



'70s ARTISTS ARE MAKING NEWS IN THE '90s —Page 8

Statesman

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STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1989

SUNY Presidents Get Raises

By Joseph Salerno

For the second time in 4 months an executive committee of the University System's Board of Trustees handed down a decision that called for salary increases for campus presidents and other top management officials.

This action comes after a semester of budget battles, tuition raise attempts, sit-ins to stop this raise and a veto by Mario Cuomo against the hike as it was deemed unnecessary. It was a semester that saw tension between students and administrators on financial matters.

Kenneth P. Lavallo, chairman of the State's Senate's Higher Education Committee, was unavailable for comment as of press time but said in a recent N.Y. Times article that administration was sending out the wrong message to the Legislature to the

students and to other members of the community. Lavallo stated further that the trustees should be made to defend every penny of the 1990-91 budget.

"When looking at the salaries of men at other corporations who are responsible for the budget the size of SUNY's, the salaries are not high," said Daniel Melucci, budget director of SUNY Stony Brook. "Prior to the salary increase SUNY was unable to compete nationally to attract top-notch administrators."

According to the N.Y. Times article, SUNY officials defended the increase with their authorization in working with the budget passed by the State Legislature. They claim the raises were similar to those given to other state officials.

After the raises, SUNY executive vice chancellor's salary increased from \$125,000

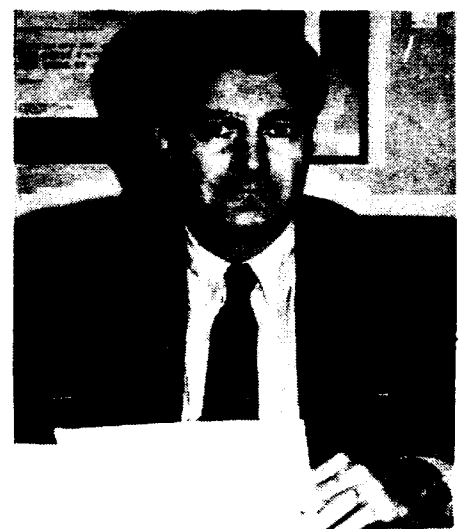
a year to \$131,500. The raises on 25 of the 29 campus brought the president's yearly salaries to \$99,225. The presidents at the four university centers, those being Stony Brook, Buffalo, Binghamton and Albany will top \$120,000 a year explained Melucci, Governor Cuomo earns \$130,000 per year.

Other law makers were also not in agreement with all aspects of the pay raise situation as they expressed concern with the long range effects on the SUNY system.

In a comment made by President Marburger to Melucci, he said that the additional salary was unnecessary.

Melucci explained that the pay raises will be coming from additional funds to the campus and the will not come out of the existing budget.

President Marburger's salary increase will be \$6,000 per year. He was out of town as of press time and unavailable for comment.



Statesman JoMarie Fecci
John Marburger

SB Professor Selected To Curate Art Show

American Art Exhibited in the USSR

By Joseph Salerno

Art is universal in its appeal, and American artists will be represented at Moscow's Artists Union Show. Dr. Donald B. Kuspit was selected by the Soviet Union to curate a portion of the show that will feature contemporary American paintings.

"Dr. Kuspit is an internationally known figure in the art world as a critic, writer, and editor," said Melven Pekarsky, Chairman of the Art Department at USB. Kuspit believes he was chosen to curate because an art magazine *Contemporanea* called him "the most significant art critic since Clement Greenberg and Harold Rosenberg," who were influential critics of the 50's and 60's.

"This is by no means, a comprehensive show," said Kuspit. I was looking to represent the American art scene to show the range of styles and spectrum of possibilities in contemporary situations."

There will be around 30 artists represented at the show. The large scale is the only thing the artists have in common. Pekarsky, who is one of the featured artists is sending two pieces both 9 feet by 12 feet. According to Kuspit, the Moscow exhibition space is

very large with very high ceilings. Each artist is sending between two and three pieces. Both Pekarsky and Kuspit are attending the event in Moscow which is co-chaired by Raisa Gorbachev and American artist Alex Katz.

"I do landscapes of the desert, said Pekarsky." They are very realistic and very abstract at the same time.

"I like the ambiguity of his images, both the descriptive and the abstract," said Kuspit of Pekarsky "He is one of the best landscape painters around."

