

The
Stony
Brook

PRESS

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The University Community's Feature Paper

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The Endless Summer...



Photo by Greg Forte

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Asbestos In the Brook

By Catherine Krupski

The great insulator used in every building that was built up until the 1980's is being removed slowly, but carefully from each building on campus. That's right, asbestos, the carcinogenic material which insulates boilers, pipes, floors, and electrical wiring, is being removed.

According to Leo Debobes, Director of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), the first place to look for the

presence of asbestos is in the basement of any building. A report done by an outside agency in 1987 detailed many of the areas, but EHS samples additional areas. The extensive Hall-Kimbrell Report is available in the library for anyone to look up. However, it has not been updated with the recent asbestos abatement that has occurred in the past few years. While asbestos is in every building on campus, it is not necessarily exposed.

Detection is possible in two ways. First, the Hall-Kimbrell Report is

referred to. The second way is through the additional testing done by EHS. There is not only material sampling from an area, but also air sampling. In order to determine how much asbestos is being inhaled by a person at their desk, they would have to wear a small cartridge connected to a small pump which collects whatever is in the air near the person. The cartridge is then taken to a lab and tested. There can be no more than .01 asbestos fibers per cubic centimeter. An air sample taken in Old Engineering after an abatement barely registered .002, which is the lowest detectable reading on the monitor. In the testing of a solid, for example, a sample from

a wall may be taken and the small gap sealed, if there is at least 1% of asbestos in the material, it is considered asbestos material.

Once it has been determined that the area in question does have asbestos, there are three possible ways of handling it. Two methods are very similar: enclosure is to build an air tight structure around it, and encapsulation is actual sealing of the material. The third solution is to remove the asbestos, which is what is being done on campus.

The removal can be done by either the crew on campus, or by an outside contractor, depending on the size. Normally, the

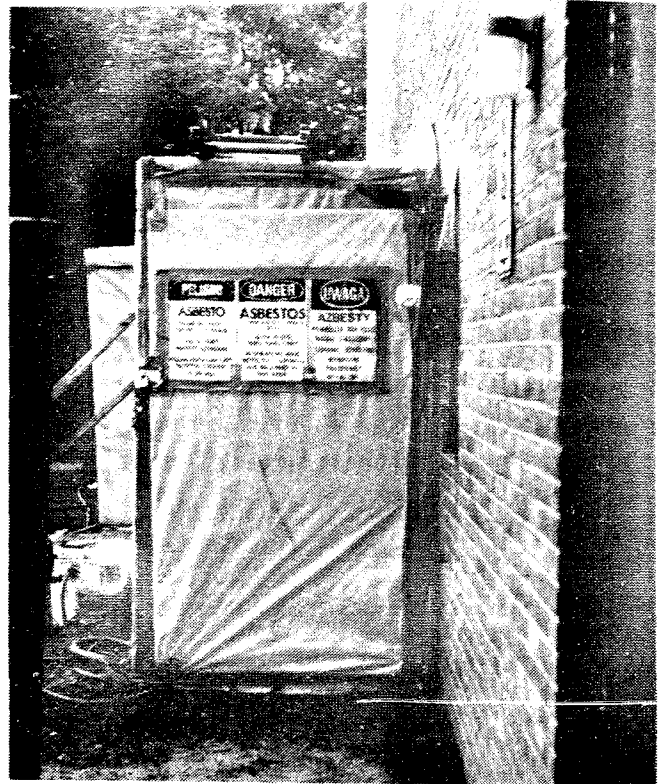


Photo by Cathy Krupski

Asbestos waste outside Old Engineering

larger projects which need to be done quickly require two contractors. One contractor, who has a larger full time staff, to do the actual removal, and another contractor to do the air sampling before, during and after the abatement process. This ensures that the air sampling is accurate. Projects that are very large also require that the Department of Labor be notified. If the project is small enough, the air sampling is done by EHS.

There are many different methods of removing asbestos, depending on the location. For example, to remove it from piping, the area of piping that needs to be worked on is sealed with a polypropylene bag and is then disposed of. If a ceiling

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Putting the Squeeze on SCOOP

Rainy Night House, Harpos, and Hard Rock Cafe May Face Closure

By Greg Forte

The Student Cooperative (SCOOP) may be closing the doors on its three eateries for good unless FSA renews their contract in April. In financial debt for at least three years, FSA had recently been asked by Administration to review SCOOP's contract. Currently, SCOOP owns and operates the Rainy Night House in the Student Union, Harpos in the basement of Kelly A and the Hard Rock Cafe in Toscanini.

According to Dennis Taylor, President of SCOOP, "The administration has told FSA to review our contract and whether to destroy it or keep it." It was unclear to him whether FSA has decided yet. "Until they review the contract, I don't know what's going on," he said.

In a meeting on Aug. 25, this was confirmed to Taylor by Vice President for Student Affairs Fred Preston. According to Taylor, Preston told him that the fate of SCOOP had not yet been decided on.

Ken Johnson of FSA said much of the same. When asked about the fate of SCOOP, Johnson replied, "Right now I'm in limbo and I would like to know. We're just waiting to get an answer from someone."

But according to an August 11 memo to FSA Executive Director Kevin Kelly, under the request of President Marburger, Vice President for Finance and Management Glenn Watts wrote that SCOOP "has demonstrated a pattern of insolvency which renders its continued operation on campus impossible." Watts instructed Kelly to terminate FSA's agreement with SCOOP, which authorizes it to operate a business on campus.

Watts also requested that FSA "consider responsibility for all or a portion

of those food and related services previously provided by SCOOP. This would include the three facilities." FSA was instructed to "examine the outstanding obligations of SCOOP, Inc. and to propose a plan to satisfy these creditors." Watts could not be reached because he is on vacation.

Asked if SCOOP goes bankrupt, will FSA take over, Johnson replied, "If that's what the administration suggests we do, then they will decide that."

Most of SCOOP's debts are to food vendors. Secretary Dorothy Burke estimated these debts at \$20,000 to \$25,000. Taylor described it as a "healthy sum," and estimated the debt at \$12,000 to \$20,000, "most of which is to vendors."

