

The
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**INSIDE: THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR
GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL EQUAL RIGHTS.**
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Regatta from the Black Lagoon

By Auke Piersma

"Stony Brook has very few traditions for a university as a whole. The largest of them probably are getting wasted on Thursday night and going home on the weekends."

But there is one tradition that is becoming a Stony Brook regular: The Roth Quad Regatta has just celebrated its fifth year anniversary. As most students know, this regatta is no joke if you're in one of the boats. The rules are simple. You build a boat out of cardboard, duct tape, glue, string, paint, wax, aluminum foil, and paper mache. Nothing else is allowed to be used. There are two classes, the speedster class is for one person crew and the yacht class is for a two to four person crew. You then get into your boat, if you can, and paddle like mad. If your boat is the fastest, you have won, if however you sunk, split apart, or just couldn't go straight, then you lost.

This year the Regatta shipped itself off on April 23 on an almost sunny day. There was a total of 25 boats from as many residence halls, academic departments, and individuals. The Honorary Commodore was Professor John Pratt, who is retiring from the history department. His speech was a motivated and passionate punch for the

competitors because of his comparisons of Ivy League crew traditions with the Regatta. The winners of this year's Regatta are the Galataea I for the speedster class, and the Galataea II for the yacht class. These two boats were very impressive in their looks and design. Galataea II is now a three-time winner. There was some close competition, but in true Regatta tradition, many boats sunk and broke apart. The proud tradition of sinking is what keeps the Regatta one of the few enjoyable weekend activities.

The worst thing about sinking in the Regatta is, of course, falling into Roth Pond. The pond, while beautiful at times, has some interesting facts about it. It is 200 feet long and around four feet deep. It is not self-sustaining and needs to be filled by opening a fire hydrant for several hours a few times a month. The week before the Regatta, the students who run the Regatta pulled out a dead bird, dead fish, a medical syringe, and, of course, a garbage can. Earlier this year, maintenance personnel found a moped in the pond. This is fascinating when one considers the number of people in the pond during the Regatta.

If you are interested in working to help put together next year's Roth Quad Regatta, please contact Cathy Lebid at 632-3480.



Why Rally for the GSEU?

By George Bidermann

What will probably be the largest rally at Stony Brook for the 1992-93 academic year will take place Wednesday, from 12:45 to 2 PM in the Fine Arts Plaza, but just how large that rally is depends directly on you.

This has been a quiet year for activism at Stony Brook. The election of Bill and Hillary has produced a collective sigh of relief and a retreat into self-absorbed lives, which indicates that many people are giving the new administration breathing space to negotiate its way through the old-white-boy network in Washington's corridors of power. At the same time, reluctant Clinton supporters and even those who dislike him are keeping low profiles, knowing that whatever he is not, Clinton is no Bush or Reagan. We risk being lulled into complacency as abortion rights are restored, sanctioned discrimination against lesbians and homosexuals begins to be rectified, and military force is threatened to stop the horrific program of ethnic cleansing in Bosnia.

But here on the local level, a substantial number of graduate students have been quietly building an organization to not only represent their concerns at conference and negotiating tables, but also lead the way in protest, action, and advocacy when their interests are threatened by an employer (SUNY) still stinging from a resounding defeat in the courts and in last fall's GSEU certification election. By a vote of 1,936 to 338 (over 85% favorable), graduate and teaching assistants (GAs and TAs) voted to unionize, and voted for the Graduate Student Employees Union to represent them. After eight years in the courts, numerous demonstrations, and millions of dollars in SUNY resources were squandered to fight the tide, SUNY was proven wrong— not only by the

highest courts of New York State, which ruled that grad employees *were* employees entitled to union representation, but by the nearly 2,400 grad employees who exercised the democratic right that SUNY fought so long and hard to deny them.

The backlash has already begun. The GSEU has been told that it will not be granted office space on campus (as all other SUNY employee unions are), it may not use university telephones and electronic mail, and that it must follow guidelines developed by SUNY administrators for the use of bulletin boards (which everyone else has access to) and empty classrooms. Mandatory international student health insurance is slated to increase \$150, to \$681 this September, and the plan for U.S. students is scheduled to go up from \$424 to \$771. So much for health care as a right, not a privilege!

But most egregious of all is the wave of rumors circulating through SUNY regarding TA lines for next year. Graduate programs at several SUNY campuses are withholding commitments of full TA lines to their graduate employees and blaming it on the union. Recently, TAs in SUNY Binghamton's History Department were only granted half lines for this reason, and it took a GSEU threat to file an Unfair Labor Practice charge before the administration reversed itself and granted full lines to the 20 TAs there. The TAs at SUNY New Paltz and Albany are hearing similar rumors. And the Research Foundation, that "private corporation" that SUNY hides behind in order to deny research assistants a vote on union representation, says it will not discuss granting health benefits to RAs until after GSEU contract negotiations are completed— as if they were going to grant health benefits *before* there was a union drive!!!

The road to a contract for grad employees is not

going to be easy. GSEU negotiators have found their counterparts in SUNY and the Governor's Office of Employee Relations (GOER) cannot consider *anything* without exact contract language proposed by the GSEU. So far "negotiations" appears to mean that the GSEU proposes what it wants and SUNY says it will get back to us. This has forced our negotiators to begin drafting huge sections of the contract unilaterally, in order to give SUNY something to "consider." Apparently, the GSEU's 52-point contract proposal wasn't enough for SUNY to begin negotiating with.

This is not to claim total disaster. A contract *will* be negotiated, and it *will* include the concerns of so many GSEU members— health benefits, wage increases, grievance procedures, sick pay, access to child care, guaranteed years of funding. But nothing happens without a determined, united effort behind it. That is why we must write letters demanding health care. That is why we must keep our eyes on what SUNY threatens to do with TA and GA lines. And that is why Wednesday's GSEU rally is so important.

Graduate students, undergraduates, faculty and staff— you all risk something by sitting back and letting the GSEU fight its battles alone. Dozens of GSEU members have worked hard this semester to bring the union home. Many research assistants (at last count over 110 at Stony Brook) have signed pledge cards in order to petition for union representation. And slowly, we are building a wider, deeper union— one that cares about its international students, women, and families— but we cannot go it alone. Wednesday's rally at the Fine Arts Plaza will show SUNY that all of Stony Brook benefits from a graduate employees union. We ask that you stand with us as we continue to build our union.

Middle East Dialogue

By Leona Putzz

On Wednesday, April 28th, Keller International College was the scene for a program entitled "Middle East Dialogue." The program was co-ordinated by Ruth Ginsberg, the graduate Quad assistant, who was also assisted by a large number of Middle Eastern students. The students and Ms. Ginsberg met once a week over the last three months and not only planned the evening but also exchanged information amongst themselves about one another's cultures. One member of the planning committee said that "we hoped that the kinds of questions that we asked one another about our cultures, such as questions about marriage and things of that nature, would be raised during the dialogue."

The night started off with a 15-minute introductory speech on the history of the Middle East by the representative of the United Nations Association whose factual dependability I found questionable due to a few misleading facts such and the omission of relevant historical events such as the 1984 bombing of Lebanon by Israel, and statements such as "Middle Eastern people are constantly under siege and...anxious," and "one can always hope for better treatment of its [the Middle East's] women and children."

Next, we were introduced to the panel which was made up of faculty members who specialize in areas thought relevant to the Middle East and a few Middle Eastern students.

The faculty members included Professor Stone from the Department of Anthropology and the head of the Middle Eastern Studies minor. Dr. Stone has done extensive field work in Iraq and Iran and

was the only member of the panel who had visited Iraq since the Gulf War. The other members of the panel were Dr. Meyers from the Political Science department, Dr. Arjomand from the Sociology department, Professor Liveracos also from Political Science, Dr. Hoberman from the department of Linguistics whose areas of specialty are Arabic and Hebrew and who has spent several years in Israel and other parts of the Middle East, Dr. Badr from the Computer Science

department, and Dr. Goldenberg and Kessner both from Judaic Studies. The panel also included students from the Middle East including Satarah Hussein from Bahrain, Adonis Fakhri of Yemen, Ami Tai, and a host of others.

The discussion was in a question-and-answer format where members of the audience were asked to direct questions to various members, or all of, the panel members who would then reply if they chose to. One of the first questions raised was the issue of water and its role in the Middle East and the Middle East Peace Talks. To this Dr. Badr replied that "water is extremely important...it's been in the foreground more and more recently...[For example,] Israel's dependence on the water sources under the occupied territories is going to be a big issue." Another question that was raised regarded the covering of the head in both Judaism and Islam. As regards to why the yarmulke is worn by Jewish men, none of the panelists could be sure, Dr. Goldenberg commented that "It's not very clear where this was developed...it might be a sign that you're especially pious." From the Islamic perspective, Dr. Arjomand commented that for women "it is in the Koran [they]

should be covered properly, what that means however, varies according to custom." He also went on to say that the turban worn by some men in the Islamic countries "is not mentioned in the Koran and is something developed by the clerical class."

The discussion took a political turn when a member of the audience asked about the issue of settlements in the occupied territories. Dr. Badr commented that "the settlements are frozen and then not frozen. In

January, when I was there ten to eleven thousand units were being built...It's true that the Israeli government is discouraging them. But they're still building them and it's a

sword over the Palestinian's head, where if you don't behave properly we'll move fifty to sixty thousand people into the territories." Dr. Kessner stated that "the agreements say that they won't give back all the territories but parts of them. If the new peace process works out properly they'll give back parts of it." Dr. Badr commented on this by stating that "The majority of the settlers are basically commuters, they're dormers...there's 150,000 of them and there won't be any problem moving them out...[But] there are 50,000 in Jerusalem who aren't going to move and that's going to make the Jerusalem issue even more complicated."

As is always common place in such programs, the issue of the position of women in the Middle East was raised. Adonis Fakhri stated that "it all depends on where you go." Thus dispelling the notion of the homogenous Middle East, he then went on to state that for example, in Yemen the north is more religious, so you'll see women wearing covering. But the south, which formerly had a socialist government, is more secular...and the same thing can be found in Iraq." Dr. Stone commented that "there tends to be an association with dress and opportunities for women. I've lived in Syria and Iraq and in Syria there are women in engineering, as heads of museums...and they cover with a scarf and overcoat and this doesn't stop them from being in these fields, more than they're present here. There are more women engineers in

Syria than in the U.S....and the Arab world tends to deal with child care better than we do here, where there's a problem with childcare."

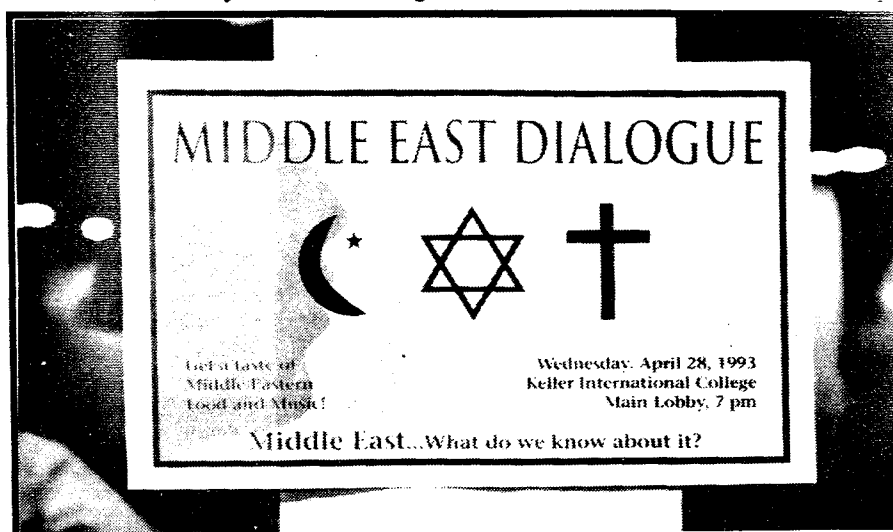
One of the last questions to be

asked of the panelists was "Will we see peace in the Middle East, in our lifetimes?" Dr. Stone replied "I've always been an optimist." Dr. Goldberg answered "I've always hoped so. You might see that all

types of people will get tired of this and come together and work towards this." Dr. Hoberman answered "I think the Israeli's tried a rejectionist approach for 10 to 15 years and most Israeli's are sick of it...the Arabs it's the same thing." He concluded that therefore he is optimistic. Dr. Badr said "Yes, but I don't know how soon, but not in my lifetime... There really is no other option for the Israelis."

