

"Let Each
Become Aware"

Statesman

Monday
December 7, 1987
Volume 31, Number 25

Serving the State University of New York at Stony Brook and its Surrounding Communities

Experts Discuss Dangers of Food Irradiation

By David Avitabile

A panel of experts on food and health discussed the issue of food irradiation at a forum sponsored by NYPIRG in the Union last Thursday. Food irradiation is a preserving process in which food is exposed to gamma radiation from Cesium-137 or Cobalt-60 derived from nuclear waste. The gamma radiation released from these radioactive isotopes disrupts cell division and slows down the ripening process of the food.

On April 18, 1986, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved food irradiation as a method of processing fruits, vegetables, spices and pork. Dr. Frank Young, of the FDA, said that "no toxicological tests of these foods were positive." Not entirely convinced that this process is safe, however, the FDA limited the amount of radiation absorbed doses (Rads) to 100,000 for fruits, vegetables, and pork and three million Rads for spices.

The fact that questions remain about the safety of food irradiation has sparked opposition from NYPIRG, members of the scientific community and members of government.

At the forum, a videotape was presented highlighting a Washington hearing addressing the FDA's decision to use food irradiation. Speaking in favor of the decision was Dr. Frank Young of the FDA. According to Dr. Young, "the decision (to use food irradiation) was made with all cautions taken." Young explained the tests the FDA conducted before approving its use.

The FDA test examined the difference between non-irradiated food and irradiated food and found a ten percent level of unique radiolytic products (products unique to irradiated food), according to Young. Toxicological tests were mandated for foods treated with a level above 100,000 Rads. The FDA committee which conducted the tests recommended that foods treated at levels below 100,000 Rads are not harmful and thus do not require toxicological examination, Young said.

Furthermore, said Young, "The committee believes that food irradiated at the 100,000-Rad level is safe, as no toxicological tests of these foods were positive."

Donald Louria, M.D., of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, and Richard Piconi, president of the Accord Research Education Group spoke against the FDA's decision at the Washington hearing.

Louria called for the use of food irradiation to be halted



Statesman: Daniel Smith

John Savagian and Lorna Salzman answer questions at Irradiation Forum.

until definite conclusions about its safety are reached. He cited the fact that two of the studies were found to be incomplete and that "studies of food irradiation have shown an increase in stillbirths in laboratory rats" while "dogs fed irradiated food for two years had enlarged spleens and lymph nodes."

Piconi said that "the studies of irradiated food are meaningless because of the amount of unidentifiable products unique to irradiated food." Piconi also appealed to the government to rescind its approval of irradiation in the processing of food.

"Without enough proof of the safety of irradiated food, it is irresponsible to expose humans to it," he said.

After the videotape concluded, a discussion was conducted by John Savagian, NYPIRG's Nuclear Issues Organizer, and Lorna Salzman, Educational Director of Food and Water, Inc. Savagian said that out of 69 studies of irradiated

food, only five conclude that the process was not harmful to humans. He added that "food processed at the 100,000-Rad level only has an extended shelf life of two or three days."

Salzman cited the fact that other safety-proven methods of processing foods are being used and that "food irradiation is an unnecessary hazard."

"Radiation has an additive effect and the radioactivity in our environment is growing exponentially," Salzman explained.

According to Savagian, the Bosco Bill, introduced in February in the United State House of Representatives would prohibit further use of food irradiation until all relevant questions regarding safety are answered.

"More public awareness of the use of food irradiation will be helpful in stopping it," said Savagian.

According to Lisa Olshen, NYPIRG's project coordinator, "Each person can make a difference."

Tempers Flare at Financial Aid

By Carmelo Vitello

Many students will get a rude awakening this semester when they go to the Financial Aid Office. Workers at the office have had to tell an increasing number of students that their Guaranteed Student Loans have not been approved. Tempers are already flaring on the financial aid lines.

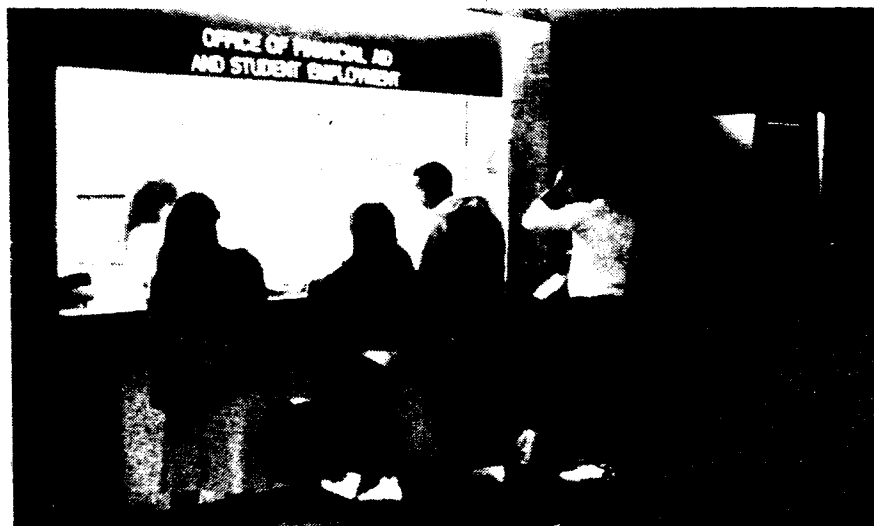
One student was heard saying, "I've turned in these forms three times now! I'm tired of this s---! I want my f---ing loan now!"

