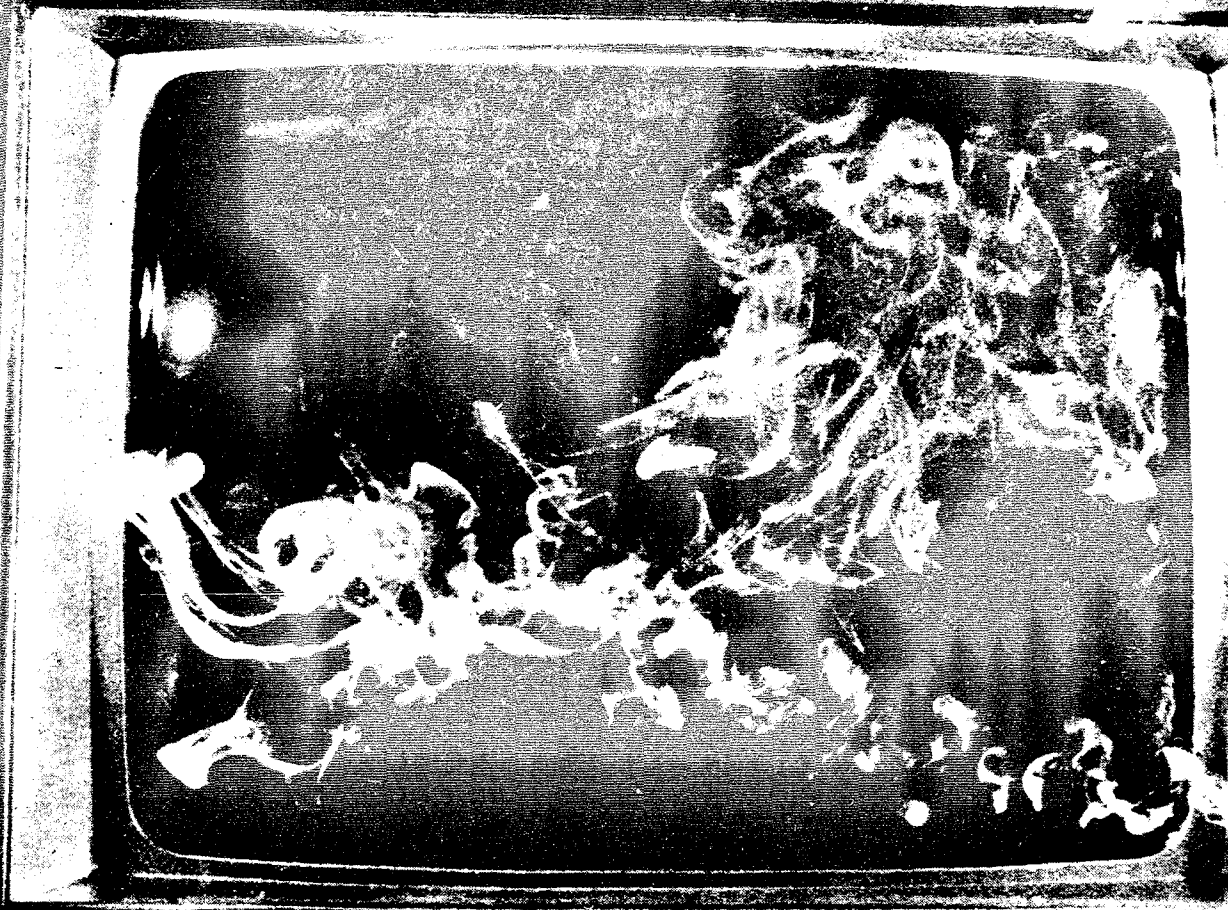
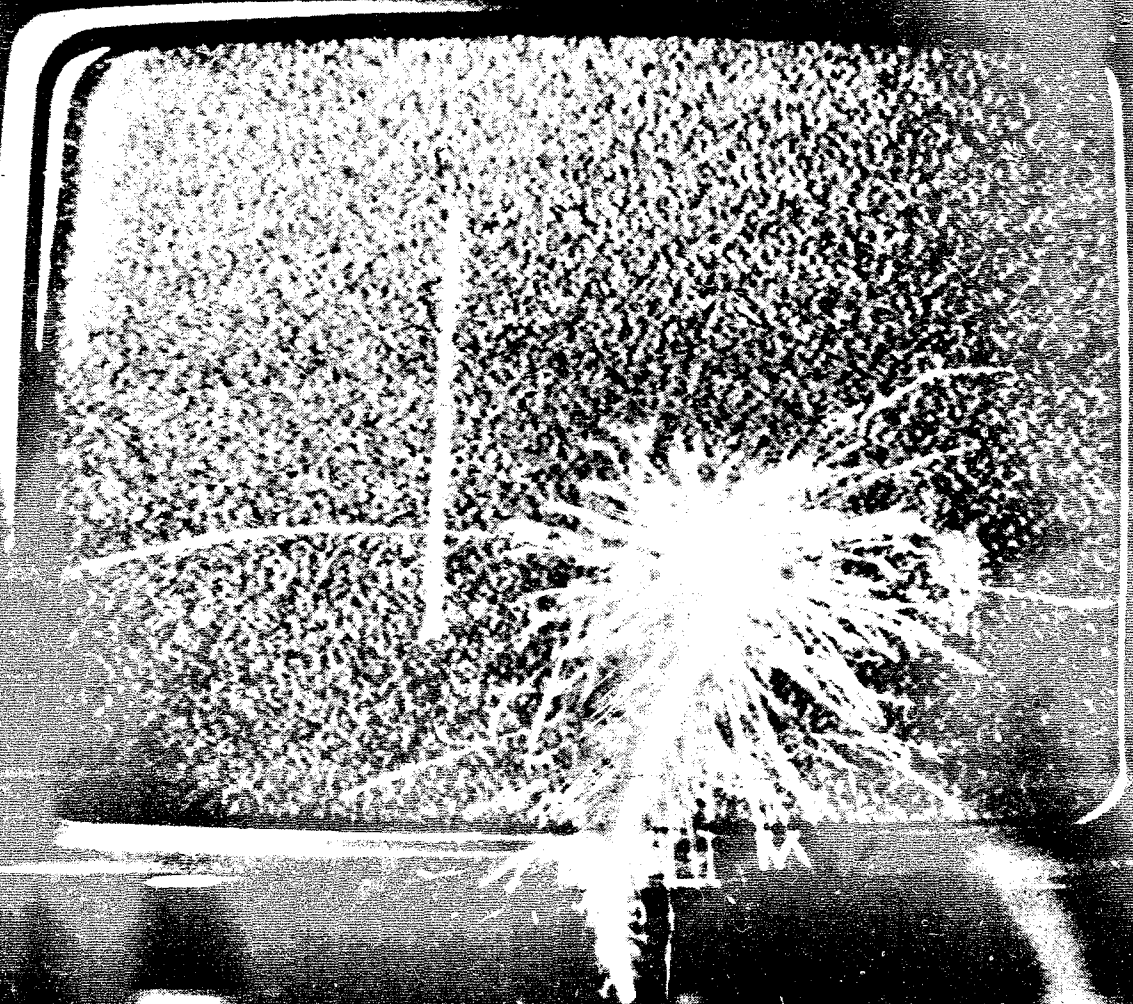


