



Kenny Talks It Up In Texas

University President Attends Informal Meeting, Interviews for Position

By DAVID BLAKE
Special to *The Statesman*

University President Shirley Strum Kenny met with various University of Texas faculty, administrators and student groups throughout the day Thursday to hold informal interview and media sessions, as the search for a permanent president for the school continued. Kenny was the second candidate last week to visit the campus.

Kenny spoke about University issues ranging from her support for faculty sabbatical programs to freshman block registration, which keeps groups of freshmen in courses with each other during their first year. She provided possible examples for creating a sense of "togetherness," which many at UT feel is deeply lacking on campus.

The importance of making students, especially freshmen, feel included, she noted was a very important concept.

"You've got to break down the size of the institution into smaller units, so people can feel that they are a part of something," Kenny said. "I think that it is essential to good management that people know what's going on. They may not like it, but at least they know what's happening." Kenny departed for the Texas interview last Wednesday, without

notifying any campus media sources.

Kenny also spoke extensively about diversity on campus. She talked about Hopwood, the 1996 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling that banned affirmative action in Texas universities. Much controversy has been generated over the ruling, including a recent incident in which a University of Texas professor was charged with racism for rationalizing the court decision at a lecture.

"I feel that Hopwood is a major problem, not just here at UT, but all around the country," Kenny said. "There is no way that a university can be a great university if students leave not feeling comfortable within a diverse environment."

"I think it is very important for a president to do everything possible to affect diversity on campus," Kenny said. "This has really been a major thrust of mine wherever I have been, in part because I think it is the most important issue of American life."

Kenny said she would look for ways to work around the Hopwood limitations and promote minority enrollment. "If you have more diversity in your departments, you're going to have a more intellectually rich atmosphere," she said.

Kenny cited her extensive experience in promoting diversity during her tenure as Queens College's president and currently at Stony Brook. She said she had dedicated herself to hiring and promoting diverse faculty and staffs at both schools. Kenny said she "believes" she can cure what ails the UT campus. □



Statesman / Tee Lek D. Ying

University President Shirley Strum Kenny

Stony Brook Computer Science Beats Out Ivy League

By BEN VARGHESE
Statesman Editor

The Computer Science Department at Stony Brook achieved regional recognition as three computer science students claimed first prize November 9, in the 22nd ACM International Collegiate Programming regional contest in West Point, New York.

Winning team members, Dario Vlah, Pedro Sander and Kok-Ho Loh, all seniors at the University, qualified for the world finals, to be held on February 27 and 28 in Atlanta, where they will compete with the top 50 teams, made up of 150 students from around the world.

The ACM International Collegiate Programming Contest, the oldest and largest programming competition for the world's universities and colleges, formed teams of three students against a host of complex, real-world problems which they must solve in a set amount of time - promoting creativity, teamwork, and

innovation in building new software.

Contestants relied on their programming skills and creativity to answer seven questions as they raced against the clock in the five-hour battle of logic, strategy and mental endurance. The team that solved the most problems in the fewest attempts, and the least amount of time, was declared the regional winner.

The team of Vlah, Sander and Loh answered five questions correctly, placing first and surpassing Ivy League teams, such as Cornell, Columbia, Harvard, and Cooper Union.

Loh said the announcement of their first place victory was stunning.

"It was kind of unexpected," Loh said. "When we looked back at previous year's winners, the winners always had at least six correct questions, so in a sense we were disappointed because we had only five correct questions. But we were surprised when they announced that we were the winners."

"It was a very fun experience for all of us," Vlah said. "They

kept posting results every half hour, so everyone else knew what everyone was doing, so it was pretty intense."

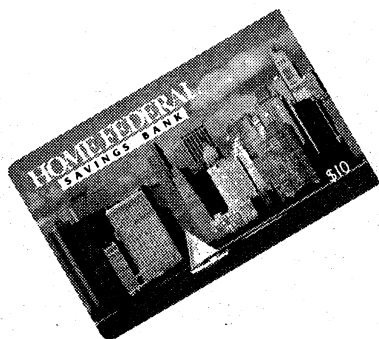
"We can't wait for it, initially for this [competition], we didn't take it very seriously, but now we're going to practice every week," Sander said.

