

The Stony Brook

"Let Each Become Aware"
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Statesman

Volume XLI, Number 41

Monday, March 30, 1998

First Copy Free



Stony Brook Goes Sci- Fi

**I-CON Holds 17th Year of
Festivities As Trekkers
Roam the Campus in their
Sunday Best, pg 2-3**

Student Finds Ants Creeping
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CRB

17th Annual I-Con Festival Comes to Stony Brook

By LAURA LO
Statesman Editor

Xena, Warrior Princess, Klingons, Vulcans, and an array of mages and elves strolled the campus as I-CON 17 invaded the Stony Brook this weekend.

I-CON, or Island Convention, is the East Coast's largest

convention of science fiction, fact, and fantasy. Guests included television stars, authors and artists, among others. In addition, there were enough events and programs to keep every Trekker, filker, sci-fi fan and fantasy lover enthralled.

For I-Con's 17th year, special media guests included Nana Visitor, who plays Major Kira Nerys on

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine, and *Babylon 5*'s Claudia Christian, who plays Commander Susan Ivanova.

"Claudia was one of the best media guests we've ever had," said Ken Johanson, a Stony Brook graduate who has been on I-CON's committee for the last six years. "She was very energetic. She

really knew how to work the crowd, and from what I hear, she never stopped signing autographs. She even signed the wall in the Science Fiction Forum."

Guest of Honor, author Norman Spinrad, whose credentials include *The Man in the Jungle*, *Bug Jack Barron* and *The Void Captain's Tale*, directly influenced the New Wave science fiction writing movement in the 1960s, according to John Madonia, I-CON's Authors coordinator of 17 years. Other authors present included Hal Clement, best known for *Mission of Gravity*, short story writer and novelist Carol Emshwiller, and Barry Malzberg, who has authored over 20 novels and more than 300 short stories.

For comic book enthusiasts, Guest of Honor Murphy Anderson was on hand. Anderson inked both science fiction and superhero comics, including Captain Comet and Atomic Knights in *Strange Adventures*, *Mystery in Space*, *Flash*, *Justice League of America* and the Spectre in *Showcase*. He has also worked with writer Gardner Fox on *Hawkman*, and with artists Curt Swan, Gil Kane, and Carmine Infantino, whom he designed *Adam Strange* for.

"Anderson is one of the few artists that defined the Silver Age," said Johanson, who has also been I-CON's Comics coordinator for three years. "His style stands out." Comic's Silver Age started in the early 1950s with the emergence of the second Flash, Johanson said.



Statesman/Peter Gratton



Statesman/Laura Lo

Kerry Skadi, assistant director of convention operation, and Chase Graff, hospitality coordinator, a/k/a Xena



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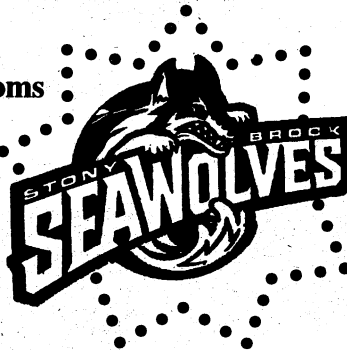
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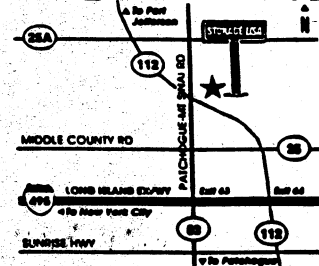
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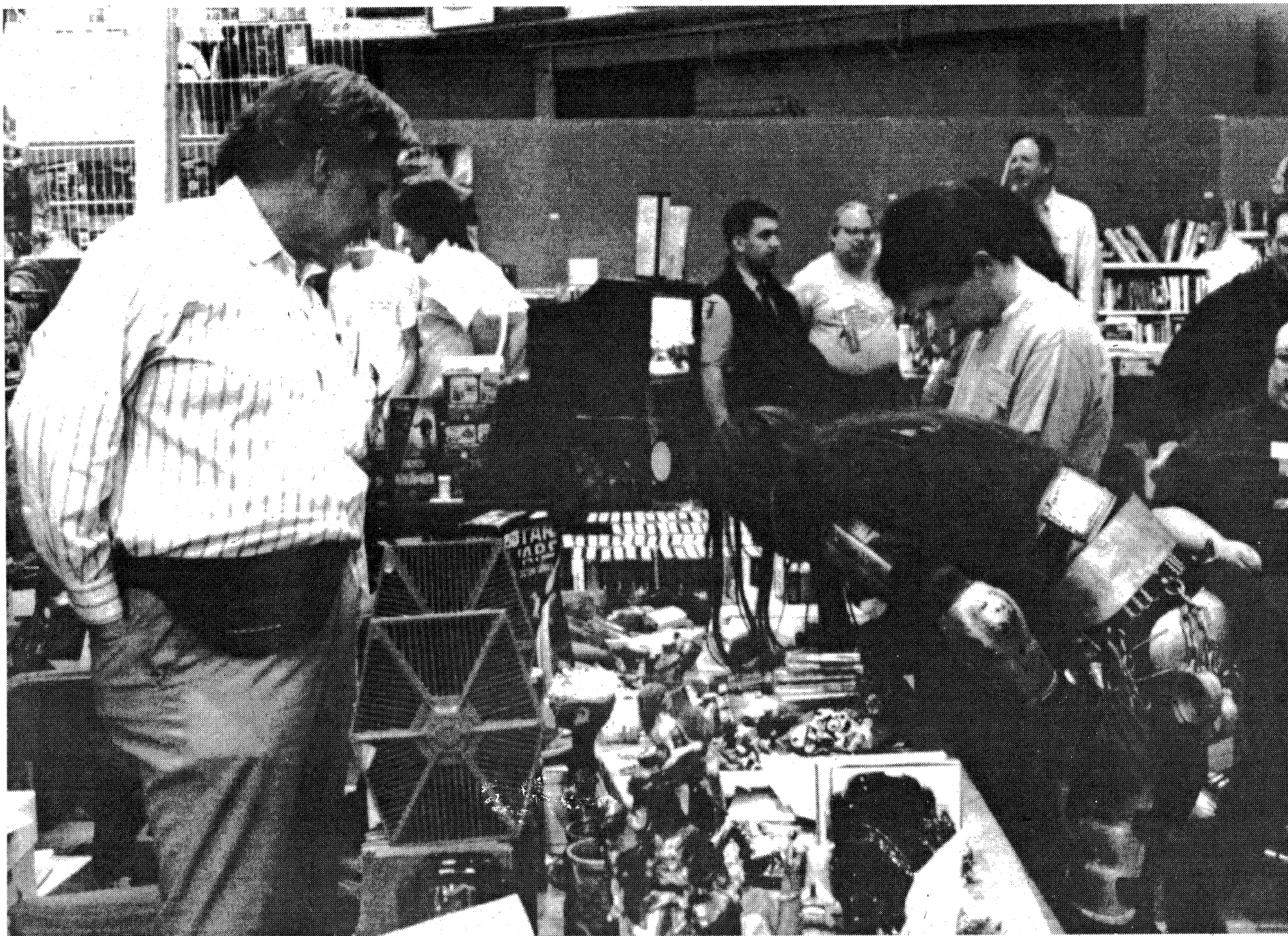
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Statesman/Tee Lek D. Ying

An unidentified man, above, leans to check out the Star Wars goods in the dealer room at the Sports Complex this past weekend. This man was only one of hundreds in full costume at this year's 17th Island Convention. At right, Babylon 5's Claudia Christian get ready to sign autographs for the crowd.

Representatives from both Marvel and DC comics were also present, and Johanson said that he believes that the comics programming ran "particularly well."

Showings of Japanese animation, or Anime, sci-fi flicks and amateur movies were among I-CON's programs. "The amateur movies were hilarious - especially the Star Trek musical," said Doug Feltman, 19, of Mt. Sinai.