THE
STONY
BROOK

PRESS

Vol. 12, No. 1 • University Community's Feature Paper • February 26, 1990



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

After an immensely restful vacation, Stony Brook students have returned to school to find one more present that was just too dang big to put under the old Xmas tree. Tie a red plastic ribbon round that old Student Union, c'mon everybody sing along. Yes it's true. If you haven't noticed, the powers that be have chosen to affix to our beloved student union an immense red ribbon above the front entrance, in celebration of that edifice's twentieth birthday. All things considered this act is rather absurd. Both new students and veterans should be disappointed after they tear off that ribbon and examine their present. The student union is far below par of those at other schools, yes we mean other state not private schools. Some steps have been made to improve the union, most notably the newly refurbished End of the Bridge and the renovation of the Student Union arcade. Whoopee!! Although these measures are a great start much more could be done.

In response to a brand spanking new New York State law, the indoor clean air act, the university has restricted smoking in the student union. The fireside lounge is now off limits to smokers of demon nicotine, although many young fiends deliberately ignore this policy. Smokers are now relegated into a few areas in the building, the largest of these being the ledge which overlooks the former smoking fireside lounge.

Perhaps instead of spending so much money upon celebrating the union's birthday they should focus their attention on present problems. Both smoking and nonsmoking students should have equal seating in the union's lounge areas. The money allotted the Department of Student Union and Activities would

do better to spend funds to restore accommodations for smokers that were available last year instead of curtailing their rights to indulge in that foulness known as tobacco. In any event regardless of the new smoking regulation the smokers' lounge, ahem exsmokers' lounge is in dire need of new furniture.

It is also ironic that the Student Union is celebrating its twentieth birthday when it will scarcely be around for another twenty years. Under the university's proposed master plan Central Hall will become the new student center, and the old union will be used for student services, such as billing and registration. This is all well and good considering that the union lies out of reach for some of the less adventurous students (read lazy) who live in Kelly and dread the trek to campus. In any event the union is used primarily by commuters and resident of G and H quads.

