



# Statesman

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First Copy Free

## Stony Brook Celebrates 40th Convocation

By BEN VARGHESE  
Statesman Staff

The common phrase "older is wiser" takes on a new found importance at Stony Brook as the University celebrated forty years of incorporation at the 40th Anniversary Faculty-Staff Convocation this past Tuesday.

President Shirley Strum Kenny took the main stage at the Staller Center to address the University on the current state of the institution. "More often it seems remarkable that this great research university was created a mere forty years ago and has come so far so fast," Kenny said.

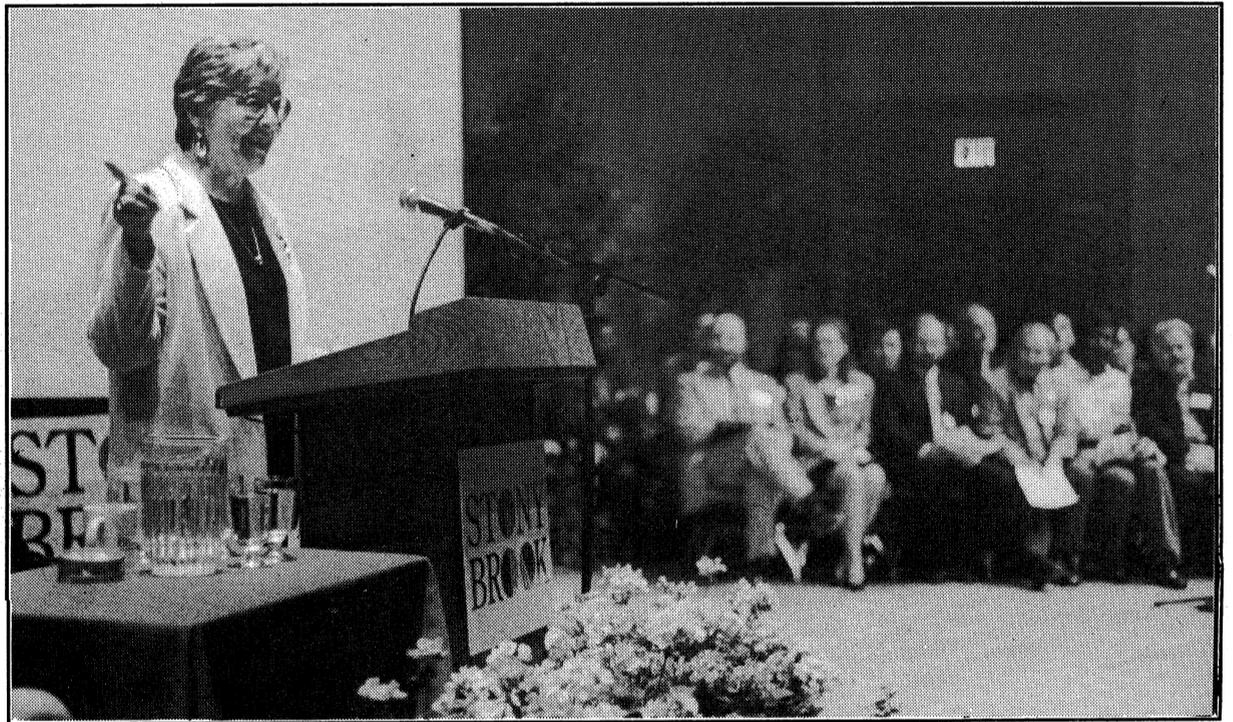
The university, which has experienced a mixed share of turmoil and prosperity over its forty year existence, is steadily approaching "the golden years" in its history as a research university. "Our history is not one of upholding traditions, but of making them, not of looking back, but of looking forward," Kenny said. "Stony Brook is one that should be chomping at the bit to move into the 21st century."

Recent years have painted the picture for Stony Brook's trend towards excellence.

1996-97 proved to be an eventful and dynamic year for the University. According to Kenny, the \$25 million gift from Charles B. Wang, CEO of Computer Associates was one of the largest gifts given to a public university and the largest ever given to SUNY.

Kenny also pointed out that the university scored well in the most recent National Research Council Rankings. Nine of the ten SUNY programs in the top quartile of graduate programs were from Stony Brook, which included Ecology and Evolution, Music, Mathematics, Physics, Genetics, Molecular and Cellular Pharmacology, Molecular Biology, and Biochemistry.

Stony Brook was also recognized as one of the top three public Research I and II universities, with Berkeley and Santa Barbara, in terms of per capita faculty research productivity. "Actually, if one conflates the scores of public and private institutions in that study of per capita faculty research productivity, we rank eleventh in the nation, surpassed only by, in this order, Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Chicago, Berkeley, Columbia, Duke, Penn, and Johns



Statesman / Tee Lek D. Ying

Kenny introduces new faculty at Tuesday's convocation

Hopkins," Kenny said.

University Hospital was ranked fifteenth in the nation for major teaching hospitals, as well as one of the 100 best hospitals in the country. "We were ranked 26th in our category this year in *U.S. News and World Report*, having risen from 40th last year and we were a "Best Buy" in *Money Magazine*," Kenny said.

Stony Brook's growth in research funding owes great merit to individual faculty and their many important discoveries at the University. Kenny pointed out that even in the midst of the financial turmoil that many institutions faced, Stony Brook soared to \$105.3 million in research expenditures, adding about \$6.5 million to last year's number.

