

GRE Reviews Now
Online pg 2

NYPIRG Conference
Held pg 5

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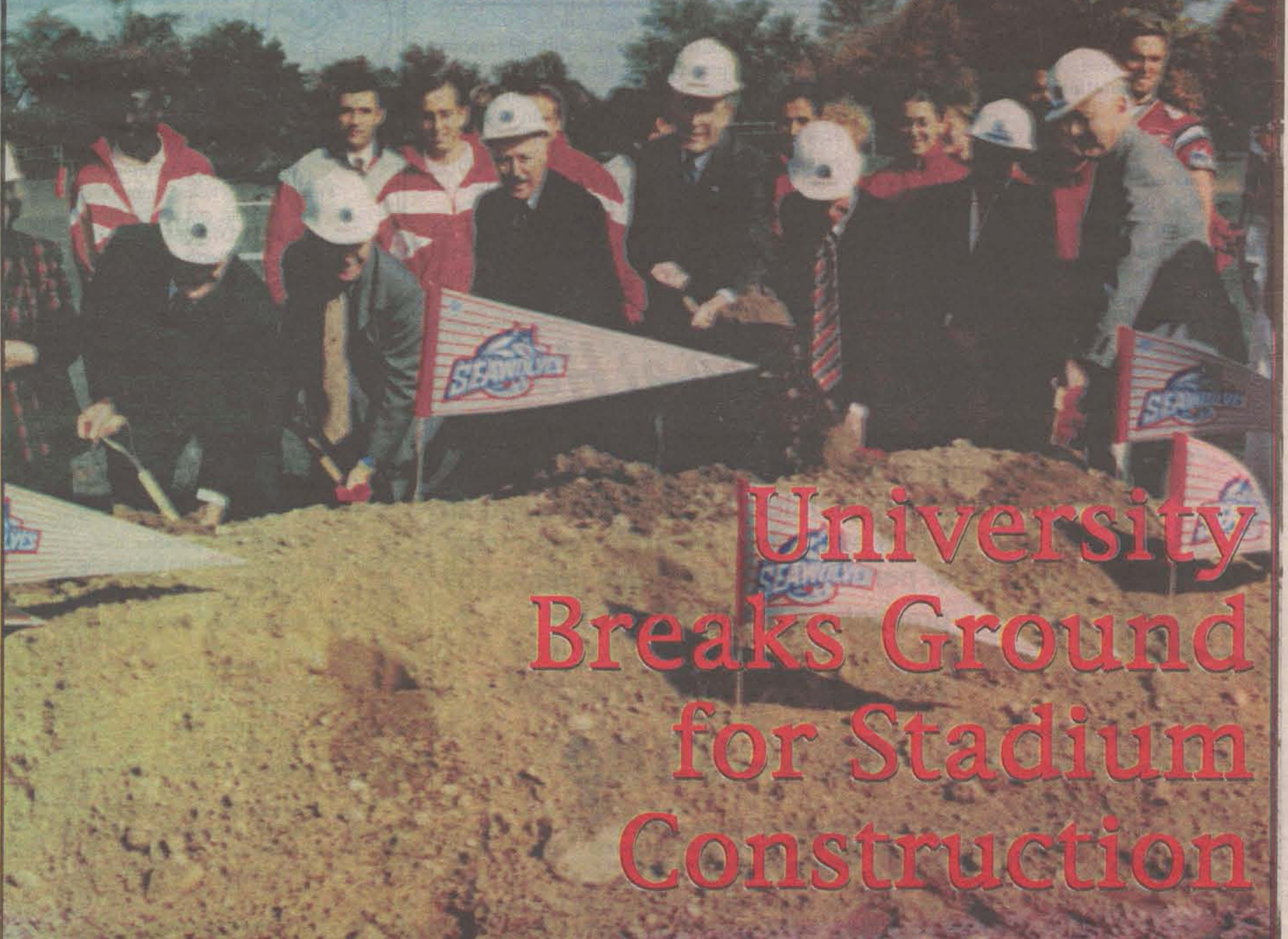
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Digging In



University
Breaks Ground
for Stadium
Construction

An Alternative Way to Study

Kaplan Offers Online Preparation Courses for Grad Exams

By KARA VANDEN BOSCH
Statesman Contributor

Kaplan Educational Centers, one of the nation's providers of test preparation courses, has expanded beyond its bricks and mortar and entered the space of the Internet.

Kaplan introduced the first online exam preparation courses and admissions services last month at their web site, www.kaptest.com. Kaptest.com offers prep courses for the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT), Graduate Record Exam (GRE), Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN), and the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam. An SAT course and College Admissions counseling services will be introduced in November.