The last question to be asked was whether black people in the Middle East face racism. Student panelist Satarah Hussein replied that "I've never faced anything or been taught anything like this. In Bahrain the darker people are the Sunnis and they're actually better off...Color was never an issue [for us]."

After the discussion, an assortment of Middle Eastern food was served, all of which was excellent and free (aren't you mad you missed it - HAHA, better luck next time.) Overall, the dialogue went extremely well and there wasn't any screaming, kicking, or hostage taking, though someone pulled a fire alarm which was rather annoying. People of different religions, colors, languages, cultures, and sexes have been getting along in the Middle East for thousand of years and, as the dialogue proved, continue to get along despite the political agendas of certain corrupt leaders and the busybodying of Western powers. In the final analysis, if the West would stay out of the region, stop pumping weapons into the hands of the armies, and backing corrupt leaders (basically just leave the people there the hell alone), the region would not only be one of the most stable but also one of the most prosperous regions on the planet, as it was before the interference of the West (which has been the basis of all the problems in that region to date). Read it in the press!



OUT FOR JUSTICE

LESBIAN, GAY, & BI MARCH ON WASHINGTON

By Dean Markadakis

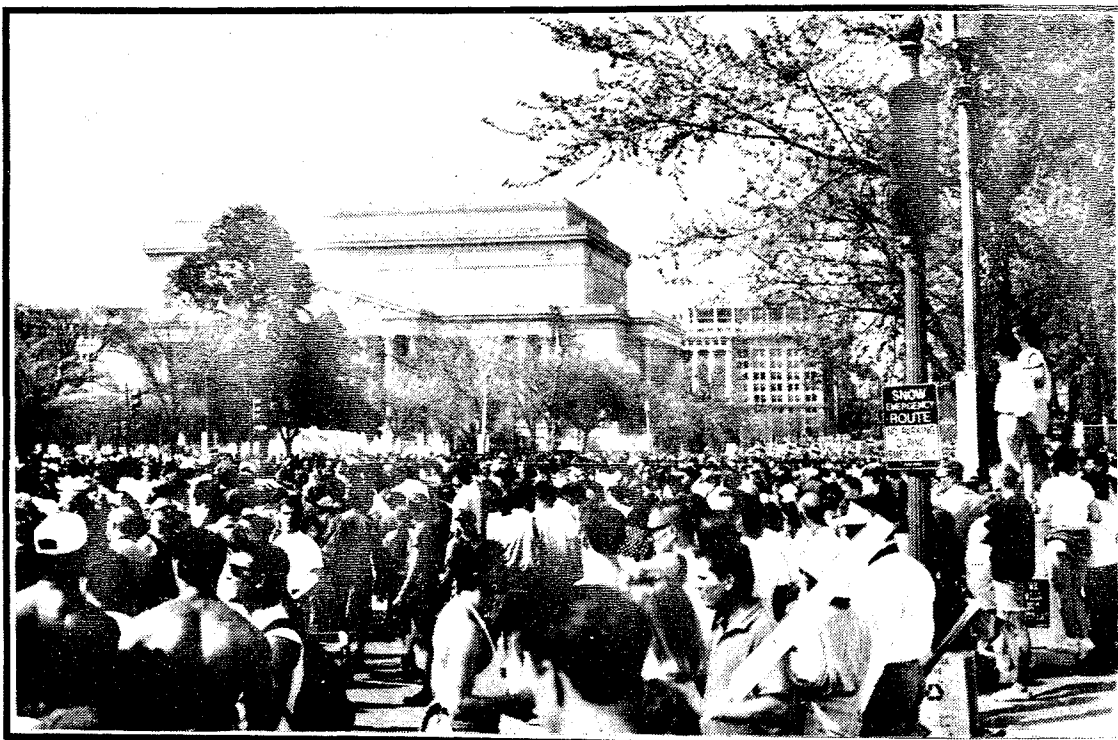
What would happen if the largest civil rights demonstration in United States history was held in Washington, D.C. and only 300,000 people showed up? That's what happened last Sunday when over a million lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and their supporters marched down Pennsylvania Avenue to demand full equal rights and liberation. But wait...how could there have been over a million demonstrators there when only 300,000 people showed up? Are you confused yet? Well you should be. See, the National Parks Commission claims that their count is the accurate one. They estimated the measly 300,000. The District of Columbia mayor's office put the total somewhere between 1.2 and 1.5 million. Apparently, the Parks Commission stopped counting at around 12:30, while demonstrators by the thousands continued to pour into the nation's capital until well after 4:00. It is estimated that there were 300,000 people there from New York alone. The gay community and the D.C. mayor's office are demanding a recount.

The March itself started at around 12:00 p.m. Sunday. The crowd moved north on 17th street to Pennsylvania Avenue, east past the White House, continued down Pennsylvania and ended at the Mall. Contingents were gathered in the ellipse in front of the White House for hours prior to the actual start of the marching. It was HOT! Hundreds of thousands of demonstrators waited patiently on the

quite an impressive turnout from the "hate state," Colorado. This was expected. It is, in fact, now legal in that state to deny housing or jobs to perfect-

Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument for the march to begin. All 50 states were represented, with

traffic. The "sidelines" were jam-packed with supporters, spectators, some people looking on in disgust, and those who just didn't seem to possess even any resemblance of a clue whatsoever. It's amazing, but people were actually *having fun*. What? Didn't these people know they had an obscenely important point to get across? Didn't they know that gay people are beaten in the streets, denied the most basic of civil rights, killed by their shipmates, thrown out of the military, hated by their parents, despised by religious factions, condemned by republicans, and



ly qualified persons based solely on their sexual orientation (or even perceived orientation).

Pennsylvania Avenue was generally closed off to

ridiculed by 60-70% of the rest of the American population? What were they thinking? How could they actually have been having fun when there were so many issues that needed addressing? There's this theory, see. Now, it's really not clear how accurate it is, and it really hasn't been tested on any controlled group of homosexuals, but the fundamental notion of this radical theory is this: HOMOSEXUALS ARE NORMAL PEOPLE. Uh oh, Now I've done it. Hate mail is gonna pour into the Press offices next week. Bomb threats are gonna be left on our Phonemail (632-6451), and dead rabbits are gonna be hangin' on our doorknobs. Who the hell do we think we are?!

Dead rabbits aside, the March is generally considered a success. The events began on Wednesday and continued throughout the week. On Saturday, there was an *interactive* display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, where new panels were added on the spot. Perhaps one of the most anticipated events of the week was The Wedding, a mass marriage held on Saturday sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Church, where same-sex couples were married on the spot and handed official certificates of Union. It's not recognized legally, though. The gay movement still has quite a long way to go.





The abundance of gay families that attended the March was impressive. Children were parading down Pennsylvania Ave, wearing t-shirts that read, "I LOVE MY MOMS," and touting banners that read, "IF I END UP GAY, PLEASE DON'T TAKE AWAY MY RIGHTS." Lesbians with baby carriages were everywhere. Proud gay fathers, looking just as paternal as their heterosexual counterparts, were strutting about with their sons on their shoulders.

Of the hundreds of contingents that marched, perhaps the most respected was P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). As they marched through the sea of paraders, onlookers and fellow marchers cheered with reverence. Many cried. It became clear that these were the model citizens who could actually make a positive impression on the general public. If every mother and father realized that their son or daughter could possibly be gay, then it's inevitable that gay rights legislation would face a drastic turnaround.

P-FLAG didn't make it to the 6:00 news or the front page of the *New York Times* — neither did the maternal lesbians and paternal gay men. What did make it to the mainstream were images of androgynous chain-smokers and topless, muscular lesbians — you know, people that America can really do without. We at the *Press* are just as guilty of this as the rest of the media. We did, in fact, decide to print the photo of the topless lesbians on the front page of this issue rather than taking an active step in representing the more "family-oriented" gays.

A meager contingent of counter-demonstrators tried to make some kind of impression, although it's not really clear what their motives were or what exactly it was that they hoped to achieve. Teenagers made up a good part of this homophobic, heterosexist, tribe of primates. They seemed proud of their flimsy, flaccid banners and impotent cardboard signs while they confidently professed their hate for humanity to the world around their own retentive little bubbles of sexual repression. They professed their ignorance to the 6:00 news, the *New York Times*, and the *Stony Brook Press*. Their bony little paws (wait, they aren't paws; I forgot, they do have opposable thumbs) clutched inse-

number of neanderthal cretins whose massively sloped foreheads have left them with only a tiny compartment of cranium for brain tissue.

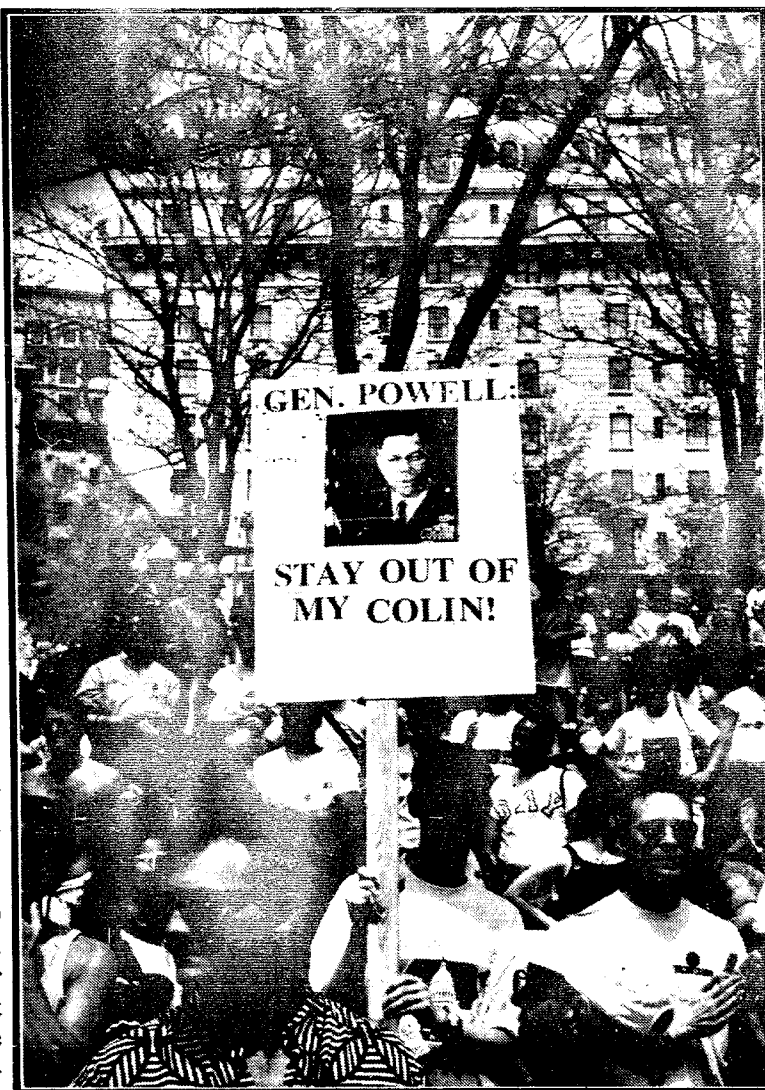
Several members of Stony Brook's Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Alliance (LGBA) were at the march displaying the LGBA banner, playing an active role in the gay rights movement. This march was history in the making and Stony Brook's LGBA was there to share the moment. Other Long Island organizations such as the Long Island Association for AIDS Care (LIAAC) were also there offering their support for the gay cause. LGBA is active on the Stony Brook Campus in working toward the passage of the New York State Civil Rights Bill (stop by the LGBA office, room 045 A in the Union, and sign the petition).