Dr. Kuspit holds a Ph.D. in Art History from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the University of Frankfurt in Germany. He is a past recipient of the College Art Association Award. He is also contributing editor for a number of magazines and his articles appear regularly in *Art in America*, *Artforum*, *Artscribe* in London, *C Magazine* in Toronto, *Wolkenkratzen* in Frankfurt, and *Arena* in Madrid. He has also published many academic journals.

The exhibit is one month long and will begin on September 14.





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Chinese Students Fax Home Facts

By the College Press Service

Chinese students at most schools are doing what they can to help the pro-democracy student movement in their country, from raising money, holding demonstrations and relaying information via fax machines.

Some are even phoning hot lines- the ones established by the Chinese government for citizens to turn in supporters of the pro-democracy movement - in hopes of preventing snitches from getting through.

"There's very little we can do," explained Deming Tang, a graduate student at Iowa State University in Ames. "That's something we can do to release anger and maybe teach them a lesson."

In the wake of the June 4 massacre of "pro-democracy" students in Tiananmen Square in Beijing, demonstrations denouncing the killings were reported at a number of schools in the U.S., including Iowa state, Ohio State, Louisiana State, Indiana, Florida Atlantic and Western Michigan universities, and the universities of Chicago, Arizona, Colorado, and Wyoming.

Students also turned out for citywide demonstrations in San Francisco, New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Houston, Seattle, Cambridge, Mass., Albany N.Y., and Washington D.C.

Since then, protests have been less visible and more personal. Even though President Bush has extended the visas of all Chinese nationals for one year, their actions are not without risk.

At a number of demonstrations, Chinese consulate officials have videotaped and photographed protestors.

And at the University of Connecticut, officials abruptly cancelled a June 13 public discussion with two Chinese graduate students, fearing that videotapes of the event

could be used to portray the students as dissidents.

Bruce Stave, chairman of the history department, said he canned the discussion upon learning that television crews intended to tape it. "We didn't want to jeopardize the safety of our students. We'd rather be safe than sorry."

Chinese officials have not been gentle when they identify dissidents. In one notorious case they arrested and publicly humiliated a student in Beijing who had commented to ABC news cameras that he objected to the June 4 massacre.

As of June 21, the Beijing government has sentenced 11 student dissidents to death.

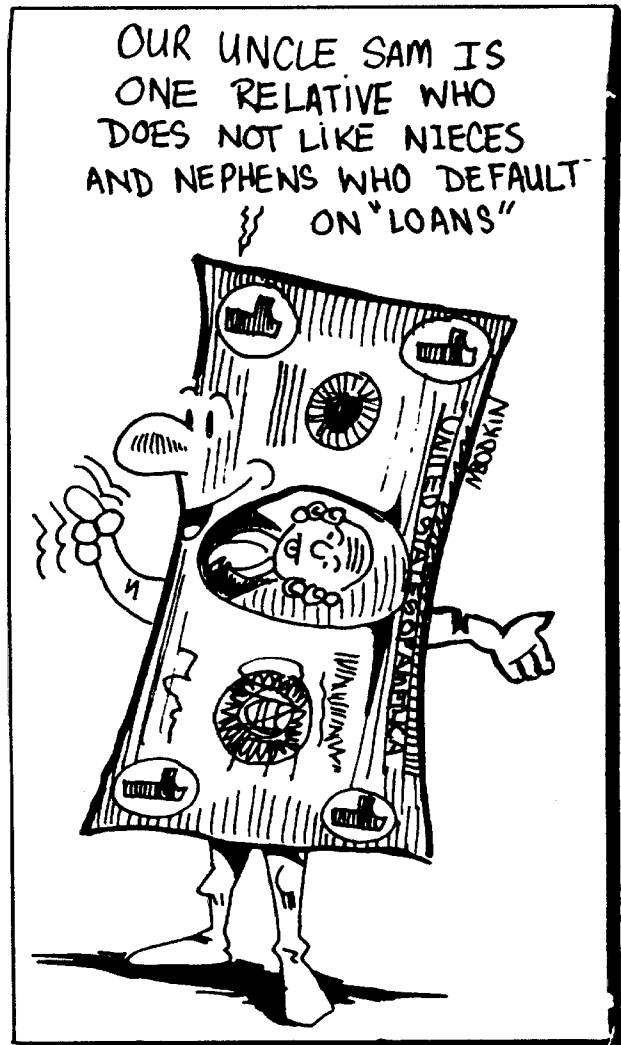
Many of the 40,000 Chinese students and scholars now on American campuses are discovering that the president's offer to extend their visas is of little consequence. If they accept the offer, they lose their student status and with it, the option to prolong their studies.

