

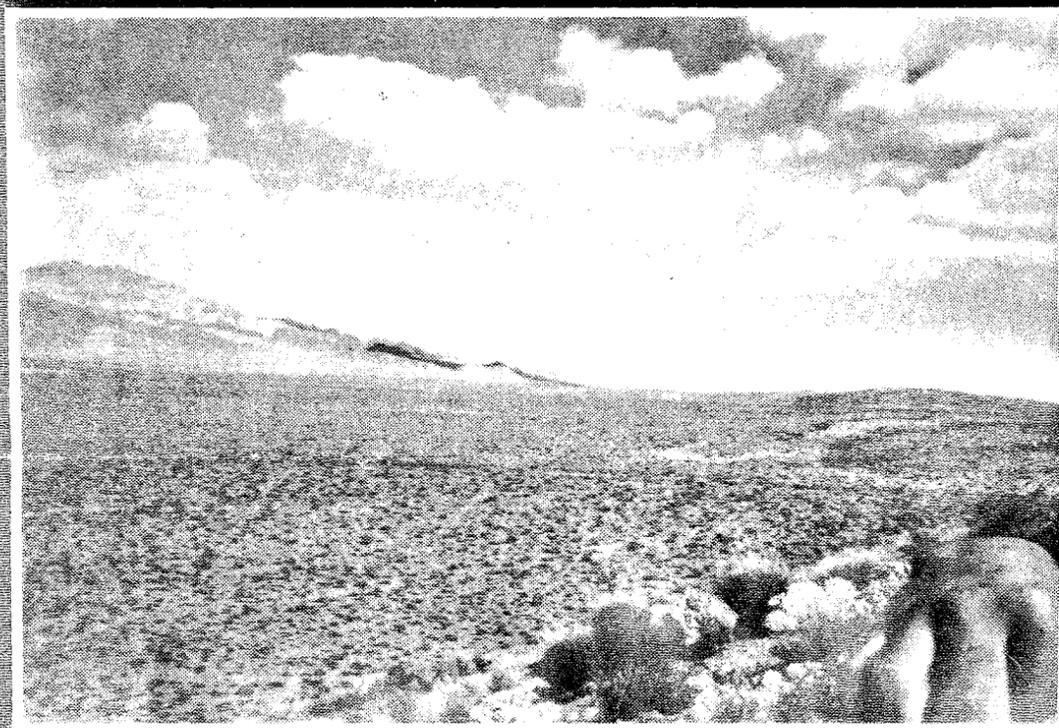


THE
STONY
BROOK

PRESS

Vol. 9, No. 12 ● University Community's Weekly Feature Paper ● April 7, 1988

SKY ABOVE



EARTH BELOW

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THE RIP SIDE OF POLITICS

The original framers of the Constitution of the United States never planned for the vote to be allowed to the uneducated, the unaware, and the uninformed. The Polity Council is working to turn the student body into such people—making its greatest effort (seemingly) to keep voter turn-out at an all time low.

See, the Council has banned all candidates for Polity offices from hanging posters of any kind, anywhere. Ostensibly the Council is trying to prevent a re-hash of last year's truly pathetic series of run-offs, a product of electioneering accusations among candidates. The poster ban is also designed to force candidates to go out and actually talk to people. You know, introduce themselves, shake your hand, tell you why should vote for them, maybe even demonstrate some energy and effort *before* even getting elected.

At least that's the way it's *supposed* to be, and the Council is looking towards just such a drastic change in campaign tactics as its goal. Word also has it that Fred Preston (the university Vice-president for Student Affairs) complained to the Council about last year's election, after seeing so many posters plastered on every conceivable spot on campus. So much for the impetus.

What's really irksome about the new poster ban is that the Council members who voted in favor of the changes did not realize that without posters, as troublesome as they might be, many, if not most, students will not know any details about the candidates. They may not even realize that there is an election happening. The Council members who voted against the ban stressed this several times.

Sure, the election board is going to print up a bunch of posters that list the candidates, referendums, polling places, and the election date (Tuesday, April 26), but will every student see them? Will commuters, who often see only a small part of the campus each day, turn out in any significant numbers? Will the Council consider the new rules successful if the voter turnout is even lower, or just a bad, as last year (when only 1800 students voted in the first election)?

After complaining about apathy all year, the Council has now managed to distance students even further. If a vice-presidential candidate is limited to 700 free hand-outs (courtesy of Polity and the Polity Print Shop), how many potential voters will actually receive them? The Council is trying to save face after the debacle of last year by trying to prevent rampant electioneering and unethical vote influence. They are doing so at a great disadvantage to the student body.

So do your best to keep informed. It's your money. Seek out and read the hand-outs and petitions going around this week. Potential candidates are required by the election rules (as always) to print their platform at the top of their petitions. The *Press* will print in-depth profiles of all official candidates in two weeks (April 21st issue).

The *Press* is a paper run by and for students, and we love to receive letters and viewpoints and giggle over them during the late night hours. So send 'em down to Suite 020, Central Hall.

Letters

Foolish, Small Assumption

To the editor:

I would like to respond to a letter that appeared in the March 31st issue of your newspaper.

I must say that I was very surprised and appalled by the letter George Bidermann wrote on the Tent City protestors and their recent acquittal. I do not deny their right to protest, however, since I do not support their movement I was shocked to see that Polity funds were used to finance their legal fees. If this is the case, then why should **my money** go to a movement that I do not support?

Polity, as an elected body of the students, is supposed to be democratic. Yet none of us were made aware of the fact that Polity money was being used to pay the legal costs of 40 students. If Polity is supposed to represent all students equally, then, for example, they should pay all legal fees incurred by students who get parking tickets. Since this is neither politically nor fiscally feasible for Polity, I would suggest that they stop paying legal fees for a minority of students and put **our money** to activities that represent the student body as a whole!

John D. Toepfer
George J. Toepfer

OUR Money

To the editor

Today the interest payments on the debt we've accumulated this far is roughly equal to the current budget deficit. We've managed to amass such a mountain of paper promises that only our grand-

children might live to see them all paid off.

We have to face the bitter truth. As a country, we're in deep, long term financial trouble. The last time we balanced our books was decades ago. The now commonplace practice of influencing (almost buying) votes with expensive social programs has resulted in a quick deterioration of our national economy. As usual, the hardships fall harder and faster on the poor (the very class that was supposed to be helped by these programs), who are particularly vulnerable to downturns in the economy.

Government social policy has succeeded in destroying the poor family by destroying the monetary penalties of female headed households, and in some cases even made it economically attractive to stay single while raising a child. Since blacks historically have a higher poverty rate than whites, this has delayed and denied opportunity for hundreds of thousands of blacks that already have the odds against them. The addiction to government handouts has decimated the work ethic among poor people, and therefore among the minorities.

