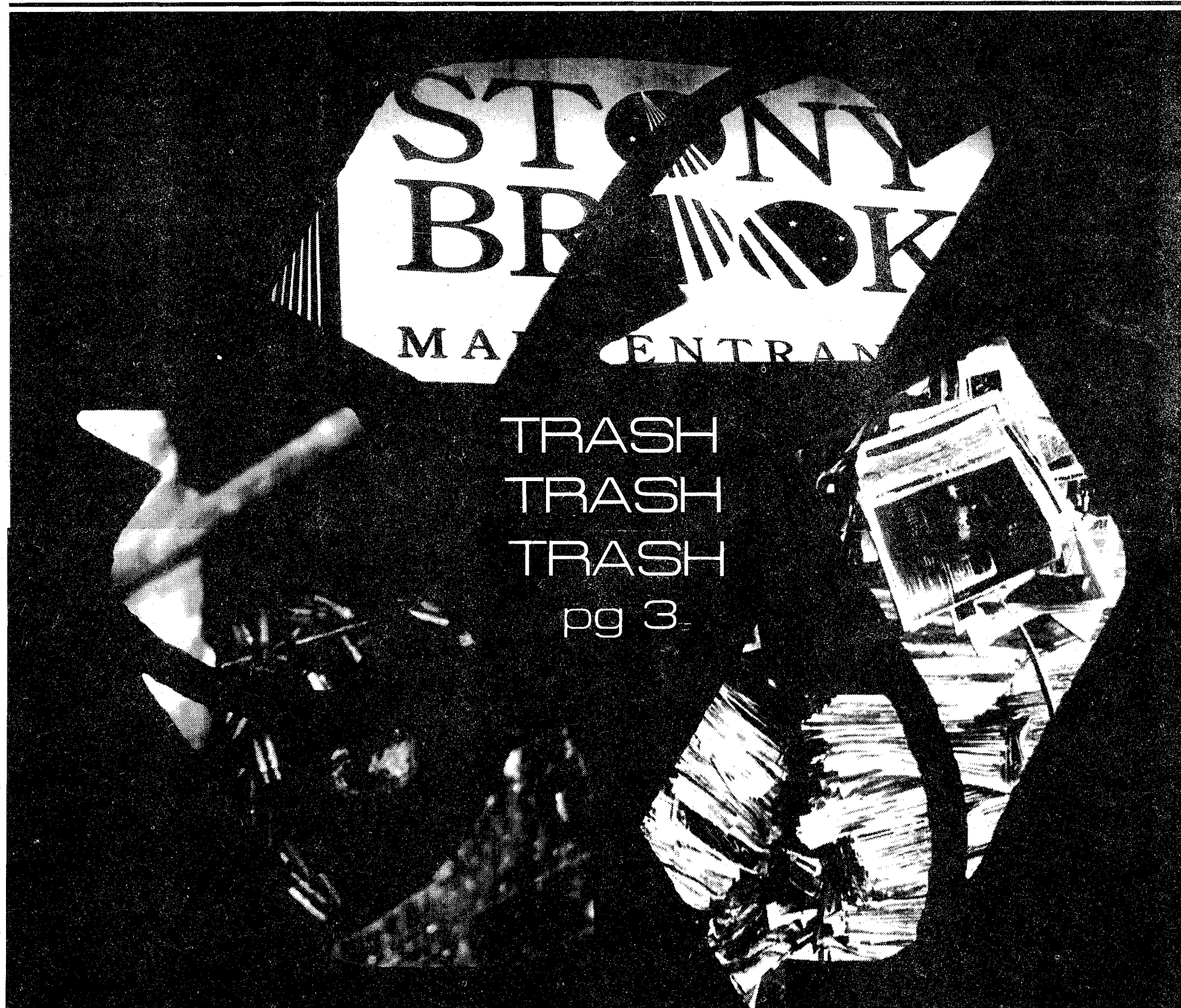


# THE STONY BROOK PRESS

Vol. XX No. 11

"Recycle this, BITCH"

March 10, 1999



TRASH  
TRASH  
TRASH  
pg 3

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NYPIRG  
Lobby  
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Dildo  
Dealers  
At Large  
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Anne  
Frank  
Exhibit  
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# WHO'S GOT OUR BACK?

By Terry McLaren

"It should be a no-brainer to make college accessible to all," said Blair Horner, legislative coordinator for NYPIRG. He addressed an enthusiastic group of almost 400 students on their way to appointments with senators and assembly people. Welcome to Higher Ed Lobby Day.

When fighting against proposed cuts to higher education funding, identifying your friends and enemies right away is crucial. These visits, and the evaluation forms people fill out concerning them, help lobbyists figure out who's in their corner, who is undecided, and who needs to be turned around.

Students from all around New York met with 207 of 211 the representatives to discuss how the governor's proposed budget will affect their lives. Depending on whom they were speaking to, their cries fell on sympathetic, ambivalent, or deaf ears.

## A little background

The governor's proposed budget has most students extremely agitated. Even though New York state is reaping the benefits of a \$2 billion budget surplus, the governor is calling for a reduction in the maximum TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) award from 90% of tuition to 75%. Since TAP goes to those students with the lowest incomes to begin with, this cut targets the poorest of the poor and will increase what a student with full TAP has to pay out of pocket by 150%. If a student graduates in four years, he or she will be reimbursed for the extra 15% they shelled out when they were earning the least. Now that a student has a degree and the ability to earn 73% more than a high school graduate does, they get the government help they'd needed for the previous four years.

Many students work already to pay living expenses and tuition. An up to 15% tuition increase

will make it impossible for many to stay in school at all. Remember: If you go part time, no TAP for you!

Then there's the incentive to graduate in four years. Yes, it is possible, but not for everyone. It also is not the best choice for some. In order to increase their employment potential, more and more students are choosing double majors. This increases the number of courses they have to take, and therefore their time of study. There are also the options of studying abroad or working internships. Both are invaluable experiences, but ones that could impede McDonald's-speed progress through college. In order to get the most out of the college experience, it sometimes takes a little longer.

Once TAP cuts have wounded students, salt is added to said wounds in the form of a 15-credit minimum to have full-time status. In order to receive state financial aid, a student may soon have to take three more credits per semester. In theory, this will help students graduate faster (remember the four year goal). What it will actually do is take some of the state's best minds out of college. Those with heavy job and family responsibilities are already stretched to the limit taking twelve credits.

## The Visits

Each student who met with a legislator on March 1 laid it on the line for them. The personal aspects of their lives—divorce, terminally ill parents, unemployment in the family, the struggles of student parenthood—were revealed in order to help these lawmakers put a face on the budget cuts. These stories were not easy to tell, but they were the most effective way to say, "I will not have a future if my financial aid is cut."

Assemblyman Englebright eagerly met with my lobbying group and gave us more than a half-hour of his time. Knowing we were in the office of one of SUNY's proponents, the group relaxed and

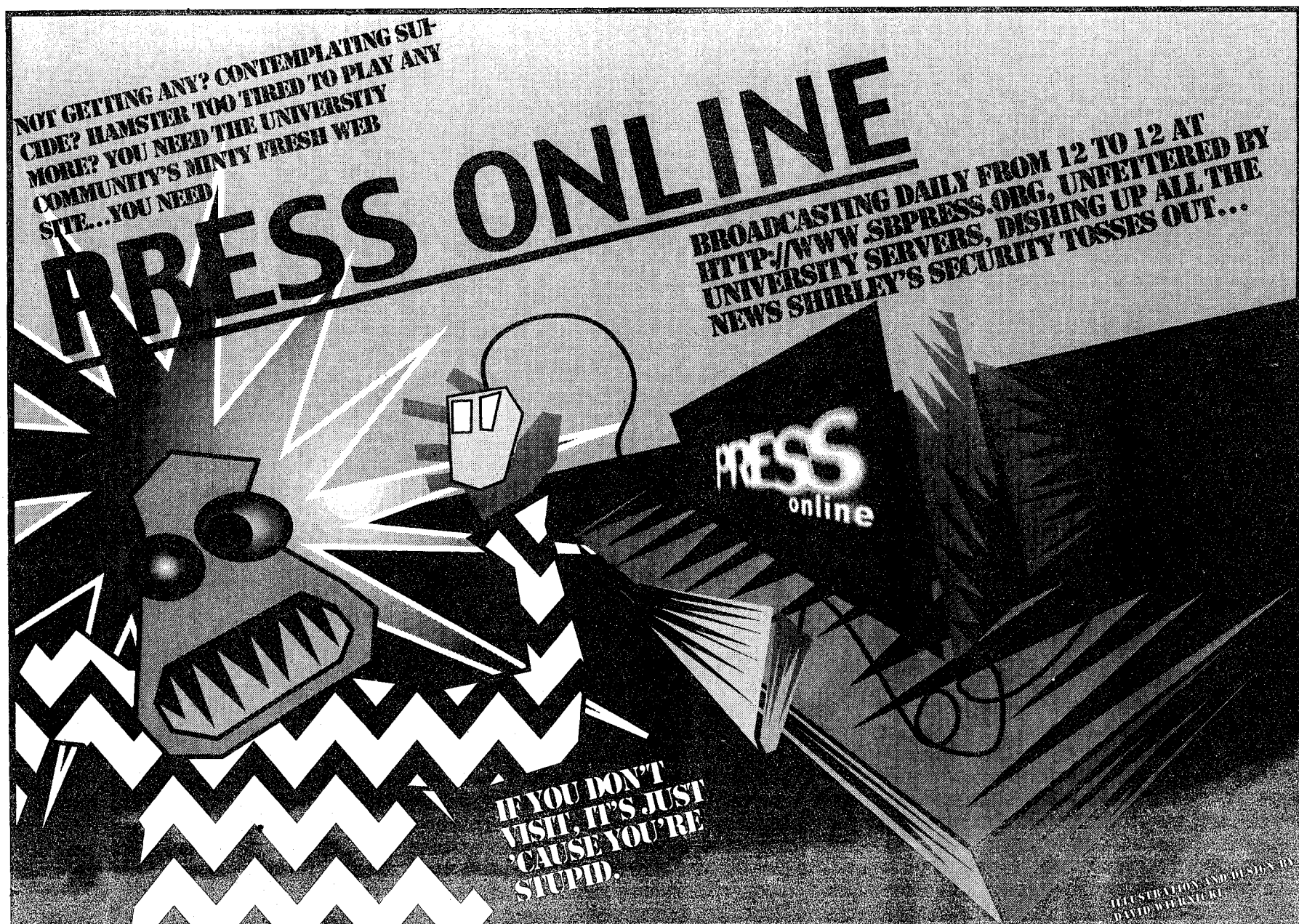
we were able to have a productive conversation.

Englebright denounced the proposed cuts to SUNY as "pure meanness" and asserted that they were an assault on the state's brightest promise—SUNY. We even got down to chatting about the trustees' proposed core curriculum changes. Englebright, a PhD in Geology and USB lecturer, stated that it's "absurd for politicians' decision making to take the place of university scholars' judgement" regarding curriculum. He also said to let him know if we were treated disrespectfully by any of his colleagues.

The other lobbying groups I joined were not able to meet with the legislators themselves. This was not necessarily a reflection on the lawmakers' opinions on higher ed issues. Senator Seymour Lachman of Brooklyn, for example, is a former high school teacher and SUNY professor. Pro-financial aid pins decorated the bulletin board in his office and his chief of staff and counsel, Douglas Perlson, listened sympathetically and seemed to express genuine concern. He assured us that Senator Lachman would do anything to help SUNY.

M. Scott Cushing, chief of staff for Assemblyman Thomas Alfano of Nassau County, did not instill as strong a feeling of trust. His answers were typically political, and he wasn't able to make any specific promises. The assemblyman's enthusiasm for higher ed was a little hard to see. Cushing, however, is a SUNY Cortland graduate, and the interns at Alfano's district Albany offices are SUNY students.

Jon Conklin, an aid to Senator James Lack, sat there silently taking notes as we spilled our guts. Our group leader didn't even go through the usual introduction before we gave our personal accounts. He seemed disinterested and was late for our meeting to boot. We didn't seem to rock his world all that much, but you never know.





# REDUCING THE RUBBISH: THE STATE OF CAMPUS RECYCLING

By Joanna Wegielnik

*How can we dance when our earth is turning?  
How do we sleep while our beds are burning?*

-Midnight Oil

Recycling is a concept most people are familiar with. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. Sort out plastics from glass from aluminum. Separate newspaper from printer paper. Put everything in a neat little bin in front of your house and have it picked up on a weekly basis. Most school-age children can recite the three "r's". They understand that our planet is in serious danger if we continue to use it as a personal dumping ground and inexhaustible store of resources. Most adults can still probably recall the bizarre journey of *The Marbo* barge up and down the eastern seaboard in its quest to unload a cargo of New York trash in someone else's backyard. More than any other single event, the *Marbo* incident forced Americans to seriously think about the obscene amount of garbage we produce; environmentalism and, more importantly, sustainability entered the public conscience. Yet despite this enlightenment and the heavy push for waste management initiatives by environmental and civic groups in the late 80s and early 90s, the recycling movement lost its momentum and clout. True, the majority of municipal townships, at least in the New York metro-area, still participate in recycling programs. Recycling, however, is no longer what it was ten years ago.

In 1989, there was tremendous pressure from environmental groups nationwide to institute mandatory recycling programs in response to incidents like the *Marbo* barge drama. Politicians responded, and most townships established waste management programs. Recycling programs were sweeping the nation, and recycling itself was becoming a very profitable business. There was a demand for recycled materials and this added to the success of recycling campaigns nationwide.

Fastforward ten years into the future, and we find that recycling is no longer profitable; in fact, it's a money-losing proposition. Businesses and institutions that participate in recycling are lucky if they break even in costs. The demand is no longer there; the market is saturated with an overabundance of recycled product. It actually costs businesses and institutions, like Stony Brook, to have recyclable materials removed. Plastic and glass are the least profitable materials, even though glass is 100% recyclable. There are different colors and types of glass that cannot be sorted by weight and must be done by hand—a very costly and time-consuming process. Aluminum and paper are the most profitable recyclable materials. Office paper (computer and fax) is in demand; however, the paper market is often very volatile. In one month, a ton of paper might fetch a few hundred dollars, in another, it might come close to being worthless.

Despite all this, the benefits of recycling still outweigh the costs and that cannot be overstated. Solid municipal waste is very expensive to haul away because it is so heavy. Independent contractors, like Jet on our campus, charge by the pound, (on average 3.5 cents per pound). That may not seem like a lot, but we must remember that garbage adds up to tons annually. This becomes quite an expensive way to deal with waste disposal; it's much cheaper to recycle a certain percentage of it. Plus, there is really no way to dispose

of municipal solid waste other than in landfills or by burning it in incinerators. Both of these options have obvious environmentally disastrous consequences, not to mention the fact that nobody really wants a Fresh Kills or monstrous incinerators in their backyard.