That student was taken into the financial aid office where he asked that question most asked by students.

What's happening to my GSL?

"It all boils down to the effects of the Gramm-Rudman act which is cutting into federal funds across the board," said Sherwood Johnson, acting director of Financial Aid. "but it's hitting monies for education especially hard." Add to that the changes in the tax laws and the changes in the way student needs are being reevaluated this year which was brought on by the reauthorized federal Higher Education Act, and there you have it — a student's nightmare come true.

"Many students who were approved



Students wait on line last week at Financial Aid Office.

last year," said Johnson, "will not be approved this year because of the way their needs are being calculated this year. Those same students who are not approved this year may well be approved next year because there will be another change in the way needs will be calculated next year."

How do "student needs" get determined?

When Congress reauthorized the Higher Education Act this past fall they changed the methodology which determines a student's financial needs, according to Johnson. In essence, students get

(continued on page 3)

HELP Tries To "Take Back SB"

By Mary Havemeyer

A student movement entitled "The Day We Take Back Stony Brook" took place in the Union Fireside Lounge on Friday to address issues and policy changes for improving the campus.

The various groups represented at the movement were HELP — Housing, Environmental and Living Problems, who sponsored the movement, SASU — Student Association of the State Universities, the Student Polity Association, and a coalition of the Administration Student Task Forces.

According to Esther Lastique, President of the HELP and SASU Women's Caucus delegate, the day was geared toward student empowerment. "Student empowerment is the key to make a difference. If students feel that their voices can change things then they will stand up and be counted," said Lastique. "We were asking the students to attend the forum on the groups that change policies for the students by the students. Policies that change the way we live," Lastique said.

(continued on page 3)



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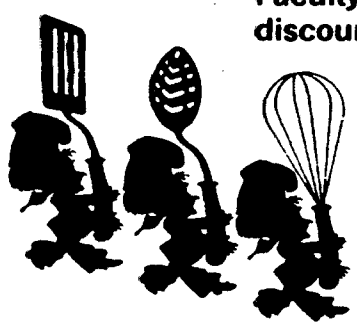
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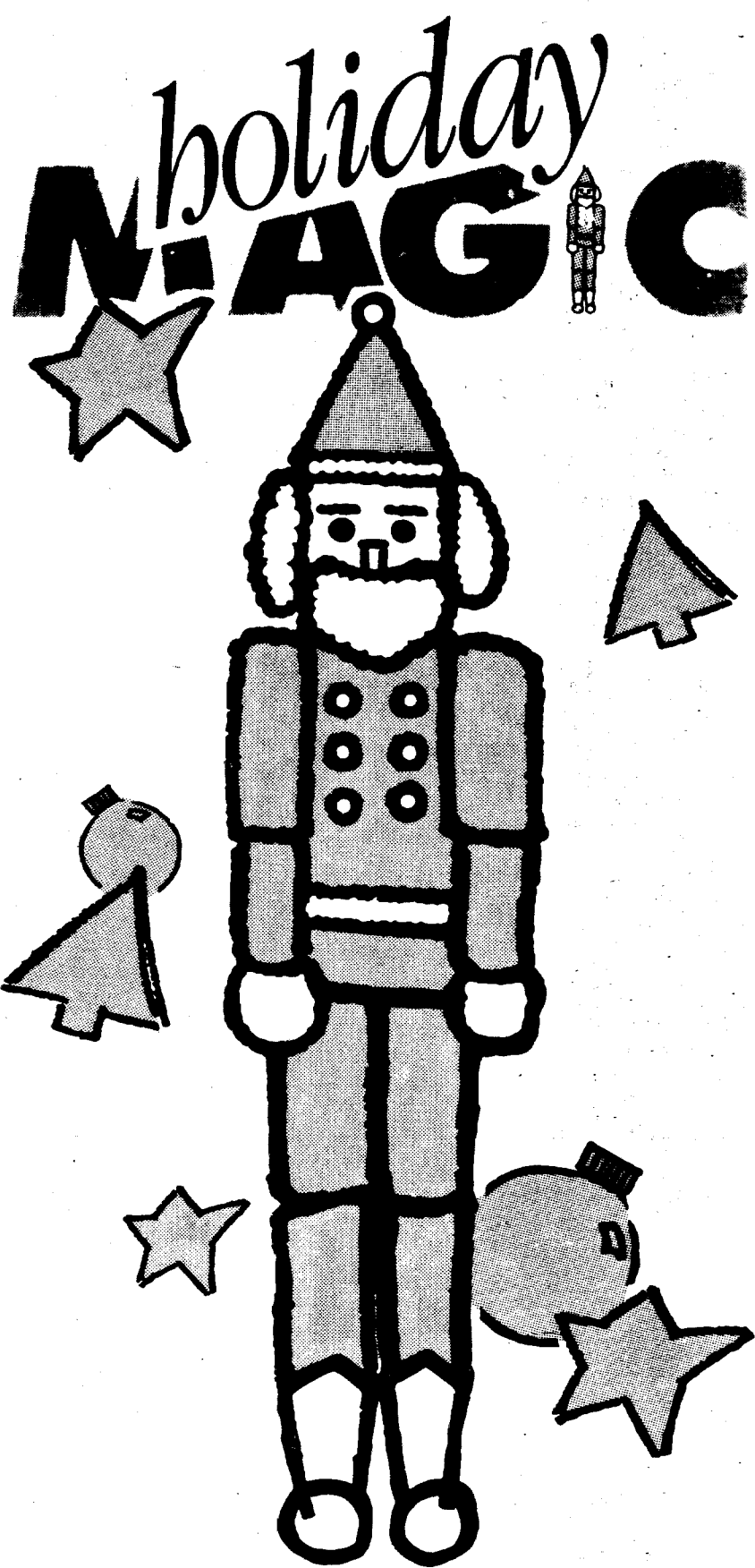
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Dr. Receives Research Award