Why break your back doing hard work in an unskilled job? The few extra dollars that eight hours a day get you in many cases aren't enough to offset the freedom of unemployment. And raising taxes to pay for the social spending or cutting that spending off are both politically ugly answers to deadly serious questions.

Members of congress want desperately to keep that re-election rate right where it is, above 95%. Is it any wonder that political spine on financial matters at home is a rare occurrence?

What can we do? Well, that depends on your political philosophy. If you're a collectivist at heart, you pick raising taxes and continuing (even increasing) social spending. If you are an individualist, then cutting spending (even elimina-

ting it) is the answer. The popular middle-of-the-road philosophy of spending on credit is what the current failed policy has been for the past twenty years. The current political system dictates that spending at high levels (which gets votes) will always outpace taxing at high levels (which loses votes).

The choice is up to us, the voters, and if we want an individualist system of economic freedom as in the 19th century, the direction we must go in social program spending is clear. If we wish a collectivist economy based on the lines of Nazi Germany or Communist Russia, the choice is also clear. I choose freedom.

Michael Lutas

MY Money

To the editor:

In the March 31st issue in a second page editorial entitled "Finding Success in Apathy" about FSA, it was said that FSA has made profits from some of its businesses, including "\$11,000 from food services such as the Rainy Night House."

But, the Rainy Night House is not a part of FSA, and though it would like to, does not make an \$11,000 profit. The Rainy Night House is a part of SCOOP (Student Co-op), which is a student-run, non-profit organization on campus which provides services for students while keeping prices as low as possible. SCOOP also runs All Good Things Candy Shop in the basement of the Union, Harpo's Ice Cream Parlour in Kelly A, the Hard Rock Cafe in Toscanini, SCOOP Up and Away Travel Service and SCOOP Audio Visual. Thank you.

Jennifer O'Brien
SCOOP President

cover photo Ryder Miller

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Election? What Election?

Polity Outlaws Campaign Posters

by R. Sienna

With next Wednesday's petition deadline for prospective Polity candidates rapidly approaching, and the memory of last year's election-time fiasco still lingering, the Polity Council drafted new election rules at their weekly meeting last Monday night. Last year's election saw accusations of electioneering and poster-ripping flying back and forth between candidates running for Polity positions.

The new election rules, which were narrowly approved with a 4-3 vote, forbid any candidate from hanging posters anywhere on campus. The only exception is for class representatives, who will be limited to hanging 500 posters; the Council's reason being that class representative candidates' constituencies are limited, making it harder for those candidates to approach their voters.

There is no limit, however, as to how many hand-outs may be distributed by any particular candidate. The candidates will be restricted as to how many free hand-outs they may have printed, at Polity's expense, at the Polity print shop. Polity's printing of a limited number of materials for official candidates is standard practice. Candidates are free to print up additional hand-outs at their own expense.

The Council hopes that by eliminating election posters the candidates will be discouraged from both tearing down others' posters and printing posters that condemn opponents. Polity vice-president Paul Rubenstein said that restricting candidates to hand-outs "would increase awareness", and SAB head Robert Schachter said, "posters are an all or nothing deal. If a candidate can not put up posters then the candidate has to get out and deal with people."

The Polity election board will oversee the printing of posters and hand-outs to ensure that the limits are not exceeded and that posters hung by class representative candidates have been approved and stamped by the board. The board will also print a number of its own posters, which will provide the election date (April 26), ballot box



Junior Class Rep Dan Rubin and Soph Class Rep Steve Rosenfeld

locations, and a list of all the candidates who are running for offices. The election board may initiate disciplinary action against any candidate who disregards the election rules. The motion also stated that "a candidate is responsible for campaign members [staff] and may face disciplinary action on behalf of said staff" should the staff disobey the election guidelines. The type of action that could be taken was not specified by the Council, but any such action would most likely include disqualification from candidacy.

There was dissension, though, as to whether or not the new election guidelines would have a beneficial effect. Although he conceded that the new guidelines would force candidates to actually go out and talk to their constituents, junior class representative Dan Rubin questioned the impact that the motion would have on commuter voters. "Commuters don't have doors...you go to the Commuter College and reach ten of 'em," he explained. Lisa Olshen, NY-PIRG project coordinator said that "by eliminating numbers of posters you are

limiting awareness of commuters...it will discourage commuters from voting." Commuters generally display the poorest voter turnout (commuter senators often run uncontested as well, or worse, positions remain unfilled), and getting commuters into the swing of things has been a concern up at Polity all year.

Sophomore class representative Steve Rosenfeld also voiced objections, saying "I don't think we've solved the problem. I think we've just added another rule...I don't think we've put enough thought into this." Although Craig Cohen, who heads the election board, contested that most posters "just say the name and don't bring up any issues," and Schachter said that "no candidate will be elected on posters alone," Rosenfeld predicted that "elections [voter turnout] will be down even more than last year" because fewer students will be aware of who is running and what their platforms are. Rubin echoed this feeling, commenting that "you know we're not going to have a judiciary next year." After the narrow vote, Rosenfeld stated for the record that "no-

Some brief election information:	
Dates:	
petitions due	Wed., April 13, @5pm
election	Tues., April 26
run-off	Tues., May 3
Signatures for petitions:	
executive committee (pres., v-pres., treasurer, sec.)	400
class reps	100
judiciary	100
student assembly/SASU	250
Stony Brook council	250
Number of free hand-outs/posters:	
executive committee	700
class reps	500
judiciary	250
student assembly/SASU	250
Stony Brook council	700
● note: only class representative candidates may print posters; all other candidates are restricted to the use of hand-outs	

one voting for this motion appears to be running for an office in upcoming elections."

In an effort to allay such fears, senior representative Lisa Garcia pointed out that limiting campaigning to hand-outs is "forcing every candidate to do some work" in order to get elected. Rubenstein exhorted the campus media to place more attention on the election so that students will be better informed. "The campus media," he said, "has not been treating the election to the level at which they should."

The Council also began discussion as to whether or not the administration budget (which according to Lisa Miller, Polity treasurer, now amounts to about \$600) should be used to help pay for the senior weekend next month or to pay court fees for students trying to obtain voting rights in the Town of Brookhaven. The court fees are \$150 per case.

The council will make its decision next week, after determining how much money is actually available.