This brings us to the next question, how well does the Stony Brook University community recycle? How efficient is the current program? Where does the recycled, sorted material go? How can we get students involved in an effective recycling program? What can be done at the residential level? How does our recycling effort measure up to schools similar in size and character to Stony Brook? These are just some of the queries one must ask when attempting to address the broad and complex issue of campus recycling. The answers to these questions vary, depending on who you ask.

There is a department on campus that specifically deals with the operational and practical side of waste management—EHS or the Department of Environmental Health and Safety. EHS is not an agency of the state, nor is it affiliated with the the New York State Environmental Conservation Department (NYSDEC). The unit that administers the recycling program and picks up sorted materials is "Recycling & Solid Waste Management" which is headed by Michael Youdelman. Mr. Youdelman is the "Recycling Coordinator" for the entire University community

**Schools of comparable size and character to Stony Brook, have recycling programs that are much more successful than ours. The University of Oregon has a 42.33% recycling rate. What are they doing that we aren't?**

which includes the east campus (University Hospital, Chapin apartment complex, L.I. High Tech Incubator), south campus (dental school, Marine Sciences, EHS, & Public Safety), and west campus (College of Arts & Sciences, Engineering & Applied Sciences, Sports Complex, SAC, Staller, residential dormitories, etc.).

The EHS maintains a comprehensive and straightforward webpage that gives a lot of information about waste management and recycling on campus: "The Stony Brook campus and the University Hospital produce over 14 million pounds of garbage annually that is hauled away for incarceration or transported out of New York State." That works out to approximately 513 pounds of generated waste per person, according to webpage. At the current levels, according to EHS, we are recycling less than 44 of these 513 pounds per person.

"Stony Brook has been recycling paper and cardboard since 1987. We have been recycling glass, plastic, and metal bottles and cans since 1992.... At present, the Recycling Program only collects bottles and cans, the program does not have the space or the personnel to sort and process bottles and cans" according to the webpage. At present, there are three people who do the actual pick-ups, Russ Carnova, the Recycling Supervisor, and two staff persons. They deal not only with the west campus, but also the south and east campuses, a gigantic task for a crew of three people.

Stony Brook is home to an academic institute that is considered to be an authority in the field of waste reduction, management, and recycling—the Waste Management Institute (WMI) in the Marine Sciences Research Center. The WMI, headed by Larry Swanson, in collaboration with the School of Continuing Education, offers an 18-credit waste man-

agement graduate certificate program in addition to WMI's Master Degree with a concentration in waste management. In addition to WMI and the two programs, Engineering's Department of Technology and Society offers a Master's program in technological systems management with an optional focus in waste management. Technology and Society is also home to Prof. Sheldon J. Reaven and Prof. Paul Siegel, both experts in recycling and waste management. Dr. Reaven was coordinator of "Prometheus Project," a 1990 endeavor aimed at improving recycling on campus. Paul Siegel was a former EHS Recycling Coordinator and author of "The Realities of Going Green: Observations on Recycling Systems at SUNY Stony Brook," a comprehensive review of the implementation, or lack thereof, of the "Project Prometheus" and recycling trends on our campus.

In a university that offers no less than three graduate programs in waste reduction and management, a nationally recognized Waste Management Institute, a Technology & Society Department, and a widely recognized Department of Ecology and Evolution, we recycle *maybe* 9% of the tons of garbage we produce annually. This is an embarrassment to the University, one that needs to be addressed promptly.

Schools of comparable size and character to Stony Brook, have recycling programs that are much more successful than ours. The University of Oregon has a 42.33% recycling rate. What are they doing that we aren't?

The EHS has set a goal of a 30% reduction in solid waste generated for our campus. Is this realistic? At the current level, the recycling rate for 97-98 for the entire campus is 9%. This comprises the west, east, and south campuses, including waste from the University Hospital, NYSDEC, the Technology Park, and our side of campus (Academic buildings, dormitories, etc.) Paul Siegel from, the Department of Technology

and Society, warns that the 9% figure is misleading because it is a percentage of the total pounds recycled. Last year, 1,131,500 lbs of the 14 millions of garbage produced annually was recycled. That's approximately 9%. Another problem with the the 9% statistic is that there is no way to tell how much each campus contributed. Did most of the waste originate from the University Hospital? Or the Technology Park? What is the west campus' contribution to the recycling effort?

Last week, Lauren Storms, a Senator from Whitman, made a motion in Polity to set up a Recycling Committee. The motion passed. The mission of this committee is "to advance the goals of environmental responsibility through the establishment and implementation of an effective recycling program. The Committee strongly asserts that this can only be achieved through informed, voluntary cooperation and active, personal commitment from members of the University community."

Obviously, there is a strong commitment being made by students to do something about the state of recycling on the west campus. A survey is currently being drafted to get a better gauge of the scope of the problem. The students, however, can take it only so far. Their efforts will be futile if the members of the University administration do not cooperate. We have indispensable resources, including the Waste Management Institute and the Department of Technology and Society. In conjunction with EHS, President Kenny, and the students on the Recycling Committee, a strong commitment towards an effective recycling program can be made.

*This article is the first installment in a series exploring the issue of recycling on the Stony Brook campus..*

# Where's the Musical Diversity?

## The Homogeneity of Campus Concerts

Clear your mind and visualize what you are about to read. It's opening week at Stony Brook and as part of opening week activities is a concert in the Pritchard Gym featuring Sonic Youth. Beck is the opening act. The next day, they play out of doors on the athletic fields for free. That night is a party in the Ballroom featuring Micro (from Caffeine) and DJ Slave (of Voodoo and Lux fame). DJ Spooky performs a midnight set. All week, local comedians perform in various dorm common lounges. The next weekend features Phish opening for Rusty Root. The entire academic year continues in this fashion with popular artists of the decade (like Radiohead and P.J. Harvey), cult favorites (like Jesus Lizard and Nick Cave), and underground acts (like Bis, Squirrel Nut Zippers and Tricky) all passing through. Monthly, the Ballroom is made to resemble NYC's Limelight or the Bank in both mood and music. David Bowie sells out an entire weekend at the Staller Center and, on one stellar evening in May, Patti Smith and Ani DiFranco share that stage. Stony Brook is a local hub of culture for Suffolk's college age kids.

Well, to be honest, not all of the kids. This only represents a cross section of Suffolk's and, more importantly, Stony Brook's youth. The above programming doesn't feature any popular rap or reggae or R&B acts. But ten, fifteen, twenty, thirty years ago, programming at Stony Brook was this one sided. And, if you all were to be honest, some of you are now wondering what happened and some of you are wondering who the hell was name checked above. Those in the latter group would've felt pretty shut out by the people in charge of activities at Stony Brook.

And those shut out by programming like that above DID something about it. The Minority Planning Board (MPB) was formed to make sure that the concerns of Stony Brook's black and Hispanic communities were represented in some of the Polity sanctioned activities on campus.

Today at Stony Brook, the tide seems to have turned completely around. With just about all of the SAB programming on campus being geared toward and promoted to Stony Brook's black and

Hispanic populations, those left out of the programming this time seem to be bitterly scattering around looking for solutions. This has caused them to try to make the job of those planning activities harder and even at one point pondering the abolishment of the MPB. Both moves would prove to be harmful and counterproductive.

Instead, it may be time to, like the MPB before, do something to ensure that the programming at Stony Brook is as diverse as its student body. A start in this direction may be to have the concert chairs position actually split in two, having one for R&B, rap and reggae and one for rock, alternative, electronic.

There are three reasons that this is a good solution. The first of which must be that we haven't had a Polity sponsored concert of the latter type here in almost four years. The second of which must be that when Polity President Aneka Gibbs, who was the head of SAB last year, was presented with the idea of this solution she simply asked, "Why?" When informed of reason number one, she responded that there was a concert of this sort here last year. When asked who, she replied that she didn't remember. The head of SAB didn't remember what concert was brought here under her term. When records were searched, no rock concert was found to have been booked. Reason number two is that it would do away with deceit like this.

Well, what if she's telling the truth? Then we had a rock concert here that no one knew about. Was it advertised properly? Was it a worthwhile band? Did she know anything about it? What did she know about rock music? How qualified was she, and John Sulit today, to be booking and promoting a rock concert?

It works out better if the people bringing events here are knowledgeable and passionate about the genre of music they are dealing with. It's time Stony Brook had a person on SAB who was interested in and listened to some of the rock genres out there today. We need an R&B concert chair and a rock concert chair on an equal footing with each other.

# To The Editor

## Insensitive Reporting?

I am writing this letter in response to the article entitled "No Shirley Here" by Marlo Allison Del Toro in the February 24, 1999 issue of The Stony Brook Press. There are a number of things that I found to be incorrect, insensitive, and intolerable. You were able to debase the character of each and every participant of the pageant. Whether or not you liked or dislike the pageant was irrelevant. As a writer for an establishment, such as The Stony Brook Press, you should realize, by now, that you cannot please everyone all the time. I understand that you, as well as some of your colleagues, are against beauty pageants and I do not intend to challenge your opinion. I do not believe that dissecting the Ms. Stony Brook Pageant, by insulting all of its participants, was an appropriate way to let your feelings be known. You simply took a display of intellect and achievements, misinterpreted them, and used it to produce a slanderous article. Who needs pageants when you're here to write articles like this.

The Student Activities Board presented a pageant that celebrated some of Stony Brook's best and all that you were able to point out was race. I find it hard to comprehend how anyone can say that the article was not about race when race can be defined as any of the three primary divisions of mankind distinguished especially by color of skin or any distinct group of people. I know that there are many definitions of race but it shouldn't take a genius to realize that when the color of a person's skin is used as an indicator in any way it becomes racial. Some may consider your article racist but that is in no way my implication.

You appeared to be hurt by the fact that there was only one white woman in the pageant. I cannot apologize for a lack of participation on the part of what you consider to be "half of the university."

Before I go any further I would like to pay homage (which can be pronounced with or without the "H") to you, "the Hispanic woman president of the Stony Brook chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists," and to the Press' three executive board members/women. It is truly disheartening to think that you may have attempted to use this article as a forum for your bitterness regarding the fact that we neglected to mention your name in our dedication ceremony. I apologize for this if this is in fact what caused you to construct such an article. I guess you missed the part of the pageant when I said "Due to the large number of women on this campus who take the time out to make our campus life one of community and strength we are unable to mention everyone." I also went on to say that "their hard work is appreciated and does not go without notice." Apparently, you chose to pay more attention to the way the word "homage" was pronounced.

You also felt that "the only recognized white woman mentioned" was the managing editor of the Statesman. Well, Marlo I guess you know your white people as well as you know your correct word pronunciations. There was an equal amount of white and black women called. Unfortunately, there were only about 5 Hispanic, 2 Asian, and 1 Egyptian woman mentioned. You didn't appear to be too concerned with those disproportionate numbers.

After reading only half of the article I was able to

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recognize what you were actually concerned with. You had the unceasing ability to isolate each contestant and eventually orchestrate a colorful arrangement of an assortment of insults, fiction, and a little bit of fact and had the nerve to call it a "play-by-play of events." More importantly, you had the nerve to present it as news. I read your article numerous times and all I could find was a play-by-play account of what the contestants were wearing and a serious preoccupation with underwear and what was between Persephone DaCosta's legs.

I could probably do a ten page psychoanalysis of this article but I do believe that brevity is the source of wit. I would like to conclude with a little game. Let's play with the "Barbie" doll. You felt the need to label Ms. C.S.A. Claudine Stuart a "Barbie standing among all her dark-haired friends." (You also felt the need to question why the host, upon looking at Miss Stuart's baby picture, asked "Do you know who this is?" - maybe everyone isn't as color struck as you are.) S.A.B. chose to opt for Equal Opportunity as opposed to Affirmative action. Should we apologize for this too? I guess that in your world all organizations and events on this campus should be strategically comprised of students that resemble the actual racial configuration of the entire campus. If I choose to join any organization or club on this campus I understand that I have the right to. I do not believe that if I wanted to write for the Press that I would be told that I couldn't. The same is true for the pageant. If you would have taken the time to do actual research regarding the things you found "odd" at the pageant you would

have known that the case of the Barbie doll was not internally constructed by S.A. B. as a means of making the first annual Ms. Stony Brook pageant an African American celebration where "three dark and muscular men..." an "all-black and Hispanic group of guys," and a poet who mentioned a "beautiful woman of color," would be part of the "fray" you so loved. As a student here at Stony Brook, there have been many times when I was the only black woman in the entire class. I could not and would not label myself the little dark-haired girl among the array of Barbie and Ken dolls. I am competent and intelligent enough to understand that if a black person wanted to be in the class all they would have to do is register. The automated system, to my knowledge, does not ask for a race indicator after your pin number. Therefore, I was the only black person in an English class because I was the only black person who registered. I did not ASSume that the university had a conspiracy against more than one black person taking English courses at a time as away of insuring that Ebonics would permeate and eventually cause a mental genocide.

I am outraged at your blatant disrespect for the time and effort that it took for these women to get up on stage and reveal a part of themselves only for you to strip them with your words and apparently with your eyes. Does journalism require that humanity be compromised?

Joyal McNeil  
Activities Chair  
Student Activities Board

#### The author responds:

I am not "color struck," but I do not presume to be ignorant of color distinctions and I don't believe that anyone is as color blind as the automated registration system. Race was hardly "all that [I was] able to point out" in the article. I also pointed out that when women student leaders were being honored, none of the officers of the Center for Womyn's Concerns was mentioned.

I agreed to write about the pageant before I knew about the awards, not because I felt slighted, and I wrote that "admittedly" not all women student leaders were mentioned. The article was based on my perception of the Ms. Stony Brook pageant and it was the truth as I saw it. I did not set out to "debase the character" of the contestants and I do not have anything "against" pageants—I find fault with a university that touts its 'diversity' while a pageant at that university is not diverse.

Finally, I am not a sexual predator and I did not "strip" the contestants with my eyes. Part of the reason I described the participants' clothes was to point out their preoccupations with outside beauty.

*"All successful newspapers are ceaselessly querulous and bellicose. They never defend anyone or anything if they can help it; if the job is forced upon them, they tackle it by denouncing someone or something else."*

—H.L. Mencken, 1919

## REPORTING THE NEWS ON A "NEED TO KNOW" BASIS

By Norman Solomon

A new full-page ad says plenty about the pretenses of major TV networks at the end of the 20th century. Reaching millions of readers across the country, the advertisement declares: "NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw. Monday through Friday. It's all you need to know."