According to Polity President Jerry Canada, Polity has not presented a plan and will not present a plan to bail SCOOP out. Canada said that in fact SCOOP owes Polity approximately \$35,000 alone. This is because in 1992, Polity had granted SCOOP a special \$25,000 allocation to be used if SCOOP could not pay its creditors. This money was later used to pay creditors, but SCOOP fell short of paying them in full. According to Burke, she used this money because SCOOP was in debt at that time, and had to pay its vendors. Since then, SCOOP has been in economic turmoil.

The summer hasn't been much help to SCOOP. Only the Rainy Night House has been open this summer, grossing about \$200 per week. Established in 1979, SCOOP is one of the first student-run, not-for-profit enterprises at Stony Brook.

According to Taylor, "They cannot truly shut us down until the contract is null....For now, we'll just either hold tight or wrap it up."

ARMING UPDATE

Rules Made for University Police

By Greg Forte

University President John Marburger has approved a plan detailing when and where Public Safety officers can carry guns on University grounds.

Officers will be prohibited from carrying guns while on foot or on vehicular patrol, at major events or campus demonstrations, and into the University Hospital and Long Island State Veterans Home.

In the event a call is made involving the use or possession of a deadly weapon or an in-progress felony call such as a homicide, armed robbery, burglary, rape or assault, officers will be able to respond with guns. In addition, officers will be permitted to carry guns while monitoring metal detector screening, performing money escorts, and guarding money at a fixed post.

Commenting on the plan, Marburger said, "The committee has done its homework

and has come up with a detailed plan that will permit Public Safety personnel to respond effectively to those infrequent incidents in which deadly force is used." Prior to the decision to arming, Public Safety was required to call Suffolk Police to respond when a call involved a deadly weapon.

The plan was proposed to Marburger by an eight-member panel named by Vice President for Campus Operations Harry Snoreck. This "Action Committee" was chaired by Director of Public Safety Richard Young. The committee recommended that firearms be kept in specially designed metal boxes located in patrol cars. These "lock-boxes" will be locked and alarmed. Officers will be required to account for and turn in their guns at the end of each tour.

Marburger made the decision to allow Public Safety limited access to guns at the end of last semester.

Ross Perot's Barnyard Economics

By Steven J. Forster and Greg Forte

Walking into the Sports Complex last Saturday evening was like walking into a concert to see Tina Turner. Sitting in the back of the lobby, clearly as a bell, bellowed through a couple of hundred people, "T-shirts, posters, buttons, bumper stickers." Flyers everywhere, petitions to and fro, and the only thing sensible, a voter registration table.

No, it was not some middle-aged singer. But an elder "statesman," Ross Perot.

Loud and— due to bad acoustics— obnoxiously distorted music was being played by South Street Jazz as you first step into the arena. Haphazard ushers kind of pointed to seats you couldn't possibly see from the height that you were at, and said, "There's a seat down there." And there were enough seats to go around. The area was at peak about 2/3 of the way full, slightly over 3300 people, most of whom seemed to reflect middle-aged, blue-collared America.

As the ceremonies began, the audience was asked to rise and say the pledge of allegiance. The crowd remained standing for the "Star Spangled Banner."

Despite his defeat in November, Ross Perot seemed rather optimistic about winning the 1996 election, and so did his devoted apostles. The roar of the crowd as Ross entered the stadium was proof enough that his political career was far from over. They sure made it sound like he's only just begun to get ready for the 1996 election.

"Working together like the spokes inside a wheel." This was a quote from the Alabama song "Forty Hour Work Week" that Perot used to invoke the feeling of partnership in the running of



He keeps going, and going, and going... that people are not

this country of the people, and to begin his speech.

Perot proceeded to talk about the fact that we don't run this country, but "in 1994 all of the house of representatives and one third of the senate is up for re-election. We'll be there..." Rousing the crowd to reclaim the American spirit.

Speaking of the growth of poverty in this country, Perot stated, "When your ancestors came to this country, do you think they walked off Ellis Island and said, 'Is there someplace where I can apply for welfare?'" Noting the fact that the pioneers went west without the aid of a government program. When hard times hit for a person in society they shared their food with them. "That's the spirit that made this a great country," he said.

"History teaches us that freedom and success are very fragile... like a piece of fine china... if you drop it on the floor you'll break it. This country cannot be great, if this country's people are not working." All of this had the crowd in an uproar of applause and "woo woo woo's."

Turning his attention now to the president and the budget, Perot spoke of the fact

"...willing to work and sacrifice for another tax increase... this plan never balances a budget ever.

Perot proceeded to talk about the small business owner. "They are America's heroes. They are the steel that holds this country together. They can get this economy going faster than anyone else, but all we do is put more burdens on them and increase their taxes... They are now employing 80 million people. That is most of our payroll in this country, and if they hire just two or three a piece, we've got a boom going. They are starved for three things credit, capital and get rid of all these burdens that they put on the small business."

Speaking on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Perot urged the audience to oppose NAFTA. He asked, "Who is the father of NAFTA? He is a former U.S. congressman, a former U.S. senator, a former chairman of the republican national committee, a former chief trade negotiator, and a former secretary of labor... A guy up until a week or two ago was chairman of Eastman Kodak. Now he is the man responsible for the largest lobbying effort in history... Thirty million dollars worth of Mexican money, another thirty million dollars of U.S. company's money."

Striking a chord of fear noting the fact that NAFTA will also allow the import of Mexican fruits which hold on it pesticides that exceed legal limits in this country by the Food and Drug Administration.

The agreement is a key to open the door for Mexico to snatch up American jobs in this country. "When you hear about a job leaving the United States because an automobile plant went to Mexico, seven more are going to go too... Under the NAFTA trade agreement, Mexican businessmen can form

Mexican companies, bid on projects in the United States of America, with Mexican employees making Mexican wages, send those people inside the United States to live indefinitely. Your tax payer money going south of the border. If we let that go through, we deserve it, right?... We're talking about the pump that pays the taxes, that makes the engine go in this country, you're job."