Forsaking Earth's Wisdom

Environmentalist Lou Gold Speaks at SB

by Joe DiStefano and Mark Mancuso

Lou Gold, environmental activist, protested the United States government's large-scale destruction of the environment in a lecture Tuesday, March 22nd. He accused the lumber industry of raping the land and urged for public awareness of environmental issues. Gold's presentation, "Earth's Wisdom and Political Activism," was the first in the Peace Studies Resource Center's series, **Building a Sustainable Future**. Gold quit his job as professor of political science at Oberlin College after he fell in love with the Oregon wilderness while on vacation. Gold's home, Bald Mountain (part of the Siskiyou range), is part of an area that has been endangered by the avarice of government and private industry.

After leaving Oberlin he pitched his tent in an old fire watch in the midst of the Siskiyou Mountains that contains an "old growth" forest that is the habitat of many rare endemics and endangered species.

The message during Lou's presentation was clear: the United States as a whole has been denying the "earth's wisdom" and short-changing future generations by not

providing a "sustainable future" in a stable, healthy environment. He said that as of the 1930's, areas that had been densely forested were depleted by 30%; rapid technological progress in the lumber industry has skyrocketed that figure to an alarming 90%.

"...it is time for the myths of Smokey the Bear and Bambi to be dispelled..."

After initial friction with the Forest Service, he has been appointed official caretaker of Bald Mountain, where he spends much of his time fashioning Peace Sticks (walking staves) which he gladly offers to visitors. It was here that Lou conversed with his walking stick, which

expressed curiosity about the world outside. Although Lou's stories were both entertaining and interesting, they reflected a deeper concern for the environment and earth as whole.

Gold became an environmentalist accidentally, as his penchant for grand, unadulterated nature collided with common sense. He condemned the hypocrisy and illogic which characterize the lumber industry's relationship with the environment.

Gold cited Forest Service mismanagement and the ignorance of the American people as reasons for the desperate conditions of our forests. He urged that it is time for the myths of Smokey the Bear and Bambi to be dispelled. Forest fires are not raging disasters of biblical proportions. He

said that the typical forest fire only reduces 20% of the forest to a barren plain of charred and twisted stumps. Fire, he noted, is an important force in nature which prunes the forest and clears the forest floor of debris.

continued on page 5

Jesse

In case you didn't already know, presidential hopeful and man-about-town Jesse Jackson will be speaking at a rally in the Fine Arts Plaza tomorrow sometime between 2 and 4.

The rally is part of a cultural awareness program of activities that will include live music, student and faculty speakers, and the man himself. Jesse is the only presidential hopeful who will speak at the university before April 19th's democratic primary.

Members of the campus media, as well as members of the metropolitan media, have been screened by the Secret Service so that we can talk to Jesse about his plans should he become president. Check out next week's issue for complete coverage.

READ

Stranger Occurrences in the Desert

Test Peace: Second of a Two Part Article

by Ryder Miller

Between March 11-21, thousands of anti-nuke protesters gathered at the Nevada test site to take part in the "Reclaim the test site" demonstration. Though it received poor attention in the press, the result was the largest protest at the Nevada test site in history. On Saturday the 12th, during the first weekend, when thousands flocked to the test site from all over the country, an estimated 5000 people were present. Over 1400 people risked imprisonment committing non-violent civil disobedience. The demonstration protested nuclear testing, showing support for a comprehensive test ban which would end the arms race.

After the pizzaz of the first weekend, where the media was present and famous people like Robert Blake, Kasey Kasem and Teri Garr got arrested with the crowds, the protests took on a whole new dimension. Without the safety of large numbers (which resulted in the local Nevada jurisdiction deciding to release people committing civil disobedience because the county didn't want to pay the bill) the protestors took greater risks and the demonstrations became more creative.

For the length of the demonstration, protestors lived out of tents set up in a temporary community across the highway from the test site. The organizing groups, American Peace Test and Seeds for Peace, provided support services: water, shuttles to and from Las Vegas, food for a dollar a day, etc. The camp provided a place for protestors to stay for whatever length of time they could.

Over the ten days, groups of protestors met separately to decide individual actions. When it was guessed that protestors would not be imprisoned for the length of the demonstration, more daring actions were organized. Some groups committed back country actions, where protestors would cross over the fence surrounding the test site at night and try to get as deep into the test site as possible. Other groups decided to barricade the roads entering the site. Normal trespass (stepping onto the test site property into the arms of the guards) can result in six days in jail or a fine for a first offense. For a second offense the penalty is four days in jail, or a minimum of two days and a fine. Some of the people committing back country actions were risking long periods of time in jail. If they were found too deep within the test site, they could be charged with penetration which might result in six months in jail. During the evenings, groups of organizers would huddle by fires, making decisions about the actions for the next day. In most cases, the officials were notified what the actions would entail.

During the morning of Monday the 14th, 204 protestors were arrested when they blockaded buses bringing workers to the test site. People sat down arm-in-arm over the road until guards physically dragged them away. The previous evening, I heard the sounds of helicopters throughout the night, evidently chasing protestors with sensors that detected heat. There were no reports of the guards being brutal to protestors, but they were rough. When I asked Sarah Willner, an organizer for Seeds of Peace, how the guards were treating people, she said, "Some cops are like this—and some cops are like this." Showing me both sides of her vest, one side was ripped.

On Wednesday the 16th, people participated in the limbo action, which was a celebration of life. Protestors danced to the music of drums and human voices, while individuals danced under a stick. As the group danced, small children were tossed into the air and caught on a rug that was brought down to the gate. As the action got heavy, the group with the rug eased over towards the fence away from the guards at the gate. The plan was to project a protestor over the fence who would dash 25 meters to the cage (where protestors were held after they committed civil disobedience) and climb in before the guards could catch him. As the dancing got heavy, more people began to grab the edges of the rug, and progressively larger people were tossed into the air and caught to test the group's strength. Two protestors were heaved over the fence and managed to climb into the cage before the guards stopped them. The guards handcuffed them inside the cage.

The limbo stick was moved to the other side of the road, and protestors committing civil disobedience danced under the stick before walking into the hands of the guards. With the attention on the dancer at the stick, some protestors explained to the guards and the crowd what their actions signified. One guy pulled his clothes off as he danced around the stick. He danced lewdly, and bare-assed the guards. One protestor accurately described his actions as "spreading his cheeks for wide angle exposure". As he stood in the sun, he was filmed by workers at the test site. He objected and said, "Get that camera away from me, you faggots." He covered his groin by tying a thermal shirt around his waist and continued to dance, but the guards grabbed him and pulled him into the test site. He was charged with public lewdness and was put on bail for 1000 dollars. I heard a protestor say that this was the first time that he was offended at a rally. People commit acts individually, but the media singles out events and makes

them representative of all the people involved. Most people felt that the actions during the day on Wednesday didn't represent the goals of the group. They were too confrontational, whereas the action was organized to follow the principles of non-violence.