The whole idea of celebrating the Student Union's twentieth birthday is indicative of a much larger problem at Stony Brook. Often it seems that the folks upstairs lose sight of immediate needs, instead focussing energy and resources on self congratulatory gestures and long term goals while neglecting immediate and absolute necessities. Sure the university could use a new athletic center, CATV, and while we're at why not installa jacuzzi in every suite room.

What's at issue here is simple; priorities. The sole focus of an institution of higher learning should be just that, especially if the institution is a public university. In light of the advent of Governor Cuomo's by now annual budget cuts to SUNY (see related story on page 3) the university's most recent

expenditures can only be viewed as a frivolous waste of resources. Wishing the university hospital and student union a happy birthday when both stand in need of serious improvement is an insult to the student body. Under this year's budget much needed repairs to the hospital have been delayed.

SUNY must continue to remain accessible to all students across the fiscal spectrum. Surely those who run this university must by now expect Cuomo's budget cuts and should by now allow for them. Several research programs have been eliminated from the campus this year as a result of drastic budget cuts, most notably the lyme disease research program. With this being the trend, it seems its only a matter of time before it behooves the university to begin cutting academic programs. Is that what it will take to make students realize that SUNY is on the decline in accessibility, affordability, and diversity of programs; one would hope not.

Governor Cuomo consistently promises to maintain "baseline quality" at SUNY when budget time comes around. What this simply means is that the level of quality will remain the same, and will not decrease. Well, that's just dandy, but frankly the level of quality at Stony Brook leaves something to be desired. So the next time you're sitting in the union on one of those lovely wrought iron benches thinking about a cigarette or a good meal why not think about what you can do as a voting citizen to improve your quality of life at Stony Brook. We can only hope that when Mario's number comes up, we all do the right thing, and perhaps SUNY can take a turn for the better instead of maintaining "baseline quality," i.e. stagnating.

The Stony Brook Press

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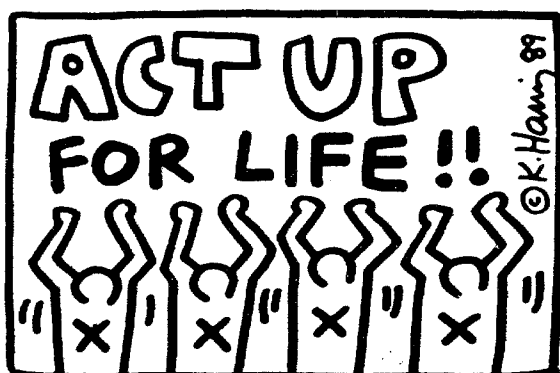
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AIDS IS

Our government continues to ignore the lives, deaths, and suffering of people with HIV infection because they are gay people of color, women or poor. On Friday, February 16, Keith Haring 31, died. Keith is just one of over 72,000 reported people who have died of AIDS already. Take direct action now. Fight back. Fight AIDS.

GENOCIDE



Budget Blues

by Drew E. Mitty

For the People who regularly frequented the Graduate Student Lounge before its abrupt closing in the spring of '89 the delay in creating an alternative drinking establishment to the EOB has been a great disappointment.

In anticipation of a demand for replacing the former Old Chemistry Building hang-out, student leaders and administrators formed an Executive Committee this past fall consisting of Ira Persky, Executive Director of FSA; Dr. Ben Walcott, Associate Professor; Mike McKinney of the GSO; and Michael Lapushner, Polity Senator. McKinney has since been replaced by GSO Vice President Peter Kortright.

This past January, both President Marburger and the Provost's Office approved the general plan of another venue that would serve alcohol on campus. In a nutshell, the establishment was tentatively named "The Alternative" which would be built on the second floor of Central Hall, in a 1240 sq. ft. area. Currently, the site remains an unrenovated chemistry lab space.

Dr. Walcott foresees the facility as serving a dual purpose. During the day, "The Alternative" would be a coffee shop; in the

evening it would be converted to a bar featuring nightly musical entertainment. "I don't see any reason why the coffee shop can't make out like a flying bandit. But we've got to get to work. In my role as facilitator, I don't see the renovations as overly difficult, we just have to make the Central Hall area functional."

Nevertheless, Walcott is acutely aware of the potential problems and expenses that could accompany building such a facility. "You have to understand that the FSA lost money on the GSL. We had real problems with non-students from off campus creating disturbances, mainly rowdiness. Also, the equipment for serving beer is expensive. Lots of decisions have to be made about labor, management, and inventory. Because the first hint of a problem, the University will shut it down so fast you won't even see it go."

