

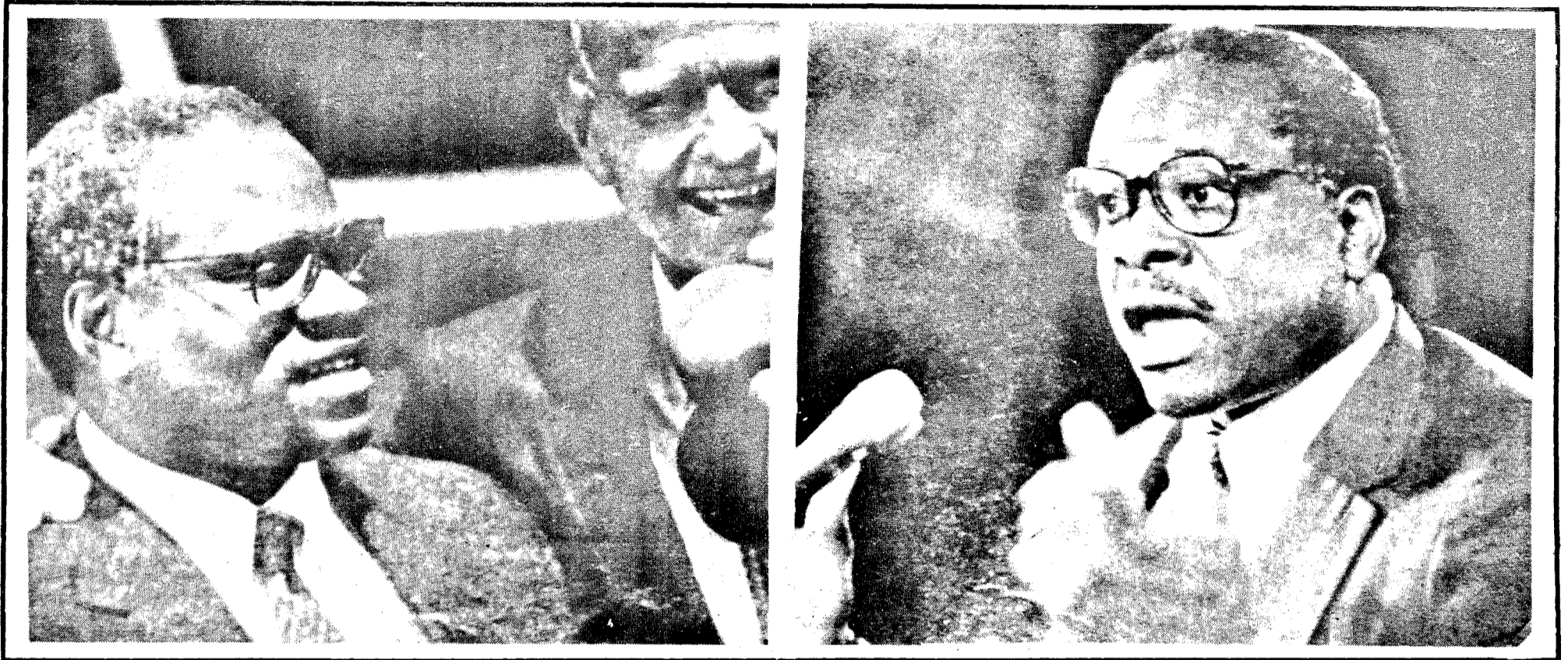
BLACKWORLD

PUBLISHED BI-WEEKLY BY STUDENTS FROM THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONYBROOK

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VOLUME 24, NUMBER 1

WHO IS CLARENCE THOMAS ?



BY LYNN BACKMAN

Justice Thurgood Marshall has resigned. The next task for the Bush Administration is to fill the civil rights justice's seat. President George Bush made known his nominee- Judge Clarence Thomas, a Federal appeals court judge in Washington, D. C. (a position to which he was just elected in 1990).

Thomas, 43, at first appeared to be a "shoo-in." He's Black, articulate, a Yale alum, and he served as the chairman of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (1982). However, there is more to Thomas than just that. He is conservative. He divorced his first wife (an African American woman) and married Virginia Lamp (a white woman). He does not feel that integration was the best solution to the Black- celebrated *Brown v. the Board of Education* case of the 1950's. He is an opponent of affirmative action. Finally, he is an advocate of natural law, which is a theory that simply implies that the Constitution was written, not just by the mind of man, but also with a "higher calling" behind it. Thus, he

has left a bitter-sweet taste in the mouths of civil rights organizations, liberals and conservatives.

A type of Horatio Algier and Booker T. Washington, Thomas' background is somewhat meager. He was born in segregated Pin Point, Ga. in 1948 to 18 year-old Leola Williams. (His father deserted him when he was 2 years old.) When Thomas was 7 years old, his mother and sister moved to his aunt's home, while Thomas and his brother moved to their grandfather's (Myers Anderson's) home in Savannah. It was Anderson who pushed him, and was determined to give Thomas the best education possible. Thus, Thomas was enrolled in a Catholic school. After graduating from there, Thomas continued his education at St. John Vianny Minor Seminary, from where he graduated in 1967 (the only African American). Later, he spent a year at the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Missouri.

Three major issues surrounding the Thomas nomination are his views on affirmative action, integration, and most importantly, abortion and "natural law". Earlier in interviews, Judge Thomas

has stated that he is against affirmative action (although he was admitted to Yale Law School under this program) and integration, because it constantly caused Blacks who have achieved in life to be questioned as to whether their achievement was by merit, or quota, or reverse discrimination. On the issue of abortion, Thomas has previously praised articles (1987 and 1988) that support the rights of the unborn child.

On September 10, Thomas began his Senate confirmation hearings. Of course, the main issues that the Senate Judiciary Committee dealt with were his views on abortion and natural law. Thomas, was not only evasive on the issue of abortion, but he also appeared to have repudiated his record (in order to gain the confirmation, as implied by more than one senator). Thus, after the first week of hearings, Thomas left the senators and his public very confused and frustrated.