"Are we going to... make the word's 'Made In The U.S.A.' the world standard forever?"

During one part of the speech, Perot asked, "I want everybody in the audience who has ever fought on a battle field or lost a loved one on the battle field to stand up, please. And be recognized. God bless you." The response was nothing but patriotic applause.

Perot wanted to let the audience be aware of all the lobbyists in the cabinet. "The new Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs is a lobbyist for Toyota. The Assistant Secretary of State for Economics and Business is a lobbyist for the government of Mexico on NAFTA, and Canadian steel and high tech companies... We have to get rid of foreign lobbyists and not have foreign lobbyists in our country."

"Here's the good news," Ross went on to say, "...NAFTA as written can be canceled within six months... After we get everybody educated in 94, we'll get it as soon as they get sworn in, and we'll get it stopped."

He summed up his speech in one sentence. "The budget should be balanced, the treasury should be refilled, public debt should be reduced and the arrogance of public officials should be controlled... Let's get it done."

The standing ovation was proof that he had the support of a great deal of the audience, as he left the stage to "When the Saints Go Marching In."



Ross Perot speaking at the Sports Complex

Photos by Greg Forte

Jerry Canada

A Press Interview

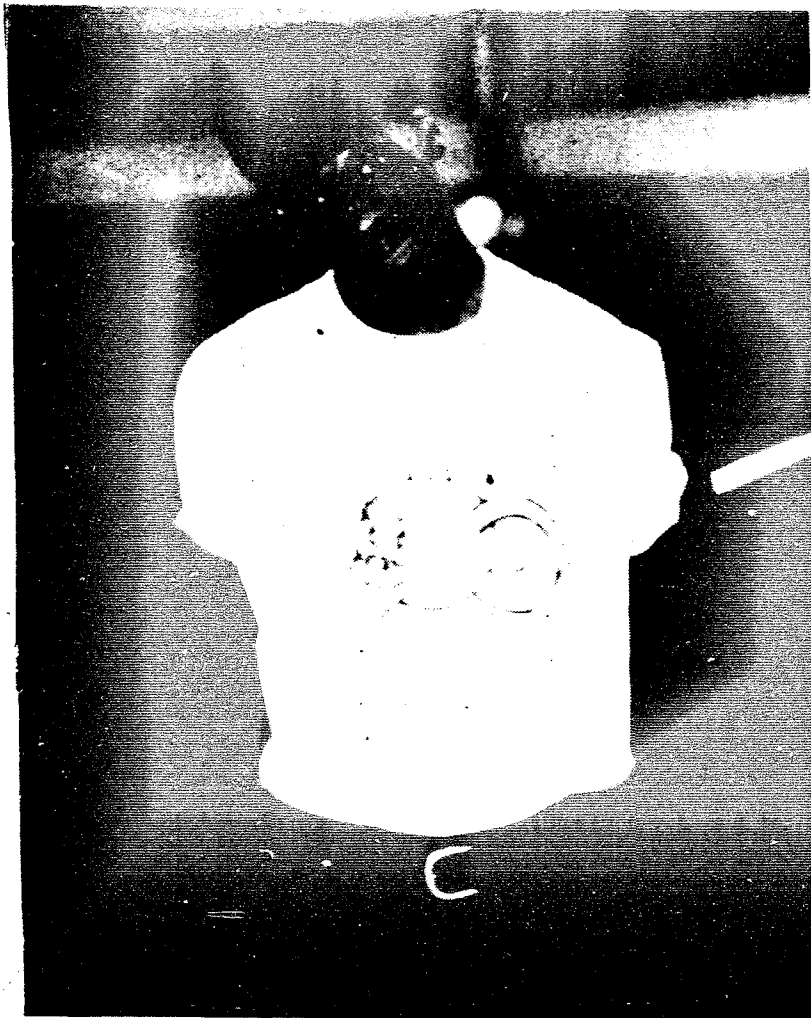


Photo By Chris Vacira

We recently talked with newly elected Polity President Jerry Canada. Although hardly new with Polity, Jerry and I discussed some of the recent summer events, and what's in store for the new year. Here were some of his thoughts...

Press: What were some of the events you focused on this summer?

Canada: One of the things we focused on was training. We had a week long training for Council members, SAB, MPB and COCA. At this, we did our leadership development, priorities for the upcoming year, and goal sessions just to organize basically what the Council and the major organizations are going to be doing this year. And what some of our goals are going to be for the upcoming year.

Press: What about for the Fall?

Canada: We're conducting leadership training September 12, for basically all of the polity organizations. This is the second year we're doing that. We are hopefully coming up with a new election process.

Press: What kind of new election process?

Canada: We talked about the Scantrons [to prevent electoral fraud]. We're still trying to do that. So we want to implement that for the fall elections. PSC branch has been basically written up, it's just a matter of passing it through the Senate. A new structure for new clubs and organizations for the IFSC, and for student enterprises.

Press: What will that do?

Canada: Basically, we've come up with an alternative source of funding for the IFSC. If they want to program events, not for the recruitment of members

into Greek life because obviously you can't use student activity money for that. But any type of general programming that they might want to do for the campus in general that all students can attend. We want to provide a supplement amount of money for that. Also, student enterprises, which is a new thing where students can open up new businesses.

Press: They can open up any type of new business?

Canada: Any new business, provided that they go through the right channels. It's feasibly possible. The University is coming out with a set of guidelines to keep everything in a box, and we'll just provide the funding. Kind of like the start-up money for these programs, as well as any co-ops that we might want to invest in as an organization.

Some of the other plans are a GROW(Grass Roots Organizing Weekend) training where you get trained on how to protest... how to lobby, how to plan, how to structure student actions.

We're trying to plan a weekend of that here. Restructuring the judiciary, I've been in meetings with several members of the campus to restructure the whole judiciary and provide some direction with that.

Press: What kind of restructuring?

