

THE STONY
BROOK



PRESS

Vol. XXIV, Issue 13

"If I didn't see it, it's not a crime"

May 8, 2003

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By Bev Bryan

Professor Malcolm Bowman couldn't recall when he first became concerned about the Ashley Schiff preserve but he said, "I've had a great affinity for the campus forests for years."

Bowman, 60, is Director of undergraduate programs for Stony Brook's Marine Sciences department, a position he has held for two and a half years. Born in Auckland, New Zealand, he got his PhD in engineering and physics at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada and came to the University of Stony Brook in 1971.

He remembers when students protesting the war in Vietnam barricaded the president inside his office for a weekend. "It was a very different place," he said of the University in the 1970's.

He has seen a lot of growth take place here. Some of it he has seen with trepidation. "If we're not careful we'll end up like the Smithhaven mall," he said.

Stony Brook sociology professor Ashley Schiff sought to have the twenty acres of land that bear his name today set aside before his death at the age of 37 in 1969. After his death, his friends and students lobbied to see his goal accomplished as a memorial. John Toll, university vice president at the time, agreed to it. The United States Secretary of the Interior, Stewart Udall, dedicated the memorial preserve.

Two years ago, in discussions with the University Senate committee on the environment, a university vice president, Richard Mann, stated that there was no guarantee the preserve would remain as it is indefinitely. And while President Kenny has said that the preserve will remain intact for her tenure at Stony Brook, there is no formal protection for the forest.

Bowman sees a certain protection in Udall's dedication. "As far as I'm concerned that is absolute," he said. But he recognizes that that may not be enough to protect the forest. "I think we have to be vigilant. We have to watch out that it's not nibbled away by a parking lot here and a storage area there."

"The pressure is to move south as they use up all the spots on the main campus," Bowman said.

The Ashley Schiff preserve is home to box turtles, foxes and flying squirrels. Many trees along the footpaths are labeled for identification. Some of the trees are over 100 years old. A number of professors use the preserve as a teaching tool in classes on the environment and geology, Bowman pointed out, giving it educational as well as aesthetic value.

The strategy Bowman is using is to build

support for permanently protecting the land among students, faculty and staff. He would like to see a legal covenant in place.

He has been working to these ends in the university senate for two years. "In a way we act as sort of the conscience of the campus," he said of the university senate. He introduced a resolution against the war that was tabled at the last meeting. Soon the Senate will open discussion on what to do about tuition hikes.

In 2001, the Senate passed two resolutions designed to protect campus forests. One declared the forests on campus "living treasures". The other called for the establishment of a

campus conservancy. This would require help from the administration. "We would like to think that they would work with us in setting up a non-profit organization," Bowman said. The conservancy project would be funded through donations from alumni. The hope is that the project will be considered part of the upcoming fund drive.

One university vice president, Bill Simmons, has asked members of the committee on the environment to organize walking tours for alumni through the forests as a way of getting them interested in protecting them.

Funds would be used to cover administrative costs, organize nature tours and non-credit courses that use the forests and possibly put out a newsletter. Bowman also described a need to better announce the existence of the Ashley Schiff preserve. Now there is only a bent white sign near one entrance. It reads: Take Only Pictures, Leave Only Footprints. He feels three more would be adequate.

Another possibility for raising funds would be to allow donors to dedicate certain trees to a departed loved one. This would not only raise funds but also help to protect the trees directly.

Bowman wants to see all of the forest on campus protected but believes it is most important to begin with the Ashley Schiff preserve. One reason is that it has already been designated as protected land. Another is that it is the most vulnerable of the campus forests. It is located closest to campus to the south and borders on Roth quad. It would be easy to develop being so close to the roads. "Sometimes it's just the economics of things that will save it," Bowman said, referring to the

other less accessible forests like the one labeled Clara's Forest on the map.

A website is under production that aims to educate the campus community about the Ashley Schiff Preserve. It would include biographical information about Ashley Schiff as well as maps and other details about the forest itself. According to Bowman's intern, Kevin Bilyk, however, the site won't be ready for several weeks.

"The question is: how big should this university become?" said Bowman. He indicated that he felt

the campus could definitely become too big. "Land use is affected by future projections of growth. So, in a way, we are a microcosm of the world," he said.

He clarified his position by saying: "We're not against development. The campus needs to prosper. We're after smart development and preserving as much of the natural area as possible."

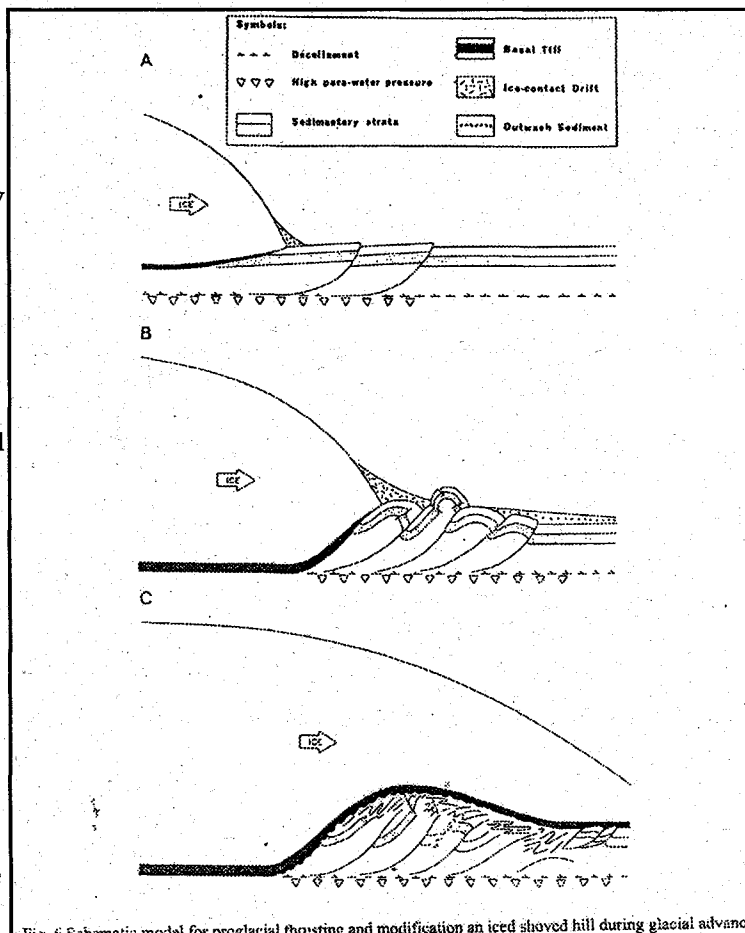
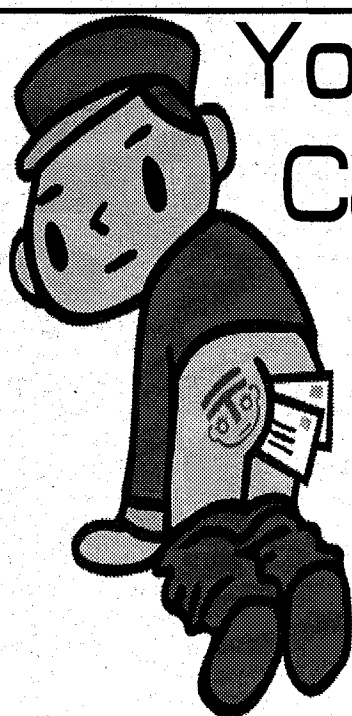


Fig. 6 Schematic model for proglacial thrusting and modification of an ice-shoved hill during glacial advance.



You Wanna Know Where You Can Stick Your Opinions?

(hint: It Rhymes With "Stained-Glasshole")

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Take-Out Democracy

By Bev Bryan

Kai-Li Chinese food, located on Main street in Setauket, has a courteous sign reading: "Chinese Food has a lot of sauce please don't put it on your car seats." There are a few tables where customers can eat or rest while they wait for their orders but it is primarily a take-out place. The dinnertime crowd was, for the most part, friendly and willing to discuss their feeling about American dissent against the war, if only to relieve the tedium of waiting for their food.

The first was Nancy, 47, of Port Jefferson. She had no doubts. "You want my honest opinion? I don't think it's acceptable at any time. I think if you live in America you should want to fight for your country," she said.

"It weakens our society. If someone doesn't like something the easiest thing to do is to protest," she said citing a group of students in Port Jefferson who had assembled some time ago to protest their class schedules. "These are the rules set in society. I feel very strongly about this." The woman accompanying her nodded.

Gregg Vergith, 20, of Setauket had a large order waiting for him when he arrived but he had time to talk. "I think people can do what they want. If they want to protest they can protest. We've got freedom of speech. I definitely think they should. It doesn't mean I would go to one," he said.

One man who was eager to be interviewed but gave his name as Bill McCullen, letting on it wasn't real. He said he was 57 years old, living in Stony Brook and a Vietnam veteran. He had strong feelings about both war and demonstrating for peace. "I personally believe it should be halted when people are being injured in battle there should be a halt to it," he said.

"In essence, no war is a good war. It's not a nice thing. I can attest to that. It never leaves

your mind," he said and described his own experiences returning from Vietnam:

"It was to the point where I didn't realize what I was doing there but when me and the other guys had to change into civilian clothes before we got out of the aircraft it was very sad."

He said that in wartime, "You want to feel that someone is rooting for you. The more people rooting for you the better." He suggested that in wartime massive public outcry could cost lives. "Because of politics maybe they won't use the bigger bomb, maybe they won't use more men to make it more acceptable to the masses," he said.

Gregg Titus, 17, from Stony Brook was another young man picking up an order. "The protesting right now is too much and I don't think it's going to make much of a difference," he said. He saw nothing inherently wrong with protesting the war but felt that it was unlikely to affect anything. When asked if he felt Americans had a responsibility to support their service men and women over seas he was accepting. "I agree. It's going to happen anyway so you might as well support them," he said.

The busy woman behind the counter, Pink Ym, 30, said she is originally from China but lives in Brooklyn. "Well, Yeah, I guess they are right to protest," she said.

When asked why she felt that way she said, "Because I don't like the war." She said she doesn't like the war because "many people will die for the war."

Peter Kolb is a post-doctorate student in the Stony Brook Physics department. He is from Germany and lives in St. James. When asked if he felt protest was inappropriate in a time of war he answered quickly. "It's certainly not wrong. We're in a democracy. I believe in those demonstrations because it's the only way that we can communi-

cate that not everyone in America has such a strict opinion as George W. Bush does." He had his own take on the possibility that the troops could be hurt by the idea that the whole country is not behind them: "They are there because they have decided to do the job. When I am walking around protesting the war I don't think of the soldiers. They are only doing the job. If you look at the signs no one is attacking the soldiers themselves. They are 'saying support our troops, bring them home.'"

Around nine the traffic coming through Kai-Li started to thin. A quarter mile South, there were even fewer people patronizing Chung-How Chinese kitchen at that hour. Located in a slightly larger strip mall than Kai-Li, it is another take-out place with a few more tables.

Marilyn Vilardo, 44, of Setauket was the only affable customer to come in for some time. She held her shallow box of Chinese food containers as she struggled with the problem. "I have mixed feelings. I do have a nephew that was in the military and I want to support him," she said. Her nephew had just been released from the army and while there had been a bodyguard to General Tommy Franks. He had been present during a number of briefings with the general and came away with the conviction that Saddam Hussein was a criminal and should absolutely be removed from power.

His aunt was more uncertain. She said that growing up during the Vietnam War had shaped her feelings about war and that she saw herself as a pacifist. "I don't think we should be going in without UN approval," she said. "I have a lot of questions. I don't know why they're over there. I don't know if they know."

Is the Media Safe on Campus?

By Jackie Hayes

"I watched a CSS security guard take this guy outside, so I went outside to see what was going on," begins Dustin Herlich, reporter and Managing Editor of the Stony Brook Press, detailing events that took place on April 25th during The Get Up Kids' concert. "The security guard started yelling at me saying, 'Get that thing away from me before I punch you in the face,' referring to my camera." Dustin responded by saying he was from the student media to which the CSS guard replied, "Who the fuck do you think you are? I'm making sure this concert's safe and you're here making the situation worse." Dustin was not the only member of the student media physically threatened by a CSS security guard for recording the events taking place. Leo Borovskiy, production manager of SBU-TV, was also threatened and subsequently filed a police report against the CSS security guard that night along with Dustin Herlich.

Leo Borovskiy was talking with a friend when he noticed two security guards escorting The Get Up Kids' merchandise manager out of the back door. Leo, curious to see what was happening, followed them outside with his camera. The security guard yelled at Leo stating, "What the fuck are you doing with that shit over there?" while another guard yelled, "Take his tape!" At this point Leo said he felt, "beyond scared" but managed to reply, "this is our event, we're allowed to be here." Leo was backing up when the security guard shoved Leo back inside the Ballroom. SBU-TV, along with the SB Press, CSA, and SAFIPC co-sponsored the concert. The media groups involved had cameras along with backstage access, allowing them to report the events taking place.

Ceci Norman, photo editor of the SB Press, also witnessed the incident. She was inside the Union Ballroom near the windows when she, "saw a security guard pull some guy away." She, too, decided to follow the guard, taking pictures once outside. She was asked to leave but watched through the windows as the guard threatened Leo and Dustin.

The escalation between the CSS security guard and The Get Up Kids' merchandise manager began when a security guard approached the merchandise manager asking him his name. Apparently the merchandise manager responded in a vulgar manner saying something to the effect of "Fuck you" or "Fuck off." Two CSS guards, overhearing this, began arguing with him and decided to physically escort him out of the building. The commotion caught the attention of Dustin, Leo, and Ceci, who all witnessed the event and decided to investigate it further.

Leo went back outside a few minutes after being shoved inside after he noticed police had arrived. "I asked the police if I could use the camera, but they seemed too scared to answer me in front of the security guys," states Leo. Later Alexandra Duggan, Director for Student Activities, pulled Leo and Ceci aside, apparently trying to explain why they shouldn't take pictures. According to Leo and Ceci she stated, "I'd rather you guys not use this if you could, it's bad for the university." A CSS guard was behind Duggan while she was talking with Leo and Ceci, also angered, arguing that pictures agitated the situation. Ceci, frightened by the security guard, deleted the pictures she took. Leo did get a video recording of the incident.

When questioned of the incident, Alexandra Duggan denied that anyone was even thrown out during the concert stating, "no one was asked to leave, no one was thrown out." When asked if she had demanded Ceci delete pictures she stated, "I did not ask her to delete pictures. Ceci deleted pictures and I said it was her decision." She also denied that she had asked them not to use the video footage stating, "I asked if we could work together to figure this situation out. The press is allowed to take pictures." Although she denies that the merchandise manager was thrown out, she admits that she saw Ceci delete pictures, that she talked with them, and was willing to work the situation out with them. It is unclear as to the situation she is referring since she denied that anyone was thrown out, despite the fact that there were three eyewitness accounts along with pictures and video footage.