Although kaptest.com is not currently offering on line review courses for the MCAT exam, they plan to do so this coming spring.

"The same course features that make us the leader in the bricks and mortar would make us the leader online," said Sharon Miller, vice president and general manager of Kaplan Test Prep Online.

With the online preparation courses, you don't have to leave home to take the review, all you need is access to the Internet. Once you have enrolled, the web site is open to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Experts are available to respond to your questions via e-mail within 24 hours.

"Like our center based courses, Kaplan's online programs offer comprehensive, regularly updated materials, expert teachers who score above the 95th percentile on the exams they teach, and multiple practice exams. And they provide a highly interactive, multimedia experience anytime, anywhere," Miller said.

Courses for the GMAT, GRE and LSAT also feature full length practice exams, with answers to every question, and access to a database of frequently asked questions.

A home study kit, which includes more than 1,000 pages of study material, software and vocabulary flash cards is mailed to students once they enroll in one of the online prep courses. Kaptest.com also offers topic specific workshops to help students preparing for the GMAT, GRE and LSAT. The topics include basic math, advanced math, data sufficiency, logic games, logic games challenge, logical reasoning, formal

"With the online preparation courses, you don't have to leave home to take the review, all you need is access to the Internet."

logic and reading comprehension.

Kaplan is extremely pleased with the response to the online prep courses they have seen so far, especially since they have yet to launch their advertising campaign, which is set to begin this November. "There has been a tremendous response so far. Students have already enrolled from around the world," said Andrea Wilson, who works for Kaplan's public relations office.

The prices for the online reviews are by far less inexpensive than their standard center-based courses. The LSAT, GMAT, and GRE online

courses are each \$399 to enroll. The NCLEX online course is \$254. The workshops are offered a la carte at \$29 each. To take a live, center-based LSAT, GMAT or GRE course with Kaplan, the price is \$999 for ten classes and \$349 for the NCLEX course.

These online courses may be good news for students planning to prepare for the LSAT, GMAT, GRE or NCLEX. Senior Mike Gallagher is planning to take the LSAT in February. "I am busy focusing on school right now, but I may be interested in an online review, depending on the cost," he said. He realizes the benefits that may come from taking a review course online, including convenience of working at home from his personal computer on his own time.

Junior Kristy Frascinella is also looking at the online review alternative. "I would be interested in taking an online preparation course before I take the LSAT next year. I don't think there is any need for a teacher to be present in an actual classroom as long as you can contact an expert with any questions."

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Breaking Ground

Construction Begins on New Stadium

By TINA CHADHA
Statesman Staff

Last Monday, on the athletic fields at Stony Brook University, administrators, government officials, community representatives and students gathered together to observe the ground breaking ceremony for the new \$14 million stadium.

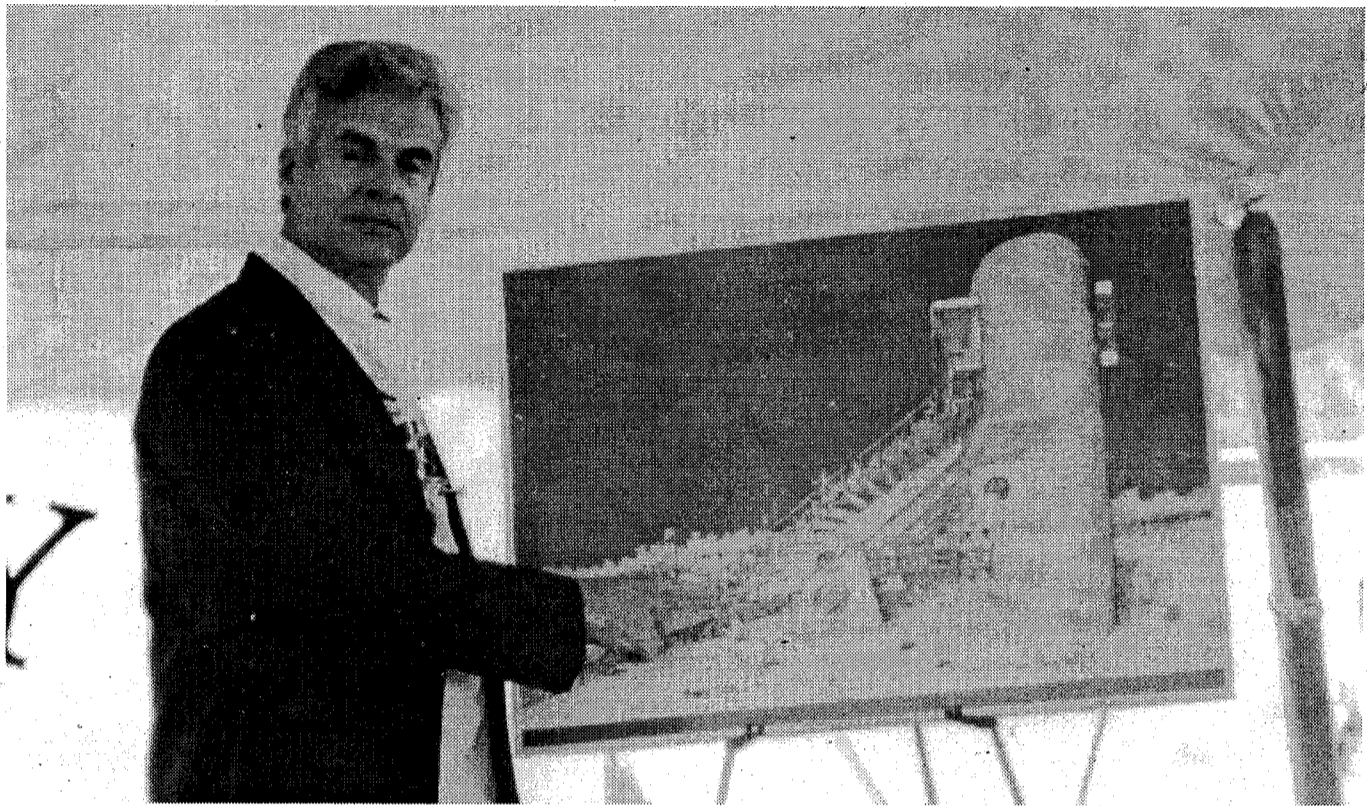
Construction is set to begin in the spring with an anticipated completion in the fall of 2001.