Despite the evasive answers, Thomas went into his second week of hearings in good position to receive the nomination. The opponents of Thomas went into the second week of hearings stressing the

point that Thomas was used by white conservatives to advance their agenda, which would then serve to set back the civil rights agenda. On September 16, 1991, the court heard the testimonies of five Black Representatives from the House who emotionally stated that Thomas was not the best judge to replace ex-justice Thurgood Marshall. However, Larry Johnson, a Black lawyer spoke in Thomas's defense stating that civil rights group were basically afraid of Thomas, because he didn't agree with them. The polls have shown that many members of civil rights groups feel that Thomas can serve to change the psyche of many African Americans.

Although many Blacks are divided on the issue of Judge Thomas' nomination, when polled, it was found that Thomas has many Black supporters. Thus, even the Southern Democrats have stated that they will find it difficult to vote

IS JUDGE
THOMAS YOUR
CHOICE?

BLACKWORLD

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EDITORIAL

BLACKWORLD IS FOR EVERYONE

Do not let the name fool you, Blackworld is a tool for all to use. Alternative views that might not be printed in the mainstream press are welcome in our publication. It is true that the name of the paper is Blackworld and that our staff is comprised of mostly Black people, but anyone can be a staff member of our paper.

This editorial is a call to all Asians, Latinos, Indians, women, etc. who feel that they need a voice in the media. Blackworld does not discriminate. At times it may seem so, but with a staff of Black writers and Black photographers, what kind of articles and pictures do you think are going to be in the paper? It is time for the minority community and others to utilize Blackworld to its fullest.

We also call out to Black and Latino brothers and sisters who have not contributed to Blackworld to do so. Our paper always needs writers with fresh ideas and journalistic drive to help improve our constantly changing newspaper.

It is important for all people to look past the name of Blackworld when thinking about being involved with the paper and give their all to the development of this media device at Stony Brook. It is also important to remember, though, that the original man was a Black man, therefore this is a Blackworld.

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BUTHELEZI IS EXPOSED

BY THE LIBERIAN DRUMMER

Liberian Drummer Sept. 1991- When you see Africans killing Africans in South Africa on television, you really get upset. After all these years of being oppressed in their own country, one wonders, why must Africans fight each other instead of fighting the racist government that is denying them their rights. Well, the secret behind the so-called "black-on-black" violence in South Africa has finally been exposed with documents to prove it.

Chief Mangosuthu Gasha Buthelezi (leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party and an individual who also claims to be a freedom fighter) and the South African government are working hand-in-hand to keep the dehumanized African people not only divided but killing each other.

The Daily Mail newspaper of Johannesburg disclosed two months ago (July) that the South African government has given Mr. Buthelezi huge sums of money to help his misguided followers to attack other Africans, burn their houses and kill them. The South African government is paying Mr. Buthelezi's death squads to keep attacking and killing their fellow Africans, especially those Africans that are fighting to free their country from dehumanization. In this way the South African government can substantiate its claim, that the African people are divided and are incapable of uniting and ruling themselves.

Before the newspaper revelation, the African National Congress (ANC) constantly complained that Buthelezi's followers and the South African government were cooperating to attack and kill its supporters. The government, however, with the aid of Buthelezi, a man who is very good at lying, always denied the allegations. Therefore the documented revelation by the Daily Mail newspaper that Buthelezi, an African, is on the pay-roll of the anti-African white minority government (a government that has consistently dehumanized, killed, and maimed his fellow Africans for more than 300 years) is very shocking.

After the newspaper disclosed, with genuine documents to prove it, that the government is helping Inkatha, the Foreign Minister Pik Botha, finally admitted the allegations. He agreed that he personally approved of \$87,000 for Inkatha to hold two rallies in 1989 and 1990 and \$525,000 for a trade union organization controlled by Inkatha.

"Rallies" for Inkatha people, are like warm ups for a soccer matches. They go to the "rallies" well-aimed; sing hostile traditional war songs; shout vicious slogans against the ANC. Finally the Inkathas launch their murderous attacks against their fellow Africans in the surrounding townships while the police watch from the sidelines. When the victims try to defend themselves, the police move in to arrest them. Sometimes Inkatha goons are transported to the site of the attacks in police vehicles.

During the last seventeen months about 4,000 Africans have been killed as a result of government encouraged Inkatha pogroms.

Although the government has conceded to giving Inkatha only \$87,000 for "rallies" and \$525,000 for trade union activities, political analysts and observers strongly believe that Inkatha has been given more than that.

In 1978 the racist government set up a special secret fund-the Secret Service Account- to help people like Buthelezi and their organizations. Secret spending by the South African government to undermine the liberation movements in South Africa increased by more than 38% between 1989 and 1990 fiscal periods and over 92% over the last five years, according to the New York Times.

The South African government tried to undermine the South West African Peoples' Organization (SWAPO) in Namibia during that nation's pre-independence elections. Pik Botha recently revealed that the government gave puppet parties opposed to SWAPO \$36 million in order to buy votes. However, SWAPO won the elections but with a reduced margin of votes.

Is President F.W. de Klerk, the man who has promised to end Apartheid (racial separation) and "share power" with the African people, involved in these scandalous activities? Yes.

According to South African law, the president, the Finance Minister, and the Auditor-General must know and approve of all money spent for covert (under-cover) activities.

President de Klerk and his minority racist government, while pretending to be serious about changing the terrible racial situation in South Africa, have been encouraging and supporting so-called black-on-black violence; they use Inkatha thugs to attack ANC supporters, the group that is fighting hard to achieve equality for all South Africans: blacks, whites, coloreds and Asians. The Minister of Law and Order and the Minister of Defense have been the two officials directly responsible for creating the "black-on-black" violence.

Long before the newspaper's disclosure, Mandela had been demanding the dismissal of these men. Mandela, however, had no hard evidence to prove their criminal involvement in the killings of Africans by Africans. Mr. de Klerk, on the other hand, always refused to dismiss them. However, after the disclosure, as a crisis management technique Mr. de Klerk has simply re-assigned them to more important jobs.