By Sandra Diamond

A winner of the Presidential Young Investigator award is here at Stony Brook conducting research in the field of biochemics and cell biology.

The award is given by the National Science Foundation each year to one hundred men or women. Rubin said, "By presenting this award, the National Science Foundation is trying to help young scientists develop their research programs." The award will provide Rubin with \$62,000 a year for five years to investigate whatever subject he chooses to study.

Several issues Rubin and his associates will be researching include, "the way cells perceive their physical environment, how they adapt in muscles, and why skeletons are shaped the way they are," he said.

Beside these concerns, the principle concept Rubin said he will study is the fundamental causes of why post menopausal women lose bone mass. Rubin said he wants to try to develop a means of monitoring how much bone strain is experienced during very rigorous activity. Despite what many people believe, Rubin said "bone is a very active, viable tissue that has the potential to adapt."

On the average, he said men have more bone mass than

women. After adults reach their peak at age thirty-five, the material in the bone begins to gradually decrease over the years at approximately equal amount, Rubin said. The only difference, he said, is that women have less marrow at their peak than men. Also, women have a longer lifespan, he said.

Rubin said that by the time adults reach old age, there are so many spaces in their bones that their backs could bend severely out of their normal shape. This results in poor posture, which explains, he said, why elderly women get a "hunched over" appearance. Since men reach this same loss of bone mass at the age of one hundred twenty years, Rubin said, they have no cause to worry.

One procedure Rubin used in his experiments on bones is the use of the electro-magnetic field. He said that electricity is induced when the bone is not being bent.

Rubin's advice to avoid skeletal problems later in life is to develop a regular exercise routine while still young and active.

Rubin came to Stony Brook last March from Tufts University in Boston. He said that he came to Stony Brook because "of its great facilities and potential" to develop his own program.

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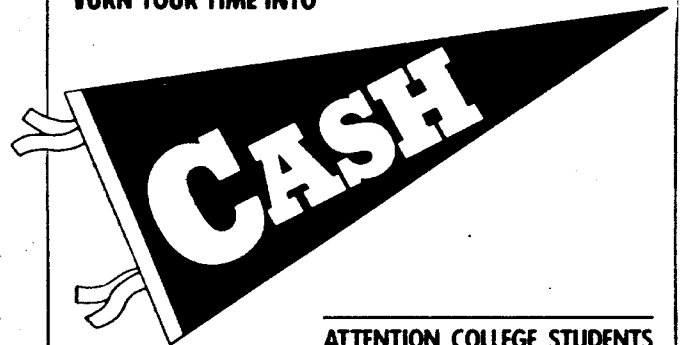
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Chris Eng, *Sociology*
Ruth Heidelberger, *Neurobiology*
Dan McKnight, *Psychology*
Peter Rude, *Marine Sciences*

Thursday, December 10
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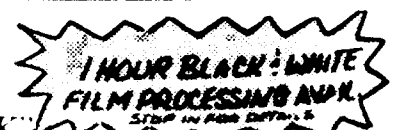
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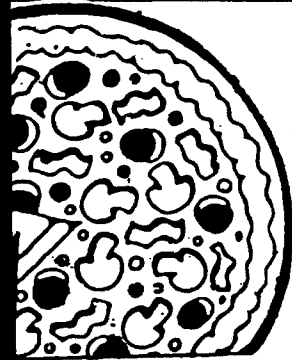
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Reasoning, Not Greed, Behind Advertising

Members of our readership occasionally request that certain advertisements not be published in *Statesman*. Twice this semester we have received letters criticizing our publication of two advertisements, one classified ad from a couple who wish to adopt a baby and one display ad from a "research service" offering term papers for sale.

