern. An extensive revision of the curriculum is being implemented:

It focuses on efforts, spread across the curriculum, to develop writing, mathematical, technological, and computing skills of undergraduates.

It aims at a program of general education in which, through sequences of courses, students will gain a coherent sense of the major domains of knowledge and the variety of world cultures.

It seeks reforms in the mode of instruction by providing more smaller classes and by enhancing the faculty's pedagogical sophistication.

The several Self-Study committees concerned with undergraduate education were well aware of the complex interdependence of these proposals for reform. Reform in the classroom needs support by reform in the residences; the quality of life both in and out of the classroom in turn depends on student "mix" and, therefore, on recruitment.

Student Life

Student academic development can be aided or hindered by residential life. At Stony Brook, as elsewhere, the dormitory may defeat the classroom. With the waning of the doctrine of *in loco parentis*, there has been a general reluctance on the part of faculty to pay sustained attention to life in the residences. Many resident students cook for themselves in the dorms rather than participate in a meal plan. Thus, potential extracurricular intellectual activity and leisure time may be interfered with by the many hours students now spend in the buying and preparation of food. Students who cook for themselves tend to eat with the same few students, and thereby lose much of the benefit for association that residential life should make possible. Cooking in the dormitories also causes serious sanitation problems.

The practice of student cooking resulted from the collapse of the meal service over ten years ago. The administration is now undertaking continuous vigorous efforts to establish an attractive food service and to entice students to a meal plan, hoping that these measures will considerably increase academically and socially beneficial interaction of students with each other and with faculty. (Proposals to increase meal plan participation by fiat for freshmen and sophomores are being considered.)

Regarding campus activities, students tend to characterize each other as "apathetic." Students usually express unhappiness with the apathy, a hopeful sign that the condition is capable of remedy. However, solutions depend on leadership. Such leadership must eventually involve students themselves, but we believe the first initiative needs to come from Student Affairs professionals. One of the cornerstones of a reinvigorated student life is the residence hall director (RHD) and the student residential assistant (RA). The RHD and the RA can make or break the intellectual and social quality of residential life. There is an RHD for each residence hall, or one for about every 200 students. RAs report to RHDs. In past years, there had been a certain amount of neglect in the process of selecting RAs. Special efforts are being made by the new Director of Residence Life and his staff to promote student leadership in order to make dormitory life complement academic life more closely. Recent strengthening of professional staff, including RHDs, makes improved training and supervision of RAs possible. RAs can be powerful influences in guiding students into activities that are intellectually stimulating and socially rewarding instead of excessive "partying" and noisy behavior. By appealing to the positive motivations and interests of students, RAs can help to move students toward expanding their intellectual horizons.

Faculty

The relative youth of Stony Brook's tenured faculty creates few vacancies due to retirement, inhibiting some of the natural renewal that comes through retirement and mobility. This fact is partly compensated through the productivity of many of the faculty in research and publication, and their intellectual collaboration with colleagues in universities across the country and around the world. The tenure and promotion process is carefully monitored by departments, with a high rate and quality of research as prerequisites for advancement.

The Vice President for University Affairs should launch a major effort to counter inaccurate, negative, and narrow images of the University. The Vice President for Campus Operations, in collaboration with the Director of Residence Life, must remedy with utmost speed extensive problems in the residence halls: the state of disrepair, lack of furniture, and poor sanitary conditions.

In undergraduate education, the University seeks to become an institution seen by academically able high school seniors as one where they can obtain a high-quality, comprehensive education to prepare them for any avenue of post-baccalaureate endeavor they may choose. They should also perceive it as a community that genuinely cares for students' well-being and special needs while they progress through the University and for the quality of their lives after they leave. The University wants to be able to guarantee its students that they will receive training utilizing state-of-the-art technology in whatever area they may be studying, and that they never need fear that their learning experiences will be compromised by inadequacies in library, computing, laboratory, and other facilities.

Piscopo

(continued from page 12)

suit, his manager, a bulky but likeable guy standing by his side. The lovely Mrs. Piscopo and shy but endearing Joey Jr. keeping each other happy until they can have their breadwinner back. Various members of the Rapid Deployment Band and Stony Brook Concerts staff are wolfing down cold cuts. The members of the press are sitting around a table at Piscopo's feet. All except one. As the interview is brought to a close, one reporter, the one that had been cautioned by the show's producer to avoid insulting Mr. Piscopo; the one who was coincidentally on her knees in front of that same Mr. Piscopo, forced through one last devastating question. "I've been trying to break into television comedy and I have some tapes of stuff that I've written. Would you listen to them and..."

Piscopo's face registered shock. All eyes turned to the reporter on her knees. Everyone, even the concert staff stopped eating. Suddenly, everyone in the room was incredibly embarrassed, everyone except the producer who was internalizing a fit of rage. After Piscopo mumbled something about signing something that prohibited him from reading other people's material he told the reporter to send it to him at NBC and he would forward it to someone

who would listen. I was reminded of the film *The King of Comedy* in which Rupert Pupkin receives a similar promise from TV star Jerry Langford. In the movie, when Langford won't put Pupkin on his show, Pupkin kidnaps Langford and demands TV time as ransom.