The stadium will house men's and women's games such as football, field hockey, lacrosse and soccer. It will also hold other events including professional soccer games, concerts and graduation ceremonies.

The stadium, designed by architect Richard Dattner, will have four levels including a ground level, bridge level, media level and VIP level.

"Most of the stadium will be carved in a big bowl in the ground," Dattner said about the stadium's unique design.

It will have a seating capacity for 7,500, including 500 VIP seats with backs and arms. A press box and VIP lounge will be part of the raised seating structure in the eastern part of the stadium. At the south end, there will be the field house and locker rooms as well as the offices for the athletic



Architect Richard Dattner unveiled the new plans.

Statesman/Michael Kwan

department. Toilets and concession facilities will be on the ground level. The playing field itself will be made of wall to wall synthetic turf.

"We wanted the stadium to fit in gracefully with the beauty and sights at Stony Brook," Dattner said about the almost hidden structure. To achieve this, a "soft, green" landscape

will be created, including shady trees such as evergreens and other wooded areas.

The first shovel towards construction took place after the ceremony's speeches were given. The emcee for the event was Richard Laskowski, dean of the athletics department. He started his speech with the story of a president from another country, who in his inauguration speech, raised his arms and said, "Today is a great day, a great day is today." This was the theme of the morning and the thread throughout all of the morning's speeches.

Senator Kenneth LaValle also started his speech by raising his arms. "Today is indeed an excellent day," he said. He then compared the stadium and the school's advancement to Division I with putting a piece into a mosaic that brings it vibrancy.

Assemblyman Steve Englebright said that at his alma mater, the University of Tennessee, he remembered "the stadium being the heart of the school, it galvanized the student body." He also talked about Long Island not having any big facility to host important games. "The championship games are not even in this county, which is why we need this stadium. The community experience is being exported," he said.

Jack Kennedy, president of the Construction Workers Union, said he was proud to go to Albany to solicit money for the stadium to make the University better and help the surrounding community as well. "We need work opportunities and this

project will bring sixty thousand jobs to Nassau and Suffolk County," he said.

Director of Athletics Sandy Weeden, spoke on behalf of female student athletics. She explained that the construction of the stadium will allow for two new women's sports to be added on to Stony Brook athletics: field hockey and lacrosse. "Long Island has some of the brightest and best women athletes of this region and they can utilize and benefit from the new stadium," she said. She listed some of the opportunities the new stadium will bring such as top athletes as guest speakers.

Football Coach Sam Kornhauser said that he has waited a long time for this. "This new stadium will give us opportunities to recruit student athletes and they can be proud of the facilities. It will allow 7,500 students to attend events together," he said.

However, not all students are happy about this latest construction project. Senior Neil Grossman questioned why Stony Brook is spending money on sports and not education. "This school is hell-bent on cosmetic changes instead of academics," he said.