Statesman will continue to run any advertisements that offer legal products or services and that conform to the laws of libel. Many of *Statesman's* staffmembers agree that some advertisements — including the adoption and term paper ads — show questionable ethics. But questionability does not provide a logical foundation for excluding an advertisement from a newspaper.

No one can deny that the services offered in the term-paper ad can easily be abused. But the service itself is legal (otherwise the company would — most likely — not risk the publicity of advertising). If we refuse to run that ad because students may abuse the service by turning in bought papers as their own, then we must also question beer ads because students may drink beer before they are twenty-one. We must also question car ads because students may drive faster than fifty-five miles per hour. And while we're at it, we can't have Record World or Sam Goody advertising compact discs which students may copy illegally. Even if *Statesman* could financially afford such a clean conscience, it would be unjust to the students to take away their right to choice.

A service that sells term papers does not commit any crime, just as the library is not committing any crime by offering scholarly texts for students' use. If a student chooses to present a purchased paper as his own, that student, not the selling service, is the criminal. A student could just as easily plagiarize a thesis found in the library's stacks. Should we shut down the library or handcuff the librarians?

A recent letter to the Editor pointed out that adoption ads can sometimes be a front for illegal baby-buying rings. It takes little more than a fourth-grade knowledge of set logic to understand why we can't ban all adoption advertisements simply because some are hiding illegal activities. As in law, such ads will remain innocent until proven guilty, and we do not have time to prove them guilty — we leave that to the Suffolk County district attorney.

Printing advertisements does not indicate any kind of support or endorsement on the part of the staff of *Statesman*. In fact, some staff members in the past have raised objections to many ads apparently unoffensive to the majority of our readership.

Statesman's editorial board dabbled in dishing out morality during a brief period of time in the spring semester. The board voted to refuse to accept advertisements from the Central Intelligence Agency. A majority of the board found the CIA morally offensive and did not wish to produce a paper with "blood money."

The ban did not last long. After reconsidering the issue, the board decided that the students should have the right to choose whether or not to join the CIA. And perhaps *Statesman* can take the CIA's money and turn it toward a good cause — like editorials and viewpoints against the CIA.

After one semester of debate and consideration, the *Statesman* editorial board decided to open the paper's advertising policy to all advertisements which are not illegal and not libelous. For definition on what is "illegal" or "libelous," we turn to U.S. law, for, though we do not always agree with it, the law is relatively reliable and saves us a lot of time. We apologize to those readers who disagree with our reasoning, but hasten to point out that our policy is based on reason, not on blind greed.

Statesman

Fall 1987

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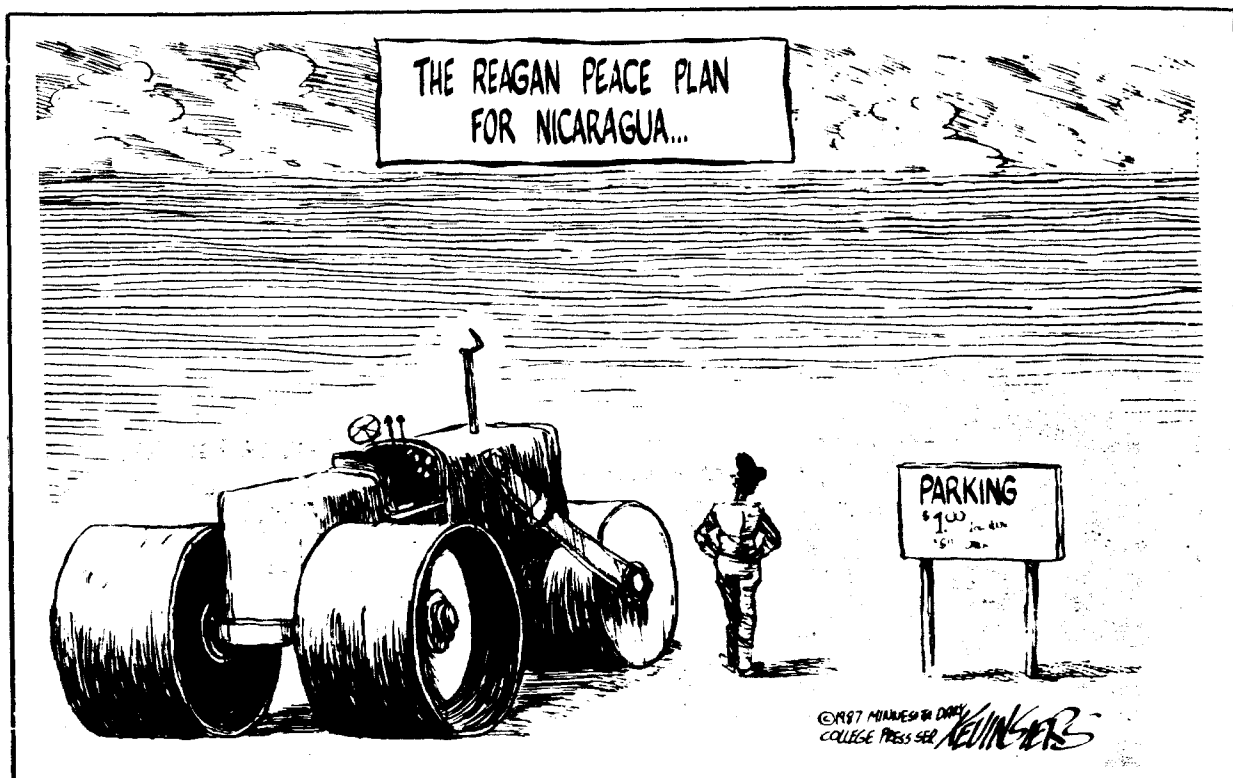
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LETTERS & VIEWPOINTS POLICY