At this juncture, the Faculty Student Association is now faced with the task of organizing a cooperative sharing agreement as to how the initial expenses of "The Alternative" will be financed. FSA is responsible for selecting the architect and contractor for the facility, as well as managing the operation. Walcott expressly stated that the University will not fully

subsidize the project; However, he did estimate the construction costs and architect's fees as being in the neighborhood of \$35,000. As to the lack of tangible progress in building the "Alternative," GSO vice president Peter Kortright offered "What's holding up things now is the construction problems, primarily cost. We (the GSO) have no problem with Administration. Everything now is entirely up to FSA."

Nonetheless, Dr. Walcott envisions the leadership role for speeding the project along as being best filled by Polity because the demand for the "Alternative" is greatest among the undergraduate students. Walcott urges Polity to improve their communication with members of the Administration and FSA. FSA Executive Director Ira Persky maintains that a different atmosphere from the GSL is a necessary prerequisite to the success of the "Alternative". "The Alternative needs to have a mellower, more contained setting. A campus bar has to be self-supporting because we'll initially lose money trying to cover construction costs." Persky estimated that the figure would be \$333,000 give or take 25% construction and demolition fees.

Persky also cited that a manager with considerable experience in the food and

beverage industry would be essential. "The Alternative must be run in a professional manner. It can't be a loose, disorganized operation. There are some issues that have to be ironed out like hours of operation, renovating the lab in an attractive way, and types of food and drinks to be served." Both Walcott and Persky concurred that the alcohol selection should be limited to canned beer and caraffes of wine.

Overall, student response to the alternative drinking establishment has been quite positive. Junior Andrew Cupit, a Kelly resident, stated that, "The new location (Central Hall) would be closer to where I live. It's also good to have options to the Bridge. The atmosphere there is too much like a pickup joint, it should have a friendlier atmosphere." Senior Ivy Well commented that, "We need a place for older students to let their hair down. I'm curious to know if there'll be DJ's or Bands."

Although the construction of the "Alternative" will not be easily accomplished without future deliberation between FSA, the GSO, and Polity; Students and administrators alike are hopeful that the "Alternative" can be in full operation during this spring semester.

Alternative

by Drew E. Mitty

As the University faces a tighter budget due to state ordered to state ordered education cuts, the polity senate grappled with several quality of life issues on campus.

Treasurer Rachael Boatwain cited excessive waste of funds on the part of dorm legislatures as the primary cause of indigent clubs, including the Student Activities Board and the Specula Yearbook. "Ledges get too much money and usually end up wasting it on bagels and donuts. S.A.B. needs more money to produce better events, and buy chairs for the new fieldhouse when the seating is expanded. We have the power to change things with the preliminary budget coming up to the university senate soon."

In surveying the financial difficulties encountered by Specula, Polity Vice President Dan Slepian suggested that a referendum be called this spring to add \$2 to the student activity to help Specula continue its publication. Currently, Specula is \$23,000 in debt to its publisher which must be paid by this March. Specula would have to pay this debt with its allotted Polity funds for the upcoming yearbook leaving them completely insolvent. Slepian hopes to add \$20,000 to the Polity budget this Fall which could remedy some of this organization's financial woes.

Because of the financial strain put on the SUNY system, the New York State Legislature has mandated all student activity monies be transferred into IFR State accounts. Ultimately, student groups could lose control of how activity fees would be distributed, clearly making Polity impotent in its ability to address undergraduate student concerns.

According to Norm Goodman, President of the Faculty Senate, the communication barrier between Administration and Polity is a priority issue that deserves immediate attention. For this purpose, several polity senators will meet with Goodman to discuss improving the rapport between students and administrators.

For dormitory residents, the problem of finding quarters to do laundry could be resolved by the end of this spring semester. Ira Persky, Executive Director of F.S.A., has proposed the implementation of change machines in different locations throughout campus. At this time, only the Union Arcade and the Library Copy Center have change machines. Senator Alison Wilson suggested the machines be placed within the various quad offices to simplify the procedure.

Dormitory residents will also be affected by the upcoming referendum regarding the boycott of Coca-Cola machines on the Stony Brook campus. As part of the preliminary stage for students to better familiarize themselves with the political ramifications of the Coke issue, Arthur Serota, head of The Learning Tree in Boston, will speak on campus February 26th at 7:30 in the Union. Serota, a former resident of Zimbabwe is a proponent of the boycott that opposes Coca-Cola's longstanding investments in South Africa.

Basil Muil, a member of the Polity Academic Affairs Committee, urged students to get involved with University Senate meetings and voice their opinions on pertinent campus related issues. "We need bodies to get to these Senate meetings and make our presence felt. The University Senate decides important issues that really affect us like department budget cuts, alcohol policies, and the Core Curriculum."