Sander seemed optimistic about their chances at the world finals, but said that it's going to be a challenge. "I think we have a good chance of placing well, winning is going to be hard, but there is also a luck factor involved."

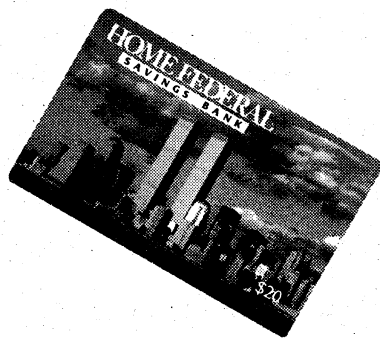
The winners of the world finals will receive scholarships, as well as a number of other prizes. But for Vlah, the incentive is very clear. "I love it, it's going to be great experience, but the real motivation here is, of course, the fame and the bragging rights."

"In a sense Stony Brook students are underrated, but we want to make it known that Stony Brook students are very capable and competent," Loh said. □

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Sacrificing Meals To Fight Hunger

Students' Donations Roll in to Help Make Oxfam a Success

By KEVIN KEENAN
Statesman Staff

Hunger hurts and Stony Brook students are helping to alleviate the pain by participating in Oxfam America, "Fast for a World Harvest."

Oxfam America is an international organization that fights global poverty and hunger by working in partnership with grassroots groups promoting long-term development in Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Caribbean. The main event sponsored by this organization to raise funds is the "Fast for a World Harvest," which will be held on Thursday, November 20. People are asked to give up a meal on this day and donate the money that they would have spent to Oxfam.

This year, Catholic Campus Ministry is sponsoring the harvest at Stony Brook. Kristin Orabone and Brian Isaacson, both members of the Ministry, coordinated the many fund-raising events.

"It is important to sacrifice and donate to Oxfam because on average, 25 million people in the United States suffer from hunger," Orabone says. "Hunger devastates many people's lives and you never know when it might affect your own."

Students have already pledged money from their meal cards at the many sign up tables located in the campus cafeterias and the Student Activities Center. This year, students have donated close to \$1600 from their meal plans.

"It is impressive to see so many students donating money to help hungry people, especially since many students run out of money on their meal cards before the end of the semester," Isaacson says.

"I don't mind making this sacrifice because I've never had to experience hunger and I wish that everyone could say the same thing," says freshman Robert Wlodarczyk.

Several prominent people are also participating in the fast. United States Representatives Tony Hall, Bill Emerson and Maxine Waters are among those who will be fasting. Actors Danny Glover and LeVar Burton, along with author Alice Walker, will be giving up meals to help fight world hunger. In addition, some famous women participating in Oxfam include Coretta Scott King and comedienne Paula Poundstone.

A number of other campus organizations have helped to make Oxfam a success at Stony Brook. Sigma Beta Honor Society, Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity and Sigma Lambda Gamma sorority were among those contributing. While final totals of money raised are still unavailable, the amount has clearly surpassed the \$2,300 mark, bringing total contributions made by Stony Brook students over the past six years to approximately \$13,300.

In addition to donating money from their meal cards, students donated money to Oxfam through various other events. The fifth annual "Battle of the Sexes" raised \$200.



Senior Dina Covello Battle s in the war of the sexes.

The event, which was conducted in the Student Union, involved competition between males and females over which group could collect the most money. The men won the battle with a total of \$119. Students also participated in a fund-raiser Bingo game and made donations at the basketball games this past weekend, where T-shirt sales also raised money for Oxfam. □

Professor Earns Distinguished Honors

Longtin Awarded \$500,000 Grant, Recognized at White House for Technology Research

By AMENEH PARVANEH
Statesman Staff

Stony Brook was honored two weeks ago when one of its newest assistant professors, Dr. Jon Longtin, was awarded a \$500,000 grant for his outstanding, three-part research proposal.

The University's undivided support and commitment were undoubtedly factors that led to the proposal's success, says the professor who is currently conducting a graduate course in heat and radiation.

Longtin, one of the 60 nationwide winners of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), was recognized on November 3 at the White House by the science advisor to President Clinton, Dr. Jack Gibbons, and the head of the National Science Foundation. In addition, each winner received a certificate signed by Clinton.

