

## Grad Students Arrested for Harassment

### Man Allegedly Sent Racially and Sexually Explicit Materials to Students and Professors

By TOM FLANAGAN  
Statesman Editor

A Stony Brook graduate student was arrested Wednesday and charged with nine counts of aggravated harassment second degree, police said.

Jason Kuo, 26, a student at the University's dental school, allegedly sent letters with racist and sexually explicit remarks to students and professors. Police said the letters contained anti-semitic language, anti-Japanese language, lewd comments and pictures.

Kuo, a naturalized Chinese-American, lives at 350 North Loop Road, Room B, 202D, and has been a student on campus since 1989. He could not be reached for comment.

## Statesman, Press Trowned

In an extremely bizarre twist of fate, editors and staff members of *The Stony Brook Statesman* and *The Stony Brook Press* worked together for a common cause.

The two staffs were supposed to meet for a head-to-head softball game, but combined, they did not have enough players to field one full team. As a result, they meshed their talent to face a team of Asian-Americans that were already at the field.

At final tally, the Asian-American pummeled the paper staffs by a score of 37-11.

Press Managing Editor Scott Lusby belted three hits, including a homerun, and provided a large percentage of the writers' defense. Lusby caught a number of outfield flies, including one diving nab that would have made highlight films around the region, had anyone filmed it.

Press Editor-in-chief, Ted Swedalla, went five-for-five from the plate, and *Statesman* Editor-in-chief, Thomas Masse, and *Press* freelancer Don Eccles smacked three hits each.

According to police, detectives and police from the University and the Suffolk County Police Bias Crimes unit have been involved in a joint investigation since 1989. A turning point came when a Suffolk County Crime Lab Document expert was able to take a known handwriting sample from Yuo and positively identify it as being the same as the writing on the harassing letters.

According to Doug Little, assistant director of

community relations for the University Police, enough evidence was gathered by Wednesday and Kuo was arrested without incident. Little also said that a search warrant was then issued for Kuo's car and apartment, where additional evidence was secured. After his arrest, Kuo made an oral and written admission.

Police said that Kuo told them that his initial motive was to get even with people who had offended him.

Eventually, though, it just became something to do. Police detected no pattern in Kuo's letter-sending campaign and said that he chose most victims at random. More than 40 people have been affected by Kuo's letters since 1989, but he is only being charged for the nine victims that his handwriting samples can be linked to, police said.

Kuo was released Thursday morning on \$225 bail from the Sixth Precinct in

Coram and is scheduled to appear at the First District Court in Central Islip on August 3 at about 2 p.m.

One victim, a 19-year-old sophomore, was relieved by the arrest, but disappointed at the release. "I'm really pleased to see that the police took this seriously and did so much," she said. "But it's ridiculous that his bail was set so low." She said that she began receiving obscene pictures from Kuo in mid-March.

The FBI is currently looking at the case to determine if a prosecution is warranted.

The University served Kuo with an executive suspension Thursday night and will schedule a student judicial hearing at a future date, University officials said.

"We've had harassments in the past at the University, but not to this degree," Little, from the University Police, said. "At Stony Brook, we educate our students, faculty and staff and want these crimes reported." □



Photo Courtesy of Suffolk County Girl Scouts

The Suffolk County Girl Scouts were among the community groups that volunteered to help out at the Suffolk County Special Olympics Spring Games recently held at Ward Melville High School in Setauket. Above, Girl Scouts from Troop 1522, Service Unit 4, Miller Place/Mount Sinai gather with Suffolk County Executive Robert Gaffney (top right), who opened the games.

Front Row, left to right: Kimberly Kassay, Kelly Palmer and Alicia Calace. Middle row: Rachael Santoro, Hannah Jahrsdoefer, Briana Rasmuson, Kacey Deatrich, Deann Murry and Katie Nelson. Back Row: Melissa Tirone, Regina Capella, Gaffney.

Other Girl Scout troops from Service 4 that participated were Junior Troops 1164, 1591 and Daisy Troop 959.

## Statesman, Press Trowned

*Statesman* Business Manager, Frank D'Alessandro was made to pitch to his own team and ended up throwing out two of his own teammates. Swedalla also made a great stab at a teammate's line drive in a similar situation.

Masse recored stats

usually relegated to other sports as he creamed the Asian-American's second baseman who was on the first-base line while backing up the first baseman. A similar incident occurred when Masse bashed a runner on a race to the force-out at first.