On Wednesday evening, appropriately following the actions of the day, a procession of protestors walked through camp chanting "No more nuclear death." They carried lit candles and a black casket on the shoulders of the front walkers. The group looked like a Celtic funeral procession as they walked through camp, and people joined



PhotoRyderMiller

along as they headed for the test site. Lights from the site blinded their eyes as they made their way down the road towards the gate. The group stopped at the entrance to the site, blocking the road. The casket was given to the guards and some protestors collapsed onto the ground, to be dragged away by the guards. The casket was quickly removed, and other protestors walked into the hands of the guards.

In an office in Las Vegas, in the shade of Circus Circus (a local casino), American Peace Test (APT) and Seeds of Peace (Seeds) organized the "Reclaim the test site" demonstration. The organizers had been working for months, getting legal rights to use land for the test site from the Bureau of Land Management, contacting the media, organizing logistics like buying food for the kitchen, etc. APT was officially formed in 1986 by several members of national FREEZE (a peace group) who were inspired after participating in a civil resistance action at the Nevada Test Site. APT emphasizes nonviolent direct action and public education, while leaving other members of FREEZE to work on legislation and electioneering. APT works for a comprehensive test ban between the US and the USSR as a first step



PhotoRyderMiller

towards a comprehensive nuclear freeze.

Unlike APT, which is office-based, the members of Seeds spend their time working for Peace on the road. Seeds was formed by members of the Great Peace March for Global Nuclear Disarmament, in November of 1986 after the eight-and-a-half month trek across the country. Only four of the thirty people who started Seeds remain, but the ranks were filled by other people as the original organizers left. As Tom Alstead, one of the founding organizers, said to me, "Other peace groups organize these events; we make sure they work."

Seeds has been involved in a number of demonstrations

over the last few years including the Florida Peace Pilgrimage, which took place in the Spring of 1987, protesting the development of the Trident II missile, and the Minnesota Peace Walk taking place during the summer of '87. For the "Reclaim the test site" demonstration, Seeds drove support vehicles from the east coast, including a kitchen truck, porta-potties, a water truck and more. They kept a kitchen running that fed people for a dollar a day.

Thursday was declared a rest day, and meetings were organized to discuss topics ranging from racism to creative ways to attract media attention. The highlight of the day was Ram Dass, a spiritual teacher who speaks about Eastern philosophy, coming to camp. It was interesting to be among the protestors, not all of whom looked at the issue politically. I talked to a young bare-breasted woman sitting in the sun, while her baby slept within the tent's shade. She was reading Goddess tarot cards for herself, and she explained to me how one of the cards indicated that she should perform healing rituals for the earth. She showed me a bundle of cloth-held desert rocks which had healing energy. She wondered how I could live in the city. "I could not live in the city," she told me, "I wouldn't know where the sun is, where the moon is."

Ram Dass was a friend of Timothy Leary and part of the Movement during the sixties. Since then, he went on to develop and write books about Eastern philosophy and was responsible for starting a spiritual movement in America. He spoke about many things, among which, what motivates people to protest. I paraphrase his words: "People protest for a number of reasons, some protest because they do not live in an ideal, and they want to make the world ideal... Others protest because they need to do something... These reasons lead to burn-out... If you protest, it is because that is something that you do, just like a tree grows; it grows not because it sees some idealized big tree that it tries to be. The tree doesn't see the vision. If you protest because that is something that you do, you will not suffer the burn-out that others suffer."

He also said, "You must learn to cultivate the strength inside, so that you can say without wavering, like a salesman would, that what's happening is wrong." This rang true, because the nuclear issue involves people's jobs; it involves politics and international militarism. It's hard not to think about the jobs that would be lost, the possible risk the government would be creating if they just got rid of the bomb without thinking. It's hard to be strong and absolute behind your opinion, when you're brought up in a country where the government tries to convince the people that it knows what's right.

When I was among the New-Agers, with a chance to be quiet inside and enjoy the stillness of the desert, it became easy to understand why people believed in the spirit. On Friday, while I worked down by the gate, picking up garbage, I found a button which quoted Gandhi. It said, "Whatever you do may seem insignificant, but it is most important that you do it." What a coincidence, that I would find the perfect button for a garbage man to find. It made me think about the forces which conspired to bring me out West. Two college refund checks when I only expected one, two very cheap airflight tickets, getting well after a long extended sickness, and a college vacation which fell on the week of the demonstration.

While I walked around the gate, a group of protestors walked towards it, carrying banners protesting US involvement in Latin America. They carried black crosses in red-painted hands, and they opened up into a circle in an area outside of the site, to the left of the gate. Individually, they walked into the center of the circle, and with a hammer banged their crosses into the ground. "This is for the children of Nicaragua," said one. "This is for the victims of leukemia, caused by fallout from nuclear testing," yelled another. One woman walked into the center of the circle crying and screamed to the crowd. "This is for my child that died in a miscarriage, right after a spillage at Rocky Flats. It could happen to anyone." She walked up to me and buried her head in my chest. I hugged her until her friends came.

The bottom line is whether these actions have an effect or not. I committed civil disobedience over the ten days because I was inspired by the actions of others. Just like the deaths at Kent State inspired a whole generation. Governmental reform has resulted from social action in the past. When people work together, in mass, they can force legislators to give them what they want. Look at the facts: the

work of Gandhi and Martin Luther King demonstrate this. Gandhi and King, as individuals, represented the discontent of millions. They didn't cause the change alone: the individual actions of all the people involved in these movements gave it enough strength to succeed.

The main job of protesting is educating the public about an issue. If eventually the message is heard and agreed upon by enough people, then the will of the people can be made manifest by their actions. The people in Congress, in the White House, work for us; they do not rule us. If people keep on pushing an issue, the government will eventually have to say yes. Sometimes, it takes years to succeed, sometimes there are not enough people involved and the movement doesn't represent the nation, only a handful of people. One person standing in the Fine Arts Plaza yelling, "DAKA sucks," is not going to make a difference. But if he or she finds students of like mind, gets signatures, gets people to mail letters, finds out what the contract between the school and DAKA involves, demonstrates to the President that the students of Stony Brook are not satisfied with the quality of food DAKA provides, maybe when the contract comes around for renewal, the President may decide to hire another company.

If people say to you that social action has no effect and is a total waste of time, they have a frightful lack of imagination. They've looked at the facts falsely to develop an argument which rationalizes their apathy. If people are caught up in their lives and they are busy taking care of themselves, their family or their friends, they are working towards the good.

Not everyone is drawn towards activism. But don't listen to people who use the argument that activism is ineffective to hide the fact that they don't give a shit. Don't allow them to try and force their ideas on you.