Canada: Just giving them a better job description, some kind of actual work to do because they've been stagnant over the past few years. And we just want to outline the by-laws and just really give them direction.

Press: Do you want to use them more this year?

Canada: Yes, definitely, they're a third of our corporation, of our student government and we want to see them get stuff done. I could go on and on, just a couple of other things, a television program, we're hoping that we can get actual programming on by November, so there's a committee set up that's working on that. There's also going to be a SASU Conference here October 1-3 and we're looking for a lot of schools from the state as well as the country attending that, so it'll be a kind of way to show off Stony Brook.

Press: In the Senate minutes there was something listed about a housing increase of \$14.00 proposed by Jerry Stein.

Canada: Well, I know that housing has gone up, yes, I don't know by how much, I think students pay about \$1414.

Press: What I really wanted to ask you about was what do you think about the arming situation, have you heard about the latest?

Canada: Maybe you can update me on the latest.

Press: Basically what happened was that there was limited arming now they're going to keep guns in boxes, and they're going to implement it in the Fall,

how do you feel about that?

Canada: We actually had a meeting with Marburger about that. Our concern was that they were going to be able to carry the firearms on routine traffic stops in the middle of the day. I feel personally that students may feel uncomfortable with a cop with a gun stopping you for running a stop sign or speeding. I think it would be a little bit ridiculous. The guns in the box, well that's what the committee came up with...I was opposed to the arming issue in the first place, and you know if we have to accept that, but let's make sure there are some restrictions, of when they can bring it out, and have the proper training before all this gets implemented. I just want to make sure the guidelines are strictly enforced.

Press: Can you update us on what is going on with SCOOP?

Canada: I received a memo from the University, from Marburger's office instructing FSA to basically, I don't know, remove the contract maybe from SCOOP or to actually begin to "try to shut it down." Polity was the first to recognize its failing as a business and we pulled out last year and now the University finally realizes that it really wasn't a tangible operation.

Press: Why?

Canada: Because some of the management I think.

Press: Is Polity going to try and assist SCOOP?

Canada: No, we removed ourselves because they're in so much debt right now, that for us to assist them it would be throwing money into a black hole. We use to assist them, up until last year when the Polity Senate decided to withdraw money from the organization for fear of liability and the money was going to cover past debts. Now what's going to happen afterwards, I mean like I said, we have the Student Enterprise money that's why we put that on referendum last year, because we see the importance of student enterprise on campus and while SCOOP was a failing business, this concept of student enterprises that Polity would still like to get involved in.

Press: Can they possibly get money through there?

Canada: Yes, well not SCOOP. I would support starting another organization but not SCOOP. SCOOP is something different.

Press: So you guys aren't going to assist them?

Canada: We did assist them, we not only used to pay the salaries but we also gave them this \$25,000 loan to help them out and they still haven't begun paying that back yet. We didn't have any say in the organization.

Press: Anything else you want to add?

Canada: We were really involved in orientation this summer, most of the council was up here tabling. We got about 150 freshman to actually sign up and wanted to get involved so we're in the process right now of compiling those names and getting back in touch with those students. This year's focus is basically on training, recruitment, and building the organization.

This interview was conducted by Greg Forte.

**Times like this
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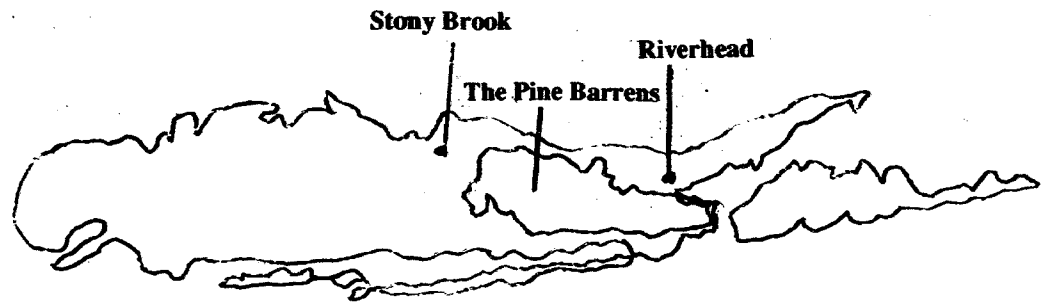
Walden vs. Wall St. on Long Island

By Catherine Krupski

The Long Island Pine Barrens have been the topic of many arguments. The name "pine barrens" comes from the fact that the first settlers who came to Long Island tried to farm the land of porous soil, but couldn't, so it was considered barren. As Long Island became more populated, the only area that remained untouched was the pine barrens. It originally consisted of 250,000 acres of undeveloped land, but was reduced to 100,000 acres of land. It stretches from Farmingville to Hampton Bays. Just recently, Governor Mario Cuomo cut the amount of protected land to just 54,000 acres. Developers wanted the land, but a lawsuit that started four years ago, prevented work from being done. Just last year, a final verdict came from the courts which ruled that the land could be built on.

The benefit of allowing the pine barrens to be developed is that it could boost the economy in many of the towns it runs through. Some of these towns have little or no business in the community. As a result, their taxes are higher and they have little to offer their community. For example, the Manorville School District, approximately twenty miles southeast of Stony Brook, is limited to what they can offer their children in school for this reason. Many of the smaller towns were severely effected by the recession. Introducing new businesses and housing developments could remedy the situation. The superintendent of the school district had asked officials in Albany about the effect of the pine barrens and they said it was not a major issue. However, the pine barrens are a major issue for ecological reasons.

The primary reason is that the aquifer system, which supplies over two and a half million Long Islanders with drinking water, begins there. There are three sub-soil water bearing layers below the pine barrens: the Upper Glacier Aquifer, the Magothy Aquifer, and Lloyd Sands. These layers are replenished by precipitation which enters the ground in the core of pine barrens, hidden from civilization. The soil is very porous, therefore it is useful in storing and distributing the water. However, there is a catch-22. The soil is so porous that it is unable to filter contaminants, and once it is polluted, it could take centuries for it to regain the pure water quality it has now. Currently, since the precipitation flows in three directions (north, south and east), the



contaminants are diluted along the way. Another problem created with development is that the ecological niches will be destroyed. There are over 300 species of vertebrate animals, 1000 species of plants, and 10,000 species of insects, many of which are rare and restricted species that exist solely in the pine barrens. Also, what makes the pine barrens work would be ruined if development were to take place. For example, wildfires that periodically burn through the region, which are ecologically necessary, would be extinguished before it could do its job (certain pine trees need the intense heat of a fire to open its petals to disperse seeds).