Live entertainment could be found at the filk room, where filker Tom Smith was seen singing this folky-type music, at the cabaret, or the Chemistry Magic Show. There was also a demonstration, on Saturday and Sunday, of medieval armored combat and fencing, presented by the Society for the Creative Anachronism.

For those who prefer participating in events over watching them, there was a Hercules/Xena costume contest and Live Action Role Playing.

And for those looking to add a few things to their science fiction and fantasy collections, there were over 90 dealers located in the basement of the Indoor Sports Complex hawking everything from Anime cells and figurines to T-shirts

and videos.

But that wasn't enough for some I-CON goers. "I would have liked to see more Anime cells for the Dealers' Room," James Rugolo said, "That's what I come here for."

Satisfied customers, included Dan Guastella of Shirley, "I came here looking for things that were hard to get and I got exactly what I wanted." Guastella, who has attended I-CON for the last three years, had a bag containing *Spawn* figures and Anime videos, as well as a portrait of him by comic book artist Matt Lunsford, who inks *La Blue Girl*.

Guastella did have one complaint, however. "The auction was kind of weak," he said. "They didn't have anything spectacular to make you sit through the whole thing."

"The best thing about I-CON is the merchandise," Guastella said, "and the way people aren't afraid to be the way they want to be."

But overall, I-CON was worth it for those who attended and those who helped organize the convention.

"It's a massive amount of stress organizing this thing," Johanson said. "I don't know why I do it, I'm insane. But I know I'll do it again next year. When it's all over, there's such a feeling of accomplishment." □



The Statesman/Tee Lek D. Ying Monday, March 30, 1998



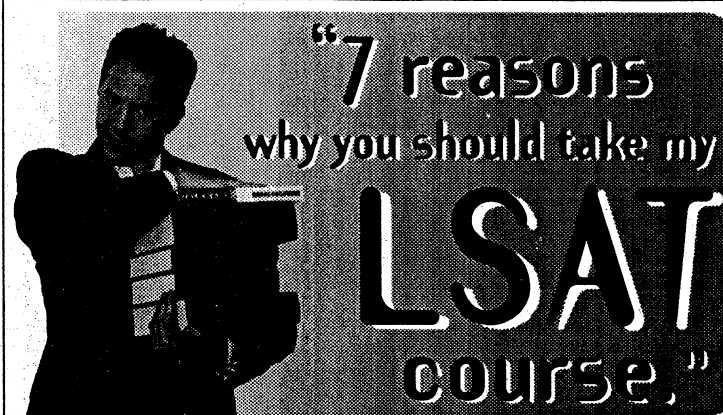
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Student Polity Association

New Minor to Study Human Behavior

University Creates Program to Round Out Students' Education

BY JENNIFER KESTER
Statesman Editor

In several weeks, USB students will be scheduling their classes for the upcoming fall semester, however the new course offerings catalogue will have a new addition in the list of available minors. Next fall, the Federated Learning Community is offering an interdisciplinary academic minor in Human Behavior.

Funded by the the Dean of Arts and Sciences, the study of human behavior will be taught in a versatile approach. Students who take the minor will learn about the mind and brain, but instead of only taking the biological perspective on the topic, students will also learn about the mind through psychological, evolutionary, philosophic and literary methods. For example, the students will attend the four plays that are planned to be showing next year from the theater department as a part of class activities. After the shows, students will be able to discuss each play with the director and cast to get their interpretations on behavior. Another planned activity is to have field trips to several art museums, namely the Museum of Modern Art, so that students will see the artistic viewpoint on human behavior.

The students enrolled in the program will also be expected to design and present a program using the theme of human behavior which will be presented at a symposium in the spring of 1999. These projects will be independent and students can receive up to \$250 for expenses such as photocopying, and money for admissions to museums. Students will be reimbursed for any expenditures just as long as the costs are justified.

The Federated Learning Community (FLC) is a program that was started at Stony Brook in the early 1970s, which has been replicated in other colleges throughout the United States. The FLC clusters courses together in small groups and tries to bring different academic studies to the campus with an interdisciplinary technique. The FLC gets a small group of students together and allows them to get to know faculty on an individual basis, which is sometimes difficult at a large campus such as Stony Brook. Although the FLC is not widely known on campus, they have been active for over twenty years, trying to bring interesting and relevant studies to the campus.

Not only do members of the FLC (which include faculty, staff and a graduate student for next year's topic) design

programs, but students are also free to initiate programs of study. During the Vietnam war, a lot of the students on campus were being drafted and many were fearful of the prospect of losing their lives. So some students approached the FLC and suggested courses on death and dying. The FLC agreed that those were topics of importance so they helped design courses with physicians, a funeral director, and religious clergymen, such as priests and rabbis, all as components for the area of the study. Other past topics of the FLC include reproduction and gender.

The human behavior program will also include a master learner. The chosen master learner for next year, who is also the co-director of the FLC, will be Elof Carlson. The master learner is a professor who will not only attend all of the classes within the minor as do the students, but he will also take the same exams, write the same papers, and do all of the school work that is expected from the students. Once a week Carlson will hold a seminar class where he will help the students with their other related classes and he will tie them together. "It is a very exciting experience. The master learners find out a lot that the faculty do not know. Sometimes the professors will give a lot of work not realizing that it is too much for the students who have other classes and I will be able to help the students by telling the professors that they should slow down if they are losing the students," said Carlson.

This program will be restricted to only 30 students. The reason for the limited number is because the aim of the program is individualized attention. The FLC is looking for sophomores, and preferably, juniors and seniors who are willing to talk and do a lot of debating. Other criteria include students who like connecting ideas through discussion, writing and challenging professors. Students who are majoring in the life sciences, pre-med, psychology, anthropology and philosophy are all targets for the program and should consider this topic. Besides the substance, students will learn skills in the areas of writing, talking and arguing.

The program will consist of 24 credits that must be taken over the course of one year. Half of the credits will be offered in the fall and the other half next spring. Students who are interested in applying can go to Carlson's office in 376 Life Sciences, or fill out the coupon in one of the ads around campus and put it in his mailbox.



The Stony Brook Press

Professor Elof Carlson will be a master learner for students entering the new minor.

"I look forward to the program. I like working one-on-one. This program will have an academic basis where the students will not compete with each other, but care about and learn from each other," Carlson said.

Professor of Psychology Paul Wortman, who is new to the FLC and who will be teaching the class entitled Topics in Psychology-Literature and the Psyche, said, "I was excited to be asked to teach in this program. It will bring together various people all over the campus who have a common interest of behavioral problems and they will get multi-perspectives on the subject." □

Then One Day Ants Crawled Out Of My Wall

BY RAYA EID
Statesman Editor

Four weeks ago, Stony Brook student and O'Neil College resident Billy Tsolakidia, reported a leak in his room

that was penetrating through his wall adjacent to the bathroom showers.

Initially, Tsolakidia witnessed some ants crawling on his desk. When he

attempted to find the source of the ants, he found that a portion of the wall beneath his desk was cracked, leaking water. The ants, he said, were in mounds frolicking in their new home.

Resident Hall Director of O'Neil College, Mattilde Punnet, put an emergency request in the day Tsolakidia reported the problem to her. Nothing was done.

Tsolakidia and his roommate, Stratis Banannis, expressed what an inconvenience it has been for them to reside in their room. "We're cornered into one side of the room," Banannis said. "We have become so accustomed to the ants, that we even named them," Tsolakidia added.

After approximately four weeks of several emergency requests, complaints, phone calls, and visits to the Division of Campus Residences, a maintenance employee was sent to evaluate the room on Thursday, March 26.

Tsolakidia, a maintenance employee who evaluated the room

said that the only thing that can be done is to plaster up the wall repeatedly, but the main problem would not be taken care of until the building is renovated in two years.

However, when Maintenance Secretary, Mary Leggio at the Division of Campus Residences was questioned about what is being done about the inconvenience of the problem for the residents, she said, "It's not that we're ignoring them, but the problem is bigger than what we originally thought."

Ed Byrne, Assistant Director of Residential Operations, was called in last Friday to remedy the situation.