***Statesman* encourages all students, faculty, staff members and community residents to submit their views and ideas to us and our readers in the form of letters to the editor and viewpoints.**

Both must be typed, triple-spaced and include the name, address and phone number of the writer. Letters should not be in excess of 350 words and viewpoints should not be in excess of 1000 words. Letters and viewpoints that are not typewritten will not be printed.

Letters and viewpoints are printed on the basis of space availability and time considerations. The editorial board reserves the right to withhold publication of any letter or viewpoint. Send letters and viewpoints to *Statesman*, P.O. Box AE, Stony Brook, NY 11790 or bring them to the Student Union, room 075.

A Look at Stony Brook's Multi-Cultured Campus

By Jacques Dorcely

Stony Brook is a multi-cultural University. This is a very useful and important factor in the lives of the students at this campus. From a multi-cultural environment, it is possible to learn and to do things that cannot be done anywhere else.

I come from Haiti. Haiti is a small very small country of some 27,500 square Km. But Haiti is inhabited by people with a very big mind. Haiti was the first independent nation who defeated slavery and became an imminent danger for most of the powerful countries in this hemisphere since 1804. Haiti where I come from is beautiful, but known outside only as a very poor country. But you have to understand that misery has beauty in itself sometimes because it has the power to create strength. Haiti has created great heroes, fathers of independence such as Toussaint Louverture, Jean-Jacques Dessalines, Henri Christophe. Remember that Haiti is small but inhabited by people with big mind.

Stony Brook also has a big mind because in itself is symbolizes the whole spirit of the American nation by gathering people almost from every corner of the world. Remember America is beautiful and strong because it represents the whole world in itself. It is obviously the work the energy the sacrifices of everyone from different culture and the willingness to become one that make America the biggest power in the world.

To give you a concrete example of what I mean and to convince you that these are not just words of propaganda let me talk about something that you will probably not hear from university officials.

As you walk around this campus you will undoubtedly notice signs protesting the housing situation. But this problem is not unique to Stony Brook students. What is unique is that Stony Brook students are making enormous efforts to protest these conditions and they are doing so in a society where activism and involvement are said to be dead. These active projects which have attracted nationwide attention are being achieved by students from all backgrounds and ethnic origin. And it

is this multi-culturalism and unity which has helped make our administration acknowledge these problems and to work toward solving them. This multi-culturalism and unity has enriched the education of the participants including myself as not lecture, laboratory or textbook can.

During my time here at Stony Brook I've had the opportunity to observe and interact with other students representing a wide diversity of ethnic and cultural backgrounds and interests. As New York City has been called the melting pot of the world so Stony Brook could be called the melting pot of the State University of New York 64 campuses. For instance the residence hall where I live in, Eleanor Roosevelt Quad, has students

from many countries and states living there. I met a student from Minnesota preparing for a career in international relations and another student from Florida training for technical work in theater. I hang out with three friends this semester one is an engineer major and is from South Carolina the other two are pre-law and pre-med majors; the former is from Chicago and the latter is from Virginia.

As I feel I have contributed to the lives of my friends by enriching their experience through my own particular background and preparation. They have also contributed to my own personal development academically and socially.

(The writer is president of Polity.)

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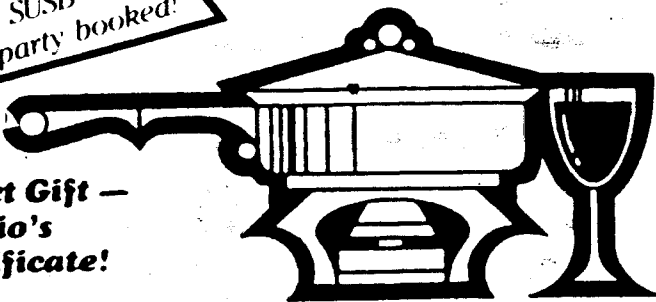
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LETTERS

Mow the Mayflower

To the Editor:

When I wrote the letter "Mayflower Deflowered," I was expecting a response on why Polity/SAB not only allowed but went out of its way to get the Mayflower Madam here on campus. I asked this much because I too, like everyone else, pay so much in activities fee. What I was not expecting was a personal attack from Frank Vaccaro. He not only felt justified in bringing her here (which is quite fine with me), but, would love to spend another of out \$2,700 to bring her back. I also read of how ignorant minded me and others were for not wanting this prostitute here on campus.

