

Task Forces Reports Made Public

By THOMAS F. MASSE
Statesman Editor

The University President's administration reached its first major milestone by making public the findings of the nine task forces charged to chart the institutions

her early administration promises to improve the quality of education and campus life at Stony Brook. The forces were put in place soon after the presidents convocation address in late September of last year. Pres.

pages, and two reports were more than 70 pages. Of the 269 pages of text, not including cover pages, issued by Gary Matthews of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity, 72, the most of any report, were submitted by

According to the "Building Community" task force's report's preface, "a sizable 'infrastructure' for the building a sense of community ... does exist but is not well-utilized." The task force, chaired by Professor Susan

East Campus in the short-term would be unfeasible in terms of cost and effectiveness.

The committee rated the impact and cost on a scale of low to moderate to high on 23 recommended projects in Communications, Welcome, Shared Experiences, Giving, and Physical Symbols/Monuments. The listing of projects is followed by vague descriptions, without any real detailed planning, of each.

An appendix of 17 additional strategies follows the main text. The plans are listed with no description and are all classified as low impact.

The "Campus Life" Task Force, chaired by Carmen Vasquez, focused on 10 items, with five subcommittees attacking two groups each. The groups main targets were Undergraduate and Graduate Residential Life, Commuter Student Life, Faculty and Staff Life, First Year Experience, Campus Services, Safety, Facilities, Communication, and the Seven-Day Campus.

The preface to the committee's report defined the drive for the members. "The See **REPORTS**, Page 3

Quick Stats on Task Force Reports

| TASK FORCE NAME | CHAIRPERSON | # OF FORCE MEMBERS | # OF CONSULTANTS | # OF PAGES OF REPORT |
|--|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| "Building Community" | Professor Susan O'Leary | 11 | 7 | 11 |
| "Celebrating Diversity and Building Commonalities" | N/R | 23 | 37* | 72 |
| "Recruitment and Retention" | Dean Richard F. Laskowski | N/R | N/R | 15 |
| "Special Uses of the Campus" | Gary Matthews | 17 | N/R | 14 |
| "Campus Life" | Carmen Vasquez | 24 | N/R | 33 |
| "Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity" | James Glimm | 24 | 6 | 24 |
| "Public Service and Community Relations" | Michael Maffetone | 26 | N/R | 14 |
| "Teaching and Learning" | William Dawes | 21 | N/R | 15 |
| "Facilities" | Professor James H. Rubin | 21 | 6 | 71* |

N/R = Not Reported or None

* = (incl. 4 members)

* = Appendices not issued.

direction for the next five years.

The nearly 200 members of the task forces were aided by dozens of consultants and generated better than 270 pages of text for the reports.

The task forces were organized by University President Shirley Strum Kenny as one of

Kenny alluded to the then-recently completed Middle States Review accreditation process as one signal as a necessity of the project.

Five of the task force reports fell into the 11 to 15 page range (See table on this page). One each came it at 20-plus and 30-plus

the task force on "Celebrating Diversity and Building Commonalities." The task force on "Facilities" submitted 71 pages, but the appendices of the report were not issued. The appendices are available for consultation in the Office of the President.

O'Leary, notes in the preface that it focused more on the undergraduate population because "undergraduate students sometimes become graduate students, faculty, and staff and always become alumni." The force also emphasized West Campus, claiming that including

Crime Stoppers Elects New Chair

By APRIL MCKENZIE
Special to The Statesman

The Stony Brook Crime Stoppers Committee recently elected a new chairman and assistant chairman.

Thomas Masse, editor of *The Stony Brook Statesman*, was elected unanimously and will replace outgoing chair Martin Rodriguez, who graduated in May. Scott Law, assistant to the director for security and safety of campus residences, was appointed assistant to the chair.

"Our primary job is to educate the community about the function of Crime Stoppers and to encourage people to use this service," said Masse. "My top priority is getting the word out."

According to Masse, the

committee is looking for individuals from different segments of the campus community to join the organization. "The more representatives we have from different groups on campus, the better we will be able to spread the word," Masse said. "Anyone interested in deterring crime on campus should give us a call."

Crime Stoppers is a program that encourages crime prevention through community involvement. A witness to a crime is encouraged to call local police immediately when a crime is in progress. The number on campus from any extension phone is 333.