"I want to do something now to get the problem under control," Byrne said. However, according to Byrne, the situation is larger than he, too, anticipated it to be.

Both Tsolakidia and Banannis are seniors expected to graduate this Spring. "I didn't expect my last semester at Stony Brook to be like this, I'm really disappointed," Banannis said. □



Statesman/Tee Lek D. Ying

The cracked wall, in the center of the above picture, still has water leaking after 4 weeks.

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Editorials represent the majority opinion of the Editorial board and are written by one of its members.

The Stony Brook Statesman welcomes letters, opinions and information about events and issues on or around campus. Write to: The Stony Brook Statesman

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Editorial & Commentary

Very Funny Scotty, Now Beam Down My Clothes

For those of you who have been living under a rock for the weekend, I-CON 17 took place here at Stony Brook. While it was the usual display of science fiction, fantasy and (we say this in the nicest possible way) freakdom, this year was especially memorable. Maybe it was the number of families that attended this year. Perhaps the strange woman dressed in chainmail marked the convention. But what did it for us were the groups of prospective students and their parents staring at the groups of Klingons and Romulins enjoying themselves. We would like to take the time to assure both parents and students that Stony Brook students don't dress like characters out of a book. Well, usually they don't.

In all seriousness, the organizers of this year's weekend long event deserve congratulations for the effort they put into the

convention. Their dedication to the annual gathering of science fiction fans continued to make this convention the largest one on the east coast. But it wasn't just their effort that made I-CON a hit. It was also their tireless enthusiasm. From Friday night to Sunday afternoon, the smiles never left the face of each of the volunteers. Even the woman in the chainmail shirt, Kerry Skadl, looked as if she was always having a good time. And think about it: How comfortable could you actually be in a chainmail shirt?

Like all things, everything wasn't positive. The event was soured a bit by the constant rumors that I-CON will be moved to Nassau Coliseum, due to continuing problems with the University. While

rumors like this are a fact of every large convention, it would be a shame for the University to miss out on such an event. Any chance to bring even more diversity to the campus should always be welcomed.

In addition, many of the dealers in the Dealer's Room were refusing to buy items that many convention members were trying to sell, spurring stories of increased police activity and even a few arrests. Though this was probably the result of picky dealers, it did disappoint more than a few people, most of whom were looking forward to bargaining with the merchants.

Overall, I-CON 17 was well received on campus, and we look forward to attending next year. Maybe we'll even dust off our chainmail and join the show. On the other hand, we'll leave that to the professionals.

Benefits of Staller Center Attract More Than Adults

BY PETER GRATTON
STATESMAN EDITOR

Last night's performance of *The Birds* notwithstanding, the performances at the Staller Center this past semester have offered an outstanding mix for both students and the Long Island community to enjoy. Too often, it is easy for us to report here what is wrong on this campus; the Staller Center offers a success story that students can easily support, by buying inexpensive tickets and seeing the good fare that it being offered there until the end of the semester.

We have, time and again, offered our advice to student leaders, including the Student Activities Board, on ways to keep students interest up enough to keep them on campus over the weekends. They would do well to follow Staller's example by not dumbing down their programing and insulting the intelligence of the student body.

This semester, the Staller Center has offered quality programming, from colonial folk music to *A Streetcar Named Desire* on their 40 foot movie screen, enough variety

to attract each student on at least one night this semester. I don't suggest plugging the Staller Center the same way people PBS is advertised, but as something to do that is educational and enjoyable. With performances that range from live plays, symphonies, and lectures to affordably priced movies, the Staller Center can be counted on for good entertainment. If nothing else, it is an easy date with a small commute for campus residents.

It seems, and not just from here, that Staller's programming has improved this year, with many crediting Alan Inkles, who took over officially as director earlier this year. Inkles has both a keen eye for good performers that are affordable, and an ability to ingratiate himself with the patrons whose donations are needed to help fund Staller programs.

Students also deserve the credit with good performances for the Theatre Arts Department, including the recent presentation of *As You Like It*. The undergraduate and graduate performers add a

familiar touch to the Center, where it might be possible to see an event starring your roommate or classmate.

The Staller Center offers half price tickets, but far too many shows have been seen by an audience predominantly made up of older spectators from off campus. If students want to remain the Staller Center's focus, they need to open their wallets and take in a show now and then. I doubt they'll be sorry.

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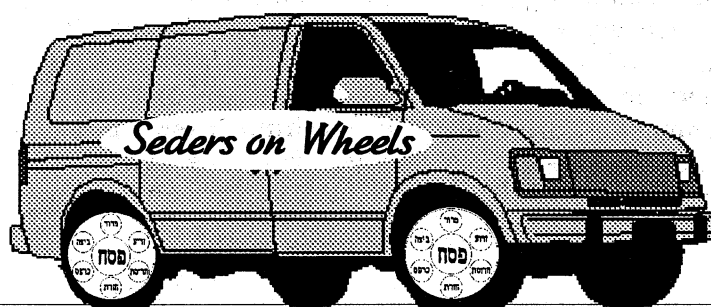
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 30, 1998

Police Blotter

Compiled by Jennifer Kester

March 12

Time Unknown

In the Cardozo A wing, a student left their keys in the door. When the student returned, the keys were gone and the door was open. The student entered the room and found them thrown next to a pair of skates. The student found that someone had stolen a Hewlett Packard palm computer worth \$1200 from the room.

8:30 p.m.

An employee in the Life Science Building reported a burglary. Someone went into his drawer and stole two credit cards and a wallet which contained \$45 dollars.

March 13

3:50 a.m.

A former pledge of a fraternity received negative messages their phone mail. The messages were allegedly from two members of the fraternity. One message which said, "Allah is going to get you." In another message, the perpetrators called back and said, "I know it got out of control but it was only a joke."

3:22 p.m.

A student in Benedict reported a disturbance but the perpetrator was gone before arrival.

5:00 p.m.

A car was broken into that was in the Hamilton College parking lot. A graphic calculator was stolen along with an economics textbook and a CD player all totaling \$405.

6:00 p.m.

A University Hospital employee left her office open and her purse was stolen from her desk. The contents of her purse totaled \$37.

March 15

Bulletin of the Week

March 23 at 9:40 p.m.

A student was watching television with two friends when a father of a female he knew entered the room with a baseball bat and allegedly accused the person of harassing his daughter. The father said, "Step outside or I'll drag you out." The student claims that he did not harass the man's daughter.

8:20 p.m.

In Grey College, someone threw a rock through a room window causing \$150 worth of damage. Officials contacted residents to remove any valuables in the room over the spring break.

March 16

12 p.m.

A Seiman's Optiset Phone was reported stolen from the computer center. The phone was valued at \$650.

March 18

Time Unknown

A white male in a brown trenchcoat and green sweater was found sleeping in the music lounge. He was escorted out by security.

8:41 p.m.

A person tried to use their card to get out of the Hospital parking garage but the garage closes at 8:30 p.m. The man drove through the gate at the parking garage. A total worth of \$25 was damaged.

March 23

8 p.m.

A 1988 Toyota Supra was broken into in the rear lot in Wagner. An Alpine Amp, Rockford Amp, Power Amp, and kicker box was stolen. The equalizer, stereo, window and dashboard were damaged, and the tires and rims were stolen. The damages totaled \$1330.

March 25

10 p.m.

A window in the Life Science Library was shot at with a pellet gun. There were 16 holes found in the window.

March 27

3:49 p.m.

A large group of people were fighting at Whitman over a broken window on Lake Drive near Gershwin. Two people were punched in the face by unidentified people when they went outside to confront the group who broke the windows. The victims refused medical attention and all were referred to Student Affairs.

Campus Calendar

Wednesday, April 1
12:40 p.m.

The Golden Key Honor Society will be holding a bubble gum sale in the Student Activities Center and in the Union. For more information call Kevin Keenan at 216-2769.

8:00 p.m.