But Tyrone Fowler, a freshman, echoed Kornhauser's sentiments. As an athlete, he is excited at the prospect of playing before a huge crowd by the time he is in his sophomore year. "The academic programs are really good here and its positive for a school to be known for more than its academics," he said. "It's good to have a well-rounded school."



Statesman/Michael Kwan

Dean of Athletics Richard Laskowski, is excited about the new stadium.

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Fighting For Our Rights

NYPIRG Holds Conference for Student Activists

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

Last weekend, members of the Stony Brook chapter of the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG) traveled to Syracuse to participate in the 1999 NYPIRG Fall Conference.

The chapter was led by Stony Brook's NYPIRG Project Coordinator Todd Stebbins.

The conference activities took place on Saturday at buildings on the Syracuse University campus. Students from NYPIRG chapters across the state were in attendance, including the SUNY campuses of Binghamton, New Paltz, Old Westbury, and Albany. Also present were city colleges, including Pratt Institute, Queens College, Hunter College and Brooklyn College. "Every student here is a student that cares about where this world is going," said Stebbins, "and every student here is a student that wants to do their part."

Since NYPIRG is a group that is composed of student activists, the intent of the conference was to educate participants on effective forms of activism. The conference also served as a forum in which different NYPIRG chapters could update each other on the progress of different progress.

At the opening session on Saturday morning, Executive Director Chris Meyer discussed the upcoming South Worth case with the entire conference, paying specific attention to the fact that the case will set a precedent for "every student organization

that accepts money from the student activity fee." The case in question deals with the issue of whether or not students can choose to have their activity fee spent on certain ethnic or lifestyle organizations. "People are bringing these lawsuits because they want to shut down University thought," he said, "this case is about what a college education is all about, what a University stands for, and it is an important first amendment concern." Meyer spoke plainly about the implications of the case, and how it will affect every college campus in the country.

Next to take the stage was Olivia Fields, Vice President of the Student Government at Syracuse University. Fields commended the assembled activists on their recent efforts, telling them that the effects of their actions were often immeasurable. With a raucous round of applause, the days activities then commenced.

Initial workshops were information sessions for various NYPIRG projects, which include a fight for affordable higher education, along with campaigns to end sweatshops, impact the homeless situation in New York State, organize consumer action for toy safety, and keep the air clean.

The second set of workshops dealt with activist issues and their relation to student members of NYPIRG. Some attended a panel discussion on free speech and student journalism, while others learned how to run an effective meeting, and still more attended a lecture on how to raise awareness for disability rights on



NYPIRG Executive Director Chris Meyer

Statesman/Julie Mingione

campus.

At the plenary session, keynote speaker Gary Walker, the Vice President for News and Public Affairs at WXXI, addressed the issue of dwindling public interest in statewide events. "One out of four people vote," he said, "people are disconnecting from the outside world."

Walker's sentiment was echoed throughout the entire conference. Further workshops on the rights of students and the first amendment, effecting social change, and the process of becoming a student lobbyist took place, while the closing ceremony allowed each NYPIRG chapter to discuss various events. Some

schools, including SBU, are organizing caravans to protest sweatshops outside of K-Mart, while others hope to heighten awareness of homelessness by staging sleep-outs and erecting tombstones to symbolize the deaths of homeless Americans, which occur every 53 minutes.

As students filed out to their respective buses at the conferences' end, the mood was one of satisfaction. Stony Brook student Brian Schneider was happy with the outcome of the conference. "Everyone is ready to get to work," he said, "I've learned a lot this weekend, and I know that the more we work, the closer we'll get to our goals."

Homeless Empowerment

By JULIE MINGIONE
Statesman Editor

The 1999 NYPIRG Fall Conference, held at Syracuse University this weekend, addressed many issues facing people in today's world. In a time where "Apathy is running rampant," according to Olivia Fields, Syracuse University Student Government Vice President, "NYPIRG continues to change the place and shape of society."

The agenda for the Fall Conference allowed for six sets of workshops spanning two days. Topics addressed at the workshops ranged from campaigning for affordable higher education to toy safety to ending sweatshops. One of the most pressing issues presented in a workshop was the homelessness and hunger situation in New York State.

The workshop was led by Walter Rodriguez, NYPIRG's full-time staff worker on the Homeless Empowerment Project. Rodriguez coordinated activities at Queensboro Community College as a Homeless Project Coordinator, and led the discussion along with a panel made up of students from across the state. The workshop sought to educate on the reasons that people become homeless, the difference between living wage and minimum wage, public housing, and the

increasingly frightening problem of child hunger.