However, if someone witnesses a crime and cannot call immediately, or learns information of a crime after it has

happened, the person can call 632-TIPS. The call is transferred to an off-campus phone line and the caller can give the information anonymously.

The person receiving the information will give the caller a code number, which the caller should write down, and ask the caller to call again in a few days. If the information leads to an arrest - not a conviction - the caller will receive another code number and a location. The caller will can go the location, give the code numbers, and receive a cash reward for up to \$1,000.

"The prevention comes in when criminals see that those committing crime on campus are getting caught," said Masse. "When that happens, you'll see a lot less crime on and around campus."

Masse said that Crime Stoppers will handle any crime, from graffiti to stolen bicycles to felonies.

The committee is targeting media outlets on campus and across Suffolk County. The committee is a subdivision of the Suffolk County Crime Stoppers Program.

Anyone witnessing a crime in progress is encouraged to call 333 on campus. Anyone with information on a crime that has already occurred is requested to call 632-TIPS.

Anyone interested in serving on the Stony Brook Crime Stoppers committee should call Masse at *The Stony Brook Statesman* at 632-6479, or Doug Little, assistant director of University Police for Community Relations, at 632-7786. □

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The Gavel Strikes: Court is Adjourned

At the conclusion of June 1995, the U.S. Supreme Court issued opinions on various constitutional issues that were brought before them. The issues ranged from Freedom of Speech and Religion to the right of suffrage.

What is striking is not how the Court ruled on these cases, but how the Justices of the Court are emerging and how the Court is moving (albeit slowly) to the right as much as Congress and the nation is.

First, the Court invalidated (for the first since the New Deal era) a federal law dealing with interstate commerce.

Second, the Court enabled state institutions (especially state universities) to subsidize religious organizations, because helping religious organizations is not necessarily endorsing one religion over another.

Third, the Court ruled that private sponsors of a parade are allowed to exclude a group from marching in it.

Fourth, the Court authorized a local school administrator to test an athletic student for drugs on a random basis.

Finally, in the biggest decision of the 1994-95 Term, the Court invalidated Georgia's (we can't stop talking about this state) 11th Congressional District, because it's a "majority-minority" district, so it can guarantee a minority to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

After assessing these five cases, here is where the nine Justice stand politically:

On the Right: Chief Justice William Rehnquist, Justice Antonin Scalia, and Justice Clarence Thomas.

On the "Consensus Center": Justice Anthony Kennedy and Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

On the Left: Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Justice Stephen Breyer, and Justice David Souter.

Independent: Justice John Paul Stevens.

With the way these nine justices stand, how can we see the Court moving towards the right? Simply put, even though Justice O'Connor is considered to be a "consensus justice" and helps to build coalitions on the High Bench, she does vote mostly towards the "majority right." Thus, when the next Term of the Court commences in early October, keep an eye on Justice O'Connor, because she could be the key person to bring the Court toward the right during this "Republican Revolution of '94/95."



The biggest case that would mark the keystone of American politics is the way Congressional Districts are carved out. The case dealing with Georgia's 11th Congressional District (CD) has similar characteristics to Texas's 30th CD, New

York's 12th CD (sometimes called the "Bullwinkle District") and the infamous North Carolina 12th CD. These districts were formed because Democrats want to be sure that there are minority members to represent minority constituents.

In addition, Republicans have benefited because when minorities are placed in one district, then the surrounding districts prove to be white and conservative. Thus, the old white Southern conservative Democrat becomes even a more extinct breed in American politics.

That is partly why we see the GOP dominating more of the South these days. The Court's ruling against these "racial gerrymandered" districts may bring the South back its white Conservative Democrats. However, these minority representatives are enraged that this ruling may divide the Democratic Party further.

Remember, throughout its long history, the party always had two wings against each other, the Northern Liberal Democrats, who dominated the party and Washington for the last two decades, and the Southern Conservative Democrats, who dominated the "Old Solid South."

The Party was divided against itself once back

See COURT, Page 3

The Washington Chronicles
David Samuel Shashoua

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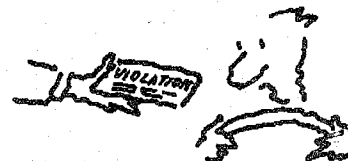
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Court Adjourned

Court, From Page 2

in 1860 when The

Northern wing ran Stephen Douglas as their nominee for President, and the Southern wing ran John Breckinridge as the nominee. It was sign of Civil War coming for the nation and the Democratic Party's split caused Abraham Lincoln to win the Presidency.