The lawsuit would have required that developers complete an environmental impact assessment prior to building on the land. The assessment, which is a requirement of SEQRA (State Environmental Quality Review Act), would require looking into the possible long term, short term, and cumulative effects of development of the fragile land by related effects. This would ensure that the purity of the ground water would remain high. However, the court ruled that the 224 developers who were interested in the area had "unrelated" projects and did not require an environmental impact assessment. In all, the pine barrens lawsuit was a unique case and the courts could not cover its special

concerns.

There has been an extensive amount of legislation on the issue going back to 1974 to preserve the quality of the ground water. In 1978, the federal Environmental Protection Agency designated the underlying Long Island aquifer a "sole source aquifer" after noting that the aquifer system is the principal source of drinking water for the Nassau and Suffolk Counties and is highly vulnerable to contamination. In 1987, the Department of Environmental Conservation issued a report, the Long Island Ground Water Management Plan in which the pine barrens were singled out for protection.

The Suffolk County Legislature adopted laws in 1984 that encouraged towns and villages within the Pine Barren Zone to develop unified policies with regard to land use. Also, management plans for specialized land use to protect the drinking supply have also been advocated in local legislation adopted by Southampton and Brookhaven Towns.

With the serious reduction of land that will be preserved, many vital elements will die just as the economy begins to thrive...

Asbestos

needs to be worked on, the whole room is lined with the plastic. Before the room is opened for use, air samples are taken to ensure the quality of air. Roofing projects are a big job which cannot be sealed. Here the materials are wetted down with a surfactant and disposed of. Other materials are used to replace asbestos. Floor tiles which contained asbestos are replaced with vinyl tiles, and acoustic ceilings have plaster.

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety has a staff of 34 people, including those certified as asbestos removers, inspectors, managers, and project designers. Last year, the amount of time spent on asbestos amounted to 2.29 full time workers. This year, Debobes says that number will be closer to 3.0. This does not include emergency response time. The in-house asbestos crew responded to the flood in the Staller Center and started the removal until a contractor was chosen. In an emergency requiring the services of the Physical Plant, if there is asbestos, the Physical Plant staff can do nothing until it is safely removed.

Removal can be costly, but EHS tries to save money. A quarterly report listing the usage of resources in each month is submitted to President Marburger. By hiring the lowest priced, best qualified contractor is one way. For example, Lecture Hall 116 in Old Chemistry needed replacement of the floor tiles and floor tile adhesive material. Originally, the cost

could have been \$30,000. However, the actual price came in at \$16,000. There have been 210 abatement projects, resulting in the removal of 410 yards of asbestos. The buildings that were worked on this summer, and into the fall are Harriman, Old Chemistry, Humanities, the Van De Graff accelerator, and the west heating plant. The Student Union also had asbestos removal in the bowling alley, the ballroom, and on the roof. Mount College should be underway and Whitman College will follow in a few weeks. Most of the work done is in tiny projects all over campus. Overall, the projects are moving close to schedule.

The program, in Debobes' words, "really started two years ago in earnest." It was also functioning on a part time basis. Fortunately, because the Department of Environmental Health and Safety managed the procedure, the rules, regulations, and risks were known. There was no period of "trial and error." "There was no honeymoon, it had to be done right from the start," says Debobes. In the beginning, it was done at a slow pace, but the projects move quicker. As a result, they receive the National Safety Council Award for recognition of the in-house asbestos removal program. There is an asbestos business license, which has to be renewed each year. It will be years before Stony Brook is totally asbestos free. For now, the older structures are being repaired and asbestos is constant-

ly being phased out of use.

The risk of being exposed to asbestos is everywhere. While asbestos is found naturally in the environment, there is a difference in the level in which a person can be exposed in the workplace and in the environment. As Debobes states, "if the floor is made of asbestos, you're still going to walk on it. You know it's there, but you don't think about it. It's just like saying 'if you go swimming, you could drown.' You know the risk, but do it anyway." It's the elimination of the risk of exposure that he is concerned about. There are three controls that he spoke of to reduce or eliminate the risk. Engineering controls are the first and most basic level of control. An example would be to remove or seal the asbestos. The next highest level of control is through administration. Here, people are trained to handle the asbestos removal. The final control to reduce the risk of exposure is the personal protective equipment. For those who remove asbestos, this would include wearing protective suits.

Even though the removal process is moving at a constant rate, complete asbestos removal will take many years to complete, and the amount of safety precautions that are taken are quite extensive. The Department of Environmental Health and Safety offers asbestos awareness programs at the request of those who work in a building that will have or has had asbestos work done on it.

SCOOP's Demise

The Student Co-operative (SCOOP) has been going bankrupt for some time. The accumulation of a huge debt, over \$35,000 to Polity alone, accompanied by mismanagement and other problems, had left SCOOP more than just "in the red." What was previously viewed by some as mere rumors of a complete shutdown of SCOOP seems now to be the inevitable end of the organization. Administration has demanded that the organization be shut down. Student Polity is apparently in agreement with that. If in fact the organization's contract is not renewed this coming April, as the administration seems to have instructed, that might mean the immediate, or at least temporary, shutdown of The Rainy Night House, Harpo's Cafe, and the Hard Rock Cafe.

Barring a complete shutdown of the above mentioned places, there seems to be in the works a take-over of SCOOP's campus business enterprises by the Faculty Student Association (FSA). This seems to be the mandate that is being handed down from officials in the administration to FSA. In effect, this would remove any student

involvement from the management of the above-mentioned enterprises. While FSA currently owns Stony Snacks and the Loop, Polity currently only owns the Golden Bear Cafe. FSA would surely gain by the addition of three more spaces to run on the campus. In doing so, however, who would be left to pay off the debts accumulated by SCOOP; would it be FSA, or would Administration sell off SCOOP's enterprises to the highest bidder?