The Stony Brook chapter of NYPIRG has recently launched its Homeless Empowerment Project for 1999. The endeavor is being headed by Rory McEvoy, a student at Stony Brook. His project launches Poverty Awareness Week, from November 14 through 20. "This is a week-long period of awareness and activism concerning all aspects of poverty," said McEvoy. Another aspect of the project is the registration of the homeless to vote. According to NYPIRG, all one needs to register to vote is a residence; be it a shelter, train station, park, or doorway; and a mailing address (post office boxes included).

The workshop was filled with facts and statistics concerning the plight of the homeless. In today's society, 75 to 80 percent of a person's income pays for their housing. Rodriguez was quick to remind everyone present that, "We all live one paycheck, and one illness away from homelessness." The increase in single parent families statewide also accounts for many of the people living on the streets today.

According to Rodriguez, the minimum wage of today (\$5.25) "is not nearly enough to raise a family on." When and if a job comes along for a homeless person, they are only part-time, minimum wage paying jobs that do not provide any benefits, which

is a "necessity for every person," said Rodriguez. And while more and more money is being "sucked out of social services for the poor, people are unable to get out of the rut they're in," asserted Rodriguez.

Another aim of the NYPIRG activists Homeless Empowerment Project is the reactivation of the McKinney Act, which was instituted in 1997 to "bring down the barriers facing the education of homeless children through immunizations, school supplies, and other aid," according to McEvoy. Right now, the program is inactive. The point was stressed by Matt Sanger, an activist and student at the Pratt Institute, that, "Kids cannot have a stable education if their families are bounced from shelter to shelter and that is precisely what is happening because of the lack of assistance from the government."

The Stony Brook chapter of NYPIRG is located in the basement of the Union in room 079. Anyone that is interested in helping McEvoy and NYPIRG in their Homeless Empowerment Project is encouraged to come down and get information. Said Sanger, "You've got to educate yourself as to what the issues are."

In a final word to encourage students to volunteer their time to the homeless cause, Rodriguez asserted, "Being homeless, hungry, and down and out is not a crime."

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Editorials

Pocket Pinching

Tuition Does Not Include Paper

It goes without saying that college is an expensive proposition. No matter how many scholarships or financial aid money one gets, it really is never enough. There are textbooks to buy, course packets to order from Budget Print or Solutions, and necessary supplies like notebooks and pens.

Then there are living expenses. These include things like gas money, housing fees for residents, rent for many commuters, clothing, food - to say nothing of the college staples of beer, cigarettes, real food from off campus and entertainment expenses.

It's no wonder that college students consider themselves a destitute demographic. And though the "I'm broke" lament is a common one that provides for hours of commiseration and sarcastic jokes, no college student is happy about their economic situation.

As mid-semester rolls around, more and more students feel the pinch of

dwindling funds. The impact of the obligatory back-to-school spending sprees is seen

"Recently, many teachers have been forcing students to buy blue books and scantrons to take their tests. Students have to go to the bookstore and pay cash for the items. Is this fair? Not really."

in low bank statements.

As usual, good old Stony Brook and its faculty and administrators either do not know this, or do not care.

How is this obvious? Recently, many teachers have

been forcing students to buy bluebooks and scantrons to take their tests. Students have to go to the bookstore and pay cash for these items. Is this fair? Not really.

Another thing students are often short on is free time. It is an unnecessary chore for students who are forced to go down to buy the items that really should be provided in the first place without question.

Anyone who has been in a class where this practice is employed knows that half the students in the class forget to buy the necessary items.

Who has the time, or the desire for that matter, to go to the bookstore while cramming for an English midterm?

Not to mention the fact that students must subsequently endure the degrading "bag check" rule, which is enforced with all the militancy of boot camp. This says quite a lot about the bookstore's trust in their patrons.

But sometimes this annoyance is avoidable when you can actually buy the blue books in class. In exchange for dropping a quarter into a jar, the teacher or TA will give you your book.

The most common excuse given for this is that the department the class operates out of is a little low on funds.

It is a sad state of affairs when the so-called "Berkeley of the East" can't even afford paper. And do TA's really deposit that change directly into the department's account?

By the way, what's wrong with pulling out your own sheet of loose leaf?

Yes, the cost is often negligible, but take one lecture class of 200 students, force them to purchase the items, and you've got the bookstore raking in an extra \$50.

What are we paying tuition for? Higher education or a lesson in the ramifications of being a guinea pig for a group of disorganized profiteering gluttons?

Feeding Into Stereotypes

To the Editor:

[This letter is in response to a commentary we ran in our October 25 issue]

You may not have intended to put out such an image but your description of the little Ethiopian child was very biased.

Your responsibility as a member of the press is to inform the public and break down stereotypes and not feed into them. I

have seen the adverts you described and for one thing, Africa was not the only continent that was featured. And not all Ethiopians are dirty and emaciated. Africa is a third world continent, but not all Africans are starving. As I mentioned above, you may not have meant for it to come out that way, so could you please rectify your statement?