The "Reclaim the test site" demonstration received very little press: page 2 of the Village Voice, front page of the Las Vegas Times, a few articles in the People's Daily World, and nothing in the New York Times. But over the last few years, things have been looking good. Every democratic candidate is promising a freeze on testing if he gets elected, so at least politicians are answering or developing their presidential campaigns to answer public pressure. The Soviet Union has already shown an interest in a comprehensive test ban by maintaining a unilateral test moratorium for 18 months during 1985-86, though some feel that this action was to discredit popular opinion of the United States worldwide, and the Soviet Union was well aware that America wouldn't change their position on testing. On three occasions in recent years, the House of Representatives has voted to prohibit all nuclear tests greater than 1 kiloton (the atomic bomb which destroyed Hiroshima had an explosive force of 15 kilotons) but backed down due to pressure from the administration, which says it is essential to test old missiles and develop new ones.

Politics makes the issue so much more confusing. When looking for coverage of the demonstration in the NY Times, I ran across a few interesting things that may shed some light on how difficult a problem it is to push these issues

through the political process. On page A2, for March the 10th, 1988 in the News Summary Section, I read a summary which said, "George Bush, savoring his victory in Tuesday's presidential primaries said in a wide ranging interview in Houston that he would begin reshaping his appeals to reach beyond republicans." I mean really, can any politician be trusted?

Richard Nixon described in his February 13th article in the Sunday NY Times magazine section, how the US Government needed to learn how to make arms agreement proposals which would place world pressure on the Soviet Union to agree. He felt that discussion of arms agreements should include Soviet actions in the third world, because in his opinion (and in others) the arms discussion was superficial to the fight between America and the Soviet Union for the third world. His central point was that no government is willing to give up power, and that the US should decide what it is willing to give up in order to get what it wants.

The recent INF treaty, which proposes to eliminate intermediate and short range missiles in Europe, is a sign that significant progress can be achieved in reducing the world's stockpiles of nuclear missiles. Overall, the treaty was 174 pages long, and though signed by Reagan and Gorbachev, it still hasn't been ratified by the Senate. The treaty showed that agreements can be designed so that both superpowers can be confident that the other power will comply to its terms.

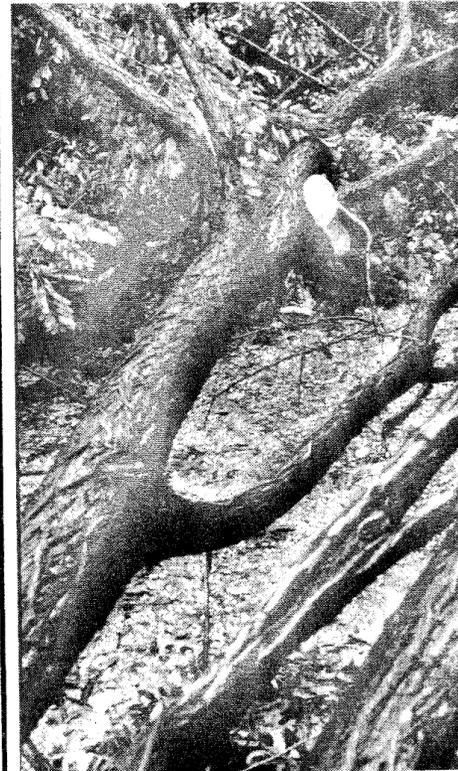
The rally ended on Sunday the 20th, and the campsite was almost empty by the time the sun went down over the mountains of Nevada. Nevada was so beautiful. While I waited for a shuttle to drive me to the airport, somebody told me that a test was planned for Tuesday during the upcoming week. The image that came to mind, which I always wanted to share because I felt it described the situation in Nevada most adequately, was that of a beautiful woman twisting in the sand after she had nearly been fucked to death.

What Have They Done to the Earth?

Tied Her with Fences and Dragged Her Down...

continued from page 3

According to Lou, the United States Forest Service and the lumber industry are operating with no concern for the environment. There is no need for the reforestation of burned areas; most of what burns is underbrush, and fire provides a natural and vital function. Slides shown by Lou of "forests" created by Forest Service reforestation depicted grids of evenly spaced trees and ground completely clear of flora and fauna.



PhotoScottRichter

Unlike lands designated as "National Parks," National Forests are not protected from these reforestation techniques which turn ancient old-growth vegetation into sterile, uniform tree farms. The forests also remain uninventoried as to their specific content. Lou showed horrific examples of thousand-year-old trees being wantonly destroyed.

Efficiency of the forest service and their close compatriots, the lumber industry, is not measured in terms of what condition the forest is left in, Lou said, but in terms of lumber production, and ultimately cash flow. According to Lou, there are alternatives to this—like selective logging—but this is an expensive and slow process, requiring qualified and concerned people for the job. For the sake of productivity, these alternatives are widely ignored by the environmentally oblivious and callous lumber industry.

The most commonly employed logging procedure is clear-cutting large tracts of forest flat-land. When trees are so harshly harvested, the top-soil has no ability to remain on the slopes, and is eroded by running water. The problem, said Lou, is that the government and the lumber industry operate without regard for the environment and seek quick aesthetic solutions to seemingly disastrous situations (like forest fires) with man-induced reforestation.

Lou Gold's slide-show demonstrated the rampant close-mindedness of our government in dealing with such a finite and delicate resource. He said "forests are home to a lot more than trees, and we should be conscious to the needs of other species before blindly obliterating their habitats." He expressed a first-hand understanding of how the intricate and extensive network and interactions of the woodland populations affect us all. The disturbance of one minute aspect of the web has enormous and far-reaching consequences.

Erosion of top-soil due to the lack of trees eliminates smaller organisms which support higher animals like owls. Mycorrhizal fungi depend on trees for moisture. The fungi in turn are eaten by voles, which spread the fungal spores, ensuring future generations. Owls prey on the small voles and regulate the voles' population.

Gold stressed that the entire community of life is interrupted by the lumber industry, and limits the base out of which higher, complex organisms can proliferate. The manured streams that we typically see in reforested areas are absent of debris that purifies and removes silt from the water. Without this natural filter, our rivers run rampant and move soil away from the forest, resulting in muddy waters.

Lou concluded his lecture by noting that when industry and government exploit our environment with our tax dollars, they operate in direct opposition to the fact that man is a higher organism which depends on a large, stable, environmental base for his survival. He said that this is a very real and acute threat to the quality of life for future generations. We must not allow the squandering of precious organic resources shared by the collective community of our planet.