If the Democrats start fighting amongst themselves with the budget and congressional districting, it may cause a split within the party of Jefferson (the world's oldest political

party), and we may see a third party emerge from the Democrats.

That would spell the end of the party as we know it. If such a great split comes, the GOP would benefit greatly.

Note: I would like to officially welcome a new columnist, not necessarily from this newspaper, but in the world of columnists: Hillary Rodham Clinton. Hillary, do not be too partisan, but be discreet with your partisanship. I'll try to read some of your thoughts as long as you read mine, and have fun. ☐

Task Force Reports Are In

REPORTS, From Front Page

spirit of community must be measured not by the length of time on campus but the quality of caring. ... if [services] are arranged to serve the need of the students, not the system."

The task force reviewed current initiatives, including the forthcoming Student Activity Center, the Residence Hall Revitalization Program, Athletics, and the proposed Student Development and Services Center.

The task force also identified dozens of possible future initiatives in the categories of academic improvements, facilities, food service facilities, residence hall facilities, facilities/grounds/safety, facility/safety, communication/information systems, programs/activities, and services.

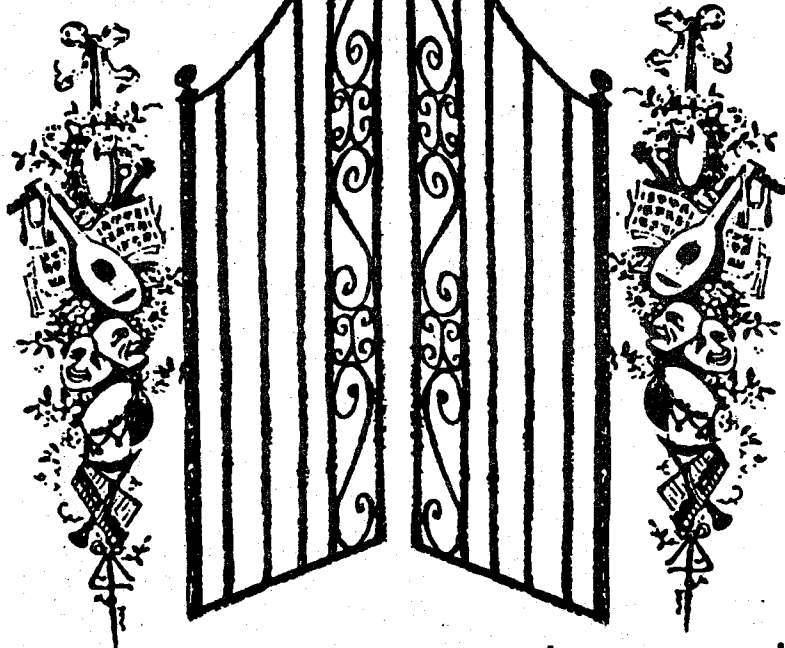
The "Celebrating Diversity and Building Commonalities" task force of 23

members and 37 consultants produced an extensive and highly detailed map of its recommendations for the next five years. Its six major priority areas are Communicate diversity as an institutional priority, Diversify the work force and student body, Upgrade international programs, Revitalize the curriculum, Continue to encourage diversity in co-curricular activities, and Ensure accountability for implementing diversity programs.

The committee set forth on its task with the assumption that "True diversity implies a pluralistic campus, one that provides students, faculty, and staff the opportunities to learn about, respect, and appreciate each other's cultures and backgrounds." The group also suggested that "The University at Stony Brook has a

See TASK FORCES, Page 5

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Editorial

At First Glance, Task Forces Get "A"

After just a brief overview of the task force reports made public last week, it is clear that, for the most part, these groups have possibly made a significant contribution to the future of this University.

Just paging through the reports, picking out main points, one sees that there are dozens of great ideas contained within. Of course, much of what is contained in the nearly 300 pages was obvious to a lot of people from the start.

As Dean Richard Laskowski points out in his introduction to the "Recruitment and Retention" Task Force report, a great deal of all this material has been discussed before at some level. But there are two things that are exciting about these reports:

First, there is also a great deal of new material and ideas that are, not only promising but, are, in fact, *exciting*.

Second, for the recommendations that are repeats of what we've heard over and over for the past 35 years, something *may finally be done*.

Dealing with the latter, one recurring theme in a majority of the reports is the parking/transportation issue. Almost every task force had some ideas about improving, redesigning, and humanizing the experience.