Brookhaven National Laboratory, perhaps the university's biggest stake for managing scientific research, was a major concern for Kenny. The deadline for bidding proposals was September 22nd. "We have put together a world class team. Stony Brook and Batelle Memorial Institute, a non-profit scientific corporation, have agreed to become equal partners in a not-for-profit limited liability company called Brookhaven Science Associates," Kenny said. Kenny further pointed out that each partner will have five seats on the Board of Directors. Stony Brook also enlisted the close involvement of six other major user

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## Secrets for Success in the Digital Age

Charles B. Wang, CEO & Chairman of Computer Associates, Speaks to Campus Community

By KEVIN KEENAN  
Statesman Staff

During campus lifetime yesterday, Charles B. Wang, CEO and chairman of Computer Associates, delivered a speech to members of the Stony Brook Community entitled "Achieving Success in the Digital Age." Wang discussed personal convictions that he believes enabled success, and commented on the world's technological future. He then responded to questions asked by audience members. During the event, Yacov Shamash, Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, awarded several students with Computer Associates scholarships.

University President Shirley Strum Kenny was on hand to introduce Charles Wang. She began by outlining Wang's philanthropist nature and reminded the audience of his \$25

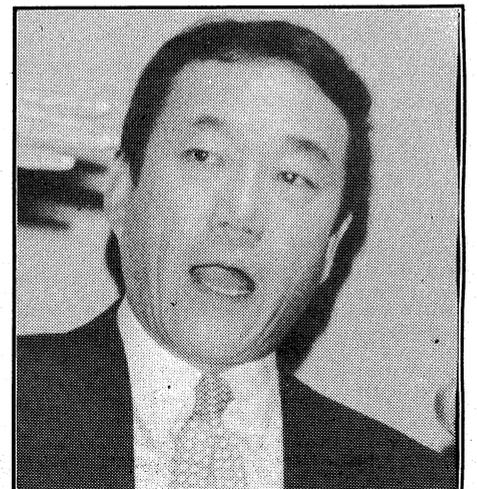
million contribution to fund SUNY Stony Brook's soon to be constructed Asian-American center. "He is an extraordinary example of American success," Kenny said. "and he believes in the importance of people in general and his employees in particular."

Wang then spoke about the global village concept and how computers are making the world ever smaller by linking the farthest lands together. He commented on how all of our lives are affected by the rapid progress of technology. "It wasn't that long ago that e-mail was not readily available to the general public," Wang said. "Now, the access people have to electronic mail is astounding." Wang also spoke about a "virtual university" which he hopes the new Asian-American center will facilitate. This concept involves electronically linking institutions from around the world, and the new

center will be equipped to accomplish such a task.

During his speech, Wang stressed the importance of acquiring the technological skills requisite for the 21st century. "You, as today's students and tomorrow's leaders, need to be kept up to date on the latest technological advances," he said. "This will enable you to

make successful contributions to the businesses of the future." He also indicated that students should be aware of the pitfalls present in the technological environment and that one need not leave Long Island to enter the exciting world of technology. "We live at the doorsteps of the greatest city in the world, and technology is booming right here," Wang said. "What better combination?"



Statesman / Tee Lek D. Ying

Charles B. Wang

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# A Golden Agenda

## Golden Key National Honor Society Recruiting During Campus Awareness Week

By **BIANCA LOBO & LIZA MATEO**  
Special to *The Statesman*

Stony Brook students will awaken to a golden horizon this semester. Starting September 24th through 26th, The Golden Key National Honor Society will be participating in Campus Awareness Week from 9am to 4pm in the Student Union. Tables will be set up to recruit new members and inform students of membership requirements and upcoming events.

Golden Key National Honor Society is a nationwide organization that strives to promote academic excellence and a sense of community. Each year it recognizes students who have individually attained an academic record which categorizes them in the top fifteen percent of upper division students within their perspective college or university. These students are acknowledged for their past accomplishments and this award serves as a motivation for future endeavors.

The society embraces students

from diverse fields of interest and all walks of life. It has touched millions of students, not only through superior scholastic achievements and nearly \$2million in scholarships, but also through thousands of altruistic community wide events. The AIDS Walk, Adopt An Area (Green Team) and Foreign Student Services Orientation are a few of the activities the Stony Brook Chapter has participated in.

This semester will be participating in "Walktoberfest", which is the walk for diabetes. They will be raffling off a \$25 gift certificate from SmithHaven Mall to all perspective members. In order to enter this competition, please stop by the information tables in the Student Union on September 24th through the 26th to find out if you qualify.