The Staller Center will be hosting the Muir String Quartet with Heidi Lewaldher on the harp. The program will include Stony Brook composer Sheila Silver's "From Darkness Emerging." Tickets are \$22 and are half price for students and children. For more information call the Staller Center Box Office at 632-7230.

9:00 p.m.

The Womyn's Organization will be having a march for women's safety. The march, entitled Take Back The Night, will be held in the Student Union.

Thursday, April 2
9:30 p.m.

The Statesman will be sponsoring a journalism workshop in the Stimpson College Lounge. The workshop is for writers of all genres. All are welcome to attend. For more information call the Statesman office at 632-6479.

Friday, April 3 at 8:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m.

The Italian opera by Puccini, La Boheme, will be performed at the Main Stage in the Staller Center. There will be featured singers from the university's vocal programs and members of the Stony Brook Orchestra. Tickets will be \$15 and \$7.50 for students and seniors. For more information call the Staller Center at 632-7230.

Wednesday, April 8
12:40 p.m.

The final lecture in the President's Lecture Series will be held in the Student Activities Auditorium. Speaker Jane Elliot will discuss her psychological blue eyes-brown eyes theory.

7:00 p.m.

The Undergraduate Awards Ceremony will be held in the Student Activities Center Auditorium. For more information call the Dean of Students at 632-7320.

Thursday, April 9
1:00 p.m.

The Philosophy Department Prime Time will be held in 214 Harriman Hall. Come meet professors for fall 1998 courses. Call 632-7570 for more information.

5:30 p.m.

The Writing Center presents a poetry reading at the Poetry Center on

the second floor of the Humanities Building. All are invited to come recite poetry from others or read their own. Refreshments are to follow. Call 632-7405 for more information.

Tuesday, April 14
8:00 p.m.

The University Wind Ensemble will be performing a concert at the Staller Center on the Main Stage. Works that will be performed include those from composers such as Verdi, Bach, Leroy Anderson, Humperdinck, Richard Rogers, Berlioz, and Gershwin. Tickets are \$6 and \$3 for students and seniors.

Wednesday, April 15
8:00 p.m.

The Recital Hall in the Staller Center will be featuring the Contemporary Chamber Players. Specially commissioned works will be featured along with older classics to first performances of newly composed music. Admission is free. For more information call 632-7230.

Saturday, April 18
8:00 p.m.

The Dance Theater of Harlem will be performing on the Main Stage in the Staller Center. This company, which is an award winning modern dance ensemble, is making a special appearance in their 25th Anniversary Season. For information on tickets

call the Staller Center at 632-7230.

8:00 p.m.

The Chamber Singers will be in the Recital Hall with their music director Timothy Mount. The group will sing a program of madrigals, settings of e.e. cummings and more. Tickets are \$6 for general admission and \$3 for students and seniors.

Sunday, April 19
Time to be announced

There will be a Medieval Festival featuring the plays "Every Man" and "Judgement" in Theater One in the Staller Center. Tickets are \$5 and can be bought at the door or in advance. For more information, contact Diana Gingo at 216-1149.

3:00 p.m.

Long Island harpsichordist HoSun moon will be leading recent Stony Brook graduates in Baroque Sundays at Three in the Staller Center Recital Hall. Admission is free. Contact the Staller Center at 632-7230 for more information.

If you are interesting in submitting an announcement for *Statesman's* Campus Calendar, you can fax your submission to 632-9128.

Commuter Corner

A Column Provided By CSA

9

Helping Fellow Students Through OCSA

When students come to a university as large as Stony Brook, many find themselves to be lost. It's difficult in those first weeks to find classes, navigate through the library, and to connect with other students and faculty. For commuter students it is especially difficult since they are not always on campus. But the Office of Commuter Student Affairs offers a solution for those lost commuters, the Commuter Student Peer Partnership Program.

The Commuter Student Peer Partnership Program is now beginning recruitment for its second year of practice. With basic objective including providing incoming student freshman and transfers - with a means to finding their way about campus, new students are connected with those who have been around campus and a mentor-mentee relationship is formed.

Mentees are recruited as they enter the school. First year Stony Brook students are recruited as they are accepted into the college via letters and applications sent home by the CSA.

Mentor's, on the other hand generally are recruited through fliers, word of mouth, and a variety of other sources. But whereas mentees only need fill one requirement to be accepted into the program, mentors have to fulfill a little more. First, they must be a commuter student who has been at Stony Brook for at least two semesters, they must have a minimum grade point average of 2.25 and naturally must have a desire to help other students.

Once a mentor is accepted to the program they must attend a training program. This program is a 5-hour class organized by the OCSA that teaches mentors numerous helping and communication skills as well as educating them on the various services and resources available on campus. With this knowledge in hand, the mentor will be better able to help the mentee.

Once these processes have been gone through, mentors and mentees will be matched according to various information gathered through the applications. Although no strict agenda is followed in these matches, some

determining factors include interests, the hours mentors and mentees will be on campus, and where they commute from. Then in the fall, the mentors and mentees will come together, some for the first time, and the relationship will begin.

The basic role of the mentor is to be a guide for the mentee on campus. This not only means a physical guide via campus tours, but also a mental guide, an advisor and a friend.

Mentors can clue mentees into the various aspects of the campus that may have been missed in orientation. These include clubs, sports, shows,

"The success of the program is not only based in numbers. The benefits are numerous."

events, and other parts of college life. Mentors can also direct new students to offices like the Career Placement Center and the Office of Academic advising. They may even be able to help their mentees figure out the library stacks.

The only requirement the OCSA makes of mentors and mentees after they are matched is that the pairs keep in contact via physical means such as sports and activities, or by phone or e-mail.

Under the direction of graduate fellow Dorlisa Minnick, the program, now preparing for its second year has met with success. Last year there was

approximately a two to one ratio of mentees to mentors and there are hopes that this coming academic year will meet with just as much success.

But the success of the program is not only based in numbers. The benefits are numerous. The program as the flier states "gives participants a chance to help each other learn, function, and develop in a large complex environment."

But these benefits also work more into individual gains for those involved.

Mentors as the flier states "receive professional development, personal satisfaction and pride, leadership and helping skills, recognition on the USB Student Development Record, and participation in special events created for partnership participants." Mentees on the other hand receive "ideas and tips on how to adjust to a more complex, large environment, advice and insight into the various aspects of campus, opportunities to build friendships and social outlets, and academic guidance from a peer.

But as Ronnie Paschkes, the Associate Dean of Students and Director of the OCSA says "each pair takes on its own life. It can be just meetings or they can become friends." The OCSA formed two years ago in concordance with President Kenney's 5-year plan and has been dedicated to connecting commuter students with Stony Brook's campus. Comprised of Paschkes, Minnick, CSA advisor Marilyn Goodman, and 2 clerical staff members, the OCSA is committed to helping commuter students find their way through Stony Brook. Although their goals are broad, they work as an advocate for commuters and provide outreach programs like the Commuter Student Peer Partnership Program.

Applications for the program can be picked up at the OCSA in the Student Activities Center Room 131 and must be completed by April 8. For more information students can call 632-7353 or can E-mail the office at comstudaff@ccmail.sunysb.edu. □

Students Dancing To A Veteran Beat

High Turn Out As Kelly Quad Organizes "Junior/Senior Prom"

By JAVERIYA SYED
Statesman Staff

Residents of Kelly Quad and Theta Phi Alpha sorority got in their Sunday best yesterday for The Festive Spring Dance at The Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook.

The event was a part of the Hamilton for Humanities Week, a program coordinated by Hamilton College Resident Assistants and the Resident Hall Director for the last two years, Stephanie Gray. The program was filled with a week's worth of Kelly Quad volunteer programs, such as a food and clothing drive, a trip to the Little Flower Orphanage in Wading River, and guest speakers from American Red Cross, and safety and AIDS pre-educators.