Later that night, when Dustin, Leo, and Ceci went to campus police to file a complaint against the CSS security guard for physically and verbally threatening them, they asked what would happen with their complaint. They were told the report would be "filed." A week later campus police were called again and questioned again on the status of the complaint. They said they didn't have access to the report at the time and wouldn't until the following Monday, therefore they could not say what might happen with the complaint. When questioned on what typically happens to reports of that nature they said they didn't know. They mentioned that Leo and Dustin could decide to press further charges. They could not say definitively what the university was able or willing to do with the complaint.

Editorial: The New USG

Over the years, the Press has had a good many run-ins with the old Student Polity Association. Everything from lost checks, denied purchase orders, and on-the-spot rules, not to mention insufficient voter turn-out, shoddy elections and shoddier candidates have definitely given the Press a jaded view of student government and student politics in general.

The new Undergraduate Student Government, with little to no student interest in candidacy, seems to be starting off on the wrong foot as well. The USG's new Constitution has also given rise to many dissenting voices in the campus community, most specifically from students involved in the clubs and activities on campus. One of their many concerns is that the Constitution was designed by an appointed board, rather than by elected officials. The USG definitely has quite a few kinks to be worked out before all the members of the campus community are satisfied.

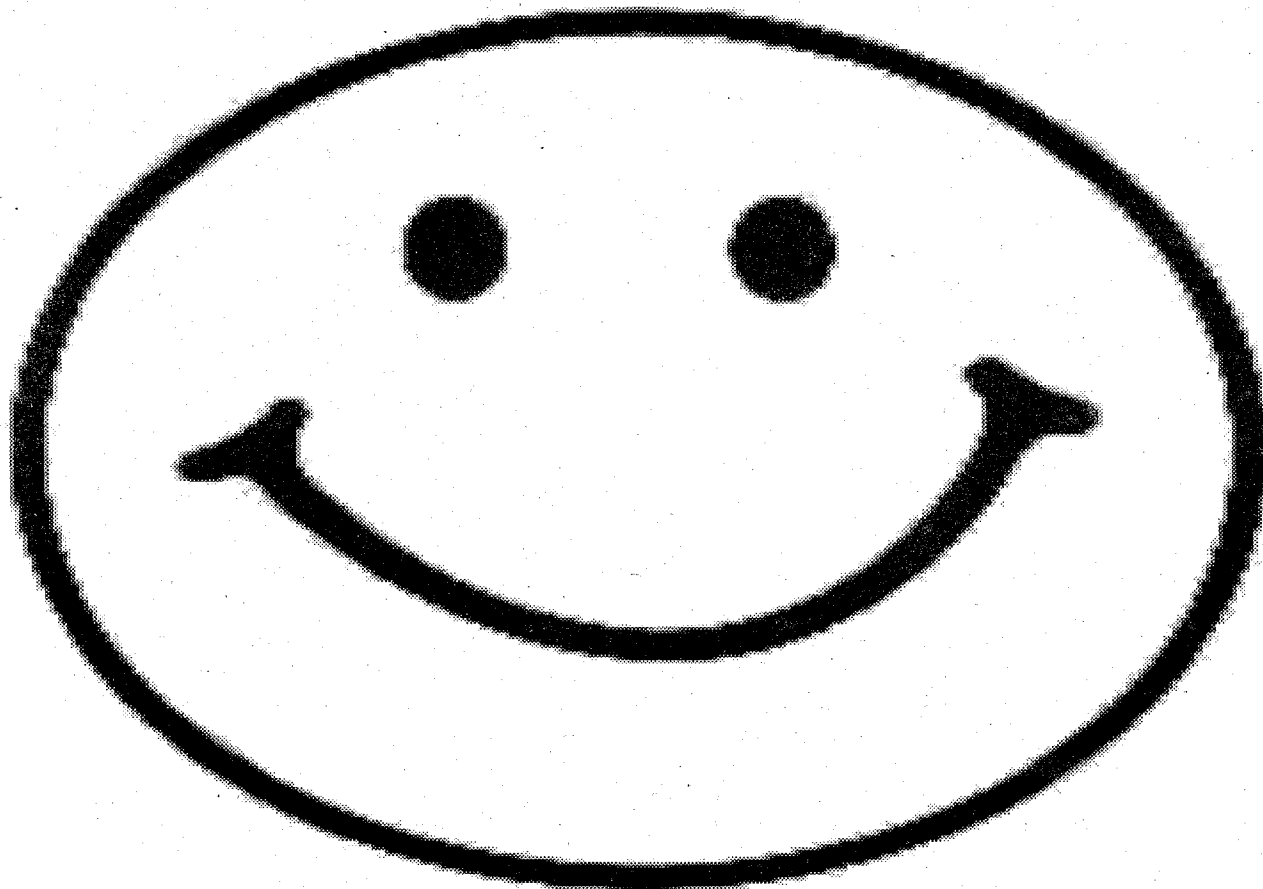
A glaring problem on this campus that everyone is aware of is the total lack of campus events and attractions to keep students interested in staying on campus to do anything. As anyone who has ever been foolish enough to stay on the weekends knows, the campus is a ghost town with little or nothing to hold student interest. Especially in the fall semester, when the weather is gloomy and uninviting, events need to become a reality to fend off boredom and depression. The bureaucracy and red tape that binds everything that any club wants to get done needs to be pared

down significantly in order to encourage and facilitate planned community events. For example, the recent Operation Rock & Awe concert, although successful, took the organizers months of fights and paperwork to organize. Student government's job is to help these activities come to fruition and to help students get through administrative problems. Since right now there is no cohesive student voice, any activities that are planned leave the student on his or her own to fight for the use of what is really our money.

Anyone involved in a student club or activity of any sort can tell you how complicated it is to accomplish anything worthwhile for this campus. The difficulty in this situation is three-fold. The first is that there is no clear chain of command. There are more middlemen than actual people with power. Secondly, the steps an organization must take to do ANYTHING are extremely ambiguous and convoluted. No one, not even administration, seems to know who has to consult which version of no constitution in particular to get results. And thirdly, there's no reason why it has to be like this which leaves people with genuine intentions discouraged and disheartened. It seems as if the obstacles preventing students from making good use of their time, money, and college experience are put in place just to be obstacles, but you didn't hear that from us.

Editorial: Thanks for a great year!

It's been a great year here at *The Press*. We all hope your semesters went well, and that you'll have a great summer. To all our devoted readers, we thank you for all the love, and hope you'll be back next semester to share a little more with us!



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Letter: Whoa

Dear Stony Brook Press,

It's been a while since I've submitted anything for publication. Having lived a life of turmoil and confusion I've found myself in many difficulties that life can afford to those who lack both the diligence and understanding to realize that knowledge is one thing--belief quite another. This paper has printed two of the three previous submissions I have made, and I hope that this one will be printed as well. Here I place myself as being blameworthy for not following my own convictions, those of which I knew to be true regardless of the rebellious onslaughts I've launched against them toward the end of attempting to justify my own will above all others about me and anything higher than myself. In a stupor of pompous self-righteousness and nauseating disregard for the feelings and needs of those near me whom I purported to love I wound up pursuing a different course of love. This was totally toward myself and is thematic of this confessional, one which strives toward love for others as opposed to its counterfeit form of appearing good, while being rotten to the core. Believing in the Lord and having the staying power to see your vision of God's service through requires personal sacrifice. People can't just do whatever they feel like doing at the expense of God others and even themselves with impunity. Everything, every action that one performs is a seed cast that will produce results in both this world and the world to come. There is no luck chance coincidence or accident-- it's all spiritual causality.

Having known what it's like to be mocked for believing, not just the false beliefs that I held (as in two other articles published that I submitted to this newspaper I state that I am a fallen

Christian, fallen by my own fault of heart, claiming full responsibility; since I alone must stand before God on my own behalf, and hope that I might endure and be faithful unto the promise of salvation for all those who believe until the end). Derision never aids those who engage in the same. It's a deception that harms all involved, except for the enemy, who, being a liar and murderer from the start, chose to become condemnation. Neither did our race initially believe of the tumultuous downfall that was laid in the wake of listening to a serpent possessed by a lying spirit, until too late, nor could it have been foreseen by human eyes the calamity that would inevitably strike down the human project with so great a wrath and despair.

Many things could be added to reasons why some fall and others hold steadfast. It is the belief of this person that trying to wing it on your own just won't suffice. This isn't a matter of being religious or moralistic toward the end of securing personal salvation either here or in an eternal sense. Salvation in this world is having salvation upon you and becoming saved when you've endured and made it into the kingdom. Nobody alive today, in this world is saved. You're saved only if you believe and endure-- not before the.

In closing, I thank all of you and hope that you get saved. It isn't easy, as I sure know by realizing that it can be an arduous process, but it's worth it. It's eternity.

Sincerely,
Kevin Jeffrey O'Connell

Letter: Concerts Rock!

Dear Stony Brook Press,

"one night doesn't mean the rest of my life"

The concert was awesome; it was a very interesting scene, to see the union ballroom turn in to a small show. I have been a huge Get Up Kids fan for the past 3 years or so and it was an honor to play a show with them. Beside the muscle head hired security, CSS I think was the company name, which also worked at sports plus during shows and also bullied around people there, and now it is closed down it was an experience that I will never forget.

It was a shame to see the dark side of bureaucracy in effect when the bands were not allowed to share merch due to some kind of overlooked contract that got lost in the mix. Also my friends that came to support the band I am in *The Reformation*, left because of someone pulling the fire alarm. We, the reformation Rob, Chris, Duncan, and I hope to play here again, we thank the Press and SBU TV station for looking out for the local scene and keeping good music alive and well. In the end it all worked out right, and the show was a success. next year

it's WHITE SNAKE!!!! WHOOO HOOOO!!!! Jesus Rocks, and Saves at the same time!

I love you

-Phill

Phil,

Thanks for your kind, kind words. The world is a better place since this concert. We here at the press hope that there are more concerts to come, and The Reformation plays at them. Yay concert, Boo shitty Security guards that don't deserve their jobs. Our paper is always happy to support worthwhile events and make life on this campus a little more tolerable.

WE LOVE YOU TOO!!

XOXOXOXOX,
The Press

A Portrait of the Poles

By Michael T. Cesarczyk

Not long ago, while flipping through The New Yorker, I chanced upon an ad for Belvedere Vodka that nearly made my head explode with rage. The picture looked quaint and cozy enough: a faded photograph of two old men in caps and heavy coats carrying a barrel on a bunch of logs down a cobbled street. In the background lies a cavernous building of the Old World. No, what I found to be particularly offensive were the two sentences above the image: "During the Renaissance, Italian artists used oil and canvas to create their masterpieces. The Poles used water and Polish rye." Aside from being a pathetic attempt at complimenting another culture, it is also a blatant example of the derogatory way in which Poles are depicted in the American (as well as foreign) media and academia. In fact, many Americans are instilled with the idea that Poland's four major contributions to world civilization are alcohol, kielbasa, concentration camps and the inspiration for endless Polish jokes.

First of all, let's admit it: when it comes to native talent, Poland does not even approach Italy in terms of Renaissance art (indeed, few countries do). However, its masterpieces dating from that period are certainly not relegated to the medium of "Polish rye and water." The Renaissance was, in fact, the time of Poland's Złoty Wiek, or "Golden Age," when the royal courts became brilliant cosmopolitan centers under its Jagiellonian rulers. In science, it produced Copernicus, the father of modern astronomy, whose groundbreaking heliocentric theory of the solar system gave birth to the Scientific Revolution. Truly a Renaissance man, he was also a lawyer, priest, and doctor who made original contributions to economics and military engineering. In literature, it produced a wealth of authors, the greatest of which is Kochanowski, the father of Polish poetry and the nation's greatest pre-Romantic writer. The beauty, complexity, and range of his verses not only rival those of his better-known contemporaries, Spenser and Tasso, but also include an exquisite translation of the Psalms and the first Polish drama. In statesmanship and philanthropy, Poland benefited from its own "Medici" in the form of the political giant Zamoyski. A Chancellor and Grand Marshall of his country, he rebuilt his native Zamosc as a model Renaissance city and secured its university, the Zamoyski Academy, as one of the leading centers of learning in Eastern Europe. Both the institution and his court drew artists, poets, scholars, and publishers from all over the Continent.

In addition to these and many other brilliant individuals, one must also not overlook the magnificence of the country that nurtured them. The environment was infused with a unique religious toleration (Under the Statute of Kalisz, Poland granted equal protection under the law to Jews – the first instance of such an act in Christian civilization – as early as 1264) and prosperity that enabled Poles to help create some of the most beautiful and enduring cities in Europe. In Kraków, in the sixteenth century, King Sigismund the Old brought over Italian masters to design and build the Wawel Royal Castle and the Wawel Cathedral, official UNESCO World Heritage sites. The great German woodcutter and sculptor, Wit Stwos, also worked there for twenty years, creating his most famous work, the massive altarpiece for St. Mary's Church and the monument of King Kazimierz IV in the Wawel Cathedral.

However, this is a fraction of a history of a country that has either been vastly ignored or grossly misinterpreted. Countless books, periodicals,

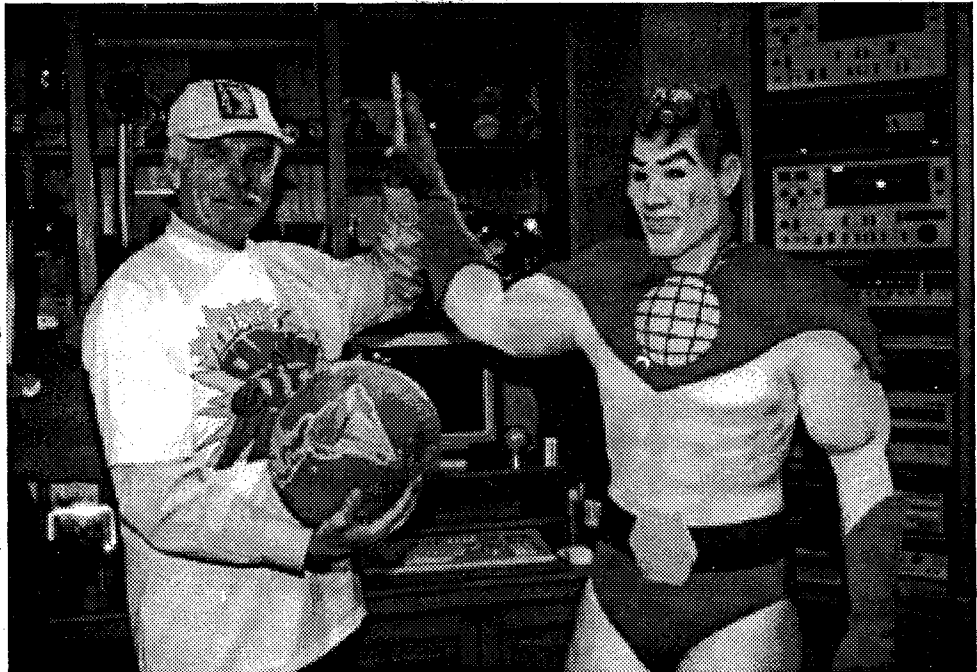
television documentaries, and movies continue to portray Poles as ignorant farmers who collaborated with the Nazis during the Holocaust – a smack in the faces of the Poles who risked their lives by hiding Jews and others in their homes and who composed a majority among nationalities imprisoned in Auschwitz. This apparently means nothing

to media sources such as the New York Rabbi who used his television program to call the Pope a "dumb Polack" and a "vicious anti-Semite" (who has actually apologized on behalf of the Catholic Church for allowing the atrocities of the Holocaust and is a pioneer in inter-faith relations) and appealed to Jews to boycott and not to do business with Poles nor the website www.usajewish.com, which rants: "What a surprise, Poles who hate Jews. After using us for a 1000 years, capitalizing on our talents and feasting on the blood of our women and children, they spat our ashen bodies in the millions. But that is not enough, because, apparently, a few of us have survived the trip and the decrepit bastards can't tolerate it."