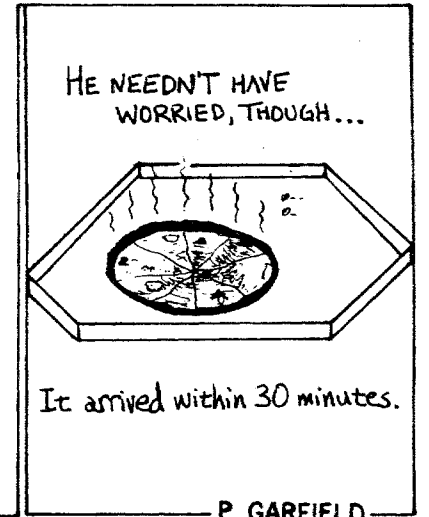
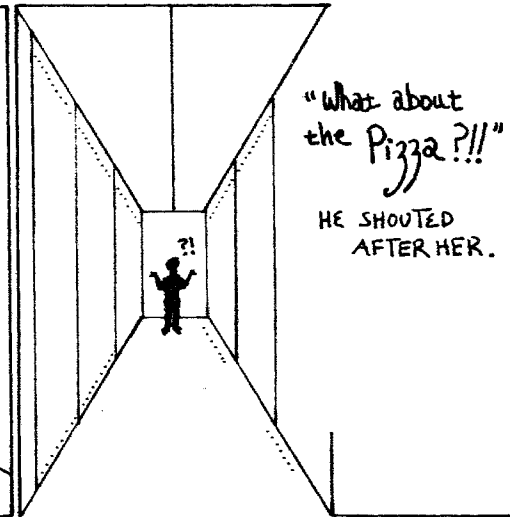
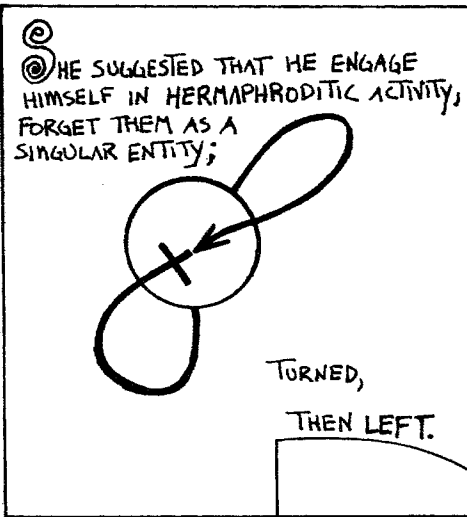
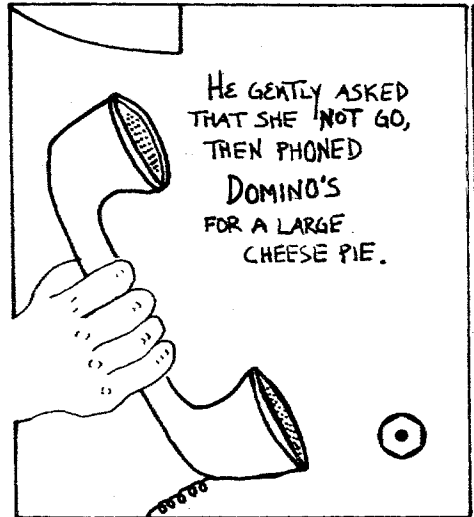
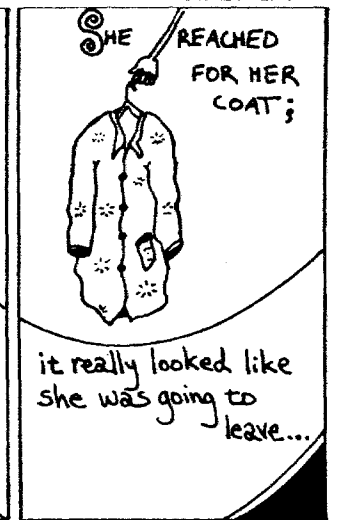
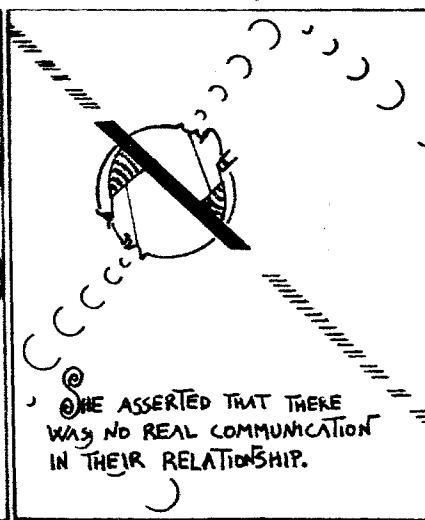
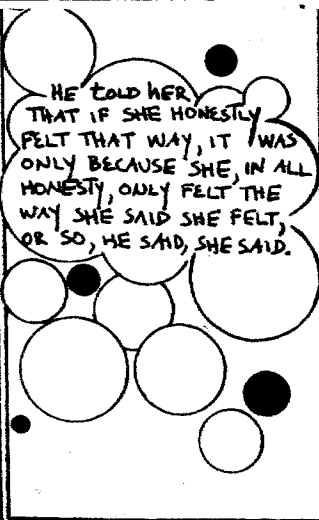
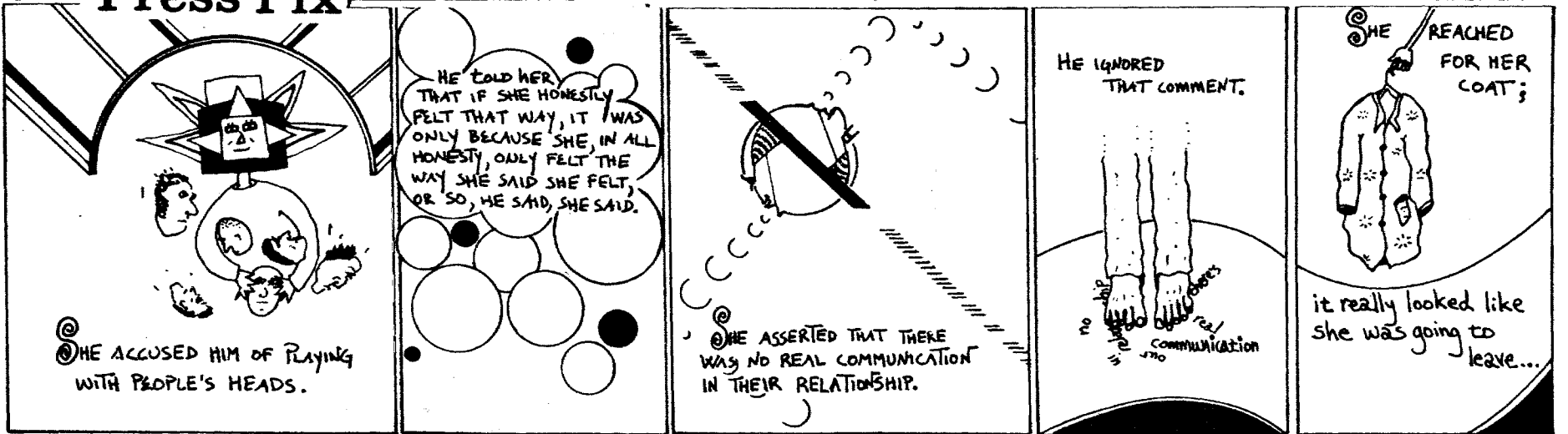
All in all, a horrible end to a not-so-bad night.