The papers have sceduled a "rematch" for Saturday, July 29. With a little luck, they will field their own teams. □

The next issue of *The Stony Brook Statesman* will hit the stands on Wednesday, June 28.

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# NEWS BRIEFS: (Sub)Headlines From Across the Nation

## African-American Scholarship Dollars in Jeopardy

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (CPS) —In an effort to help the University of Maryland keep a scholarship for African-Americans, the U.S. Justice Department has filed a friend-of-the-court brief in support of the school.

In 1990, Daniel Podberesky sued the university after he was denied the Benjamin Benneker scholarship—which was only available to African-American students—because of his race. Podberesky, who is Hispanic, told the court he was entitled to one of the remaining scholarships for that year because he had higher test scores and grades than all applicants but two.

After a lower court ruled in favor of the university, that ruling was overturned by a federal appeals panel, who insisted that “mere knowledge of historical fact is not the kind of present effect that can justify a race-exclusive remedy.”

As university officials await the U.S. Supreme Court to decide the case later this year, they have suspended the Benneker Scholarship, which has a total budget of \$800,000 and provides full tuition, room and board to 80 black students each year.

“The court of appeals’ opinion is inconsistent

with the principle, recently affirmed by (a 1992 Supreme Court precedent) that states that operated de jure (by law) racially segregated school systems have an affirmative duty to dismantle the systems and their vestiges,” stated the Justice Department in their brief.

Podberesky graduated from UM in 1994 and now is enrolled in the university’s medical school. He is seeking money to reimburse himself for college costs he spent after being denied the scholarship. □

## Airbags In More Fatal Accidents, Study Finds

RICHMOND, Va. (CPS) —Although the automobile airbag was heralded as a lifesaver for drivers and passengers alike, a new study out of Virginia Commonwealth University suggests that the devices may actually cause more injuries by creating a false sense of security for the drivers.

The VCU study, which looked at 207 fatal accidents that occurred on Virginia highways in 1993, indicated that vehicles with airbags were in multi-car accidents at a much higher rate than unequipped cars. The crash data was supplied by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Dr. George Hoffer, a VCU professor of economics and transportation who contributed to the study, said accidents are more frequent with drivers with airbags because they may feel less at risk in case of an accident.

“These drivers think technology will make up for their dangerous driving,” Hoffer said. “They become more aggressive because they think they are safer than normal.”

Hoffer points to data from 13 single-car accidents which resulted in the deaths of passengers, not drivers. In nine of the cases, the drivers were protected by their own airbag, while their passengers, who were sitting at a location in the car not equipped with airbags, were killed.

VCU economists Edward Millner and Steven Peterson also contributed to the study, which will be published next fall in the “Journal of Law and Economics.”

Hoffer insists he supports the inclusion of airbags in new vehicles, but warns drivers should use the same amount of caution they would if they were driving a vehicle with only a seatbelt. □

## Nothing To Do This Summer?

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## What's Going On?

Thursday June 22

*The Baroque Concerto*, will be held at the Staller Center at 7 p.m. For more info call 632-7230.

Friday June 23

*Artist-Fellows Recital*, at Staller Center at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 632-7230

Saturday June 24th

The Museums at Stony Brook will be opening an exhibit entitled *The Artist's Long Island: Treasures of Its Scenery and Its People*. The exhibit will be featuring works by natives of the island as well as from artists who painted Long Island landscapes. The exhibit will run until September 5. For more information call 751-0066.

Christine Young will be giving a demonstration of Pysanky, Ukrainian Egg Dyeing, at the St. James General Store from 12-4 p.m. The St. James General Store is located at 516 Moriches Road. For more information call 862-8333.

*Bach in the Americas*, will be held at Staller Center at 8:30 p.m. For more info call 632-7230.

The Brookhaven Arts and Humanities Council presents “An Evening of Jazz” at Bald Hill at 8 p.m.. The concert will feature *The Jackson Brothers Quartet*. Tickets will be \$10 for BAHC members, \$12 general and \$8 for students. For more information call 928-2664 or 451-6260.