Iowa State's Deming also warned that the Chinese government would brand as dissidents those who extend their visas.

"It singles them out - to the U.S. government and the Chinese government," agreed Jill Bulthuis of the National Association for Foreign Student Affairs in Washington, D.C. Consequently Bulthuis is encouraging Chinese students to explore all other options - Such as extending their studies or obtaining an internship - before resorting to the deferment offer.

The prospect of being labeled an outlaw has not deterred Deming, long-time activist. "If I were very afraid I never would have done anything. What about those who were killed?"

And he thinks a new government will be in place when he's ready to return home in a few years. "I'm at least safe for now."



New Chairman Appointed in Biochem

Dr. William J. Lennarz will join the Department of Biochemistry at the University at Stony Brook as chairman and professor, effective August 1.

His appointment coincides with an expansion in the scope of the department to include a stronger emphasis on cellular and developmental biology. To accomplish the change, a number of new faculty will be hired over the next several years, laboratory facilities will be added and new educational programs will be developed at the undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral levels. In addition, the department will be renamed "Department of Biochemistry and Cellular Biology," as of September.

"We're at a point right now where cellular biology and biochemistry can be used as tools to solve problems in developmental biology," said Dr. Lennarz. "There's an exciting opportunity at Stony Brook to fuse the two disciplines together to create something unique."

"It's a good time for teaching in this area, as well as in research," he continued. "We can now teach undergraduates developmental biology at the molecular level, rather than at the classical level of embryology."

Dr. Lennarz came to USB from the University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, where he serves as Robert A. Welch Professor and chairman of the center's Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Previously, he completed postdoctoral training at Harvard University, and served on the faculty of the Department of Physiological Chemistry at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He received a Ph.D in organic chemistry in 1959 from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Lennarz' research involves the biosynthesis of glycoproteins and their function in fertilization and early development. He is president-elect of the American society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

Debt Hurts New Aid

By the College Press Service

The government's on-again, off-again effort to punish schools that do a bad job collecting student loans was switched on again when it announced this summer that students who go to the schools won't be able to get student loans in the future.

U.S. Secretary of Education Lauro Cavazos said that as of January 1, 1991, schools with default rates above 60 percent will be suspended or cut off from the federal Stafford Loan program.

If the regulation went into effect now, students at about 200 campuses-most of them for-profit trade schools- would lose their federal college loans.

Another 450 campuses- some of them two year community and junior colleges- that have default rates higher than 40 percent would be forced to reduce the number of bad loans by five percent a year, while students at schools with default rates between 20 and 39 percent would have to surmount special obstacles to get loans.

All schools will have to give first-time borrowers counseling to be sure they understand their repayment obligations.

William Bennett, Cavazos's immediate predecessor, had advocated a much more punitive approach, proposing to stop making Stafford Loans to students at colleges with default rates above 20 percent.

Some financial aid directors objected to Cavazos's method of figuring the default rate. Where Cavazos simply counted the number of borrowers scheduled for repayment in 1986 who defaulted in 1987, almost everyone else- schools, guarantee agencies and lenders- uses a long-term default rate, figuring the percentage either in dollars or the number of borrowers.

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Pay Raises Violate Both Ethics and Prudence

The SUNY administrators have gotten two five percent raises in 4 months, thanks to the executive committee of the SUNY Board of Trustees. Now think about this with the events of last semester in mind. Think back...

The axe hung over the campus throwing its shadow on a number of academic programs. Students and staff of the dental school rushed Albany to lobby for their future. Rumor had it that the Anthropology department might be the big loss on main campus. Austerity budget was the buzz phrase and everyone heard about the hiring freeze.

Governor Mario Cuomo held that SUNY schools needed to trim the fat. The university administrators fought back, pressing legislators to authorize a \$200 tuition hike. SUNY and CUNY students rallied against the move and felt they made a difference when the governor vetoed the hike.

No cuts in academic programs were made. The budget was bailed out with resources from a "rainy day" fund according to a story in the N.Y. Times and for that we breathe a sigh of relief. But with the news of yet another raise for administrators that sigh quickly turns to an angry growl.

During the spring semester, University President John Marburger says 200 univer-

sity jobs may have to go, summer months come and he trots to the bank with a paycheck that is increased 10 percent to over \$120,000.