Joe and Friend

press photo by Mike Shavel

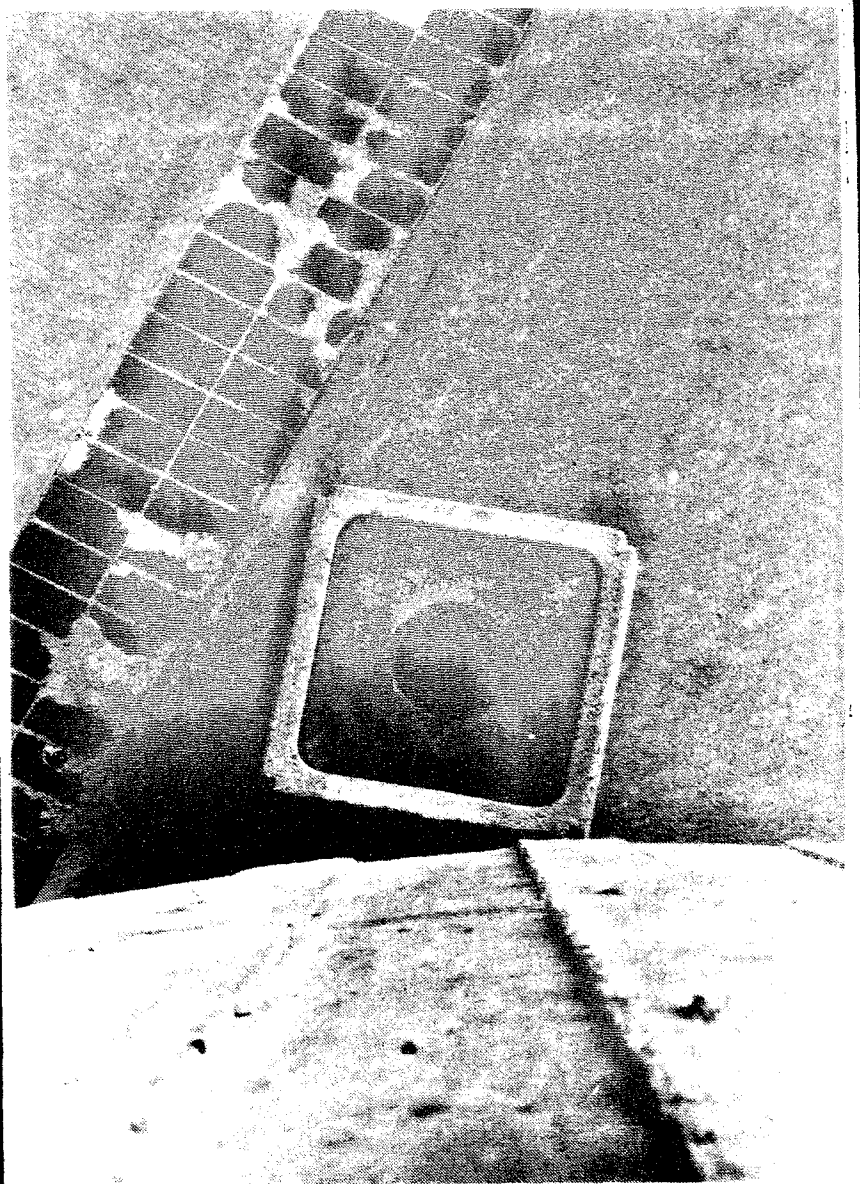
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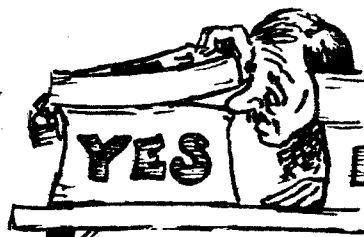
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Issues to be discussed include:
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b) LATIN WEEKEND
c) and more...