Among the more blatant and recent insults are the British film *Enigma*, which contains a Polish villain and portrays the British as the heroes and code-breakers (although Polish cryptologists were actually the first to break the Nazi Enigma code) and the outrageous comments of media personalities such as 60 Minutes' Lesley Stahl and Ted Turner. The latter's insult of the Pope and following definition of a Polish minesweeper (to which he raised his foot in the air) at a public, outdoor event were particularly disturbing because of the distasteful laughter and applause that they drew from his audience of yokels.

This is hardly the attention and respect that befits the largest country in Eastern Europe, especially now with an impending entry into the European Union that has been hotly debated on the world stage. The New York Times has even called it a "potential power-house." By now, any reasonable person must realize that in order to develop a satisfactory knowledge of Poland, one must educate oneself and view all depictions of it in the media, whether in a favorable or unfavorable light, with a critical eye. A good start would be Norman Davies' masterly two-volume "God's Playground: A History of Poland" or Pawel Jasienica's three-volume "History of Poland." If one desires lighter reading, there are also shorter works by Davies such as "Heart of Europe: A Short History of Poland" as well as the monthly periodical, "Polish American Journal," for which I am indebted for much of the information in this article.

What would actually be ideal is a greater opportunity to study Poland in the American educational system beyond the fantasy that it is a nation of anti-Semites. The Polish language class offered by Prof. Kalinowska-Blackwood last semester was highly laudable, but Stony Brook students could also benefit from



courses on Polish history, literature, art, etc. as much as the other European courses currently offered in the university curriculum.

In fact, if there is any idea that one must keep in mind about Poland, it is precisely its immensity in terms of its thousand-year history, variety of culture, faults and achievements and faults that range from those of its medieval kings and saints to the greatest intellects, artists, and leaders of the twentieth century. Among them are Marie Skłodowska-Curie (One of over a dozen of the country's Nobel Prize winners), directors Wajda, Kieslowski, and Polanski, composers Chopin and Penderecki, pianists Rubenstein and Paderewski, painters Matejko and Beksinski, leaders Walesa and Pilsudski, and countless extraordinary writers such as Adam Mickiewicz, Joseph Conrad, Zbigniew Herbert, and Stanislaw Lem, author of *Solaris*.

And yet, ironically enough, Poland's most immense characteristic is identical to that of the United States: a love of and willingness to fight for freedom. Although regarded by many as a mere former Soviet satellite, the country boasts of an older democracy (though not republican in its beginning) than the latter. It began in 1454, when the King agreed that he would neither summon the army nor raise taxes without prior consultation with the nobility, leading to the creation of the Sejm, Poland's Congress. After defeating the Tatars in the Middle Ages, this would sustain the nation's continuing struggles for independence against foreign imperialism through victories against the Turkish siege in Vienna in the 17th century (which saved Christian Europe) and Lenin's Red Army (which saved democratic Europe), three partitions, the Nazi invasion and occupation and finally the horrors of a communist regime. The last ended in the triumph of the trade union, reform movement, and eventually a political party, Solidarity, which led to the first freely elected non-communist government in a Warsaw Pact state. It should also be noted that even after World War II, Poland was the only country in the Eastern bloc in which communist rule was resisted by continuous demonstrations, strikes, and unrest.

This is all, as I have said before, only a fraction of Polish history, but I present it in the hope that it will instill in any one who reads this article a sense of Poland's importance and unique nature. My greatest wish for my own culture and all others is that they have your empathy and that you feel the same dismay at their misrepresentation or lack thereof in the media as if it were your own. After all, we are all heirs to the same heritage and should treat each other accordingly so.

Grad Students Shoot Selves in Financial and Political Feet

By Greg Lubicich

The Graduate Student Organization was allegedly subject to provocateurs who stirred up enough discord that their fee is now voluntary. Evidence for this is the unsubstantiated allegations about candidates on anonymous fliers posted at 2:00 am and 3:45am around campus on the Sunday before the graduate student elections and referenda. Likewise, at similarly early hours people were observed tearing down campaign and referenda fliers. Some of these people may not have been students, and this raises the question of who was paying them for their time. This is the subject on an on going investigation. The down side of all of this is that now administration may be using the voluntary status of the Graduate Student Activity Fee to tell the grad students they have no one (government or otherwise) to represent them in matters of housing, tuition, H1b, INS, TOEFL scores, food, transportation, etc. Well isn't that great! (N.B. this is sarcasm.) It is hard to believe that people with stratospheric GRE scores

could be so fooled and so foolish.

A functional and financed student government provides a public good to all students in that it will serve not only as a check on abuses by admin but also as a source of innovation in policies and programs which state bureaucracies are incapable of matching in both speed and scope. A dysfunctional and financed student government provides the opportunity for public minded students to rid themselves of sell outs, cronies, and crooks thereby reestablishing the public good. Here the words "public good" refer to something that once established is infinitely consumable and those who benefit include multitudes of those who expended no effort to create it. An unfinanced student government allows certain "negative elements" to attempt to claim that undergraduates have no one to represent them in matters of housing, tuition, etc. Hence, even if you don't have the time or the inclination to be involved in student government, at the very least stay informed.

Being informed is a very low energy process, but can be very revealing. For example, the mandatory/voluntary vote for undergraduates didn't need to be held until this fall, so who decided to schedule it for the spring? Contacts at other SUNY schools have stated that the only time the mandatory/voluntary vote comes early is when the administrators want it to fail. Gee why would they want that? Allegations have been made that certain "negative elements" in administration want the Student Activity Fee to fail so that they can step in with the supposed solution of imposing a \$150-\$200+ Recreation Center fee instead. A prior issue of The Press detailed how an architect opined that the proposed Rec Center is \$4 to \$6 million dollars overpriced even by bloated state construction cost standards. The same issue detailed mafia connections that may be related to that cost outrage. Think about these issues when you decide how to vote for the Undergraduate Student Activity Fee.

The Saddamization of Stony Brook

By Greg Lubicich

One candidate for student government office, who declined to be named, stated that an elections board member claims that every flier, every phone mail, every email, every speech, every word spoken or written to constituents has to be pre-approved in writing and stamped by the Elections Board. Goodbye free speech! Hello censorship!

According to an April 29, 2003 memo from the alleged "Undergraduate Student Government", an unspecified person or persons made a change to the purported constitution after it was supposedly approved (there were several irregularities in the election). If one section can be changed after alleged voter approval, then any or all sections could be changed. This means that effectively we do not have a governing document, not even an alleged one. Without a set of consistently applied, generally agreed upon governing principles that are not subject to change, other than by the will of the people, one has rule by decree. Adios consent of the governed! Hola rule by decree!

Even if one believes that the secret meetings, i.e. not open to the public, to write a constitution were desirable (or legal) and that less than one week is enough time to review a 20+ page constitution, one has to admit that under this alleged constitution no new legislators have been elected, so how are rules, i.e. legislation, being passed? The so-called Elections Board is setting rules (and changing rules) despite the fact that they are not legislators, elected or otherwise. Some candidates who were initially told that they were disqualified from the ballot,

pointed out discrepancies that may have allowed them to qualify for a position on the ballot. After it became apparent that these discrepancies might allow a wider choice of candidates, "The Elections Board" canceled by fiat elections for all positions other than president (in an undated, unsigned memo too). Could it be that all the elections in which there was the danger of real competition to the status quo were cancelled? Aufwiedershen freedom of electoral choice! Gutten Tag dictatorship!

Even if one were to accept everything that has gone on so far with the student government (out of laziness, complicity, or ignorance), the supposed edicts of the alleged "Undergraduate Student Government" and the so-called Elections Board mean that the purported president elect was to be the entire government - no legislative branch, no judicial branch, no other executives. The voters were to elect a student government dictator. But in yet another erratic and last minute policy change, as of yet unverified parties allegedly reinstated the elections for the other executive positions sometime before Friday May 2nd at 4:00pm. This last minute erratic shift did not allow for a grievance hearing for those candidates who were denied a position on the ballot. This was originally scheduled as part of the election process. Alamsiki due process and rule of law! Aisei arbitrariness and rule of anarchy!

For those candidates who suddenly found themselves (back?) on the ballot, there was little or no time to make up campaign literature or speeches, never mind get them approved to the censorship

standards of the Elections Board. Likewise, since the print shop that candidates can use closes around 5pm on Fridays there was little or no time for candidates who did have "approved" literature to get it duplicated. A news reporter seeking a list of candidates that would be on the ballot was told, "We can't give out personal information." Candidates had already revealed their names to several hundred petition signers, so the privacy claim may be a bit absurd. Likewise, written verification of who is responsible for certain decisions was not forthcoming. This constellation of behaviors may give the appearance of trying to deny the voters information they need to make informed choices about the candidates and issues. Arrivederci open government! Ciao dictatorship!

After nearly a year of watching the student government play to administration's tune, ask yourself if you know of any clubs that find it any easier to get their money. Ask yourself if the level of service you get is any better. Ask yourself if the alleged executive branch of student government is more open or adheres to the principles of democracy any more than it did before. There are no longer "factions" to be scapegoated for any of this. We may end up with an election and a student government that would make Saddam Hussein proud. It is this author's opinion that the fault for all of this lies squarely on the shoulders of the status quo, "negative elements" in the university administration, and anyone who never bothered to vote in an election when they had the option.

The Pagan Club

meets on *Thursdays*
at **12:30**

in the upstairs cafeteria of the
SAC.

All SBU students are welcome.

Your Tuition Hike, \$6.5 Million at 0% Interest, Administration, and Statesman

By Greg Lubich

What is the Stony Brook Foundation and why did they allegedly have \$6.5 million in cash that was earning zero percent interest? According to <http://ws.cc.stonybrook.edu/sb/sbfoundation.shtml>, the Stony Brook Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit education corporation, was established in 1965 to advance the mission of Stony Brook University by receiving and managing all philanthropic contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and other private-sector donors. Governed by an independent Board of Trustees, the Foundation successfully manages an endowment to ensure the long-term growth and vitality of the University, while generating funds to support current University priorities. Funds contributed to the Stony Brook Foundation promote excellence throughout the University by supporting undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, research, capital projects, and many other mission-essential initiatives. The Foundation accepts gifts in the form of cash, securities, real and personal property, bequests, life insurance, and life income agreements. According to line 46 of the scanned on-line versions of Stony Brook Foundation's IRS Form 990 available at guidestar.org (See reference #1), in fiscal year 2000 Stony Brook Foundation allegedly started with \$7,118,838 in non-interest bearing cash and finished with \$6,501,857. In fiscal year 1999 they allegedly started with \$6,874,105 in non-interest bearing cash. In fiscal year 1998 they allegedly started with \$3,903,094 in non-interest

bearing cash. In fiscal year 1997 they allegedly started with \$4,016,672 in non-interest bearing cash. Clearly keeping large amounts of cash in non-interest financial instruments is not a one-time occurrence. Even at today's low interest rates (2-3% according to <http://www.bankrate.com/brm/rate/>), \$6.5 million could earn \$260,000 over the next two years if it were properly invested. How many professors, TA's, and associated courses could be saved with the interest earned in this year of tuition hikes (\$1200 proposed) and budget cuts (you don't want to know)?

Which accounting firms are mentioned on Stony Brook Foundation's 990 forms? Well, the IRS 990 form from year 2000 lists Arthur Andersen as being paid \$157,200 for "professional services". That's right, folks! Enron's accountant! "Arthur Andersen is convicted of obstruction of justice for impeding investigation by securities regulators into financial debacle at Enron; soon afterward, Andersen informs government that it will cease auditing public companies as soon as end of August, effectively ending life of 89-year-old firm" states the New York Times (See Anderson Guilty in Effort to Block Inquiry on Enron, by Kurt Eichenwald, Business/Financial Desk, June 16, 2002, Sunday, Late Edition - Final, Section 1, Page 1, Column 5 <http://query.nytimes.com/gst/abstract.html?res=FA0C16FC3A580C758DDDAF0894DA404482>)

Who would keep millions in cash in non-

interest bearing account(s)? According to the same scanned on-line versions of Stony Brook Foundation's IRS Form 990 at guidestar.org (See reference #1), several high ranking university accountants and financial managers have an official relationship with Stony Brook Foundation. Some of these people even sign off on the tax forms. A few questions are in order. Which banks, if any, is this money kept at? What is the relationship between these banks and these administrators? Will a forensic accountant or a state or federal attorney general's office make an investigation into this and other practices? At the very least, will any disciplinary action result? Will this money now be put into interest bearing accounts, and where will the interest be spent or invested? Lastly, why didn't you read about this in Statesman? Maybe they just never thought about it. Maybe Statesman also keeps large amounts of cash in non-interest bearing accounts. As previously reported, according to line 46 of the scanned on-line versions of Statesman's IRS Form 990 available at guidestar.org (See reference #1), in approximately the years 1998 to 2001 Statesman allegedly accumulated a grand total of \$108,670 in cash. This amount is listed on the IRS form for 2001 as "Cash-non-interest bearing". How could Statesman report on a questionable practice when they may be doing the exact same thing although admittedly with much less money?

'Primal': A Review

By Joel Hopkins

On view from April 10- April 24 in the Melville Library Gallery was a sculptural exhibition by MFA student Kentaro Totsuka. The second year student showed four different pieces in his first solo show on the Stony Brook campus. Primarily interested in the tensions between organic and synthetic constructions, he wanted to explore the forces of gravity, and the paths natural growth take when these forces act upon them. The show highlighted his wish to remain within traditional attitudes of sculpture, and the craft of sculpture, and also indicated to the viewer the ambitions of this young artist.