Well, Mr. Vaccaro, what I would have loved to know is what educational value did we get out of having Madam Barrows here. You see Mr. Vaccaro, I'm educated enough to know that prostitution, in this age does much harm to our society. Also Mr. Vaccaro, it would be good for you and Polity to know that over 25% of all prostitutes from a certain European country carry the deadly AIDS virus. I don't know what the statistics are here in America, but that alone tells me that prostitution is something we don't need anyone promoting on us. It is Mr. Vaccaro's insensitivity to the efforts against AIDS and for a better family lifestyle that brought the Mayflower Madam at Stony Brook.

Mr. Vaccaro, I cannot tell you how glad I am that you are no longer a part of SAB. The next person you would probably bring on campus would be a convicted drug addict to try and convince us of how satisfying, good and safe it is to share needles with someone else. I'll tell you why I didn't attend that poor excuse for a lecture. The reason is that during that very same week, I saved an extra 50 cents and to make \$4 and went to see the play "Safe Sex." I learned a great deal from that play which was both funny and educational.

Let me commend Paul Wiener for his letter entitled, "Mad at

Madam." It is good to know that some of us are still conscious of the many battles we are fighting that are, to a great extent, caused by prostitution. As Mr. Wiener pointed out, the Mayflower Madam would have been much more of an effective tool to use to "... caution women and men against the dangers of sexist oppression, disease, [and the illegality] of exploitation." So humble yourself Mr. Vaccaro, you decision to bring her at Stony Brook wasn't all that rewarding, except for you selfish ego.

I would love for the paper fight to end and for Mr. Vaccaro to see me personally if he has anything worse to say about the ignorance of expressing my views.

Renaldo Hylton

Adoption Conniption

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter to request that you no longer carry the baby wanted ads in the *Statesman*. These ads are fronts in many instances for blackmarket baby racketeers. In 1986, a Manhattan lawyer was charged with selling newborn babies of unwed mothers for approximately \$30,000 to wealthy Westchester families.

In 1987, Richard Gitelman was arrested in Florida for the same charge, only this time, the price tag was \$50,000 to wealthy New York

couples.

The major newspapers will not carry these baby wanted ads. Not the New York Times, Newsday, Daily News, The Post, etc. will carry these ads as they do not know if these will be for illegal purposes. Instead, lawyers are telling couples to place ads in small town newspapers, as well in college newspapers. The unsuspecting girls that are liable to read these ads will never know that their children will be sold to the highest bidders. What is more, there is no one there to counsel the young woman, rather the lawyer will be coercive.

Some states have already banned "Baby Wanted" ads from publication. There is hope that our New York legislators will follow suit. As long as *Statesman* continues to accept these ads for publication, are you innocently or knowingly taking part in such crime by permitting solicitation in the want ads section of your newspaper? Instead, what is needed is our working together toward laws prohibiting these despicable happenings.

Elizabeth 'Lisa' Steinberg might be alive today had these ads been outlawed. Don't let her death be on your conscience. Baby-selling amounts to illegal adoptions.