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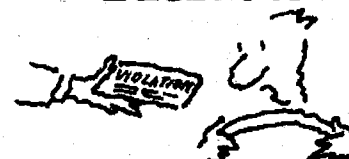
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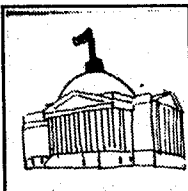
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# Clintonian Foreign Policy: Is it a Quagmire <sup>3</sup>

"And so, if necessary, and after consultation with Congress, I believe we should be prepared to assist NATO if it decides to meet a request from the United Nations troops for help in a withdrawal or a reconfiguration and a strengthening of its forces."



grand coalition against Iraq and a Democratic Congress had to give in. Which begs a couple of questions: what is our national interest in Bosnia besides "keeping the peace" and where are Clinton's objectives? Is he lobbying and showing leadership towards our allies? Is he forcing the Republican Congress to give in to his policies? Certainly not.

Thus, the President has to very clear, and just looking at the quote above, he is not being clear and is waffling around the issue (like he always does).

Finally, my solution is clear: withdraw the UN peacekeepers, lift the arms embargo, so the Bosnian-

Muslims could defend their own terrain, and, if necessary, send in a collective (not peacekeeping) force.

Remember, to end a conflict diplomatically, you need military might to enforce a diplomatic solution. You cannot solve things by shouting stop and doing nothing. □

The above quote is President Bill Clinton's latest policy regarding Bosnia-Herzegovina. He said he believes that we should send U.S. troops into Bosnia, after a request from NATO, who, in turn, received an appeal from the UN. Pretty shaky policy?

Clinton is making foreign policy by consensus, just as he made domestic policy in the 103rd Congress. Again, the president is not positioning clear objectives of why America needs to send our troops to Bosnia. He instead is relying on foreign dignitaries to implement foreign policy.

In addition, these leaders tend to have more domestic quagmires than Clinton has. Britain's Prime Minister John Major has a very divided party; France's President Jacques Chirac has just been elected as president by a thin majority (52%) by a very arrogant electorate; Germany's Chancellor Helmut Kohl, who started the Bosnian Civil War by recognizing Bosnia, barely returned with a majority in recent general elections; Russia's President Boris Yeltsin is trying to solve this crisis in his own way, so he can placate the current nationalistic parliament.

With Clinton trying to formulate a foreign policy with his equals (and I mean that in a qualitative sense), how can we send our troops to Bosnia, if we cannot get any certain inclination from our allies of what is our purpose?

The original mandate, laid out by the UN Security Council, says simply "keep the peace" or prevent the civil war from spreading throughout the Balkans. The question remains, however: How does this mandate stop the war?

The only way to stop any war is to show some military might. From what we receive through the media, the Bosnian-Serbs appear to be the main aggressors. Accordingly, if we stop the Bosnian-Serbs from fighting with the Bosnian-Muslims, then the civil war would end. How can we make the Serbs stop? Certainly not by "keeping the peace," since there is no peace to keep. The Western Alliance should be more mature in dealing with the Balkans.

When Clinton sends troops to any foreign lands, he should ask himself one little question, "Is it in our vital national interest to send troops?"

So far he has not yet answered that question; meanwhile, some members of Congress are already asking if it is, indeed, in our vital national interest.

Following is an example of an action in our national interest: Former President George Bush sent troops to the Persian Gulf because he wanted to preserve the free flow of oil. After all, did we want to give all of our money to one charismatic dictator? Not really.

In addition, Bush stated our objectives clearly: to remove Saddam Hussien out of Kuwait, have the Emir of Kuwait restored and to insure Saudia Arabia wasn't invaded. In addition, Bush helped build a

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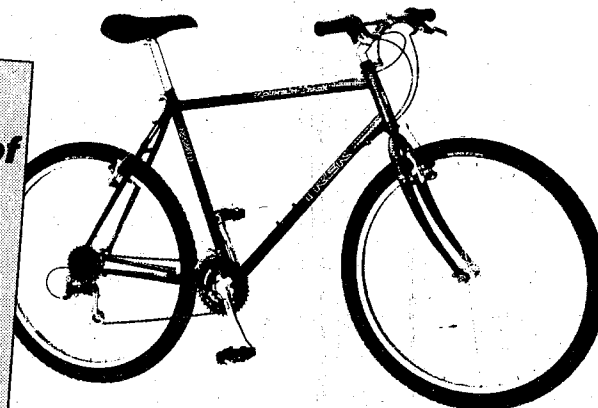
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## Editorial

# We're Not Just for and by Students

We tend to have two problems during the summer at *The Stony Brook Statesman*. The first is that we hardly have enough people to cover what's happening. In fact, we *don't* have enough.

Second, there are things going on that we don't even know about.