There are a great many responsibilities that comprise the successful management of a university thus many believe these salaries to be warranted. Several members of the Stony Brook administration emphasized that these salaries were comparatively low when examined next to those of men who control similar budgets on the corporate level. Governor Cuomo earns \$130,000 per year. Do these administrators truly believe that university presidents have the same level of responsibility as the governor.

The 5 percent raise for SUNY administrators in April was in poor taste in light of the budget crunch. There is no way the SUNY Executive Board of Trustees can qualify this second raise.

If there is money to spare, which makes you wonder what the budget scare was all about,

it should go to places where it is really needed. According to the administrators opinion, in the spring, the maintenance fund was in desperate need of additional funds. The money could be used to add academic programs or establish an emergency fund to soften the scare of the next round of budget talks.

If university officials can see these schools are in need of funds desperately in certain areas perhaps it would be wise of them to offer some of their newfound windfall to these areas.

The administrators are there to oversee the healthy activity of a state university school system. With reckless spending that continues to characterize the SUNY administration the next budget threat may very well be real.

At the very least, this spending will create a tremendous amount of animosity between the students and administration and in the worst case cripple the state university system.

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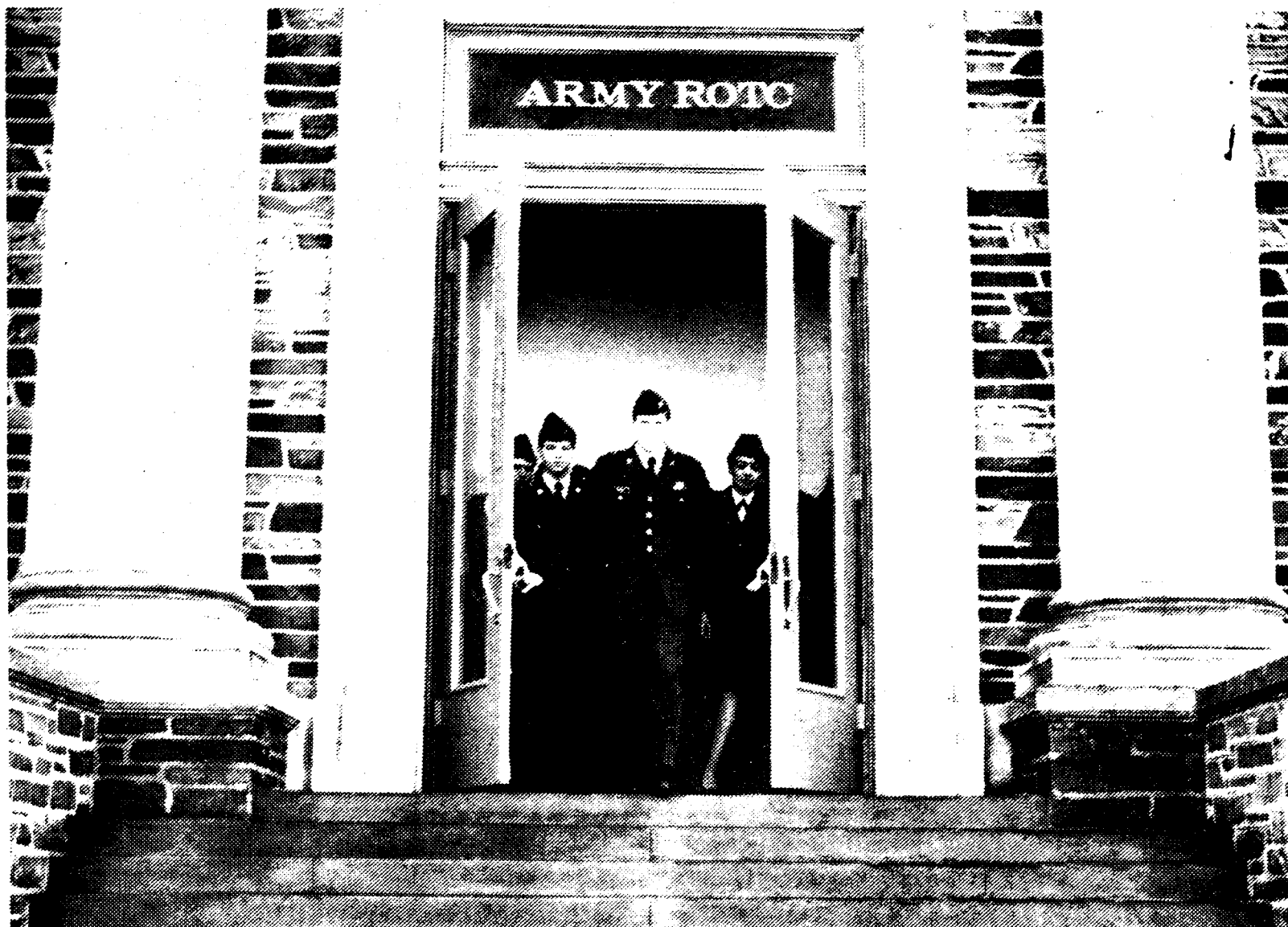
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...at this country left out a few facts...
...Mendel Reagan's account...
...mentioned that he was leaving the...
...country with a sound economy. The economic...
...growth rate has increased in the past eight...
...years, but it should also be known that the...
...percentage of those living beneath the...
...poverty level rose from 11.7% to 13.5% in that...
...time. The United States arguably has a...
...stronger defense system than it did eight...
...years ago, but it also has a larger deficit. And...
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The Bitch is Back Again