Another major theme is the "undergraduate experience." The phrase has certainly been used

often enough in the last year, but now these reports begin to define what the term will come to mean in the next five years.

A third recurring motif is the condition of the campus buildings, particularly the residence halls. 'Nough said.

Again, this is not really news to anyone. What is news is that more than just the students are taking these issues seriously. One of the beauties of the task forces has been the alliance of the different sectors of campus: students (grad and undergrad), faculty, administration, etc. Now that everyone is on the same page - dare we say, on the same *team* - the possibility of accomplishing something is as great as ever.

Of course, there is one thing that keeps nagging our excitement.

If the task forces had not been formed and the various constituencies not brought together, would progress have been made ever? That is, students have been all but screaming about some of these issues, and nothing was ever really done. Is it only because "more respectable" members of the community finally agreed openly on paper that someone might listen?

Actually, a second concept nags our excitement: the budget.

Aside of that, President Kenny and the task force members should be commended for the work, the effort, they have put

forth - and for getting us this far. Let's hope that at this early stage - especially with the oncoming budget crunch - their work will not go for naught.

On the lighter side, one odd topic that popped up in a number of reports was the issue of signage. Okay, we'll agree that Stony Brook is not a communications-based school, but it has improved in the last year or two. And, for mapping the future of the University, it's just a bit hard to believe that so many people think that signs will have such a tremendous impact over the so many other problems that need to be mended.

We at The Stony Brook Statesman look forward to delving into these documents, to picking them apart one letter at a time. First to tell you what they say, and second to tell you what we feel is the good and the not-so-good in each of them.

There are so many topics contained in those pages. Everything from debate of the University's logo to defining Stony Brook's standard of academic excellence. However, right off the bat, we can say that there are also a few scary ideas in some of the reports, but that's another editorial.

Also, we'd like to know what you think. If you have had the chance to peruse the reports, please drop us a line (besides, we need the letters).

Top Ten Ways for Returning Students to Fund Tuition Hike / Financial Aid Reductions: *

10. Sell Copies of *The Stony Brook Statesman* for \$1⁰⁰ apiece.

9. Collect cans, but leave Al's and Nat's territories alone.

8. Ticket every vehicle in sight. (Oh. Sorry. That's the way the Traffic Department raises money.)

7. Cut a record.

6. Sell your soul to Satan.

5. Charge orientation newbies \$5⁰⁰ a head to see the "Stony Brook."

4. Hold a beer and waffle dinner (\$10⁰⁰ per person).

3. Become a Polity officer and embezzle the government dry.

2. Start an "illegal" gambling ring in your dorm room.

1. Beg, borrow, cheat and steal (See #3).

* This feature is for amusement only. The Stony Brook Statesman does not endorse, condone or recommend participating in illegal activities.

"Why should society feel responsible only for the education of children, and not for the education of all adults of every age?"

- Erich Fromm

Task Force Reports Made Public⁵

TASK FORCES, From Page 3

strong foundation on which to build a diverse campus."

The force's report included a number of appendices that documented a summary of likely costs, a timeline for implementation, the "Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the Nature of a Multicultural Campus: Final Report," a list of cultural and special interest student clubs and organizations, a blueprint for Affirmative Action hiring and faculty diversity on the west campus, and three articles - one each from SUNY-Albany, UCal-Davis, and U. South Carolina - that demonstrate the "Principles of Community."

According to the Summary of Costs, implementing the task forces recommendation will run into the millions of dollars.

The just-as-extensive "Facilities" report is focused on three major themes: Undergraduates at a research university, Budgetary austerity, and User friendliness.

Professor James Rubin, chair of the task force, wrote that five areas were identified by the group as major areas of concern, among which are Student Life and Services, Classrooms and Study Space, Parking and Transportation, Information Infrastructure, and Aesthetics and "User Friendliness."

In addressing these areas, the group identified three recurring roadblocks to each, those being Appearance and maintenance, Technology lag, and Sense of Community. Referencing the latter of the three, Rubin wrote, "The Stony Brook campus is in a sorry state of disrepair." He pointed to a 1994 report of the Campus Survey Evaluation System in which most campus facilities were rated as "good," as "the Task Force was surprised to read."