Since Mr. de Klerk assumed power in South Africa he has been trying very hard to deceive the World into believing that he is serious about ending apartheid. He is succeeding in doing so because the European Economic Community (EEC) and the United States recently lifted sanctions they imposed on the racist state in protest to the way Africans are being treated. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) which had excluded South Africa from its games for the same reason has also re-admitted the racist republic. The reality is that, fundamentally nothing is changing in South Africa.

For example, the government as a public relation gimmick, recently repealed a racist law that denied Africans the right to use public libraries. In one rural town where the public library is located for that area the law now "allows" African to use the library but they are not allowed in the white town. In order to create more barriers for those who might insist on using the library, the racist town council imposed a hefty fee of \$300 for use of the library, an amount Africans cannot afford.

In Cape Town a month after the government announced the "end" of a law segregating housing along racial line, the liberal town council decided to allow Africans to live in vacant houses built for whites but the same government refused and prevented the town council from implementing its new non-racial public housing program.

In one of the townships on the outskirts of Johannesburg, the African school for that area is located in a cargo container; not far away is a vacant school building previously used by whites. The school was closed down because there were not enough white students to attend it. The overcrowded African container school decided to move into the more spacious vacant building. The government was informed of the intended move and took action. On the morning the African kids decided to move into their "new school," they found to their dismay that troops were already surrounding the facilities to prevent their entry, they were told in no uncertain terms that the school was built for whites only and Africans would not be allowed to use it. The kids and their teachers returned to their container box school and everything remains just as it was before Mr. de Klerk.

In South Africa today Africans are still barred from participating in the affairs of a government to which they are forced to pay taxes. Africans are not protected by the government, they are not allowed to stand in elections as candidates, and they are not allowed to vote. A white worker and his African counterpart are still paid different salaries for the same work. The bottom line is, nothing has really changed in South Africa. despite Mr. de Klerk and his government's pretensions to the contrary.

Finally, it is very important to note that a significant number of white people in South Africa do not support the racist policies of their government although all whites did benefit from them enormously. Also, contrary to Buthelezi's claims that the five million Zulus of South Africa belong to Inkatha, the greater majority of the gallant Zulu people do not support Inkatha. A few misguided Zulu intellectuals, and the criminal elements among the Zulu migrant workers who live in hostels on the outskirts of the impoverished African townships have willingly availed themselves to Buthelezi's tribal club. If, as Buthelezi claims, Inkatha has one million dues-paying members, why would it accept money from the racist government to finance a simple political activity like a rally? Because of Buthelezi's lack of popularity even among his own Zulu people he and his racist masters are encouraging violence in order to abort the country's democratic evolution. One can say without fear of exaggeration that if "one man, one vote" elections were held today in South Africa Mr. de Klerk and his cohorts would be out of business and Mandela would become president. Nevertheless, we take comfort in the fact that the tried and tested revolutionary strategies and tactics of the vanguard ANC, indeed the general political program of the movement, continue to be appropriate for the emerging situation in Africa.

CROWN HEIGHTS - AN OVERVIEW

BY HOWDY BUFORD

On August 19, 1991 a travesty took place that would set Crown Heights on fire. Yosef Lisef, a 22 year old Hasidic Jew, was one of three in a small caravan following the Lubavitcher Grand Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson home from his weekly visit to his wife's grave at Old Montefiore Cemetery in Queens. The Rabbi was escorted by an unmarked police car. Lisef ran a red light, glanced off at another car at the intersection of Utica Avenue, and President Street and swerved to the sidewalk where Gavin Cato was changing his bike chain. Young Gavin was killed, sending Crown Heights into a racial battlefield.

Different eyewitnesses had very diverse stories on what actually took place. Some said Lisef was driving too fast. Some said he was on a cellular phone. Some even suggested that Lisef wasn't even driving the vehicle, rather an older man who was immediately taken away from the scene.

With all the unanswered questions, there are a few givens. There is no question the station wagon dragged Gavin, and trapped his cousin Angela against the wall of their apartment. There is no question that the driver (?) left the vehicle, and the scene, in a private Hasidic ambulance with a police escort. There is no question that it took twelve neighbors to free Gavin from the wreck, and he was already bleeding profusely from the head and already close to death.

All this is the basis for which days of violence raged on. Brothers and sisters took the streets of Crown Heights by storm. Yankel Rosen-

baum, a Jewish scholar, was the only person to lose his life in the aftermath. He was surrounded by a group, and stabbed to death, in what police call a retaliation killing. There has been an arrest in the murder, and more arrests are expected. The violence raged on for three days leaving one dead, sixty-five civilians and one hundred and fifty-eight cops injured, twenty-seven patrol cars damaged, and one hundred and fifty-one people under arrest. Not even the 1986 lynching of Trinidadian, Michael Griffith evoked such a violent reaction from the West Indian community. Now they flood (what they call) "Gavin Cato Square" defying the law, and they have been arrested in large numbers.

A grand jury heard evidence against Lisef, and decided not to indict him. The grand jury consisted of 15% white, 45% black, and the rest was mostly Latino, with other minorities. After the decision Mayor Dinkins pleaded with Crown Heights to return to peace, and racial harmony.

Crown Heights is the home of more than 30,000 Hasidic Jews, and more than 100,000 Blacks, most of them West Indian. The racial tensions may be more deeply rooted than in the case of Gavin Cato. During the "White Flight" in the 50's and 60's Crown Heights lost more than 500,000 Jews. The neighborhood was always tense, but took a turn for the worse in 1978. In '78 a Hasidic gang fatally beat 18 year old Victor Rhodes who walked passed them and said, "Hail Hitler."

CURRICULUM OF INCLUSION

BY AMBER JACQUES

Recently there has been heated debate about the controversial curriculum of inclusion now being considered in New York State. This plan comes in response to the severe problems being faced by young black and Hispanic children in the public school system. These two groups have the highest drop-out rates and are also disproportionately represented in our jails and penal facilities. Many educators, politicians and Black leaders feel the time is long over due for a major over-haul of the present

educational system. Black and Hispanic youth are apparently rejecting this system by their consistently high drop-out rate. Opponents of this plan state that it would be impossible to rewrite history textbooks which will satisfy the demands of all minorities. In addition, there is no guarantee that the new inclusive curriculum would be fair and honest. Also there is no assurance that the curriculum would not be subject to political pressure from the more vocal black activists.