The march culminated on the Great Mall, where several performers, entertainers and prominent political figures professed their support for the queer community. Among the musicians were the Indigo Girls, Melissa Etheridge, RuPaul, and the Flirtations. Cybil Shepherd and Phil Donahue also spoke in

curely onto signs that read, "SODOMY IS NO CIVIL RIGHT," and "2 GAY RIGHTS: AIDS AND HELL." There was some response from the marchers, but nothing incredibly substantial. There was finger-pointing and "shame"-ing galore — but that's it. There was no violence, no fist-swinging, no spitting or axe-throwing — just good, clean booing and sissy-hissing. There really was no concrete reason to pay any significant amount of attention to an insubstantial

support of gay civil rights. Martina Navratilova gave a touching speech, urging young gays, lesbians, and bisexuals to come out of the closet and be counted. Urvashi Vaid, former president of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) told the community that they have nothing to be ashamed of, and that they should not apologize for something that is both natural and beneficial to society.

At the very least, the march gave the gay community visibility and mainstream press coverage. It gave gays and lesbians a renewed sense of hope for the future, and made everyone involved, straight and gay, realize that fighting for civil rights is not the hard part. Getting them is.



Box Office BOOM!

By John Schneider

We don't have David Koresh to kick around any more, or any of the Branch Davidians for that matter. They have gone off to meet their maker. Satellite City is quietly being packed up, and the media is doing its final summaries of the standoff and its tragic ending. The military is solemnly picking up and getting ready to leave Waco, Texas. So in retrospect, what have we learned from all this?

The majority of people do not necessarily know the details of the original raid conducted by agents of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms Agency. Even fewer know exactly what David Koresh taught to the people who so staunchly followed him to their deaths. Maybe we will learn more when the three networks air their versions of the events on prime-time docudramas. I'm interested in who will play David Koresh. My pick is that long-haired guy from Thirtysomething. I also think that Meredith Baxter Birney (the mom from "Family Ties") would make a great cult follower.

It's interesting that while the networks will air works about the events themselves, the motion picture industry will remain aloof and only give us movies with plots that are somewhat similar to the incident. An example of this behavior is the release of "The Crush," a film which benefits from the recent Amy Fisher-Joey Buttafuoco media overexposure. It seems that Hollywood is too timid to buy rights to any incident that is not a proven concept, a real audience-packer. The most to be expected from the Waco mishap is that we'll get some sort of Jonestown rehash, or maybe some bad horror movie whose central character is a cult leader. Remember—it's a proven concept.

I tend to think that the mishap could have been avoided had Koresh not wanted to go for a movie

deal and accepted a deal with the networks. Yes, this tragedy was a result not of the actions of the FBI but, in reality, of the actions of the motion picture industry. In fact, I have heard rumors that the Bible translations, which Koresh said he would not leave the compound until he completed, was in fact a screenplay, and not an autobiography for a major publishing house, as was previously thought.

What would press a religious fanatic to such extremes as to sell out to the media? The ugly truth is that there is a conspiracy in this country, of which many organized religions are a part, that meets on a regular basis. Its purpose: to stop any independent small religion from gaining a foothold in these religions' monopoly on Bingo nights, White Elephant sales, bake sales, sidewalk flag- and flower-selling, and other church "fund raisers." David Koresh was a brave young independent who chose to try to compete in an area that was controlled behind the scenes as is all too frequent in this country.

But what of the events just before the tragic end? I can only imagine that they went something like this:

Koresh: No, I don't want to talk to some American film company. Tell Dino DeLaurentis I'm not interested. I'm going straight to the Japanese on this. I want to talk to Sony, dammit.

Branch Davidian Follower 1: Do you think we're taking this too far? Maybe we should taken the offer from ABC and left the feds with CBS for their story. NBC doesn't have any draw, anyway; they had the lowest ratings for the Fisher thing and, remember, it was ABC who got Fisher played by Drew Barrymore.

Branch Davidian 2: Plus, with ABC, we can demand a time slot right after Roseanne. By the way, how is the screenplay going, Dave?

Koresh: God willing it will be finished before spring

ends, giving them all of summer to cast and hopefully release a completed movie in time for the summertime and benefit from the extra box-office draw of the year anniversary of our standoff. But I refuse to even think of a network deal—God has told me that only a deal with a major studio in which we get a percentage of at least eight percent will provide enough revenue to allow us to survive the coming apocalypse. Speaking of which, any word from Coppola?

Branch Davidian 2: He says he is interested but wants full control of the script and he wants to cast his daughter as one of us.

Koresh: I can handle the daughter in a bit part, but there is no way I'm letting anyone revise the script. Did any of the writers of the New Testament ever have to give up control? God has spoken to me, dammit! I've seen what the industry does to a concept. By the time they got through with it, it'd be a lighthearted comedy with a bunch of nonames playing us.

Branch Davidian 1: Listen, are you still insisting that you be played by Dustin Hoffman? He's too short, I'm telling you.

Koresh: Nonsense! They'll shoot him from below with the camera looking up at him. Do you doubt that this is God's will?

Branch Davidian 1: No! NO!, but I heard that he's involved with another film right now and won't be available for shooting 'til next Christmas. This would throw everything off production time and we'd miss the summer box office boom.

(telephone rings)

Branch Davidian 2: Good news! Sony is agreeing to our deal on two conditions. The first is that the FBI gets Bruce Willis to play the agent in charge. The second is that they'll only do it if we can give them a big ending like in *Die Hard*.

PHOTO GRAFFIX

Ritual

Photo by Walter Chavez

PhotoGraffix is a regular photo gallery in The Press. Send Black & White prints (or photocopy of your submission) to:

Stony Brook Press
Student Union #60
11794-2790



THE MAY 12 SPEAK-OUT ON BOSNIA

By Shuva Paul

Next Wednesday May 12 from 12:45-3:00 the Stony Brook campus will join the international public outcry over the tremendous brutality and misery overflowing Bosnia and other parts of the former Yugoslavia. A group of graduate and undergraduate students mobilizing under the name **Students Organizing for SYSTEMS (The Systematic Treatment and Empowerment of Rape Survivors)** will hold a public speak-out on the campus plaza that will feature various speakers.

Caution: if you've already made up your mind about Bosnia then you ought to attend this event: the main arguments and concerns to be broadcast at the speak-out have yet to be properly addressed in the general press. If you don't know much about what's happening there, then this is your chance to participate in a unique offering—there is at present no other group that is mobilizing around the specific goal that Students Organizing for SYSTEMS is mobilizing around.

Just what is the goal of this group?

SOS is calling for the creation of a separate and durable United Nations rape crisis mobile mission. Such a body would serve the thousands of rape survivors presently languishing without proper treatment in and around the former Yugoslavia—and it would also serve rape victims in other war-torn areas around the world. Women and girls face a suddenly and drastically increased threat of being raped wherever and whenever war breaks out—and world governments need to recognize this and organize something in response to it—something more than simply declaring rape as a war crime (which SOS supports in any case).

SOS has addressed a petition to President Clinton and written a letter to the State Department that calls attention to a structural neglect characterizing the United Nations program of humanitarian relief: despite the widespread documentation of the mass raping of tens of thousands of women and children in Bosnia, the U.N. has so far failed to implement a program of systematic rape treatment and support services for the survivors. It has also so far failed to develop a long-term strategy for dealing with the enormous burden each survivor will bear long after the war has ended.

As reported in the March 22 issue of the *Press*, the United Nations

has a good framework for rape treatment and support services in its own guidelines—but faced with the immensity of suffering in Bosnia (and everywhere else in the world where the U.N. has sent relief workers)—such a plan has not really materialized in practice. As a result, rape treatment is usually left to local groups, who struggle under great financial and organizational burdens and who are incapable of meeting the needs of so many. Thousands of rape survivors consequently languish in U.N.-supervised refugee sites without proper treatment.

Given that rape has been a systematic activity in war after war after war, such a neglect on the part of the U.N.—the world's principal body responsible for responding to global lawlessness and misery—cannot be tolerated by this country's new enlightened generation.

In a nutshell, then, (you'll hear more at the speak-out) Students Organizing for SYSTEMS is making the following argument: if the U.N. is wise enough to maintain from year to year the \$700-million-dollar-plus agency called the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees—in the knowledge that refugees are a systematic consequence of every war—then it is high time that it recognizes that the systematic waging of rape in war after war compels world governments to institutionalize a systematic response. Thus, the petition for the creation of a U.N. Rape Crisis Mobile Mission.

Did you know that reports are now trickling out of Bosnia about women being raped and impregnated—by U.N. soldiers?

More about this at the speak-out. Please come, sign the petition, listen to the various speakers, and get involved!

For more information, please read the campaign's public file kept at the main office at the Women's Studies Center (in the Old Chemistry Bldg.). To date we've collected over 500 signatures but we need your help to gather more. The more we get, the better the opportunity this issue has of being discussed beyond our campus. We've established links by computer network to over a dozen faculty/student interests around the country. We've started writing to noted scholars for help and advice. If you would like to help circulate the petition or join our campaign in another way, please call the author at 632-7729. In any case, please help us by advertising the speak-out—and attend!

From Bosnia: One Rape Survivor Recounts Her Ordeal

—reprinted from *Ms.* Jan/Feb 1993

Azra, age 15: The evacuation of my town, Kozarac, started on July 27. In cars and trucks, we headed toward the forest. We reached Debeli Brijeg as shells fell around us. We went deeper and deeper into the forest. We spent the night in Vidovici, a Serbian village. The villagers received us kindly, providing food and lodging. They said: "We are all in this together."

The chetniks [Serbian fighters], bearded and wearing their typical insignia, arrived in the morning. They threatened us with death if we continued into the forest. The villagers were silent. They went on with their daily chores, as if nothing had happened. We started retreating toward Kozarac.

At Brdani, near the mosque, they ordered us to surrender our weapons. They fired shots over our heads, and threatened to slaughter us. A detachment of the old Yugoslav army, accompanied by some chetniks, led us through the marketplace. They pulled several

the older women to return, but they retained us six young girls. They found four more. They took us to someone's house. There was a large yard. Presently about 30 chetniks arrived. "Such fine cunts you are," they mocked us. "Too bad you're Turkish!" They ordered us to take off our clothes. Three of the girls refused; they ripped their clothes with knives.

We stood there, naked. They ordered us to walk in a circle. We did for approximately 15 minutes, while they drank. Then it started. They all approached one girl and started on her. This took place on a rock in the yard. The other girls watched, cried, begged.

I was third in line. They approached me, and started begging them not to touch me. . . . The man who stood to my left hit me on the back twice with the butt of his rifle, and then two men started beating me. I fell. Then the worst started. I was raped by one of them. I fought. He hit me on the mouth. I fainted. When I came to, I was raped again. While I was still con-

scious I was raped by eight of them, and I don't know what happened afterward. Since I was a virgin, I bled terribly.

One of them lay on me, pressing the barrel of his automatic weapon against my temple, looking into my eyes for a long time. Another man was running the blade of a knife over my breasts. He left deep scratches.

A young fellow who was a camp guard

"Then the worst started. I was raped by one of them. I fought. He hit me on the mouth. I fainted. When I came to, I was raped again."

well-respected people out of the column; I haven't seen them since. Kozarac was destroyed. They led us to Susici; there were corpses on the road, covered with flies. . . .

Then they separated the men from the women and children. There are no words to describe it. They took my father away. He cried as we were saying goodbye; I had never seen him cry before. Some of the men stayed with us; the rest were taken to prison camps at Omarska and Keraterm. My father was in that group; I believe he is now dead. The rest of my family was my mother, my sister, 10, and my mentally retarded brother, 18. They transported us to a prison camp at Trnopolje.

On the third day after our arrival there, it was my turn to go with a group of women to fetch some water from the well outside the camp. The Serb soldiers allowed

approached us; we had gone to the same school in Prijedor. He grabbed the older man's shoulder and told him to shove off. Then he helped me to get up, naked as I was. I put on my clothes. The maniacs looked at us but didn't stop us. We went back to the camp.

The other girls who were taken from the camp to that house never returned. I don't know if they are alive.

[note: Azra made it to a refugee camp in Croatia. Students Organizing for SYSTEMS is working to follow up her case and others; we are gathering detailed information on how to get the United Nations to implement, fund, and coordinate systematic rape treatment and support services for her and the thousands of others like her. Please see the adjoining article on the upcoming speak-out and call 632-7729 to get involved.]