The committee reached four major conclusions as follows: "Undertake massive efforts for maintenance and repair of all buildings and halls. ... Make recommended administrative and structural efforts to address technology lag, with stress on access and efficiency gains in student services, administration, scheduling classrooms, and teaching. Use Phase I and II construction of Student Activities Center and certain select renovations to improve the sense of place along the main Academic Mall, while consolidating student service in the old Union ... - with no other new building construction for the foreseeable future. Increase commuter student parking nearer to the academic core, in order to decrease traffic circulation and dependence on campus-provided transportation, which should be made free of charge."

One question remaining unanswered after much debate in recent years regards the University's role in the surrounding community. Pres. Kenny said she would focus on community relations in her convocations speech.

Echoing her sentiments, the task force on "Public Service and Community Relations" wrote, "We believe Stony Brook must establish a more systematic approach to community relations that includes centralizing the coordination of all community relations activities and developing a strategic plan for public service."

University Hospital CEO Michael Maffetone's task force acknowledged current initiative such as *Engineering 2000*, the development of the University Medical Center and the expansion of intercollegiate athletics, but preferred to debate new ideas

instead of rehashing current projects.

The committee's top ten recommendations did not focus around any one major theme. In the opinion of the group, "The single most important thing the university can do to further enhance community relations and public service" would be to develop a Campus Assistance Program that would "make the campus and campus resources more accessible to the public."

Other ideas of the committee, in order of importance, are: Parking and campus access, Placement and internships, a Technical Assistance Center, an electronic entrance sign, Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity Training, and Ambassador program, Business education, Part-time education, and School-based health care.

The task force briefly described 16 recommendations that require low/no funding or administrative effort that it urges to be implemented immediately. The group also outlined eight other initiatives that it concluded were of lower priority than the first ten, but that could be considered as enhancements to the University.

The "Recruitment and Retention" task force's report began with the statement that its topic was one that has been researched on numerous occasions during the last 10 years. The introduction states that the current task force reaffirmed many of the previous recommendations made and added a few more.

The committee seemed to know it had its work cut out for it from the start. "One of the strongest impressions that emerged from the deliberations and research of the Task Force is that Stony Brook does not communicate well, not with its internal constituencies and not with its many

outside publics."

Dean Richard F. Laskowski's group prioritized 12 recommendations to enhance the undergraduate experience on which it focused. First among the priorities is to "Designate the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies as the primary person responsible for undergraduate education and empower the office to make the changes necessary to enhance the educational experience for all undergraduates."

In brief, the committee also suggested a restructuring of the position of Dean of Students, expanding the University's public relations initiatives, creating a comprehensive state-of-the-art professional placement service, improving the introduction of first-year students, making the campus more user-friendly, improving maintenance of residence halls and classrooms, increasing the number of extracurricular events and activities, improving existing services, and instituting a program of "Smart Ideas." □

Editor's Note - Due to the massive amount of information of the documents, this report contains only overviews and statistics of some of the reports. Since the information has not been fully reviewed, no University officials have been asked to comment. See future issues of The Stony Brook Statesman for more comprehensive analysis of the reports and comments from University officials and community members.

Task force reports from "Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity," "Special Uses of the Campus," and "Teaching and Learning" have not been reviewed to date.





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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, July 17, 1995

Godspell: More Fun Than Matthew

By MICHAEL GIDEON
Special to *The Statesman*

An exciting, emotionally moving retelling of the Gospel of St. Matthew, *Godspell*, now being performed at Theatre Three in Port Jefferson, with its lively, energetic cast and solid musical score, is a great way to spend a summer evening.

Godspell, the word itself being an archaic form of "gospel", originated as a student show at Carnegie Tech in Pittsburgh, written and directed by John-Michael Tebelak. Music and new lyrics were written by Stephen Schwartz. In 1977, Schwartz received a Tony nomination for Best Score for his work on *Godspell*.

Theatre Three's production of *Godspell* showcases inspiring performances and music by a troupe of talented actors and musicians. You do not watch this play; you experience it.

The premise is this: Jesus Christ is pretty much a normal guy who happens to have quite an impressive lineage and an important message to pass on to his Apostles and to all people.

That much we know from Matthew. *Godspell* offers us a twist.

In this telling, Jesus and his followers do not wear robes; they wear normal clothes. And the Apostles are not twelve men; they are twelve people of mixed races and sexes. Jesus and these Apostles do not live 2,000 years ago; they live today. And herein lies the subtle beauty of *Godspell*: a contemporary parable of a timeless tale, portraying its eternity.