The Polity Executive Committee named Lorelei Appel as acting secretary following the resignation of Michele Brash. Elections for Fall semester's new officers will be conducted on Tuesday, March 20th, with a run-off on Tuesday, March 27th. The referendum on the Coke machine issue as well as elections for the Student Judiciary will be held on Tuesday, the 20th.

President Marburger will speak to Polity on Wednesday, March 7th on a host of issues, and will hold a lengthy question and answer period afterwards. All students are encouraged to attend.

ROTC Out

by James F. Barna

Student activism again showed itself in force at Stony Brook on Friday February 16. At around 1 pm some fifty members of the activist community waged a sit in at the Union to protest Army ROTC recruitment that was taking place there.

The activists gathered around a coffin emblazoned with the Salvadorian death toll due to American military intervention. On the wall behind the ROTC table, the protesters hung a sign that read,

continued. One uniformed Marine, responding to the protestor's taunts was heard to yell, "See this (pointing to his uniform) this gives me the right to walk anywhere in the United States I want to."

One voice of reason was George Carter, the Cadet Commander of the Suffolk County Army ROTC, who while stressing that he was only speaking for himself said; "ROTC is an equal opportunity employer. While some of the military policies in Latin America are unfortunate, the American

Homosexuals need not apply

"Homosexuals need not apply, not an equal opportunity institution. Be all you can be, work for peace."

As the protest continued cheers of, "ROTC out! ROTC out!" grew louder and harsher. The protestors looked confident, assured in the virtue of their actions.

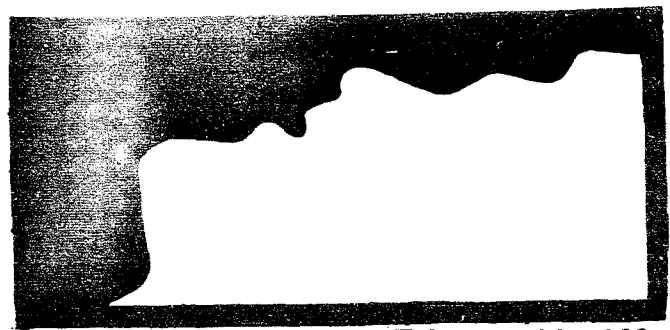
the recruiters, consisting of one Army captain, one ROTC cadet and two Marines; seemed uncomfortable, ill at ease with the activists protesting their presence.

Tensions began to flare as the protest

military is a necessary organization."

Todd Weisse of Act-Up Long Island had this to say about the reason behind the protest, "Just as the armed forces would not let peace recruiters come to one of their recruiting stations, we won't let them recruit here."

Tim Dubnau, one of the protest's leaders added this, "We recruited about fifty signatures for peace. They recruited no one."



SUNY Budget Cut Again

by Robert V. Gilheany

SUNY got hit hard by Cuomo's 1990 budget, hundreds of millions of dollars have been slashed from the state wide budget. This action is a response to shortfalls in the state budget due to declining federal support to states and localities. The federal cutbacks have led to a rise in local taxes and cutbacks across the country.

The cutbacks in SUNY have hit Stony Brook particularly hard. Gone are the Center For Regional Policy Studies, Lyme disease research, and planned repairs to University Hospital, to the tune of seventeen million dollars. The Center for Regional Policy Studies is important to Long Island, it deals with the problems of our declining economy and how to adjust to the decline in defense related jobs on the island as well as studying ways to manage our other problems. Lyme disease research is also important to Long Island because of its frequency. This research has also been cut under the 1990 budget.

Governor Cuomo has a long history of cutting SUNY's budget. SASU (Student Association of the State University) president Judith Krebs said, "Cuts this year are not nearly as bad as the cuts last year." She went on to say that last year students went to Albany on the Save Suny campaign. The students across the state and in the CUNY system physically closed

down campus administration buildings to protest tuition hikes.

When asked about the prudence of using tuition hikes to fund the SUNY system Krebs replied, "That would only limit enrollment to those who can afford the hike."

She went on to say that the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation would not provide increased financial aid to make up for any tuition hikes. Krebs

continued, "The republican state senate refused to defer the tax cut that would provide the much needed revenue for the state."

Krebs pointed out that when Cuomo took office SUNY was the fastest growing industry in upstate New York. Now it is no longer the case; prisons have surpassed SUNY in that honor.

Krebs pointed out that the governor removed two million from the budget

comprised of a cut to student support funds, a five percent work study cut, and no increases in child care. Stony Brook graduate student Sandra Hinson said, "There is no more money to finance our deficit, our deficit is now doubled."

Tuition scholarships for graduate students are being cut back according to Hinson who stated that, "Possible support lines will be cut." That will affect teaching assistants who teach many undergraduate courses here at Stony Brook and conduct research. With the budget cuts Stony Brook's reputation as a research center is in decline.