Gay and

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Utility Fee Chokes Student Businesses

To the Editor:

Although most SUNY students are aware and angered over Governor Cuomo's proposed tuition and dorm rent hikes in the 1984-85 budget, many are not knowledgeable about a hidden cost in the proposed budget which is potentially devastating for campus life at all SUNY schools.

In 1981 more money was needed for the SUNY system and the Governor's office came up with an ingenious method to find the revenue without students even raising an eyebrow. A new fee, known as "The Utility Fee" was created and charged to FSA's statewide. In reality, however, the fee has nothing to do with the utility consumption. Rather, it is based on each FSA's meal plan income. Subsequently, campus' with large meal plan enrollments (Stony Brook has between 1500-2000 on meal plan) were suddenly forced to pay this ludicrous fee (Stony Brook paid \$309,833.00 this year alone).

At schools like Fredonia cafeterias were closed. SUNY Binghamton's FSA has just declared bankruptcy, in part because of the utility fee. Here at Stony Brook, Baby Joey's and the James Pub ceased to exist as the cutback in services began. Furthermore, in the businesses which have survived, price increases are attributable to the Governor's "quick and easy" method to generate income. Unfortunately, these price increases are doubly destructive for students as they cannot be covered by any form of financial aid.

SCOOP, the Student Cooperative, is a subcontractor to the FSA and thus must pay a portion of the utility fee. The situation for SCOOP, which is totally student run and prides itself on its low prices, opportunities for student employment, and management train-

ing for students, is crucial as its businesses cannot continue while carrying the burden of this fee. In imposing the utility fee, the State is jeopardizing the existence of student run, non-for-profit organizations such as SCOOP, as well as every FSA in the SUNY system.

Governor Cuomo's 1984-85 proposed budget calls for an approximate 50% increase in the utility fee. We as students, certainly cannot tolerate the Governor's tuition and rent hikes, yet we must also demand that our services and quality of life not be further damaged in order to generate revenue. Imagine life at Stony Brook without the Rainy Night House, the Hard Rock Cafe, Harpo's Ice Cream, SCOOP records, F.S.A.'s Main Desk, the Whitman Pub, the G.S.O. Lounge, The End of the Bridge, the Deli, the Bowling Alley and Arcade, the Health Shop, SCOOP A.V.'S to all parties, movies and concerts on campus, etc. It seems that the Governor is either insensitivity or incredibly naive to allow these occurrences. We must show him that he cannot slide his bogus fee under our noses without opposition. He in essence, pricing us out of a higher education and its benefits. When the Governor came to Stony Brook two years ago while campaigning, he applauded the S.U.N.Y. system and pledged to support public higher education. We cannot sit by idly and allow Governor Cuomo to renege on yet another of his campaign promises. Please write a letter demanding that the utility fee be abolished and another way be found to support S.U.N.Y. not by cutting back the services and jobs students need.

Sincerely,
Pam Leventer
President,
SCOOP Inc.

The Press welcomes your letters and viewpoints.

Homeward Bound

By Brian T. Ehrlich

Hallelujah! After seven weeks of school we finally got a reprieve from the Governor and are allowed to go home for nine whole days. (In truth, it's only five if you don't count the weekends.) We might as well use it to our fullest; it's the only vacation we get this entire semester.

For most, this break is a welcome relief from midterms and studies. For all, it's a chance to get the hell away from here! We can resume living a normal life (or close facsimile) and be with our friends again. We don't have to worry about classes the next day at eight a.m. or have to cram for an exam tomorrow. This break actually gives us back something we forfeited at the start of the semester: the right to govern our own lives!

Everyone has been looking forward to this vacation, some since January. In fact, when all of us pre-registered last semester, the first thing we looked up on the bulletin was when we had days off. It may not be much, but it's better than nothing at all. It's bad enough we don't get off for presidential birthdays (did you ever notice that most presidents were born on holidays?) but at least our break comes when the weather is finally becoming warm and sunny and...well, it is a dreamvacation so might as well dreaming.

Plans have probably already been made for quite some time about how to spend our free time. Some people are travelling abroad (I wanted to study a broad once, but she wouldn't let me), or across the United States; others will spend time with their friends and loved ones. Despite whatever we're doing and/or wherever we are, we'll all think of Stony Brook and how eager we are to get back, right folks? If you believe that then I have a case of diet water to sell you (with no caffeine-never had it, never will).

When Friday afternoon rolls along this campus is going to look like the set of "The Day After." People will drop whatever they are doing and run as fast as they can to get out of here, leaving food, clothing, and valuables behind. (Hmm, I just might stick around until Saturday morning). To accommodate the onrush of students, the LIRR will

have to add some passenger cars to the 4:16, say seven or eight. If you thought Moses leading the Jews out of Egypt was a big affair, you've never seen the exodus across campus to the North P-Lot. Cecil B. DeMille would've been proud.