Zenobia Sadler, the Eastern Regional Director, will also be present on these days to answer any questions. For more information, please e-mail us at goldenkey@ic.sunysb.edu. □

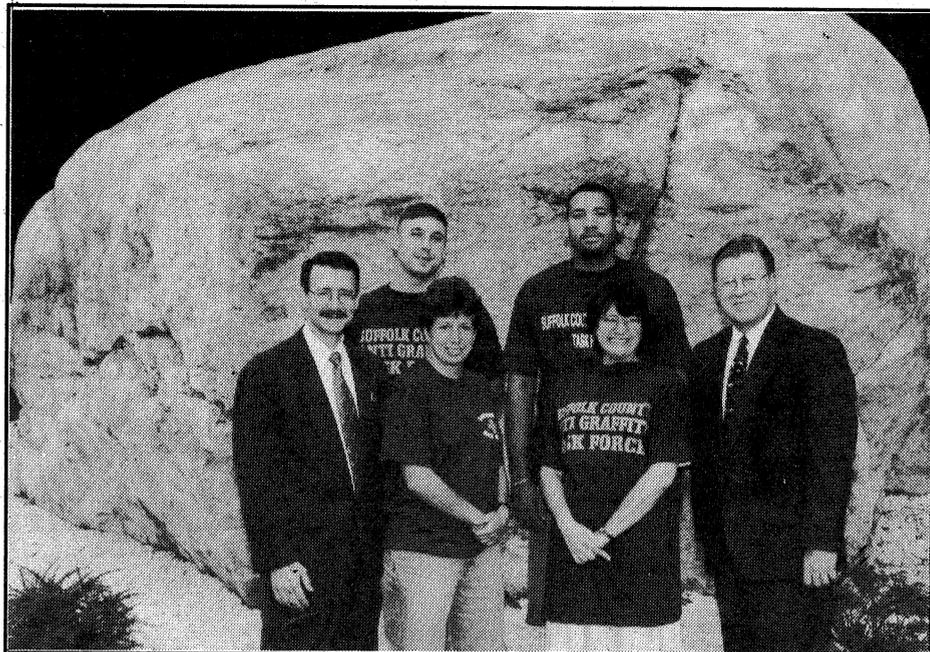


Photo courtesy of Medical photography / Stony Brook

Maffetone (left), Heather Grenveld, project coordinator; Eleanor Seidman-Smith, director of the American Red Cross Community Service Program; and Joseph Michaels, chairman of the Suffolk County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Rear, from left are Kenneth Grobasky, graffiti project supervisor; and Jason Brower, crew chief.

## Enhancing the Campus

Michael Maffetone, director and CEO of University Hospital and Medical Center, and officials of the Suffolk County Red Cross Alternative to Incarceration Program stand by the boulder, which they cleaned of graffiti, near the main campus' south entrance. The Alternative to Incarceration Program is a successful initiative through which non-violent offenders perform seven hours of community service for each day they would have been incarcerated.

# Working Class Themes in Folk Renaissance

By **MICHAEL KIMMEL**  
Special to the *Statesman*

They say there is a folk renaissance going on, or so we are told - fueled partly by the drive for authenticity that is sweeping the musical landscape like a tornado. Suddenly everyone from country stars to rap artists (the two fastest growing genres) are eschewing technical enhancements and reaching for the real and the true, if not necessarily the beautiful and the sublime. Historically, of course, this is just another of those periodic return to one's roots that pop music uses to clean house and declare distance from corporate mammon. Fat chance.

Well, there are a few performers who have been consistent in this and they do deserve some admiration, if not sympathy. In the regime of popular culture, it is the trend, not tenacity, that rules. Consistency is a luxury - if it doesn't marginalize you altogether.

Take, for example, Richard Thompson, one of the original Fairport Convention. Thompson has hovered around mainstream pop success for more than 20 years and nearly as many albums. He is, perhaps, the most innovative folk-rock guitarist working today, a constant critical favorite.

Thompson has never made the great breakthrough to mainstream success, partly because he is so damned smart. His ironic and sardonic lyrics wedded to clever pop ditties leave the listener skeptical about the cheap assurances, saddened about romantic longing and failure. And to make matters worse for that elusive commercial success, Thompson is political - which is to say he has politics.

For his most recent effort, *Industry* (Rykodisc), Thompson has thumbed his nose at commercialism and created a thematic album. Together with the superlative bassist, Danny Thompson (no relation), Thompson explores the collapse of England's industrial empire. Sounds catchy, doesn't it?

Surprisingly, it is. Created as the soundtrack for a radio documentary aired in Britain last May, the album chronicles the rise and decline of England as industrial superpower, much the way "The Full Monty" takes that same premise towards hilarious ends. Thompson has always had an eye for the small vignette that speaks

eloquently about larger issues, and here he chronicles the rise of industry ("New Century"), labor struggles ("Saboteur"), the role of women, ("Sweetheart of the Barricade") industry's decline ("Last Shift") and the effect of unemployment ("Drifting Through the Days") with poignant observation rather than sweeping polemic. Thompson writes short stories, not anthemic broadsides.

Thompson spent some time reading worker memoirs at the Trade Union Congress library (O.K. name another musician, besides Bruce Springsteen, who would do something like "research"?). One cotton mill worker's story of the deafening power of the machine caught his eye. In "Saboteur" he describes the man's resolve to destroy the machine that runs his life, but when he approaches the combine, he is also enthralled by its power and beauty. "Last Shift" describes the closing of a coal factory in the Dickensian-named industrial town of Grimethorpe. Moved by press and personal accounts, Thomson wrote a song about the glib nonchalance of those who, "with old school ties and little white lies, they left our town for scrap."

*Industry* is a moving tribute to the dignity of the working class. Unfortunately it is only half a Richard Thompson album. On his seven vocal tracks, Danny Thompson leads an all-star folk-rock ensemble to great effect. But as much as I like Danny's work in other venues, his five tracks here are more incidental than instrumental, more filler than fill'er up. But then, again, half a Richard Thompson album is twice as good as virtually anything else out there.