Eight governmental agencies participated in providing the money for the winners and the donations will be used to conduct the experiments proposed by the awardees whose fields include all facets of science and engineering.

Longtin, who received his B.S. and M.S. Degrees in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Cincinnati, and his Ph.D. from UC Berkley in 1995, will spend the next five years working on his proposed research topics, which involve using laser lights for measurements and

processing of liquids.

Using high-power lasers that will allow for heating and processing of liquids, Longtin's technological innovation will be capable of non-invasively measuring such properties as temperature, concentration and surface tension in these fluids.

Besides the technological part, Longtin's proposal consists of an educational component in which he plans to enhance undergraduate education in research by sighting mechanisms to get students involved in engineering. He also plans to interact with local high school students by mentoring them, allowing them to set up basic experiments in his lab, supplying their necessary equipment, offering his technical expertise and ultimately giving them the freedom and flexibility to pursue their curiosity.

Finally, he says he intends to establish a strong collaboration with industry, particularly on Long Island, by helping companies retain their competitiveness. He says he wants to participate with small and large companies and form a partnership with the University. One of his eventual goals is to transfer research technology from the lab to industry.

Longtin joined the Stony Brook Mechanical Engineering faculty in the fall of 1996. Before his arrival, he spent a year in Japan as a post-doctoral researcher at the Tokyo Institute of Technology.

Longtin is also the author of over 25 publications. He also serves on the review

board of several professional journals and federal funding agencies and is currently a member of the ASME K-15 committee. Heat Transfer in Manufacturing and Materials Processing.

Longtin says he plans to dedicate

his life to teaching at the university level and conducting research. "It is a very rewarding life style," he says. "I love being able to pursue what I want and to investigate ideas that I see as important." □

Commuter Corner

Does stress affect your life? If you ask college students, the answer is a resounding "yes." Whether it is dealing with crazy drivers, tests, parents, or bad teachers, college students have enough stress. Stressful situations are everywhere just waiting to drive you crazy. If you know how to handle them coolly, then you can breeze through everyday with a smile on your face.

If your stress is exam related, here are a few tips to help you cope. First, start studying early. There is nothing worse than trying to cram for a test. Besides, you should always try to get a good night's rest before an exam.

If you still end up burning the midnight oil, then here are a few tips that can help to make the night productive. Study in groups. You are more likely to fall asleep if you are alone. Take frequent breaks and make sure you stand up and stretch out. Take a short walk outside. The cool air will help wake you up, and when you start studying again, you will feel refreshed and energized. Make sure you eat something nutritious - an occasional cup of tea or coffee is okay.

Commuting can also be very stressful. Try these stress releasers next time. Before you start your commute, eat a healthy breakfast. Try to leave a little early so that

you won't have to worry about being late for class. Do not forget to take into account the time that it takes to catch the bus or walk to class. When you drive, concentrate on driving. It does not help to think about your classes or your tests while you are driving. Remember to stretch your back and neck when you get to your destination.

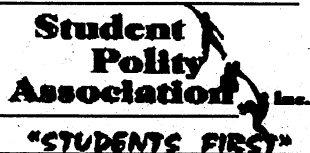
Now, about your parents - the next time you get into an argument with them, take a deep breath, count to 10 and then speak. Those extra seconds will calm you down and you can think about what you will say next so that you won't say something you might regret later.

These suggestions are good for immediate relief, but for long term effects, you have to make small changes in your life. The easiest thing you can do to combat stress is to laugh. Laughing relaxes tense muscles, reduces blood pressure and heart rate, boosts your immune system and makes you feel good.

Lastly, start exercising. A vigorous walk for 15 to 20 minutes can do wonders for your mind, body and soul. If you do this regularly, you will not only feel better emotionally, but you will also feel great physically. □

By Gordafréd Bulsara

POLITY NEWS PAGE



Office Of The Senior Representative

To: The Senior Class of 1997-98

From: Jawond Brown, Senior Class Rep.

Subject: November Senior Memo

Date: November 3, 1997

Hellooooo, everyone! First I want to welcome everyone back to the final year of your undergraduate life (even though it's November). Second, a bit of good news for those of you who haven't heard, Commencement Day is on SUNDAY, May 17, 1998, which gives us the opportunity to have a Senior weekend again. To bring you up to date with some of the things I've been working on,

1. A party for the Seniors graduating in December 1997 in the EOB
2. A Senior weekend trip for around the time after midterms Spring semester.
3. A Senior dinner in May during Senior weekend.
4. The annual Senior BBQ
5. The traditional Senior T-shirts or jersey (basketball or football).