Whether this daily dose of enlightenment includes the commercials is unclear. But the ad's message is direct: Within half an hour, the show enables viewers to understand what's happening in the world.

We've all heard that knowledge is power. But ultimate power can flow from being a big gatekeeper -- deciding what information will be widely distributed. In practice, a few media companies determine what most Americans "need to know" on a daily basis.

Consider some comments from the man whose face is prominent in the advertising for NBC's evening news. Nearly three years ago -- when NBC and Microsoft joined forces to launch MSNBC, melding television and the World Wide Web -- Tom Brokaw talked to an interviewer about the need to manage cyberspace for young people. "We can't let that generation and a whole segment of the population just slide away out to the Internet and retrieve what information it wants without being

in on it," he said.

Brokaw echoed the perspectives of his bosses -- the top executives at General Electric, which owns NBC. The green Internet beckoned. It was the color of money.

Like someone surveying vast forests and yearning to build theme parks, Brokaw saw great entrepreneurial potential. In the summer of 1996, he expounded on his views: "I also believe strongly that the Internet works best when there are gatekeepers. When there are people making determinations and judgments about what information is relevant and factual and useful. Otherwise, it's like going to the rainforest and just seeing a green maze."

Otherwise, in other words, people might actively participate in figuring out what they "need to know." This would be bad for business -- or at least for the mass-media biz, which thrives on telling people what they need while selling it to them.

These days, much of "the news" is distant from even going through the motions of serious journalism about weighty social concerns. Centralized media power to decide what most Americans will find out today and tomorrow -- providing a steady deluge of sensationalism and fluff -- has gone far beyond mere infotainment. Especially on many TV news shows and network newsmagazines, it's now more like "distractotainment."

The power to open the news gates wide goes

hand-in-hand with the ability to close them tight. Along with deciding what the multitudes of media consumers need to hear again and again, the biggest and most influential news outlets can also determine what the public doesn't need to hear very often -- or ever.

"We live in a dirty and dangerous world," Washington Post Company owner Katharine Graham said in a 1988 speech to CIA officials at the agency's headquarters in Langley, Virginia. "There are some things the general public does not need to know and shouldn't. I believe democracy flourishes when the government can take legitimate steps to keep its secrets and when the press can decide whether to print what it knows."

According to Graham, Brokaw and other luminaries of American journalism, we can trust the media institutions that made them wealthy. In effect, they advise us to assume that we need to know exactly what they think we need to know -- and whatever they decide we don't need to know isn't worth knowing. In other words: Don't worry, be credulous.

Norman Solomon's new book *"The Habits of Highly Deceptive Media"* will be published in early spring by Common Courage Press (1-800-497-3207; [orders-info@commoncouragepress.com](mailto:orders-info@commoncouragepress.com)).

# CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH: THE JAPANESE EDUCATION SYSTEM, A CONDENSED MYSTERY

By Alexander McLaren

[The author has been an assistant teacher of English in high schools in Japan for the past three years.]

This week, the annual entrance exams for Japan's national universities were given. The day after the exam, some questions were published. The English section consisted of questions like:

1. I saw in the \_\_\_\_\_ that the company is bankrupt.  
A. announce. B. announcement C. announces D. announced

This question is hard for a high school student to understand. It's also hard to realize that you need to put a noun in the blank. Harder still for a student to remember is which of the answers is the noun and which are conjugated verbs. Worst of all, the student has to do this 50 times in an hour.

Japanese entrance exams are extremely hard. The English exams test the students on minor grammatical points and difficult vocabulary. The really useful skills—like reading comprehension, speaking or listening—are barely touched upon at all. I assume that the math, history and other portions of the exams are the same. These exams are critically important. They not only determine what college you will enter, but also what job you get. Most high schools in Japan teach with these exams in mind. Teaching English communication is a relatively new idea, and it is not entirely welcome. Merely going to high school is not enough. Students who want to go to the best colleges also have to go to cram schools and study 5 or 6 hours every night.

Generally, Japanese high school graduates have studied English for 6 years and college graduates for eight to ten years. Yet most of them cannot hold a conversation or write a letter in English. Those who can usually have had private English conversation lessons or studied abroad.

Consider this teacher-student exchange which occurred two years ago...

Alex: Both of these answers are correct English.

Japanese teacher: Yes, but this is the one in the textbook.

Alex: But both are correct.

Teacher: You see, I'm not really testing who speaks English. I know which students can understand English.

Alex: Then what...

Teacher: I'm testing how much they studied. You see, I told them they had to study the textbook very carefully and I want to see who did. This is not about who's smarter, it is about who really studied. That's the only fair system.

So, a question: What in God's name are they doing? Why do they overwork the kids like this, when it obviously achieves little in the way of education? Well, let's present a bit more evidence.

Sports clubs are also insanely hard. Students must practice both before and after school—and even during lunch—all year round (even seasonal sports like baseball) and may play only a few games. In my school, the girl's field hockey team practices 360 days a year.

In Japanese colleges, the liberal arts students barely study, don't go to classes and yet everyone passes and (in good times) everyone gets a job offer. The better the college, the better the job offer. Once they become workers in Japanese companies, they are expected to be in the office until 9 or 10 at night. My friend is an engineer for Panasonic. He works from 7 in the morning to 11 at night, 5 days a week. He doesn't get overtime for that.

(Linguistic point: In Japanese you never say, "Good luck" to encourage someone. You say, "Try your best.")

Can you solve the mystery? Why are Japanese high schools the way they are? What goal are they pursuing? Can you solve this mystery before Alex did? You have two and a half years.

An answer is that Japanese schools don't really teach the students facts, they teach the stu-

dents how to work hard without complaint.

In most Japanese institutions, hard work is more admirable than results. Since the war, Japan has tried (fairly successfully) to be a meritocracy, where your rewards are based on your efforts and loyalty. Japanese schools try to mold students into adults who can work 16 or 17 hours a day and not take vacations. Since teaching useful knowledge is less important than encouraging hard work, Japanese schools could teach baseball statistics or the history of stamp collecting instead of English and math and still achieve this social goal. In fact, yesterday I saw some students still hard at work at 6 p.m. I stopped in to see what they were doing. They were studying computer programming for the certification exam this weekend. I asked the teacher what language they were studying, and she answered COBOL. COBOL was considered obsolete when I was a high school student (10 long years ago). These days, it's about as useful as studying basket-weaving. Even the teacher acknowledged this, but that's the programming language used in the national exam. "Can't be helped," she said.

Of course, this is not THE answer. The Japanese educational system is more than a century old and draws on traditions that are even older. It was hugely reformed after the war and another observer might explain it all away with an equally lengthy essay on the role of teachers unions, the American occupation, the Samurai Code, or China's Confucian exam system.

Still, when people say that Japan is really different from the US, they are not talking about Teriyaki McBurgers or writing that looks like crazed chicken-scratching. Values and goals that we ignore are applied in Japan. Which, for the record, is why I love it here.

## Not Fit To Print:

### Inaccurate Reporting in the Case of Mumia Abu Jamal

By Steve Rendall

Bias, inaccuracy and arrogance, as documented by FAIR and others, have plagued news reporting on the legal case against Mumia Abu Jamal. With few exceptions, corporate-owned media have ignored or misrepresented charges made by Abu Jamal's attorneys. Charges that:

- witnesses were coerced;
- testimony was fabricated or tampered with;
- ballistics testing was incomplete or inconclusive;
- the judge was prejudiced and mishandled the case;
- Mumia Abu Jamal was denied the right to defend himself as guaranteed in the Constitution, and otherwise prevented from mounting a serious defense.

In this matter of life and death, the failure to investigate these charges—any one of which, if true, would be grounds for a new trial—is tantamount to openly siding with the prosecution. It is the journalistic equivalent of reversing the burden of proof.

FAIR is adding its voice to those who are calling for a fresh look at Mumia Abu-Jamal's situation. We are calling on local and national media to take seriously the charges that a condemned man has not received a fair trial.

For more information, you can check out FAIR's analysis of Mumia Abu-Jamal coverage on the web at: <http://www.fair.org/issues/news/mumia.html>.

For reporting that addresses some of the charges made by trial critics, see Stuart Taylor's article "Guilty and Framed" in *The American Lawyer* (December/95). Taylor, a journalist often aligned with conservative views, proclaims: "Death row celebrity journalist Mumia Abu Jamal got an unfair trial in front of a biased judge. His 'confession' was probably fabricated by police..."

FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy In Reporting) is a non-profit organization dedicated to non-biased, accurate reporting often not found in the main-stream press.

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## "Who is Mumia?"

A SHORT FILM AND  
OPEN DISCUSSION  
ABOUT MUMIA ABU  
JAMAL



Wednesday March 10th  
9:00 pm at the UNITI Cultural  
Center in Roth Quad



# A FATAL GLASS OF RUM

By Chris Sorochin

I can't help raising some points on Daniel Yohannes' lavish four-page travelogue on Cuba. I guess I should begin by saying that I've never been there. I'm informed by trusted sources that have though, that yes, the Cuban government is as repressive as other Latin American regimes, Cubans are afraid to express themselves openly and a good many are disenchanted with both Fidel and the revolution.

Mr. Yohannes gives short shrift to Cuba's advances in health care and education, all the better to get on with the bashing. I can't really throw stones at him for this; it's a cherished practice of my own. But isn't it a little odd, that in a country supposedly eager to join the post-communist world, we hear nothing of any democracy movement or its leaders. There's no Lech Walesa, no Dalai Lama, no Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn canonized on the pages of Time and Newsweek as avatars of freedom. The only opposition anyone hears of is the rabid right-wingers in Miami, who'd like to return and pick up where they left off in 1959, or, in Yohannes' words, "[return] her to her former glory." I'd like to suggest that Yohannes educate himself as to the "glory" of Cuba under previous dictatorial regimes, notably that of Castro's predecessor Fulgencio Batista. Would the return of a small plutocratic oligarchy (to say nothing of the Mafia, who controlled a large section of the island's economy before 1959) really be glorious for the average Cuban? And would there be actual freedom to dissent? Or would Cuba get a "free" corporate media like the one we "enjoy" here?

Cubans are "educated enough to contemplate the intricacies of their oppression," yet "(e)ven the youth believe that some of the hardship in their lives is due to the embargo." Well, it certainly is nice to know that Yohannes has, in his brief visit, achieved a greater understanding of Cuba and its problems than those who actually live there, but may I suggest that the main intricacy that the Cuban people understand is this: no matter how bad Fidel may be, once the US and its surrogates from Miami come in, things could actually get much worse.

All Cubans have to do is look at their Caribbean and Latin American neighbors to

understand that capitalism won't necessarily make things better and may, in a good many ways, make them worse. Is there real political freedom in the region's US client states? Can any political movement that seeks to put the interests of people ahead of those of corporations ever get into power and hope to stay there? Are their supporters safe from death squads? Does the wealth generated from capitalism trickle down to the poor?

Far-sighted Cubans may also look at what's become of other post-communist nations, like their former patrons, the Soviet Union. I have contact with a good many immigrants from Eastern Europe and the former USSR. None of them have very much good to say about the repression of their former communist rulers. When the Communist regime began to topple in the early '90s, many were overjoyed. But in the fall of 1992—I distinctly remember the first time—I began to hear something different. As people learned from relatives back home, or had experienced themselves, the new capitalist order had reduced the majority of people to people in the former USSR to poverty, while a small criminal/political class got fabulously wealthy.

In addition, the coming of capitalism meant the dismantling of aspects of the Soviet Union that people had actually liked. I began to hear Eastern European expatriates bemoaning the days when they got free rent and free health care and how, even though consumer goods may have been in short supply and of poor quality, they could afford them. "Now the stores are full of anything you want, but we can't afford to buy it," one Polish woman told me.

More ominously, some of the more testosterone-laden felt nostalgia for other things. "We used to be powerful; everyone was afraid of us," offered Slava. I can imagine how many of his counterparts back in Russia, who look to have no jobs and no future and are looking for someone to blame, would be receptive to the fascistic, xenophobic message of Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who preaches a resurgent, expansionist and highly militaristic Russian Empire.

But back to Cuba. I'm sure that even those who most despise Castro know about the Bay of Pigs, a US-backed attempted invasion, as well as numerous lesser-known acts of terrorism and sab-

otage. These have encompassed not just the traditional bombings (like the one of a hotel last summer by a Salvadoran mercenary, trained at the School of the Americas, in which an Italian tourist was killed), but also the much-denounced biological warfare. On several occasions, CIA operatives released agents to destroy crops or poison livestock. I think most Cubans know that a government that would do this is not one that would have their best interests at heart.

Cuba does do business with every other nation except the US. The US has repeatedly attempted to strong-arm other nations by passing laws like Helms-Burton, which would penalize foreign companies for trading with Cuba. Fortunately, other nations have unanimously told the US, "Póngaselo en el culo" in the name of free trade and even US companies realize that they're being cut out of a market by the fanaticism of the right wing.

If Yohannes thinks the "free market"—which will not favor small entrepreneurs but large multinationals—will really empower the Cuban people, he's downed one too many rum-and-cokes. Does he really think prostitution will disappear when capitalism comes in full? Ever hear of Thailand? Last I heard, the Thais were so "empowered" by the free market that they were selling their daughters on it because it brings in much-needed cash. Take a look around the world and you'll see lots of countries in which educated, skilled people are not paid what they deserve. Guess what? Most of these countries aren't communist!

I suspect most Cubans would probably like some kind of democratic socialism in which they would have political freedom while keeping social benefits. But they're not going to be allowed to do that. Even the Western Europeans are being told they have to give up their cushy welfare states for the new economic order. Cuba will be presented with an all-or-nothing deal and probably have to watch their health and education systems dismantled while their country becomes yet another cheap-labor colony, and I would even posit that they'll be punished severely as a lesson to any other country that gets any fancy ideas about getting out from under international capitalism.



March for womyn's safety  
Wednesday, March 24, at 9p.m.  
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# How to Write An Article For the New York Times

By A.M. Rosenthal

(Columnist and former Executive Editor of the New York Times)

[Editor's note: This leaked document was apparently written for a student who had expressed an interest in working for the New York Times, without the usual training, education, or experience. Friends of A.M. Rosenthal, who requested anonymity, said it was written in response to a request by former Senator Bob Dole. However, sources familiar with the person for whom the article was written claim that Mr. Rosenthal wrote the article for a friend of Bill Clinton. At this allegation, the anonymous friends grew agitated, and challenged the familiar sources to "step outside, so we can settle this like insiders". The familiar sources pulled out a knife, and when several high-ranking officials tried to intervene, they were mortally wounded.]