Thank you very much.

Nike Vogt

Big Money

Cost of Living Forces Students Off LI

BY JEAN FRANCOIS CROUSILLAT
Statesman Contributor

Post-graduation sounds great: a \$30,000 job, your own apartment and no more worries as far as term papers are concerned.

Reality check! How does one afford living in Long Island?

The taxpayers in the local communities invest in the University only to find that the majority of the graduating students leave the area for other more affordable locations such as the Carolinas because the cost of living in Long Island is exorbitant. One needs to be concerned with where to live, where their job is and how to keep a certain standard of living.

The students who commute will be fortunate to continue living in their rent-free apartment/garage their parents have provided.

But what happens to the students who live on campus, where do they go? Do they go back to the state that their parents live in, the country where they come from, or get sucked into the human vacuum we call the boroughs of Manhattan?

The students that live in a cramped studio costing \$700 will want to find a decent apartment where the bedroom is at least separated from the

kitchen. Unfortunately, a relatively decent apartment can run up to \$1200.

As for other expenses, don't forget those dreaded car payments because not having a car

Economic Perspectives

in Long Island is like being in a land locked country. Say it runs you a conservative \$600 (including insurance payments). Taking into account food and extra curricular activities, one will find him or herself living check to check.

Does it get any better? Well that depends on what your definition is for better. As we get older our wages increase, but at the same time so do our expenses. Before you know it, you are married, with a child and have a 30-year mortgage.

Before reaching that point, you should analyze the root of the multi-faceted problem. On one end you have the lack of job opportunities

other than computer programming. Nothing against computer programmers but not everyone out of SUNY thinks that all roads lead to the Computer Associates.

The same local governments that raise local taxes for the households around the University should concentrate in promoting more tax incentives for a more diverse business community. This could free up opportunities for the diverse graduating classes, enticing the students to stay in the community.

With the students staying in the area, the local community would benefit in the long run because having more educated people around will eventually raise the standard of living (via technological advancements, better management, etc...).

There are empirical studies that prove this assumption. This in turn will raise wages and the prosperity of the community. It just seems ironic that the indirect investments that these local households make through taxes are benefiting other states or other communities.

Economic Perspectives is a new monthly column written by the Stony Brook University Economics Society.



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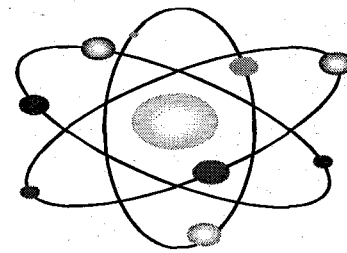
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2-7114) if you have any questions

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, October 28, 1999

Tell Me About It

by Carolyn Hax

8

Dear Carolyn:

Many wedding traditions I find outdated or sexist. One I dislike in particular is the bouquet and garter toss. These, of course, are my personal feelings and I encourage all brides and grooms to do whatever they want.

At a recent wedding, as always, I chose not to participate in the bouquet toss. My boyfriend threw a fit and said if I chose to attend a wedding, I had to participate in all the festivities no matter what my personal beliefs were. He demanded we leave if I wouldn't participate in

the toss.

I ended up participating.

Do you think I have to, even if I don't want to?

—W.

In honor of your boyfriend, I'm going to stage a cookie toss.

No, you needn't participate in, nor be present for, the bouquet toss, the garter toss, or any other toss you find distasteful—especially not a petty-little-fit toss. There are about 3 billion men out there; surely you can do better.

Carolyn:

How do I deal with friends—and even girlfriends!—who are addicted to their cell phones? As soon as it rings, they are off chatting away, while I nurse my coffee or stare out the window. Most of the time the conversation is so completely inconsequential.

—Virginia

Actually, the inconsequential element here is you—according to your friends, at least. If you want the rudeness to stop, start being the kind of person they'd never put in that position. Pointing out to the offender that you didn't come here to have coffee with her cell phone would be an excellent start.

Dear Carolyn:

I have what most people would not

see as a problem. I am a 29-year-old man who had the chance to take some college courses just for fun. During the semester, I struck up a friendship with a student that turned into a romance. She is not only the best-looking person I've ever dated, but probably one of the best-looking people I know. She (her family) is rich. And, she is extremely affectionate and attentive. So the problem is we are starting to get more serious now and, while I am really digging her, I don't know if my affections are for her or if I am just being swayed by the "trophy" mentality of dating a hot, rich, sexy 22-year-old.

—Can't Believe My Good Luck

If her looks hold up and the money grows, who cares.