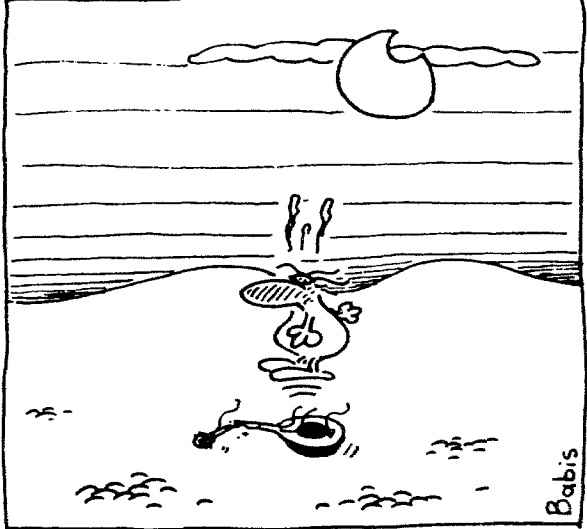
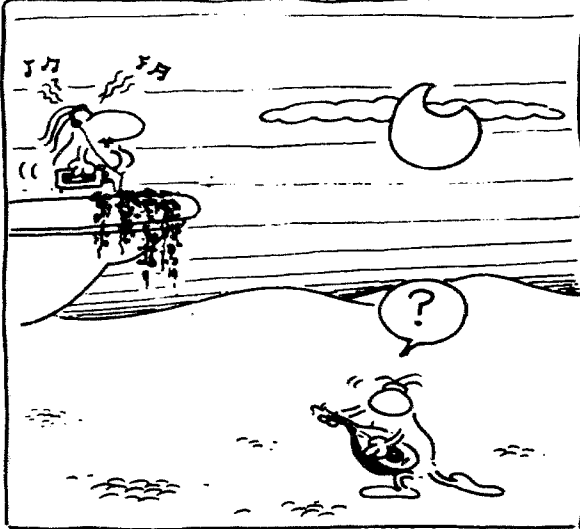
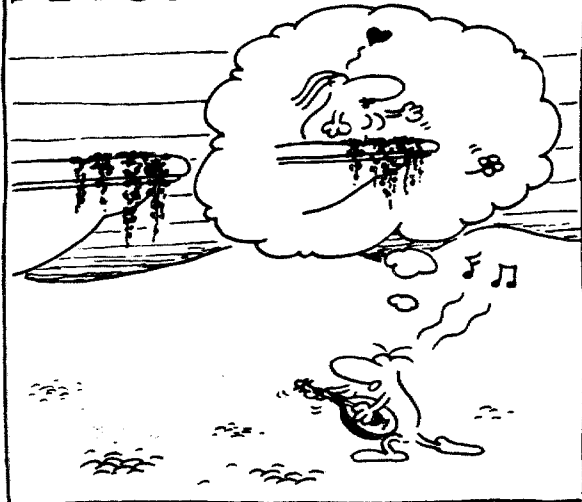
Those of you with cars will have an equally difficult time trying to leave. Traffic on Nicholls Road, 25A and 347 will be more congested than the nose of someone with a cold. Helicopters will be seen hovering overhead, loudspeakers issuing instructions for those caught in tie-ups. God help you if your car decides to stall or get a flat tire. If you thought pit hocky is rough, try getting out of your car to fix it; better yet, try getting someone to stop and help you. Fortunately, the University Hospital will remain open during the rush hour. However, as discouraging as it might seem, there are only two things that can be worse. The first is it could rain all day Thursday; the other is it could last through Friday.

Of course, since we're off next week all the professors have decided to give midterms this week. ("I wouldn't think of having you study during your vacation.") Sure instead you have four exams this week to study for. As it is, you're already looking ahead to next and that closet full of beer is attracting more attention than your and notes. Surveys have shown that test grades decline drastically the week before a vacation. Coincidentally, these surveys also show a sharp rise in bomb scares reported during the same time period. Believe it or not!

By now you've probably figured I'll have a great time once Friday afternoon comes by and I'm on my way home. Sorry to disappoint body, but the week we come back I have three midterms and another article to write. So while I'm spending my entire week off at home with all my textbooks open in front of me, I hope the rest of you have a *\$@* vacation. And hey, let's be careful out there.

(DISCLAIMER: Due to lack of time, ideas, and alcohol I'd like to apologize for last week's article. But look on the bright side; no matter how bad it was it can never be terrible as the humor in that OTHER collegiate newspaper).

Press Pix



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THE BEACON THEATRE 74th AND BROADWAY 874-1717

"Mixed Bag" featuring:
David Crosby, Roger McGuin,
Rick Roberts, John Sebastian
Thompson Twins

F 3/23
T 4/10

THE BOTTOM LINE 15 WEST 4th STREET 228-7880

Dr. Demento and "Weird
Al" Yankovic
Robert Hunter
DeDanann
Patti "Evita" LuPone &
Jeff Weiss
Pat Paulson & Chris Rush
Oregon
Kenny G
Van Dyke Parks

Th 3/15
Th 3/22
W 3/14

Su 3/18
W 3/21
F & S 3/30 & 31
Su 4/1
Th & F 4/5 & 6

CBGB 315 BOWERY (AT BLEEKER) 982-4052

The Young Hegelians
The Kodomo Band &
Life Boat
Sylvian Sylvian & His
Roman Sandals
Ultra Violence, Cancerous Growth,
and The Outpatients