I'm glad you came to me first; God knows how many columnists get asked advice and say all manner of stupid things. Why, when I was editor, if people -- paid columnists! -- had given out the kind of advice I hear on a daily basis... Well, let's just say they'd have been unceremoniously shot out on 43rd St.

So you'd like to be a foreign correspondent? A wise move! Adventure! Excitement! A warm bath in a luxurious hotel in Jakarta, while servants massage your weary feet and serve you tea and croissants!

Of course, the first thing you have to remember, when you find your little country, is where the US embassy is. This is always a good place to get the unbiased American opinion on whatever little squabble the natives happen to be having at the moment. Once you have the facts, you can then go take some pictures, and maybe interview some of the local officials and get some good quotes if you have time.

This brings me to the next point: don't forget about the division of labor! I've seen many a young journalist go out into the world, struggle for weeks or months to get some story, and come back only to find it cut from the paper, replaced by something thrown together in a couple of hours. The lesson? You don't need to repeat what other people are doing. Many countries have contracted with public relations firms. These agencies will actually do the research and write press releases that look just like real newspaper articles. Why repeat their work? The smart journalist finds the relevant press releases first, splices pieces of each together, and has his entire day's work done before 11 AM. It would be nice if every journalist had the time to do his own research, but then it would be nice if Jesus Christ came to Earth tomorrow. We have to be realistic!

Keep a thesaurus handy, so your descriptions of foreign leaders will not sound biased. A

guide to objective descriptions of foreign leaders can be found at the State Department. But check back with the State Department often, because their current opinions

won't last forever. I mean, I wish the State Department just decided once and for all which political leaders it wanted in these little countries and which it didn't, but I also wish that the North Koreans, Iraqis, Iranians (oh, wait, no, not Iranians), Syrians, and Cubans would stop eavesdropping on my phone calls and following my wife on her way to the beauty parlor. Some things just won't happen!

Don't be afraid to spice up your stories. Nothing gets you on Back Page Territory faster than bland stories about countries nobody ever heard of. I mean, where is Belize? Who cares? No, if you get an assignment in some little country, you have to put your country on the map. Sometimes you just have to speculate.

It's not important that you're the first to report on what's happening; what's important is that you be the first to write about the subject in general. The person who reports a year before it

**We put the "credible" in "incredible"! We put the "believable" in "unbelievable"! We put the "objectivity" in "complete and total lack of objectivity"!**

happens that certain people might be doing this or that has already scooped the person who waits until it happens. And if it never happens? Well, who's going to comb through last year's paper looking for things that never happened? Dear God, if we all waited until things happened, we'd never get around to reporting any of them! I'd like to see firsthand the things I report, but I'd also like to have the aliens remove that strange device from behind my ear!

Try to figure out the story behind the story. Sometimes the "facts" suggest one thing, but the truth is quite

different. If you're confused, the American ambassador can usually explain what's really going on. Sometimes you have to interpret things you hear or see to reveal what the motivations are behind them; again, check with the ambassador before you write the story.

New reporters in little Third World countries often hear so much anti-American propaganda that they start to believe it. Watch out for this! Remember that most American political leaders are more experienced than you, and things which seem reasonable to a green reporter may not be to a seasoned government official. A good guideline in judging whether your article will seem biased or not is this:



A.M. Rosenthal

If America were run by a benevolent but touchy military dictator, would your article be censored? If yes, then you should probably try to get some more quotes from American officials.

Don't report your sources! This is the single most common mistake made

by beginning journalists. Nothing says "I'm an important story" like the words "a source who requested anonymity." Doesn't that sound dangerous? Doesn't it sound like there's something really important going on? Even if your source didn't request anonymity, you should give it to him anyway, for these reasons:

1. It makes the source and the story sound very important, even if they're not. I mean, if you had known that Henry Kissinger was "Deep Throat", would Watergate have been as much fun?

2. It prevents your competitors from finding out your information.

It would be great if, as the hippies believe, journalism was all about giving people information. But this is the real world, and in the real world, your job depends on you getting people to read your paper and not the other guy's. Otherwise, we might as well give away the paper for free!

3. If you're really skilled, you can even make up quotes when you don't have time to obtain real ones. Who hasn't been in the situation of needing another quote just a few minutes before deadline? And it can be hard to think of names, especially when you're in some crazy country like Uganda where the people speak funny and names are almost unpronounceable. In such a situation, a "high-ranking Ugandan diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity" is your best friend.

Now, some naïve journalists say things like, "Won't writing stories about things that haven't happened and making up quotes from people who don't exist undermine my credibility?" Well, boy, it might if you were working at the Niskayuna Gazette, but this is the New York Times! We put the "credible" in "incredible"! We put the "believable" in "unbelievable"! We put

**Nothing says "I'm an important story" like the words "a source who requested anonymity."**

the "objectivity" in "complete and total lack of objectivity"!

There is, of course, much more that you will learn from experience.

Below are two articles

about some events in little Ecuador; the one on the left comes from some Communists in some French newspaper, while the one on the right is from the New York Times. Just remember: what's right is right, but what's left is wrong. See if you can spot all the mistakes made in the one on the left.

Final note: OK, so old Abe Rosenthal didn't actually write this. The writing style of the A.M. Rosenthal character above is actually a composite of the real A.M. Rosenthal's style, our own Polity Senator Frank Santangelo's style, and that of the real author, local socialist Press staff writer, Stephen Preston.



## U.S. Blockading Ecuador over Shrimp

In a surprising escalation of hostilities, President Bill Clinton has ordered American gunships to blockade the small South American country of Ecuador. The reason is Ecuador's recent decision to sell its shrimp directly to Europeans, instead of through American corporations.

The Ecuadoran government announced the decision as an attempt to generate more money for the shrimp farmers, who had been suffering the effects of recession. The government had been criticized by influential newspapers in Quito for being too closely associated with American business. The American government claimed that Ecuador was backing out of its trade obligations with the United States, and it claimed to be enforcing contracts between Ecuadoran suppliers and American corporations such as Aurora Foods.

In a press statement, Vice President Al Gore said, "We cannot allow these obvious violations of trade agreements between our two nations. We are all for free trade, but we must also have fair trade, especially in the very important shrimp industry. Where would our great nation be without the 'fruit of the sea'? Why, there'd be no shrimp-kabobs, shrimp creole, shrimp gumbo; pan-fried, deep-fried, or stir-fried shrimp; no pineapple shrimp, lemon shrimp, coconut shrimp, pepper shrimp, shrimp soup, shrimp stew, shrimp salad, shrimp and potatoes, shrimp burger, or even shrimp sandwiches!"

Ecuadoran President Jamil Mahuad said in a press conference today, "We really can't understand why the United States would take this issue so seriously. We have already offered to reinstate all shrimp agreements, but the Secretary of State has declared that she will not negotiate with us. Our only hope to prevent a full invasion is through the UN Security Council, which is currently holding an emergency meeting to discuss the situation. We are hoping that all the shrimp-lovers of the world will unite in condemning this act of blatant aggression."

Ecuadoran shrimp-farmers, who feel they have generally been on good terms with the American corporations, are puzzled by the invasion. Carlos San Martín, a farmer with four children, said "I fear for the safety of my family. Why would they threaten us, over some tiny animals? But I will defend my country."

## Officials: Ecuadorans Provoke Hostilities

High-ranking officials at the U.S. State Department today announced that due to increasing concerns over human rights violations in Ecuador, President Clinton has authorized American troops to go to Ecuador as a peacekeeping force.

According to the officials, who declined to be identified, the source of the concerns was over the Ecuadoran government's treatment of local shrimp farmers. "The President feels that the human rights abuses there have to be dealt with firmly and severely. Unfortunately, it seems, the only language the Ecuadorans understand is force."

One official stated that the targeting of shrimp farmers there was particularly offensive, saying, "Where would our great nation be without the 'fruit of the sea'?", the term Ecuadoran shrimp farmers use to describe their harvest.

Hard-line Ecuadoran ruler Jamil Mahuad said in a statement today that he did not know "why the United States would take this issue so seriously." But he said he would go to the United Nations to try to prevent any action from being taken.

The UN has traditionally been used by leaders such as Slobodan Milosevic and Saddam Hussein to frustrate American attempts at enforcing human rights, according to one Western diplomat. "Many of the nations in the UN have anti-American attitudes, and others see their own interests as being more important than such abstractions as human rights." Europe, for example, is interested in lucrative shrimp contracts with the Ecuadoran government, and may try to undercut US efforts there, said the diplomat.

It is not yet known how many troops would be sent, or whether there might be a substantial risk to American soldiers. Pentagon officials have promised that most of the attacks on the country, if they prove necessary, will be based off-shore, and that a ground force would only be used if absolutely necessary.

Ecuadorans seem to be hopeful that the Americans will be able to prevent any further atrocities. One Ecuadoran, who works in a hotel and asked not to be identified for fear of retribution, said, "I'm very glad the Americans are here. The Ecuadoran government has given us little, but the Americans are always far more generous. Right, señor?"



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**Information Table**  
Sports Complex  
March 10, 1999  
12:00PM - 4:00 PM

# GOODBYE 'GREAT SATAN' AS IRAN, U.S. MOVE CLOSER

By Farnaz Fassihi  
Columbia News Service

After two decades of silence, the delicate dance of words between Washington and Tehran has yet to whirl into a full negotiating waltz.

Iran is celebrating the 20th anniversary of its Islamic revolution this year, which led to the takeover of the American embassy by the revolutionaries, and the taking of 52 American hostages, who were held for 444 days. But the animosity that once existed between the two nations is being replaced by respectful relations at the governmental level.

Last January, Iran's moderate President Mohammad Khatami took a step by calling for "a dialogue between two great civilizations," in an interview on CNN. Secretary of State Madeline Albright replied that the time had come to "draw a road map to normalizing relations with Iran."

On a more personal level, Barry Rosen, a former American hostage in Iran, has met with one of the Iranians who organized the U.S. embassy takeover in the last year.

Despite the improving relationship between Iran and United States, obstacles remain, including a long history of accumulated bad feelings, encrusted official pronouncements and, in the case of America, legislated prohibitions including trade and other economic sanctions.

Diplomatic relations between the two nations ended after the Iranian revolution. Since then, the United States has not had a representative in Iran and its interests have been represented by the Swiss embassy in Tehran. Similarly, Iran provides services for its citizens through Pakistan's embassy in Washington.

Trade relations between the two nations were abolished when Congress passed the "Iran-Libya Act" in 1996, which threatened sanctions against foreign companies that invested more than \$20 million a year in Iran's oil and gas industry and banned the importation of any Iranian goods in the United States. The law also established sanctions against Libya.

Nevertheless, Iran has a unique geopolitical and strategic position in the region. To the south, it has access to the Persian Gulf. It ranks as the world's fourth-largest producer of crude oil and second largest of natural gas. Iran shares its northern border of the Caspian Sea with the newly independent Central Asian states of Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. Iran's existing

pipelines can deliver the fuel more directly from the oilfields of the Caspian states than would be possible under a proposed U.S. plan. The American plan is to build a new pipeline through other Central Asian nations, bypassing Iran, to deliver the oil to Turkey where it could be loaded onto tankers for export.

In the past year, Iran has invited foreign investors to develop its petroleum and gas

founder of the revolution, Ayatollah Khomeini, prevent Iran from renewing ties with the United States, said State Department officials.

The State Department also said that the United States would not, as a pre-condition to talks, lift the Iran-Libya sanctions. "Our view is that no preconditions should be set for a dialogue to take place," said a State Department official in a recent telephone interview.

**UNTIL SANCTIONS ARE LIFTED, THE ONLY IRAN-U.S. RELATIONSHIP WILL BE "CULTURAL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE GREAT MINDS OF BOTH COUNTRIES."**

**—AMIR ZAMANINIA  
IRANIAN COUNSEL TO THE UN**

fields. If the sanctions are not removed, American oil companies will miss out on the bidding by European companies to develop the resources.

This past February, Iran awarded French and Italian oil companies a \$500 million deal to develop its offshore gas fields. And Britain's Premier Oil in partnership with Canada's Bow Valley Energy will develop its oil fields in a \$200 million deal.

These developments have not passed unnoticed in America. According to a Commerce Department publication in November, the greatest pressure to lift the Iran-Libya embargo has come from U.S. oil companies.

Acknowledging a need to re-establish relations, State Department officials said the United States had expressed an interest in resuming official talks with Iran many times, but that Iran had not responded favorably.

Iran, on the other hand, does not believe the United States is serious about holding talks, said Iran's counsel to the United Nations, Amir Zamaninia, in a telephone interview. "It is like holding a stick above someone's head and saying, 'Let's talk but you can't say a word about the stick,'" he said, referring to the embargo.

Zamaninia said the sanctions are aimed at curtailing Iran's development and sovereignty. Until they are lifted, he said, the only relationship between Iran and the United States would be what President Khatami called "cultural exchange between the great minds of both countries."

For the Iran-Libya Act to be repealed, Congress would have to pass a new law, a long and complicated procedure that requires the approval of both the House and the Senate, and the signature of the President.

Because of the strong concern in Congress for Israel's security and peace in the region, the lifting of sanctions will face strong opposition, said Richard Buillet, chairman of Columbia University's Middle East Department.

"The U.S. may have commercial benefits and human benefits in resuming relations with Iran," said Buillet. "But none of that rises to the political weight of concern among supporters of Israel in the Congress."

The State Department still identifies Iran as a sponsor of terrorism and a major obstacle in the Middle East peace process. It also has accused Iran of trying to acquire nuclear weapons, charges that Iran has denied.

It remains unclear when the two sides will officially lay the grievances of the past on the negotiating tables, but both sides said that while the road ahead is long, the first step has been taken.

In an act of good faith, Rosen, the former American hostage, said in a recent interview that his Paris meeting with one of the Iranians who organized the U.S. embassy takeover, Abbas Abdi, had helped heal old wounds.

Hoping to set an example for their nations, the two men shook hands and spent three days talking over the painful events of the past. "Differences can be resolved if you can go beyond the stereotypes that separate our two nations and look at each other as human beings and forgive," said Rosen.

Farnaz Fassihi worked as a stringer for The New York Times in Iran and for the newspaper's metro desk in New York City. She earned a Bachelor's degree in English from Tehran University, and in May she expects to receive a Master's degree from the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.



The internal debates within the powerful political parties of moderate President Khatami and conservative religious leader Ayatollah Khamenei, who succeeded the



# ALABAMA'S DILDO DISTRIBUTORS COME UNDER FIRE

By Russell Heller

A law, which took effect July 1, is gathering attention and notoriety. The "Alabama Dildo Law" makes it a misdemeanor in Alabama to distribute "any device designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs." This includes vibrators, sex toys, and can even be extended to include certain condoms! Violators are subject to maximum penalties of a \$10,000 fine and one year in jail. While distribution of such items is banned, possession remains legal.