Residents left campus by a bus rented by Hamilton College at 12:45 p.m. and 1:45 p.m. from Kelly Quad for an orientation at the Veterans Home. The two, half hour orientation sessions addressed wheelchair safety, and

familiarized students with the building. The orientation had a total of 45 students, 25 in the first session and 20 in the second session. Sheila Schross, one of the two recreational therapists in LISVH, (Long Island State Veterans Home) working on the program with Stephanie Gray warned the students, that "sometimes behavior isn't so appropriate, so dance with them only if you feel comfortable," she said.

The dance which was originally planned to be from 2-4 p.m., making it two hours of community service in the Multi-Purpose Room at the home, actually lasted till three o'clock because the band hired by the home and paid for by Hamilton College was scheduled to perform from 2-3 p.m.. The Note-Tations, an 8 group band, entertained the audience with music from the 1930's and 1940's. Students served refreshments, danced, and in some cases held hands and talked with the veterans. Family members of the

veterans also joined in the festivities. "I was intimidated at first, but it was nice," said Freshman Mary Chan.

Out of the 350 veterans living at the home, approximately 110 came down from their room for what Resident Assistant Tim Truc of Hamilton College referred to as, the Junior-Senior Prom. "Part of being an RA is getting students involved, this fulfills the mission," Truc said.

The event took two months of planning by Stephanie Gray and Recreational Therapists, Bernice Edward and Sheila Schloss, who have been working in LISVH for the last two years. "The Veterans were excited and got all dressed up, even the ones that weren't dancing tapped to the beat of the music," Edward said. Mike Fierero, a 17 year old volunteer for the last three years noted that "there's usually music all the time, but not usually such big turnouts."

The \$500 grant given to Hamilton College called Student Life Council

Community Development Grant by Students Activities, was used to pay for hors d'oeuvres, the band, and decorations chosen by the home. Boutonieres and corsages were donated by Flowers by Maxine and The Flower Shop in Port Jefferson, and the Carriage House Flower and Gift Shop in Stony Brook.

"We decided to do this for the University Goal, it talks about reaching out to the community and because the home is on campus this would be the perfect plan in conjunction to Hamilton for Humanities Week", said Gray.

As the students sat around waiting for the bus to take them back to campus, they conversed with the veterans. 89 year old William Casalya, who was based in Japan during World War II, and a former North Babylon Elementary School Custodian, has been living in the LISVH for the last 3 years. With tears in his eyes, Casalya said, "I've been here for three years, but never had such a good time." □

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 30, 1998

Too Wild to Have A Plot

Lesbianism and Violence Used to Sell Absurd Movie

By KEVIN KEENAN
Statesman Editor

"Wild Things" is an appropriate title for Columbia Picture's latest film. Indeed, the plot, characters, and overall presentation of the film was so "wild" that the piece borders on absurdity, is incredibly unbelievable, and can hardly be said to be based in even a remote reality.

"Wild Things" takes place in the tiny yachting enclave of Blue Bay, Florida. Sandra Van Ryan (**Theresa Russell**) plays the part of a wealthy and seductive widow with a sexual appetite for local young men and is the mother of a young beauty, Kelly Van Ryan (**Denise Richards**). Kelly has more than just a schoolgirl crush on her high school guidance council, Sam Lombardo (**Matt Dillon**).

After Kelly and a friend wash Sam's jeep for a school fund-raiser, Kelly slinks into Lombardo's house sporting a beguiling smile and a very wet t-shirt. The next day, she claims that Lombardo sexually assaulted her. Kelly's mother, Sandra, who has previously been sexually involved with Lombardo and who holds considerable power in the community due to her millionaire status, immediately initiates legal proceedings against Lombardo.

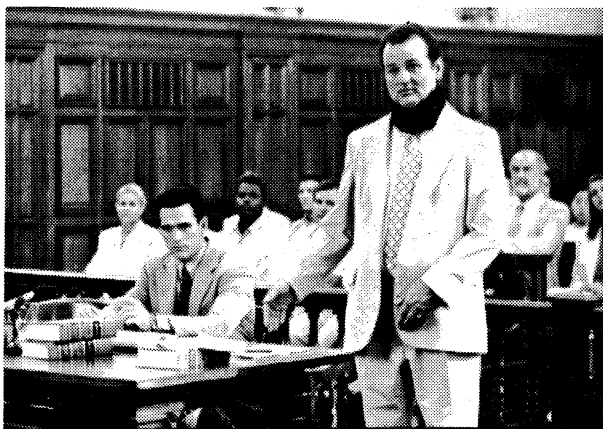
Days later, Suzie Toller (**Neve Campbell**), a social outsider hungry for privilege and power, comes forward claiming that Lombardo had previously assaulted her as well. Reeling from the allegations, Lombardo consults Ken Bowden (**Bill Murray**), the only lawyer he can find who will dare touch this seemingly open-and-shut case that pits an anchor of Blue Bay (Sandra Van Ryan) against a penniless guidance counselor (Lombardo).

As developments unfold, detectives Ray Duquette (**Kevin Bacon**) and Gloria Perez (**Daphne Rubin-Vega**) become increasingly involved in the case despite the protests of Blue Bay's police captain and Sandra Van Ryan. The detectives rightly suspect that the case involves more than just a rape; Duquette believes that a conspiracy is underway to steal millions of dollars from Sandra Van Ryan.

As this movie progresses, it becomes more and more intricate, however, it is fraught with inconsistencies that remove it from the believable realm of reality.

Some glaring inconsistencies include the brutal murder of one character who cohorts with the conspirators. The character is beaten to death with a champagne bottle. The viewer sees clearly the person's bludgeoned face and body wrapped in plastic and buried in the swamps. Yet this character mysteriously resurrects from the dead totally unscathed to take the millions at the end of the film.

Perhaps Columbia pictures would have us



Matt Dillon and Bill Murray, in a courtroom, attempting to prove that they still have careers.



Courtesy/Columbia Pictures

Denise Richards, left, plays an uppercrust lolita to Neve Campbell's social outcast, right, in *Wild Things*.

believe that the whole murder was fictionally carried out by the conspirators merely for the effect of deterring police from finding them out. However, that does not explain why the conspirators would go through the trouble of wrapping up the living person in plastic, smearing blood over the character's face, and burying the living character [and then presumably digging the character up again so that the character can reappear at the end of the film] when they [the conspirators] are the only witnesses to their show. No purpose [except purposefully misleading the audience] could be served in reality by really burying, and then immediately digging up, a person when you only want to establish the allusion that the person was dead.

Another inconsistency occurs when one of the detectives (who is later revealed to be part of the conspiracy) is shown breaking into a Blue Bay home to video tape two of the other conspirators in a homosexual love scene without the conspirators knowledge that the detective is doing so. The homosexual conspirators could simply have let their coconspirator detective in to the home. And there was no purpose served by the detective's hiding in the bushes for, being part of the conspiracy, the homosexuals would have known of his presence.

Further, the conspirator/detective repeatedly attacks the other conspirators in private situations, often accusing them of being thieves and warning them that he will find them out. Indeed, two of the conspirators become so afraid of their coconspirators detective, that the audience is shown a scene of them crying and fretting over how to prevent being arrested by their coconspirator. Now, it is implausible to suppose that a member of the conspiracy would interrogate his fellow conspirators in a private situation. What purpose could that possibly serve (except misleading the audience)? Again, reality was sacrificed in this film for the sole purpose of misleading the audience in order to create what Columbia Pictures must have believed to be an

intriguing ending.

The quality of this film is further reduced by the often unnecessary and purposeless sexual depiction of characters. The audience is mistreated to a full (and totally unexpected and unnecessary) back and front naked view of Kevin Bacon. The disapproving grunts and groans of the audience attending the presentation that I viewed confirmed this speculation. The lesbian love scenes also appear to be included in the film merely to "draw in" viewers who choose what movies to view based on their sexual preferences.

Finally, the movie progresses into a final frenzy of murder. Each conspirator eventually kills one of their coconspirators. One conspirator, that is, the one possessing the ability to rise from the dead, survives to take the millions. However, after all of the conspirators are revealed to the audience, and the first two murders occur, the following murders are expected and the movie's excitement level takes a nose dive.