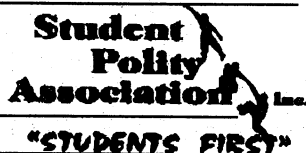
Committees need to be formed in order to put these ideas into effect. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please hand in your name, phone # and the times (day and night) that you are available to meet to the receptionist in the Polity suite SAC rm. 202. If you just want to make suggestions for the committees, please hand that in also. I would like to have some of these committees formed by the end of November so we can get started and order necessary materials.

Hopefully by this time, everyone has signed up to take their yearbook photo from Nov. 3rd through the 14th. If not, give Specula a call at 632-6453 to see if you can still do so.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me @ 632-6460 or 632-9197

Do you know about SASU?

SASU is the Student Association at the State University of New York. It is a student run and financed organization, which for the past 27 years has been advocating for students rights. SASU was partly responsible for the creation of the TAP program and now fights vigorously to keep it alive. Last year Governor Pataki tried to raise tuition by \$400, cut SUNY's operating budget by \$180 million, cut TAP by \$120 million and eliminate TAP from the graduate students. Governor Pataki has in the past already tried these kind of things and two years ago in '95 he managed to raise tuition by \$750. This forced close to 23,000 students to leave the SUNY system. What is the government doing? They're trying to eliminate ACCESS! Access means the right to an education at an affordable price as stated by the late Governor Rockefeller when he first created the SUNY system. All the budget cuts and increases to tuition are clear and evident attacks to students everywhere! SASU helps stop this. Last year NONE of Pataki's proposed cuts and increases passed. This due to the fact that SASU lobbied extensively with senators and representatives. WE had phone in campaigns and fax-ins. We mailed postcards to our elected officials and protests and rallies. All this to stop the attack. This year we've changed our tactics and this time WE are attacking! This year we want Pataki to LOWER tuition, to give MORE money to SUNY and to INCREASE TAP. Help the cause and get involved. Call SASU at Stony Brook at 632-6435 and ask for me Alejandro Catagallo (SASU Rep)



Office Of The Secretary

To the entire Student body:

As the Student Government secretary, it is one of my responsibilities to let the campus in on what Polity is and what we are trying to do. The council of this year truly believe in their motto "Student First". Our mission statement is: To remain a diverse and powerful umbrella organization which advocates for students and empowers them by fighting for student's rights academically, politically, socially, culturally, and financially.

Your student leaders fought successfully for a polling station on campus. This polling station located in the BI-level of the Student Union was a great step forward in our goal to achieve student empowerment. Unfortunately, the turn out at the polls was very low and this could mean losing the very polling site that we struggled for. It is extremely important to have a student government on a campus to ensure that all student needs are addressed, but more important is to have a student body that participates in helping us reach our goals. Without your participation we are totally paralyzed. Further more we need student representation on various committees that exist on the campus, so if anyone is interested please stop by and let us know. The council also consists of class representatives and if any class has questions or concerns please take time out to see your respective class representatives.

Polity offers a wide range of activities for students including free legal clinics and Tutorial services. We are composed of over 150 clubs and organizations. Some of our respective agencies are Minority Planning Board, COCA, SAB, Program of Services Council, Audio-Visual, SPA Force and the print shop to name a few.

Any questions or comments are welcome and we can be reached at 632-6460.

Sayed Ali

Polity Secretary

1997 - 1998

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Monique Maylor _____ President
Diane Lopez _____ Vice President
Marjorie Eyma _____ Treasurer
Sayed Ali _____ Secretary
Jawond Brown _____ Senior Representative
Christopher Grant _____ Junior Representative
Andrez Carberry _____ Acting Sophomore Representative
To be elected _____ Freshman Representative

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Stephen Adams _____ Executive Director
Barbara Mandel _____ Assistant Executive Director
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Carol Crubel _____ Bookkeeper
Mary Shear _____ Executive Secretary
Elizabeth Frisenda _____ Ticket Office Manager
John Perez _____ Print Shop Director

The Committee on Cinematic Arts is an agency of the Student Polity Association Inc. It is seated and convened to enhance the quality of student life via the use of cinematic feature presentations and/or cinematic festivals.