In the works 'Drilling Core #1-4' Totsuka represented the subterranean movement of roots. Each work is constructed with a thin wire-mesh frame upon which are molded small fiberglass strips. The strips are secured in place by a polyurethane resin, and the entire piece is colored with graphite applied by brush. The individual pieces resist any description that could easily convey a concrete shape. I am at a loss of words to describe the four "Drilling Core" sculptures using static linguistic elements. Rather, they appear to be the charged record of a potent desire to find sustenance through the searching-out of subterranean passages. One fact that interested Kentaro while constructing these pieces was the fact that roots tend to grow outward and down. However, he was fascinated to learn that in plant research conducted in space, roots do not follow this pattern; rather, they grow in every accessible direction. Terrestrial roots, like sculpture, must carve or push out a niche in space, but one constricted to much of the same natural constraints, as well as the constraints of the gallery and studio.

'Seas' is a sculptural piece that consists of about a dozen or so fiberglass and resinous bodies that sit atop a number of different wooden pedestals of differing heights. Each object was sculpted in the shape similar to an organ in as

much as it had to different cavities similar to those that carry in an carry out the fluids, gases, etc. that organs process or facilitate. Like the pieces in 'Drilling Core', each of the bodies are coated in graphite and the wood that makes up the pedestals are painted black. The numerous levels inhabited by each of the organ-like pieces mimicked, like the subterranean world of 'Drilling Core', the seemingly endless tiers of life in the oceans. While each of the separate spheres of life are basically the same for each, like the identical organ-like make-up of bodily respiration and simply persist by maintaining organic function, they radically differ in the extent to which they can survive in the differing ranges of crushing pressure. On a much more basic, vulgar level, the pieces, through a distribution on different heights, all maintain identities of separate potential energies. That is, each of the different objects in 'Seas' has their own heights from which to plummet.

The center of the gallery was occupied by four different parts of the work entitled 'Armored Stanza.' Unlike 'Drilling Core,' where each of the different pieces push and twist their way through space to make themselves manifest, 'Armored Stanza,' through four different curved sculptures that rise in a curvilinear fashion from the floor, hints at a shell-like area from four different points of the inferred space. A play on words, 'Armored Stanza' points to both a sense of unity, for armor usually covers a single distinct object whether it be a man, a piece of mechanized war-machine, or something as simple as an armadillo, and stanza

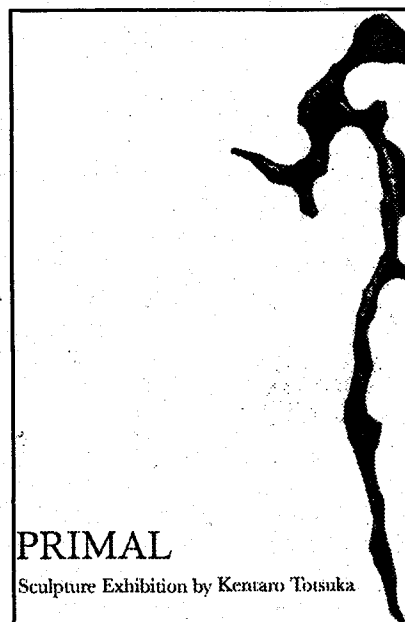
connotes a sense of separate patterns. The stanza is usually, though not always, one of many sections that comprise a poetic work.

The fourth work Totsuka showed during the exhibition was a series of four hemispheres of plaster coated with polyurethane. Each work was placed atop a wide wooden platform painted black, which strongly contrasted with the stark white of the four bulbous pieces. The work, titled 'Uncertain Distance,' emphasized the contrast

between the organic and the synthetic, or, more specifically between the rough and the finished. From each hemisphere plaster crept down from the perfect shape almost like the growth of rust or mineral deposit. The sphere, one of the most perfect geometric shapes, played host to the seemingly random tag-along of coarse natural growth.

I counter the numerous criticisms made about the show in our Art department that Totsuka created a claustrophobic atmosphere in the space through the display of too many pieces by asking whether or not the young artists in the program should utilize the space in a complete aesthetic flow, much like the installation

by Kate Diago in February, or whether they should utilize it for what it is. The space is small, poorly lit, and has a wretched ceiling. I am as welcoming to a highly trained, and immensely talented artist such as Kentaro Totsuka manipulating the space to show as much as possible, as I am to an arrangement of those pieces that create a distinct, composite, flow. The type of program we have should stress artistic production and introspection over hang ups in gallery display.



Cricket Catches On

By Nicole Pesce

Ankur Dhawan smiled fondly remembering his earlier years at Stony Brook University, when he and friends of his would play impromptu games of cricket in the open area between the Staller Center and the Melville Library.

The assorted group of students of mostly Indian and Pakistani descent would also often play games of "street cricket" in the corridors of their dorms with tennis balls. It was a piece of home that they were able to bring with them in attending a new school in a foreign country.

"In India, it's the first sport you play," said teammate Sukhdeep Singh. "The first gift you get [as a boy] is a bat and a ball."

Cricket is a ball-and-bat game played chiefly in Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries, sharing a lot of similarities to baseball.

Cricket is played by two teams of eleven people on a level, oval "pitch". Two wooden cross-pieces resting on three wooden stumps, called wickets, are placed apart near the middle of the field.

A game usually consists of two innings; in one inning, all players on each team bat once in a fixed order.

Dhawan and Singh, realizing that they had enough members to form a team, moved to make a club. Although they received cooperation from both Campus Recreation and Polity, the dissolution of Polity as well as the numerous steps needed to found an organization were often frustrating.

"It's hard to do it all yourself," Dhawan said. "You go to Campus Rec, then Polity, and then Polity sends you elsewhere to different offices."

According to Marie Turchiano, assistant director of Campus Recreation, an interested group fills out a registration form to become an official club. This form is submitted with a list of the executive board members, contact information, and a club constitution to Campus Recreation to be signed off by one of the three advisors: Susan Dimonda, Shawn Cargil, or Turchiano. The paperwork is then sent to the

Polity office.

The procedure to obtain a budget is more involved, as Maria Terrana, the assistant director for student activities, explained. The organization must collect 150 signatures from students around campus in support of their obtaining a budget. The paperwork and signatures are approved by a committee in Polity, and the organization receives the minimum budget of \$750 a semester.

This amount is inadequate for the cricket team's needs, however, when they factor in the costs for transportation, drinks, and food for each match. The mat for the pitcher alone costs \$500, which is two thirds of their semester budget.

For the most part, the members have bucked up to cover equipment and transportation requirements. They plan to ask for more money next semester. They want to fundraise now to raise money for equipment and to go to matches.

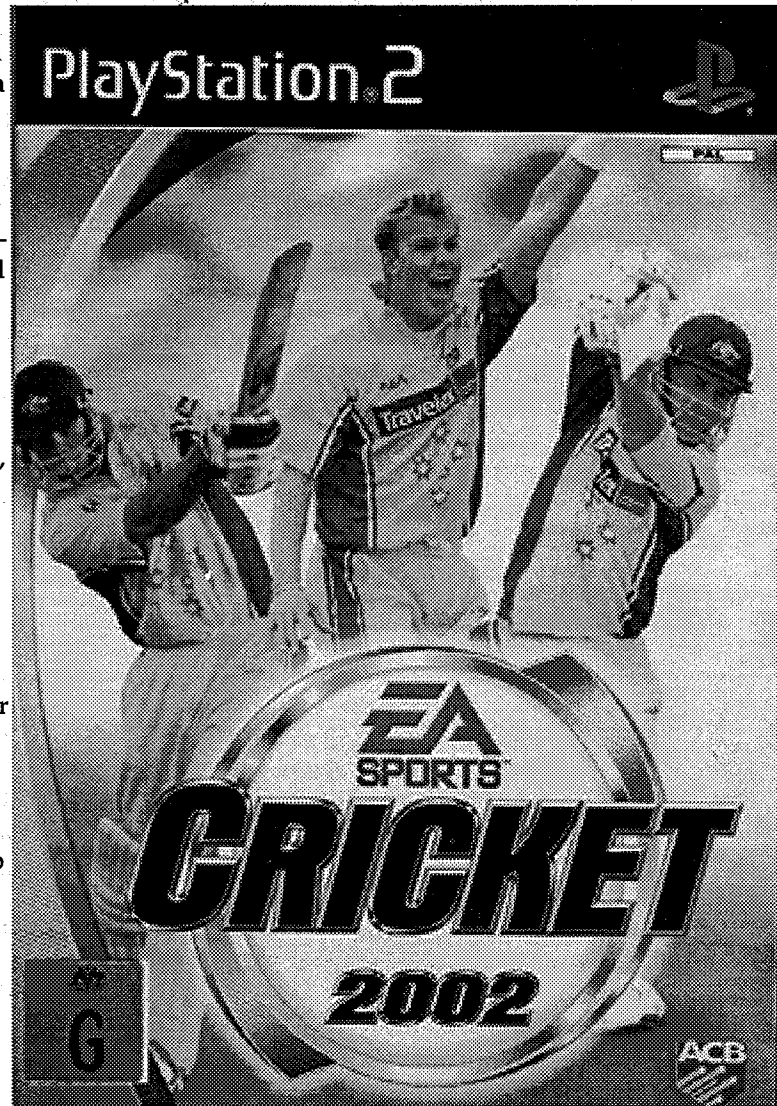
"The budget gets eaten up really fast," Dhawan said.

Despite financial difficulties, however, the team has enjoyed a boom in recruitment. "We're having a lot of fun," Dhawan said. "It's really catching on."

Although only 11 players are needed for a side, between 30 and 35 men meet each Friday at 2:30 to practice on the softball field alongside the old stadium.

Their strength in numbers will hopefully be enough to propel them from their current club status to a more ambitious level.

"We want to get to be a recognized sport on campus—join a league and play a proper cricket season like rugby or baseball," Dhawan said.



In the future they want to have the sport much bigger on campus, and accept anyone who wants to play.

"We are all Indian or Pakistani," Dhawan said. "We're looking for Brits, Australians, and West Indians to play, too. I know they're somewhere."

The Stony Brook cricket club, which does not have a coach, has had a string of victories in their matches this season, including a win against Suffolk Community College.

"People are getting more enthusiastic," Dhawan said. "It's really catching on."

What's A Chomsky?

By Adam Schwartz

Well, that's a fine question. A Chomsky, particularly a Noam Chomsky, is an internationally distinguish philosopher, linguist, and political dissident who has recently graced our humble, quaint little institute with a series of lectures on a variety of topics.

I was able to catch his April 22nd lecture delivered to a packed SAC Ballroom A, during which he addressed Politically Applied Bilingualism as an approach to generative grammar. (I know, it flew right over my head too.) Nonetheless, the crowd he drew had listeners sitting anywhere they could find space. Once the multitude of chairs filled, people could be found in layers against the walls, sitting in rows on the floor, or simply peering into the crowded doorway before deciding to move on. I tried to steal Chomsky's chair but that didn't work out.

Born in Philly back in 1928, Noam Chomsky attended the University of Pennsylvania where he earned his PhD in 1955 after studying Linguistics, Mathematics and Philosophy. He also taught at the Massachusetts Institute of technology for 19 years, has earned honorary doctorates from the University of

London and the University of Chicago and has lectured the world over, from Berkley California to Oxford, on his theories of applied language in political context. (Kind of makes you feel inadequate, doesn't it?)

Aside from these abstract concepts, which left me scratching my head and feeling rather slow, he has been an active critic of U.S. foreign policy since Vietnam. He attributes his views on socialism and anarchism to living in a, "radical Jewish community in NY." His political views, too multifarious to discuss in this forum, are embodied in a series of books and essays reflecting over 40 years of thoughtful reaction to international happenings.

The lecture I sat in on focused mainly on the, "mind/body problem," and the difficulties posed by language as an inadequate means of summarization and symbolization for psychological processes. He cited such influential Philosophers as Locke, Hume, and Descartes as he discussed this, "Theory of Mind."

For the second part of the lecture he turned his attention to America's biggest jackass, President W., and that the fundamental rules of

war, established in large part by the U.S. following WWII, were recently broken during "Operation Iraqi Freedom." He asserts Bush's actions were a "dismantling of the post WWII matrix of international law." Under these agreements the use of force is inadmissible without U.N. Security Council support. He went further by declaring that the violation of these rules by the U.S. gives the tacit assumption that all the U.S. does is good, and that we claim a sovereign right over all other nations by virtue solely of our military might. I didn't even know this was a tacit assumption anymore. (For those of you running to a dictionary, tacit means silent or unspoken.) We are now, by all appearances, a nation that feels it can deal with totalitarian governments however it sees fit, holding no regard for the nation as a sovereign entity.

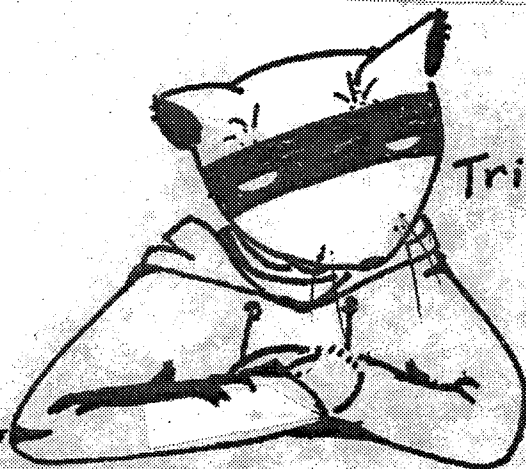
Now that we know what a Chomsky is we can all rest easier and feel very privileged that we were able to host a lecture series by him. If you have further interest on his political views or his theories of Linguistics check out <http://monkeyfist.com/ChomskyArchive/essays> for a comprehensive collection of his writings.

THE COMICS SECTION

you should
just go
looking
for her.



Tried that already.



I was going to do that
today but then I
gathered all my
will and
did nothing.