While James Taylor has had big-time mainstream success, he's also settled comfortably into a niche of pleasing pop, a soothing voice singing sweet and kind lyrics. A mainstay of LiteFM stations around the nation, Taylor looks at life without skewed vision, straight on, with no angles or sharpness. All edges are smoothed by the waves of time, which has apparently healed all wounds.

On his newest record, *Hourglass* (Columbia), though, there is a deeper sadness and resignation that infuses many of the songs. Several songs are meditations on death and loss, as Taylor comes to terms with the loss of his brother, the end of his second marriage, and the death of Richard Nixon, which even becomes a meditation on the loss of those youthfully exuberant 1960s on the album's opener,

"Line 'em Up."

Taylor still finds solace and comfort in simple pleasures - a walk on the beach, a drive in the desert, and that's sort of the point. This album will neither win him new fans nor chase fans away - fans are with him for the long haul. Who can resist that plaintive tenor voice singing the 1930s classic "Walking My Baby Back Home"? Who would want to do that? If this album takes few risks, it is also filled with small comforts, soft reassurances, and the constant easing of pain.

John Hiatt has also toiled at the margins of mainstream celebrity for a couple of decades. Mining the vein that runs between country and pop, Hiatt is a brilliant songsmith, his lyrics biting and his musical flourishes pointed and relentlessly tasteful. While many popsters constantly find musical refuge in adolescent lust, Hiatt wrestles with grown-up demons like monogamy, long-term love, and the thorny problems of marriage and children, but not for the squeamish.

His new album, *Little Head* (Capitol), finds him occasionally going to the cheap pubescent laugh (like the obvious double-entred title song — "I'm just so easily led when the little head does the thinking") instead of sticking to his mainstay grown-up sensibilities. Such lapses are distasteful, but infrequent. He also takes on musical marginality which keeps off-heavy rotation play lists ("Pirate Radio"), inflated promises of fidelity and passion ("Sure Pinocchio"), and the perils of living on one's own ("Runaway").

"Graduated" is a steady country-rocker that confronts the mixed blessings of being a grown up, now that those thrilling college-age passions have given way to more domestic pleasures. The last few songs find his country twang of a voice achingly sincere in his confronting a sense of limits. On a beautifully rendered ballad, "Far as We Go," Hiatt uses a car ride as metaphor for the impending sense of life's limits and intimations of mortality.

The album closes with a perfect love song for the settled and married couple who still find themselves in love "After All This Time." Sweet and plaintive, it's the perfect slow-song to dance to, in your own living room, shades drawn, with the one you're committed to for the long haul, thankful for life's blessings.

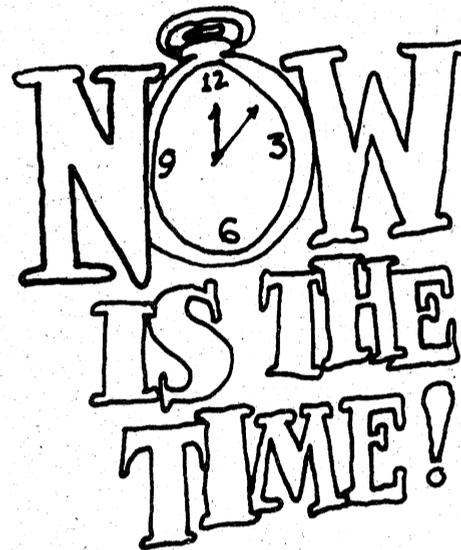
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# Editorial

## Cutting The Competition

On what could become a worrisome omen for college newspapers across the United States, a small area newspaper, The Daily Tribune of Ames (Iowa), has sued the Iowa State Daily, a campus paper based out of Iowa State University, to curtail its advertising from off-campus sources.

Many states, including New York, bar state agencies from competing with private business. The Daily Tribune contends that the small campus paper is a part of the state government, and therefore, the Iowa State Daily's increasingly professional staff, with its tax-free status and subsidized circulation, was an unfair rival in the competition for local readers. The Iowa State Daily, like approximately 80% of campus newspapers, as well as this one, maintains an ongoing professional staff for advertising and bookkeeping.

This professional staff provides necessary continuity for many college papers; many papers could not operate if fully managed by students that come and go out of the life of the paper.

While the current litigation takes place in the small town of Ames, Iowa, there have been moves elsewhere recently that suggest that other area newspapers have grown

irritated by the competition from campus papers. The largest complaints by small area papers is that campus papers should be restricted from soliciting off campus advertising. The Iowa State Daily, through various court proceedings, has already forced the Iowa State University's newspaper from accepting non-university based advertisements.

If area papers, such as The Daily Tribune, continue to be successful in court proceedings, many campus papers could be forced to go under. Few papers could continue to operate merely on the subsidies provided through student activity fees.

In addition, it remains unclear as to the Daily Tribune's contention that a campus paper is necessarily an agent of the university or college at which it publishes. While universities provide office space and make money available from student activity fees (which are more often than not approved by the students themselves) they do not control the editorial or copy content of these papers, nor control its staffing.

In most small college towns, the population is made up mostly of people connected to the schools, either by being students or staff. Therefore, these people are interested in campus events as they affect them in their communities. The

Daily Tribune, it seems, is more disgruntled in the campus papers' superior ability in covering the happenings at the school, than they are about a supposed advantage that the paper enjoys because of its professional staff and student fee subsidy.