Unfortunately, we cannot solve these problems ourselves. We rely on you, our readers, to help us.

First things first: Writers, photographers, reporters, layout artists. We *always* need volunteers for these positions, year round. We need them especially so during the summer.

For the most part, our regular staff is home with their families, vacationing, working or taking courses at another school. The rest of us are working and taking classes here.

The sad part is, it doesn't take much to get involved down here. It's summertime, and for many people, that means a down time. So, if you're in the middle of you down time, give us a call. How often do you get to see how a real newspaper works? For that matter, how often do you get to work for a real newspaper?

Furthermore, we're not just for and by students. Granted, most of the stories we carry cater towards students and a majority of our staff is students, but it doesn't have to be. We encourage faculty, staff and community members to get involved also.

How? Give us a call. If you have an interest in a subject, we're more than happy to let you try your hand at penning an article.

Also, there's nothing against writing letters. One purpose of this newspaper is the free exchange of ideas. If there's something you want to address or let everyone know about, write us a letter - e-mail or fax us. We're here.

Okay. That brings us to our second problem. *If you don't tell us, we don't know.*

Here are a few of the questions we've been asked in recent weeks:

- Did you know that Staller Center is showing movies?

- Did you report on the loss of hot water in the dorms at the beginning of the summer session?

- Did you know that two

University vice-presidents were fired?

Unfortunately, we still haven't covered any of these stories. One, because of the shortage of staff. More importantly, we didn't know until long after the fact.

For us, it's frustrating, because we want to bring to you the most extensive and current news of the University and the surrounding community. We just cannot do it without your help.

Finally, for our off-campus readers, if you know of something happening in your community, please give us a call. We can't guarantee we'll have the resources to cover it, but we will make an honest effort.

How's that? We'll make a deal: If you try a little more, we'll try a lot more.

All you have to do is pick up the phone or slap a stamp on an envelope - or draft some e-mail.

Easy.

So, if you're looking for something different to do, join us. But, if you just want to know what *really* going on around here, help us out and tell us what *you* know. If you don't tell us, perhaps no one will.



**"Taint what a man don't know that hurts him; it's what he knows that just ain't so."**

**- Frank McKinney Hubbard**

# Statesman Features

Monday, June 19, 1995

## Braveheart: An Epic Worth Every Penny

History or Legend? Flesh and Blood Hero or Hollywood Myth? Fact or Fiction?

Six of one, half dozen of the other. If you're looking for entertainment, it doesn't really matter.

As far as *Braveheart* goes, don't wait for the videocassette. Don't wait for it to come out on cable. If you have seven bucks, give or take, go see *Braveheart*.

Now.

This, Mel Gibson's second directorial effort is nothing short of a spectacle. Between the scenery, the costumes and the sheer magnitude of the two-hour 45-minute film, most everyone is left wanting for more. In short, this epic film is one of the few movies in recent memory that's worth every nickel.

And before I begin spouting, consider that according to "Interactive Movie Reviews" on the World Wide Web, *Braveheart* was the only movie to receive favorable ratings by both genders. In fact, the 86 percent approval rating by women topped the 82 percent approval by men. No other film even came close to these totals.

The story is of 13th Century Scottish hero Sir William Wallace and his fight for Scotland's freedom. Orphaned as a boy and raised by his uncle, Wallace returns to his native village of Lanark to settle down, farm and raise a family. He secretly marries his childhood sweetheart, Murron, and begins the life he has mapped.

But the tyranny of neighbor England's king, Edward "the Longshanks" puts a damper on the party. The Scots are placed under the watchful eye of the king's men, garrisons in many village centers.

One of the English nobles attempts having his way with Wallace's wife, sending him into a fury. Wallace escapes, but Murron is not so lucky. She is slaughtered publicly in the village square as a challenge to her widower.

Wallace, of course, returns with a vengeance, killing the noble and a number of guards, and rallies the village to usurp the garrison. So, Wallace begins his rise to legend.

Not every depiction made in the movie is based in fact. Gibson and the screenwriter Randall Wallace as much admit to that. Randall Wallace, who says he is not sure if he is a descendant of William, said that his interest in the "great Scot" germinated on a vacation to Edinburgh where he

viewed the statue of the warrior.

While on the trip, he heard some of the legends and began his research. Wallace soon found that there were few known facts of the man, especially of his early life. Most of what became the screenplay came from his own imagination and from a 1740 AD English translation of 300 pages of



### The Final Grade By Thomas F. Masse

rhyming Scottish verse of the Wallace legends.