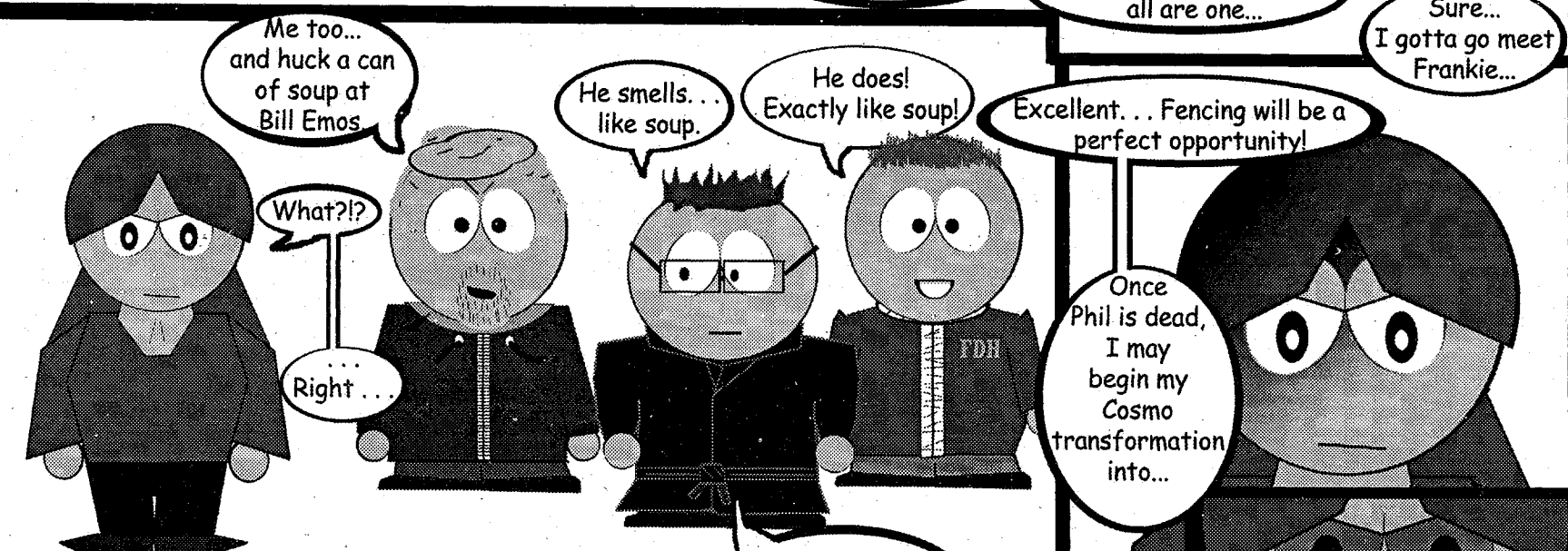
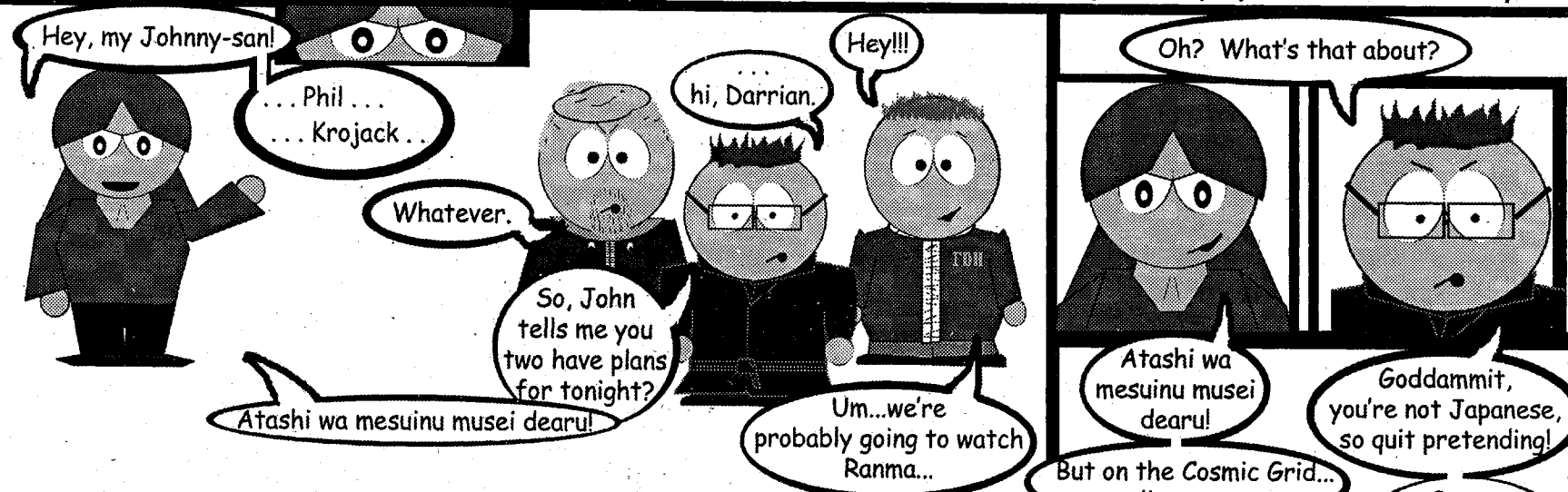


Verbatim

"Heidegger the Fox"

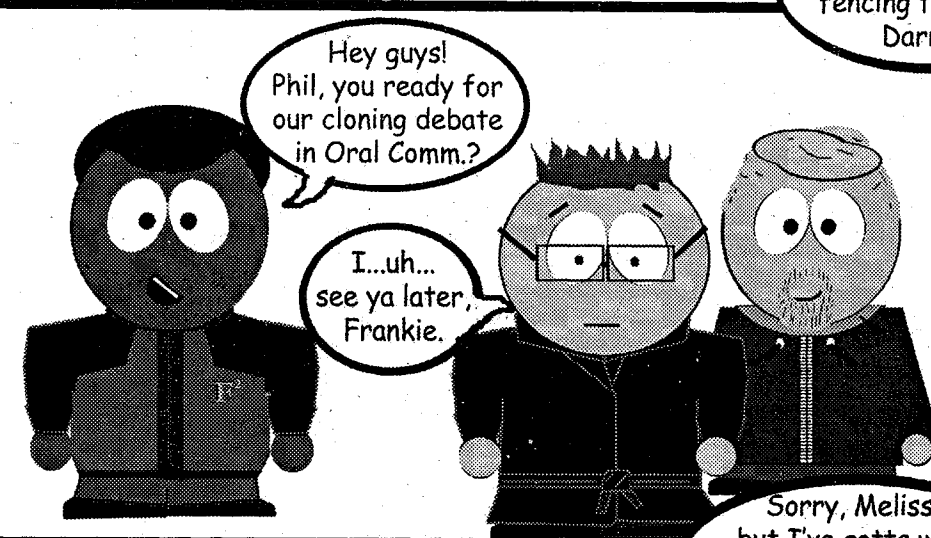
By: Bev

Just then, Darrian, John's girlfriend, showed up. John smiled nervously. I glanced over, warily. Krojack got annoyed for some reason...Meanwhile, there was something floating in the back of my mind, something I'd forgotten to prepare for that fateful day...

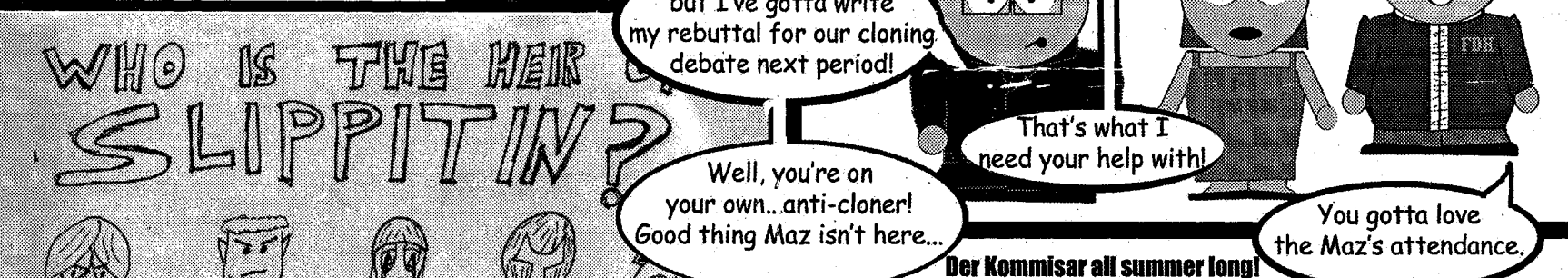


I darted away, Krojack at my side, making sarcastic jabs at the posers we passed in the hall. Then...we found Frank...

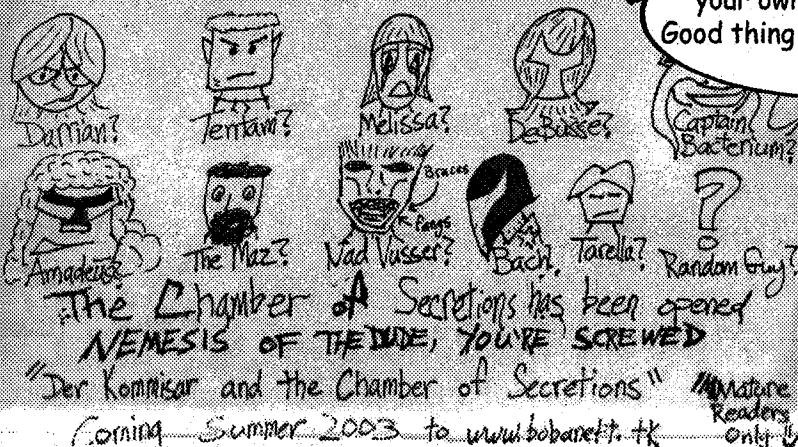
Well, I'm out. Later, J. See you at fencing tomorrow, Darrian.



Second period, Non-Cliche Writing, rolled around, and my rebuttal for the debate still was unwritten... Luckily, Prof. Maz wasn't in, and I wasn't the only one in my group who was unprepared...



WHO IS THE HEIR SLIPPITIN?

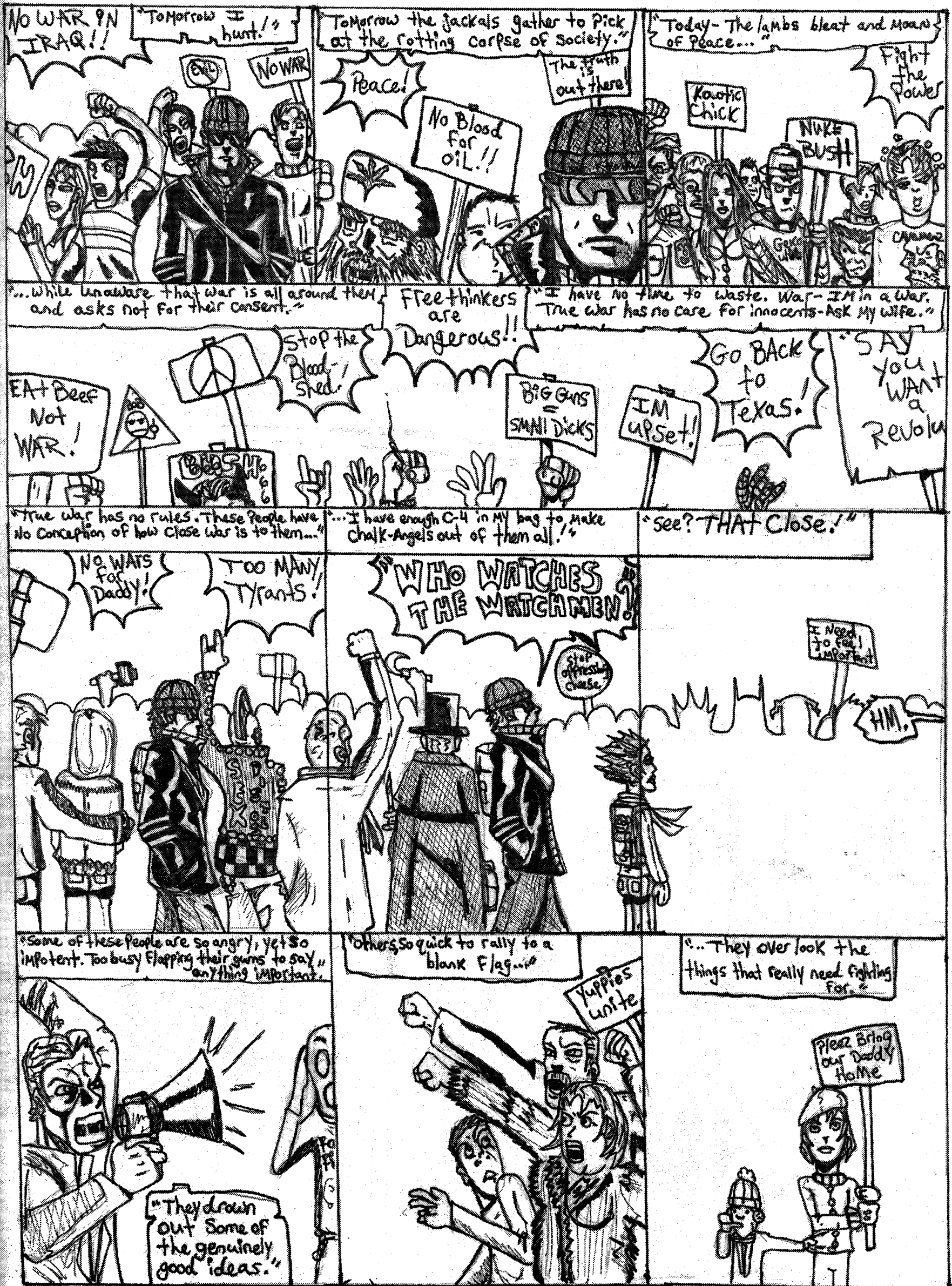


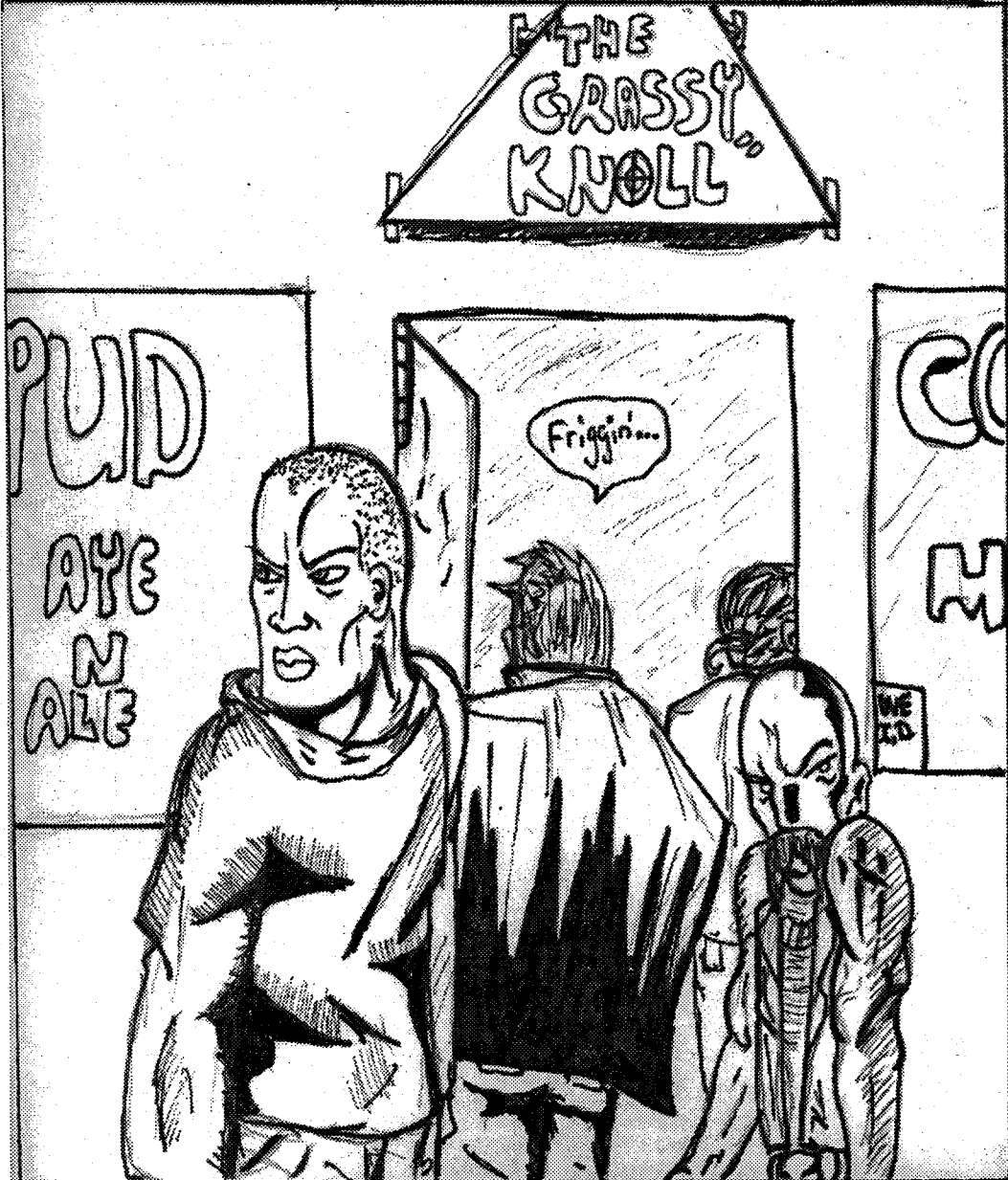
www.bobanett.tk for an off-campus fix, if you're on catch a special in a summer issue of the press! Who will win the debate? Cloners or Anti-Cloners? How about that Darrian - Will I kill off a major character in the 4th issue? I may be that crazy. We really should find out about that... And finally learn the secret of Phil's "genetics project" - all coming in Spring Semester...unless everyone is forced to drop out because of the tuition hike.