W 3/7

F 3/9

S 3/10
S 3/10

CITY LIMITS SEVENTH AVENUE & 10th 243-2242

Diane Scanlon
Black Water
High Times

Th 3/8
F & S 3/9 & 10
Th 3/15

Soozie and the Boys F & S 3/16 & 17

IRVING PLAZA 17 IRVING PLACE AT 15th ST. 477-3728

Lou Miami &
The Kosmetix
Catholic Girls

S 3/10
S 3/16

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL 50th AND 6th AVENUE

John Denver 3/29, 30, 31 4/1
the Pretenders 5/1, 2, 3

757-3100

MY FATHER'S PLACE 19 BRYANT AVE-ROSYLN 621-8700

Transwave F 3/9
Dave Mason S 3/10

"Reggae Dance Party" with:
Mojonya, Cross Fire, and
Full Hand
Freddie Frog's No Frill Band
Steve Vai

F 3/16
S 3/17
Su 3/18

PEPPERMINT LOUNGE 100 FIFTH AVENUE 989-9305

Cool it, Reba
The Nails

F 3/9
S 3/10

THE RITZ 11th ST BETWEEN 3rd & 4th AVENUE 254-2800

Robert Hazard
Simon Townshend
Michael Schenker Group
Grandmaster Flash
Mink DeVille
Paul Young & the Royal
Family
Mitch Ryder
Eurhythmics
Dwight Twilley
Midnight Oil
George Clinton
Modern English
Cyndi Lauper
Gang of 4

S 3/10 /2
S 3/3
T 3/6
Th 3/15
S 3/17

F 3/23
S 3/24
T, W, Th 3/27, 28, 29
F 3/30
F 4/6
W & Th 4/11 & 12
S 4/14
Th 4/19
W 4/25

THE ROSELAND BALLROOM 52nd and BROADWAY 254-2800
UB40 F 3/16

THE SAVOY 141 WEST 44th STREET 254-2800

Bill Nelson's "Vistami x"
Echo and the Bunnymen

F 3/23
Su 4/1

STONY BROOK STONY BROOK-LONG ISLAND

Elvis Costello and
T-Bone Burnett

S 4/14

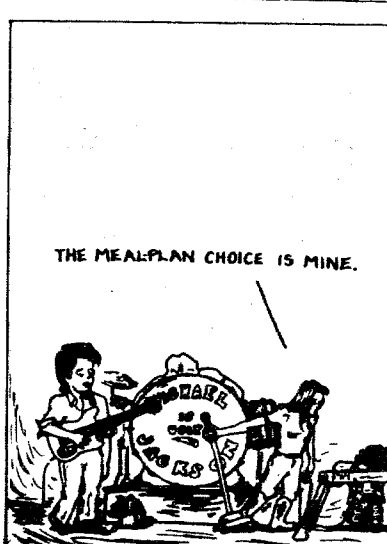
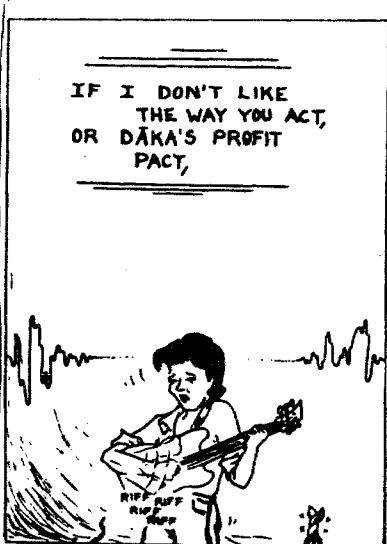
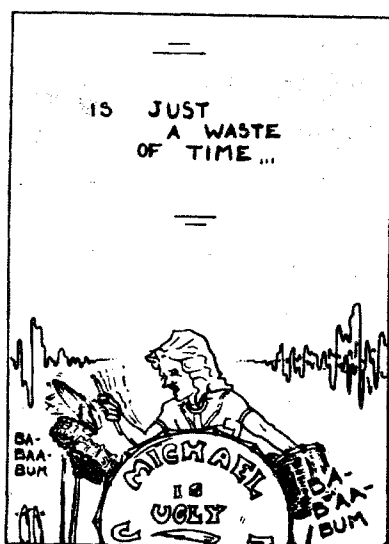
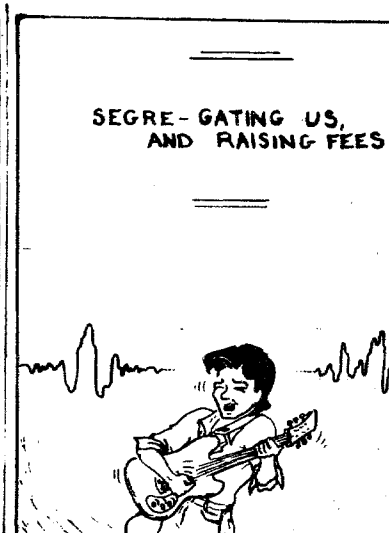
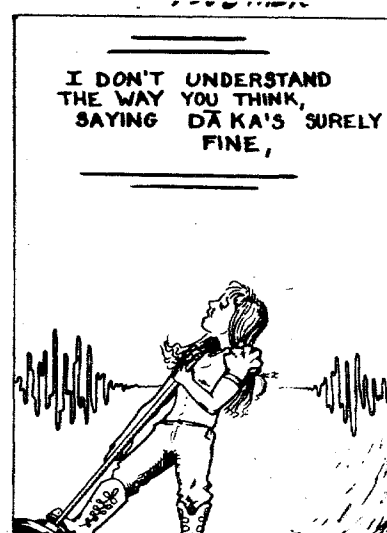
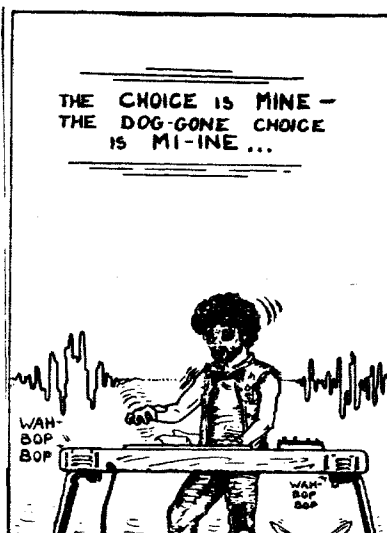
WESTBURY MUSIC FAIR