Students newspapers provide a valuable opportunity for students to keep up-to-date on local and campus politics that may not otherwise be acquired on large campuses. Off-campus ads placed in university newspapers bring in a number of student customers to businesses otherwise unknown on campus. These businesses advertise with the Iowa State Daily because of the positive response they receive on their investment. National advertisers, such as credit card companies, target a youthful audience that these papers provide. The only unfair advantage that college papers have is in their ability to focus in on issues relevant to the young readership of most campus communities.

Lastly, area newspapers could only suffer in their fight with their university competitors. Many of the staff for The Daily Tribune, for example, are former staff members of the college paper that they are suing. Student papers provides the experience that many papers look for in hiring their own staff.



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# 6 Stony Brook Celebrates 40th Convocation

FORTY, From Front Page

institutions - MIT, Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Cornell, and Princeton as "core universities."

Kenny's concern was also focused on the improvement of the buildings on campus. Kenny stated that 14 of the 26 residence halls have been rehabbed. The scaffolding at the Health Sciences Center has finally been taken down, and according to Kenny, it was long overdue. "I believe we need to have a celebration for the removal of the scaffolding at the Health Sciences Center this year," Kenny said. "After 12 years, it really is time."

Construction for the Center for Molecular Medicine and Biology Learning Laboratories is also making progress. The building, according to Kenny, will house many important research programs and bridge the east and west sides of the campus.

SUNY has also received a \$700 million increase in bonding authority, which means that the University will be able to build faster than it has done in years. Among the several new building projects moving ahead is the stadium, which Kenny said she hopes "will be fast tracked for completion before the Empire State Games in the summer of 1999." The stadium will hold 7,500 people with the capability of expansion.

The University is also in the initial stages of rehabbing three academic buildings, Heavy Engineering, Humanities, and the Psychology building.

The University is also working to get permission for a ground lease to relocate the

bookstore and other commercial operations that are currently housed in the Melville Library.

"If we get it, we can liberate the library space, have a more attractive bookstore, and at the same time, delete Phase III of the Student Activities Center... so that the rehab schedule for academic buildings can be accelerated," Kenny said.

Kenny pointed out, however, that the capital funds to make these improvements cannot be used as operating funds to run the university or hire faculty. They are one-time only funds that can only be used for

capital projects.

But among the most important accomplishments, Kenny pointed out, was the outstanding achievements of the students. "The dramatic increase in enrollments and SAT scores this fall to our highest number ever indicates to me that we are moving in the right directions," Kenny said. Statistics from the 10th day of classes show a significant increase in new freshman and transfers. The current overall count at 17,811 sets a new record high for Stony Brook. Mean SAT scores have risen from 1070 to 1095 in one year.

Kenny also said that the university will pay off the final third of their debt, which will correct the deficit by the end of the year.

Kenny said she is very optimistic about the future of Stony Brook.

"We will redesign, re-engineer, rethink, not under the gun of state funding cuts but because we believe there are new and better ways to do things in a world that has changed so dramatically in the last 40 years."

"The challenges ahead are, I believe, awesome, but no more awesome than what has been already achieved in this place," she said. "I know that Stony Brook is ready." □

## Wang's Secrets for Success

WANG, From Front Page

Wang also offered four keys to success: build on what exists and don't waste time on reinventing, remember that technology is only a tool, maintain a balance in your life; do not allow technology to overtake you and always give something back.

After Wang's speech and question period, Dean Shamash presented scholarship awards to several outstanding freshman students and one sophomore student who are in the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Tatyana Furer received the Computer Associates/CIO Magazine Scholarship, which is worth \$10,000 over four years. Henry Joseph, Chamali Josephs, Ifeoluwa Ojutiku, Avery Sandiford, David Silver, and Kevin Taylor (all freshmen excepting Ojutiku) received the Computer Associates Access and Excellence Awards.

These awards provide full payment for the recipients' tuition for the next four years, offer them a \$2,000 stipend, and a \$6,000 summer internship.

Each of these scholarships was funded entirely by Computer Associates except for Furer's, which was funded in part by CIO magazine. All of the Access and Excellence scholarships were awarded to minority students. According to David Ferguson, professor of Technology and Society and Applied Math, "Computer Associates realized that minorities are underrepresented in many technological fields." Therefore, the scholarships were intended to remedy the disparities. Ferguson said that Kenny was "the critical element" and that she "has been very supportive of minorities seeking education in the fields of engineering and applied sciences here at USB."

Wang was asked to give his speech by

Shamash. Presumably, his relationship with Kenny, which both he and Kenny mentioned in their comments, also played a role. He said he believes the University is the perfect place to speak about technology and the future because the environment is lively and students are innovative. When asked about the harmful impact that technology may have upon our lives, Wang responded by saying that one must always remember that "real-life must never be replaced by life on-line." He warned that people must never make technology "everything."