At the close of the film, one resurrected conspirator is seen progressing into the sunset on a yacht with Sandra Van Ryans millions. Then the credits begin, and everyone in the theater gets up to leave. However, at the last minute Columbia must have realized that their movie was highly inconsistent because in between the credits, poor attempts to explain several inconsistencies are inserted. I don't know what was more annoying: everybody repeatedly getting up and sitting down as the conclusion alternated between credits and scenes or the absurdity of the actual interjected clips.

If your imagination is wild enough to believe that a grown woman is capable of pulling out several of her own teeth in a few seconds with an ordinary house pliers and then growing those same teeth back in 3 days by the end of the movie or having complete, scarless and bandageless dental surgery, then "Wild Things" is the movie for you. If not, stick with a safer alternative and rent the stupidest movie you have ever seen; I can assure you, it will be better than seeing "Wild Things." □

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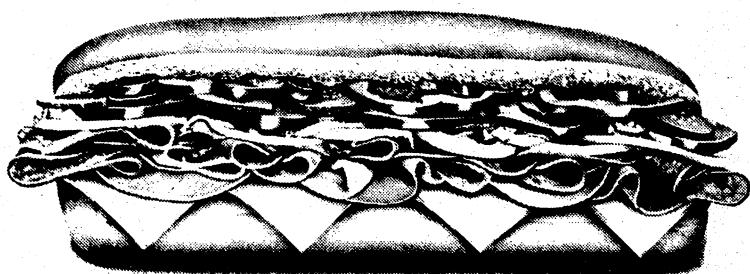
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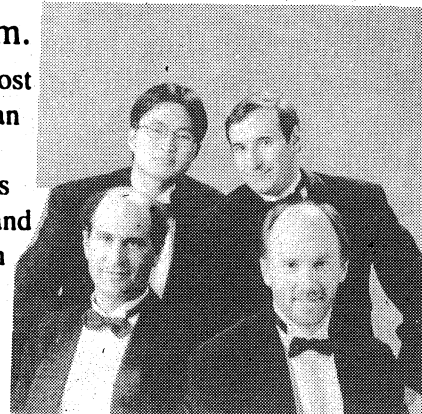
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La Boheme

Friday, April 3 at 8:00 & Sunday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m.

This fully staged production of Puccini's most popular opera will be sung in Italian and features singers pursuing studies in the university's vocal programs and members of the Stony Brook Symphony Orchestra.

Directed by Beth Greenberg and conducted by David Lawton.

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The Federated Learning Community (FLC) is proud to offer a minor in *Human Behavior* for the 1998-1999 Academic Year. This is an interdisciplinary program that will combine eight courses constituting the academic minor.

The FLC is a program that was developed more than 20 years ago on the Stony Brook campus and has served as a model elsewhere throughout the United States. The students share common courses, get to know the faculty as individuals, and have the benefit of studying for their examinations with the Master Learner. The weekly FLC 301-302 seminar helps students put together the courses they will take and ties these courses to the common theme of human behavior.

Students taking this minor will see the mind and brain from many perspectives - molecular, cellular, anatomic, physiological, psychological, evolutionary, philosophic, and literary. Students will attend plays and get to question the cast and the director after the shows. They will participate in field trips to art museums to study human behavior through the visual arts. Guest speakers will be invited to the FLC 301-302 program seminar and in the Spring semester, students will design and present their own programs of interest on the theme of human behavior.

Students who start their independent project will receive up to \$250 in support. This will cover expenses such as books, travel, photocopying, supplies, etc. The projects will be presented at an FLC symposium to be held in late Spring 1999.

This program should appeal to Psychology, Biology, Biochemistry, Sociology, And Anthropology majors but any student who feels qualified is welcome to apply. The program is limited to 30 students. Fill out & mail the enclosed application for more information or if you would like to be considered.

Mail To: Elof Carlson, Distinguished Teaching Professor, Department of Biochemistry, University at Stony Brook, NY 11794-5215 or e-mail information to ecarlson@ccmail.sunysb.edu

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The courses for Fall 1998 will be:

Biology 208-H [*Cell, Brain and Mind*], taught by Paul Adams and colleagues

Philosophy 323-G [*Philosophy of Perception*], taught by Ed Casey

Psychology 349-F [*Topics in Psychology - Literature and the Psyche*], taught by Paul Wortman

FLC 301-I* [*Seminar on Human Behavior*], taught by Elof Carlson, Master Learner, and Melanie Nilsson

The courses for Spring 1999 will be:

Biology 358-H [*Biology of Human Sexual and Social Behavior*], taught by Paul Bingham

Psychology or Philosophy, to be announced

FLC 487-I [*Independent Project*], supervised by Elof Carlson

FLC 302-I [*Seminar on Human Behavior*], taught by Elof Carlson, and Melanie Nilsson

*Students who complete the FLC minor will be credited with DEC category I

Gomez-Peña Visits Staller as Part of Humanities Weekend ¹³

Gomez-Peña from back cover

disguised as generic banditos literally and metaphorically crucified by immigration and the L.A.P.D.. By the time the police were able to remove Peña and Sifuentes down from the crosses, Sifuentes had already fainted, and Peña had dislocated his shoulder.

Peña's main focus included a discussion on his latest work "The Temple of Confessions," where he and his partners would exhibit themselves for three day periods as end-of-the-century saints. Their purpose in doing this was to retain actual confessions from their viewers concerning the racism that accompanies cultural and

geographic border crossing. These confessions are made not only in person, but by phone, and over the internet. Peña believes that the internet confessions are particularly explicit and eliminate ethical barriers. According to Peña, these confessions are extremely sentimental, revealing racial thoughts and acts against Mexican culture, violent crimes committed against other races, fears, and sometimes fantasies about wanting to be Indian or Mexican. On a separate occasion Peña had his audience send in information about how "chicanos" should look in the 90's. The stereotypes and racial aspects contained in these responses were both sad and amusing. As

performing artists, Peña and his partners utilized these actual internet responses in their projects and dioramas. "We, as performance artists reinterpret it, stylize it," he said.

Peña concluded his presentation with an excerpt of his film commissioned by German television. "It really reflects some of my new ideas in performance," he said. The video included ideas on identity, the loss of language, and censorship.

The presentation was followed by an array of questions from the audience, and a look at Peña's current books entitled The New World Border, and Confessions. These collections of essays, poems,

and performance texts address questions such as "What if the continent were turned upside down?", "What if Mexico were the United States?", and "What if gringos were the illegal aliens?" Matters of race, nationality, language, identity, and the inversion of the ethnic and geo-political ideologies are discussed in the books as well.

Students were very receptive to Peña's message. "What is most intriguing about Peña's work is how well it defies categorization. His investigations of aesthetic, cultural, political, lingual, and national "borders" causes us to rethink that which those borders circumscribe," said Senior Sean Connolly. □

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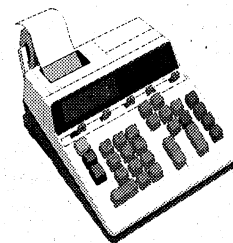
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The Stony Brook Salesman Monday, March 30, 1998

An Expression of Love in *As You Like It*

By STEVE MARSH
Special to the Statesman

A procession of the play's participants, actors and characters, enter from opposing corners of the stage. They pass one another at center stage, through a section of eight stone columns and pedestals, and continue off to the opposite corner. As each of their paths cross, they communicate to each other silently. Some with stone-faced stares, hiding behind the columns, flirtatious glances, and secretly passing notes from hand to hand. A deep baritone chord of music plays throughout this sequence, evoking mystery, magic, and wonder. The actors are dressed in modern day suits, tails, and evening gowns.

The lights change, the stage is flooded by the stage crew who quickly lift, remove, and rearrange the columns and pedestals. The stage is now set for what Shakespeare has written, the audience has been transported to a place where magic can happen.