(continued from page 8)

a concert where something like this happened.

The music now was freeing all inhibitions. The sound system seemed better, the marijuana filled air smelled cleaner, Elton John looked thinner. I think even his hair began to grow. There was something magical about "Rocket Man" that night that allowed the second half of the show to takeoff.

Back in the mainstream John hit hard with "I'm Still Standing" kicklines, waves, slam-dancing the people on the

upper perimeter had turned a dud into an explosion. This was one time in my life that I was glad to be on the perimeter looking in on the action.

"Your Song" was a notable omission and the crowd was expecting an encore to hear it but they were disappointed.

Anyone that attended his Garden show was a bit deflated. This is not to say the Meadowlands show was terrible as a whole, but once you've had filet mignon, hamburger, isn't looking quite as good.

Staller Center Houses Herman Cherry's Works

Often called a "painter's painter," Herman Cherry has long been admired by other artists for his technical prowess and his mastery of color and form. As this present exhibition of recent works makes abundantly clear, it requires no special expertise in painting or art history to appreciate the direct, sensual appeal of Herman Cherry's work.

Born in Atlantic City, New Jersey in 1909, Cherry began his career in southern California. In the late 1920's and early 1930's, Cherry studied in Los Angeles at the Otis Art Institute and at the Student Art League under Stanton MacDonald Wright. He continued his studies at the Art Student League in New York under Thomas Hart Benton. Cherry became a part of the Abstract Expressionist movement in New York City in the 40's and 50's. Although never as well known to the general public as his friends Willem de Kooning and David Smith, Cherry has continued to work while influencing new generations of young artists for nearly half a century. His work has been exhibited extensively in museums and galleries across the United States as well as abroad. An accomplished lecturer and writer as well as a painter, Cherry has taught art all over the country, has written for numerous publications, and is a published poet.

Herman Cherry is best known as a master colorist. In the late 1950's, Cherry gradually

moved away from the darker tones and heavier textures that characterized his earlier work. Cherry uses a wide range of tonal values to define space and structure in his painting. Underplaying his technical virtuosity, Cherry does not allow his masterful brushwork to distract from the statements made by his color fields. Cherry's colors seem to float through the works, anchored in space and time by bold stripes and lines. Color clash and blend, seeking and finding resolution in new and constantly surprising ways. Always intense and direct, the imagery is simultaneously subtle and sensual. The viewer is emotionally touched by the compositions without feeling jarred by Cherry's distinctive juxtaposition of shapes and colors. Simple forms are skillfully combined to make complex statements, and the whole is invariably greater than the sum of the parts.

Critics have often commented on the spiritual quality of Cherry's work. His shimmering colors seem to be in perpetual motion, but they convey a sense of stillness and tranquility as well. His work speaks of tension and energy, but never of pain. They have about them a quiet nobility. They reassure the viewer that harmony and grace can emerge triumphant in a chaotic universe. Viewers may disagree on what they have been made to feel by Cherry's abstractions, but they cannot doubt that they have, indeed, been made to feel.

Disco's First Family

(continued from page 8)

and still is the greatest singer of dance music of all time. I liked Donna when it was unpopular to like Donna and I'm glad her talent was enough to overcome this hurdle.

The place is the world and the time mid October when her tour begins.

"I Don't Wanna Get Hurt" is the second release of the album, well Donna has already been hurt by misunderstanding. Her footing is again strong and her fans have said

"Enough is Enough" to their petty differences. One thing that is certain is that she and the fans are far from their "Last Dance" together.