Robert Wlodarczyk, a freshman, said he thought the event was exceptionally well performed. "The message that Mr. Wang was conveying to the student body was a very positive one which should be taken seriously in order to succeed in the next century," Wlodarczyk said. □

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, September 25, 1997



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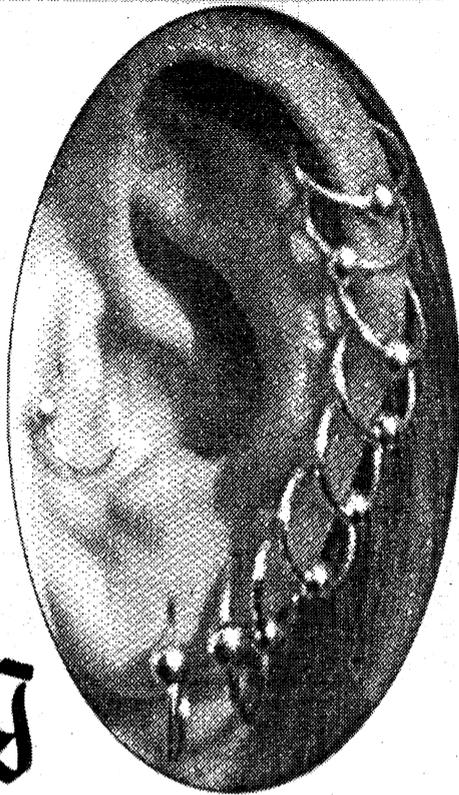
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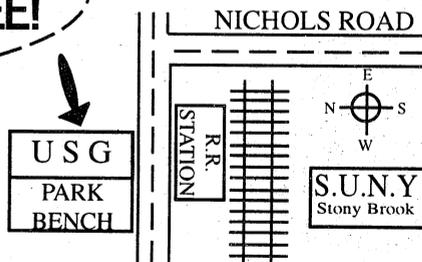
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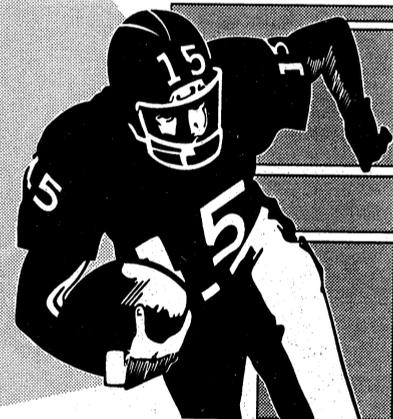
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# A Lot Of History And A Few Line Up Changes Faith No More Comes a Long Way from Debut 15 Years Ago

By MARC WEISBAUM  
Special to the Statesman

Whether you like the band or not, you have to admire **Faith No More's** perseverance, if not the band's originality. Since the *We Care A Lot* debut, 15 years ago, the band has been breaking the rules.

Not a metal group, not a funk group and definitely not a rap group, FNM saw the pieces fall into place upon replacing vocalist Chuck Mosley with Mike Patton (**Mr. Bungle**) in time for 1989's *The Real Thing*. Launched by the commercial success

of the single, "Epic," *The Real Thing* elevated the band beyond the plateau it reached with the success of the revamped version of "We Care A Lot" that appeared on the previous album, *Introduce Yourself*. It also led to a tour with **Guns N' Roses** and **Metallica**.

While this helped the band reach out to a larger audience, the inevitable backlash of becoming popular soon followed. Newcomers who believed the band to be a new were intimidated by the bizarre affair

Continued on next page



Faith No More

Photo courtesy of Slash Records

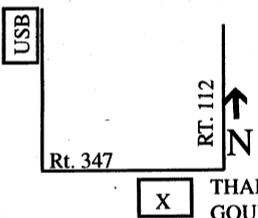


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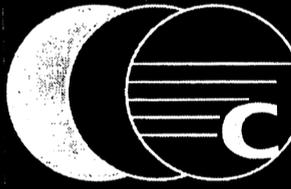
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that was the band's followup, *Angel Dust*. While the album did receive some exposure from the singles "Midlife Crisis" and "A Small Victory," the eclectic collection was too much for the mainstream and the album didn't reach the uber-sales level of its predecessor despite the sheer genius contained within.

Shortly thereafter, the band also released the *Easy* EP, which included the band's rendition of **Lionel Richie's** "Easy" as well as a cover of the **Dead Kennedys'** "Let's Lynch the Landlord" and the ever humorous "Das Schutzenfest." Following the album's release and subsequent tour, guitarist Jim Martin departed the band. Trey Spruance, also in Mr. Bungle with Patton, temporarily filled the slot and the band entered the studio to record album number five, *King For A Day; Fool For A Lifetime*.

*King...* was yet another twist in the path of FNM. Keyboardist Roddy Bottum (also in **Imperial Teen**) wasn't nearly as involved in the songwriting as on the other album due to personal problems. A friend of Kurt Cobain, Bottum was hit hard by Cobain's suicide and his participation in the band was clearly diminished.

Despite all of the confusion, the band toured successfully behind *King...* before taking a break. Bassist Billy Gould kept himself busy in a

mysterious side project, **Brujeria**, while drummer Mike Bordin supplied the beats for **Ozzy Osbourne** on the recent OzzFest tour. Patton released some solo material, as well. Most importantly, however, a permanent guitarist was found in Jon Hudson and the band commenced writing *Album Of The Year*, the latest opus.

*Album...* shows the band returning to form quite fine, thank you, and the band has already took to the road in support of the latest outing. FNM recently hit New York along with supporting act **Limp Bizkit** for a sold out crowd at Roseland.