Commuter Life

By Garth McDermott

Class is at 8:30, so I get up at 7 AM. I still arrive late, for the bus lines are endless. I drive to school, pay cash for meals and own a bus pass. Who am I? Did you guess? Yes, I'm a commuter.

The Student Union Cafeteria is packed, except for that small wobbly table next to the group of people wearing some sort of fraternity embroidery across their chests. Lunch is accompanied by echoes of events of nights past, making it hard to convince yourself not to listen. Ricky and Frank are meeting the girls for dinner and then everyone's going out to the Park Bench. Andy mentioned a study group and Mike spoke of a party on the weekend. I soon realized that my biggest social accomplishments at Stony Brook were exchanging glances with a girl that sat next to me on the bus, and brief afternoon chats with the pretzel man. I often wondered, and it sometimes felt like there was some sort of stigma that went along with being a commuter student—almost as if we were wearing scarlet letters created from the loudest tapestries that stood for “commuter,” and in essence, “outcast.”

I knew I wasn't socially crippled, for I possessed a few social graces of my own, but everyone here

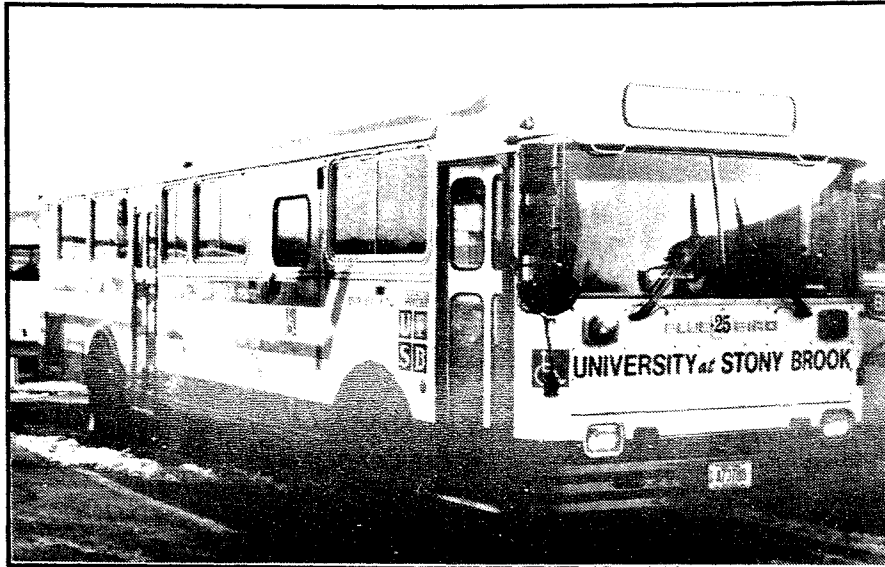
seemed like they knew everyone else, and I couldn't figure why I was having such a hard time meeting anyone.

The commuter lounge seemed more like a designated class distinction than a meeting place and “get-

ting involved” meant actually finding out what's going on. Information that, to me, was not readily accessible.

Stony Brook was turning into a mere continuation of Suffolk Community College, where everyone went to classes and left as quickly as they could get their cars off the campus. College is not supposed to be just about going to classes. It's a vehicle of expression and interaction with other lifestyles and values. A college education goes beyond the credits and degree you receive. It's a true learning experience in and outside the classroom, where one explores new ideas and maybe even makes a few really close friends. For me, the college experience has been a series of failed attempts at finding someone who could show me all about the life here at Stony Brook and all it has to offer. Above all, this made me at least aware of the significance, if not the near-necessity, of living on campus.

My standing in crowded commuter buses with my knapsack strapped across my back has been reminiscent of grades 4, 5, and 6 where I carried a Flintstones lunchbox. I've almost even reached up and touched my chest to make sure I had my name tag on. This clearly was not for me. I felt as though I was watching integral parts of the true college experience pass me by. It was on April 21 that I filled out my application for on-campus housing.



Evenings at the Bridge turned out to be solo escapades accompanied by lengthy apologies to my hometown friends whom I promised would meet girls. For me, the State University of New York at

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A Decision Delayed is a Decision Denied

By Greg Forte

University President John Marburger can't decide. He can't decide whether or not he would like Public Safety to carry guns.

If he decides in favor of arming, students will not be happy. If he says no, he will have to answer to his own campus police.

If it's a question of popular opinion, most students and faculty agree that Stony Brook should remain a gun-free campus. Unfortunately, it is not a question of consensus, but politics.

The question of arming is being re-examined by Marburger because of the increasing pressure being put on him, and not because violent crimes are increasing at Stony Brook. Many outside organizations, such as Public Safety's union and the Three Village community are in favor of arming. These are groups that have nothing to do with this campus, but which feel they can help to improve campus living by adding to it the happiness of a warm gun. So why has the issue of arming crept from out of the closet once again?

Marburger has been told that, because of several incidents in the last two years involving firearms, this campus is becoming a haven for armed robbers. The awareness that has been fabricated is that the amount of violence has increased, when in fact it has not. Isolated incidents, such as the shootings in the Union ballroom and in Tabler Quad, have prompted Marburger to believe that violence is on the rise. The irony is that it is unlikely that having a gun in these situations would have helped. More likely, it would have added to the confusion and violence of those evenings.

The fact is that many of the crimes are decreasing.

Crimes such as assault, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest have been going down steadily the last four years. More alarming is that the amount of arrests has been decreasing. The amount of arrests have been declining over the past five years, with only 70 arrests made in 1991 (the last year for which statistics are available).

Public Safety has insisted that they need guns to react to any situation. Crime at Stony Brook has been increasing, but not in the areas of violent crimes. Over half of the total amount of crimes committed involve petit and grand larceny. According to the report, grand larceny, grand auto larceny, petit larceny, bicycle larceny, criminal mischief and burglary have all increased, totaling 1831 of the crimes reported. Take a look at the types of crimes at Stony Brook. According to the Public Safety Annual Report for 1991, there were 2936 reported cases to Public Safety. This is the highest number in five years.

Public Safety is not addressing the real crime problem on this campus. The highest rate for a single crime was criminal mischief with 673 cases reported. Out of all these reported cases, two arrests were made. The second highest figure was petit larceny, of which 596 cases reported, and, again, two arrests were made.

It is well known that most of the bigger thefts on campus are "inside jobs." This is because of the problem with keys on campus—lax security in handling them, and copies being made. Everybody knows that you can walk to your local hardware store and make a copy for three dollars. So, many of these thefts are not caused by outsiders coming on campus to steal things at random.

The issue of arming is nothing new to Stony Brook.

Marburger was faced with a decision similar to this several years ago. Is it because of the increasing crime rate, or is Stony Brook trying in some way to go mainstream like many other SUNY schools?

Look at what Administration has done about concerts. The policy is so strict now to get permission for a group to perform, the only thing you don't have to include is a note from the group's mothers.

Public Safety and other gun advocates have argued the need for guns to gain the ability to respond to all situations and be prepared not only to defend the students, but themselves as well. However, many of the violent crimes committed at Stony Brook, such as assault and disorderly conduct, have decreased in the last five years. Many of the supporters of arming live in the community, and advocate guns because of the image of the University in the community as being more violent than its surroundings. However, a wide majority are people who live on campus are opposed. In fact, the University Senate, Graduate Senate and Undergraduate Senate have all passed motions advocating a gun-free campus.

At a Arming Forum held last month in which Marburger heard opinions from students on the subject, all but one student felt that bringing guns to campus would bring more violence to campus. More likely, arming Public Safety will not deter crime, but result in more serious confrontations with officers because would-be criminals are more likely to use their weapons against another gun. Arming Public safety will not deter crime, but force criminals to bring more weapons to defend themselves when they do commit a the most popular type of crime on campus; larceny.

Out of the Closet and into the Doghouse...

By Anthony Ramos

The first couple walked through the Union hand in hand. They stopped in the lobby and chatted for a minute. They kissed each other on the lips and went their separate ways. No one seemed to notice.

The second couple walked through the Union holding hands. The couple also stopped and chatted. They kissed. Everyone seemed to notice.

When the couple is of the same sex, it suddenly becomes a show.

"You are conscious of others being conscious of you," says Suzanne Bojdak, 21, a senior religious studies major. Bojdak and her girlfriend Debra Yates frequently walk through campus hand in hand and show affection towards each other. "I get stares all the time,"

she says, "but my reaction is 'This is the woman I love and they are just going to have to deal.'"

Same-sex couples do not have the same privileges that opposite-sex couples have. On television, in magazines, newspapers, books and movies, men and women show affection toward each other. When same-sex couples do the same, they are creating spectacles of themselves and imposing their sexuality on others.

"If I am trying to impose my sexuality by walking with my girlfriend," says Bojdak, "then heterosexual couples are guilty of imposing their sexuality all the time. All I'm doing is expressing my feelings just like everyone else."

Yet, when same-sex couples do express their affection, they may face certain consequences. "I'd be afraid to show affection with my lover on campus," says a gay

male who did not want to be identified. "I'd be afraid of being gay-bashed."

In effect, couples who do not fit the male-female mold either will get stares, comments or even bashed, or will just have to conceal their emotions. "It is such a double standard," says the gay male.

Another common feeling about same-sex couples is, "They do not bother me as long as I don't have to see them." In other words, people say they do not have any strong opposition towards same-sex couples, but at the same time they do not want to have to deal with the issue. It's the same double standard.

But the double standards are set. Bob and Mary walk inconspicuously through campus hand in hand, but when Tom and Michael do it, they are going to attract attention.

Stony Brook 2000

By Auke Piersma

Lewis M. Branscomb, former chief scientist at IBM, and current director of the Science Technology and Public Policy Program at Harvard University's Center for Science and International Affairs, was the last speaker of the year for the Distinguished Lecture Series. His speech focused on the role of universities in the technology drive that President Clinton is pushing for. With Stony Brook being the leading research university in the SUNY system, we have to look at what we need to do to maintain our level of excellence.

Our nation as a whole spends 150 billion dollars annually in research and development. This figure places the US at the top of the list in money spent to develop new technologies. The Departments of Defense, Energy and

Commerce are key players in where this money goes. Industry and the universities also have some say as to where the money is invested.

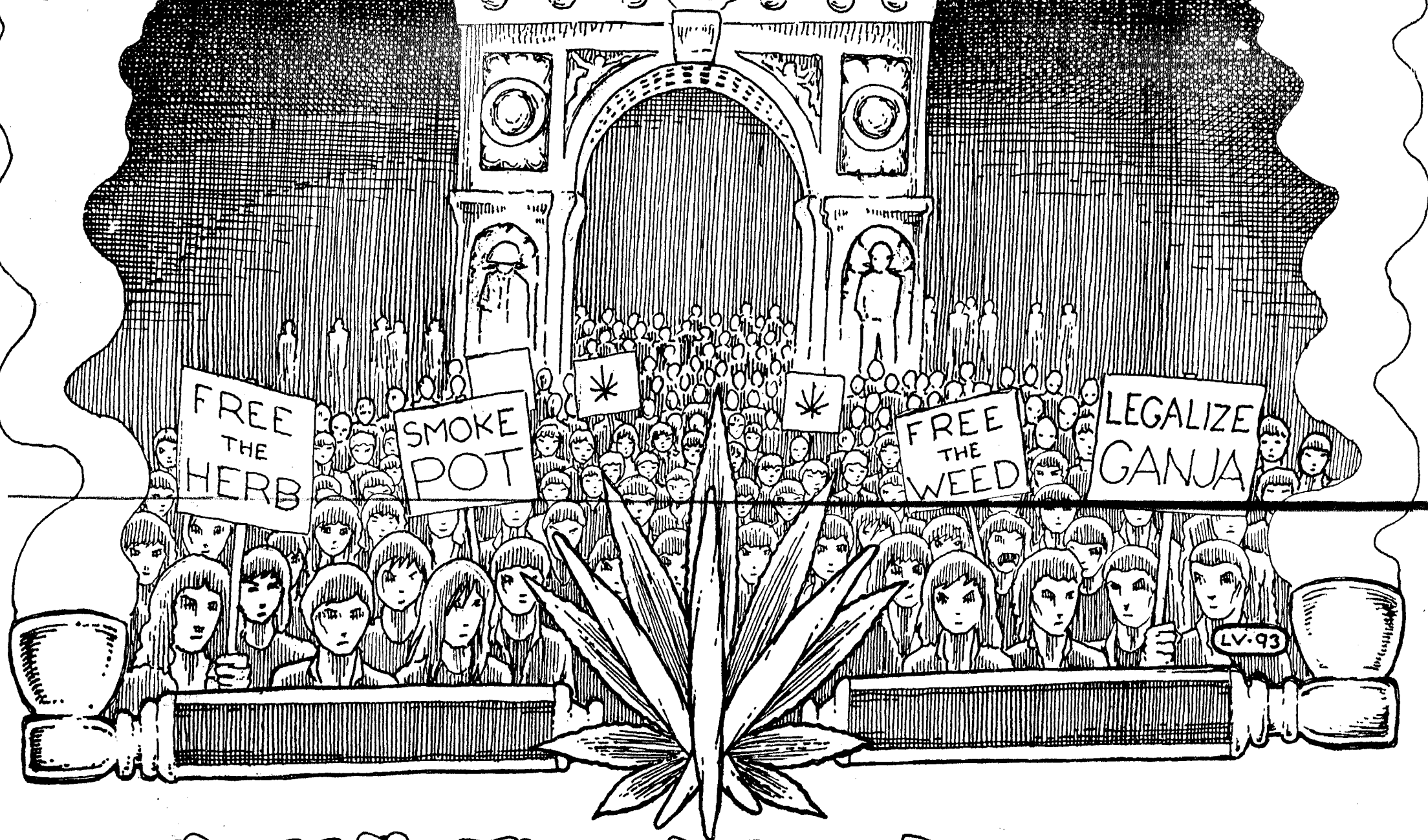
A key factor in the growth of technology is the linking of business and the universities in a way to foster new technologies. If these two institutions can work together, there is new hope for the US. They must work on their relations with each other to develop trusting bonds to progress science through cooperation. Another important idea is the linking of basic science research to applied science. There needs to be an effort to keep our research marketable. This will foster the growth of profits and produce more capital to invest in research and development.