A group of women has filed a federal lawsuit to block the law, arguing that it violates their right to privacy. One of six plaintiffs, Sherri Williams, has made several television appearances, speaking out against the law. Williams owns two Alabama stores that sell sex devices. Another plaintiff, B.J. Bailey, sells similar items at in-home gatherings. The other four plaintiffs are described in the lawsuit as needing sexual aids to have orgasms.

The lawsuit was filed Wednesday by the American Civil Liberties Union, which called the ban an invasion of privacy and a misguided attempt to impose a moral viewpoint on adults.

Although the lawsuit will most likely be effective (don't sweat it Hil), there is something disturbing I have noticed about the case being made for the protection of the so-called "sex toys." One of the programs interviewing Sherri Williams brought on Dr. Judy Kuriansky, "America's hottest sex therapist," as a consultant. During the course of the interview, both Williams and Dr. Judy continually used the euphemism, "marital aids." Williams portrayed her establishment, "Pleasures," as a more romance-oriented shop, mostly catering to married couples. Dr. Judy continually stressed the point that clinical studies have proven the effectiveness of "marital aids" on enhancing a sex-troubled marriage. Essentially, this was the only defense that was raised during the entire interview: that vibrators are for the happy married couple.

My problem with this kind of reasoning is that it sells short the actual cause. Justifying vibrators by citing married couples in need for them is like saying that there are medicinal purposes for marijuana when what you really want is to get high. Doctor-prescribed pot isn't going to end up in my hands. From the way things were portrayed, it seemed as if everyone would be happy if vibrators were only legal with a prescription. Why was no one out there defending the perverts? Those people who, deprived of their sex toys or their porn or their strip clubs, will have to find some other outlet for their pent-up sexuality. Selling vibrators does not generate a demand for them. The fact that the sex industry is thriving is because there is a tremendous demand for this kind of product. And taking an example from the "War on Drugs," the result of a "War on Sex" would be crime. And which is worse, people getting their rocks off in the private manner of their choice, or a community of sexually frustrated citizens roaming the streets, looking for a "fix" from the dildo dealer?

The state senator who sponsored the legislation, Tom Butler,

said the prohibition was tucked into a larger bill in which he sought to shut down strip clubs in one north Alabama County. He said the office of Madison County District Attorney Tim Morgan sought the ban. Butler is merely looking to pass the buck. True, the original effort to ban nude dancing was quickly broadened by Tim Morgan when he recommended that any legislation cover a wide range of activities, including the sale of sexual devices. But Senator Butler's continued support of the ban shows his true feelings.

Butler, justifying the law, said that people had been "begging lawmakers" to crack down on adult entertainment venues in Madison County; he specifically cited a billboard which promoted "Cold Beer, Nude Women, Free Lap Dances." In reference to the claims regarding the 'medicinal' use of sex toys, the good ol' boy remarked, "I don't care what they call it, therapeutic or whatever ... some of it's just plain trashy." Not surprisingly, many of the state's religious conservatives have signed-on to support Sen. Butler and the dildo ban, including Rev. Dan Ireland, executive director of the Alabama Citizens Action Program. He declared that dildos and other toys are "a nuisance and they certainly are conducive for promiscuity and loose morals."

What Senator Butler fails to consider is that the law, in order to be functional, must be objective. "Morality" and "community standards" have no business in legislation. Once you have the government, or the church, or anyone else for that matter, deciding what is best for the community, there is no telling where the line will be drawn.

With that in mind, I have gathered some information on the two men responsible for this ridiculous law. Both of them readily encourage people to contact them at the following locations. So feel free to share your opinions with them. And maybe even tell them to go fuck themselves.

Tim Morgan  
District Attorney  
100 North Side Square  
Huntsville, AL 35801-4820  
(205)532-3460  
(205)532-6974 fax  
daoffice@traveller.com

Tom Butler  
Alabama State Senate  
Statehouse Suite 733  
11 S. Union St.  
Montgomery AL 36130  
(334) 242-7898  
senbutler@aol.com



By Donald "Geetch" Toner

Through constant searching on the internet, sooner or later, usually sooner, you run into a banner or forty dealing with pornography. Yeah, it's out there and we all know what it is and where to find it. You can not help but see some form of it whenever you log on somewhere. It is out there and there is no avoiding it. So this week I just went with the flow of it. I began my search for sex toys of all sorts available for purchase over the web.

The first site that I arrived at was [www.xotoys.com/main.cfm](http://www.xotoys.com/main.cfm). Of course I should have been able to figure out the address, without using half a dozen search engines first, just by the name of it. This site has a wide assortment of various sexual apparatus for your or your partner's pleasure. Scarily enough, I have to say it was a tactfully done site. They have items ranging from lingerie (even in plus sizes) to bondage equipment to jewelry. All the items were clearly pictured with a reasonable price for quick ordering. A very easy site to follow, with a secure payment form for safe purchasing.

Next I visited [www.abcsextoys.com](http://www.abcsextoys.com). The site has a huge variety of toys. There is a quick description of each section so you can narrow down your search for that special something. Also this site is well organized, having a quick loading system and easy payment plan. The items to be purchased are shown in pictures of the actual items or the packaging they come in, as seen in stores. One can purchase everything from the ever-loved sex doll (both male and female) to sex games (cards, dice, etc.).

The next site I located was [www.go4.com/sexttoys/](http://www.go4.com/sexttoys/). This page has an easy set of indexes to facilitate your purchase. Toys made for couples, single men, and single women are all available. The selection covers such things as penis enlargers, vibrating dildos, and gag gifts. When visiting the gag gift section, I had to stifle a giggle, some of the items were so absurd.

Continuing my search I came across (hah!) [www.partners.accessadult.com](http://www.partners.accessadult.com). This page, much like the ones previously mentioned, is easy to follow, with no hassle in finding anything you want. This site has a more mature tone to it. It has broken up the toys, as the other sites have, but there are more categories listed here, including books. The site also has employment opportunities for those interested.

The final site I went to was [www.sexnet21.com/AdultToyStore/ToyStore.html](http://www.sexnet21.com/AdultToyStore/ToyStore.html). After clicking through three of four banner pages, you can get to the page itself.

This page has a couple of items not seen elsewhere on the web. Even though it was a bit of a hassle to get to the page, this is definitely worth the search. The site has a variety of instructional books and even the famed Kegel Master 2000. Now I bet that everyone out there is asking what the heck that is. If you want to find out, find the page. Once you do I am willing to wager that many you will think about getting one for yourselves or your partner, or just a gag for a friend.

Now I have left you all with, I hope, more knowledge than you came in with. Everything your "hearts" desire is out there if you know where to look, and the web is one of the easiest places to look. Happy searching and may you find what you are looking for.



**GIVE IT TO HER**  
She can enjoy an instant massage with this new  
rubber massager. It's so perfect on your feet  
that the hair and away she goes. Gives fast  
penetrating relief. Makes a great sex toy. It's  
so new. Stimulates circulation, too. Also makes  
your feet feel like they're being massaged. Also good  
for you. Ladies \$2.95. Men's \$3.95. Postpaid.  
**GRAN PRIX ENTERPRISES**  
Dept D 2/505 Western Ave.,  
N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30314

# FEATURES

## Fear and Loathing in the Parking Lot

By The Ranch

feel herself discriminated against upon the basis of of Biblical persuasion, harken sharp upon the words I

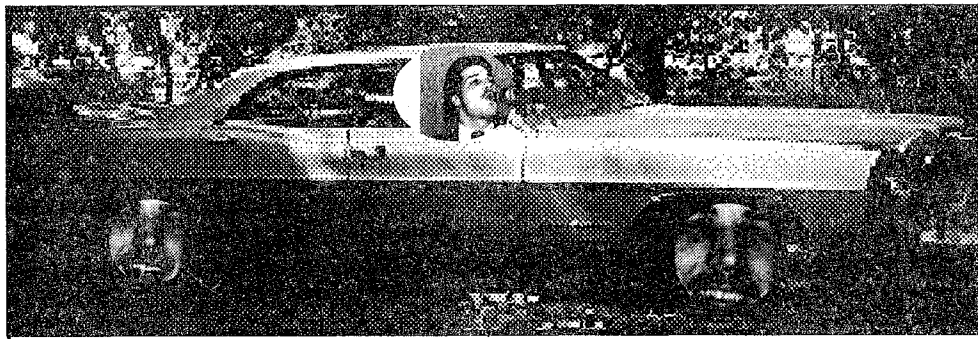
It is hard to maintain. The Hydro. The Chivas. The Heineken. I should not capitalize Heineken. Next to the Chivas and the Hydro, the Heineken is but a trifle.

Parking aides. Motorist assistance. Meter maids. That's what I meant to write about. I am having difficulty now, thanks to my impaired state, but thank GOD (or whatever idiot extra-terrestrial passes for him) that I have the BACKSPACE key. Without it, this article would be a mess of mistakes and inaccurate punctuation. Misspellings bordering on the apocryphal. Without a BACKSPACE key, this article would be a wet dream for lawyers seeking to capitalize on the opportunity affording the typo.

Motorist assistance. That's what I meant to talk about, and goddamnit, that's what I'm here to do. Last Thursday, I think it was the 5th, I came up to campus to collect several old *Press* issues for a job interview I have pending. While I was up on campus, as I was leaving (I had been parked in the Union parking lot), I had chance to see one of the infamous meter maids in action. Wearing a jaunty beige cap on his head, this red-faced bozo was quickly and quietly passing out yellow parking tickets to a number of automobiles parked outside the Union, most specifically those parked by the parking meters. Let's talk about this a little. This bears discussion.

First of all, let's talk about the exact people who act as meter maids. And let's not mince words. These people aren't "Parking Assistance". Nor are they "Campus Police—Parking Division." Nor are they "Campus Parking Maintenance Engineers." I don't think it's possible, using any kind of legalese jargon, to make these people seem any more elevated than what they are: meter maids. They have decided to spend the current portion of their lives passing from car to car, passing judgments on the people who own these cars based upon the place they have chosen to park, and making them pay their hard-earned money in order to justify their choice of parking space.

That's what it boils down to, isn't it? These "meter maids" (and note the derogatory mention of the word "maid": any male in this position should feel emasculated, as any female in this position should



IT'S FUN FUN FUN 'TIL DADDY TAKES THE T-BIRD AWAY.

her sex) make their living by exploiting, indeed, find their salaries paid for by THE HARD EARNED MONEY OF THE HONEST CITIZENS THAT CHOOSE TO USE ANY OF THIS CAMPUS' PARKING FACILITIES BE IT IN A PINCH, OR OUT OF SHEER CONVENIENCE. Because a student resorts to using a "faculty" parking lot, he must pay a fee, because someone who never finished high school has to patrol these lots as a way of paying rent on their one-room Selden apartment, so they could move out of their house because their parents were molesting them. (If you decide to become a meter maid, odds are you come from a background so warped that your parents MUST have been molesting you!)

So, in order to make them rethink their position in society and quit their post, let's lend a tight, scrutinized eye to these people who make the motorists of Stony Brook so unhappy. Let's examine them closely. Let's SLANDER them. Let's LIBEL them. Let's send red ants creeping underneath their underwear to bite and gnaw at their privates and leave itchy red bumps in their wake.

These people are uneducated. The majority of them clearly have no knowledge behind them. Chemistry? A kit for kids! Biology? If you have a cold, go to the doctor! English? The language we speak! Social studies? Put the fork on the left, the spoon on the right! Unless, of course, you have a spork. This presents a serious conundrum for those few meter maids with enough intelligence to realize that in most civilized societies, there is a fork AND a knife. Most of these people understand three things: breathing, urinating, and (in rare cases) defecating.

These people have no friends. Let us count among thee those that hold friends as meter maids — and let us say, NAY! Those among thee have NO friends who are meter maids. For what honest motorist can look upon his friend and say, "Yea, thou art a meter maid." Or what honest motorist can look upon his friend (more likely) and say, "Yea, thou art a meter maid, and thou shalt respect the sanctity of RW3 U12, but nay, not the sanctity of any other carriage-sans-horses". None! None of us. Ye that may be

have spoken today.

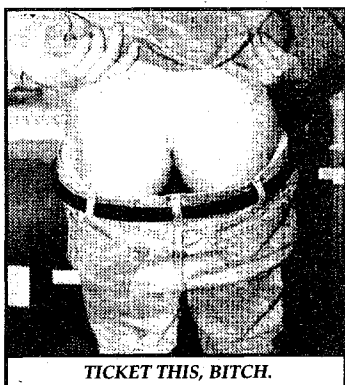
But let us stray from matters of the spiritual, and reflect more deeply on the more practical issues of the day. Meter maids cost everyone money. They punish people for using what little parking is available while proclaiming the blessings of "P Lot" to the rest of us who complain about limited space. P Lot! None of you

bastard meter maids needs to ride that stinky bus from P Lot to main campus. You get your own car, a shiny white automobile bearing their sharp Satanic stamp of "Motorist Assistance." Your safe passage, among the land of the free.

No, they confront you with the P Lot the same way medieval Catholicism confronted peasants with the suggestion of indulgences. They don't want you to use the main lots. They build the main lots for the faculty in the HOPE that common students will use them, so that they may be ticketed, as a way of procuring for the university a means of steady income.

This is, of course, the work of Mint-Julep-drinking, crack-smoking administrators like Shirley Strum Kenny and Fred Preston. But the protectors of this policy, indeed, the gleeful enforcers of this noxious truth, are the meter maids who set off each morning across campus, a badge under one arm and their minimum-wage-paid salaries under the other, and eagerly write tickets for those heathens who dare park in the wrong spot. Perhaps it gives them a hard-on. Perhaps the fat, heavily make-up'd monster who patrols the campus (you know who you are, you Cunt!) rubs her Chiclet-sized clit every night in contemplation of the day of paperwork ahead). Perhaps the fat whore in the Traffic Office thinks "Wow! I hold the fate of people's ability to graduate before me, and what a power that gives me! Me, a fat mother of 3 who does nothing but cook and clean when I go him! I'll rub my fat thighs together in anticipation, and when I come, I'll choke my cries of ecstasy on a Little Debbie cake! Whoopee!"

What is the solution, you ask, to these big-headed monsters of greed and oppression? WELL... I won't be the first to suggest the obvious. That's not my job. You can come up with your own deterrent. But remember. When you see someone clearly in need of an 8th grade education standing next to your car, writing on a yellow slip and giggling erotically to himself... remember who he is, and what he is doing. For he is a meter maid. And he beareth the mark of Satan.