The supporters of the curricu-

lum of inclusion fall into two categories: the multi-culturalists, who think the present curriculum should be enhanced with contributions from the many diverse cultures, and afrocentrists, who also support the proposed curriculum change but favor that the curriculum stress Black American heritage, and be taught from an African perspective. Afrocentrists are coming up against the strongest opposition for their conviction that since all Western Knowledge is basically a corruption of Black African culture, therefore, all subjects should be taught from a Black African perspective.

Early in March of this year, Mayor David Dinkins gave his support to a plan to institute an experimental high school which would be geared to the needs of mostly young Black and Hispanic males. The high school would be called the Ujamaa Institute and would be located on the campus of Medgar Evers College, in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. In February of this year, the Board of Education in Detroit approved the opening of a Black, all male school to better address the needs of some of their students.

However, the National Organization for Women said it would sue if the all male school was instituted in that state. Mayor Dinkins gave support to the Ujamaa Institute only after the Board of Education had stated that the school would be open to all sexes and races, in addition, to its planned emphasis on Black and Hispanic males.

It is basically the ideal of separatism that has many opponents of the curriculum up in arms. Many people point to the fact that the Supreme Court outlawed segregation in 1954, and the adoption of an all male, all Black school is just the start of a regression to the days before integration when schools were arbitrarily, either Black or White. Some feel that it would be better to institute special programs for Black and Hispanic youth within the public school system, rather than build a Black school apart and separate from the other schools where students may be stigmatized as being different or dysfunctional in some way. Whatever the final outcome, it is clear that a lot of important factors needed to be taken into consideration, and most importantly, the students themselves.

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BARAKA SPEAKS IN HONOR OF MALCOLM X

WORD ON ARA

BY SAEEDA BROWN

African love, strength of the African race, politics injustice, spiritual, physical, and emotional rape, were the themes that kicked off the evening. On September 24, there was a gathering in the Uniti-Cultural Center for all to hear deep poetry along with the intense discussion about Malcolm X, given by Amiri Baraka. Carlos Montrevil presented us with some of the most powerful poetry about our African ancestors. Carlos reflected upon the pain, suffering, and the sorrow that the African race has been subjected to. He focused on the injustice and the trickery, that is thrust upon the African race politically by the American Government, and the fact that we must be aware of the unjust behavior that is taking place right under our noses. The crowd not only listened, but the harsh reality of his words made us think long and hard about what was said. Carlos not only left the crowd with food for thought, but he left us hungry for more. Hungry for those powerful words of reality.

The main course of the night which I, as so many others eagerly awaited, was to hear Professor Baraka speak on Malcolm X. He was so intense and captivating that the Stony Brook crowd was in total awe. Baraka spoke about Malcolm X being a model for the cultural revolution. It was said by Baraka that Malcolm X believed that the ideas that this society tries to instill into African Americans are raised up on an economic base and are put out through capitalist ideas, in the form of the media, movies, art, and museums. Baraka allowed us to gain a perspective on Malcolm X, the complete man that white America wanted us to see. He

spoke about Malcolm in his early days when he lost his father to the hand of the white man and was taken away from his mother by that same cruel hand. Malcolm's plight through life was not an easy one, as we all know. He was in fact a drug pusher and the end result was jail for Malcolm. Incarceration allowed Malcolm to gain the knowledge and wisdom of the Nation of Islam.

Although Malcolm struggled before he joined the Nation, his struggle became even greater after he joined, because he was the center of negative attention by the government and almost all white communities. Professor Baraka told of Malcolm's belief of self-determination (that you as an African has a right to do as you please, without constant criticism,) self-respect (you must understand who you are and where you have truly come from,) and self-defense (if you cannot defend yourself about what you believe in then all the rest does not matter.) Baraka portrayed Malcolm in a very realistic and truthful light. He did not sugar-coat it or distort it, he only told the truth.

Professor Baraka gave the real truth about Malcolm's death and who his assassinator was. Baraka gave an intense speech and opened our eyes to allow us to see the real Malcolm X. He spoke about Malcolm as being one of the greatest African leaders. He made us realize the things we take most for granted, by opening our eyes to Malcolm's struggle as well as the struggle of many others that have shed their blood for the causes of freedom. Baraka not only shared his ideas about Malcolm but he spoke of the fact that the African struggle is not over and that we must not take everything

for that Malcolm X fought for for granted, but we must continue to fight on.

Another topic of discussion presented by Baraka was his conflict with Spike Lee. Baraka set the record straight and gave his reasons for the disagreements with Lee. He voiced an opinion to Spike Lee which was not to his liking. Baraka believes that Lee gives an unrealistic portrayal of blacks in his films, and never really touches upon the true struggle of blacks in a white society. Baraka believes that Spike Lee is going to distort the truth about Malcolm, and what his life was really about. Baraka confronted Lee with his opinions, but it is not one that Lee has taken to very kindly.

I could go on about Baraka my opportunity to listen to him speak, but it definitely could not all be covered in one article. Baraka is a deep man with a lot of truth in what he speaks. He shakes us up and makes us realize that we can't get too comfortable with a situation that is given to us. We must keep our eyes open and never give up the fight.

The night ended with some more intense and thought provoking poetry, presented by Sean Joe. Once again the crowd was given the opportunity to be awakened by the intellect of this intelligent black young man. Although Sean's poetry had some tones of humor and sensuality, he threw at us the intellect and wisdom of what we need to be conscious of as African Americans. I would like to say to Professor Baraka, Carlos, and Sean that their words were enlightening and inspiring to all those that were in attendance and an attribute to the African community.

BY LUC-JEAN BAPTISTE

ARA has taken the campus by storm, and cafeteria food has never tasted better. In case you haven't noticed or heard, or just haven't eaten, there is a new dining service in town and its name is ARA (American Restaurant Association).

ARA, which came in because DAKA lost its contract, has made a series of changes that will improve both the dining services and the quality of food. Some of the improvements, just to name a few are:

- There are two local pizzerias offering a declining balance delivery service.
- Every meal plan includes Declining Balance.
- There are eight meal plans to choose from, so you are bound to find one that fits your specific needs.