The second factor for our universities to remember is the difference between "Big science and small science." Big science is the current wave of development and includes

the Superconducting Supercollider and the Space Station. According to Branscomb these programs are wasteful, but people like them for their appeal and Congress will "spend the bucks to appease the people." Small science is hard to get the seed money for, despite that the research is usually more meaningful for science in general. "We need to show the people how we will all benefit from the smaller, independent projects stemming from universities and small business developments," Branscomb said.

Stony Brook has seemed to be fostering a positive environment for both large and small businesses to come here. There is the Incubator Project, the defense workers retraining project, and several smaller initiatives. Our school does need to look out for becoming too privatized, because we cannot tamper with our primary mission of teaching and learning.

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ARA to (-yawn-) Screw us Again...

Spring is in the air. Leaves are sprouting, grass is growing, and bees are buzzing again. As our minds turn toward exams, the summer, the opposite (or same) sex, and become filled with the warm hazy glow of sunshine, the university is screwing us again. Through an all-but-unpublicized decision process, FSA has decided to allow ARA to raise the all "traditional" meal plan rates by nearly \$100, from \$850 to \$942 per semester. More and more vague is the memory of the commitment that ARA made not to raise the meal plan rate, after winning the USB dining contract from DAKA. Hell, this is the second \$100 increase in as many years. Included in the highlights of the proposed meal plan arrangement are: plans to close the Fanny Brice Food Mall, put a Burger King in Roth Quad, reduce the number of "traditional" cafeterias on campus to two, and increase the number of quads without any dining facilities whatsoever also to two.

But the most flagrant affront to the sensibilities and wallets of the thousands of resident students who are forced to participate in this sham of a mockery of a food service is the decree that, while the price of a Full Declining Balance contract will be raised to \$942, the amount of "money" that students will

have to spend will remain at \$850. What?? You heard right: not only does ARA insult us by charging its captive clientele anywhere from 125-200% of supermarket prices for a la carte food items, but it has the balls to go one step further and take \$92 right off the top.

The rationale behind this action, we are told, is economic. The "alterations in the services and...the plan's pricing...reflect the significant drop in undergraduate enrollment and the campus resident population that is projected for the coming year." (FSA *Food for Thought*, April '93) What?? After closing one large and expensive-to run dining facility, enrollment will decline so much as to require an additional \$92 per student?? That's what they're telling us. Their projections seem to indicate a 10% drop in enrollment to justify the rate increase, but that figure seems to forget that *if there are less students around, the amount of food and services that will have to be provided will also decrease, and therefore, ARA's expenses.* Doesn't it make sense that, no matter how many students are here, the cost to provide each of us with decent (sic!) food should be the same? Doesn't it sound as if we're just cogs in ARA's profit-sucking machine? Again?

Does all of this sound like news to you? Were you aware that decisions like these were

being made? Were there notices posted inviting your opinion about having yourselves robbed? No. In the April *Food for Thought*, there are references to "distributed questionnaires (did you see any?) telephone calls received from public notices in the Statesman, and university administrators as well as top ARA officials." However, nowhere in the pamphlet is mentioned whether or not any questions were asked about students' opinions about ARA's raising the meal plan rate. The only items mentioned are about minor proposed changes in existing services. Gee, thanks. That's a "rigorous analysis" of student opinion, all right; it's certain that the input from the ARA officials was helpful, too.

WHAT THE FUCK?? Here we go again, having to deal with last-minute shit being dropped on our faces from the University, again with no recourse possible to be taken against these rapacious bastards. Well, maybe we *do* have an option. If everyone simply neglected to pay for the meal plan for next semester, or better yet, sent in only \$750 (you all *did* preregister, didn't you), and just showed up in the Fall, the FSA, Admin, and ARA goons might take notice, and hold a truly public hearing on the issue. Hit 'em in the pockets, that's where their balls are.

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The Press would like to congratulate
Rachel Wexelbaum for receiving
the Phi Beta Kappa award
for creative writing.

EARTH DAY: More Than a Day

By Paul Giotopoulos

Earth Day, is a day to celebrate the earth and the environment we live in. It comes at a time when nature herself is celebrating with lush plant life and scurrying animals: spring. A time of year when people feel good to be outside after being cooped up for a winters time. Earth Day, however, brings with it more than a carnival atmosphere. It brings a whole year's worth of motivation geared for reviving the world we live in. But is one day enough? Should the world that ultimately gives us life and a place in which to enjoy it be celebrated and considered for only one day?

Our world, so vast in its resources and seemingly unaffected by its occupants, deserves and needs more. Perhaps if we had not abused our environment so badly we could do with just a day of celebration. But this is not the scenario that we have created for ourselves and future generations. We now face serious global problems that range from global warming and ozone depletion to solid waste disposal and water, land, and air pollution. We have, in what is a blink of an eye in Earth's time, managed to do the unthinkable; destroy our planet and home.

We have pushed our environment beyond its limits. We have done what was once thought to be impossible: we have begun to alter Mother Nature. No longer can she dilute the waste we pour into her waterways, or mix the pollutants spewed into the air. We have created problems that will last well into the next century even if we stopped all pollution right now. So we must take actions that not only slow and

eventually halt the abuses against Earth, but provide remedies for existing conditions.

So with the onset of Earth Day come all those concerned with the impact people have on the environment, to congregate and express their views.

They exchange ideas and beliefs about current problems and ways to correct them. They engage in deep conversation and make predictions about Earth's future.

The day is spent in the sun learning, educating, and having fun. Here, though, is where many believe environmental concerns stop. Because April 23 is not Earth Day, there are no longer actions or movements aimed at environmental conser-

vancy going on. This notion, while popular, is far from true. Environmental organization work takes place throughout the year and around the world.

Whether by measuring air samples trapped in ice in Antarctica, or working to reduce deforestation in the Amazon river basin, environmentalists work diligently. They work not for profitable self-gain but for the fear of what present trends suggest for the future.

They work hard against strong opposition mostly because their recommendations call for harder economic policies or more guidelines. It is Earth Day that allows the lay person to become acquainted with environmental conditions, policies, and results. Here

is where people learn that Styrofoam is 100% recyclable or that millions of gallons of untreated human waste is dumped into the Hudson River annually. This is also the time for people to learn that the Earth is not resilient to mankind and that our actions have lasting detrimental effects.

This is just what happened April 21. Stony Brook students came out in groves to celebrate Earth, enjoy cultural diversity, get a bite to eat, and hear some good music. Stony Brook students, now that much

more enriched in the workings of our environment, can go out and make a difference. If it is recycling one can instead of throwing it away it helps. The little bit that millions can do certainly surpasses what only a few hard at work can do. So pitch in and make a difference; you don't have to be a left wing fascist radical to care about the environment.

"We have done what was once thought to be impossible: We have begun to alter Mother Nature."

SB students came out in droves to celebrate Earth, enjoy cultural diversity, get a bite to eat, and listen to some good music."

Viewpoint

Along the Color Line:

Multicultural Economics: Minority Consumers and White Corporate America

By Manning Marable

In the year 2000, fully one-third of America's total population will consist of people of color—Latinos, Asian-Americans, Pacific Americans, American Indians, and African Americans. The fastest-growing groups in this country are people of color. However, many of the leaders of America's largest corporations still frequently perceive African-Americans and other minorities as marginal to the economic development of the country. Racial and ethnic stereotypes about people of color still influence corporate marketing behavior.

The first stereotype is the attitude that the vast majority of black and Latino households are poor or low income, and that they have relatively few resources compared to families in the white suburbs. While it's true that one-third of all African-Americans live below the poverty level, about one out of seven black households in 1990 had gross annual incomes above \$50,000. Second, the average black household spends about \$19,130 annually on consumer items, about 35 percent less than the \$29,500 spent by the typical white household. However, when the spending of all African-American families is added together, the total comes to \$270 billion per year. If African-American consumers were a separate country in terms of the goods and services they purchase, they would represent the fourteenth most powerful economic unit on earth. The Latino consumer market is nearly as large, representing about \$200 billion annually.

Latino, Asian-American, and African-American consumers are also frequently ignored because of flawed data-collection techniques for marketing. In a typical random dialing sample done by corporations, the yield of blacks who are contacted is usually 6 to 8 percent,

well below the actual percentage of African Americans in the general population. Blacks and Latinos living in urban areas, and especially in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods, are rarely if ever contacted directly. White marketing researchers as a rule avoid black urban housing projects.

There's also the crucial factor of culture, which much of white corporate America does not understand. It's the simple observation that people who possess different ethnic heritages, customs, and social backgrounds will also have divergent preferences, tastes, and choices. We may all be Americans, but we don't all eat the same foods. A blue collar Polish-American family in Chicago won't prepare the same meals as a middle-class Mexican-American family in the San Antonio suburbs.

In a recent issue of the *Wall Street Journal*, data on consumer spending patterns showed that black families spend much more for certain items each year than whites. In the category of food, the average black household spends \$23.84 per year for hot dogs, about 20.2 percent more than the \$19.83 spent by white households. African Americans spend about 35.5 percent more than whites for fresh fish (\$52.71 vs. \$38.91); they allocate 43.5 percent more for bacon (\$28.99 vs. \$20.20). The average black household spends 47.7 more for sausage, 53.5 percent more for sugar, 23.3 percent more for flour, and 25.6 percent more for baby food. African Americans not only buy 44.7 percent more non-carbonated fruit flavored drinks than whites—they also have distinctly different preferences in taste. About one-third of all orange flavored carbonated sodas, for instances, are consumed by blacks.

Clothing manufacturers should observe that their profit margins are largely determined by the actions of

black consumers. The typical African American household spends 28.2 percent more than its white counterpart for boys' sweaters, 81.8 percent more for boys' suits, sport coats and vests, 94.4 percent more for infant accessories, 128.8 percent more for boys' socks, 139.4 percent more for boys' underwear, and a whopping 194.7 percent more for boys' pants. Companies which rent household items such as washers, dryers, and VCRs also depend upon the African American consumer market. The *Wall Street Journal* noted that the average black household spends 76 percent more than the white household for the rentals of VCRs, radios and music-related equipment; they spend 219.8 percent more than whites to rent televisions.