TICKET THIS, BITCH.



# TOP TEN THINGS TO DO WITH PUBLIC SAFETY PARKING TICKETS

- 10) LINE THE BOTTOM OF YOUR GERBIL CAGE.
- 9) COLLECT THEM ALL AND TRADE THEM WITH YOUR FRIENDS.
- 8) ROLL THEM UP TIGHT AND SHOVE THEM UP YOUR ASS.
- 7) USE THEM TO SNORT COKE LIKE THERE'S NO TOMORROW.
- 6) ROLL THEM UP TIGHT AND SHOVE THEM UP DOUG LITTLE'S ASS
- 5) SEW THEM ALL TOGETHER TO MAKE A SUIT OF "TICKET CAMOFLAGUE" AND INFILTRATE PUBLIC SAFETY.
- 4) DON'T PAY THEM AND HAVE SOMETHING TO SHOW TO ALL YOUR NEW PRISON FRIENDS.
- 3) INSTEAD OF PAYING THEM BUY 'ROOFIES' FOR THE ADMINISTRATION, CAUSE YOU KNOW THAT'S WHERE THE MONEY'S GOING ANYWAY.
- 2) THEY'RE GREAT FOR A ROUSING GAME OF SUCK 'N' BLOW.
- 1) COMPLETELY IGNORE THEM.



## GENDER BENDING FOR FUN and PROFIT

By Glenn "Squirrel" Given

Well kids, spring is starting to bloom and with it soon will come the requisite fluttering of women's hearts and the throbbing of mens loins. It's bizarre that every year we repeat this complex of smoke and mirrors, and most of us go home suicidal at best. After countless millennia of mating seasons, you think that our yearly forays into the world of romance would be a bit more refined than the barbaric dating mores that exist currently. Still topping the charts of love-related idiocies is the concept of the passive-female/aggressive-male archetypes.

I for one am sick and tired of the whole she-bang. I stand confused when in a country that has such an active and aggressive women's equality movement, there are so few women who will actually go out and track, tag, and bag themselves a guy. Perhaps women have the right idea though. In a certain sense playing the passive role in a relationship allows them a great deal of selectivity. By being the receiving party in a romantic situation, they put themselves in the position of adjudicator; thereby deciding what moves are condoned or condemned.

Bottom line guys—we've been played for centuries. "Ohh lift that, please?" Ohh my back hurts, could you rub it?" "Gee, I don't know if I can go out on Friday. I'll call you and tell you."

What the fuck is up with that? Seriously, when was the last time you heard of a girl going to someone's window in the rain to express her love? When has a girl sent a dozen roses to your job, or serenaded you over dinner? That shit doesn't seem to happen, now does it? It seems that the mantle of sexual assertion has been worn by males for all of history.

Not that guys are exempt from this problem. We're stupid, to put it bluntly, and worst of all, impatient. It really frosts a man's wedding cake to have to wait for a day or more to see the person he desires. Men are forced to walk a thin line between not pursuing (neglect) or pursuing too much (stalking). The problem is that men are the ones who set this cycle in motion, and the historically dominant portrayal of men has actually convinced both sexes that that's the only acceptable archetype. Guys made a faux pas, and now everyone's paying for it.

Think about it. At the basest level, what man doesn't relish the idea of a women slamming him up against the wall and just fucking him? I mean like a hard-core, call her momma type fucking. And name a girl that wouldn't enjoy slapping around a man and having her way with him. These are desires that, I for one, believe exist within each of us in some form.

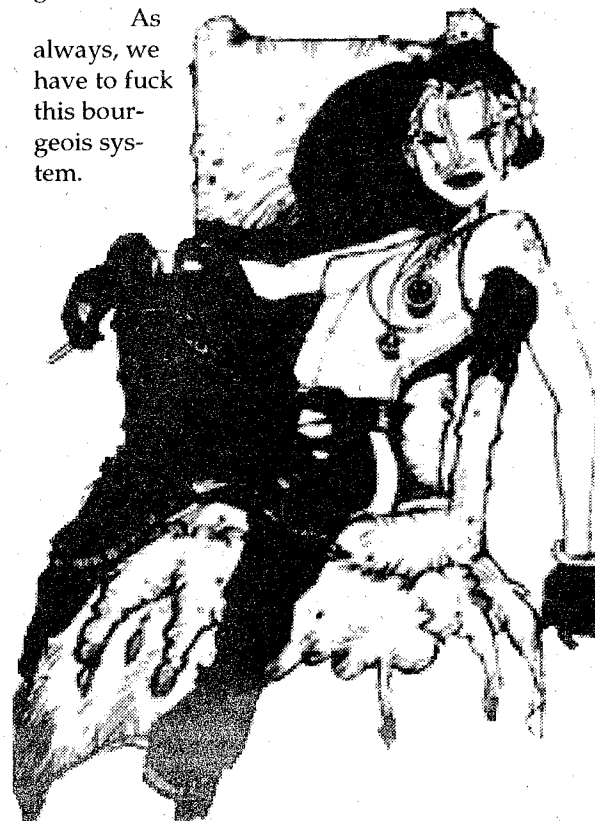
It would seem that with the new millennium approaching, with women's lib, and men finding their inner femininity (in addition to the resurgence of the androgynous look), the time is ripe for a shift in the roles we play romantically.

Our current modes of courtship are outdated, at best; realistically, they're sexist and ignorant. By placing the burden on men, we set ourselves up for a terrible fall, and by silencing women sexually and reducing them to passive receptors, we encourage the type of abuse that exists today. Perhaps, if women began to voice themselves sexually, the stigma of objectification would begin to fade. Even more radically, if men could bring them selves to explore their feeling of passivity, we could start to reduce the penchant for sexual misconduct and assault.

Maybe it's simply a pipe dream of mine.

Maybe I'm just hard up for a date. The world may never know. What matters is that day after day people who are totally compatible with each other pass by unnoticed or afraid. A women may stare longingly at some cute young stud and never say a thing about it to him; or worse, get all giggly-stupid-embarrassed when said guy comes up to them. Guys make absolute jackasses of themselves when in drunken stupors, attempt to emulate the Don Juans of legend and end up using their physical might to take advantage of a girl.

As always, we have to fuck this bourgeois system.



## FEATURES

# INTEL HAD A LITTLE LAMB

By Adrian Gell

The WinTel duopoly has once again taken advantage of the fact that most of today's computer users are ignorant followers of advertising and the mainstream. For those who have never heard of Linux, FreeBSD, AMD or Cyrix, for those who think that AOL is synonymous with the Internet, and for those who even believe that Microsoft owns the Internet, the new Intel Pentium-III processor, released this month, will be the status quo for new computers.

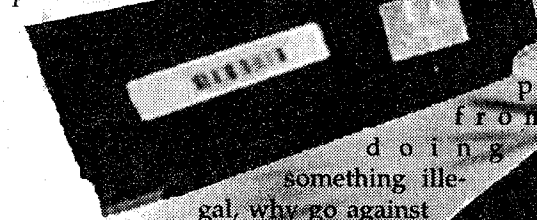
Droves of people brought up in a society that just wants a computer that "I can just turn on and use" will flock to the new P-III computers without even asking what they do. What percentage of people know what goes on inside their computer? They have become so easy to use that one doesn't have to be a "computer person" to own one anymore. Recently, big business has realized that it is in a position to take advantage of that fact in a way that should scare anyone who uses a computer instead the Internet.

If anyone has ever seen "The Net" or "Hackers" and simply said, "But that's just a movie," this is a wakeup call. Microsoft and Intel have little concern for the security of those who buy their products, and hackers and script kiddies love to take advantage of this. For a quick real-life example, I suggest you download a program freely available on the 'net called "Back Orifice." Read the instructions, then scan the addresses 129.49.232.\* through 129.49.239.\*. This is at least a partial list of the computers connected to the campus ResNet. I guarantee that you will find yourself with full access to several students' computers on this campus (disclaimer: Actually entering any of these computers is completely illegal). The "Back Orifice" program was intentionally created to be easily used by any seven-year-old in an attempt to force Microsoft to improve its security, but the movement failed and the hole still exists.

So what does this have to do with the P-III? Intel has added a new feature to its latest chip that has not been used in any PC processor to date. A unique serial number has been put into each chip, "tagging" the computer it is installed in. The official reason for doing this is to make

online commerce safer. Intel argues that when someone makes an online transaction, the number can be used to verify that they are really who they claim to be. This sounds like a good thing, but there are also other intentions for this number. For example, it is rumored that upcoming software applications, including Windows 2000, will send your serial number along with your name, address and any other information to a database. From then on, companies with access to this database can compare it with their list of registered users. Essentially, this creates a way for software vendors such as Microsoft to see who has unregistered (read "pirated") copies of their programs. Recording labels are also getting interested in this idea due to the recent increase in the spread of unpurchased music in MP3 format. Both music and software publishing houses will find it much easier to press charges when they can present a list of serial numbers matched with names and addresses to the FBI.

The bottom line is that the consumer is not in mind here—it is big business. There is an ethical dilemma involved here that I will not even get into. Many would argue that if it stops



it? As a student, though, I realize that many of us have something to fear from this. How many computer science students have actually shelled out the money to buy that C++ compiler for doing their homework? How many people have a copy of Word copied from a friend's computer for writing papers? How many of us have copied games or music? We would all be at risk of Big Brother knocking on our doors someday.

The unintended uses of this

tracking system scare me even more, however. Anyone with simple programming ability can write a program that can access this serial number. These programs can even be incorporated very easily into web pages, allowing anyone to track your online activities. It scares me that most people will never even know about this, most who know won't care and it will most likely be a feature of all further Intel products. Of course, Intel has claimed that there were security precautions taken to allow users control over whom their information is sent to. Andreas Stiller of Germany's *C't Magazine* has already developed a way to work around Intel's security blocks to access a user's information without his or her approval. In the end, those with the knowledge and the inclination to do so will write programs that will be as easy to use as "Back Orifice," which will be able to defeat the intended uses of the chip by faking someone else's serial number, and working around the software registration checks.

This just leaves it up to hackers to decide what they want to do with this new "feature" of your computer. Until Intel decides to revise its design, turn to AMD or Cyrix if you need a new processor. See the *Press* web site ([www.sbpres.org](http://www.sbpres.org)) for links to more information.

## COMMUTERS MATTER TOO

By Deborah L. Classi

When in doubt about academic affairs, Suzanne Sullivan is the woman to visit.

Sullivan says one experience at Stony Brook stands out in her mind. "A student came to me in a panic. She had an overload of classes, and was really overwhelmed," Sullivan says. "I'm not an academic advisor, but I'm good at putting the pieces together. I advised the student, she took my advice and she came back dancing."

Sullivan is the advisor for Commuter Student Affairs, which is located on the lower level of the Student Activities Center. She is in charge of answering any questions students may have about Stony Brook and what it has to offer. Sullivan says that she meets with about 45 to 50 students per week and that helping them is the focus of her job.

Sullivan says she enjoys helping those who need her advice. She also says that all questions are of equal importance. "I answer any question a student may have," Sullivan says. "Basic survival skills kinds of questions—Where to go? What to do? Those are the bulk of them."

Sullivan grew up in Boston and is now liv-

ing in Sound Beach. She was an undergraduate at the University of Vermont, and went to graduate school at the University of Rhode Island.

Sullivan, 33, is tall, with light blond hair and wears glasses. She has been with Stony Brook since July, and prior to that she worked at Purchase College in New York as an assistant director of the student development and campus activities organization.

Sullivan says that her work at Purchase College was a good experience, but she enjoys Stony Brook just as much. "Because commuter students are the majority, we deal with many of the same issues," Sullivan says. "The most common is questions dealing with transportation, parking, bus schedules. We get a lot of students who need a place to go to find out information."

Sullivan, who is single, says her work at the office consumes most of her time, and she is too busy for a pet. "I've been thinking about it," she says, "but I'm allergic, so it's not really a smart thing." She says her top priority is her work.

Sullivan says she feels good about herself when she is able to reach out and help another individual.

Aside from helping students in need of advice, Sullivan also refers students to the correct places to go to get information. She is also in charge of distributing course schedules for commuters.

Sullivan speaks to students about campus events, how to get involved and the changes around campus. "I try to help people become their own detectives," Sullivan says.

Mary Smith, assistant director of the Commuter Student Affairs office, says that she loves working with Sullivan. "She's like a burst of energy," Smith says. "She's someone who can really relate to the students."

Gene Cuocu, director of orientation, says that he has an outstanding working relationship with Sullivan. "She puts her all into what she does," Cuocu says. "She's also a lovely individual."

Sullivan encourages students to keep trying. "Don't give up, you can always start here," Sullivan says. She says she is very happy working at the office. "I don't know exactly how long I'll be here, but I hope to grow as Stony Brook grows here."



# The Misadventures Of

On September 13, 1848, Phineas P. Gage, an amiable railroad foreman, had a steel bar introduced to his skull in an "unexpected explosion" -

EPISODE #


EPISODE # 1

**Phineas & Gage**

THE MAN WITH THE BAR THROUGH HIS HEAD

I'M NEVER EVER BCT

I'M NEVER GETTING LAID AGAIN I'M  
NEVER GETTING LAID AGAIN I'M N  
EVER GETTING LAID AGAIN I'M NEVE  
R GETTING LAID AGAIN I'M NEVER  
GETTIN'  
AND YOU'D BE A FOUL-MOUTHED  
YERK IF IT'D HAPPENED  
TO YOU!!!!!!



HEAD!

HELLO-O-O-O!!!

FWOONG!

TWANG!

That's gonna leave a mark. I'm

Fuck.

NEVER  
HAPPEN AGAIN

- which drastically altered his personality. He became a foul-mouthed jerk. But at least he had his life.....

EVER EVER EVER  
EVER EVER EVER  
EVER EVER  
EVER EVER  
EVER EVER  
EVER EVER  
EVER EVER  
FUCK THE

EVER  
EVER  
EVER  
EVER  
EVER  
EVER  
VER  
ER  
EN  
ALIVE

## EPISODE #2: THE JOB HUNT

So I can type, sew, tap dance,  
juggle, hammer spikes into  
railroad tracks...

- Uh... is that a BAR through your HEAD?

✓ Fuck... I mean... fuck!!!

I fuckin' can't get a job, I have a fuckin' disfigured face, I fuckin' will never again get a fuckin'... God, how will I ever conduct myself?