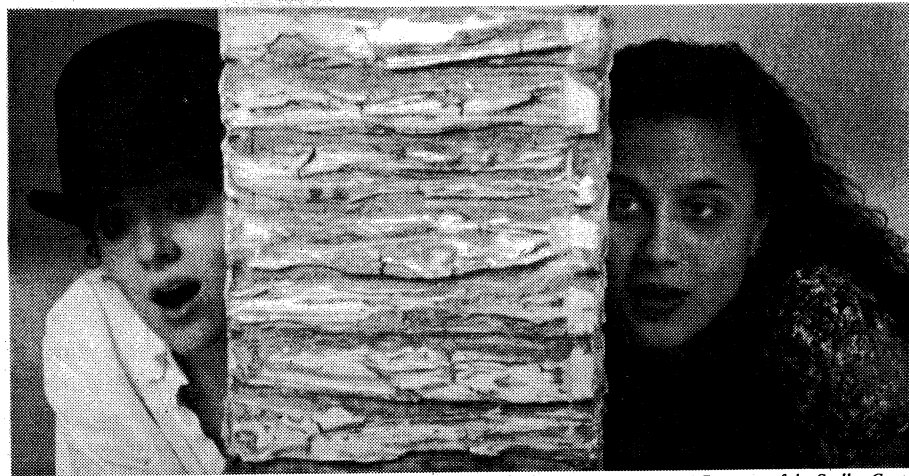
The March 12 performance of *As You Like It* was offered by the Department of Theatre Arts in Theater One at the Staller Center for the Arts. It was a pleasant surprise as most of Shakespeare's plays are, when they are delightfully delivered, in a clear concise, and entertaining way. Director Cristina Vaccaro sticks pretty close to the original text, where banishment into the Forest of Arden really means liberty for all those who make the journey.

This is a play of contrasts. Orlando, the youngest son of Sir Rowland DeBoys, is pitted against his eldest brother Oliver, who keeps their father's will out of the youth's reach. In the court, we learn that Duke Frederick has usurped his elder brother's dukedom and banished him to the Forest of

Arden. Their respective daughters, Celia and Rosalind, are best friends and cousins. They attend a wrestling match in which Orlando challenges and beats Frederick's favorite brute of a wrestler, Charles. He simultaneously wins the affections of Rosalind. Duke Frederick is disappointed when he finds out that the new champion's father is Sir Rowland DeBoys, a hated enemy.

Frederick's insecurities cause him to banish Rosalind, with the threat of death, and to employ Oliver to destroy his youngest sibling, Orlando. Celia pledges her loyalty to her cousin and they decide to search out the banished Duke in the forest. Orlando is convinced, by his brother's servant, Adam, that he too must flee into the woods to escape Oliver's bad intentions.

Director Vaccaro finds the comedy in Shakespeare's happiest play with the help of a good cast of actors and actresses. To assure a safe journey, Rosalind disguises herself as a young gentleman named Ganymede. She and Celia pretend to be brother and sister and are accompanied into the forest by Touchstone, a fool from the court. Jeanine Cappello's Ganymede is intriguing and her comic timing is excellent. Being a masculine disguise, she befriends her lover Orlando, and is able to test his love by pretending to be herself. That is, Rosalind pretends to be herself while pretending to be Ganymede. Dina Covello's mannerisms in playing Celia quickly grow on the audience. She is escorted into the woods on the back of Touchstone, yet claims that she is exhausted and cannot go one step further. At one hilarious moment, when offering a reward to the shepherd who would find them some food, she whips out a checkbook to compensate the man for his troubles. Touchstone the fool is played wisely



Jeanine Cappello and Dina Covello star in *As You Like It*.

Courtesy of the Staller Center

and heartily by Charles Silva, and the best comic performance is delivered by Joshua Stone, who doubles as Sylvius and Monsieur LeBeau, the doting shepherd who is hopelessly in love with Phebe (Lara Bowen), who in turn, steps all over him in order to have her way with Ganymede whom she has mistakenly fallen in love with. Zonker, Kenneth White displays his acting range by effectively portraying the evil Duke Frederick and the benevolent Duke Senior. D.J. O'Dell's youthful appearance and sincere delivery makes for an excellent lovesick Orlando, and a noteworthy appearance by Kevin Crowe as the melancholy Jaques rounds out the comic performances by the entire cast. Mr. Crowe, however, did waver slightly under the pressure of delivering the most famous monologue of the play, "All the world's a stage..."

The lighting and sound design were simple and elegant. They worked harmoniously to underscore Shakespeare's

test and to transport the audience from the royal court to the Forest of Arden.

In a program note from the director, Ms. Vaccaro states that "love demands expression." Besides using his wit and wisdom to express this love, Shakespeare used the classical theatrical convention of the Deus Ex Machina: Hymen, the god of love and marriage, appears out of nowhere to ceremoniously join the four couples whose time in the forest was spent on nothing more than the pursuit of love. Perhaps the writing of *As You Like It* created a great anticipation of expectation for the future, and reflecting on the past, inspired the author to a bit of jovial escapism. Now as the twentieth century ends, and the next millennium begins perhaps we can find ourselves facing the same pressures. Even today it is relevant to say that love is worthy of expression, and that this little trip to Arden can make us forget about all those things that keep us from the proper expression of our love. □

New Take on Aristophanes' Play Is for The Birds

By KERRY LISSENDEN
Statesman Staff

Colonizing a community of birds with the dream of turning them into a polis—an organized city-state—seems insane in itself, however, the production of Aristophanes "Birds" made the idea seem even more ridiculous. Sunday, the Aquila Theatre

Company of London made a mockery of what is thought to be a classic of ancient Greek literature.

"Birds" is the story of Makedo, an Athenian who attempts to escape city-life with his lifelong friend, Goodhope. Because of their exasperation with the law courts, politics, and military mishaps of

other citizens in the city of Athens, these two men decide to seek out the Hoopoe, who turns out to be Tereus, a king famous in Athenian legends. Tereus was turned into the Hoopoe when he murdered the mother of his child and her sister. The Hoopoe, also, are birds. Upon meeting the Hoopoe, Makedo comes up with the idea of turning the perfect life of the birds into a metropolis, the very life he was attempting to escape.

With dancing birds and music, this modern rendition of the play was not entirely enjoyable. The general feeling of the older audience was that the modern interpretation, as produced by the Aquila Theatre Company of London, lost much in trying to make the production entertaining. This version has turned a classical piece into something sophomoric and risqué.

The dialogue had a heavy focus on sexual humor and innuendo, displayed at the end of the first act when an actor mentions "Trojan negotiations" and peels off his hat to reveal a condom cap. Further humor was the flatulation noises made by the actors in the first act. This immediately followed Makedo's statement about how "wonderful it would be to have your own wings...if you grew peckish and bored during a performance, you could fly out of the theatre." An audience

member next to me quickly commented, "I wish I could right now."

The differences between the "classic" version and this one were evident in the opinions of the audience. While the general audience was older and did not appreciate the younger humor apparent in the play, there was an eighth-grade class trip present, the members of which were enjoying the performance, and following, superficially, what was going on. The older audience, however, seemed to agree that "Aristophanes must be turning in his grave right now," as stated by Mike Granino, a Latin Teacher at Three Village School District.

Although the Aquila Theatre Company of London choose an excellent piece to perform, their production of this Greek classic had much to be desired. While the entertainment level was high, as was the quality of the performance, the overall production was immature and of poor dramatic quality. Misplaced creativity in off-color humor, childish antics, and wordplay displaced what might have been an amusing and enjoyable classical comedy. What appeals to eighth-graders cannot possibly appeal to most theatre-goers. □



Courtesy of the Staller Center

The Aquila Theater Company of London performed yesterday at the Staller Center.

Seawolves Lacrosse Downs Dartmouth

By JOHN KOSTKOWITZ
Statesman Staff

For the second straight year the Stony Brook Lacrosse team (4-2) was able to come up with a big win against the Dartmouth College (3-2), as they downed the Big Green 18-8. The offense was lead by Dominic D'Orazio (five Goals and one assist) who six points lead all scorers. Despite D'Orazio's outstanding play the player of the game go to goalie Greg Taylor (career-high 25 saves). Taylor's stood on his head in the early stages of the game as he made one stellar after another. The Seawolves young guns Vin Miller (three goals and one assist) and Dave Ozsvath (three goals) continue to impress fans as they combined for six goals.