Civil rights organizations should become more aware of these patterns of African American and Latino consumer spending. They should consider targeting white corporations which have heavy shares of minority consumer markets, but which have done little or nothing to promote minority hiring or joint ventures. A reasonable share of such profits must be plowed back in to Hispanic and black communities, and the managerial ranks of such firms must reflect ethnic and gender diversity. If such companies refuse to negotiate, the economic clout of minorities should be used to reward our genuine friends, and to punish our enemies. This is the strategy of "economic multiculturalism," utilizing minority economic clout to achieve our larger goals of social justice and economic development.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of Political Science and History, University of Colorado, Boulder. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 250 newspapers and is broadcast by more than 60 radio stations throughout North America, England, the Caribbean, and India.

HSO Conference On Haitian Refugees

By Dennis O. Palmore

On April 22 the Haitian Student Organization held a conference in the Uniti Cultural Center to discuss the Haitian refugee crisis at Guantanamo Bay. The lead speaker was Jocelyne Mayas, founder of *Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees*. Also in attendance were Haitian refugees who had just recently arrived from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Mayas served as an interpreter between the Haitian refugees and lawyers who arrived along with her at Guantanamo Bay. Mayas said that she had spoken with 190 Haitians who came to Guantanamo to escape the brutal military regime that has ousted president Aristide. Mayas spoke of the horrific conditions that exist at the concentration camp at Guantanamo. The U.S., under the Clinton administration, has not made a significant effort to improve the living conditions for the refugees in Cuba.

Mayas gave an account of the medical maltreatment pregnant Haitian women received at Guantanamo, where, "I saw pregnant women in their ninth month or close to it having contractions, and doctors are administering shots to them to keep the babies from coming out." This type of medical treatment is a horrible display of what U.S. officials probably consider to be sufficient health care. She also said that for "every illness that those people have at Guantanamo, they are given Mylanta, Tylenol, and Motrin." These medicines are only commercial treatments sold over the counter, which for all intents and purposes are relatively ineffective prescriptions for the major medical problems that many of the refugees are facing.

The most serious of these is AIDS, requires far more advanced treatment than what is currently being

administered. Clinton, for all his campaign promises, has basically been standing by and letting these people suffer in the most inhumane living conditions, while this country has all the resources to prevent such deprivation he does nothing. The Haitian people are being treated like caged animals. "Men, women, and children are all living in the same room," Mayas said. While the U.S. has expressed sympathy for Jewish victims of the Holocaust by memorializing those who suffered this tragedy; by the same token why hasn't the same attention been given to other groups, Clinton has overlooked the atrocities in the concentration camp at Guantanamo Bay, not to mention Bosnia! Where is President Clinton and his pro-Aristide approach to restoring the ousted Haitian president to power? The president has done nothing to advance or restore the democratically-elected Haitian president back into power. Let us not forget that this is the man who promised to allow Haitian refugees political asylum in this country and then reneged on his promise once he took office.

It seems like we've elected a Bush in Clinton's clothing, if so, it's going to be a long four years. On Dec. 16, 1990, in Mayas's words, "Haiti decided to take their destiny into their own hands, meaning electing their own president and the American government did not like it, did not appreciate it, because it has been a tradition to choose and place presidents wherever they feel their is a threat and today Haitians are considered to be a threat for the American government." The Haitian people would like to see their government restored so that they can return to their country. Many Americans, unfortunately, have the belief that by allowing Haitian refugees into this country, they would

then want to stay and "take away our jobs" This is not the case. Just like these patriotic, baseball-watching, apple pie-eating Americans, Haitians too would like to live in their own country.

Americans give themselves too much credit; I know it's hard to believe, but everyone does not want to come and live in this country. As Mayas commented, "They are only here because their president is out here, once the president goes back, they will go back!" One of the refugees who attended the conference stated that, "The population chose Aristide; it was not him who presented himself as the candidate, after we chose him he accepted to declare his candidacy."

If this country was true to its principle of upholding democratic justice, it would take a stauncher position in seeing that democratic power is restored in Haiti. The total lack of commitment, and the apathy shown toward Haitian refugees on the part of Clinton and his administration, is a disgrace to the American ideals of democracy and the basic rights of humanity.

For once it would be nice to see this country live up to the democratic preaching and rhetoric evoked by U.S. political leaders. Past experiences have shown the utter callousness on the part of this government to respond to the needs and plight of political refugees in Guantanamo regardless of the severity of the situation. Anyone who has lived in this country knows how simple it would be for Clinton to resolve this situation, the simple mentioning of a possible military intervention would restore Aristide to his presidency.

Instead Clinton has chosen to turn his back on our Haitian brothers and sisters, who only want the same basic freedoms and rights that we as humans who inhabit this earth are entitled to and deserve.

Campus Life Time: Too Much Union

By Aaron Swartz

Campus Life Time is every Wednesday from 12:40 to 2:10 in the Stony Brook Union. There are hardly any classes during this time. Students can have lunch, hang out with friends, meet new friends, see who's with whom and who's wearing what. It sounds like a fun break in the day for SUNY Stony Brook's teens and twentysomethings. Instead, Campus Life Time is annoying.

Campus Life Time is the busiest time in the Union. Since practically no one has classes, the Union is stuffed full of students trying to buy lunch and move about. The food lines are endless, and getting through the building is more like wrestling than walking.

"Excuse me," "Pardon me," and "Sorry my bag hit you," have become Campus Life Time catch phrases. Lunch on Wednesdays in the Union is not worth the hassle.

"You can't walk without being pushed and shoved,"

says senior Elana Malovatsky.

Michelle Kraskin, a senior, suggests that the university should open up other food services because the ones offered aren't enough during this hour every Wednesday. "I hate it," she says. "It's disgusting. We pay all this money and the food is disgusting and we are packed in here like popcorn."

If a student has found the patience to wait in the never-ending lines and finally has his or her lunch, another obstacle awaits—finding a place to sit, especially in the Bleacher Club. The room is crawling with fraternity brothers and sorority sisters talking, eating, and sitting at their designated tables. The few remaining tables are taken by the fastest and most eager. Those that are not Greek-involved or who are late-comers are left without tables.

Katie Yin, a junior majoring in English, finds that sometimes she has to alter her Wednesday schedule just so that she can have lunch. "It's very frustrating," she says. "Sometimes, I have to cut class to go and eat early

to beat the crowds."

Not only is Campus Life Time too crowded for Stony Brook students, it also poses a problem for outside guests scheduled to speak in the Union at this time.

"It's counterproductive," says Michelle Wohlman, a senior. "Recently, there was a speaker [NOW President Patricia Ireland] and because of the outside noise, it was impossible for her to speak. We had to stop and go upstairs to another room." Wohlman says there isn't always a quiet room available in the Union.

Zelma Mine, a Union building manager, explains that the problem is the size of the building. "The building was not built for as many people as come in it" during Campus Life Time. The union is meant for five to seven thousand students at one time, not the 20,000 that are packed in during Campus Life Time. Mine says that she doesn't even come in to the Union at this time.

Campus Life Time is not worth the trouble. But if you don't mind being pushed, shoved and bumped to get the last dry curly fry, it's for you.

Join the Press:

Become a burned-out, disorganized, fascist pollyanna who whines and doesn't do anything.

GAYS & LESBIANS: Get Your Priorities in Order

By Robert Gilheany

It was great to see one million gays, lesbians, and bisexuals march on Washington and expanding the realm of human freedom, last weekend. It was uplifting to see them outnumber Right Wing Fascist Christians a thousand to one as the march headed from the Ellipse down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House on to the Capitol Mall where the rally was taking place.

The one troubling aspect of the march and rally was the elevation of the issue of gays in the military at the expense of issues that are vastly more important. The most critical issues facing non-straight people are the AIDS crisis and its relationship to the medical industrial complex, safe sex knowledge and practice, the human rights fight against the psycho Christian and fascist campaigns, the boycott of Colorado, and self defense.

After those issues are dealt with, then maybe we can deal with the fact the bi-s, gays and lesbians are being discriminated against as they try to join a reactionary organization (the military) where, of course, they are going to be discriminated against. It's simple: if you're queer, don't join a reactionary organization.

During the rally, many speakers rightfully stated the relationship between the struggle against homophobia and rights against racism and sexism. Ben Chavis, a newly appointed executive Director of the NAACP and Patricia Ireland of NOW speak in support of the rally and the solidarity of the respective struggles.

Much to my disappointment, with all the talk about the fight against racism, Guantanamo Bay was barely mentioned that afternoon. The Reverend Jesse Jackson was one exception. He talked excessively about the concentration camp the U.S. government is running for Haitians with HIV. Haitian refugees who were fleeing the military overthrow of their first democratically elected President Jean Bertrand Aristide. The Haitian refugees are then kidnapped by the military and taken

to Guantanamo Bay where they are being held behind razor wire and armed guards. Over 230 Haitians have been on a heroic hunger strike.

The near total omission of this issue was underlined by the fact that a number of speakers commented on the Holocaust museum that recently opened up. This museum in D.C. makes mention of the fact the gays, lesbians, and bisexuals were targeted victims of Nazi genocide. In fact, that's where the pink triangles come from. In the Nazi concentration camps, gays, lesbians, and bisexuals were made to wear pink triangles, Jews, stars of David, and socialists and communists, red triangles and criminals, green triangles. Speakers correctly tied issues of organized hatred and violence together with homophobia but didn't make the connection with Guantanamo Bay, the logical progression. This happened in spite of the fact that ACT-UP has been demonstrating about this issue across the country.

The elevation of the gays in the military issue is an ominous centrist shift in mass demonstrations that we saw last summer in New York City during the Democratic Convention. Along with other members of Red Balloon, we went from demonstration to demonstration, and, at most of them, there was a sort of selling of the Clinton-Gore Ticket. Therefore, the focus of the rallies, whether the issue be pro-choice, or U.S. out of El Salvador or gay rights and the AIDS fight, the focus moves to the center and the Democratic party's levels were glossed over, such as, the fact that their Democratic National Chairman, Ron Brown, was a lawyer for Haitian Dictator Jean Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier, among other things. The exceptions to this were the "No Police State" rally and the "Stop the Drug War" rally. This "Clintonization" of mass demonstrations was evident in D.C. Sunday afternoon with the predominance of the gays-in-the-military issue. The prominence of that issue insured that other, more important, issues would get scant attention by comparison.

The AIDS crisis has taken hundreds of thousands of lives, yet, in the United States, the pharmaceutical industries and the FDA are only offering expensive, toxic drugs with limited effectiveness to patients with the HIV virus. For political reasons, cofactors in the development of the AIDS crisis, such as the destruction of the environment and its effects upon the human immune system and diet are not being addressed, so companies like Burroughs Wellcome can make a killing on the crisis. Natural therapies and alternative drugs such as gamma interferon (which is available in Kenya but not here) are not being used.

Safe sex should have been talked about in more graphic detail, such as massage techniques and hand-genital sex and the use of condoms (latex condoms are the best defense against AIDS and syphilis).

What better place to drop that kind of information than in front of one million queers at the National Mall in D.C.?

The wonderful anti-racism theme that was present at the rally can only be affirmed by anti-militarism. Look at the relationship between the American military and third-world national liberation struggles, such as Vietnam, Nicaragua, Brazil, Cuba, Haiti, and South Africa. We have to be clear about what our relationship to these political struggles are. The highlighting of the gays in the military issue glosses over these points and pushes to the side the relationship of the government's response to the AIDS crisis and the fight for the lives of people with AIDS. Where is the relationship of the powers that be in that equation and the framing of the AIDS debate and alternative treatments in the U.S. It isn't enough that Clinton appoints an AIDS czar.

Lesbian, gay and bisexual rights is part of the ongoing sexual revolution; it is a freedom and liberation fight. Like all freedom movements, it's fundamentally a leftist movement against social control, hatred, fear, and religious bigotry. Don't let centrist corporate Democrats set the agenda.



Dysfunctional Fables

THE ROOSTER AND THE PEACOCK

By Rachel S. Wexelbaum
dedicated to the prettiest boys I know

The Peabody family in Vermont owned a small farm where they raised fowl of all sorts— chickens, turkeys, ducks and geese— and sold them to the people in town. However, there was one bird in the barnyard who would never be sold, and that was Rajah Bingabang the peacock. Mr. Peabody found Rajah when he was just an egg on the side of the road, for apparently he had fallen out of a crate in a truck on its way to a nearby game farm, and Mr. Peabody decided to take the egg under his wing (WAAH!). He let an old mother hen raise Rajah for a while, then when he realized that the chick wasn't quite like the others, he let his children make him into a pet.