On the day care issue Hinson said that the day care center gets no money from the state, "The day care center operates internally."

She said that increased fees will probably be imposed on undergraduates due to the budget. She stated, "Not only will undergrads suffer from less T.A.s but they will also have to pay higher parking fees."

Fighting the cutbacks in SUNY will also make it harder for graduate students to receive health care benefits. The health insurance initiative is now in the state legislature. It is one of the most important issues for the Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU); a union that the state refuses to recognize.



New Buses

by John Dunn

Help is on the way for Stony Brook's beleaguered commuting students in the form of new busses. According to Hugh Mulligan, Acting Director of the newly-created Department of Parking and Transportation Services, as many as twelve new buses will be arriving in the next few years.

"We're hoping for the six this fiscal year and six the next," Mulligan said. The bids for the busses are to be submitted by February 26. Mulligan expects a decision to be made in March on the contract winner.



Image: Rachel Elkind
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The new busses, which would seat twenty four, would feature double doors and air conditioning. Mulligan hopes that the first bus would arrive by May with a total of four arriving before next semester. The other two would arrive during the semester.

"The first assignments will be the locals and hospital shuttle service, but they'll see time on the commuter run as well," Mulligan said. The arrival of new busses will allow service to be increased this fall. "The frequency of locals will be doubled and service will be extended to midnight. In addition a bus will be kept on the commuter run, and will be extended until 11 p.m."

The big surprise is that the University will be hiring students as drivers, an idea that has been discussed for years at Stony Brook. "We will be training approximately forty students to be bus drivers," said Mulligan. "Students will be paid both during their classroom and road training." After twenty hours of classroom and twenty hours of road training, students would be eligible for a class 2 license, permitting them to drive the busses. The union that represents current drivers has agreed with the plan. The student drivers will augment rather than replace current drivers.

One thing that the new busses will need is a paint scheme. Anyone in the university community with ideas can submit them either to Hugh Mulligan or the Press.

LIRR Fines

by Elizabeth Ard

Fares on the LIRR increased an average of fifteen percent on January 1. The railroad expects the increase, the first since January of 1986, to generate an extra \$32 million in revenues. With the increase, expected revenues for the year are \$303 million.

For passengers traveling to Manhattan from Zone 11 (St. James, Stony Brook and Port Jefferson), the monthly fare increased from \$164 to \$193. One-way peak tickets increased from \$8.50 to \$9.75 while one-way off-peak fares rose from \$5.75 to \$6.75.

The penalty fare assessed to riders who purchase tickets on board when the station is open rose from \$1 to \$2. The increase is designed to further encourage passengers to purchase tickets in advance so as to speed on-train fare collection.

Two new fares will be introduced April 1. One is an annual commutative subscription for Mail & Ride customers. Those paying by check will save four percent a year while credit card users will enjoy a two percent discount.

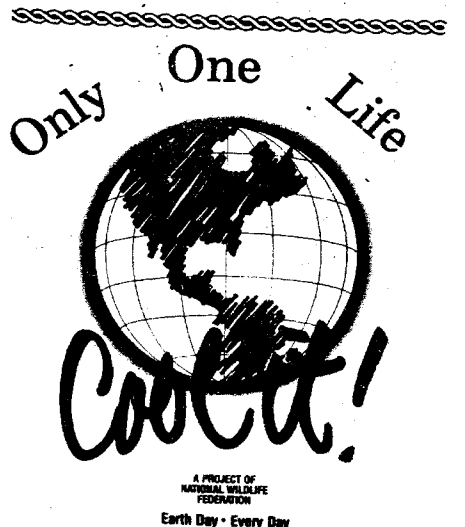
The other new fare is a family fare. Up to two children between the ages of five and eleven, accompanied by a fare paying adult over 18, can ride off-peak trains for fifty cents each. The fare is designed to make the railroad more attractive and a cost effective alternative to the family car.

As an alternative to the train, a private bus company has expanded its service. Hampton Express introduced service from various points in Suffolk County to New York City, including express service from

the Ronkoma railroad station.

In addition, Hampton Express started regularly scheduled service between the University, the LIRR Ronkonkoma station and MacArthur Airport. The new route, which began January 16, runs from 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. to Ronkonkoma and 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. from Ronkonkoma. Service runs every half hour from North and South P Lots and hourly from the Hospital.

Students can take advantage of special discount rates. With a students i.d. card, service to Ronkoma costs \$2. For all other passengers, it's \$3 to the railroad station and \$6 to the airport.