"What William Wallace did can be inferred from the passion of his supporters and the hatred of his enemies," said Wallace. "His life communicated that you will prevail if you are faithful to what you believe in; and if those you love believe in you."

Gibson, who directed, produced and starred in the film said that when one of his associates gave him the screenplay, "I couldn't wait to turn each page and was surprised at every turn."

Of the historical discrepancies are the few facts known of Wallace's childhood.

Contrary to the film's depiction the second son of a poor farmer, the real Wallace was born around 1267, the second son of a middle-class landowner who spoke three languages. While the movie contests that Wallace was raised by his uncle after his father and older brother were killed by the English, he

actually was sent to live with his uncle and was educated at Paisley Abbey. Wallace's brother, Malcom, lived to fight alongside his brother in later years. Wallace also apparently remarried - quite contrary to the surprises later in the flick.

If nothing else, the battle scenes more than make up for any historical discrepancy. Any time one can view nearly 2,000 men crash together on the field of battle, waving swords, maces, axes and battlehammers, flesh and blood sickly splattering, is time well-spent.

It is not the mere sight of violence that is satisfying, but the realism in which it is portrayed. This isn't Freddy Krueger blood and guts, this is ferocious hand-to-hand close combat - it's the realism that gets you.

According to the filmmakers' notes, more than 1,700 members of the Irish Army reserve, among others, participated in the field battle scenes.

Then there is the acting. Gibson, admittedly, play a loner, much like in the *Mad Max* and *Lethal Weapon* movies. It isn't much of a stretch for him, but again, he is convincing.

Also appearing is Patrick McGoohan as Edward "the Longshanks"; in her first English-speaking role as French Princess Isabelle is French actress Sophie Marceau; Murron is played by Catherine McCormack; the Judas-like Scottish noble,

Robert the Bruce played by Angus MacFayden; and Peter Hanly as Longshanks's son, Edward II, the would-be king.

McGoohan, who has performed everywhere from the silver screen to television to the stage, is a

See **Braveheart**, Page 7

"I couldn't wait to turn each page and was surprised at every turn."

- Mel Gibson on the screenplay

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# MOVIE REVIEW: *While You Were Sleeping*

## Romantic Comedy Won't Put You to Sleep

By BROOKE DONATONE  
Statesman Staff

*While You Were Sleeping* is the summer's newest romantic comedy, and an interesting switch from the gore of *Braveheart* and the put-me-to-sleep romance between Meryl Streep and Clint Eastwood in *The Bridges of Madison County*.

*Speed*'s Sandra Bullock played more of a nervous high school

freshman with a crush on the senior quarterback than her former role of taking over a bus that was about to be blown up. "Sleepless in Seattle's" Bill Pullman wasn't the geek he formerly portrayed, but rather a seductive character with more testosterone flowing.

The misleading commercial seems like it shows the main events of the movie, which makes you

wonder why you should even bother to waste \$7.50. But there is more than meets the eye.

The first person narration that begins the movie briefly explains Lucy's (Bullock) childhood and jumps into the present to illustrate how she met the man she plans to marry... although he doesn't know it (or her) yet.

Lucy awaits her daily visit from her dream guy, Peter Callaghan, at the train station and takes his tokens instead of an engagement ring. She unexpectedly saves him from sudden death as muggers push him onto the rail and she rolls him away from the oncoming train.

She finds herself thrown into his life, a life she knows nothing about. She is adopted all too quickly into Peter's family under the disillusioned assumption that she is Peter's fiancée.

As her conscience gets the better of her, she resolves to tell the family the truth. However, she is in conflict between losing the family she'd always wanted and causing a heart attack to Peter's grandmother, who has a heart condition, and seems to have episodes with the arrival of bad news.

The advice she receives about her situation is both unhelpful and underhanded. As the movie progresses, Lucy digs herself deeper into the misconceptions until she

takes on an alternative fairy tale life for herself. In the midst of this, she finds herself attracted to Peter's brother, Jack (Pullman).

She also enters another dilemma as Jack thinks she's having an affair with her landlord's Joey Buttafuoco-type son, Joe Jr, who insists that he and Lucy are a couple despite her attempts to slam the door in his face.

As she spends time with Jack and they get to know each other, Lucy learns that superficial love is only for fairy tales and that she wants more from reality and for herself in life.