Diana Ross

3/10, 11

Up The Brook

Bands Together



Men & Mannequins

Re-Flex Dances on Hollywood Boulevard

by Kathy Esseks

The normally low expectations of a ballroom show were completely blown away when Re-Flex brought their post-punk Euro funk to electrify a medium-sized crowd at Hollywood Boulevard. The upscale Hollywood B. did a Cinderella job on the cafeteria: white tablecloths, cartoon videos, and cheap, sweet champagne in snap together plastic crystal created the illusion of something far better than a place to experience DAKA.

The wise souls who risked their evening to see an unknown musical quality had plenty of time to groove to the music and ponder the significance of the white mannequin torsos lounging on the stage. Those who preferred to dance rather than talking, drinking or cartooning had the minor thrill of moving to the beat of a real live WLIR DJ. The finger-pointing and neck-craning that followed DonnaDonna's greeting suggested that Re-Flex drew a strongly pro-WLIR crowd.

Two hours of dance music and club effects proved that Hollywood Boulevard is a happening thing. The concert proved that SAB can't be written off yet. The four newly signed Britishers churned out a short but weighty set featuring songs from their debut LP *The Politics of Dancing* plus some upcoming B-sides. They kicked off with "Hitline," a cynical ode to the shooting star syndrome of pop hits, said hi to all, and moved into "Praying to the Beat," their next British single and a comment on the frantic pace of modern society.

Re-Flex deals with serious stuff. Keyboardist/songwriter Paul Fishman and lead vocalist/guitarist Baxter don't truck in fluff about having fun, riding in cars, or trite love phrases. In a quickie interview before the show Baxter and Paul expressed their strong conviction that much of today's pop product insults the listener's intelligence. Re-Flex tries to address more meaningful topics such as communication ("Keep in Touch") and struggle for survival ("Jungle") in an accessible way. No esoteric concepts here, just open, impressionistic songs.

Although their reach seems to exceed their grasp a little in heavy message/meaning areas, Re-Flex delivers a powerful, visually satisfying show. Between them, drummer Roland Vaughan Kerridge and the drum machine kept up an unaltering beat. Further upstage Nigel Ross-Scott projected a zombie dreadlocked image while spinning a fantasy come true bass line. The bass was mixed up to a perfect penetration level, reaching right inside your body and touching all the pleasure receptors. Paul and Baxter poured on the melody, lyrics, and charisma—all of this without becoming tiresome or overdone. Paul is the type of guy who'd complain about the idiocy of the images and



Baxter on guitar, Fishman on the Profit 5


words parading across MTV all hours of the day and night.

The band was very into the show and their enthusiasm injected their songs with an energy not present on the record. The arid, monotonous tendencies of the album material vanished in the pastel glare of Hollywood Boulevard. The eerie intro and contagious danceability of

"Politics of Dancing" got the crowd moving. Re-Flex maintained credibility by not reprising "Politics" in their encore. Repeating a song, however wonderful, within the space of one show is unnecessary, whether the artist is Eddy Grant or Cyndi Lauper. If you only have one good song you might as well stay home and pen some more.

If you have lots of good songs why get stuck in one groove?

The men behind the mannequins are busy guys—touring with the Police this winter and slated to open for the Thompson Twins this summer. A second Re-Flex album is still strictly theoretical, but lofty intentions combined with practical skills bode well for the future.



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We Can Laugh If We Want To

Joe Piscopo On Main Stage

by Mike Barrett

Joe Piscopo's adequate but lackluster show on main stage last Friday was followed by one brief but shining moment of embarrassment and pity that should not be allowed to pass unnoticed.

Dutchman, Light Up The Sky, and the Joe Piscopo concert were scheduled concurrently in various facilities of the Fine Arts Center and the future audience members of all three productions filled the Fine Arts lobby to its limit. This thoughtlessness did not cause any calamity, but clearly crowd control was not everything it could have been. Thinking back, I realize this was an omen; an omen not of disaster, but of mediocrity.

The opening act, Ralph Shoekit and the Rapid Deployment Band, caught the audience offguard with the theme from the Our Gang Comedies, but after an initial chuckle the audience grew impatient for the main attraction. Piscopo was introduced by a three minute film featuring many of his most famous characters from "Saturday Night Live." It seemed to be a montage of the many uses of Joe Piscopo and reminded me of the commercials for the indispensable products that Ronco sells around Christmas time.