Founded in 1979, the Student Cooperative has been the only truly student-managed enterprise at the University. As a not-for-profit organization, SCOOP's sole purpose was to allow students to better acquaint themselves with all management aspects of a business. SCOOP, unlike many other student organizations, refused to answer to any "higher-ups" and truly allowed the students to run the show. Some have expressed that this independence on SCOOP's part may have been the cause of what seemed to be ongoing strife among Polity, SCOOP, and the administration. However, SCOOP contenders have always held that it is only

through allowing students to run the organization that they can gain true first hand business experience.

If FSA is to take over SCOOP's current enterprises, all student involvement, with the possible exception of minimal employment, would be removed from the endeavor. FSA, though it contains the word "student" in the title, pays little heed to student opinions and tends towards towing the administration's line. Furthermore, as SCOOP has never seemingly received any administration money, but has rather been Polity funded, it would seem that the administration has no part, or should have no part, in deciding SCOOP's fate.

Does this action on the part of the administration mean that they can shut down any student organization they want whenever they want? Student's must also consider the future of all student run enterprises, though Polity President Jerry Canada has stated that Polity is in favor of backing such endeavors, should the administration develop a policy against student run enterprises, Polity's hands would be tied.

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**DANCE
NAKED**

Along the Color Line: Environmental Racism

By Dr. Manning Marable

Last month, I walked the picketline in the struggle against environmental racism. Dozens of community activists in conjunction with the Los Angeles Labor/Community Strategy Center protested at the headquarters of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), the regulatory agency responsible for controlling toxic emissions from stationary sources of air pollution in metropolitan Los Angeles. With an annual operating budget of \$110 million, the AQMD monitors a population of 13 million people, the second largest urban area in the U.S.

This public confrontation concerned the ongoing battle over L.A.'s "lethal air," whether large corporations would continue to spew thousands of tons of dangerous, life-threatening chemicals into the environment - such as benzene (which causes leukemia), formaldehyde (another carcinogen), methylene chloride, lead (which attacks the central nervous system), and chromium. The L.A. basin is one of the nations' most polluted environments. Labor/Community Strategy Center Director Eric Mann reports that "smog-forming hydrocarbons released in the air each month equal the amount released by the Exxon Valdez oil spill." During the summer months, for southern California residents in Riverside and San Bernardino, "breathing the air is the equivalent of smoking one pack of cigarettes per day."

The economic and social costs of L.A.'s polluted environment are enormous. According to the AQMD, smog and particle pollution cost \$9.4 billion per year in human health care costs alone. Pollution obviously hurts all people who

have respiratory problems, such as asthma. But it also targets many other potential victims: people with AIDS, whose immune systems are weakened; the elderly, whose health problems can range from bronchitis, emphysema and cancer; and children, whose lungs are developing and take in up to three times as much air per body weight as their parents. In Los Angeles, about 140,000 pregnant women each year are adversely affected by high levels of toxic air emissions.

The immediate issue being debated at the AQMD hearing concerned new definitions for "acceptable" levels of toxic emissions. On one side of the debate stood a regiment of lawyers, representing L.A.'s largest corporations. They fought against tighter safeguards on pollution, asserting that higher costs on businesses reduce profits and cost jobs. They asked for rules which, in effect, would permit them to become self-regulated!

In 1989, General Motors at Van Nuys, California, alone produced 4.2 million pounds of air emissions, primarily methyl chloroform, xylene, and acetone. Two huge aerospace plants owned by Douglas Aircraft, located in Long Beach and Torrance respectively, generated a combined total of 1.6 million pounds of methylene chloride and methyl chloroform that year. Chevron's large plant at El Segundo emitted 3,250 tons of nitrogen oxides. But large corporations explain that the real health risks to the general public are small. Tall smokestacks can distribute emissions high into the air, distributing the toxic wastes to hundreds of thousands of people in small amounts. Thus, according to the corporate polluters, the actual health risks to what is termed the "maximum exposed individual" are responsible.

Community activists and researchers from the

Labor/Community Task Force challenged these claims at the AQMD governing board meeting. Standards for toxic polluters should take into account the total quantity of toxic chemicals emitted, as well as the total number of people who are exposed. As the issue was debated, many board members literally stood up and walked out of the hearings, when black, Latino and working class people were testifying. But when the corporate lawyers in thousand dollar suits walked to the podium, all AQMD board members scrambled back into their seats. The board decided to delay its final vote for one month to consider the new evidence. But many board members seemed all too eager to defend the corporate polluters, rather than to defend public health standards.

African Americans and other people of color have a major stake in the continuing struggle for a safe, clean environment. Blacks and Latinos are frequently over-represented in jobs which use dangerous chemicals - such as custodial work, dry cleaning, textiles, and in the furniture industry. Is it surprising, therefore, that the average African American male dies before he can even collect Social Security? The fight for strict environment standards, worker's safety on the job, clean air, and the right to shutdown huge corporate polluters, must be at the heart of our new movement for multicultural democracy.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Political Science, and Director of the African-American Studies Institute, Columbia University. "Along the Color Line" is featured in over 250 newspapers and by over 60 radio stations internationally.

Dysfunctional Fables

THE HAPPY LITTLE PIMPLE

By Rachel S. Wexelbaum
for all of the boils on society's rump

Everyone has experienced it...the terrors of junior high school with its popularity contests, budding cliques and the Raskolnikovs-in-training who sneer in foxlike sour grapes fashion over the injustices of the world which affect them more than others because they choose to be true individuals. They are spurned by their mainstream classmates, tormented by all and sent to school psychologists when, in reality, the tormentors should have *their* heads shrunk a little.