Kidding.

But you do pose an interesting philosophical question: If she's alone in a forest, is she still a babe? Try the following experiment. Rent a movie, pick her up, order takeout, eat, watch the movie, take her home.

Let no one witness this but you.

Still like her?

I suppose her looks could overpower you in private, too, though—so the best answer here is to keep digging her and see how long it lasts.

She'll be young for a long time, but a weak character will get old fast.

Carolyn:

My quandary: Met girl at school (I'm 22, she's 21), started talking, then dating. Summer comes. Get more intimate (everything but sex). She gets the feeling we got too close really fast and, because of sour previous relationships, starts to pull away. Since the pulling, we have hooked up a few times (nothing major) and we talk nearly every day. My friends say to "act indifferent," like I don't like her, but my good heart knows this wasn't a passing thing. Suggestions?

—J.

Get new friends.

If nothing else, please, ignore anyone who advises you to "act" anything. I'd just go with the post-pulling flow, because you're both doing exactly what you should be: getting to know each other slowly, sweetly and clothed. Sounds promising.

Dear Carolyn:

I have been dating the same guy on-off for 10 years. For most of the time we lived in different cities, but two years ago we both moved to D.C. We have been living together for 14 months.

The idea was that after a year we'll get married. Well, things did not go that way, a lot of fights and arguments. But the question still hangs, and he can't seem to be able to give a straight answer. That's at the center of our arguments. I pack and let him think this through for the next couple of years, or what?

—Washington

Move out, and note whether the emotional wave that hits you—in time, as the shock wears off—is sadness or relief. I'll bet on Option 2.

Dear Carolyn:

I like to look at and occasionally purchase women's shoes for my own enjoyment. I'm a 29-year-old straight male and believe as long as I don't hurt anyone it's no one else's business! I often find girlfriends are more than willing to accommodate me...

So tell me, what you think of this situation?

—Heel Lover

I think it's nice you have a hobby. Really. And if you have any de-accessioning planned in the future, I want in.

You can write to Carolyn at statesmn@ic.sunysb.edu.

This Weekend at the Staller Center

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29:

AN IDEAL HUSBAND. 7 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center for Arts, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Rated PG-13. 96 minutes. Based on the play by Oscar Wilde, this farce is set among the London aristocracy in the 1890's. Starring Rupert Everett, Cate Blanchette, Minnie Driver and Julianne Moore. Season pass (15 films), \$20. Individual tickets: \$4 adults, \$3 students, seniors and children (ages 12 and under). For information, call (516) 632-ARTS, or visit the Web site: www.staller.sunysb.edu/movies/99/fall99.html.

EYES WIDE SHUT. 9:15 p.m. Main Stage, Staller Center for Arts, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Rated R. The final and most anticipated film from director Stanley Kubrick. The story of a doctor and his wife who are drawn into the experimentation of the New York sexual underworld. Starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. Season pass (15 films), \$20. Individual tickets: \$4 adults, \$3 students, seniors and children (ages 12 and under). For information, call (516) 632-ARTS, or visit the Web site: www.staller.sunysb.edu/movies/99/fall99.html.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30:

STANLEY JORDAN. 8 p.m. Recital Hall, Staller Center, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Best known as a guitarist who has made major technical and musical contributions to his instrument, he has made a name for himself as one of the significant guitarists of the latter 20th century. Club Renaissance will follow this performance in the Main Lobby. Admission is \$23. For information, call (516) 632-ARTS, or visit the Web site: www.staller.sunysb.edu.

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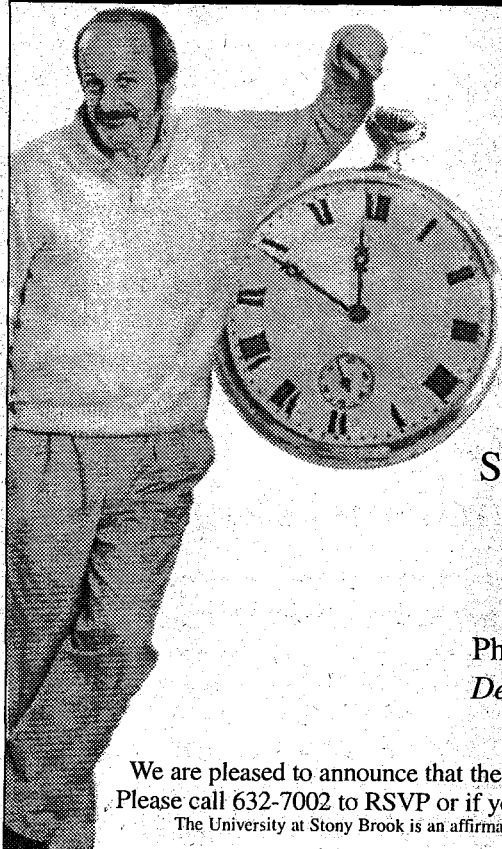
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Campus Voices

So, any plans for Halloween?