Of course, any good tale must be told well.

GODSPELL



And with a mixture of powerful songs, heartfelt acting and stunning choreography, this tale is told quite well indeed.

The musical score invites the audience into the world on the stage. The score is a dynamic

mixture of musical styles, from bluesy jazz to ragtime to rock. It offers something for everybody. One song, the ballad "Day by Day," was a Top 40 hit some time ago.

And while the score brings the audience into the actors' world, it cannot hold them there. It is the actors who make the story real. It is the actors who keep the audience involved.

The cast of *Godspell* keeps the audience riveted to the story. There are no wooden characterizations; no shallow stereotypes. All the characters look and, more importantly, feel real. The audience laughs when they laugh, cries when they cry.

The sting of the betrayal of Judas can be felt in the air. But so can the painful moments that led up to the betrayal; how Judas loved Jesus and wanted to accept his message, but just didn't truly understand.

The action in *Godspell* is not limited to the stage. Many of the song and dance numbers have the actors running down the aisles, singing jubilantly. At the finale, there were few in the audience who weren't clapping along themselves.

Dare I say it, but St. Matthew's Gospel was never so exciting. □

GRADE: B+/A-

GODSPELL IS PLAYING AT THEATRE THREE, 412 MAIN STREET, PORT JEFFERSON, THROUGH SATURDAY, AUGUST 5. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT 928-9100.

The Stony Brook Statesman Trivia Challenge

Category I: *Star Trek*

Answer the following questions correctly and win a 1996 *Star Trek: Voyager* calendar.

1. What is James Kirk's middle name?
2. Which parent of Spock was human?
3. Name the captain of the starship Voyager.

?

Category II: Damon Wayans

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1. In what movie did Wayans star alongside Bruce Willis?
2. Name one of Damon Wayans's brothers.
3. Who was Luke Skywalker's father?

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Faraway So Close

- By Mike Kramer



Personals

Hey, personals are back for the summer. If you want to send someone a quick message, just drop us a line. ---Please, type all personals. ---Include Name and phone number with all personals. ---Send, fax or e-mail personals to the addresses on page 4. Thanx.

- The Grim Reader
ΣΣΣ Woman - I always seem to pick the worst week of the year to move. Guess we're roomies again. ;)

Quizzee - Happy birthday, sis. Geez, a quarter century - wow, you're gettin' old! - The Grim Reader

SK - Stop getting so worked up. I'm just 'living' there. :) - Grim

To all the orientation newbies - MuHahahahahaha! - The Statesman Staff

Lowlife - You Loser!! - U Know Hoo

In case anyone missed it, it was pretty damn hot last weekend.

HAPPY (BELATED) BIRTHDAY TO OUR EDITORS ALEXANDRA CRUZ (JUNE 19) AND PAUL WRIGHT (JUNE 20)

Well, I love that dirty water. Oh, Boston, you're my home.

- Da Mass
What the hell happen to Doug Romeo? (Wherefore art thou, Doug?)

Just in case anyone has any misconceptions, after the second column, I've just been trying to fill space. So send me something so I don't have to do this next week!

To Kramer's orientation group - Hey, we feel for you down here! Don't let him scare you away. (Kidding, Mike. Just kidding).
Arrgh, one more column!

To Polity, Just six more weeks of relative safety! heh, heh... To all, One last thing: This really isn't as easy as it looks! **SEE YOU IN TWO WEEKS!**

Statesman Features

Monday, July 17, 1995

Aloha! Aloha! Aloha!

Hotspots on the Islands of Hawaii and Maui

By DANIEL TYLER OMEL
Special to *The Statesman*

As any experienced traveler knows, knowing where to go at a reasonable price is the key to a good vacation; Hawaii is no exception. The two islands subject for review are the beautiful island of Maui and the big island of Hawaii.

Maui: The preferred place to lodge on the island of Maui is near the town of Lahaina in the large hotel complex up the road, featuring hotels such as the Marriot and the Westin. Usually, I prefer to recommend a Bed and Breakfast over a hotel because of the price and the comfort level of a B&B (lower and higher respectively).

I make the exception because this chain of hotels offers a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean and the West Maui Mountains, excellent food within the hotel chain, the Maui Marriot Luau (rated one of the best Luau's on the island) and a dry climate to sunbathe and swim without sacrificing the lush scenery expected from a tropical island.