Opening with the album's opening track "Collision," Patton grabbed the audience and didn't let go until the final dripping with sarcasm track, "We Care A Lot," which of course, produced a most violent response. Regardless of all of the recent lineup difficulties, the band was extremely tight on both classics such as "As The Worm Turns" and newer tracks like "Gentle Art Of Making Enemies" and "Naked In Front Of The Computer." While a lot of expected tracks failed to find their way into the set list (what happened to "Jizzlobber?"), FNM still delivers a far more enthralling set than the **Smashing Pumpkins** have in years.

Credit must also be given to the band for conveying dripping sarcasm



Photo courtesy of Slush Records

FNM

as well live as on some albums - best exemplified by Patton's announcing of "the first guitar solo of the night" and breaking into **R. Kelly's** "I Believe I Can Fly" at the close of sure fire crowd pleaser "Epic."

Ultimately, Faith No More's music is a critic's dream. So truly avant garde that it leaves an infinite pile of verbs in its wake. Whether its the psycho-mess music or Patton's insane ramblings (i.e. "Do you often sing or whistle just for fun?"), FNM is an experience unlike any other, which is truly commendable in a day where everybody seems to be content just to ape what is on the Billboard

Top 100 (does Billy Corgan make any royalties from **Our Lady Peace's** latest?).

Pick up a copy of *Album Of The Year* now so that when the band has another huge hit you can be one of the people in the know and not just with the flow.

#### Discography

*We Care A Lot*  
*Introduce Yourself*  
*The Real Thing*  
*Angel Dust*  
*Easy*  
*King For A Day, Fool For A Lifetime*  
*Album Of The Year* □

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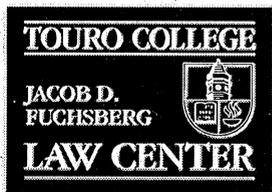
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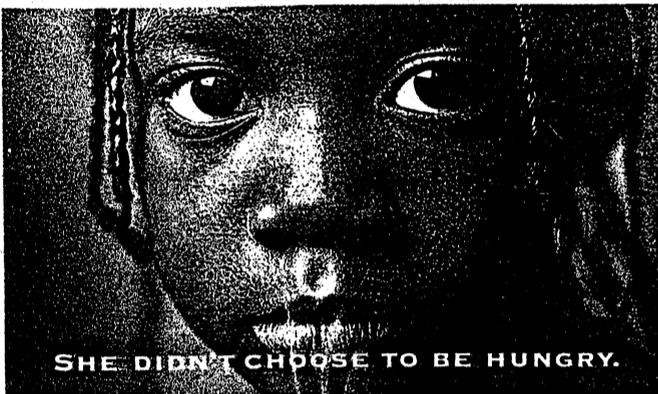
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The Stony Brook  
Statesman

"Get off the Bench and into the Game"

Sports

Thursday, September 25, 1997

# RUGGERS REFUSE TO BE ORDERED AROUND

## PROGRAM EARNS RESPECT WITH CLOSE LOSS AGAINST WEST POINT MULES

By DYLAN PHERNT  
Special to the Statesman

The Stony Brook Seawolves' mens rugby team scored a major victory this past weekend in a 10 - 7 loss to West Point Military Academy. How could the Ruggers score a victory if the score clearly showed that they had lost the match by 3 points? Well, let us take a look into the recent past. Just three years ago, USB's inaugural season in Division 1, the Seawolves were crushed by West Point 89 - 0. Over the last two years, the Rugby men lost by the scores of 65 - 0 and 45 - 10.

Let us not forget however, that West Point is six sides deep and our Ruggers did not play against West Point's best personnel in this 10-7 match. The majority of West Point's A + B side Ruggers were in Canada playing against a top Canadian team. The Seawolves played a predominantly third, or C side team with a sprinkling of A + B cadets as well. Even though they were their C side team, this group of Ruggers went undefeated and handily beat every team in Division I last year. The Seawolves lost 33 - 0 late last fall to the same group of men.

West Point clearly has a superior Rugby program to Stony Brook. Since 1989, West Point has been a national finalist three times, finishing in the top five six times, and every year within the top ten. West Point outstuffed Stony Brook by the margin of eight to one.

If West Point is six sides deep how many are we? "Just about two" responds Coach Marty Rosenthal, always eager and looking to recruit athletes for his every growing and improving Division I program here at USB. "The program has come a long way since I was brought in here to coach, administer, recruit and essentially develop a Division I Rugby program from the ground up," stated Rosenthal. There are many benefits on and off the pitch (playing field) for men and women athletes to play rugby here at USB. The fruits of our labor are really starting to pay off."

Evidence of Rosenthal's statements could definitely be seen in the way the team performed this past Sunday. "The team is really starting to develop. It was great being out there with the guys and standing up to West Point. We never backed down. Last year we were happy with the way we played against them but this year really blows that away," remarked junior inside center and captain Dominick Perugini. The team really attempted to follow the game plan laid out by Coach.

"The game plan, the chemistry of the players out there today, it just all fell into place. The way it should be," remarked sophomore flyhalf Orrin McCormack "I am starting to see how it all goes together now and I think so are a lot of other guys."

"When asked about his game plan, Coach Rosenthal just shrugged it off. "The best of plans mean absolutely nothing if you do not have the players to perform. We are young, very young, but I have a bunch of talented athletes who listen and who give me effort. I appreciate that."