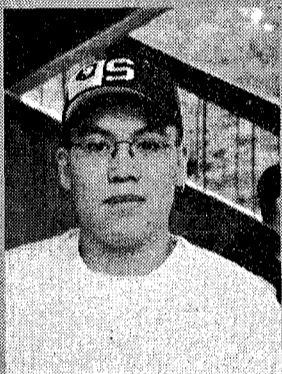


"Whandanch, an annual event to teach culture to under-privileged minority children. We're going to be dancing for them."

Rosemarie Rostata, Junior, Biology

"Study...seriously. The original plan was to go to Buffalo and drink."

Mike Kung, Junior, Business



"I have no plans. Gonna be chillin' at home."

Russell England, Junior, Physical Therapy

Compiled by Ruth Chung

An Early Halloween at SBU

By JENNIFER KESTER
Statesman Editor

Although Halloween is not until this weekend, the ghosts and goblins at Stony Brook are coming out early.

Yesterday, students at Irving College held its annual haunted house. "We usually have a haunted hayride," said Matthew Plugues, the chief facilitator for the event, "but last year it rained and with all the renovations and construction going on, we figured this would be the best option."

Tour guides led small groups of students down a hall where scenes of bloody vampires, inspired by the movie *Blade*, an ax murderer, and other monsters were set up. "Its very interactive," Plugues said. One of the highlights of the event was the monster that comes at the students foaming at the mouth, which is only Alka-Selzer.

The approximate 25 volunteers came together to set the tone of the night with eerie music and used two donated carbon dioxide fire extinguishers to simulate fog. Cob webs, silly string and black lighting also were added for a scary look.

Admission was free as well as the candy. "People came to get some candy and get scared," Plugues said. Following the walk, students were invited to the lounge for music and conversation.

There will also be other Halloween activities on campus. Tonight there will be a Halloween party in the Kelly Food Court from 6p.m. to 9p.m. The festivities include a mummy wrapping contest, a orange Jello eating contest and a pumpkin decorating contest.

Also tonight, the Park Bench will have its annual costume party. Those who dress in costume pay no cover.

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Features

Celebrating Fall at SBU Students Gather at Annual Applefest

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

Stony Brook's annual Applefest took place yesterday, outside the Student Activities Center during campus life time. The event was held as part of the Commuter Fall Festival, which is sponsored by Commuter Student Services, while the Applefest itself was sponsored by Campus Dining Services.

Those who attended the Applefest were treated to free pumpkin decorating, and the popular table was surrounded by students gluing different types of yarn, felt, and cotton to medium sized pumpkins. Participants left the area carrying pumpkins decorated to look like dogs, monsters, and Halloween-themed creations.

Another highlight of the festival was the costume contest, sponsored by the Faculty Student Association. Though very few students showed up in costume, the students and faculty

that were donning costumes went all out for the event. One student was spotted wearing a nothing but a toga, his entire body painted brown. The winner of the contest was the recipient of a \$300 prize.

Students waited on line to pay the obligatory \$6.25 for a ticket, which entitled the bearer to visit each of six apple stations once, for different types of confections. The stations, staffed by some End of the Bridge employees, featured candy and caramel apples, ice cream, apple cider, pie, apple cobbler, and regular apples "to go." The line was longest for the booth that was distributing apple cobbler, and most students in attendance sat down on the grass surrounding the Earth and Space building to chat and munch on their selections.

Some students had complaints about the event, especially the fact that the event was not free. Junior Jen Multon, a resident, asked "Why



Statesman/Michael Kwan

Workers prepare to serve apple pie at a popular station



Statesman/Michael Kwan

Student Emily Lew shows off her decorated pumpkin.

do we have to pay for this? It should be free. We already pay them enough." Indeed, the cost of the event was a hindrance for many students who are running low on campus points, and must be frugal to make it through the rest of the semester. Some other students opted not to pay, and ran by some of the booths grabbing candy while Campus Dining employees were not paying attention.

Many students who attended look forward to the event each year, including biology major Anne Prusak, who said, "This is one of the only things on campus that lets the students get together for some down time. It's right after the stress of midterms, and a nice way to unwind for a little while."

Commuter student Dylan O'Rourke left the Applefest satisfied. "I had my lunch, now I'm going to class. It's more fun than sitting in the Union to eat. I'm glad Stony Brook has this party."