With Lucy and Jack's love-hate relationship, this classical Hollywood movie seems predictable. But there are many humorous turns that the film takes that make the movie fun.

Both Bullock and Pullman demonstrated their abilities as actors by playing completely different roles than in their former blockbuster films. (Especially Bullock, who just received the MTV award for Best Female Performance for *Speed*).

Some people may characterize it as a "date movie" and others may depict it as a "girl movie". But *While You Were Sleeping* is a light-hearted comedy with a charming appeal for all.

GRADE: B+

□

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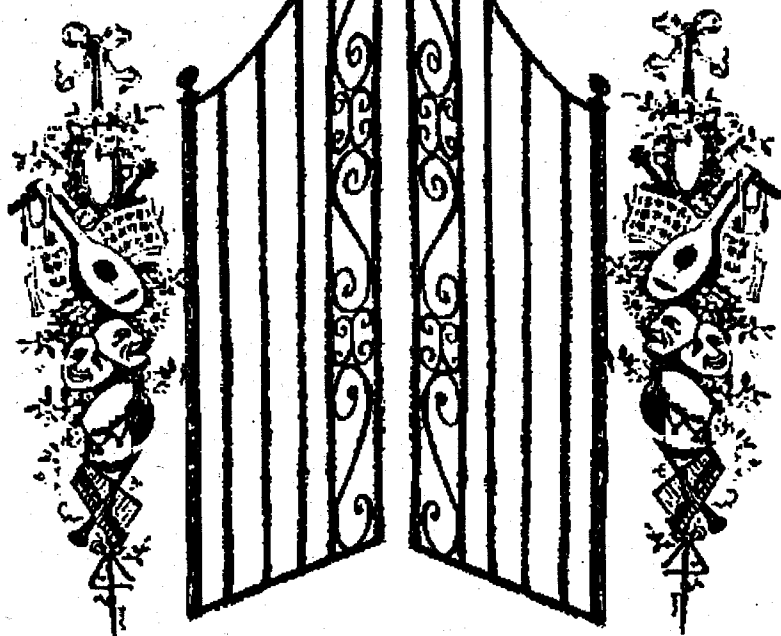
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, June 19, 1995

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## CD REVIEW: Catherine Wheel

# Dark Ride Into Happy Days

By J. DEREK RUGOLO  
Special to Statesman

Don't be fooled by the name. Contrary to what you might think, Catherine Wheel is not a hippie folk singer.

Far from folk, this British band rocks as hard as any popular rock band today, yet cleverly avoids drifting into heavy metal.

*Happy Days*, the new album by Catherine Wheel, showcases a skilled band that possesses a great deal of potential. The songs are full of enough catchy guitar riffs to satisfy those who like Stone Temple Pilots and Pearl Jam.

Singer/guitarist Rob Dickinson has a powerful, yet controlled, voice, which provides the most important asset

to the band. Dickinson shows a great vocal range, going from a sensitive, desperate croon on the song "Heal," to tortured screams on "Waydown."

The band's first single, "Waydown," is an extremely infectious and aggressive song that zips along at a breakneck pace, making it an extremely short three minutes. The song is edgy and tense as Dickinson howls his dirge, claiming "I think I can see through everything. This is how I feel. I'm on my way down."

No, it's not a happy song, but there is a feeling of a heavy weight being lifted off your back by the end. There are no regrets for Dickinson, he's on his way down, and he sure as hell is going to make a lot of noise before he hits bottom.

"Shocking" is a melodic, relaxing tune that

reminisces about lost love, which sounds a lot less melancholy than it seems to be. "Love Tips Up" is in the same vein as "Shocking," yet it offers a more upbeat look a love.

Dickinson, it seems, finds that in his downbeat life, solace is found when he discovers someone in worse shape than he. Bittersweet revenge is the prevalent notion put to music on the mid-tempo rocker "Receive."

With lines like, "It's good to see you smiling and the lack of sympathy", there is no doubt that there is a sense of detachment from a lover lost.

"Kill My Soul" provides the heaviest riffs on the album and, as expected, is not exactly a joyous tune, but it rocks hard and, like almost all of the other songs on the album, has a crystal clear sound with

minimal distortion.

However, the standout track on *Happy Days* is "Heal," which, incidentally, is the only ballad on the album. "Heal" is the kind of song that makes you want to go out and do something good, yet beneath the sweet vocal harmonies and adept songwriting, it is sad. However, it doesn't sound that way, and you'll enjoy it anyway.