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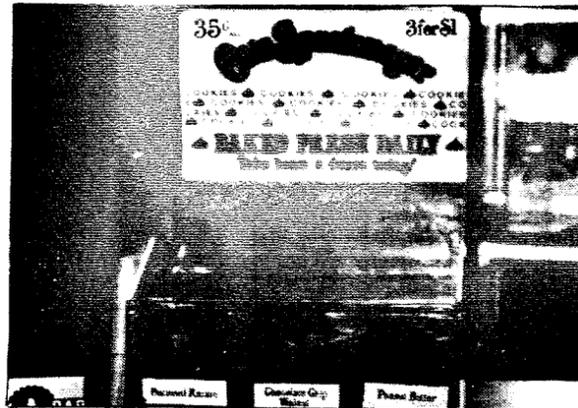
by Hubert Sweete

Otis Spunkmeyer is the man. Otis Spunkmeyer makes the king of cookies. At least that is what some workers at the Rainy Night House told me one evening. "Yeah, they're good," said a tall worker, who was suspiciously hanging around near closing time, while the Spunkmeyer cookies were still packed up high and he was off work. A guy in a red shirt, who was sweeping, told me that while he worked at the House, his thoughts would drift to cookies: "Just smelling them will tempt you in," he said.

Spunkmeyer cookies have done better than other attempts to provide dessert foods to students at the House. A worker told me how ice cream hasn't fared well, "People have pints once in a while, that's it," he said, whereas "some people come in just for the cookies."

Spunkmeyer cookies are baked on the spot daily. The cookies arrive as little balls of dough, and are cooked in an oven which Spunkmeyer has supplied. When the cookies come out of the oven, they are hot and gooey. Spunkmeyer cookies come in a variety of flavors, including double

chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, chocolate chip, peanut butter, and walnut. Workers claim that double chocolate is the favorite.



There's no question that Otis has got his act together, but the price seems to be an issue. The tall guy who told me that

he liked them said that "I don't eat them too often; they're too expensive." The sweeper said that he "ate them all the time," but not everyday because he couldn't afford them. Thirty-five cents for a cookie is a lot, and three for a dollar is "jack shit" of a deal. For fifty cents you can get three crumbly, dry cookies that would do the job. At least eight large Archway cookies can be bought at the Union deli for \$1.19; a pound of Archways can be bought for \$1.79. Though not as good as Spunkmeyers, some of the cookies Archway puts out rank high in the world of cookies (their oatmeal raisin cookies are out of this world).

Just think how nice it would be if Otis Spunkmeyer's cookies were 25¢. Four for a dollar. One worker said it would be "better than the arcade".

It's crazy to shell out 35¢ for one cookie, so crazy in fact, that it might be worth boycotting Otis Spunkmeyer until the price is reduced. In fact, if you really wanted to be obnoxious, you could go down to the Night House with a bag of Archways and say to the person at the register "Can I have a medium milk for my Archway cookies, thank you."

—The Fourth Estate: Commentary—

They Build to Destroy

by John Dunn

Last April I wrote an article for the *Press* which gave a fifteen-point plan for improvements at Stony Brook. I felt I had presented some valid points which should be acted upon by those that have the ability. Ten months later, here's a look back at my points and what's been done in the meantime. I'm not claiming any credit for any action; rather, I am glad that something was done.

Point 1 was to replace Barnes & Noble and DAKA by university-run, non-profit organizations. David Stauber

Point 5 dealt with the grad student problem. They did get a pay raise, but child care is still unavailable. The housing problem is still a problem. Actually, not a whole lot has changed.

Point 6 was partially blown on my part with the suggestion that students who work for campus media receive credit for doing so. *Blackworld* is a course (AFS 447), so those students can easily gain credit. Others can get it via internships. However, something still is wrong with campus media involvement: it's very small. Take a look at the size of

responsible way when dealing with students. We all know what's happened since last April: strikes, arrests, Javits, HSC, "underallocated, not overspent," blackouts, bushes-not-buildings, etc. 'Nuff said.

Point 11 mentioned that the Greek system should receive some support from the university, perhaps in the way of housing. I've changed my mind a bit on this. Greeks should be supported, but the University should not provide or build them their own housing. My reasons are too complicated to explain here, but then, Marburger has said that there are no plans to provide such housing.

The most important point in the remainder of the article was that the entire campus is falling apart. I hope somebody is making sure the fieldhouse is being built correctly so it doesn't start collapsing in a few years like the HSC. As my friend Chris says, Stony Brook is the only 25-year old university in need of urban renewal. As more and more things go wrong, one wonders if the whole place should be ripped down and built new (and built correctly). The physical problems with the campus are too numerous to mention and are not at all funny. We have a President who says Albany won't provide the money needed. Someone in Administration says Stony Brook is underallocated, not overspending. We can't pay our bills.

If President Marburger can't bring in the money, it's unlikely a replacement could. A replacement might treat students as humans and try to be more visible, giving the impression that he cared (when's the last time someone in Admin rode a bus from South P?), but it's unlikely SUNY would unload the bucks. Thus, it's up to us, the students, faculty and staff. We have to lobby both local and state legislators. We have to get as much private involvement as SUNY will let us. Harriman could be a big help here. If nothing is done to bring money soon, what happens when the campus really starts to deteriorate?

The money will come from somewhere. It will come from increased fees for students. Faculty and staff may not be hired and won't receive the money needed to attract and keep them here. We allegedly have some of the brightest minds in the country here. Perhaps they should concentrate on how to solve Stony Brook's problems as the decline of

"When about sixty students are staffing three papers, that would suggest that apathy is widespread..."

presented an excellent viewpoint in the November 16th issue of *Statesman* on methods possible. Barnes & Noble obviously started getting nervous, as evidenced in the 2/22/88 issue of *Campus Currents*. The bookstore will be providing 100% of required books, increasing the number of used books along with discounting many books by 10%. Part of the reason given was to prevent students from going off-campus to get books. This is a good move if discounting measures and increases in used books really occur. However, off-campus bookstores should still be used by professors, since they are financially competitive with the campus bookstore. The competition from off-campus has prevented a monopoly and has evidently forced Barnes & Noble to make some cost cuts to prevent further pressure. Imagine what would happen if some campus organization (Entrepreneur Club?) started printing and selling t-shirts and the like with the Stony Brook logo? Unfortunately, the SB logo is licensed strictly to B&N.

Point 2 said that Stony Brook should come up with faculty advisors for students instead of the more general ways of prime-time and the advising center. Under Aldona Jonaitis, an advising program was set up for a number of freshmen that will include a University 101 course to orient new students. It will be interesting to see how the results are at the end of the year and if it will be expanded.

Point 3 questioned why commuters are the forgotten people here at Stony Brook and why certain things like opening the Administration building at night for registration couldn't be done. I was happy to see when I stopped by Stony Brook in the middle of February that the offices I wanted open were opened as an experiment. I hope that both commuters and residents used them enough during registration to continue this and perhaps expand the days it occurs. I know I'd rather come at 6pm and face a short line than try to get everything done in the daytime before I go to work.