Only One

Violence and Crime in the Black Community

Part I of A Two Part Series

by Manning Marable

Violence in the African-American community has become an epidemic, which no longer shocks or surprises us. Year after year, the carnage and terror become worse. Last year, 433 killings occurred in Washington, D.C. alone, up from 369 murders in 1988. Over 1800 were killed in New York City. New Orleans, Philadelphia, Charlotte, Kansas City and other cities broke their records for homicides.

To understand the impact and devastation of violence within the African-American community, we need to review some basic facts. Violent crime, or aggressive offenses which do violence to human beings, consists of homicide, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes, or the unlawful seizure of other's property, include burglary, larceny, arson, and motor vehicle theft. There are many other types of offenses which are defined as criminal behavior — including vagrancy, public drunkenness, illegal gambling, prostitution and embezzlement — but the most devastating types of crimes are those in which violence is committed directly against individuals, or in which a person's property is seized by force.

According to the Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics for 1981, the total number of Americans arrested was nearly 9.5 million. Blacks comprise only 12.5 percent of the total US population, but represented 2.3 million arrests, or about one fourth of all arrests. Black arrests for homicide and non negligent manslaughter were 8,693, or about 48% of all murders committed in the US. For robbery, which is defined by law as the use of force or violence to obtain personal property, the number of Black arrests was 74,275, representing 57% of all robbery arrests. For aggravated assault, the number of African-Americans arrested was 94,624, about 29% of all arrests in this category. For motor vehicle theft, the number of Blacks arrested and charged was 38,905, about 27% of all auto theft charges. Overall for all violent and property crimes charged, Blacks totaled almost 700,000 arrests in the year 1979, representing nearly one third of all such crimes.

One of the most controversial of all violent crimes is the charge of forcible rape. Rape is controversial because of the history of the criminal charge being used against Black men by the white racist legal structure. Thousands of Black men have been executed, lynched, and castrated for the im-

aginary offense of rape.

Yet rape or forcible sexual violence is not imaginary when African-American women and young girls are victimized. In 1979, there were 29,068 arrests for forcible rape. Black men comprised 13,870 arrests, or 48% of the total. Within cities, where three fourths of all rapes are committed, Blacks total 54% of all persons arrested for rape.

The chief victims of rape are not white women, but Black women. The US Department of Justice's 1979 study of the crime of forcible rape established that overall, most Black women are nearly twice as likely to be rape victims than are white women. The research illustrated that in one year, about 67 out of ever 100,000 white women would be rape victims; but the rate for Black and other nonwhite women was 115 per 100,000. In the age group 20 to 34 years, the

"In the 1990's more black men will kill each other than the total number of American troops killed in the Vietnam War."

dangers for Black women increase dramatically. For white women age 20 to 34, 139 out of 100,000 are rape victims annually. For Black women the same age, the rate is 292 per 100,000. For attempted rape, white women are assaulted at a rate of 196 per 100,000; Black women are attacked sexually 355 per 100,000 annually.

There is also a direct correlation between rape victimization and income. In general, poor women are generally the objects of sexual assault; middle class women are rarely raped or assaulted, and wealthy women almost never experience sexual assault. The statistics are clear on this point. White women who live in families earning under \$7,500 annually have 500 percent greater likelihood of being raped than white women who come from households with more than \$15,000 income. The gap is even more

extreme for African-American women. For Black middle class families, the rate of rape is 22 per 100,000. For welfare and low income families earning below \$7,500 annually, the rate for rape is 127 per 100,000. For attempted rape, low income Black women are victimized at a rate of 237 per 100,000 annually.

Rape is almost always intraracial, not interracial. Nine out of ten times, a white rapist's victims is a white female. Ninety percent of all Black women who are raped have been assaulted by a Black male. Sexual violence within the African-American community, therefore, is not something 'exported' by whites. It is essentially the brutality committed by Black men against our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters. It is the worst type of violence, using the gift of sexuality in a bestial and animalistic way, to create terror and fear among Black women.

The form of violence which most directly impacts Black men is homicide. Nearly half of all murders committed in any given year are Black men who murder other Black men. But that's only part of the problem. We must recognize, first, that the homicide rate among African-Americans is growing. Back in 1960, the homicide rate of Black men in the US was 37 per 100,000. By 1979, the Black homicide rate was 65 per 100,000, compared to the white male homicide rate of 10 per 100,000. In other words, a typical Black male has a six to seven times greater likelihood of being a murder victim than a white male.

The chief victim of homicide in our community are young African-American males. Murder is the fourth leading cause of death for all Black men, and the leading cause of death for Black males ages 20 to 29 years. In the 1990's, more Black men will kill each other than the total number of American troops killed during the Vietnam war. Today in the US, a typical white female's statistical chances of becoming a murder victim are one in 606. For white men, the odds narrow to one chance in 186. For black women, the odds are one in 124. But for Black men, the chances are one in twenty-nine. For young Black men living in cities who are between age 20 to 29, the odds of becoming a murder victim are less than one in twenty. Black young men in American cities today are the primary targets for destruction — not only from drugs and police brutality, but from each other.