This fall semester C.O.C.A. planned to add more variety and life to its program "Take Me Back Tuesdays" was started as a means to enhance more students interest and participation. Students have the opportunity to request movies from any era or category. For example, they can choose movies identified from the 50's to recent or they can choose movies that are categorized as Drama's, Action, Comedy, Love stories, Thrillers or even Karate flicks. However due to unforeseen circumstances this program was temporarily suspended but fortunately it's now back in effect.

As C.O.C.A. Chair my main goal is to serve the student body. Some students may feel they are not being catered to, which is why I strongly encourage them to call or come by my office and voice their opinions. By doing this spring scheduling can be effected in a more beneficial way for the students. For any further information, I can be found in Polity Suite room 215, or I can be reached at 632-9278. If I'm not available anyone can leave a message on C.O.C.A.'s phone mail or leave a message with the Polity receptionist. I will gladly return your call or message

Sincerely,

Shaneeza Gillis

Shaneeza Gillis
C.O.C.A. Chair

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First copy is free. Each additional copy is 25 cents. For advertising information, call us at 632-6480 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

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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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Stony Brook, NY 11790

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Editorial

Getting Past The Language Barrier

Stony Brook, all the advertisements say, is a diverse University made up of students and faculty from all over the world. All across campus, one can hear a variety of languages spoken, from the Indian dialect of Hindi to Korean and a number of European tongues. We believe that students can only benefit from this diversity - talked about but not seen in the rest of American society.

As students pass by many of the classrooms on campus, they can hear many of these languages. Unfortunately, few of these classes involve the foreign language department. For those looking for an aptitude in distant dialects, they would do no better than enroll in a number of the science courses here. As physics and chemistry majors well know, many of the professors and teacher's assistants here have an inability to

communicate with students used to America's peculiar brand of English.

We can envision the letters that we'll be receiving now. Some group on campus will claim that we are foreigner bashing, that in particular we are anti-Asian. Someone, no doubt, will make the claim that, hey, if some faculty member from Bangladesh had to learn English in order to teach here, maybe having students learn Bengali to get through an engineering course would not be so bad. Learning a foreign language allows access to cultures that translations of literature, for instance, could never enable.

Besides, we are inclined to agree that the concentration ability of students necessarily increases each time they are forced to endure an hour of

listening closely to understand the fractured English of one of their professors. Learning to understand a professor with a heavy accent could only benefit a student who will need to pour through the so-called English used in a 300 level computer science course.

Of course, many students just fall asleep when met with a flurry of missed consonants and ill-used vowels. The benefit is that many students get to compare their notes later, learning how each differently interpreted the lectures. Students can look on their notes as their very own Rorsasch tests.

What's worse, though, is that many professors here think that hieroglyphics are a proper language to use when writing on the blackboard. Students without a thorough knowledge of the Rosetta stone are probably at a loss in attempting to pass a good deal of classes here.

We are not asking that faculty and TA's be forced to pass a test on English before teaching here (although students must do so before attending classes) because it seems that the professors here are running the classes the way they do simply out of arrogance. What does it matter if only one or two students out a hundred understand a lecture? What does it matter if the assigned textbooks provide little help when finals come around?

A fair minded person might point out that we are picking on the foreign faculty members here. After all, not much is ever said of the professors, say in the philosophy department, who remain incomprehensible to students despite a supposed ability to speak perfect English. We haven't figured out what "proceeding with a double gesture into a line of signifiers" means yet, but it sounds kind of kinky.

We feel sympathy for the poor freshmen when they first learn the big lesson that Stony Brook offers to each of its students: you're on your own.

The idea of faculty advising is a running joke here, many professors keep away from office hours religiously, and students can't even understand them even when they show up for class on time.

This is not to say that each one of us at the Statesman (whose names are listed in the staff box) do not think that our professors this semester are not the best that we have ever had, especially as finals approach. It's the other professors that we are talking about.