Point 4 suggested that co-op programs be established for both Harriman and the engineering schools. This is still waiting on action, although I consider the Harriman Cafe a step in the right direction.

staffs of the major campus publications. When about sixty students are staffing three papers, that would suggest apathy is widespread. To those of you who don't like what is published in the campus papers, write something you think should be in there. To paraphrase Brad Jones' slogan from last spring, "If you don't write, don't bitch."

The education program (Point 7) is still lacking a bit and it is unlikely that it will ever be expanded. I wonder why some departments allow teaching candidates to get a 5-year combined program, whereas others do not. So much for Ward Melville's legacy.

Point 8 wondered why the University hasn't taken steps to attract more people from out of state. If Stony Brook is the fantastic school that everyone says it is, why do we get more people from out of the country than out of the state? The National Student Exchange is one way of getting more national interaction; I will again bring up my proposal which I brought up last April. Offer academic scholarships to qualified, talented, out-of-state residents which would eliminate the difference between in-state and out-of-state costs. With the University lowering standards more and more to attract students, it seems that a program like this,

"If nothing is done about the money soon, what happens when the campus really starts to deteriorate..."

which some other schools (i.e. Kent State) offer, would be worth the effort to bring in the talented people Stony Brook is starting to have more and more trouble attracting.

Point 9 dealt with the obscurity of the Religious Studies department and my not liking the move of the department to Old Chemistry next to the Grad Student Lounge. On the other hand, moving the spiritual next to the spirits hasn't been a bad idea, and I'm slowly working on a Religious Studies minor.

Point 10 merely stated that the administration act in a

the University may hit them harder than they think. Research programs would have to be cut back if it means making sure students and buildings aren't damaged by rain from leaky roofs.

Our President says Stony Brook has become the most famous SUNY campus. But for what reasons? It would be rather ironic if a major research university couldn't solve its own problems.

[Editor's Note: a limited number of the April 20, 1987 issue of the *Press* is available at the *Press* offices.]



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UPCOMING CONCERTS

<p>Thursday, April 7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Blind From Wild Turkey</i> at the GSL <p>Friday, April 8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Tequila Monsters</i> at the Checkmate ● <i>3 (featuring Keith Emerson and Carl Palmer)</i> at Sundance —and April 14 ● <i>Ahmad Jamal</i> at the Jazzport —and April 9 ● <i>Eddie Kirkland</i> at Tramps —and April 9 ● <i>Screaming Blue Messiahs</i> at the Ritz ● <i>Ziggy Marley and the Melody Makers</i> at Roseland 	<p>Saturday, April 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Asleep at the Wheel</i> at the Lone Star ● <i>Astrud Gilberto</i> at IMAC ● <i>Feds</i> at Sparks ● <i>Gaye Bikers on Acid/Pop Will Eat Itself</i> at the Ritz <p>Friday, April 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Billy Bragg</i> at Roseland ● <i>Day 4 Nite</i> at February's —and April 16 ● <i>Phil Woods</i> at the Jazzport —and April 16 <p>Monday, April 18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>The Alarm</i> at the Adelphi Calderone 	<p><i>Love and Rockets/Mighty Lemon Drops</i> at Roseland</p> <p>Tuesday, April 19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Max Roach</i> at the Blue Note —through April 24 <p>Friday, April 22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Betty Carter</i> at the Jazzport —and April 23 ● <i>Peter Murphy</i> at the Ritz <p>Tuesday, April 26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Pete Seeger and Arlo Guthrie</i> at Westbury Music Fair ● <i>Sarah Vaughan</i> at the Blue Note —through May 1
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CLUB INFORMATION

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Blue Note (212) 475-8592 181 W. 3rd St. □ Bottom Line (212) 228-7880 15 W. 4th at Mercer □ February's (516) 354-9274 1325 Hempstead Tpke, Elmont □ Hofstra (516) 560-6967 Hempstead Tpke, Uniondale □ IMAC (516) 549-9666 370 New York Ave., Huntington □ Lone Star Cafe (212) 242-1664 5th Ave. and 13th □ Mad. Sq. Garden (212) 564-4400 34th St. @ Penn Station 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The Ritz (212) 529-5295 11th St. between 3rd and 4th □ Roseland (212) 247-0200 239 W. 52nd St. □ Sparks (516) 351-8828 134 E. Main St., 1 mile east of Route 110, Farmingdale □ Sundance (516) 665-2121 217 E. Main St., Bayshore □ Tramps (212) 777-5077 125 E. 15th St. □ Westbury Music Fair (516) 333-0533 Brush Hollow Road, Westbury
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Vibrations

by Alexandra Odulak

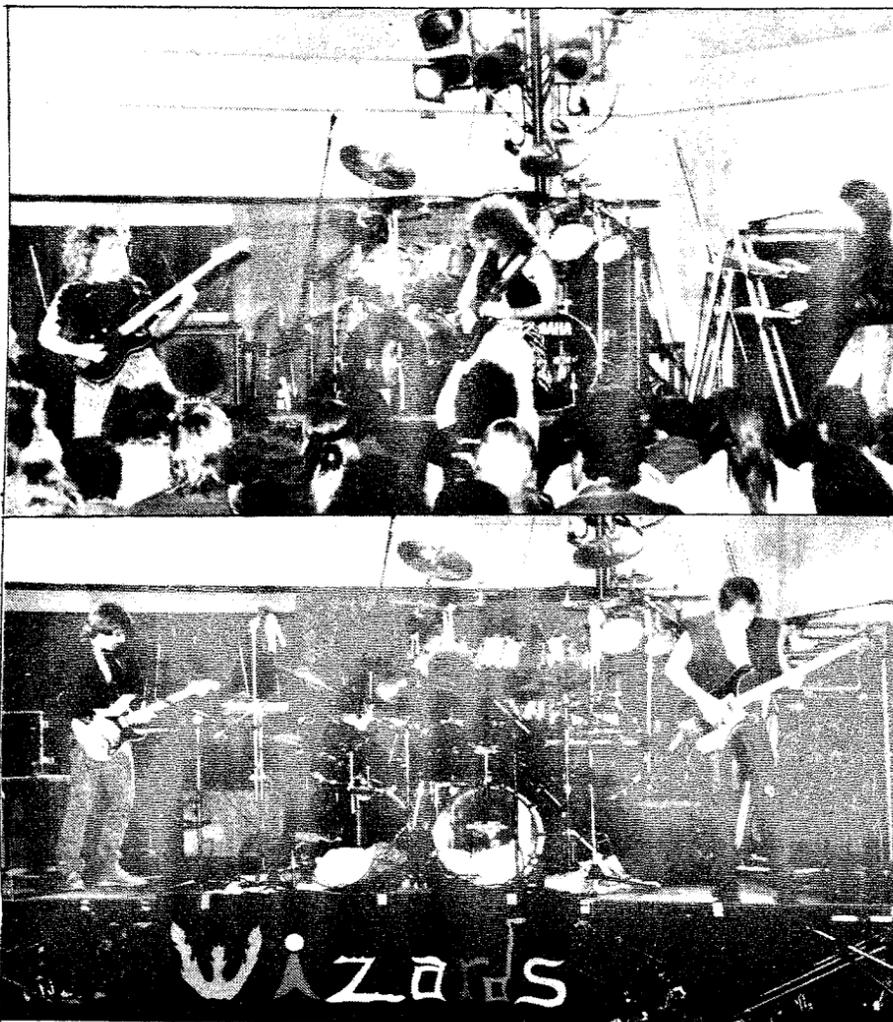
Last Tuesday, Concerts 101 hosted two heavy metal bands in the Union Ballroom, Wizards and Marchello. Wizards, who opened up for Marchello at about 10:30 consisted of three members: a singer-drummer, guitarist, and bassist. As for their performance, they were mediocre. The band not only lacked originality, but style, and most of all, stage presence. The drummer was the loudest and most energetic in getting the crowd (rather, lack of crowd) going, which numbered no more than 100 people. There wasn't anyone for the bands to play for except Concerts 101, Scoop AV, and me. No one was dancing, getting into the music, or having a good time.