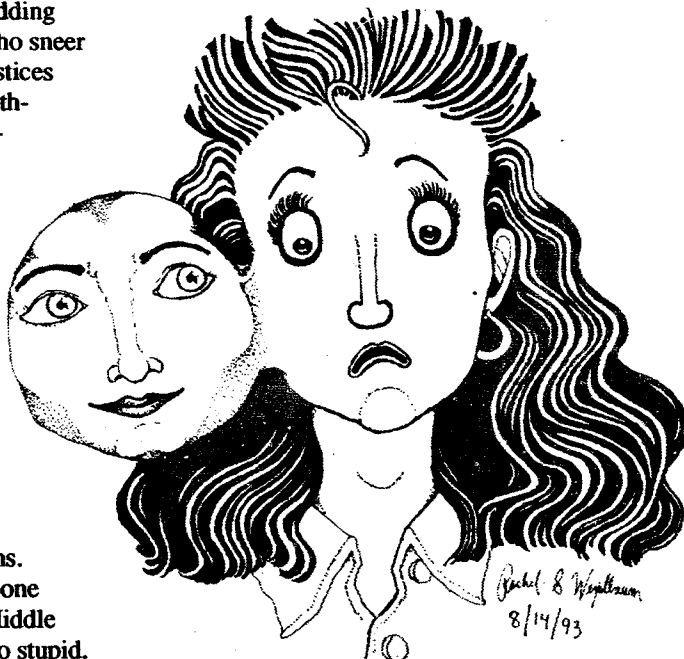
The girls are far more vicious than the boys. They rip apart each others' clothes, hairstyles, hobbies, first loves and childhood friends just to make themselves feel better about their own faults. The three most important things in the average junior high school girl's life are based on appearance: great hair, a clear complexion and the proper body proportions. "I won't go out with a guy who's a *nerd*," one gum chewing youngster from Commack Middle School clearly stated, "because they look so stupid. They all have zits and bad clothes, but *my* boyfriend is so hot—he's got this great body and great hair, and he says that whenever he goes to beat up people he thinks of me."

One theory about why many young adolescent girls appear so shallow and irrational can be found in what they eat. Their biggest meal of the day (for some, the only meal) is "lunch" from the school cafeteria, which consists of a large grease-soaked paper carton of fries and either a large milkshake or diet soda. Their mothers have given up force-feeding them breakfast and must be contented with the few dissatisfied nibbles their darlings eat at dinner before their hordes of friends come to pick them up for a night at the movies or arcade, where the day's intake of nutrients can be supplemented with a wide assortment of junk foods. This lack of real nutrients on a daily basis leads to fatigue, loss of memory, apathy and irritability, none of which is conducive to learning or deep contemplation. Statistics show that girls with healthy diets perform better in school than their peers and become more successful in later life.

They also have better complexions...

One morning the most popular stereotypical Barbie look-a-like Madonna wannabe got up reluctantly to go to school. She had to get up or the whole school would shut down, so she groggily

stumbled to the bathroom to shower and get dressed. As she passed the mirror she could not resist admiring her reflection, and after the first glance her sleepy smile changed into a lip-



curled
shriek of horror:

"EEEEUUUGH, A ZIT !"

To be more polite, a pimple. A small pimple with the mysterious smile of a Mona Lisa, but otherwise quite harmless. However, this is a major disaster in the life of a beauty queen and she fled to the privacy of her bed chamber once again. How could she face her subjects with such a blemish, a deformity which would mark her for life as Elephantiasis Woman?

Well, her mother's screams could do it. It was always better going to school than to rake the lawn or clean the toilet, and after showering, dressing and the thirty-minute Preparation of the Lacquered Coiffure she pouted all the way to the bus stop. Everyone gawked at her like drowning turkeys and she crouched down even lower as she took her seat on the bus.

When the bus arrived at the school, Queenie ran inside to the girl's room where she could brood over her unwelcome visitor, and she nearly fainted when she noticed that it had grown bigger! Upon further inspection the pimple had developed eyes and a nose, not to mention a sensuous smiling mouth. "Hey, baby," it greeted her in a deep voice. "Let's get to class—I've got people to see!"

Too bizarre for words, she thought in defeat as

she meekly got to her feet. As she walked through the halls the girl pretended as if she could not hear the pimple saying "hi" to all of her friends and the rest of the school. What was even more bizarre was that they were saying "hi" back, even asking how it was doing, but no one noticed her at all! They invited the pimple to all sorts of parties, movies and volleyball games. Girls even passed him notes in class! The horror of it all, the gall that someone be more popular than she!

And at the end of the day the pimple had grown almost as large as her own head. It monopolized the family conversation at the dinner table and no one even said "boo" to her the whole evening—it seemed that Mr. Pushead was the talk of the town. How could he possibly know so much?

Something had to be done!

That night before she went to sleep, the girl tried to rub some OXY 10 on the pimple, but it would take a lot more than a family size bottle. It would take a sledgehammer or some miracle to make it disappear, but it begged her to let it stay. "Things will get better for you, really," it said. "You need me. Without me you'd be nothing!"

The next morning a teenager woke up and squinted good-naturedly at the bright sunshine. His eyes sparkled with the quick intelligence and spirit of youth, and he rushed into the shower to face the new day. On the way to the shower he passed the mirror where he saw a crusted up shell of a little girl hanging off his face like a dessicated insect. This was quickly flicked into the toilet, which the dog slurped up when no one was looking.

MORAL: To cultivate personality and character is to grow the most beautiful garden.

MORE IMPORTANTLY: To prevent acne drink eight glasses of water a day and avoid the daily intake of greasy, chocolatey and milky foods. Do not wash with abrasive materials!!!

Committee On Cinematic Arts (COCA) Fall 1993 Tentative Schedule

September 10	Cliffhanger	October 22	Sleepless In
September 17	Indecent Proposal		Seattle
September 24	Dragon	October 30	Rocky Horror
October 1	What's Love Got		Picture Show
	To Do With IT?	November 5	Poetic Justice
	The Tina Turner Story	November 12	The Fugitive
October 8	Posse	November 19	In The Line Of
October 15	Dave		Fire

But What Does It MEAN?