Besides all the new services, to be blunt, the food just tastes better. Freshman Shang-Ching Dong from China, never ate at DAKA, but is impressed by the services ARA is providing. "The food is different from the Chinese food I'm used to, but it is just as delicious." Sophomore Howdy Buford agrees. When asked about ARA he said, "The burgers are better and the ice cream tastes like real ice cream."

Some feel that ARA has its drawbacks. Junior Debbie Pitt said, "The food is the same, but it's just a different presentation."

Although some people agree with her, in general the changes are noticeable and were much needed. In time it can only get better. The general consensus is ARA is in, DAKA is out and things can only get better from here.

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Black Doll

My Dear Black Doll
as I rock you in my arms
and dream of the desires that I have for you
my mind is turned upside down
for the out look of the future
_____ should I beam with gladness
or have I failed you already?

My Dear Black Doll
I can now see you clearly
that it will take more than love... more than strength
and so much more than hopes
Oh! even I shall not suffice
to get you through this world
tell me, have I failed already

My Dear Black Doll
I imagine the lies of the world
and the deceptions of these you will name "friends"
all of which could some day
lead my Doll down Destructions Road
I fear... I've seen the end
please say, I haven't failed you already

My Dear Black Doll
I am armed with these truths-- books
because it will take more than love, more than strength
to get you through this world
you will need to be bathed-- oh yes!
clothed in knowledge and truth
and most especially, pride
in yourself
and me
and ALL of your people
This and your faith in God alone
will lead my Black Doll home,
home to a mind that is free
and a heart to bring your brothers to prosperity.

By. Lynn Backman

Malcolm X

Someone once said the spirit of black people was like beautiful
pieces of broken glass, splintered and tremendous-ly
brilliant
I think Malcolm X got this really big piece with orange and red
and violet and of course, a little blue.

Blue

Malcolm X

Malcolm, cry freedom.
What am I to do?
I wasn't there. I don't know.
I can't know.
You fought them,
us,
yourself,
You were one of the few who were
willing to sacrifice.
asalam a lakum

by L.C.

POETRY

Love

Each passing day
renews my love for him.
From sunset to sundown,
I think of him.
I see in him
my other self.
We are two complementary angles
forming a supplementary.
Two halves
making a whole.
He is the beat
to my heart.
When he starts
I finish.
My life was never complete
until his path crossed mine.
Our love for each other
extends past eternity.
I see now that
our destinies are tied
without him
I see an emptiness
as frightening as the dark of night.

Lucienne

From the black woman to the black man

Before you label me as bitch
or try to belittle me and make me as the inferior
one .
Remember this
I am the AFRICAN mother who bore
Reared
And loved you
I am your black lover who
Consoles
Trusts
Adores
You before everyone else.
So, before you think of letting me down
Or try hurting me,
I must inform you of this
Like Queen Nefertiti, Harriet Tubman
Mother Hale, and Winnie Mandela
I will rise.
For Brother I am a strong black woman.
For not only did I learn leadership
Fighting skills and the stamina for struggle
From you but most important
I learned to love you
And that could never change because you
The Black man
Are light in my dark path that keeps me going
My last words...
Love the Black male but remember
Always respect the black woman.

Beatrice

Prince Emmanuel

Looking into his face,
I saw strength and bravery.
His eyes looked unto me
And showed me what I most feared____
His lost youth
In his eyes
I saw poverty and hunger.
False bravery and courage,
desolation and some hint of hope.
I tried looking away with pity,
but he would not let me.
His stance spoke of pride
'cause he has nothing left.

Lucienne

Prince Emmanuel

Boy
stubborn as Hell.
Don't listen to me..
Do as you please.
That hair so...
My brother you are the one.
You, don't give me that look.
Who are you? How old are you?
Good. Don't you forget it.

L.C.

It started in the dawn of Creation
However this dream wasn't of Oppression
When would this dream be over?
When would this nightmare end?
Our dreams have always been changing
Although they have the same themes
From freedom... Slavery... freedom...racism... segregation.
In the distance
We see the motherland
Yet we wonder if we would ever be recognized as human beings.
Would this be worth it in the end?
Instead of fighting with each other
Shouldn't we be loving our fellow men?

Samantha

Life After Death

I watch them watching me
I hear their unspoken words
I laugh at them
I haven't lot my sense of reasoning,
stupid people...
I killed it.

Momma fusses over my dress, trying to make up
for my lack of interest
_____ there's something different about the way she
walks,
the way she talks and smiles, since they came
for papa.
I'm afraid to look into her face, I'm afraid it won't
be there
I'm glad she's here
I need her
now that I killed it.

It's ghost haunts me
It threatens to come back
Sometimes it seems almost alive;
like today...
People are singing, screaming and crying
around me.
it wants to strangle me
I'm choking
I am not afraid
I know it cannot hurt me, it cannot come
back
unless I look at the man's face in the coffin.

Julian•

Testing...

Hey, What's Up_____ !
(TURN)
Oh! Hey_____, How you doin' ?
Fine, how was the party?
Do you know who you're dealing with?
Girl it was major! And the honeys...!
He's a dog, an immature child, can't you see?
OOhh, I know you gotchu some numbers
Child...!
I hope you fuck him over real good, look at him
sitting beside you like don't even see me!
Girl you too much!
Now you know, (EYES ROLL) I definitely (FINGERS SNAP)
got it going on.
he's no good, but I'll bet anything he'll fall for you
cause I guess you're everything I'm not. So do me
a favor and give him a little present he won't
soon forget, you know, a little something_____
ho to ho.
Girl you too much!
(LAUGHTER)
Yeah, I know.
Later!
Yeah, see ya.

Blue

Page by

Kirk Konrad Dunbar
Women Speak!

SOUTH AFRICAN UPDATE

BY AMBER JACQUES

The continuous fighting between rival black factions in South Africa has, in the past year escalated to alarming numbers. Some experts estimate that over 4000 people have died during the past year or so.