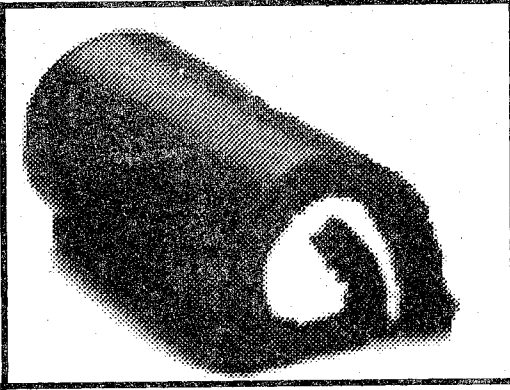
*Will Phineas ever find employment? Will Phineas finally get some booty? Stay tuned for the next adventure!!!*

# BATTLE OF THE CENTURY

pro

IT'S LIKE  
TOUCHING  
YOURSELF  
ONLY BET-  
TER;  
SWORD-  
FIGHTING;  
BEN HUR

# HOM



It's all about friction baby!

VS

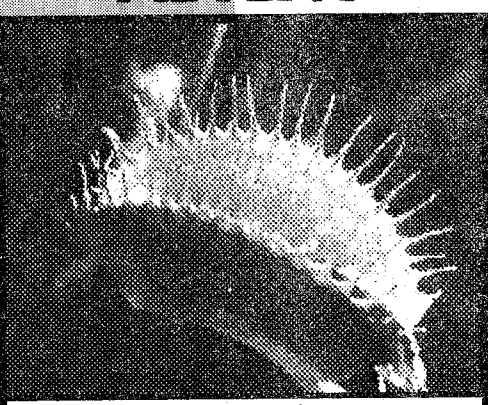
## CON

LESS LOVIN'  
FROM SHAFT:  
THAT EVER-PRE-  
SENT VASELINE  
SCENT: THE  
INDIGO GIRLS:

PRO

Prostitutes;  
Gay jokes;  
The Village  
People; The  
Yakuza;  
Straight up,  
no frills, vagi

# HETERO



Man-gina

## CON

Pregnancy;  
J. Edgar  
Hoover; The  
Lone Ranger;  
Less throb-  
bing man-  
cock; The  
sudden real-  
izations that

(IT'S BEEN SO LONG. . .): A  
HAPPY HOME IN THE PRESS  
OFFICE: GRECO-ROMAN  
WRESTLING: COCK: SNATCH: THE  
MAFIA: ALL THE GOOD PORN IS  
GAY PORN: PRISON IS SUDDENLY  
NOT SO BAD: BONANZA: ALTER-  
BOYS: THERE'S LOTS OF SEAMEN  
IN THE NAVY BABY!!: FIELD  
HOCKEY: FISTING X3: WOMYN'S  
BASKETBALL: ALL SEX, NO BABY.

THE VILLAGE PEOPLE: THE PEOPLE  
IN THE EAST VILLAGE: STDs: FREAK  
REACH-A-ROUND ACCIDENTS: RUG  
BURN: TONGUE CRAMPS: NAMBLA:  
ALL THE CUTE ONES ARE STRAIGHT;  
THE INDIGO GIRLS: THE INEVITABLE  
DEVELOPMENT OF A LISP: BRIDGE  
AND TUNNEL DYKES: GAY DOESN'T  
ALWAYS MEAN HAPPY: PRIESTS:  
IT'S A REAL PAIN IN THE ASS,  
YOUR ETERNAL DAMNATION.

nal intercourse; Greco-Roman wrestling; Cock; Snatch; Charlton Heston and The Duke; Football; Football; Three's Company; Anything by Aaron Spelling; Pimps; Mademoiselle; Fabio; Catholic School girls; Jessica Rabbit; Amusing your drunken frat—boy friends with your genital antics then proceeding to date rape some High School girls.

most of the sports you like are  
extremely homo-erotic; STDs;  
The Miracle of Life Video;  
Monica Lewinsky's lard ass  
face plastered on your televi-  
sion; the sudden realization that  
all your favorite actors are gay  
Gay children; Jerry Falwell;  
those rubber genitals they  
passed around in 8th grade so  
you could "find the lumps";  
Your Eternal Damnation.

# ANNE FRANK:

By Hilary Vidair

**"WRITING IN A DIARY IS A REALLY STRANGE EXPERIENCE FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME. NOT ONLY BECAUSE I'VE NEVER WRITTEN ANYTHING BEFORE, BUT ALSO BECAUSE IT SEEMS TO ME THAT LATER ON NEITHER I, NOR ANYONE ELSE, WILL BE INTERESTED IN THE MUSINGS OF A THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD SCHOOLGIRL."**

**—ANNE FRANK, 1942**

Imagine being confined, with eight other people, to three small rooms. Now imagine that for most of the day, you must live in these rooms in complete silence. Add to that the fear of being found and sent straight to your death.

Nassau Community College conveyed that feeling to onlookers this past week. It presented a collection of artwork entitled "Anne Frank: A History for Today—a Travelling Exhibit," edited by Menno Metselaar and Ruud van der Rol from the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Here, it is part of a series on "The Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights." This piece portrayed "Frank's story from birth to deportation." It is "depicted in historical context, emphasizing the importance of human rights, individual responsibility and positive action."

The following is what one learned from viewing the piece:

World War I ends in 1918 with Germany at a loss. The country suffers under the conditions of the Treaty of Versailles. Millions of people become unemployed and are stricken by poverty. Due to inflation, there is little value in the dollar by 1923.

A wave of hostility floods over Germany. A man by the name of Adolf Hitler claims to "have the solution to the problems." He is the leader of a newly formed group of nationalists.

On June 12, 1929, a girl is born into the Frank family. They name her Anne.

In October of this same year, the stock market crashes and business declines. Despite this problem, Anne's father Otto, a banker, fares better than the majority.

On January 30, 1933, Hitler is elected the Chancellor of Germany, and the new government quickly installs itself. A search for all Jews in the country and the end of democracy are the first things on the agenda. Books are burned, several liter-

ary and artistic works are forbidden, and Social Democrats and Communists are thrown into jail.

Due to these occurrences, the Frank family moves to Amsterdam. Otto becomes the Managing Director of the Dutch Opekta

Company, which manufactures products used in jam. Ann and her older sister Margot begin school, where they are both taught Dutch.

Many people are outraged by Hitler's reign, but they do not take action. They know that doing so would mean brutality, imprisonment and, most likely, death.

In 1935, "racial laws" are passed forbidding non-Jewish people from having any type of contact with the Jews. Those who do will be punished.

A few months after Anne's tenth birthday, World War II begins. On May 10, 1940, Amsterdam is attacked by the German army.

On June 12, 1942, Anne turns 13. It is then that she is given the infamous diary, which she calls "Kitty." Slowly, she begins to record the events that have taken place. "Our freedom was severely restricted by a series of Anti-Jewish decrees: Jews were required to wear a yellow star; Jews were required to turn in their bicycles; Jews were forbidden to use street-cars; Jews were forbidden to ride in cars, even their own; Jews were required to do their shopping between 3 and 5 p.m.; Jews were required to frequent only Jewish-owned barbershops and beauty parlors; Jews were forbidden to be out on the streets between 8 p.m. and 6 p.m..."

On July 5, 1942, a call-up notice is brought to the Frank's house. They are looking for Margot. Otto decides to send his family into hiding. He has previously made arrangements for the family to take refuge in the "Secret Annex," a storage area in the rear of his office building on Prinsengracht, in the event of an emergency. Margot goes first; the rest of the family follows shortly thereafter.

On July 6, 1942, the Franks are joined by the Van Pels family (referred to in Anne's diary as the Van Daan family) and dentist Fritz Pfeffer. A revolving bookcase keeps the Annex concealed. They will live there for two

years, isolated from the tragic world around them. "The Annex is an ideal place to hide in," writes Anne. "It may be damp and lopsided, but there's probably not a more comfortable hiding place in all of Amsterdam. No, in all of Holland."

Hitler plans to murder all of the 11 million Jews in Europe. Several of them are brought to concentration and extermination camps.

"I feel wicked sleeping in a warm bed, while somewhere out there my dearest friends are dropping from exhaustion or being knocked to the ground. I get frightened myself when I think of close friends who are now at the mercy of the cruellest monsters

ever to stalk the earth. And all because they're Jews."

During the day, they must stay exceptionally quiet. The office is open, and if anyone hears them, it will most likely mean their lives. Only the members of the staff closest to Otto are aware of their secret. They provide them with clothing and food. One of these people is Miep Gies, a gentile. She brings the children books from the library so that they may keep up with their schoolwork. Anne keeps herself occupied by writing in her diary. When the book is filled, she writes on anything she can find—stray papers, rags, paper bags. "The nice part is being able to write down all my thoughts and feelings; otherwise, I'd absolute-



ly suffocate."

When no one is in the office, they are able to listen to the radio. On March 29, 1944, Anne hears an announcement stating that the diaries of survivors will be gathered and published. She begins to edit her work.

"Will this year, 1944, bring us victory? We don't know yet. But where there's hope, there's life. It fills us with fresh courage and makes us strong again...Oh Kitty, the best part about the invasion is that I have the feelings that friends are on the way."

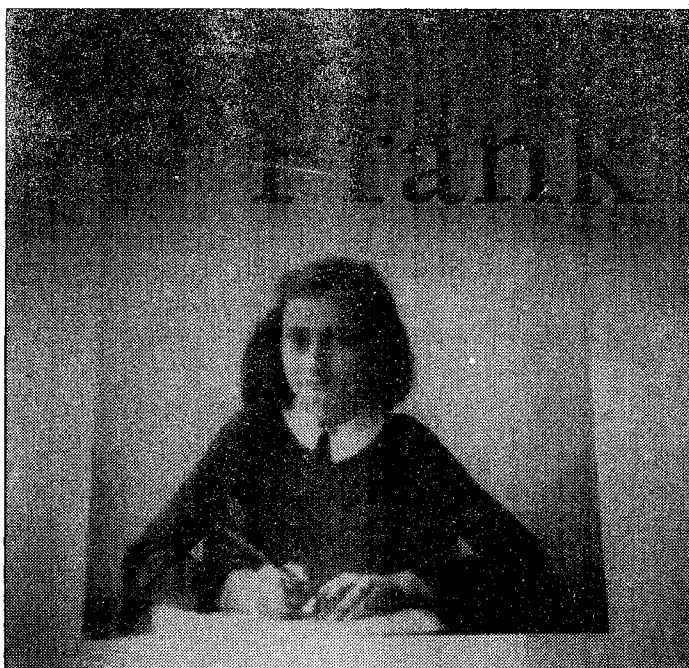
The last entry is dated August 1, 1944. On August 4, four Nazis lead by Karl Silberbauer invade the Annex. All eight of the people living in the Annex are arrested. Silberbauer finds a briefcase and dumps everything in it onto the floor so that he has something to hold the valuables found. Anne's diary is in the pile left behind. Miep Gies and Bep Voskuijl discover it just a few hours later. To this day, no one knows who betrayed them.

Anne and Margot are taken to a concentration camp in Auschwitz. In October 1944, they are moved to Bergen-Belson. Anne's mother is killed. Otto is still alive, yet Anne is not aware of this.

Hannah Pick-Goslar, an old friend of Anne's from school, sees her in Bergen-Belson. They speak through a barbed-wire fence. "It wasn't the same Anne," Hannah later recalls. "She was a broken girl...it was so terrible. She immediately began to cry, and she told me, 'I don't have parents any more...' I always think, if Anne had known her father was still alive, she might have had more strength to survive." Hannah now lives in Israel.

Anne and Margot both get typhus. Margot dies in March 1945. Anne dies a few days later. In early April, British soldiers free the camp.

On June 3, 1945, Otto arrives back in Amsterdam. "I've lost everything except my life," he says. Miep gives him his daughter's diary.





# A HISTORY FOR TODAY

"...After the war, I'd like to publish a book called the Secret Annex," he reads. "It remains to be seen whether I'll succeed, but my diary can serve as the basis."

Otto fulfills her dream.

On June 1947, "Het Achterhuis" ("The Secret Annex") is published. Over 1500 copies are sold.

Otto spends the rest of his life instilling Anne's beliefs in other people. "I have received many thousands of letters. Young people especially always want to know how these terrible things could ever have happened. I answer them as well as I can, and I often finish by saying, 'I hope that Anne's book will have an effect on the rest of your life so that insofar as it is possible in your circumstances, you will work for unity and peace.'"

Otto extends these ideals to minorities other than Jews. "He emphasizes the importance of mutual respect between people with different backgrounds."

Otto passed away in 1980. He was 90-years-old.

Several people, including survivors from

In 1955, a play based on Anne's diary is performed. Otto does not go to see it. It is too painful for him. "The Diary of Anne Frank" is published in 55 different languages.

Approximately 20 million copies are sold. Schools and streets are named in Anne's honor. In 1960, with Miep's help, the Annex is transformed into a museum.

When Miep is interviewed, she says, "Otto Frank took a deep breath and asked, 'Miep, are you willing to take on the responsibility of taking care of us while we are in hiding?'"

"Of course," I answered.

There is a look between two people once or twice in a lifetime that cannot be described by words. That look passed between us. I am not a

Accompanying the compilation are several works of art presented by the 29th Annual Scholars Conference on the Holocaust and the Churches. Organized by art teachers Steve

Pagiavlas and Marc Schimsky, the art is "related to the study of the Holocaust from students at Bellmore-Kennedy High School and Smithtown High School."

"My Father's Words: Let the Houses be the Witnesses," by Kathi Kouguell,

was also put on display. It was a 22-piece art installation containing her father's memoirs concerning the Holocaust.

The entire collection of work at Nassau was not only a way of preserving the past, but of letting spectators vicariously feel the impact of this tragedy. It was deeply moving.

Perhaps this exhibit mirrors best the words of Eleanor Roosevelt. "Where, after all, do universal rights begin? In small places, close to home, so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world...Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere."



Photographs by Joanna Wegielnik

**"WHERE, AFTER ALL, DO UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS BEGIN? IN SMALL PLACES, CLOSE TO HOME, SO CLOSE AND SO SMALL THAT THEY CANNOT BE SEEN ON ANY MAPS OF THE WORLD...UNLESS THESE RIGHTS HAVE MEANING THERE, THEY HAVE LITTLE MEANING ANYWHERE."**

**—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**

the Holocaust and others from various minority groups express opinions, ideas, and experiences that retain these ideals. Their comments, along with their pictures are incorporated into this exhibit.

hero. There is nothing special about me. I was only willing to do what was asked of me and what seemed necessary at the time."

This entire piece is breathtaking, but it is no the only thing that strikes us.