This one goes out to the wonderful cast and crew of Betty's Summer Vacation. Thanks for a great run, guys.

BLIND VENGEANCE #3

By Peter Hammarberg
and Aaron Glazer

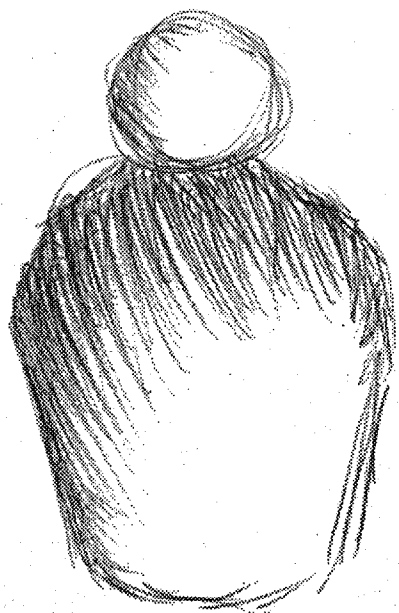






A boy spied a hummingbird
suckling on a flower,

Something special must exist
within its petaled frame



To have been decided upon by the bird
amongst the sea of foliage.

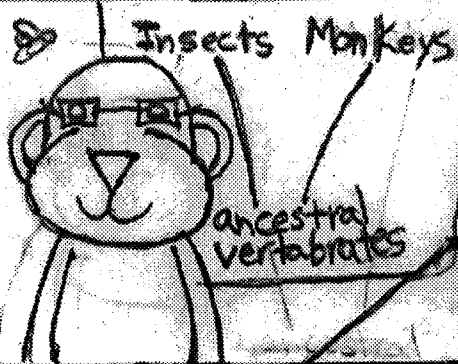
In attempt to grasp this magic,
The boy reached out his hand,

And pulled back thorns and pain,
as blood dripped onto sand.

MONKEY TALES

Pamela Gradowitz

Insects and Monkeys come from
the first ancestral vertebrate.
So in some ways you can think
of insects as our brothers.



Sorry Brother



Domestic Violence

By Linda Colosi

NIMBY!!! Yes--domestic violence is in your backyard. Domestic violence statistics show a higher incident rate of violence against immigrant women. Domestic violence knows no barriers, be it ethnicity, race, age, religion or socioeconomic status and can include physical violence, coercion, intimidation, isolation, emotional, sexual or economic abuse.

We all have visions of a globally diverse community rich with equal opportunity for all. Unfortunately the transition phases of social migration are fraught with uncertainty and isolation. For victims of domestic abuse, the transition is much more difficult. Why? One of the reasons the incidence of domestic violence is more prevalent among immigrant women is that they lack a solid support network and they lack the resources describing how and where to seek assistance. Because of their immigration status, they are socially alienated and have serious limitations including language barriers, limited employment skills and lower income levels. Battered immigrants may experience negative experiences with an aloof law enforcement agency. 83% of battered immigrants do not contact the police for help regarding issues of domestic violence.

The Violence Against Women Act 2000 (VAWA) was enacted by Congress to help victims.

The law was drafted after immigration attorneys, women advocates and domestic violence attorneys joined forces to create laws to protect immigrant women from domestic violence. Under VAWA 2000 two visas for non-citizen victims of crime have been established--the U and T visas. The U visa is designed for non-citizen crime victims who have endured physical or mental abuse. Crimes against them include: rape, torture, incest, domestic violence, sexual assault, abusive sexual contact, prostitution, sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation, being held hostage, involuntary servitude, slave trade, kidnapping, abduction blackmail, murder, felonious assault.

Why should you care? Maybe you know someone who knows someone who is a victim. Maybe your mother, your sister, your friend. Within the community of a culturally rich and diverse campus, chances are greater that you may be associated with a recent immigrant who is a victim of domestic abuse. What are the warning signs? Is your friend humiliated by her partner? Does she decline invitations for fear of retribution? Cultural restrictions and traditions may border on abuse. Some cultures employ strict rules for women. The concept of obedience for the sake of culture or religion may leave a battered immigrant feeling that she does not have the right to disobey

her husband or parent.

Could you be a victim and not realize it? Do you change your behavior because you are afraid of a fight? Do some events make you feel afraid? Has someone hurt or threatened you or your pets? Does a parent or boyfriend destroy objects out of frustration? Have you ever been stopped from leaving the home? Have you been forced to have sex? Does your boyfriend have a drug problem? If you answered yes to some of these questions, you may be a victim.

The best defense against domestic violence is knowledge; knowledge about where to go for help. You can make a difference - if you know someone who is a victim or knows a victim, share this valuable information with them. Help make the transition into a new life a better life. Help make the globalization experience a positive, supportive one. The National Domestic Violence Hotline provides information in up to 140 languages (800) 799-SAFE (7233). The American Bar Association can put you in touch with legal counselors. For questions about the National Immigration Project of the National Lawyer's Guild call 617-227-9727 or visit the website at nip-gail@nlg.org.

Bloodline Music

By Doug Williams

Field Day, a two-day music, arts and camping festival, will take place Saturday, June 7th and Sunday, June 8th at the Enterprise Park at Calverton, 70 miles east of New York City, and 9 miles west of Riverhead, in Calverton, New York, on Long Island's North Fork.

Radiohead and Beastie Boys will headline June 7th and 8th, respectively. Other acts playing the fest include Spiritualized, Interpol, Royksopp, Dashboard Confessional, Beth Orton, Sigur Ros, Blur, The Roots, The Streets, Elliott Smith, N.E.R.D., Bright Eyes, and Beck.

The first annual Field Day festival will feature over 30 performers on multiple stages, concessions (including beer and wine), vending, non-profits, and a strong focus on contemporary art and self-expression. Ticket buyers are encouraged to register to create art installations, and group camps with their friends, at www.field-dayfest.com.

Field Day was conceived by Andrew Dreskin, the co-founder, and former president and CEO, of TicketWeb, the first company to sell event tickets over the Internet. TicketWeb had a diverse

roster of over 800 clients including the Louvre Museum, the Bowery Ballroom and the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra when it was acquired by Ticketmaster in a deal valued at approximately \$35.2 million.

The idea behind Field Day was to create a world-class music, arts and camping festival on the East Coast of the United States," states Dreskin. In addition, Dreskin goes on to say, "Field Day is the product of our desire to present a different kind of festival, one that melds music, contemporary art and freedom of expression. In some ways, Field Day is a sociological experiment. We hope ticket buyers use Field Day as a platform for self-expression. They can register to create art installations, and group camps with their friends. I bet we'll see some pretty interesting costumes out there."

Much of the talent buying duties for Field Day are being handled by Bravo Entertainment, one of the United States' fastest growing concert promoters. Bravo Entertainment and Dreskin are the largest shareholders in the Big Easy Concert House, a chain of concert venues in the Pacific

Northwest.

A portion of the proceeds from Field Day will benefit various charities.

It is my hope that this will become a regular annual event out here on Long Island. Elsewhere here on the island, things are still looking alright. Mike Russo from Snake Sound Labs is the proud owner of a 2003 Harley Davidson Fat Boy. He plans on using it in upcoming music videos with his own band. Mr. Russo recently did a recording session with Jim Bosko from The Coffeemen. 'Pray For America' is a thought-provocative tune that praises the work that our military does to protect our freedom here in The United States of America. Jim and the rest of The Coffeemen will be playing at the Columbus Avenue Street Festival in New York City on Saturday, May 17th, from 2:30-6:00pm. A couple of websites with some information on Jim and The Coffeemen are www.mp3.com/the_coffeemen and www.bloodlinemusic.com/jim.

Okay....time to get studying for finals! Rock on.

The Stony Brook Press, harboring fugitives for 23 years.

Define the truth with us.

-Is shaving your head and beard punishment enough for treason?

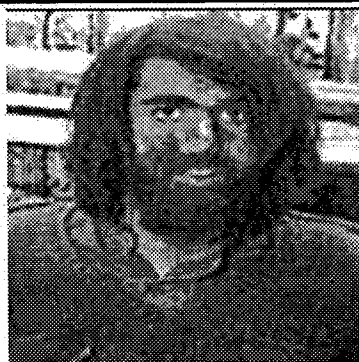
-Why did the Taliban buy up 30% of the world's pretzel stocks on January 1st?

-How did Pat Buchanan's book *Death of the West* end up amongst the flyers dropped on Afganistan?

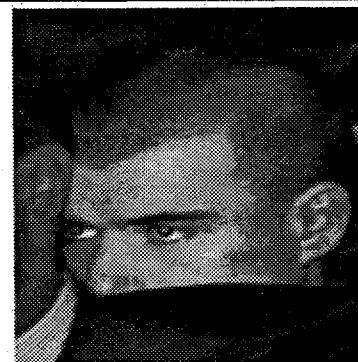
-Which one of the girls in Hanson did I have sex with?

-The Shirley Strun Kenny-Enron connection (c'mon, you know there has to be one).

-Where do we go? where do we go now, Sweet Child, Sweet Child, Sweet Chieeleeld of mine?



John Walker Lindh, Staff Writer. Come join him in our cold and wet basement room. Follow the stench of the corpses to room 060, basement of the Union. Submissions-letters-complaints: stonypress@hotmail.com



SAFIPC, Campus Media & Other Mines: Behind the Scenes of Rock And Awe

By Sam Goldman

First, a disclaimer: I was the founder of Operation: Rock and Awe, the rock show held April 25th at the Union Ballroom. As such, I was there for every SAFIPC meeting, and a great many meetings with SAFIPC's Maria Terrana, and with Godfrey Palaia. My viewpoint is undeniably skewed a little by my bias towards this event, but what I want to impart to you, the reader, is an honest interpretation of the events around me as I saw them. I mean no malice towards (almost) anyone, including those who I claim made bad decisions in the days leading up to Rock And Awe. Okay? Okay then. Word.

Let us begin with March 4th. A rock show in the SAC was taking place that night. It was great, but no one attended, save for The Stony Brook Press. I mentioned my idea for a rock show to my Press mates after seeing the poor attendance at the show, and they, being the gung-ho sort that they are, told me to go for it.

Eventually, I got in contact with Guy Crawford, a member of SAFIPC who had put on the March 4th show. He, too, expressed interest in putting on an end-of-year show, but stressed that we were starting this very, very late, and that we would have to really hurry to put this on. He suggested that I begin to talk to people and get ideas for bands and such.

Eventually a group of sorts was formed that I eventually dubbed the Impromptu Concert Committee, consisting of Guy, myself, and fellow Pressmates Joe Filippazzo, Jackie Hayes, and Ceci Norman.

The original idea was to have it outdoors, and after going over some ideas, an idea formed that we would do it at Roth Quad after the Regatta on April 25th. The first band that we were going after was Thursday, a well-known and well-respected emo/hardcore rock band. As a backup, we had The Get Up Kids, an equally worthy and well-respected band. We knew that there was a competing show on that date, supposedly to be held at the Sports Complex and featuring first Sean Paul, and then later Fat Joe. Guy came to us after about a week and told us that we would have to convince SAFIPC to give us the okay for the concert, and that we should show up at the next SAFIPC meeting to be held at their usual time, Wednesdays at 8 pm, in SAC 219. In the meantime, we secured funding from the Press and SBU TV. Present at our first meeting was Alexandra Duggan, Director of Campus Activities, Maria Terrana, Assistant Director, and several members of the SAFIPC board (Guy included), Press Executive Editor Dan Hofer, SBU TV Production Manager Leo Borovskiy, Godfrey Palaia, and the Concert Committee. After seeing how serious we were about putting this show on, they agreed to at the very least take a hard look at our proposal. In the meantime, we would need to consult with Maria at more and more meetings.

By the time our next SAFIPC meeting came around, we had come to an agreement. The show would either have the Get Up Kids or Thursday. It would be either at Roth Quad or in the Union Ballroom, depending on the weather, and it would be from 6 to 9, so as not to conflict with the other show, and it would be absolutely free for everyone without and sort of restrictions. Since the two shows would have different audiences, Maria did not anticipate any problems, save one: money. If the Fat Joe show were to go through, and the prices for the shows would stand, there was no

way SAFIPC would be able to afford both shows. So we would have to wait until the NEXT SAFIPC meeting to find out if Rock and Awe was to become a reality.

Here is where the fun began. Can't you smell the fun? I sure can.

By the time of our next meeting, we were told that the Fat Joe concert was off. There were "3 strikes" against them; first off, they had no contract with the artist. Secondly, their artist failed the secu-

agreed to let their management book one opener. But the opener they wanted fell through, and after some convincing, we got permission to book 2 openers. One of them, The Reformation, consisted of Stony Brook students who we knew. Phil, whose article you'll probably see in this issue, was mostly our contact. The other band, Casey Scores A Goal, we knew through Joe Flip.

The ad campaign began. Ceci Norman made the original designs, and off we went, swarming the campus like a rash of herpes on Peter North's dick. We were EVERYWHERE, baby. The buzz began to start, as we were getting calls from people to the Press office asking about the show from as far away as Boston. People around campus began to ask us about the show.