The fiercest fighting has been taking place between A.N.C. supporters and members of the Inkatha Freedom Party, a Zulu based political party. The Inkatha Party is headed by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi. His organization, unlike the ANC, does not support economic sanctions against the white South African government. The Inkathas, however, are pushing for a "straight majoritarian" type of government, which basically means one person, one vote.

With black South Africans dying every day, and more often than not, by each other's hands, the leaders of these two rival groups, Mandela and Buthelezi, have met twice in the past year in an effort to halt the unrelenting violence plaguing their country. However, these meetings have apparently done little to curb the fighting which still continues.

The ANC has long blamed Inkatha for the black on black aggression in the townships and even rural areas. The South African government has inferred that the violence is stemming from power struggles within the black community. Quite a large percentage of the violence has risen because of retaliation from major black forces, black forces which the government is hard pressed to try and put a stop to.

However, the ANC's claims that the government is condoning and even supporting the black on black violence, was made evident when a former army intelligence agent Nico Basson revealed the government's involvement with anti-ANC groups like Inkatha.

Both the reputations of F.W. de Klerk and Chief Bu-

thelezi have been seriously tarnished by this new evidence. The public's belief in their sincerity toward working for a more just South Africa has also been crushed. "Nobody can trust the ability of this Government to manage the transition to democracy" stated the ANC. In addition to supporting rival ANC groups, the South African Government had also supported a moderate political group in neighboring Namibia to act as an obstacle to the popular black nationalist party there.

F.W. de Klerk has since demoted two of his top security ministers implicated in the scandal, despite the ANC's call for their full resignations.

The US Government is also planning to fund Inkatha, but this time, in addition to the ANC. Opponents of this grant to Inkatha, point to its role in the vicious black on black violence within South Africa and also its willingness to be funded by the racist South African Government. However, a State Department Official stated that Inkatha still remains "an important political force" in South Africa. In fact, certain conservatives had halted aid to South African Democratic reforms because they felt that Inkatha would not have received a fair amount of the funding.

Despite Inkatha and Pretoria's involvement in this scandal, the ANC is coming under pressure for its communist ties with the South African Communist Party, some of whose members had been elected to prominent positions within the ANC this past July. These two parties had been strong allies since the 1950's and especially since they were both banned in 1960 by the white South African Government. During the time the two parties had been outlawed, they continued to work together for reforms to the system of apartheid and forged an alliance which seems to have transcended ideology in favor of a better South Africa.

DINKINS VS D'AMATO

BY LYNN BACKMAN

In the midst of all of the racial unrest centered around the Crown Heights incident, Senator Alfonse D'Amato decided to add fuel to the fire by publicly criticizing Mayor David Dinkins of New York City. For those who don't know, Mayor David Dinkins had planned a very elaborate and costly (\$455,000.) trip to South Africa after having been invited by Nelson Mandela, the leader of the African National Congress. It was attempting to cover the costs with private contributions. He was unable to raise the amount of money needed; therefore, the trip was postponed.

The denunciations all began on Friday, September 13, 1991, when the Senator stated on WABC-AM radio that, "Maybe if he [Mayor Dinkins] wanted to go over there for a long sabbatical, we would be better off letting someone else run the city." Moreover, while at the Park East synagogue in Manhattan, in front of its Jewish congregation, he elaborated on his statements by saying that "...we should take up a collection to send Dinkins to South Africa and let him stay there." Not quite finished with his words, D'Amato also had this to say, "Here's a city that is besieged with all kinds of problems. Is this the appropriate moment to spend away from the city? I don't think so." Note that he never mentioned anything about his good friend's, former Mayor Koch's many foreign trips. Certainly, New York City had at least as many problems as it does today.

After being told of the Senator's words, Mayor Dinkins, obviously very angry, stated that, "...it does not take a nuclear physicist to understand he goes down this path because of his faltering campaign." In fact, that appears to be the

opinion of many critics of D'Amato's poorly timed and chosen words. Due to D'Amato's rather unscrupulous past dealings, his public ratings have waned. Thus, his 1992 campaign for reelection to a third term is very unstable. Public opinion has it that he has seized this moment of high unrest between Jews and African-Americans to secure the Jewish voting bloc for the upcoming election. It should be understood that in 1986, while running for a second term, D'Amato was quoted as calling the inhabitants of public housing "animals." When he noticed the trouble he put himself in due to the statement, he solicited the support of Rev. Al Sharpton and several other African-American ministers to help him swing their community's vote. He received their support after agreeing to securing a \$500,000 federal grant that would be put towards a drug treatment center. Well, the Senator received the appointment, but the community never received the center. For example. Also remember, it wasn't that long ago (1989) when D'Amato supported Dinkins. However, that was because he didn't want to see his rival Giuliani get in office, for then, the Senator would not have a chance of continuing his political career. Dinkins was/is not as much of a threat as Giuliani was. Basically, he's stabbed too many Black people in the back to be certain of the community's support.

Senator Alfonse D'Amato doesn't appear to be fooling anyone, and as Mayor Dinkins said, "He will be seen for what he is." The effects of his Mayor-bashing during this time of tension will be realized during the next senatorial elections.

**BLACKWORLD MEETS ON MONDAYS AT
8:30 PM ROOM 031 CENTRAL HALL.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 632-6452**

CITY COUNCIL PRIMARY

BY JONELLE TAYLOR

The highest number of black and hispanic representatives were nominated to the City Council during the democratic primaries, held on Sept 12th, 1991. Unfortunately, this number still underrepresents the Asians, hispanics and blacks that make up 57% of N.Y.C. It is expected that after the Nov 5th elections the percentage of black and hispanic members of the council will increase from 25% to 40%.

Some of the nominees are: Lawrence Warden in the bronx (aided in his campaign by a graduate of Stonybrook, Carl Hastings), Lucy Cruz, also of the bronx, Thomas White, Helen Marshall, Juanita Watkins in Queens, Annette M. Robinson and Guillermo Lunares, William del Toro in Manhattan and Martin Malave-Dilan.

For the first time, Democrats have chosen an acknowledged homosexual. Thomas Duane has admitted during his campaign that he is HIV positive, but doesn't feel that it should affect his election.