As the decade once again turns the music scene has gone full circle with the return of these artists. If nothing else they should be admired for their staying power. Anytime one can leave a job and return a decade later without missing the proverbial beat they must be doing something right.

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ALTERNATIVES

Show Severly Suffers

Sound System and Rapport Both Poor

By Joseph Sallerno

An extremely poor sound system and a seating arrangement that had fans sitting behind the stage and heavy equipment, made for a less than rousing Elton John concert on Sunday August 7, at the Meadowlands.

The Meadowlands currently is getting better bookings due to the renovations at Madison Square Garden and they must obtain a sound system and sound system engineers that are worthy of the caliber of talent they are presenting. The Club MTV Concert, which is a dance music extravaganza was really hurt by the poor sound system, but the crime was far more severe against Elton John.

Unfortunately though this was not the only crime of the show. There was no opening act. This is really not a problem, as one fan put it. "I don't mind sitting through three and a half hours of Elton John," as was the case at his last appearance in the New York area.

Then he was playing Madison Square Garden. This concert neared greatness. John brought out all the stops, all the hits the audience was up, dancing, frenzied, rocking. I jumped over a wall with a seven foot vertical drop. His rapport with the crowd was excellent that night.

History did not repeat itself in New Jersey. Audience contact was a big

problem. After two hours of playing John said to the crowd, "For the first time tonight Thank You." This pretty well sums up the repore with the crowd.

"Elton John: The Flip-Side Tour" is what I dubbed this concert as John chose to veer away from songs that were released as singles and the audience was most familiar with. True John devotees I'm sure knew the songs but a more accessible fare may have been wiser.

After a quick change to a lavender outfit and a top hat, John was back for the second half.

Other changes were also in order. It was time to move out from behind the stage and up to the top of the stadium where fans who were disgruntled with their seats and the muffled sound were assembling and starting to let loose.

"Hey grab the guy next to you, said a man in a red tank top and jeans." So I did and so did he and the next and the next. The entire upper perimeter was swaying in unison to the strains of "Rocket Man." "Hey, what a connection is being made here," said the man in the red tank top and he was right. It was a connection with the crowd, the music and yourself. Young people that look back on Woodstock 20 years later and can't believe it have never been to

(continued on page 7)



Elton John

Bee Gees Back and Summer is Sizzlin'

The two acts that dominated the charts in the 1970's and ruled the decade of disco are both returning to the music scene. With new albums, new videos, new singles and world tours. They gave you "Night Fever" and she's just plain "Hot Stuff."

With the "Saturday Night Fever" long since cooled the Bee-Gees were absent from the music scene for most of the 80's. In a recent radio interview they said, "We suffered from radio saturation." That is, their songs were played so often and on so many stations that the group's career was hurt by the dreaded "too much of a good thing syndrome." You know like Phil Collins last year and Bobby Brown this year.

With the most successful movie soundtrack in history "Saturday Night Fever" changed the way a nation dances. Sweathog turned dance-hog John Travolta was the Arthur Murray of the 70's for a nation of movie-goers that were very willing to learn. Since this success though, the Bee-Gees have not been asked to do another soundtrack.

"Birds Having Flown" was their

Straight Up!

By Joseph Salierno



Donna Summer

follow up album that also rose to number one on the charts but since then stateside success has been very limited for the British trio.

"One" is the title of the Bee-Gee's latest album and single. Will "One" go number 1. I seriously doubt it. In fact I'd bet the farm against it. Only time will answer the musical question of the fans, asked a decade ago by the Gibb Brothers themselves "How Deep Is Your Love?"

She's back! With a number one dance chart hit, and a top ten *Bilboard* hit, the undisputed "Queen of Disco" is ready to reclaim her

throne with a new sound and her latest album, "Another Place and Time."

"Bad Girls," "Hot Stuff," "Heaven Knows," "Love to Love You Baby," "Last Dance"...the list of her hits is extremely long and still are mainstays in many clubs in Manhattan but Donna Summer too, had been save for "She Works Hard for the Money" gone from the pop and dance charts for all of the 80's.

Donna's career was severely hurt by a choice she made in her personal life when she became a born again Christian. A great deal of her following was the gay community and this did not sit well with them. What actually happened is unclear. There was a series of misquotes, misunderstandings that made the homosexual community feel that their queen had turned against them. It became "in" among gay D.J.'s not to play Donna at clubs and say "I'm one of the D.J.'s that are ruining her career."

This entire situation was ludicrous because the facts are totally blurred and regardless of what they were, her talent was undeniable. She was

(continued on page 7)