MISERY INDEX

Stony Brook continues to be saddened by the many departures we are seeing lately. Nobody seems to want to be here, except the well paid bureaucrats that run the place. Uh, nevermind. The week:

Correction: In a recent index, we mentioned that nobody in the Honors College is getting laid. We regret the error. A very attractive member of the college begged to differ with our assertion. Who are we to argue? We still say that she is in the minority

Need we say more?: A dog named Happy has run away from campus.

A well armed campus: With all of the disgruntled student groups on campus, we weren't surprised to find a number of people holding grenade launchers and machine guns in the center of campus last week. Turned out that it was a Veteran's day celebration (what nuts celebrate with guns anyway?), but we still have our hopes up for a takeover of admin.

Thanks for the memories: We at the Statesman have had a hard time deciding what to do in light of Kenny's maneuvering to take over the University of Texas. If we publish all of the corruption that we know about (paying for her maid with research funds, her membership on the board of Charles Wang's company while negotiating deals with his company for the University, etc.) we run the risk of scaring the search committee in Texas. But if we don't warn them, she'll just end up here - miserable and unhappy that a Statesman staff has kept after her all this time. Just like Nixon, we might not have her to kick around anymore.



**The 1997 Newsday | Martin Buskin
Journalism Seminar**

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Among the topics:

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When: Tuesday, Nov. 25, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

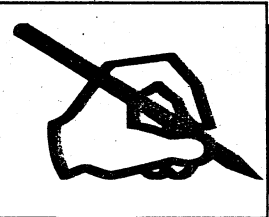
Where: Student Activities Center, 3rd Floor.

Attendance will be limited to 50, so reserve your space before Nov. 19 by calling the English Department at 632-7400 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays.

Refreshments will be provided.

Newsday

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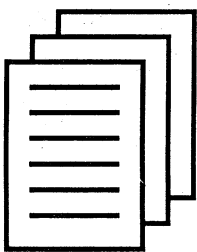
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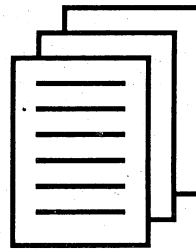
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The Campus Community
to the second presentation in the
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"The Changing American Family: A Psychological/Political Perspective"

Dr. Alvin Poussaint, renowned author,
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and consultant to "The Cosby Show"

Health Sciences Center, Level 2, Lecture Hall 1

Wednesday, November 19, 1997

12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m.

(Campus Life Time)

7 reasons why you should take my MCAT course."



—John Katzman, Founder & President of The Princeton Review

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(Morley Crue)

RAT RACE CHOIR

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OF OZZ**

CONCERT ANNOUNCEMENTS

SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 15th

Rat Race Choir

FRIDAY - NOVEMBER 28th

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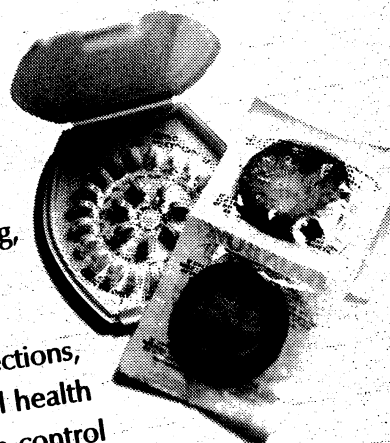
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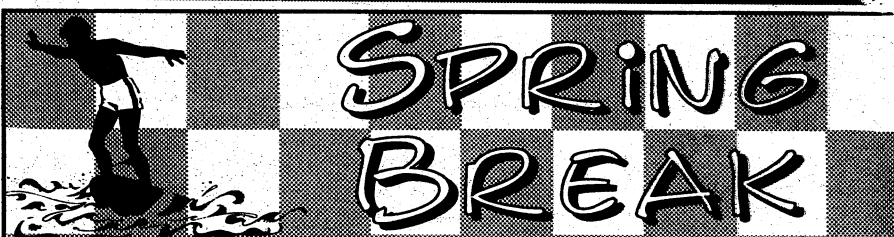
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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, November 17, 1997

Classifieds

EMPLOYMENT

Bartenders, Waiters, Waitresses and counter help. Experience necessary. Apply in person, Monday-Thursday after 3pm at the Park Bench, 1095 Rte.25A, Stony Brook.