Then, just ten days until show time, and the day before the Passover/Easter break, SAFIPC drops the bomb on us again. It seems that, in order to run a show, we had to open the ticket office, and adhere to the following policy: Each Stony Brook student could sign in only 2 off-campus students. Maria suggested that we charge a fee for off-campus students to offset the costs of keeping the ticket office open. We, however, had money to offset

the costs. In a meeting between Joe Flip, Godfrey, and Maria, Joe Flip claims that he reached a verbal agreement with Maria to pay everyone's entry fee, assuring that the show would be absolutely free. Unfortunately, either Maria disregarded this, or she just did not know, because the night of the show, as those who know went, the Ticket Office charged 3 dollars a ticket. But the money is not so much a big deal as the timing, which was absolutely horrible. Ten days before the show? And this after we've begun advertising it as free! Not to mention that having each student sign in two people means that a maximum of 2/3 of the crowd could have been off campus.

The amount actually 'lost' was estimated by Godfrey and Guy at approximately \$27,000 – about 10% of SAFIPC's entire budget. Now, if this is actually true, then someone either at Polity or SAFIPC is guilty of gross incompetence, and should be, at the very least, seriously reprimanded. Let it be said that the only member of SAFIPC that registered any surprise at this announcement was Guy, who was working with us. But, at the very least, we got us the OK to put on a show. The only money we were getting from SAFIPC was the \$8,000 Guy had secured before we had even spoken.

Immediately after the meeting, the Concert Committee sat down and made an agenda. First off, per Maria's orders, we needed a full proposal. Everything had to be worked out – finances, dates, times, openers, the whole kit & caboodle. Secondly, we needed to finalize our deals with either band. And third, we needed more cheddar.

We all went to work. Meetings were every night in the Press office. We kept in touch with Godfrey. We talked to Norm Prusslin, Peter Baigent, Jerry Stein; anyone who we thought could help us. Eventually Godfrey secured some funding from the Commuter Students Association, and we convinced the Press to hook us up with the rest of the cash. Eventually, Thursday dropped out, and The Get Up Kids were booked, under the condition that they would book an opener, and that a venue had to be guaranteed, which meant outside was out, and the Union Ballroom was in. At first, we

Regardless of all these things, the show went off, despite some day-of bullshit, which you'll read about in other articles in this issue. Suffice to say it was a complete success. The show sold out easily, and somewhere between 50 and 100 people were left without tickets. The crowd was great, though subdued due to the night's events, and all three of the acts were absolutely awesome.

As a finale, I'd like to put out a public thank you to everyone at the Press, CSA, SBU TV, SAFIPC, Godfrey, and a special shout out to the Concert Committee. The show rocked. That doesn't mean, though, that we would not like things to change. First off, we'd like for there to be less red tape and paperwork for someone to put on a show. Secondly, due to the incident between Press members and CSS security (which is not the first altercation with CSS), we would like for the University to at the very least re-examine their relationship with them. Lastly, we would like the university to be more transparent with what is done with the money allotted to them every year. What happened to the 27 grand? What is that 3 dollar fee really going to? We plan to ask, but the point is that we should not have to.



Dreiser At The Regatta

By Adam Schlagman

The outlook wasn't brilliant for Dreiser College that day,
The pond was barely filled, with not much water I would say.

And then when The Batmobile slowed down and began to sink,
A pall-like silence fell upon the patrons as the water began to stink.

A straggling few got up to go in deep despair.
The rest clung to that hope which springs eternal in the human breast.
They thought, "maybe with Dreiser's second boat they'd place."
They'd even put up money, cause they predicted a decent race.

Water started leaking in and the Batmobile seemed lost,
But Dreiser's boat would finish no matter what the cost.

So upon the dirty waters, Dreiser was rowing proud and true,
Finishing they must, it was the only thing to do.

But a boat was quickly approaching with a determined crew,
And the Batmobile was dwindling into the murky dew.

And when the race was finished
And man saw what had occurred,
There was the Batmobile in third and the challenger in fourth.

Then from one hundred throats and more there rose a lusty yell;
It rumbled through the pond, it rattled in the dell.

It pounded through the quad and recoiled here and there.
For Dreiser, mighty Dreiser's second boat was near.

There was ease in Dreiser's manner as they lifted the boat in the air
There was pride in Dreiser's bearing as they held it with great care.

And when responding to the cheers, they waved to the crowd,
No stranger could doubt t'was Dreiser who had bowed.

Hundreds of eyes were on them as they stepped into the pond,
A hundred tongues applauded as the teams began to bond.

Then while the cannon was being loaded and gunpowder grounded upon
the hip,

Defiance flashed in Dreiser's eyes, a sneer curled Dreiser's lips.

And now the booming cannon was heard through the air,
And Dreiser jumped in and began rowing right there.

Close by their sturdy ship, the other boats began to speed.
"Keep on rowing," said Dreiser.

"You're going down!" the other boats said.
From the edges of the pond, black with people, there went up a muffled roar,
Like the beating of the storm waves on a stern and distant shore.

"Sink them! Sink the boat!" shouted someone on the side,
and it's likely they'd have sunk them, but Dreiser had more pride.

With water beginning to flow in, great Dreiser's visage shone,
They stilled the rising water, they bade the rowing go on.

Adam signaled to Jon, and once more the oars flew,
But the pond still ignored it, and the water said, "Fuck you!"

"They're sinking!" cried the maddened hundreds, and echo answered,
"They're sinking!"
But one scornful look from Dreiser and the audience was thinking.

They saw their faces grow stern and cold, they saw their muscles strain,
And they knew that Dreiser wouldn't let a boat go by again.

The sneer has fled from Dreiser's lips, their teeth are clenched in hate.
They pound with cruel violence, their oars to determine their fate.

And now the finish is approaching, and now they let it go,
And now the air is shattered by the force of Dreiser's row.

Oh, somewhere in this favored land the sun is shining bright.
The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light.
And, somewhere men are laughing, and little children shout,

But there is no joy in Tabler—
Mighty Dreiser College has sunk.

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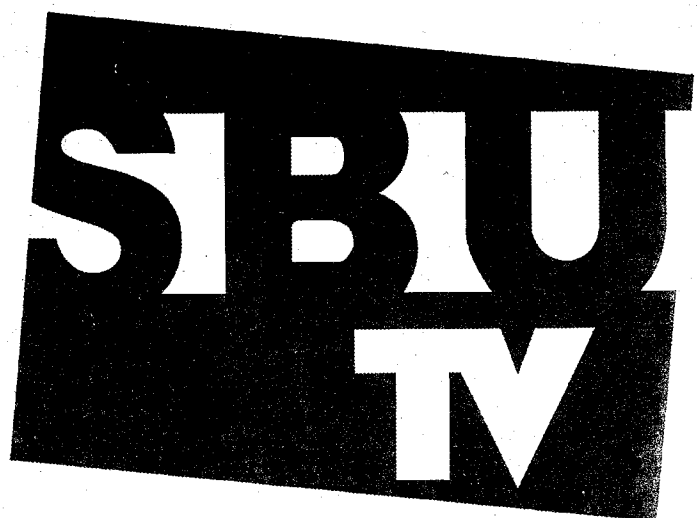
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We are there only for a while

By Tom Sobola

About a month ago I was walking to the SAC dressed up in a suit. Every friend that saw me asked, "What's the occasion?" and I replied, "Interview". The only thing they did not know was that I was the one doing the interviewing. I was on my way to meet a representative of the Polish Humanitarian Organization in United States, Mrs. Ludmila Melior-Yahil. It would not have happened if it were not for an FLC 302 class project. Meeting such an esteemed person made me nervous and excited. Mrs. Yahil showed up at 12.30 PM sharp. She offered me coffee and gave a book about the workings of the organization from which I also managed to write this article. She began to detail the history and philosophy of the first and the largest humanitarian Non-Governmental Organization in Central and Eastern Europe.

Poland gained its independence in the first free elections of 1989. Janina Ochojska, the current president of the Board, founded the EquiLibre foundation. It was a French based organization that has helped Poland since 1984. Ms. Ochojska was one of the foundation's beneficiaries and wanted to support the effort by extending its action to Poland. Already in 1992 the first convoy to Sarajevo left from Poland to aid war stricken Yugoslavia. In 1993 she was awarded the international title of Woman of Europe to which also Mary Robinson (former president of Ireland and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) was nominated. Going to Bosnia was Ms. Ochojska's idea, she'd been there with EquiLibre and the disturbing images of war would not let her return to her previous work as an astronomer. Even though Poland was a poor country itself, she felt compelled to pay it forward and mobilized the citizenry to help others in need. "After 40 years of communism and closure behind the iron curtain we learn how to become an open society seeing needs of others alike us. There is a long way ahead of us to learn democracy - participation and openness for other's problems. Thanks to the PHO, Poland participates in international humanitarian actions and through this changes its view in the world from a country receiving aid to a country giving it to others, that need it more. Participating in those actions, whether it is in the voluntary form or as a donor is a very important occurrence in a country building democracy." (Filozofia. PHO. Ed. Justyna Stepień, 2002-09-07, <http://www.pah.ngo.pl/1965.html>)

Until 1994 all convoys to Bosnia, Serbia and Kosovo were financed by the Polish society and organized within the EquiLibre framework. In 1994 its employees from several cities decided to create an independent organization, which became known as the PHO. The philosophy of PHO is that simple - "To make world better through diminishment of suffering and carrying humanitarian values. To help people in crises, to help them gain prompt self-support and sufficiency and to make them accountable and responsible for their own future. It forms the basics of modern culture of humanitarian help with respect to human dignity." (Filozofia. PHO. Ed. Justyna Stepień, 2002-09-07, <http://www.pah.ngo.pl/1965.html>) "We help irrespective of sides of nationality or the sides of the conflict, races and religions. Help should unite, not divide." (L. Yahil)

"We work with two stages of help. Immediate - necessary to save lives. It is given to victims of armed conflicts and natural catastrophes during or immediately after the event. It is dispensed either at the place of crisis or in places where the population was forced to migrate." (L. Yahil) They reached former Yugoslavia during armed conflict in Serbia, Kosovo, Ingushetia and Bosnia, then Chechnya, floods in Poland, Mozambique, Hungary, Romania, Ukraine, Siberia in Russia, Germany and Czech Republic, earthquakes in Afghanistan and India. "The other kind - long term with permanent missions is for victims of structural and oppressive socio-political systems. This help requires making and maintaining contacts with local partners and conducting societal education programs in those locations." (L. Yahil) Permanent missions include Chechnya, Kosovo, Afghanistan and now of course there is a plan drawn for a mission to Iraq. There are also other recipients for various reasons like Kazakhstan, Lithuania, Turkey and the Ukraine that mostly deal with repatriates, feeding the hungry, liquidating consequences of totalitarianism and fighting homelessness.

I began to wonder where the PHO gets the money to sponsor these endeavors. It turns out most of the money comes from UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) budget. PHO is close partners with UNHCR and UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), and one of the biggest employers through Sarajevo's water program. They deliver around 600 thousand liters of water daily. (One filter 60,000 USD) Clean water is the most wanted product there. PHO also has generous sponsors (Deloitte & Touche, IKEA, UPS, ING, Nestle to name few), but it is ordinary people who represent the majority of contributors. As of recently Ford Foundation donated one million dollars for restructuring of the organization.

In addition to dealing with problems abroad PHO established a Refugee Counseling Center, which cooperates with UNHCR, UNICEF, Helsinki Human Rights Foundation, Amnesty International, Caritas and the Red Cross. It assisted around 3500 foreigners with 500 coming yearly. Since

Poland joined the Geneva Convention on Refugees in 1991, foreigners can seek political asylum there. It is hard to believe that since June 2002, over 26,000 applications were received but only slightly more than 1,500 were approved. The most refugees come from various countries of Asia and Africa. Among them are Armenia, Chechnya, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, Cameroon and others including US, France and Germany! There are also volunteers from Canada, France and USA. PHO helps them to get the status of a refugee, find a job, learn polish, find a place to live and to assimilate to the society. They try to put the emphasis the education of refugee children and local acceptance and local tolerance towards the refugees. Mrs. Ludmila says Refugee counseling center is the most interesting place to be with people coming over with the most incredible and dramatic life stories. One can also learn unexpected things about the countries that refugees come from, like that national food of Somalia is spaghetti, because it was an Italian colony. The workers at the refugee center are satisfied when a refugee comes back after a while and wants to help or give something from himself, or comes to talk and says he is in a relationship or that he is expecting a child. Sometimes they become friends. For example, one of the workers invited 3 refugees to his wedding.

My next question was related to the major impact the PHO has on Sarajevo. It turns out that during the war, customs officials at the borders were very resistant to allowing humanitarian convoys through, afraid they may smuggle in something or someone. Another cause is, that some organizations dropped their load elsewhere than Sarajevo after seeing signs spelling "Welcome to Hell" on canyons of ruins of buildings there. Although some went and nothing could stop them; one guy lied to his wife that he is going on a vacation to Spain. In general it was hard to convince border patrol to let the convoy through and gain their trust at first. Once they would accuse them of illegal border crossing and smuggling weapons and keep them immobile for a week; sometimes they would ask for cigarettes or cold medicine or completely imaginary proof that the cars are not stolen; sometimes they wanted bribes; "sometimes they just want to get to know you, so 'technicians' had to go to talk to them about this and that by a bottle of vodka till they were convinced. Then they started letting us in. After all we are a post-communistic country too and know the language contrary to Western European convoys that even when they have a translator, they just don't get the culture." (L. Yahil) That way 27 convoys altogether, counting 115 trucks helped former Yugoslavia. In the biggest one there were 20 trucks with 380 tons of goods and 178 people! Later on in the conflict UN put embargo on Serbia and all Western European organizations could not get in so the PHO was the only one that did not need visas.

I knew that this war was atrocious, but I actually did not realize that doctors used screwdrivers for surgeries and that their salary was \$10, nurses \$5, that a gallon of gas was \$40, two AA batteries \$10, AK-47 \$95 and grave digging \$60 to name few prices. Snipers shot to everyone, even UN peace troops. Wherever you went, you had to run not to get shot; you had to urinate in the middle of the street because shoulders were mined. War victims said they wish they could be animals, then at least Greenpeace would take care of them, but that they are only people, no help is coming. After all, they lived like animals in pigpens, chicken coops, abandoned factories, train cars or even cemetery chapels. There were no civilian buildings left. They were eating grass for vitamins and selling their own golden teeth for food. In January 2000, a 350 thousand people republic of Ingushetia was flooded with 280 thousand of refugees from Chechnya. Only 40 were admitted to a refugee camp.