Catherine Wheel is a band with great talent and takes us on a dark ride though *Happy Days*. The band revels in its own darkness, and makes it quite tempting to join it on its way down.

Strap on your seatbelts, and enjoy the trip. *Happy Days* are the next stop, at least once the traffic dies down.

GRADE: B+

*"I think I can see through everything. This is how I feel. I'm on my way down. . ."*

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What's on Your Mind.  
See Page 4 for Details.

## Braveheart: Worth Every Penny

Braveheart, From Page 5

highly-respected British actor and he turns in a marvelous performance. MacFayden and Hanly also perform well in their motion picture debuts. Hanly is especially convincing in playing a deceiving role: his marriage to Isabelle is pre-arranged, but he apparently has the hots for a young English noble. The women's roles are played well, but are fewer and further between.

Need more? Charles Knode of *Blade Runner* fame is the costume director and Mic Rogers (*Maverick*) and Simon Crane (*Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*) are the stunt coordinators. No doubt all three will contend for Oscars for there work here.

As Gibson said, there are many, many surprises and I have tried to not give any of them away. For those, like myself, who do not know Scottish history and the legend of Wallace, I shall not ruin a one of them.

There are times when I questioned the accuracy of the film as I watched, and most of those are easy enough to spot. Looking by those is easy enough. It is also easy to dismiss the role Gibson plays as the role he always plays. The toughest aspect to overlook is the occasional Rocky Balboa-like dialogue. Then again, in 13th Century Scotland, it's not so unbelievable.

Finally, some of Wallace's known descendants advised and participated as extras in many scenes, including the battles. Clan Chief Seoras Wallace said that the battles depicted truly did happen, that Edward I was truly intent on exterminating the Scots, and that this movie depicts a part of history that no Scot can forget.

THE FINAL GRADE: A-



# Statesman SPORTS

Monday, June 19, 1995

## Riley to Knicks: Take This Job and Shove It!

By JOHN LOWTHER  
Statesman Staff Writer

Pat Riley, after four years as Knicks head coach, has decided to end his career early in New York. Originally signed for five years at \$1.2 million per year, one of the most recognized coaches in all professional sports will forgo his last million. Riley alleges that his lack of decision-making power within the Knicks organization led to his decision to part with the Knicks on June 6. On June 15, a fax sent to Dave Checketts, president of Madison Square Garden and of the Knicks, confirming Riley's resignation.

According to Riley, his many attempts to gain greater decision-making power went unheeded. "For the last two years, I consistently and repeatedly expressed to Knick

management my desire and need to be charged with ultimate responsibility for all significant aspects of the ballclub. During this time, I tried to my best to reach an agreement with management on these issues. Unhappily, the gap between us could not be bridged."

Riley's quick exit stunned New York Knick fans and players alike. "I'm shocked and disappointed," said center Patrick Ewing. Apparently, none of the players had been informed of Riley's intentions prior to his announcement. "This is a tremendous blow," said Bob Gutkowski, former president of Madison Square Garden. "Riley took them further than talent should have

taken them. They've taken a couple of steps backward; now they're a half-mile backward."

**"He had complete control and autonomy over our basketball operation. It's unfair to portray this as some sort of power struggle. I'm not going to apologize for having someone run the organization, and I chose to do that."**

- MSG and Knick President Dave Checketts responding to Riley's allegation that he left because of a lack of power within the organization.

While Riley stated that a lack of power was the reason for his departure,

Checketts felt that Riley's demands were too high to be met. "It's unfair to portray that there was some sort of power struggle here. He wanted a number of things we really couldn't give him." A number of sources stated that Riley wanted part ownership of the team.

The Knicks must now begin to search for a replacement for Riley, if such a person exists. "First and foremost, we've got to get a good coach," said Checketts.

Even though he has resigned, Riley will still remain under contract. He will not be able to take a new coaching position next season unless the Knicks trade their rights to him. After his resignation from the Lakers, Riley joined up with NBC as a commentator on the NBA. There has been no indication by Riley as to his future plans. □

## Rockets Red Glare May Soon Be Over Orlando

### Houston's Time is now, Magic's Time Will Come, Knick's over

The Houston Rocket's four-game sweep of the Orlando Magic this past Wednesday continued the iron-clad pattern of basketball championship dynasties. Going as far back as Pat Riley's coaching days at Los Angeles, each successor to the NBA title has had the privilege of being named the league's best at least twice in a row. The Lakers, Pistons, Bulls and now the Rockets have all proven that talent and small windows of physical peak mean everything in the NBA.