The Seawolves Rugby team starts only two seniors. The majority of the team is comprised of mostly juniors,

then sophomores and rounding it out with a several very athletic freshmen. "I'd prefer not to start freshmen or first year players, but you have to play the cards you are dealt." Coach Rosenthal said referring to the fact that five starting players from last year graduated, three transferred to other schools and one dropped out of college altogether. There are fifteen starting players on the pitch at a time so two thirds of the A-side lineup is starting for the first time this semester.

The mens rugby team is coming off their first winning season in Division I last spring with an 8-6-1 mark. So far this season the Ruggers can claim a 2 - 1 record. They easily defeated Hofstra and Manhattan College the last two weekends in preseason, non league matches. The Seawolves are 0 - 1 in league play with their defeat to West Point.

"Your boys shocked us. I've watched them get better with every season, but today you did things to us that nobody ever does. I'm not used to seeing our cadets get driven backwards by other teams. You tackled us to the ground, every time throughout the whole game. We are just not used to that here. I give your boys a hell of a lot of credit. It's great to see your program grow and get better. We need the competition," said Major Kevin Kenny Coach of West Point.

Stony Brook had the chances to reverse the outcome of the match but minor mistakes always seemed to stand in the way of a score. "Yeah we definitely should have had at least two more tries (touchdowns). I mean easy tries, they were literally right there," said Rosenthal. The team had several breakaway runs which also might have gone for scores if not for mistakes of Stony Brook's inexperience. Inexperience actually cost the Seawolves five points as successive penalties were given away against Stony Brook for offside play. The West Point Scrumhalf took advantage of the Stony Brook players standing around unsure of what just happened and dove into the try zone for a score.

"Certainly I was and am annoyed at the mistakes that we made. They eventually cost us this match. Let us look at the larger picture though. My boys did something out there today that no other Stony Brook team has ever done. Sure there were too many penalties against us, and too many little mistakes and breakdowns, but they did the big things right. For our first league match of the season, I can't be sweating the little things all too much. Believe me, we'll be working on those little things though. Let's see how the rest of the season shapes up," says Rosenthal.

The key things that Coach Rosenthal emphasizes is the teams set plays, obtaining possession of the ball, going forward, tackling, and applying defensive pressure.

The team showed a lot of pride and courage sticking with and maintaining a high level of Rugby against a more physically fit, well drilled team in West Point. Stony Brook had several nice runs in this match. The forwards fought hard to gain control of the ball and key runs by sophomore outside center Eric Pistrius, freshman fullback John Damato really helped to pump up the rest of the team.

Consistent well-placed kicks and leadership provided by third year scrumhalf Malek Moazzam-

Doulat certainly earned him the "Man of the Match" award.

"Malek was the target of West Point's attacks in the second half. He's small and scrappy and was picking West Point's defense apart the entire first half," remarked Rosenthal.

"Coach told us at half time that we need to protect Malek more that West Point was going to come after him," stated first year prop junior Ralph Buffolino. Stony Brook responded as all forwards tightened up and gave their scrumhalf (quarterback of Rugby) more time to work.

The backs came on strong too as each did his job a little better, taking some of the pressure off Doulat. West Point keying on the scrumhalf helped Stony Brook run a series of plays using Malek as a decoy. Eventually, an 8-man pick up play off of the scrum was ran to the short side of the pitch. West Point defenders ran at support player Doulat expecting him to receive the ball. Alert to this, freshman 8-man Chris Hinke did not make the pass and ran 25 meters eluding a tackler for the try. Dom Perugini added the two point conversion kick to close the gap to 10 - 7 West Point.

"We set up for that play. We had the players there to defend against it. We just were unable to stop it. Our men forgot to tackle the guy with the ball and went after the scrumhalf instead," said Coach Kenny. Unfortunately, for the Seawolves time soon expired - the momentum clearly in USB's favor. Several West Point players stated they were thankful for that.

In his post game talk with the players, Rosenthal could be heard priming his players for next Sunday's home opener against New Paltz. "Don't let this be our high point of the season, we've got much work to do to better ourselves. Enjoy a job well done but tomorrow it's back to work again gettin ready for New Paltz."

The match against West Point, as well as all Rugby matches, can be seen every week, mid-week on 3-TV. Check the listings for date and time. The Seawolves Men Rugby Team will play against New Paltz on Sunday the 28th. Kick off is scheduled for 1:00pm. Last fall's league match saw New Paltz defeat Stony Brook 33 - 3.

Stony Brook is 1 - 3 - 1 against New Paltz for their last five outings and 0 - 3 in the last three. Can this be the year the Seawolves reverse their fortune? Are the last three weeks a preview of things to come for our young Rugby team?

Home matches and all practices take place on the field adjacent to the football stadium. Practices are held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30pm to 5:30 pm for any interested guys on Wednesday, Thursday and Fridays for any gals that would like to give this wild and exciting sport a try. New players are always welcome. Stony Brook Seawolf Men's Rugby is always in search of athletes who are looking for a sport but can't put in the time for those five practices a week programs. Any interested persons male or female can contact Coach Rosenthal at 224-9142.

"You bring the desire, Coach will teach you the game, Our team will show you a sport like no other. USB Rugby - BE THERE," is the team motto. □

DON'T FORGET FOOTBALL THIS SATURDAY:  
USB VS. ST. JOHN'S 1:00 PM at UNIVERSITY FIELD