[Beware: the Hawaiian Islands of Hawaii and Maui are not as lush and tropical as *Magnum PI*. Every 25-50 miles, the island changes climate, e.g. it will change from a dreary-rainy Oregonian climate to a dry Arizonian climate within fifty miles. It takes some planning and research to find the tropical climate on the island without the rainy weather.]

Things to do: After establishing lodgings, it is time to explore the island. There are four must-see attractions on or near the island of Maui.

The town of Lahaina is a nice little town, similar to Port Jefferson, but full of Hawaiian art galleries, as well as the Planet Hollywood and the Hard Rock Cafe. It is one of the few tourist towns on Maui, by far the nicest and well worth an afternoon.

Two natural points of interest on the island are the Iao Needle and the Haleakala Crater (Caldera). The

Needle is attractive and it's worth taking an hour to walk around and see this former volcanic cone grown over by vegetation. It is a lovely place, but one should not dwell there for too long. Instead, leave plenty of time for the Haleakala Caldera, an extinguished volcano that has been inactive for more

procured on board most tour-boats will protect sufficiently from stings.

There are also many other events that one can participate in, such as horseback riding, deep sea fishing, helicopter tours, whale watching (check with your travel agent for the whale season), hiking, camping, etc.. These events can be arranged through your hotel activities coordinator.

Hawaii: The big Island of the Hawaii is a very tricky island to navigate and it is wise—on all your Hawaiian trips—to rent a car. But more importantly, knowing where to go with your car is key to a pleasant Hawaiian vacation.

The best combination of a dry and a verdant location can be

found south of the Kona Airport. Personally, I recommend a B&B on the Kahaluu coast on Alii drive, but there are also many fine hotels along Alii drive as well.

Things to do; places to see:

One of the most spectacular places to see on the big island of Hawaii is

booklet put out by the National Park service.

The park is located on the southwest side of the island, and as you can guess, it presents some spectacular scenery. From deep calderas in the earth, to dried lava tubes (tunnels in the earth that have been formed by underground lava channels) that tourists may walk through, the Volcano park is spectacular.

The best view of the park (and the island) comes at dusk and goes into the night: the red hot lava slowly flows from the volcano and meets with the dark sea. Ask park officials where the lava is flowing and bring a flashlight and a good pair of walking shoes to see this spectacular event.

Another place to venture out to—and actually see native Polynesian culture—is called by local inhabitants "the City of Refuge." Like the Biblical cities of refuge, this city was a haven for Hawaiians who had committed some sort of crime, and sought protection for their lives. Preserved today as a national park, it presents a wonderful look at how the native Hawaiians lived—as recently as one hundred years ago.

Of course, as on Maui, horseback riding, fine dining, helicopter and bus tours are standard in paradise. Ask your B&B operator, or the hotel

activities coordinator, for specific cites and companies.

Maui and Hawaii are both beautiful islands and should be explored individually; it is preferable to spend at least five to seven days on each island, relaxing and sight-seeing,

in order to fully appreciate the island, its people and your vacation. Don't get bogged down by seeing every little detail or every art gallery or every mountain crevice, but stick to these highlights and bring some tanning lotion. □



The City of Refuge, Hawaii

Photo Courtesy of Daniel Tyler Omel

than 200 years. Big enough to fit the island of Manhattan inside its borders, it is truly a spectacular array of colors red, yellow, brown, and green.

For the adventurous types, one may hike through the Caldera floor, but don't worry about dangerous animals. The most dangerous animal on the island of Maui is the wild boar. Fortunately, there are no snakes or other deadly predators on the Hawaiian islands.

[You can easily fit both the Iao needle and the Haleakala Caldera into one tour group trip.]

The last must-see Maui adventure takes place, not on Maui but off a tiny island off its coast, Molokini—a small island that acts as a sheltered cove for the fish of the Pacific. It is ideal for snorkeling and diving—and

there are many companies willing to take people out for a five hour cruise and dive. (Cruise prices range from \$35-\$40 per person.) It is an excellent experience, but beware of the Portuguese Man of War and other jellyfish in the area—a scuba outfit



Maui Marriot Luau, Maui

Photo Courtesy of Daniel Taylor Omel

the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which houses the world's highest active volcano, Mauna Loa. Mauna Loa, and its sister Mauna Kea (which is outside of the park) are considered "the greatest mountain masses on the planet," according to the free tour