The Flying Karamazov Brothers

Return To Bemuse and Confuse

By Rachel S. Wexelbaum

Let me start out by saying that I am a die-hard Karamazov fan. I admire the way that they can blend juggling, music, vaudeville shtick, physics and Zen philosophy into a coherent and entertaining two-hour performance which always leaves the audience amazed and asking, "Gee, how do they do that?" Every show inspires me to take out the three old tennis balls from the bottom of my closet and try my hand at the art of juggling, dreaming that one day, I too could join them like the faithful Deadheads who follow Jerry Garcia. Unfortunately, their third visit to Stony Brook, which closed the summer theater season on August 1, lacked the unity, gentleness and constant wise-cracks—not to mention most of the juggling—which made up their first two shows.

First of all, the Karamazovs returned with a new "brother"—Rakitin (otherwise known as Michael Preston)—who replaced Fyodor (Timothy Furst). He is much younger than the others, a mere apprentice to the master jugglers who have spent almost twenty years perfecting their act, so perhaps it is not fair to be so hard on him. He can balance three large cardboard boxes on his chin and do an interesting worm dance, and those things have their merits, but he does not have much experience as a juggler. He dropped too many pins and caused the Brothers to lose their concentration and equilibrium during complicated acts such as the free form "Jazz," for example, where each Brother "improvises" the pattern of his juggling. In spite of his inexperience Rakitin strutted about and continually waged a battle of wills with the more experienced Dmitri (Paul David Magid) whom some people take for the leader of the troupe. With his "rational" hair and irrational attitude, Rakitin will not earn his Brother status until he learns to take cues from his elders and work in harmony with the group.

The Brothers called their new show "Juggle and Hyde" but it did not reflect an underlying theme in any of the skits. It seemed that every time the Brothers would introduce a theme in the show they would drop it immediately in favor of another one, which left the audience confused and unenlightened. Sure, one could argue that comedy and juggling does not necessarily have to have a point, but in their last show the Brothers connected all of their skits with "The Ten Dangerous Objects" which were introduced one by one after every other skit and juggled at the end. They also made a more effective use of explaining the laws of Zen, physics and music to explain the drive behind their art. It was simple and created an alternative spiritual universe at the same time. In their new show the Brothers start out trying to look for "the

impossible trick," then they moved on to explaining haiku, talked about Zen and performed a wonderful Japanese fan juggling dance called "the Meiji Restoration." But by the time you got to the end there was no sense of resolution or completion. As far as "the impossible trick," I think they found it by trying to incorporate too many things in their act and still have it make sense!

Perhaps the "Juggle and Hyde" theme manifested



The Flying Karamazov Brothers

itself in the senseless violence which occurred all too often throughout the performance. One of the most amusing and tender skits in the entire show, where the Brothers danced as ballerinas in tutus and Rakitin has a heart-to-heart talk with his "father" (some poor unassuming person in the audience) about rediscovering his inner child, symbolized by a red-headed Norfin troll dressed as a Karamazov Brother. It almost started out as a coming-out-of-the-closet monologue, which was quite touching. However, the skit was completely ruined when another Brother actually shot Rakitin's inner child! I found this extremely cruel and somewhat emotionally damaging for the young children in the audience, many of whom were screaming and crying during the entire performance continually asking, "When is it gonna be over, Mommy?" The Brothers lost limbs, shot bowling pins from a bazooka and continually shot each other which lost its humorous touch after the first or second time. Dmitri (Magid) even had the nerve to repeat the dumb cigarette skit twice—waiting for over five minutes to watch someone go through a complicated ritual to light his cigarette and have it blow up in his face is cliché and juvenile.

Borderline-grossout (fun for the kids, disturbing for the older generation) was "The Gambler" skit where "Ivan" (Howard Jay Patterson) must juggle three objects provided by the audience. Since this skit is most popular and famous for its audience participation, spontaneity and unpredictability, many people bring something which they think will stump "the Champ". After the audience leaves its offerings on

stage, the Karamazovs hold them up for the audience to see and allow the masses to vote on the three objects to be juggled while the Champ waits backstage. (The audience's approval is expressed by the volume of their clapping and cheering, which was accurately measured by Rakitin as the "clap-o-meter.") This year the three objects of doom were a surgical glove/water balloon with a smaller one inside, a frozen six-pack of Coke and a quivering

Jello mold complete with a halo of whipped cream. If the Champ is able to juggle these three objects he gets a standing ovation, but if he fails after three tries he gets a pie in the face. After much playful stage patter the Champ picked up the three objects, and juggled them successfully after the second try, truly deserving his standing ovation. Unfortunately the water balloon "got out of hand" and attacked someone backstage, which was not supposed to happen in the script!

I think what many people missed from "Juggle and Hyde" was the actual juggling. In

the last show the Brothers did some innovative work where they blended juggling with music, actually performing some songs to this type of heavy percussion music where their pins actually hit drum pads, keyboards and xylophones in perfect synchronicity. They only offered this audience a mere taste of what they had done before—they played the xylophone with the pins and the drum pads, but only to prove that they could do it rather than to create some art. The Brothers are great singers, and ironically, one of their best skits in this show was "Intermission," where they sung a song about what you're supposed to do during intermission in barber-shop quartet style ("go into the lobby and buy some junk").

The unsung hero of the Flying Karamazov Brothers is "Smerdyakov" (Sam Williams), the roly-poly fluffy-haired one of the troupe. He retained his gentle qualities and displayed his talent to keep things rolling in "Jazz" and "The Gambler," but remains in the background to give the others a chance to prove themselves. I think that he is the true leader of the troupe and I hope that future Brothers (or Sisters) will follow in his footsteps.

The Flying Karamazov Brothers are not for small children and never will be. They started out as a quasi-burlesque/hippie troupe during the late 70's, and their puns and jokes often fly over the heads of those who are too young or uneducated. However, their broad slapstick humor combined with radical juggling is readily enjoyed by all. Unfortunately they had some bad butter fingers this time.