The singer-drummer pounded away on his set, screaming so violently you couldn't understand what he was singing. The guitarist had a few solos here and there, but his playing would have been better had he copied old guitar riffs, for his original solos were simple enough for a first year guitar player. Oh, the bassist, yeah, he was there too, I think. The only interesting part of the show was the little wind chimes the drummer tapped after each song. Or was that just so we knew when to clap?

The only lively member was the drummer. While confined to his seat he attempted to get the audience up. At one point he was yelling, "Get up, this is for America!", which sounded ridiculous to the apathetic audience, for they kept to their seats just the same. Bravo for his attempt, though. Perhaps it would have been more appropriate if the other two band members showed some enthusiasm, if only to radiate it into the audience. When Wizards finished playing nobody seemed to care, especially themselves. Intermission time.

Marchello started playing a little before midnight and was definitely tighter, more energetic and had some sort of stage presence. The guitarist, Gene Marchello, Peppi

Monster Metal



Marchello's son (originally of the Good Rats—a popular band in the '70s) and the bassist jumped around the stage. Both were clad in colorful clothing, tight pants, and looked like they were having a great time. They also didn't let the small audience get them down for it seemed that they played the same as they would have for a larger audience.

Marchello was pretty good, *really*. The guitarist had some interesting solos and a decent voice, but it wasn't exceptional. Marchello doesn't sound like anything that hasn't already been done before, and done better. The drummer had his solo too where he proceeded to bang the crap out of his drums; big deal. These guys didn't do anything new; an exciting show, but no more. People actually moved up to the stage and even started dancing.

Meanwhile, Peppi Marchello hadn't made his appearance yet! Alas, he arrived on stage at about 12:30 and almost felt bad about interrupting, but he had to play at least two songs: that was the contract. Peppi, however, only sang, while the band continued their gig. He was dancing around the stage, giving an energetic performance. When he wasn't singing he sauntered off into the background as if not to detract attention from the band. Makes you wonder, did he do the whole thing for his son's debut? What people wanted to hear was Peppi Marchello, not his son. Dad got the contract, and Gene got to play!

By the end of the concert, the band was still energetic, and the die-hards, about thirty of them, were still dancing and having a good time. What Marchello needed was something other than bang-your-head music that you can get from better bands such as Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, and Led Zeppelin. Those bands were the innovators, Marchello is just a generic version of hard rock. I came home, listened to some Iron Butterfly, and was happy to find out I even made it home for the Honeymooners.

Celluloid

Weak Blow, Dead Mom Jay McInerney's Novel On Screen

by John Gabriel

Bright Lights, Big City, based on the novel by Jay McInerney and starring Michael J Fox, shows something you'll never see on Family Ties: Alex Keaton hoovering coke. This is the movie of the book that started the whole trend of novels by young writers about yuppies who do drugs and engage in a lot of casual sex. The book is different from the others, first, in that it was first, and second, in that it was good (comparatively speaking). The story is about a facts editor for a high-tone magazine who loses his wife, does too much coke, loses his job, and thinks about his dead mom a lot. It was smartly written, fast and funny, with a wise-crack energy, and if you didn't exactly buy the part about the dead mom, you could empathize with the narrator when, at the end of a long night looking for the right girl in the wrong bar, he realizes he's "all messed up with no place to go."

Michael J Fox, as Jamie (known as "you" in the novel), almost provides the same kind of empathetic narrator McInerney gave us in the novel. He looks too young for the part, but that's good because his character is always in the kind of situation that makes someone feel too young anyway. Unfortunately, McInerney's script lacks the energy



of the novel, and James Bridges' direction is lackadaisical and derivative (if you go to see this—and there's no real reason why you should, but if you do—check out the first shot of Jamie's bedroom. Kind of looks like something you might have seen in *The Shining*, doesn't it?).

Fox, who can't act, also suffers from the unique disability of being saddled with two

supporting actors who can, Kiefer Sutherland and Swoosie Kurtz. Unique, in that a good supporting actor can usually make the lead look better, but Fox sometimes looks as if he's thinking, "Jesus, how can I keep up with this?"

Sutherland especially may become one of those actors who, like Christine Lahti, gathers raves for stealing the show and provi-

ding something interesting to watch in an otherwise dull film. Here, he manages to pull off the feat of making a sleaze bag not just appealing—anyone who's not ugly can do that—but human and compassionate. There's a scene where the phone rings in Jamie's apartment. Sutherland picks it up and tells Jamie it's his brother. Fox says, "Tell him I'm not here," and he does, but he looks as if he would really like to know why and you can tell why Jamie would want him for a friend: in an irresponsible sort of way, he cares.

The film can bog down when Sutherland's not there. Phoebe Cates walks around looking like a dumb model, which is what her character is, but it would have been nice if she tried *acting* like one, and Diane Wiest is a wasted talent as the dead mom. Yeah, you guessed it, there's a lot of flashbacks to the dead mom's final days, and while we're on the subject of things you're gonna guess, there's also a girl you know has got to be nice because Jamie decides not to sniff coke while he's out with her, and there's also a pretty stupid sub-metaphor involving Coma Babies and the NY Post. In other words, you would probably get more enjoyment out of the half line of rat poison and B-complex five bucks will buy instead of spending it on **Bright Lights, Big City**.