Piscopo started slow, striking exaggerated poses for photographers and joking about the "Gentle Man" in the front row who had taken his shoes off and propped his feet up on the stage. His most interesting material involved television. He lampooned "Good Morning America's" David Hartman. "He has no



credibility doing the news because it's like tuning into Bullwinkle. Good morning...DUH America" His interpretation of Phil Donahue, the "Barishnikov of Talk Show Hosts" was great. Accompanied by Ralph Shoekit on piano, Piscopo danced from one end of the stage to the other much the way Donahue does in order to get to audience members who want to say something. It was amusing, occasionally very funny, but never brilliant.

The finale of the show was Piscopo's Frank Sinatra which the entire eight piece band came up on stage to back him up. Piscopo left the stage to change into a tuxedo and grey wig. The look, the sound, even the mannerisms were Sinatra as Piscopo sang "Born to Run" by Bruce (That "Stine" not "Stein") Springstine. Unfortunately for me, anyway, I didn't think this gag was that funny last summer when Piscopo recorded a whole album based on it.

At the show's end I felt disappointed; I had laughed louder and longer at relatively unknown comics and from a man who had achieved such success I had expected a good deal more. The show was, in a word, mediocre. But the evening was not over yet.

The real comic drama took place after the show. Piscopo had agreed to field questions from reporters. This he did with charm and grace. As the stream of questions dwindled into a trickle Piscopo's manager announced the end of the interview. Picture the scene: Joe Piscopo is sitting on a couch in a nylon running

(continued on page 6)

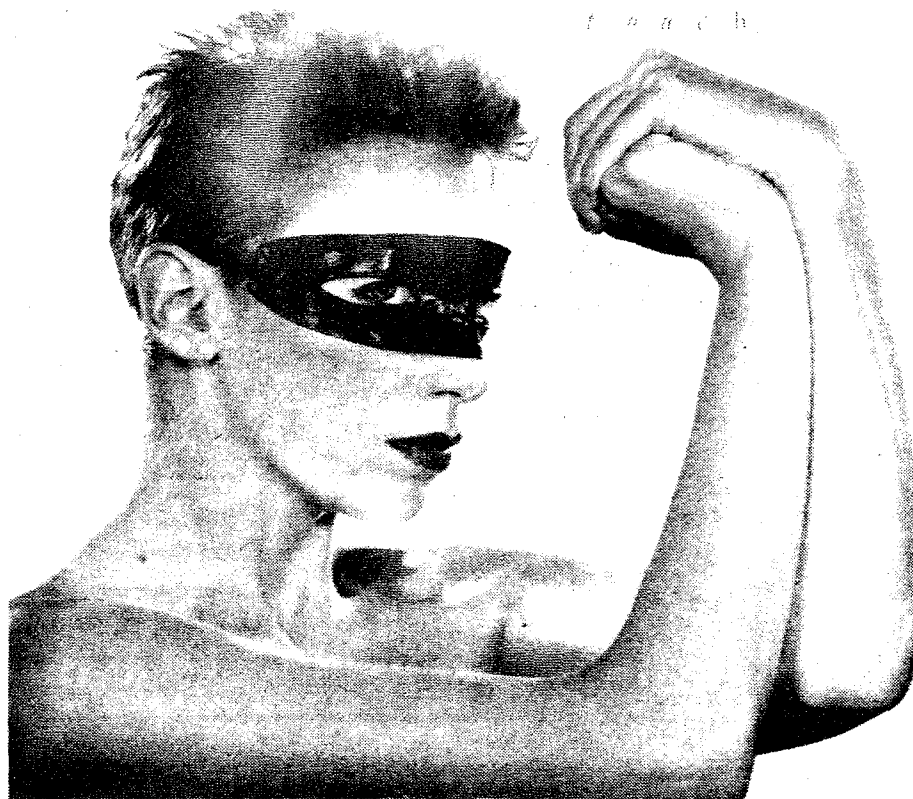
Your Rythmic Touch

by Kathy Esseks

If you are still at a loss as to how to spend your valuable ten days grace from the student burn-out syndrome, a vacation in a darkened room with loud music filtered through headphones is always a cheap, reliable, and revitalizing option. Next to old reliables Dark Side of the Moon, Zappa and the soundtrack to A Clockwork Orange Eurythmics latest platter Touch is a natural background for the contemplation of inner space. Following hard on the summer airplay overkill and huge popularity of "Sweet Dream's" Touch extends Annie Lenox' and Dave Stewart's repertoire of folk influenced techno-pop without breaking any new ground. Eurythmics make nice music. They'll never be our salvation from the mudslide of slop pop spilling out of the radio these days, but then again, they never said they were trying to do anything but make nice music according to their lights.

The sensurround feel of Euryth-

EURHYTHMICS
Touch



mics synthesizers gives Touch that otherworldly air so conducive to late night listening sessions. Only machines could generate so even and sustained a sound, only Lennox' deep, warm, and utterly detached voice could induce the hypnotic trance of "Paint a Rumour," and "Regrets." The most successful cut to date, "Here Comes the Rain Again" has its moments, but the circusy stomp of "Right By Your Side" and the calm-beyond-despair of "No Fear, No Hate, No Pain (No Broken Hearts)" are nihilistically transcendental. Let me clarify that I'm not saying that Eurythmics's touch is on a par with the Buzzcocks or Bunny Wailer, but "No Fear, No Hate" is definitely music for shooting up. If that's not a vacation, what is?