## Cooking with A Dirty Lil' Monkey

By Michael "Monkey" Yeh

Some say that our fascination with using fresh herbs in the kitchen began in Greenwich Village. Californians, on the other hand, attribute the growth of this trend to the creative chefs in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

But let's put bragging rights aside, for modern food packaging and rapid transportation has made it possible for people to get fresh (but overpriced) herbs regularly around the country. The availability of exotic ingredients, from epazote to lemongrass, has introduced us to previously obscure foods like pesto, the now popular Italian herb paste.

Traditionally, pesto is made with basil, grated cheese, garlic, pine nuts, and olive oil. But many cookbook writers today are more adventurous, featuring "pesto" made with coriander, oregano, mint, and other fragrant goodies.

Although I usually stick to the original recipe, I like to work with a mix of basil varieties. Thai basil, which is available in Asian grocery stores, imparts a much stronger but slightly bitter flavor. There is also a variety with dark purple leaves, which gives the sauce a more interesting color. Just try and experiment for yourself, and you might come up with a surprisingly good combination.

### Ingredients:

#### For Pasta

1 cup semolina or all-purpose flour  
1 egg

#### Pesto

1 cup tightly packed basil  
3 tablespoons chopped walnuts  
3 tablespoons grated Romano or Parmesan cheese  
4 cloves garlic  
2 tablespoons pine nuts  
Olive oil

### Doin' It...

#### For Pasta:

Place the flour in a mound on a clean board or pan, and form a well in the center. Drop in the egg, and beat it with a fork, gradually incorporating the flour to make a stiff dough. Knead it for approximately 15 minutes until smooth. If the dough is too dry, water can be added.

Roll the dough out with a rolling pin to form a paper-thin sheet. Sprinkle the top with a little flour, and allow it to dry for 20 minutes. Fold in the sides to form a cylindrical roll, and cut into thin strips. Toss the noodles to separate the strands.

Add the noodles in a large pot of salted water. Bring the water to a boil, and then add a cup of cold water to slow the bubbling. Repeat until the noodles are cooked. (No, you don't have to throw your spaghetti against the wall!)

#### For Pesto Sauce:

Chop basil, walnuts, and garlic in a food processor until the ingredients are finely chopped. (Or if you're really bored, you can use a mortar and pestle.) Stir in enough olive oil to make a smooth paste. Add pine nuts and toss the mixture with the hot pasta.

## FEATURES

# A SHAYNA MAIDEL

By Hilary Vidair

Over the years, there have been countless pieces of literature concerning the Holocaust. "A Shayna Maidel", by Barbara Lebow, is a play about a family torn apart during this time period. Directed by Paul Kassel, this was the third of four shows to be put on by the theatre department this year.

The play begins after the Holocaust has ended. Rose (Liz Bresnak-Arata) is informed by her father, Mordechai (Cory Muscara) that her older sister Luisa (Janelle Gerber) will be arriving from Europe. She is going to be reunited with the family after twenty years of separation. Mordechai then tells Rose that she must take care of her sister, allowing her to live in Rose's apartment and helping her get used to this life in America. This flusters Rose, who can barely remember Luisa.

Shortly thereafter, Luisa arrives. From the very start, there is a great deal of tension. Rose tries her hardest to make her sister feel at home giving Luisa her bedroom and promising to show her around. Luisa, not used to all the frills of middle-class living, is grateful, yet feels very uncomfortable accepting the things she is offered.

Although the setting of the Holocaust sets the historical base for this play, the story focuses not on the tragedy of the Holocaust, but on the difficulties of family reunion. The physical suffering may be over, but the dreadful struggle for emotional stability and family survival is far from over. Both girls must come to terms with their situations—Luisa with her new life and Rose with the roots of her past.

The scenery, by Phillip Baldwin, portrayed Rose's apartment. The atmosphere depicted a typical young girl in her 20's moving out on her own, yet it also held onto the traditions of a Jewish

household.

Peggy Morin, in charge of costuming, conveyed the level of poverty endured by those who suffered through the Holocaust quite realistically. Gerber was dressed in drab garments that hung loosely off her slender body. Hannah wore equally dingy attire.

Yet what really made this show worth seeing was the professional quality of the acting. Muscara made his acting debut in this performance. He performed with true fervor, sometimes playing a caring father and at other times a man withered away by guilt for leaving his family in danger. His Yiddish accent was another notable characteristic. It sounded truly genuine.

Dominick Fortugno played Duvid, Luisa's husband. He showed sincere love for Luisa. He was playful and doting, willing to go to any extreme to be with his wife. His bright smile lit up the stage.

Desiree Giunta played the girls' mother with great intensity. Her role in the play gave the story another dimension. Throughout the show, Luisa had memories of interactions with her mother. These portrayed their strong family ties. Several times, the audience came close to tears.

This flashback technique was also utilized to portray Hannah, played by Tovah Sherman. In a particularly striking scene, Hannah and Luisa are seen together during the Holocaust. They depend on each other for survival, helping each other find food and providing one another with comfort and support. Hannah is extremely ill, and Luisa regrets having to leave her. She dreams of one day discovering that Hannah is still alive and bringing her to America.

Sherman did exceptionally well when playing the part of Hannah as a child. She seemed carefree and full of life. Her cheerful attitude was a welcome addition to the tragedy examined in the

rest of the play.

Bresnak-Arata really had a strong sense of the part she was playing. Toward the end of the show, Mordechai gives Rose a letter sent to her by her mother. As she looks at the paper, Giunta appears and recites the words. Although Bresnak-Arata remained silent, the expression on her face was heartbreaking. She was able to evoke an emotional response from the audience without saying a word.

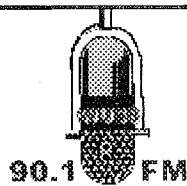
Gerber was truly the highlight of the performance. Last seen in the theatre department's "Bedroom Farce", it is evident that Gerber can play a variety of roles. In this show, she captivates the audience with the memories of her past and her difficulties assimilating into her sister's American lifestyle.

Luisa is not used to having an abundance of food, nice clothing, or a comfortable bed to sleep in. She loves her husband and can not wait to be reunited with him. She is torn between wanting to form a bond with her father, and resenting him for delaying her mother's and her emigration to America. She is a very complex character, filled with both angst and hope.

Gerber did more than justice to this part. Her understanding of Luisa's persona on the emotional, physical, and spiritual levels were outstanding. Aside from the actual text of the play, it was her talent that made the show so deeply moving.

The next show that the department will be producing is "Twelfth Night", directed by Cristina Vaccaro. It will be performed in Theatre II of the Staller Center for the Arts April 15-18 and 22-25. Hopefully, it will be as spectacular as "A Shayna Maidel" was.

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- 5: Takako Minekawa - Cloudy Cloud Calculator (Emperor Norton)
- 6: Tarot Bolero - Vaudeville Rising (Ace Fu)
- 7: Peechees - Life (Kill Rock Stars)
- 8: Mocean Worker - Mixed Emotional Features (Palm Pictures)
- 9: Kiss Offs - Goodbye Private Life (Peek-a-Boo)
- 10: Together as One (Moonshine)
- 11: Joi - One and one is One (Real World)
- 12: Latin Playboys - Dose (Atlantic)
- 13: Cassius - 1999 (Astralwerks)
- 14: Beta Band - The 3 E.P.s (Astralwerks)
- 15: Music Futurists (Rhino)
- 16: Certain General - Signals From the Source (CBGB)
- 17: The Ventures - New Depths (GNP Crescendo)
- 18: Sleater Kinney - The Hot Rock (Kill Rock Stars)
- 19: Frontside (Waxtrax)
- 20: Burning Airlines - Mission Control! (Desoto)
- 21: Pop Romantique (Emperor Norton)
- 22: Jimmy Rogers All-Stars - Blues, Blues, Blues (Atlantic)
- 23: Sly and Robbie - Superthruster (Palm pictures)
- 24: Bigger Dirtier Beats Vol. 2 (Moonshine)
- 25: Mad Professor - Dubtronic (Ras)
- 26: Quintron - These Hands of Mine (Rhinstone)
- 27: Lisa Germano - On the Way Down (Egg)
- 28: Mondo Topless - Get Ready for Action (Dionysus)
- 29: Ani DiFranco - down down down down down (Lecherous babe)
- 30: Charles Mingus - The Clown (Atlantic)

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- Steve Reich - Reich Remixed (Nonesuch)
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# IMAGES & WORDS

By Marlo Allison Del Toro

"The artist really needs encouragement—especially the women artists," says Marcia E. Wiener, the director of the Stony Brook Union Art Gallery. That is also what the current show in the second-floor gallery is supposed to do.

Images & Words is a collection of work from women artists that celebrates women artists during Women's History Month. The show runs through March 18.

Naomi Grossman's two wire torsos—a woman's called "Violated" and a man's called "Power"—are what greets the gallery's visitors as they enter. The two were created using wire bent into script words and twisted together. The male's hunched torso is faced away from the female's, which lies on a white tile floor.

To Grossman, who is a curator of the collection, the pieces are about emotional control, but she says many people read other interpretation into the pieces. A woman who has been sexually assaulted might, Grossman says, read rape into the two pieces.

Someone asked Grossman, "Why do you have 'fearful' on the male?"

She says both pieces have "I want," "I need," "longing," and "loathing" written on them, because both men and women have those qualities. The man also includes: "insecurity," "anything I want I'll have," and "I'll take care of you."

Judy Gelles' three pieces raise the idea of pubescent males' insecurities by combining her then 12-year-old son's words and image.

"You're called a homosexual because a homosexual is someone who's different from everyone else," reads one piece, "...so they can't say you're different because they can't accept someone different, so they have to call you a homosexual."

"That's the worst word that you can call someone [at that age]," Gelles says. She stresses that her now 21-year-old son, who is involved in theatrical productions in college, is straight.

Gelles says her son chose the oversized Little League jock strap that he wore in the pictures, but that she chose which words would go with each of his theatrical and mock-masculine poses.

Alice Sawyer's topiary is, comparatively, feminine. Inside a black veil are white hangers and crumpled high-heels spray-painted red and bronze with black and white contorted paintings of women on the soles and white phrases written on a black background inside. Some of the phrases are: "Starvation Diet," "Stomach Stapling," "Cosmetic Laser," "Lip Outline Tattooing," and "Cellulite Treatment."

The topiary, a tree trained into "unnatural and ornamental shapes," mocks the painful and unnaturally shaped high-heels that fill the hour-glass form. The more than six-foot high topiary—"the height of a very tall woman"—has four black high-heels with rhinestones on its feet, wearing the images of pain that it mocks.

Another woman-identified piece is the installation "Making Space Two" by Winn Rea. It includes a Heavy Duty Large Capacity General Electric washing machine and a Heavy Duty General Electric dryer, with overflowing sheets tumbling out and an assortment of painting brushes, cooking

utensils and children's' clothes hung above them.

Accompanying the visual are two 45 minute tapes. On one are household sounds, like children crying and running water for washing dishes, and on the other is the voice of the artist reading *Meanings* (a 1992 work dedicated to art and motherhood) followed by a short piece written by her.

Rea says, "Installation is a way of working that fits with my life at this time," because it encompasses visuals, noise and the "buzz of confusion." Through installations she has been able to integrate art with her life.

On one of the sheets is painted the phrase, "Mommy time." Mommy time is when Rea's children raise their arms to her, asking for hugs and attention, and say, "Mommy time." This phrase is indicative of the overall expression of "Making Space Two," that an artist's workplace is also a home with responsibilities, like moving the laundry from the laundry basket to the washer to the dryer and then folding and putting it away. The installation is a vision of the real world the artist inhabits.

Several of the other women's pieces are decidedly spiritual. The works by Sybelle Trigoboff, the second gallery curator, are influenced by Judaism and the idea that souls evolve through five worlds. In the fifth world, the physical world, "The soul and the physical aspect have the power to do something," she says.

Trigoboff uses verbs conjugated in Hebrew and English (I learn you learn he learns she learns we learn you learn they learn; I arise you arise he arises she arises we arise you arise they arise), and a series of charcoal abstract books and nude sketches to express what each embodied soul is doing. The words criss-cross the sketches like shadows, making the finished work appear abstract.

Karen Shaw's work, on the other hand, makes the 'coincidental' concrete. Using a process she calls "summantics," a combination of a cabalistic method of interpretation of the scriptures (gematria) and current software systems, Shaw designates a number to each of the letters of the alphabet according to its position (A=1, B=2, C=3...Z=26).

Shaw uses numbers she finds at random, such as on a Lotto ticket, as sums that equate to words to find the inherent meaning or poetry in the number.

In "Summantic Lotto," pins attach little slips of clear plastic with black words written in serif font. It reads, "Beef (18) and (19) ham (22) baked (23) on (29) coal (31) make (30) fine (34) dish (40) beside (44) green (49) jello (59)."

Between Trigoboff's and Shaw's works are three by Paulett Singer. Using wood cuts with the words, "I WILL NOT TAKE THESE THINGS FOR GRANTED," she has printed a series of original and related works. In an interesting spin, in "Quartet & Shadow of the Knot" some of the letters are faded so that only, "I WILL TAKE THE E IN," can be read.

The other works in the show include a quilt with painting and numbered storyline by Faith Ringgold, wooden multi-colored or black houses with accompanying text by Kathi Kouguell, and three compilations of manipulated and recombined text book pages by Susan Kornblum.

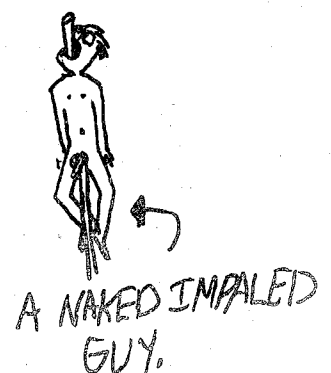
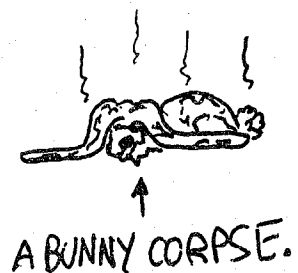
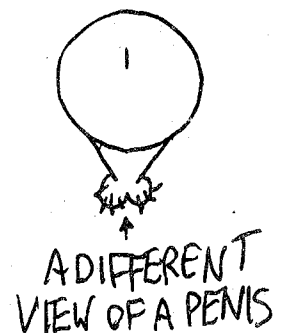
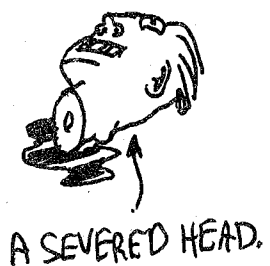
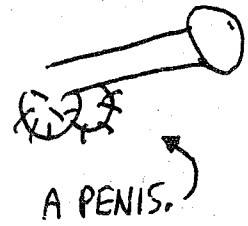
By David Wiernicki

## The Angry Bulldozer

### FEATURES



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