"Media tend to be loud about a conflict when it starts and what it is at its peak, but people quickly forget that those conflicts are still going on and that people are suffering even after they are over. PHO tries to avoid the so called 'humanitarian overkill' when at its peak the most help comes and is the most chaotic. They try not to forget about them though when others leave. No one is going to help those people forever" Mrs. Yahil said. "We are there only for a while to help the local people rebuild the old structures with the help of native people and make them self sufficient." (L. Yahil)

Walking back from the interview, I was given a lot to think about. A job of a voluntary is an exciting and a dangerous one. That is not the end of the story, there is much more than that to say about the monumental effort that ordinary people put in voluntary humanitarian help in other countries. If anyone wants to read more about PHO or experience an adventure of a humanitarian voluntary, PHO needs people constantly for convoys and long-term missions in Chechnya Afghanistan and soon Iraq. The requirement is knowledge of English and/or Russian, in addition Dari for Afghanistan and Arabic for Iraq. There is an Internet site in English at <http://www.pah.ngo.pl/> where the interested can contact PHO.

All quotations were translated from polish and may not be the exact verbatim translation.

TOP TEN

Deleted Scenes From X2 to be appearing on the DVD

- 10 Wolverine creeps out Mystique when he asks her to morph into Iceman whilst they fuck
- 9 When Jean Grey applies lipstick with her cleavage
- 8 Storm realizing everyone else is getting a paycheck
- 7 Additional 40 minutes of Wolverine being a badass
- 6 Professor X uses his mind to get a lot of piggy-back rides
- 5 Cerebro actually just a giant Hot Box
- 4 Wolverine cures his own Herpes
- 3 Cyclops becomes annoyed when Prof. X constantly refers to him as "Number One"
- 2 Magneto dies in opening scene, returns later as "Magneto the White"
- 1 New mutant, "Slow", determined to not actually have powers, just Down's Syndrome

Ask Amberly Jane

A Column by Amberly Jane

Can you see the light at the end of the tunnel? This semester has flown by, spring fever is in the air, and students are wearing less and less clothes, making people-watching a nice pastime these torrid days. Beware of the swirling vacuum vortex of school papers that never seem to encompass everything, and exams that are far too cumulative. Summer is fast approaching, the greatest time for celebration, and you can almost smell freedom all around – the faintest whiff of leisure.

I won't lie to you, the last few weeks have been pretty tremendous. Every weekend has been a party, and most nights feel like the weekend. Also, something has recently happened in my life, and I would feel loathe to exclude it from this sex column. It seems that I stumbled into my first three-way scenario this past Saturday with my friend (I'll call him Vincent) and his girlfriend (who I'll call Betty). It was completely spontaneous, harmonious, and without bad feelings – thinking back, I really can't imagine it going any better.

Vincent had a party to celebrate his sister coming home from Toronto – and his sister happened to bring along her girlfriend. The two lovebirds were making out all night, which incidentally contributed to a very erotic evening. The whole shindig turned out to be one huge make-out party, and in the wee hours of the morning, when nearly everyone had left or passed out, Betty pulls me in to the kitchen closet and starts making out with me. Hot. Heavy. "You're so gorgeous," she says, whispering that we should attack Vincent and bring him upstairs for a little tri-fold action. Let me tell you, Betty is beautiful; long dirty-blond hair, almond eyes, perhaps the silkiest skin ever, hour-glass figure, belly-button ring, and lovely, natural, large breasts. Despite this, my first thought is, "Vincent is a friend. Do I want to alter the relationship in a potentially irreversible way?" That thought flew out of my head in 2.5 seconds.

Betty and I fled the closet with dual, totally-transparent, shit-eating grins, and within 10 minutes Betty said she was going to show me where I would be sleeping for the night. We went upstairs, giggling all the way, and settled in on Vincent's bed, kissing and exploring, when Vincent opens the door. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, let me tell you, there is nothing quite as picturesque, as completely telling or wide-eyed or giddy, as a guy walking in to see two hot chicks in his bed waiting for him. Like a kid in a candy store.

I won't go into tremendous detail; I have to save some of the salacious details for myself, but needless to say, there's nothing quite like the feeling of having something done to you – but not knowing who is doing it. Anonymous hands and mouths, valleys of skin, sensory perceptions just jumping off the map. So, so good. (I found out later that I had been Betty's first contact with another female, kissing or otherwise.)

We collapsed hours later with the sun full-on blazing outside. When we woke up, we made bacon, egg and cheese sandwiches, and reminisced about the encounter, none of us able to shake the smiles off our faces.

In fact, I'm still having flashbacks, but enough about me and my menage-a-trois, on with the questions.

Q: Dear Amberly Jane,

Lately, it feels like I'm just dating a random string of men – students, the pizza guy, whatever. One after the other, none of the relationships amounting to anything more than just sex, and none of them lasting very long, either.

And truthfully, I feel like sex doesn't mean anything to me anymore. This is bad, right?

Signed – 'Searching in Roosevelt'

A: Dear 'Searching',

I'm not going to be all sappy and tell you that sex should always mean something, because now and then all you need is some good deep-dick-ing. It's not necessarily bad, but it's probably not good for you, either. It's true, you're young, in college – just getting your Ya-Ya's out, right? I certainly can't fault you for that. But sex shouldn't be equivalent to a handshake.

Years ago, I was in somewhat the same predicament. Last names were a mystery, first names were a blur. I fucked a bunch of stupid men, went back and fucked them all again. When one guy turned to leave, an anonymous other stepped in line to take his foolish place. Back then I thought that every lover spins the same kind of sugar, the only thing that changes is his name. One followed right behind the other, line formed to the right and single-file. But that's no way to be. You can't fuck all your sorrows away. If that's what you're trying to do, then I submit that you're going about it all wrong.

It may be a leap, but I recommend you stay single for awhile. No sex for at least a few months – think of it as extended Lent. After all, if you have sex all the time, there's no room for building up the desire to do so. And in the meantime you can meditate on why you find it necessary to jump from bed to bed. Please, please tell me it's not because you are insecure and need the reassurance of knowing that some random pizza guy wants to bang you.

Q: Dear Amberly Jane,

As a man, is it wrong to be attracted to Montel Williams? He's a former marine, bald, survived Parkinson's, and is the most successful black, male, television host ever. And he deals with a lot of sensitive topics – he's a strong man, a manly man. What do you think?

Signed – Brendan

A: Dear Brendan,

I just spent nearly the entire column talking about my threesome – do you really think I'm going to say that you shouldn't be attracted to whomever you want? For God's sake, man. It's not wrong to be attracted to Montel. I don't necessarily understand it, but far be it from me to stand in the way of such devotion.

There are very few people who are completely 100% straight or 100% not straight. Most of us fall somewhere in between. I honestly feel that, subconsciously or not, nearly everyone has some kind of homosexual tendencies – and as an aside, usually the guys who dispute this with the most ferocity are precisely the ones who frequent www.boytoys.com.

So don't despair, don't let other people dictate your sex or your sexual orientation, and don't try to label yourself. Just go out and find yourself a hairless, progressive, black army-man who has overcome obstacles to succeed. Shouldn't be too hard to find.

Since this is the last column for the semester, I just want to leave you all with some partying thoughts. Have a truly memorable summer and don't do anything I wouldn't do. Now let's break out the tits and whiskey, and I'll see you in the fall.



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Beerfest 2003

Beerfest Spring 2003: "Best of the Fest"

For the past eight years, the greatest minds of Stony Brook have been gathering to rate man's finest beverage, beer. The past categories have included microbreweries, malt liquors, and beers of specific countries. This year's category was "Best of the Fest," a strong line up of eight beerfest winners.

Beer rating works in four categories: Flavor, Bite, Aftertaste, and the exotic "Iquaqi." Iquaqi is the beer taster's wildcard; the "Je ne sais quoi" of a beer.

Musical guests were a first at this year's Beerfest. Tasters had the opportunity to listen to the electro-hip-hop styles of Ghostblazer. Combining the conventions of laptop-electro and clever hip-hop vocals, Ghostblazer is one of a kind. Unfortunately, police and late night drama kept the group from playing a steady set. Organizers hope musical acts will work better next year despite the reactions from this fest's patrons.

Surprisingly, many testers didn't seem to appreciate the unique flavor of beer, while others knew brands once they wet their palate. Again, thanks to all who participated, and lets have a look at those results! (As usual, all comments in their unedited originality)

Beer 1: New Amsterdam

Flavor: 191
Bite: 182
Aftertaste: 179
Iquaqi: 194
Total: 746 (First Place)
Comments:

"A pedestrian brew- Did you pour Evian in this? Dignified, but unambitious."
"This beer should be arrested- arrested for yumyness."

"Amazing Beer. Almost like Boning ur 3rd cousin"

Beer 2: Royal Extra Stout

Flavor: 180
Bite: 154
Aftertaste: 166
Iquaqi: 172
Total: 672 (Fourth Place)
Comments:

"Is this Ibiza? Sweet, fruity- but not a Snapple. Exotic, but a little 'spring break'"
"I made a rainbow once and called it Charlie."
"Tastes like bad, fermented coffee sweetened with Nutrasweet"

Beer 3: Old English 800

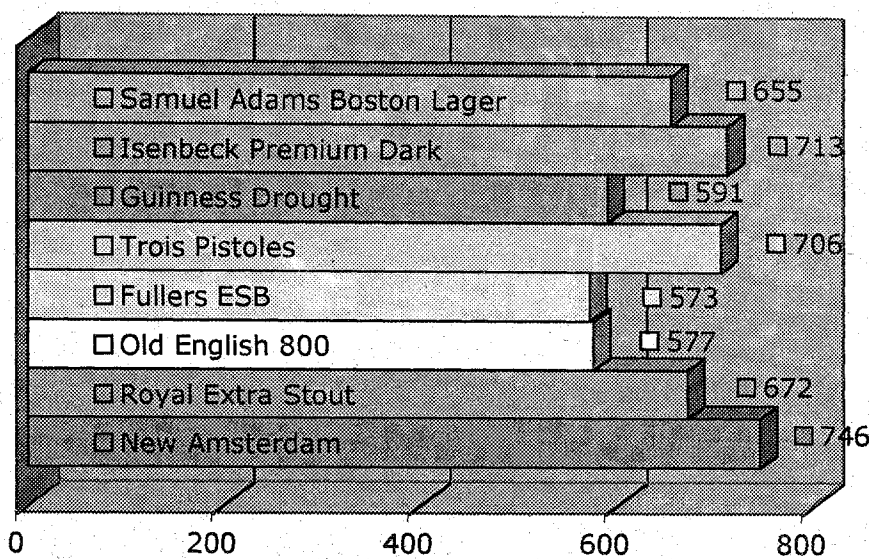
Flavor: 148
Bite: 140
Aftertaste: 149
Iquaqi: 140
Total: 577 (Seventh Place)
Comments:

"You pissed on me! Is this a projects party? Did you pay 37 cents for this swill?"
"good shit- literally"
"Flying Death SARS"

Beer 4: Fullers ESB

Flavor: 155
Bite: 134
Aftertaste: 138
Iquaqi: 146
Total: 573 (Eight Place)
Comments:

Total Points



Points

"I so want to shit in Dan's mouth."
"I vomited in my own mouth once, tasted better."
"Trois femmes Intoxique oui, oui"

Beer 6: Guinness Drought

Flavor: 157
Bite: 135
Aftertaste: 144
Iquaqi: 155
Total: 591 (Sixth Place)
Comments:

"Should be room temperature for you classless pussy"
"Have a Guinness every Day. Have a Guinness every way."
"The beer that refreshes... oh, wait, no... this beer is NOT like this..."

Beer 7: Isenbeck Premium Dark

Flavor: 177
Bite: 172
Aftertaste: 184
Iquaqi: 180
Total: 713 (Second Place)
Comments:

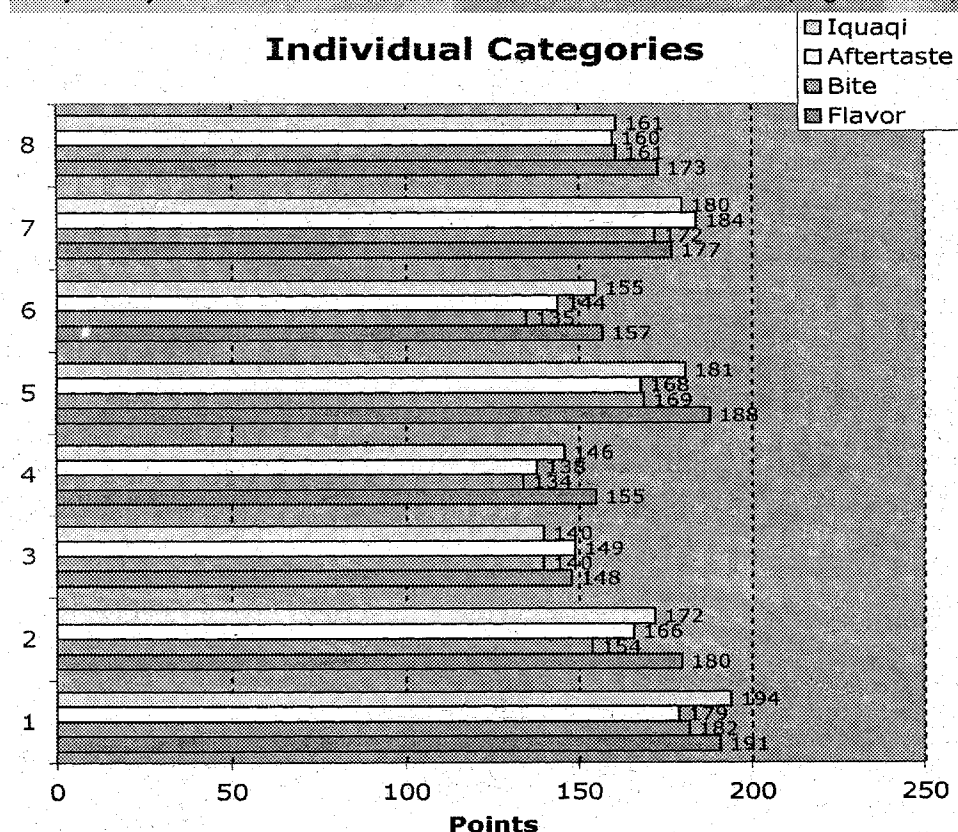
"By now I've realized I have drinking problem"
"I once had a boyscout. His Iquaqi wasn't as flavorfull so I broke his nose and fucked his face hole."
"Tastes like my chances of going home without pussy."

Beer 8: Samuel Adams Boston Lager

Flavor: 173
Bite: 161
Aftertaste: 160
Iquaqi: 161
Total: 655 (Fifth Place)
Comments:

"You drank piss, pissed it out, redeemed the bottle for 5 cents, pissed on that, and let me drink it."
"After 7 beers they all taste the same and I BE WRITIN SLOPPIER"
"I want to fuck Seth. OMG"

Individual Categories



Comments:

"Just like that average kid no one likes really"
"That might be beer. More likely it's the Snapple remix"
"I would fuck the elderly if it meant I never had to taste this again. All of them."