Rajah had many privileges that the other birds would never have. He could go in and out of the Peabodys' house as he pleased, sleep in front of the television set, ride in the car and eat ice cream. Best of all, Rajah was allowed to crow in rusty tones with impunity. He strut around the barnyard as if he owned the place, never talking to the other birds as he had royal blood in his veins, and the chicks would follow him around like rock concert groupies trying to emulate his style. This worried the chicks' mothers and infuriated their fathers, especially the big rooster who had the duty of waking the Peabody family at six in the morning every day. Rooster was a bird of humble origins, but he had the most important position in the barnyard and did not care for this flashy young upstart who took his students away from him. Not only that, but before Peacock came on the scene Rooster had the most beautiful plumage on the farm and the chicks

wanted to be just like him. Now they tried to tie long strands of grass to their stubby fuzzy tails and look smug.

When Mrs. Peabody threw an old shoe at Rooster for crowing at three in the morning, that was the last



straw. That fan-tailed howler monkey could screech and squawk all night and they thought it was cute—and his children thought it was MUSIC! Well, he would give Peacock a piece of his mind once and for all. He found Peacock sleeping in the empty birdbath and challenged him to a duel in the name of family values, the American Way and the Protestant Work Ethic. It was agreed that the best bird would rule the roost and the loser would accept defeat gracefully and go on his way.

The next day the entire barnyard population gath-

ered to watch the fight of the century. The chicks cheered on their hero while Rooster stood alone, tall and noble but ignored by all except one old spinster hen who tried to win his affections every year. He smiled sheepishly in her direction, for he had no idea that it would all come to this, and it gave him all the more reason to fight as fiercely as he could.

When Mr. Peabody heard the ruckus out in the barnyard he rushed to see what was the matter, and when he found the two prize birds fighting to the death he did the first thing that came to his mind—reached for his shotgun and put a bullet through Rooster's brain. "Can't trust them damn loud roosters," mumbled Peabody as he rolled a cigarette. "He was too damn old anyway."

MORAL: Embrace your enemies and teach them through example—not expletives.

MORE IMPORTANTLY: To die alone for your beliefs is to die a hero.

Not only that, but who is a peacock raised by chickens to think that he is royalty?

WE WEEP FOR THE FUTURE, BUT WE WAIT TO SEIZE THE DAY!

Short Reviews:

By Dennis O. Palmore

RUN-DMC **DOWN WITH THE KING [PROFILE]**

Down with the Kinnnng marks the return of the group of pioneering brothers from Hollis, Queens, who catapulted rap from an urban underground phenomenon to an internationally accepted music form. The debut single from their upcoming CD similarly titled Down With the King is definitely flavor. With Pete Rock on the cut providing his phunky production skills, phat baseline and CL Smooth kicking some dope lyrics, this single is all that. Run and DMC both come off on this track, Sucker Mc's style!!!! If the album is as phat as the single then it should definitely be slammmin!

AFRIKA BAMBAATAA **TIME ZONE [PROFILE]**

In the tradition and spirit of the Zulu Nation, Afrika Bambaataa and his Time Zone maxi-single provides the listener with some smooth sounding hip-hop. Zulu War Chant the phattest jam on this CD is a solid effort by DJ Fashion and has a bit of the old school flavor reminiscent of Afrika Bambaataa's soulsonic force sound. Of the four tracks on the CD Time 2 Get Open showcases the impressive lyrical skills of G.L.O.B.E. who can definitely deliver, but Time Zone falters on the 40 Oz. Crew, the production and lyrical delivery of Afrika Bambaataa and crew is kinda on the weak side, but it's still worth checking out.

Finally Balanced with Billy Capozzi

By Tom Stoic

Like a man possessed, "If you're going to speak Lord/mean what you say....," came blaring out of the somewhat inefficient sound system on Wednesday night at approximately 10:30 pm from the mouth that would openly express his opinions and his fears, dreams, and intentions, peyote experiences and visions through the established art of psychedelic jazz-poetry.

The audience was drawn into the show as the band jammed on a hard-driven Miles Davis-type of song that highlighted Dave Christian's guitar talent, as well as Louis DeVirgilio's trumpet expertise. When "rock and roll poet" Billy Capozzi returned to the forefront again, he engaged those watching in dream-like landscapes with sugar-coated words that were equally matched by the accompanying music being created by the six group members that were on stage Wednesday night. Joe Silva (who recently was musical director for Stony Brook University's production of *Hair*, and wrote the songs, with Mr. Capozzi for the production of the play, *Ceilly! Hey*) used his synthesizer to the utter ends of its ability. He involved himself both soulfully and technically, something that many modern-age players lack.

Besides the poetry-based material, the band played some hard-rocking songs, such as "Just Give Me" and "You're 2 Much." These songs were written by Capozzi and Christian. They write most of the song-structures. The bandmembers, however, add their own personalities to the music. Lisa DeVirgilio's presence on stage, as well as her flute and piccolo playing, were enough to keep the audience's attention. And Mark Salomone on bass was an established musician (from "Wide Awake" formerly, and "The Mighty Underdogs") from the word go, and his stage presence and genuine mannerisms were great.

The night was topped off by a special guest appearance by the band's bood friend, Doug Stegmeyer, from "The Billy Joel Band." He came up with his own bass and jammed on some down-and-dirty blues with Mike Goodman keeping impeccable timing on his trap set.

Everything was going well until the "moon-poisoned" manager of the place came to shut down the music and kick the patrons out way before they had had enough. Rules are rules and stop means stop. "Happy Earthday!"

The Rivals: A Play Without Peer

By Catherine Krupski and Dennis Palmore

The Rivals is a play written by R.B. Sheridan. It was first performed in England in 1775. The recreation at Theater Two in the Staller Center is more than amazing. Every little detail in this modern version is so true to life of that time period. This play not only presents the viewer with a comedic love story, but an almost accurate account of culture as well. The costumes are absolutely gorgeous. Everything about this play is gorgeous! The mannerisms of the characters are second nature to the University community's resident actors; the chivalrous stances of the gentlemen and the emotional fluttering of fans by the women.

The plot, which takes place in the posh eighteenth century setting, tells the story of a young couple who fall in love. The couple, Lydia Languish and Captain Jack Absolute, portrayed by Mia Russo and David Tese, respectively, are the subject of this comical, yet deceptive love story. The couple's effort to conceal their love affair from their two aristocratic elders, creates a web of intrigue and misunderstanding among all those involved. Deborah Mayo, who played the obnoxious aunt of Lydia was excellent in this role, another performer who stood out as far as his character portrayal went was Geoff

Thompson, who played Faulkland, the jealously insane courtier of Lydia's friend, Julia, is hysterical and shows that not every man was independent of his love. This production is very well directed by John Cameron, who always presents the audience with an awesome show that can never disappoint.

For this modern version, there was an extra for the audience- a play within a play. The original plot is the central focus, and to further educate the audience of the time period, there is an "audience" to the right and left of the

stage in full wardrobe who react to the play as it was back in the 1700's. The audience participation was a delight to watch. The scenery changes were always done before the audience, as candles were

complete if only the audience knew exactly what to expect, for every little detail of that time period is carefully attended to. This must have been a fun era to be a part of because to see it now is a charm;

everything was so prim and proper. The loves, the social responsibilities of each member of society is mystifying. The movements of each character depending on their social class was executed so wonderfully.

The social class distinctions that are evident today existed back then and were much more severe. They are illustrat-

ed in not only the dress, but also in the accents. Bethany Sandor plays Lucy, the maid of Lydia Languish, speaks English quite clearly, but there is a distinctive difference which when coupled with her brutal honesty in cheating her employers really shows how a servant behaved back then. After some intense scrutiny over their accents (checking to see if there was a Kevin Costner/Robin Hood syndrome), there were minute slips, but only after a magnified analysis of language. If you didn't see these people in your classes on campus, you would think they were transported through time directly to the stage.

As the semester ends and you're absolutely stressed out in the library, stroll over to Theater Two and see *The Rivals*. You will feel so much better. This is the perfect light-hearted play to end the semester with.



Captain Absolute charms Mrs. Malaprop

not blown out to dim the stage, nor was there a curtain to draw. Instead, the humorous changes are a welcome distraction from the main plot.



Julia, foreground, closes the play with cast

There was an introduction to the play which sets the mood and brings the audience to the eighteenth century. Its casual address to the audience directly sets a relaxed mood for one to sit back and enjoy the show. Full appreciation of this era would be

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The Smell Of Fried Brains

By Raver Bunny

Well alright. Anyone who didn't show up to LGBA's Rave missed one of the few delicious events at this stale school. It took place in Tabler Cafeteria and though the place was not packed, those who were present sweated enough to steam up the windows.

Though the lighting was bad, the neon decorations made up for it. Fellow ravers danced in the cage, stomped on the runway, and convulsed on the floor. One wall was filled with changing psychedelic images for the tripping and the generally insane. D.J. Mohammed (I hope I spelled his name right), must have been on some good shit, cuz the music was a drug all by itself. The sounds ranged from hardcore techno to disco, to ambient, to tribal, to pure liquid highs. I could smell fried brains.

The fashion show was fierce. My beautiful partners and I took over the runway, and showed the crowd what fashion was and is. Then various butterflies came up from the spectators and modeled their own groovy attire. I must say that I had never seen so many well-dressed cats assembled in one place on this campus since the last Rave. Of course I screamed in pure delight as I joined my brothers and sisters in gyrating to the funky noise around us. This dream ended all too soon. I was very reluctant to leave.

Who cares that the music has stopped when it's still beating in your head? Security does. Out I went into the desolate night to hallucinate alone that the Rave continued. I haven't been the same since. Just a warning for the future: Once you go to a Rave, don't expect to come out of it the same. It alters the mind.

Isaac Asimov

By Paul Galfano

Isaac Asimov published over 470 books of fiction and non-fiction during his 72-year lifetime. None brought him more recognition than his classic "Foundation" novels. To his award-winning science fiction series has been added a new volume: *Forward The Foundation* (Doubleday, hardcover, \$23.50), which is now in its fourth week on *The New York Times* hardcover best-seller list. As the cover jacket explains, this novel is "an exciting tale of danger, intrigue, and suspense."

You don't need to read the other novels in the series to get into it; *Forward The Foundation* is in a class of its own as a separate story. The final volume deals with the exploits of Hari Seldon's waning years as he tries to restore the Encyclopedia Foundation, create a new generation of "psychohistorians," and save humanity from tyranny.

As Asimov scholars know from the other "foundation" novels, Seldon first created the Encyclopedia Foundation on the planet Trantor (Asimov's obvious future vision of Earth), the center of government of the multi-world Galactic Empire. Seldon, as we learn from the "Encyclopedia Galactica," attempts to save the empire by using the strength of the Foundation. Run by brilliant scholars and scientists called "psychohistorians," Seldon hopes that they will help shorten the blow of a potential thousand years of brutality by evil warlords.

In *Forward The Foundation*, Hari Seldon must fight off the rebellious Laskin Joranum and convince a skeptical Emperor to keep funding the Encyclopedia Foundation. With Asimov's traditional use of pre-chapter excerpts from the "Encyclopedia Galactica," the reader can easily find more history of the Foundation, Hari Seldon, the Emperor Cleon I, etc. All this, along with Asimov's witty allusions to today's world (although he substitutes bizarre names), makes the world of the Galactic Empire a "tour de force" (as the publishers put it).

Much like the previous six novels in the series, *Forward The Foundation* is easy reading and fast-paced. The chapters are short and flow into each other easily, thanks to Asimov's use of cliff-hangers like this:

"Another old friend gone. Demerzel, Cleon, Dors, now Yugo...leaving him emptier and lonelier as he grew old.

And the revolution that had allowed Amaryl to die happy might never come to pass. Could he manage to make use of the Galactic Library? Could he find more people like Wanda? Most of all, how long would it take?