The Seawolves approach Dartmouth's goal.

Statesman/John Kostkowitz

For the most of the first quarter Dartmouth controlled the play of the game keeping the ball in Stony Brook territory for a most of the quarter. They moved the ball well though the zone and set up good scoring chances that Taylor (11 saves in the first quarter) just eat up. After Taylor robbed a Big Green attack man on the cress he fed the ball to D'Orazio who brushed up the field and fired his first goal of the game past Dartmouth's Andrew Dance at 5:36. Later in the Quarter D'Orazio would set up Stony Book's second goal when he found Eric Schaeffer (eight goals on the year) sitting in front of the net. Just :39 seconds latter Dance would make his first of two very costly mistakes. He came out of his net to play a loose ball when Schaeffer stole the ball from him and put it in the empty net.

Adam Solow (one goal one assist) would score Dartmouth first of two man up goal at 12:55 of the

second quarter to pull his team with in one 3-2. After the Brook regained a two-goal edge Greg Edell (three assists) won the face off and passed to George Wisecarver who ripped a shot over Taylor's head once more cutting the lead to one. That would be the last time the Big Green would find them selves with in one. Stony Brook would dominate the rest of the game out scoring the Big Green 14-5. The Seawolves scoring run started when Miller dished the ball from behind the net to a spiraled out Craig Schmalz (two goals) who put it in the top left corner of the net at 8:26. Stony Brook would take a 7-4 lead into the half.

In the second half Miller would put a miss handled rebound over Dance head. After the face off D'Orazio would pick up a ground ball and race to the net all alone putting Stony Brook up by five at 10:24. Dave Maher would score Big Greens second man up goal at 9:27

and Jay Tatum would score eight seconds latter making the score 9-6. Miller would then complete his third quarter hat trick scoring two-unassisted goals to give USB a 11-6 lead at the end of three.

The Stony Brook offence controlled the final frame of play, out working the baffled Big Green defense. Robb Aitchison (67 career assists) would add to his school assist record as he delivered a pass to a streaking Eric Bruncker early in the quarter. At Dave Ozsvath (three goals) would freeze the Big Green goalie in his tracks as he fired a shot from just in side the box into the top right corner. Almost a minute latter in almost the same spot Ozsvath would rifle a man up goal past the stifled Dance. At 8:55 Dance would commit his second costly mistake while trying to clear to ball Dance would fined him self at mid-field with no where to go dance panicked a lost the ball. Ozsvath then pick up the ball a lunched a mid-field shot that

bounced into the empty net. After Schmalz scored his second goal of the game Dartmouth coach, Tim Nelson pulled Dance (14 saves and 16 goals against) and replaced him with freshman Tom Trimarco. The youngster would record no saves and gave up a man-down goal at 1:31. Jim Imhof, long stick defense man, carried the ball over mid-field and put his first college goal past the freshman.

Even though Stony Brook stared out slow in the first they picked it up when they had to. They are a young team but the don't play like one. The chemistry between the younger players and the older players is good and the team has a strong work ethic. If they continue to play like they did on Saturday season should exciting. The Wolves will be home this Wednesday to face the Lafayette Leopards at 3:30p.m. The last time the two teams met Stony Brook beat them up 18-4 on the road. □

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Statesman

Features

Gomez-Peña Explores New Borders

By RAYA EID
Statesman Editor

Gringo, Mexicano, Chicano, performance artist, and self-proclaimed "visual activist," Guillermo Gomez Peña, discussed the contours of his recent work, Saturday at the Staller Center.

A native of Mexico City, Peña has been using his writing and artwork to explore the ways in which Mexicans and Americans view each other. He uses various artistic mediums including art installations, bilingual poetry, film, journalism, and radio. Peña sees the US/Mexican border as a dividing line where two very different cultures meet, forming a network for investigations on cross cultural issues.

Peña opened his presentation with what he called a "new world border sensibility," using an amusing hybrid language he partly created. For example, he referred to second generation Mexicans who live in Canada as "Chicanadians," and television as "white people's freedom of speech."

Peña proceeded to discuss one

performance installation which he called one of his "colonial dioramas." In this installation, he and his crew would stage a performance for an audience in a mall in which they would dress up in costumes, juxtaposing stereotypical native costume pieces from various Native American tribes. "We exhibit ourselves as human artifacts, caged artificial savages, to market and distribute ethnic talent at malls," Peña said, "The responses from visitors remained consistent, they believed it was real." Peña and his partners put on this exhibition for a six day period, approximately four to six hours a day. "We were multicultural Frankensteins," he remarked.

Peña went on to discuss his iconoclastic crucifixion project in which he and his partner, Roberto Sifuentes, perched themselves on crosses in front of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in protest of Pete Wilson, Governor of California, who Peña believed was racist. For three hours they were

Please see Gomez-Peña pg 13



Guillermo Gomez-Peña in Staller Center Saturday Night.

Staller's Titanic Plans Sink

By ELIO EVANGELISTA
Statesman Staff

The Staller Center for the Arts canceled its May 1st presentation of *Titanic* this week citing contractual restrictions with the film studio and local theaters. Staller's contract with New Line Cinema states that The Arts Center Staller Center cannot show a film until it is pulled from the movie theaters, *Titanic* has been pushed back until a later date not yet announced.

"Our agreement states that we will show a film after it is run in the commercial theaters and before it's available on video," said Patricia Cohen, marketing director for the Staller Center. *Good Will Hunting* will replace the originally scheduled screening of *Titanic* at the Staller Center. Close to 100 advanced tickets and 600 season passes had already been sold when the decision to cancel was made. The total number of advanced tickets amounted to over 70% capacity of the Staller Center main stage that houses the forty-foot screen. In order to compensate all of the advanced ticket holders, the Staller Center began contacting those people with courtesy calls that told ticket holders that they could use the tickets to see *Good Will*

Hunting and for *Titanic* at a later date.

"We're giving you *Good Will Hunting*" Cohen said. "You can use your *Titanic* ticket [to] come and see *Good Will Hunting*, [then] hold onto your ticket. Hopefully, if it's out of the theaters by the summer, we're going to show [*Titanic*] during our summer film festival twice." Staller is also planning to show the blockbuster film as a free screening on the first Friday of the fall semester.

The success of *Titanic*, though, has not made its addition into the Staller Summer film festival a certainty because the film studio has not yet released a date when it will be pulled from movie theaters.

Student reaction has not been negative about Staller's moves in making the cancellation. Many of the calls that the Staller Center has received were placed in order to clear up some confusion. "The message was very unclear as to what movie we could use the ticket for," said Concetta Acunzo, resident of Cardozo College. "I, and many other people I've spoken to, had to call the box office for more information."

For those students who are unable to see *Titanic* because of graduation or other circumstances, the Staller Center will be honoring refunds at the box

office. Only one person, however, has requested a refund so far. "I think people are just so enamored with *Titanic* and how well it's doing that they're not really looking at [the cancellation] as a disappointment," Cohen said.

Since the Staller Center boasts the largest movie screen on Long Island, there is an obvious advantage for viewing movies. When Staller does show *Titanic*, it will be the only theater showing the film and that also adds to the enthusiasm of the ticket holders.

Because it is offering the advanced ticket holders an extra movie for the same price along with the free screening in the fall, Cohen admits that the Staller Center will be losing money on *Titanic*. By bringing in so many people to see the movies, however, Cohen believes that word of mouth about other performances should compensate for the loss.

Titanic recently broke the record for worldwide sales and also became the first movie ever to earn 1 billion dollars. It was nominated for 14 Academy Awards and on March 23, it won 11 Oscars, including Best Director, James Cameron, and Best Picture.

"It's the type of film that people will keep seeing over and over again. I also think the experience of *Titanic* will be worth it on our screen," Cohen said. □

**The following issue should have been numbered “44”
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