Reunions Restaurant located on the 2nd floor of Sports Plus, is looking for full-time & part-time dishwashers & part-time line cooks and servers. Week day shifts available. Call 737-3280 or stop by after 4pm Mon-Fri. 110 New Moriches Rd, Lake Grove. Opposite Smith Haven Mall.

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Club Beat: Rum Runners Rocks

By ROB MACKENZIE
Statesman Staff

If you're out of ideas on where to party and looking for a new club, try Rum Runners, where there's something worth while going on every night of the week.

If you want to see football go there on Monday night to watch the game. There are 19 screens and a free hot and cold buffet. Sasha and her friends will be there to entertain you with a sultry lingerie show at half-time.

On Tuesday night, all those 18 and over are welcome to "Mayhem Mayhem." D.J.s Dennis the Meniz and Chris Kenny rock the house. Vic the Latino from WBLI/106.1 FM made an appearance last week. The evening featured dollar shots all night and dollar beers 'till midnight.

On Wednesdays, WRCN/103.9 FM hosts the "King of the Hill" contest in which local bands compete for prizes. Each month the best band receives a \$500 cash prize, second place gets \$300 and third place wins \$200. Winning bands also receive air time on WRCN's "Local Buzz" show on Sunday evenings.

Thursday is Ladies Night at Rum Runners and Billy Dean's Male Revue entertains the ladies in the back room. Free top shelf drinks follow from 9 pm

to 1 am. The \$5 cover charge buys a true bargain.

Friday nights feature the best bands on Long Island, including local favorites such as Zebra, who will be appearing on Friday, November 28. Four bands will compete in the WBAB/102.3 FM semi-finals to be aired on the radio program live at Rum Runners. The prize vans will be ready with free giveaways.

Saturday nights the mix is done up by "D.J. Jimmy House Say Cheeseburger Ritchie," and on Sundays, there's more football with a free buffet.

The owners Tommy Schafer and Tom Dunn are very hospitable. There's a late night menu till 2 am consisting of burgers, buffalo wings, mozzarella sticks, Jalepeno poppers, French fries and pizza. There is also a fine selection of cigars that can be obtained at the cigar bar. Rum Runners also caters private parties, with a capacity of up to 300 people in the main room and as many as 79 in the smaller room.

Rum Runners is located on the corner of Scurry & William Floyd Parkway. Take the Long Island Expressway to exit 68 South, cross over Sunrise Highway and proceed 3/4 of a mile. The club is on the left. For information call (516) 281-1999. □

PB

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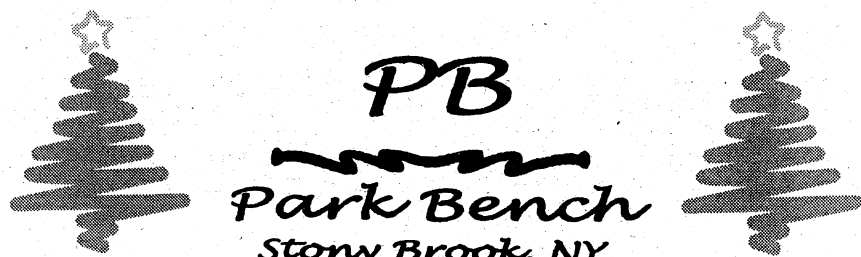
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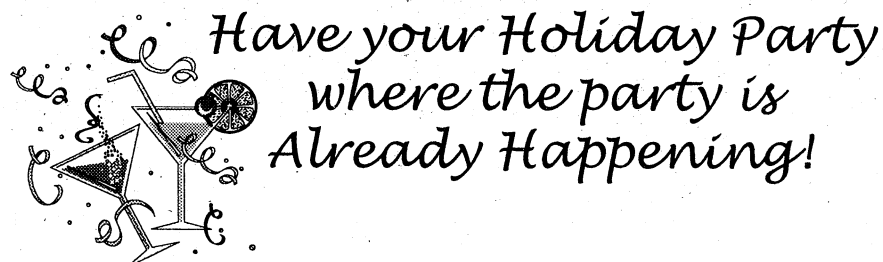
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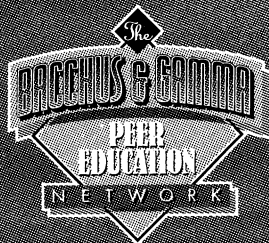
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