

-EDITORIALS-

Vote 'Yes'

There will be two important referenda on tomorrow's ballot; the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPIRG), which is requesting a \$2.10 increase in the student activity fee per student and the athletic department which is requesting a \$3.40 additional fee per student will bring an increase of \$5.50 per student per year.

The NYPIRG referendum is clearly in the best interests of each student here. As proof, here is a partial list of the things NYPIRG has done for you lately: they lobby for truth-testing laws and consumer rights and protection, they were instrumental in passing the controversial bottle bill, which will help the environment and, perhaps of greatest concern to college students, they are in the process of getting the laws changed so that students will be able to vote in the next election right here in Stony Brook, instead of missing the election or having to take a day off to go home and vote there.

The other referendum is not so clear cut. Why should students have to pay for their athletic department on top of paying for their dorm, tuition, books, etc? The University pays for the Physics Department and the Biology Department and every other Department on campus, so why not the Gym? It is patently unfair to the students to make them pay a fee that should be paid by the university.

On the other hand, if the University does not elect to pay it, it will not get paid, and then where will we be? We need an upgraded athletic department and if the only way we're going to get one is to kpay for it ourselves, then we had just better pay for it ourselves. If we were to go only by our sense of what is right and what is wrong in principle we would not pay, but that would be self defeating. We need that money. If the university isn't going to pay it then we must take it upon ourselves to see that the athletic referendum is passed.

Statesman

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College Press Service



"THEY'LL SQUABBLE ABOUT 'YELLOW RAIN' AT THE U.N., A HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP WILL RUN AN AD IN THE NEW YORK TIMES, A FEW PROMINENT LIBERALS WILL DROP BY, A BENEFIT ROCK CONCERT..."

-Letters-

Discrimination

To The Editor:

We are all races-black, Hispanic, oriental and white to name a few. We are female and male, old and young, poor and wealthy. In fact, at least one of us can be found on the average in just about any group of ten or more-sometimes more of us, sometimes less. Despite this broad based representation of our group we have referred to as the invisible minority, a sub-culture and even a "manifestation of a bourgeois capitalist society" (ironically, some of us are socialists too).

Who are we? We constitute approximately 10 to 15 percent of the population and have been blamed for breaking up the family (indeed we come from families ourselves) and corrupting the young (many of us are still "the young," all of us were once young).

Where do we come from? So it seems, the same place as everyone else. We are everywhere. How have we been treated? We have been ridiculed in class, beaten up in dorms and conveniently ignored by administrators.

What are we? Angry, hurt, frustrated-but most of all strong. We are the 47,000 lesbian and gay students who contribute to the State University of New York. We are your classmates, roommates and friends.

Homophobia and the result-

ing discrimination affects all of our lives. The best way to stop it is to talk about it, and learn from each other. The education we receive and the degrees we get mean little if they do not attempt to end the ignorance and superstitious myths that surround us all.

Sanford Levine, SUNY vice chancellor for Legal Affairs, responding for Chancellor Clifton Wharton on the issue of discrimination based on sexual or affectional preference, recommended "strongly that incidents of alleged unfair treatment be reported directly to the administration of the particular campus" which

"provide established mechanisms for ensuring equal access and opportunity" (July 18, 1980 letter). There are places to go if you have experienced or witnessed discrimination. The Affirmative Action Office, academic councils, and dorm councils at your school, for example, are empowered to deal with discrimination based on ones sexual orientation. If they prove unresponsive, contact your campus lesbian and gay organization, your school president, or me at (518) 465-2406.

Michael McPartlin

(Editor's note: the writer is an intern for the Students Association of the State University.)

Statesman will publish letters to the editor and viewpoints from its readers. They must be typed, triple-spaced and should be no more than 350 and 1,000 words, respectively.

Bring them to room 075, Union or mail them to: P.O. Box AE, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

-Quagmire Capers-

Statesman Cartoonist/Anthony Detres