Don't believe the hype about experience and mental toughness. The most experienced and tough teams are consistently knocked of by fresher legs. Take for instance Phoenix, New York and Cleveland. Every year they pretend to contend with their gritty veterans and cumulative decades of experience but have always fallen short.

Don't be fooled by how close each have come either. It was no mistake three years ago that Michael Jordan in his prime ran over heavily favored Phoenix and Barkley's bad back for Chicago's third straight championship. Despite the lack of a true center and point guard, a young Pippen and Jordan can beat any team any day.

A year ago Patrick Ewing might have had that extra something to have dunked the now infamous "finger roll" that cost them the series to Indiana this year. After all, it took the Knick's that one extra leaping slam-dunk put back of a John Stark's miss in game seven of the Eastern Regional Finals by Ewing to beat the Pacer's last year. Ewing's tired knees couldn't give the Knick's that extra lift this year.

Jordan's mid-season return might have

looked like enough on paper for the Bulls to return to their championship level, but when it counted most late in a game even Jordan couldn't find that old second wind. He committed key turnovers that would have been unthinkable in his younger days.

Hakeem Olajuwon may have toiled in Houston for close to a decade before his team rose to prominence, but it was the development of certain key young stars that sent the Rockets over the top. Robert Horry and Sam Cassel were the keys to their post season successes last year as well as this year. When Cassel suffered through a poor

season, most people thought that the Rocket's were through.

This year's Orlando team were no slouches in the talent department either, but right now Horry's game is eminently more lethal than Horace Grant's, as is Cassel's over his counterpart Nick Anderson. But, as the cycle will have it, the older stars Olajuwon and Clyde Drexler will soon find themselves a step slower or a breath shorter. Both of them are pushing ten-plus years in the league. By comparison Anfernee Hardaway has just two years experience and Shaquille O'Neal has three.

Many people were surprised by Orlando's quick ascent, but if you check with history, success has been very

gracious to great talent. The Milwaukee Bucks went all the way to the finals in only their second year of existence with rookie Lou Alscindor (Kareem Abdul Jabar). Although Michael Jordan toiled for some time as Chicago's lone talent, the championship years weren't far behind once they acquired Scottie Pippen. Magic Johnson led his Lakers to the Championships in his rookie year.

If the cycle of talent holds true, the rest of the league might as well sit back and watch Orlando takes their turn at the top, and just pretend to contend. Unless the Golden State Warriors can string together more lottery picks in addition to their top pick this year, we may be in for a long Magic ride. □

### THE SHOT CLOCK DAVE CHOW

## Seawolves' Baseball Finishes Eighth in Nation

By DAVE CHOW  
Statesman Staff Writer

The Stony Brook baseball team completed it's most successful year ever with a loss to Cortland State 5-0 in the NCAA regional finals on May 19th.

Cortland scored two runs on two Stony Brook errors in the second inning and then scored single runs in the sixth, seventh and eighth for the victory.

The 'Wolves lost two of three games in their region. The NCAA tournament invitation was the first ever for a Stony Brook baseball team. The Seawolves finish the '94-95 season with a 30-8 record.

Although the Seawolves go down as being ranked the number eight Division III team in the nation, the 'Wolves biggest season went out with a whimper instead of a bang, due to lack luster post season play.

Stony Brook dropped two of their last four games in the Salisbury Tournament back on May 8, just before entering the NCAA's. The two losses were the first time

they dropped back to back games in the season. The 'Wolves finished third in the tournament.

After receiving a seed in the New York Regionals of the NCAA, Stony Brook decided to bypass an invitation to the ECAC NY/NJ Metropolitan Baseball Championships. Although the "Wolves more than likely would have made a strong run in the ECAC's, the opportunity to play in the nationals was something they couldn't pass up.

Out of eight separate regions, Stony Brook was the only number one seed not to host on their home field. The New York Regionals were held instead in Ithaca, home of the number two seed.

Ithaca has been selected for as a playing site every year since the championships began in 1976. Whether or not this was a factor in Stony Brook's early exit in the regionals, the 'Wolves certainly would have preferred to play at home. □

Oh. If we only had a couple of photographers, we could have filled the rest of the sports page. If you have a camera and would like to join the staff of The Stony Brook Statesman, call us at 632-6479 and help the chief rest better. (p.s. - another writer or two wouldn't hurt, either.)