Carole L. Whitehead

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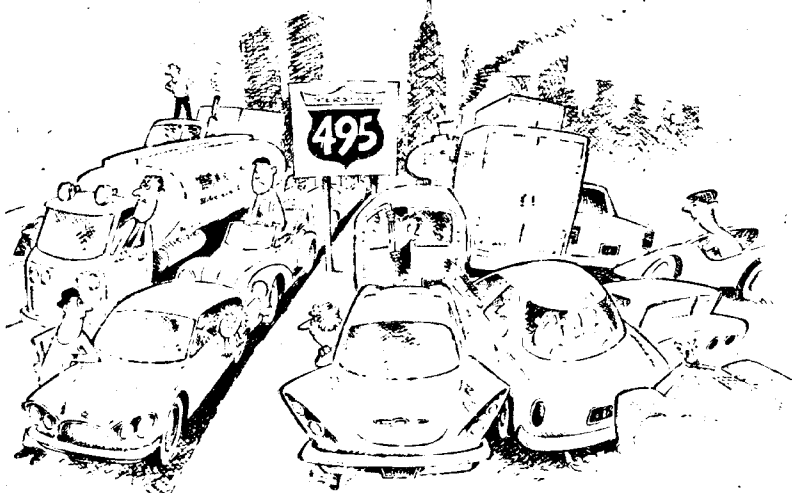
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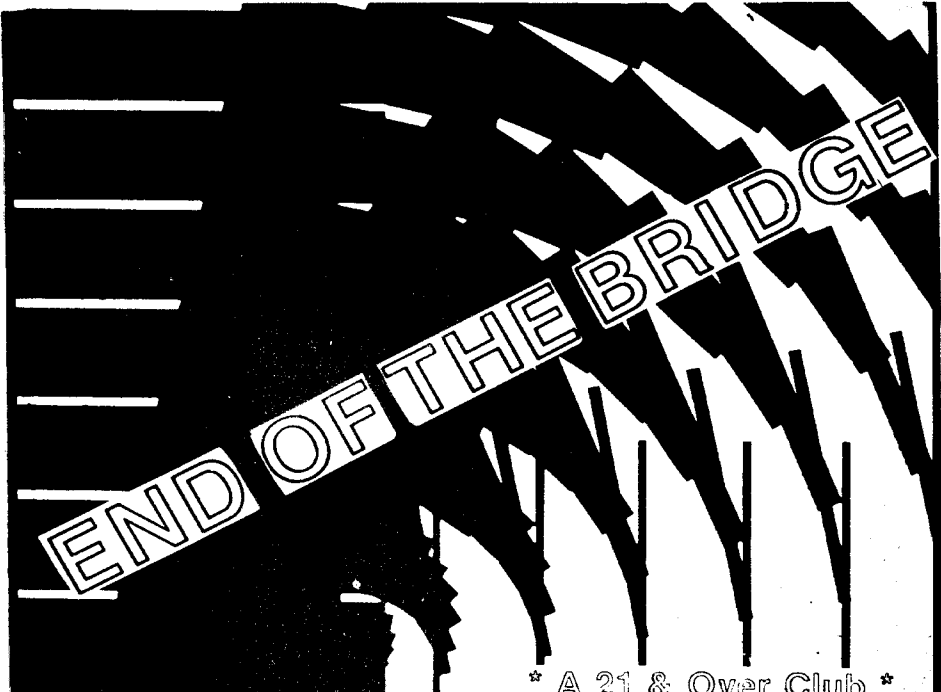
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Statesman SPORTS

Monday, December 7, 1987

Pats B-Ball Wins Home Opener

By Andy Russell

Led by Tom Blumbergs' 35 points, the Men's Basketball team overcame a sloppy first half performance to defeat John Jay Thursday night, 88-78. It was the second straight game where the Patriots pulled out a victory late in the second half.

The first half pitted Blumbergs' inside scoring versus John Jay's 3-point shooting. Blumbergs dominated play, scoring 20 of Stony Brook's 42 first half points. John Jay was unable to stop him from taking the ball strong to the basket. The Patriots, however, had difficulty making the entry pass and committed many turnovers. They were unable to capitalize on their inside strength and could not build on a 21-13 lead.

John Jay shot a sizzling 66 percent (8-12) from the three-point range in the first half. Guards Bobby Jones and Jo Jo Garnier combined for 5 three-point shots. When the Patriots started to pull away, John Jay hit from long range. The Bloodhounds went on a 11-4 surge at the end of the first half, which gave them a 45-42 lead.

Patriot Coach Joe Castiglie's halftime speech about how to make the entry pass properly paid immediate dividends. Blumbergs was able to score at will. Castiglie also got strong contributions from James Robinson and Scott Waiker, who scored 11 and 12 second half points, respectively. "We calmed down in the second half," said Castiglie.

When you live by the three-point play, you often die by it. Despite hitting 13 three-point shots, John Jay's outside shooting was horrendous in the second half. They shot 23 percent. After John Jay took a 70-69 lead on a three-pointer by Jones, Stony Brook went on a decisive 13-0 run. Several thunderous dunks by Blumbergs highlighted the surge.

In addition to his 35 points, Blumbergs pulled down 18 rebounds. In the second half, he pulled down many rebounds in the middle of traffic. Blumbergs had the type of performance that the Patriots will need from him consistently if the team is to have a successful season. His coach was impressed how well he held up his end against John Jay. "Tom flat out played hard," said Castiglie.

Patriot Notes: Blumbergs pointed out that the game was "a revenge type of thing," due to last year's one point loss to John Jay...point guard Stan Martin had a mixed performance, dishing out 11 assists and committing 13 turnovers...the Patriots record stands at 3-1. They play their next game on Tuesday at Old Westbury.



STAN THE MAN...Patriot guard Stan Martin goes airborne against the John Jay Bloodhounds.

Statesman/Daniel Smith

Third Place for Ladies Swimming

By Heather Stein

The Stony Brook Women's Swim Team was unable to recapture the Stony Brook Defender Cup at their six-team dual meet on Saturday. Division I Marist College came in first place overall with 351 points. Stony Brook and Albany were neck and neck throughout the entire meet and it was not until the last event, the 400 freestyle relay, that the second-place finisher was decided.