Seldon was sixty-six. If only he could have started his revolution at thirty-two when he first came to Trantor...

Now it might be too late."

Strong character development, especially that of Wanda Seldon, softens the science-fictional elements of the story. Asimov glides the reader along quickly with a snappy prose. The story itself is filled with action and suspense, as the quoted material shows. After all, Asimov knows his "loyal readers"—he does not disappoint them in his last "Foundation" entry.

Forward The Foundation, completed just before Asimov's death, is the most philosophical of the seven-volume series. For this reason—and because it will be considered his final vision of the future—it is recommended. For Hari Seldon, as Asimov tells it, "has evolved into my alter-ego.... In my earlier books Hari Seldon was the stuff of legend—with *Forward The Foundation* I have made him real."

Ten Reasons Why Straight Men Should Not be Allowed to Stay in the Military

By Carol Magary, Prairie Fire

I propose that all problems with the military now are because of straight men; therefore, the entire military should be composed only of women and gay men..

1. Straight men are constantly flaunting their heterosexuality, and make gay men uncomfortable.
 2. Because of fear of being branded gay, straight men refrain from forming truly close relationships with other men. This interferes with the bonding and loyalty essential to military teamwork.
 3. Straight men in the military are directly responsible for the movie *Top Gun*, the T.V. show *Major Dad* and camouflage as a fashion statement.
 4. Straight men are not used to seeing other men naked, so they are not psychologically equipped to shower with other men.
 5. Straight men are militant about converting others to their lifestyle, which include unwanted pregnancies, diseases, and cheap cologne.
 6. U.S.O. shows could stand some improvement.
 7. Straight men don't look as good with short hair and combat boots as gay men do.
 8. Straight men never get harassed, so they don't have well-developed defense techniques.
 9. Straight men's repression leads to an overbalance of phallic symbols such as large guns, rockets, and bombs.
 10. Currently, the words "naval seamen" have no ironic implications.
- Prairie Fire is published by the Freedom Coalition at the University of Florida, P.O. Box 12266, Gainesville, FL 32604

WUSB's Spring SEMESTER Top 10:

1. Bad Trip
2. Shootyz Groove
3. Scofflaws
4. Friction Wheel
5. Fishbone
6. Quicksand
7. Bad Brains
8. Living Colour
9. Meat Beat Manifesto
10. Aphex Twin

by Dave Kennedy

BIG PAIN

comics

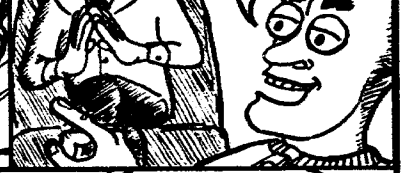
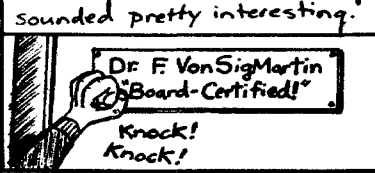
I had started having some real strange dreams. A few were really off the wall. So I decided to make an appointment with a psychoanalyst to see what it all meant.

Over the phone, he told me my dreams were the result of sexual intrapsychic conflicts. I thought that was amazing, considering I had never even met him. I thought he might be a quack, but the sexual conflict thing sounded pretty interesting.

He asked, so I told him a bit about myself. I got bored though, and asked to get right to the dreams.

Well, usually at first, it's appropriate to establish a rapport before we...

Great! Well, O.K., here's the first dream!



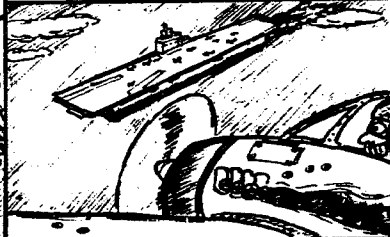
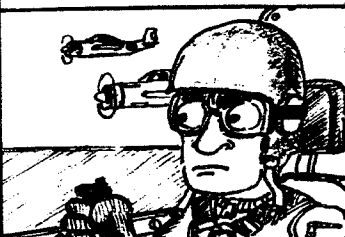
"This one happens about once every month. I'm a World War II Kamikaze pilot, tooling around the Pacific, looking for the U.S.S. Yorktown."

Suddenly, there she is! Flight deck covered with planes and fuel! Our Squadron dives down! Flak exploding all around us! We're taking hits, and all my buddies are going down!

"I'm the only one left! It's up to me to nail that boat! My sights are dead-on and I'm sitting on 8000 pounds of payload waiting to go off!"

But wait! Not again! I'm out of gas! I always run out of gas! I fall in the ocean 50 feet in front of the ship and all the sailors start laughing! It's so unfair!

Ready for the next dream, Doc?



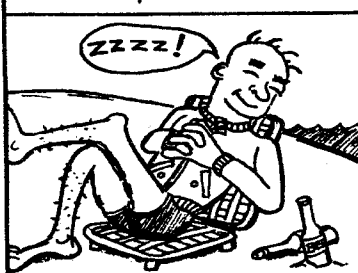
"This one happens about once a week. I'm sitting on the beach. It's a beautiful day, and after a few beers, I fall asleep for a little while."

When I awake, I see that the tide is coming in rather quick. I'm stranded on a little island that's getting smaller by the minute! It's deep and I can't swim!!

Then, to make it worse, thousands of crabs start invading the island from all sides. They're getting me back for all their relatives that I ate.

I manage to bash a few of them with a beer bottle, but they get me anyway. I always wake up before they can finish chomping me to death.

But the last, and most horrible dream, is this one. The one I have almost every night!



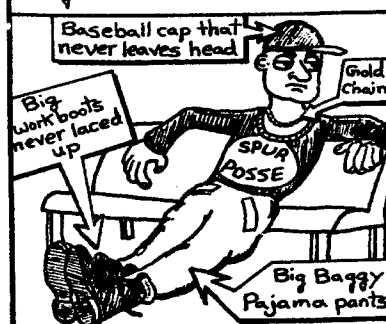
I'm in the mall, and I'm dressed up like the typical long island macho male lout.

I meet my girlfriend, the typical long island "hot" babe.

On the way home in my "bitchin' Camaro", we rag at each other non-stop.

My friends and I act tough and beat up on people because we need an outlet for our sexual inadequacy.

I live my whole life on long island. I only go to the mall and tacky nightclubs. I'm loud, uncultured, rude, prejudice + sexist.



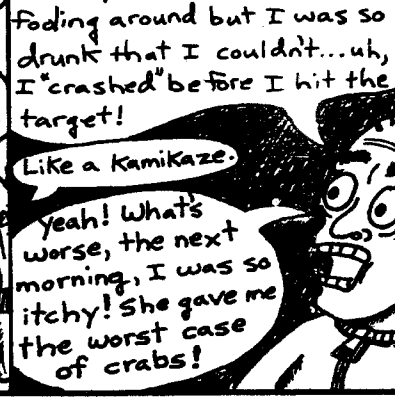
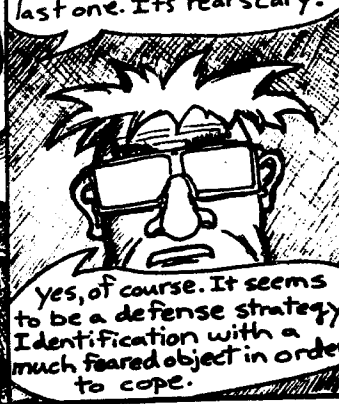
Well, that's it Doc! Can you help me?

Well, I'd like the dreams to stop, especially the last one. It's real scary!

Have you had any recent conflicts with any real-life components of your dreams? Think hard.

A few months back, I met a girl in a bar. We went back to her place. We started foding around but I was so drunk that I couldn't...uh, I "crashed" before I hit the target!

To top it all off, she had a mean boyfriend! He came home and beat me up! Doc! That's why I had all those dreams! I'm cured!! Thanks!



Prudence Hits The Bigtime!

By Ed Garrison

Artist Maze in conjunction with *Netherworld* brings the strip, "Lovely Prudence", to the world of comics.

As I entered *Netherworld* headquarters, I really did feel a small chill down my spine, for *Netherworld* is appropriately located in a large Gothic mansion in Westchester. In the living room artist Julian Maze, creator of "Lovely Prudence," sat on a huge black velvet couch. Dressed in his usual dark cowboy duds, he was intently watching "The Company of Wolves" on a large television screen.

Noticing me, Maze flipped off the set and held up a Prudence doll.

Maze: What do you think? I've just finished it.

EG: It's lovely.

I studied the intricacies of the evil-looking doll's face, and suddenly the owner of *Netherworld*, Joey Mendillo, entered the room and seated himself on the black couch next to Maze. He motioned for me to sit in an antique Victorian chair that was placed on an old oriental rug. In that hideously uncomfortable chair I interviewed the two collaborators, spoken of in many circles as the new up-and-coming icons in the field of horror.

EG: Joey, when did you first become aware of Maze's comic strip?

JM: I saw it in an underground magazine called, "Hounds Tooth." I had been thinking of launching a line of horror comics in addition to my jewelry and T-shirts. As soon as I saw it, I knew that it had to be the debut comic in the *Netherworld Press* line. Of course I was familiar with his

work. I have seen his photos and his pen and ink drawings. I loved them and realized they were the product of a geniously warped mind. I had not seen his comic strip, though, until I read "Hounds Tooth."

EG: Maze, how were you contacted by Mr. Mendillo?

M: Actually I phoned him about a Vincent Price doll I was makin'. Joey had made a Vincent Price ring, which is now owned by Vincent Price.... Anyway, I was trying to see about sending my doll to Vincent, so I called Joey, and he was so excited because he was looking for me just as I called. Joey and I have worked together before, once at the party for John Skipp and Craig Spector's newest book, "The Bridge." Joey did the special effects make-up for their horror fashion show and had hired me as an assistant. I was thrilled at the time because I was a fan of Skipp and Spector, but the night was awful. Joey and I fled from that party with much haste because things got way out of hand. But back to the point, I was very excited when he told me he wanted to print my strip.

JM: It was obviously fate. (Joey laughed and looked at his watch.)

EG: Joey, what other rings are you doing now?

JM: Well, in addition to my retail line of horrific rings, I'm also working on a cenobite ring for Clive Barker, and a Divine ring for John Waters.

EG: Will Prudence have a ring?

JM: Maybe, I hadn't thought about it yet.

EG: Maze, what kind of agreement do you have with *Netherworld*?

M: Well, it's not all settled, but I retain all copyrights on my characters, and merchandising and reprint rights. The project is

definitely mine, but without Joey it would have taken a lot longer to get it off the ground. I will be editor of the comic as well as make all of the creative decisions.

EG: What about the storyline in the first issue?

M: (Maze laughs.) Like it's so well plotted. Actually the first issue features Prudence and Saucerette having it out with Madonna. Prudence also meets John Wayne Gacy. Sinister Tom Gunning will also be in the first issue. I'm also planning to re-work the old plotlines for the new readers.

EG: When will it be in comic stores, and available in the *Netherworld* mail-order catalog?

JM: I'm shooting for August, but probably later, we still haven't decided on a distributor yet.

M: And I'm not done writing the first issue. But "Lovely Prudence" is only the beginning. *Netherworld Press* will be releasing several horror-related comics and magazines over the next few years.

JM: Yes, were going for a very slick look and a return to traditional horror, rather than splatter shmaltz.

M: More in the vein of Poe, Lovecraft, R.E. Howard, Mervyn Peake, and also the Victorian style of terror tale.

EG: What about your band, Maze, you know, "Native Madness?"

M: You ought to know Ed, you are my publicist. (Maze laughs again) Actually, as you know, in the next two months I'm wrapping up my demo tape, so who knows, then?

EG: We'll have to finish now, so quickly Maze tell us some of your influences.

M: Mostly people I know like: Tom Gunning, Joey, Richard Ashford, Kurt Marquart. Also I'm very influenced by famous people that I don't know like: Julie Harris, Karen Black, 'Tippi' Hedren and Barbara Steele. Also "B" movies like, "Invasion of the Saucer-Men", and "The Screaming Skull." And of course I owe a great creative debt to the first thirty-two issues of *Mad* magazine. They were my childhood.

EG: OK, I'm out of here. Good luck to you both.

M: Thanks Ed.

JM: Yah, thanks Ed.