Throughout this year's election process there have been great concerns over the racial balance of the new council. This has created many complications. The new city charter called for an expansion of the 35 council districts to 51. This increase in districts was an attempt "to create an opportunity for traditionally underrepresented groups in N.Y.C." But the first plan for restructuring the political map was met with much opposition from the Puerto Rican Legal Defense. They

claimed that the redistricting would weaken the hispanic voting strength in some areas. The arguments were brought before a Federal court which ruled that 3 newly created districts disfavored hispanics. They mandated the districting committee to adjust the specified boundaries to meet Dunne's (the assistant U.S. attorney general for civil rights) approval.

Council Speaker Vallone is very pleased with the overall outcome of the primaries because many of the nominees were endorsed by him. Also, 17 of the 19 incumbents victoriously were renominated. Even though there has been an addition of 11 council members and a few more minorites were nominated, it is predicted that the new council will operate much like the old one.

Vallone was very much concerned with the 2 races involving the 2 black activist lawyers, Colin Moore and C. Vernon Mason, who promised to challenge him. He viewed them as "racial inflammers" and was extraordinarily pleased at their defeat by 2 white incumbents.

Mr. Moore has gained a lot of recent media attention. He represents the child victim who was struck by a car driven by a Hasidic Jew in Crown Heights. He thought the media coverage he received would help him become the winner of the primary, but he was beaten by Susan Alter, a white Jewish incumbent who has been representing a part of East Flatbush for more than 10 years. District 45, in which these 2 candidates ran, is comprised of 75%

Blacks with a diminishing number of whites. Due to the redrawing of lines, Ms. Alter was supposed to run in a neighboring district made up of predominantly white residences. The other candidate that ran in that district was an Orthodox Jew, Noach Dear. The lines were redrawn as an attempt to give a black candidate, a greater chance in winning in district 45. Ms. Alter sued on the grounds of racial discrimination. She was later allowed to run in district 45 against 8 black candidates when a panel of 3 judges ruled this year that a candidate could run in any district regardless of their place of residence. The votes for the other 8 candidates were split allowing Ms. Alter to slip by with 38% of the votes leaving Moore in second place with 22%.

C. Vernon Mason was defeated by Stanley Michels in district 7, upper Manhattan, where whites make up one quarter of the registered voters. Mason represents Dr. Leonard Jeffries, the professor at City College who made controversial remarks about Jews this summer during a cultural festival. Mason's opponents, such as Micheal Jules Garson and Lew Yehuda used Jeffries' remarks against him during their campaign. They portrayed Jeffries remarks in a negative light in order to undermine Mason's reputation and as a result uplifted their own in the eyes of the residences. The supporters who hoped for the backlash of Jeffries remarks got their wish. Michels led the race with 2 1/2 more votes than Mason.

GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

SENATE MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCT 2 AT 7:30 PM
ROOM 201, CENTRAL HALL

On The Agenda:

Closing of East Loop Parking (gravel) Lot
Unionization Forum
and many other things.....

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BLACK WOMAN'S WORLD

BY TRACY M. KING

First of all I would like to welcome all of those new to Stony Brook and wish you the best of luck. I would also like to welcome back all of the returning students. You have added yet another step to the stairway of your future.

As I approach another year I am quite concerned about what issues we will have to face. Already, there are a few concerns. The concern for unity has again made its way into my mind. This year we must focus our concerns on civility. Yes, there are too many eyes rolling and too few mouths talking for the first weeks of school, and what is even scarier is that it is among the sisters. We can't start this; you must realize that we are a family and that our actions are viewed as one. What we say and do reflect on us as a nation of women.

My question to those of you with attitudes towards each other is: Where has it gotten you? Does it help in the struggle?

Or better yet, does it even help in your own personal struggle? Does this attitude help you grow in any way? Does it

make you understand one another any better? For if so, why are you still struggling right along side with the rest of us. It hurts me to see the noses turned up and the eyes rolling around in the heads. For, not only does it not look nice, but it does not help in our progress as a people. We need to stop this. We need to put an end to this quickly. For the future depends on us as a whole.

What will you teach your children in the future? You cannot teach anyone if you cannot understand them. Many of you, if asked why you are here? would say "to help my people in one way or another." Am I not your people? Is not the person you just rolled your eyes at not your people? If you want to help your people then start here, my brothers and sisters. Start with one another. but most of all start with yourself. For the person you walk by today may be the person you need tomorrow. That person may be your family doctor, our next mayor, or even a future president. Don't ignore each other, we need each other to survive as a people. This also brings me

to another topic.

My dear brothers, yes, I'm talking to you. You are a very important part of our struggle. You are our men, the future fathers of our nation. What so many of you seem to forget is that in that nation you will also have daughters. They too will also be your age one day. Just think about that. If that is not enough, realize that your mother was once your age too. It is time you began to respect the Black woman, or at least help her to respect herself.

We are all here in the same struggle. Please start to realize this and begin to help one another in our journey. It's not easy and its even harder alone. Please stop fighting one another. For those of you returning, please extend a welcoming hand to those who are new. We are on the same side of the war, fighting the same enemy. Don't turn the guns on each other. My future is shaped by you and yours by me.

HAIL TO THE BLACK WOMAN

VIEWPOINTS

BY NEIL JOSEPH

There is a crisis of sorts that is taking place in this country. Not many people are ready begun to take shape. The media which has become increasingly influential in the daily perceptions and beliefs of the people, has become a tool for this country's political leaders to wield against the masses. One prime example of this occurred last year during the Persian Gulf War. The media did not seek to present the situation that was happening objectively, but instead allowed itself to be bullied and used by President Bush as his own form of propaganda.

Reporters did not have opportunities to cover this war, in ways they have had in the past. The pentagon created a "press pool" in which they decided which reporters were worthy enough to be allowed to view the troops daily preparations during and before the conflict. Interestingly enough those who strayed away from their military escorts and took pictures of related events had

their film confiscated and in some cases were kicked out of the "press pool."

Such intimidation tactics by unreported by all mainstream print and television media.