The final relay ended in a close finish in which Albany took first place. This gave Albany the points they needed to put them in second and Stony Brook in an unhappy third. Albany ended with 327 points and Stony Brook with 323.

The three other teams that engaged in the meet were Division II Southern Connecticut University, USMMA, and Mt. Saint Vincent. They placed 4th, 5th and 6th respectively.

Stony Brook captain Maybritt Hansen swam outstandingly, placing 1st in the 500, 1000 and 200 yd. freestyle. Jen Fosegan placed third in the 200; Val Hamill placed 3rd in the 100 and 200 yard freestyles; Candace Burghardt placed 2nd in the 200 yard butterfly and 3rd in the 100 yard butterfly; Kristen Shore placed 3rd in the 1000 yard freestyle; Debbie Dobbs placed 4th in both the 100 and 200 yard butterfly.

Suzanne Nevins placed 3rd in the one-meter diving event and 4th in the three meter. She earned her personal-best scores in both events.

"We have to put this meet behind us and focus on our meet this Wednesday against N.Y.U. We have never lost to N.Y.U. and do not intend to," says coach Dave Alexander. The Women's Swim Team is now 6-2.

What Lies Ahead in the Big East This Year?

By Robert Abrams

Who will make to the Final Four of the NCAA tournament come March? The Syracuse Orangemen and Pittsburgh Panthers have excellent chances. Syracuse lost last year's championship game to Indiana 74-73. With the loss, Syracuse has gained the needed experience to win the "big game."

Syracuse is led by senior center Roy Seikaly (15.1 points and 8.2 rebounds per game last year) and junior center Sherman Douglas (17.3 points). Add sophomore forward Derrick Coleman, who excelled in the NAAs, and you see why Syracuse is favored to make it back. But, their outside shooting is suspect with Greg Monroe (12.9 pts.) a three-point artist and Howard Triche (11.8) both gone. Newcomer Earl Duncan must come through with the long rangers. Last season they were 31-7 including 12 of 16 victories in the Big East.

Pittsburgh, powered by senior center Charles Smith (17 pts. and 8.5 reb.) and sophomore forward Jerome Lane, who led the nation in rebounding with a 13.5 average, are destined to make Syracuse earn the Big East title. To help on offense, there is Demetreus Gore and Rod Brookin who are known for their excellent passing skills and shot selec-

tion. But, defense is what keeps them out of first place. With the loss of point-guard Mike Goodson because of poor grades, the offense must expect high scoring games from their opponents as well as themselves. Last year the Panthers had a 25-8 overall record with a 12-4 record in the conference.

The Georgetown Hoyas, who tied Pittsburgh and Syracuse for the Big East Crown last year, have the expertise of Coach John Thompson. His style of coaching is made for them because, without dominant players, he will use 12 or 13 players every game giving each one experience and confidence and also ample rest. Thompson will still employ his full-court press and mass switches on defense in an attempt to confuse the opposition. The only returnee is senior forward Perry McDonald. Reggie Williams, the team leader last year, is gone along with his 23.6 points a game. More offense out of guards Mark Tillman (9.2) and Dwayne Bryant (4.3) are necessary for Hoya success. A favorite for the Big East's Freshman of the Year is Anthony Tucker and Thompson is hoping he can prove himself in a hurry. They are coming off a 29-5 record including 12-4 in the Big East.

The St. John's Redmen finished 21-9 over-

all and 10-6 in the East but they won't be as fortunate this time. With the loss of Mark Jackson to the pros and Willie Glass to the CBA, senior forward Shelton Jones must play consistently to keep the Redmen afloat. Their backcourt will consist of Greg (Boo) Harvey and Michael Porter, successors to Jackson and Glass. Good luck. The outside shot is lost but maybe Matt Brust, Elander Lewis and Marcus Broadnax could prove to be effective.

The Villanova Wildcats have three solid

returnees in forwards Doug West (15.2 points) and Mark Plansky (11.5) and point-guard Kenny Wildon (13.0). Sophomore center Tom Greis can be a factor on offense only if Kenny Battle can feed him the ball about three feet from the hoop. They were 15-16 last year and 6-10 in the Big East.

If there was a clear cut winner in the Big East last year then Syracuse was it if only because they finished in the championship round. This season looks to be a carbon copy of last year.

Lady Pats Win Again in OT

The Lady Patriots Basketball Team notched its third straight victory by defeating the University at Albany 68-60 in overtime yesterday. It was the second consecutive overtime win for the Lady Pats (3-2).

Captain Leslie Hathaway once again led the way for Stony Brook. The senior forward had 20 points, nine rebounds, seven steals and five assists. Another substantial contributor was Anne Locasio who came off,

the bench to score 18 points and grab five rebounds. Though she has yet to win a starting, Locasio is second to Hathaway among the Lady Patriot scorers.

The Lady Pats host New York University this Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. Stony Brook lost last year's meeting between the two teams by a score of 87-71 at N.Y.U. Hathaway had 12 rebounds in that game.

—Kostya Kennedy