Instead of a cry of outrage being reverberated back to the American public for such obvious government censorship, the media reported how well things were going and how proud we at home should feel of the troops. Back on the home front America was all to ready to swallow the cathartic, jingoistic rhetoric that their leaders were telling them vis a vis the media. The facts and perspectives that mainstream media managed to delete from their war coverage was available in such alternative news sources such as The Village Voice and several other papers which deserve merit for having enough journalistic courage to accurately cover the war.

Surprisingly even most college students were not immune to the false sense of nationalism that emanated

through the country at this time. Most blindly regurgitated the sound-bites that they had heard or read with and analyze what was happening. A people who are part of a true democracy must encourage and allow dissent, or minority right to become majority that is what this country purports to be about. Anti-war opinion was given no such merit from the start, it was given almost no media attention and when it was covered it was in a condescending manner that robbed it of its credibility.

Since it is obvious that the source that should objectively tell the people the truth about the country is in complicity with leaders who want everything but the truth told, the impetus is on individuals to question their leaders, and what they are being told. To look for new sources of information, research and analyze before making a decision.

We are at a time in the United States when the words of George Orwell are sounding very prophetic. Americans

ignorantly "bleat" out the slogans of an increasingly conservative fascist government, that only has its own increasingly easier to grow jaded about a country that is seemingly falling apart while every one blindly watches. To remain oblivious to the situation only serves as fuel for those who have continually misled this country.

As I write these words President Bush is warning Saddam Hussein that the United States will attack unless he complies to our wishes. Watching the faces of the two respective leaders on the screen it becomes difficult to delineate between good and evil.

I sit back and watch Peter Jennings who earlier this year had shown his journalistic objectivity by naming George Bush "person of the week." As he is about to sign off I notice the annoying smirk on his face, and shut the television off.

ALL VIEWPOINTS
ARE WELCOME

CLUB USB: Where Unique Sounds Begin

BY THIERRY CAZEAU

"The time has come for all music to form as one: House, Reggae, Hip-Hop and R&B. Progressive sounds to see and hear. For greater listening pleasure, Long Island's answer to alternative music? The friendly confines of StonyBrook.....Where Unique Sounds Begin."

This slogan has been echoing through the halls of StonyBrook and ringing into the ears of the listeners of the campus radio station 90.1 WUSB since the formal creation of the New Club USB.

Club USB, which airs every Thursday night/Friday morning from 12am-4am, has taken a considerable turn away from the Hip-Hop oriented format of Summer '91. Under the guidance and supervision of Mr. Tony White, who is also affiliated with WBSL, Club USB has gone back to the grassroots sound of clubs like the Paradise Garage and the original Club USB.

In the new format, the first three hours (12am-3am) of Club USB is reserved for the best mixes of Hip-Hop, Reggae and Deep House music you'll ever hear with each style getting about an hour play. Club USB's crew consists of Mr. White, Bo Jaimangal, Ras-One with the Hip-Hop mixes, and guest DJs spinning the music each week for a different blend of music.

The 3am-4am slot of Club USB is being used for a very interesting way of winding down after those wild Thurs. nights. The segment is called "The Romantic Journey" The show is hosted by Regine Millien and myself, Thierry Cazeau for that unique sound that relates to both genders. "The Romantic Journey" is still a part of Club USB, however, it brings you the best R&B slow jams of all time. The show even lets you call up and pick the songs you want to hear to get you in the mood.

So Catch Club USB featuring The Romantic Journey each and every Thurs. night/Fri. morning from 12am-4pm. And remember, it is "Where Unique Sounds Begin".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The following is a text of a letter I sent to President Marburger :

Dear President Marburger:

As you may know, it is very difficult to cross the road that runs by the Chapin Apartment Complex or its extension to the hospital, particularly at the morning "rush." Living as I do just beyond the confines of campus and walking back and forth through the Chapin Apartments every day, I have had to contend with this problem every day since September of 1990. Yet, until today, I have never written a letter complain about this, firstly, because I personally had experienced only inconvenience rather than real danger from oncoming traffic, and, more importantly, because I believed the problem must have been known and a letter would have been of no use.

Yesterday afternoon, that all changed. The traffic was particularly heavy on the afternoon of September 16, 1991. As always, not one car stopped or even slowed at the crosswalk at the Chapin campus bus stop as I attempted to cross; one car

even honked at me in a successful attempt to deter me from trying. I waited for a break in the traffic. As I saw one, I briskly crossed in the direction of the hospital, only to find a car which had been apparently turned from the hospital driveway bearing down on me from the other direction at a high speed. The driver did not attempt to break, slow down, or avoid hitting me. I ran for my life. The car narrowly missed me and continued to speed away.

It has always seemed evident to me that a pedestrian-operated traffic light would solve the obvious safety problem at this very dangerous crossing, but since I do not expect to see one at the Chapin bus stop any time soon, I demand the following steps as minimal:

- 1) A stop sign and a "slow, children crossing" sign must be posted before this crosswalk on both sides of the street (there are, after all, many children living in the Chapin complex); public safety officers must be stationed nearby to enforce this by heavy fines;
- 2) an appropriately slow speed limit (perhaps 20 mph) must be posted and vigorously enforced by fine throughout campus;

- 3) a stop sign must be posted at the end of the hospital drive and enforced by fine;
- 4) since all signs currently placed at crosswalks on campus are ineffective, they must be replaced at crosswalks (other than the Chapin bus stop) by the following: "Crosswalk: Yield Right of Way to Pedestrians, Fine \$15" (or more); these fines must be enforced.

It should go without saying that the safety of all concerned should be enough of a motivation to effectuate my suggestions. Furthermore, I would expect SUNY at Stony Brook to turn profit very quickly on the strength of fines collected from violators. But if any more motivation is necessary, I give you advance notice that if I am ever injured at a crosswalk on campus, I will sue SUNY for negligently causing a traffic hazard.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS LETTERS OR OPINIONS SEND THEM TO BLACKWORLD CENTRAL HALL RM 031 SUNY AT STONY BROOK 11790-3218, OR CALL 632-6452.

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POLITY PAGE

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TREASURE
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AND
JUDICIARY SEATS**