Blind Justice

by Joe DiStefano

Over this intercession I had the distinct privilege of journeying to our state capital and learning just how our state legislature works, and more importantly how it *doesn't* work. Around one hundred and fifty concerned students and NYPIRG board members attended their annual legislative conference in Albany on the weekend of January 12. They came to learn how to lobby more effectively, and also to learn about the dynamics of the state legislature and how bills lobbied for by NYPIRG have fared this year in our state leg.

For those you who don't know, NYPIRG stands for the New York State Public Interest Research Group. As their name spells out NYPIRG is a state wide lobby group which supports legislation that is in the public interest. They were instrumental in the passing of the bottle bill several years back. Other NYPIRG victories include aid in the passing of a ban on irradiated food and the lemon law which protects consumers from unscrupulous used car dealers. Proposals which NYPIRG supports this year include no increase in tuition for the SUNY and CUNY systems, increased minimum wage to meet the federal levels, an expansion of the bottle law to include other containers, increased student voter

rights, and divestment of the state from businesses operating in South Africa.

One proposal which NYPIRG is opposed to is the Environmental Bond Act. The bill would provide a total of \$1.9 billion for land preservation, stewardship, and closing of landfills. NYPIRG criticizes the act because it provides only \$80 million for recycling.

Blair Horner, NYPIRG's legislative director said, "They're going to wrap themselves in the environmental flag, we're not going to let them get away with that." He condemned the proposal as, "A brilliant way for them to get off the hook." Most of the NYPIRG board members criticized Governor Cuomo's support of the act as purely political, aimed at improving his nonexistent record as a protector of the environment. The last day of the conference featured a variety of workshops which were held in the opulently furnished Assembly Parlour Room of the state capitol building. The first speaker, Arthur Malkin, former NYPIRG legislative director was quick to point out some of the room's more striking features. High above the carefully arranged leather couches and wing chairs was a hall of fame of past New York state governors, all of them white males.

Upon taking the floor Malkin advised us

to forget whatever we had learned about state government in high school because it was rife with inaccuracies. He stated that out of twenty thousand proposed bills only two thousand are passed every year.

Malkin was also quick to point out the demographic differences between the state senate and assembly. He stated that the senate is primarily republican, composed of fairly experienced conservative pols and that there is only one woman senator. Malkin jokingly said of most ex state senators, "Most have retired, or they're in jail." He also cited an alarming statistic, the state senate spent \$1.2 million on decorating their chamber room.

Whereas the majority of the senators are

republican, most assemblymen are democrats. Most come from our very own Long Island, have less experience, are more liberal, and in general more culturally diverse.

Although Malkin viewed the political scene in Albany with grim realism, he was optimistic about the potential for change. He declared, "We've got the talent, the dedication, and the commitment to succeed." Malkin also emphasized the much needed involvement of all citizens in activism; quoting Martin Luther King Jr., "This generation has not to repent for the deeds of the wicked people, but for the appalling silence of the good people."



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Get Up Stand Up

by Glenn Magpantay

The author is Stony Brook's delegate to the Student Association of the State University.

There are several issues that students and people in general face each year. The late 1980's and these past two months in the new decade have already given us problems from funding of higher education, to tuition hikes, to lost ground in affirmative action, to choice. How do we, as students address these issues? Particularly the more controversial ones?

I often ask myself these questions. Moreover, the group I work for, the Student Association of the State University (SASU) also continually asks itself the same questions. SASU represents the needs, issues and concerns of the students of SUNY. But what are those issues, needs and concerns? Blocking tuition hikes, stopping the possible over \$100 parking fee, increasing library hours, arresting course cancellations and restoring SUNY budget cuts are simple. We know that these issues affect *all* students across the board. Issues like the retention and recruitment of people of color into the University, faculty diversification, Africana and women's studies and bias related violence also affect all students, but in a more indirect fashion. So there is no problem with taking on a broad based agenda (i.e. one that caters to the needs of as many people as possible), but there are some issues which I have taken a stand on which not all people agree with.

Recently, I was more or less interrogated for signing on to the pro-peace demonstration against the military and supporting the efforts of the group, Students Against the US War in El Salvador. I was slammed for not advocating for all students' rights particularly those students who are religious fundamentalists when I stood up for Choice, the

**"I never have
and never will
sell out what
I truly believe
in.**

**Maybe this is
poor politics.**

woman's personal and private right to decide on whether or not to have an abortion. I have been harassed and physically attacked for standing up for lesbian, gay, and bisexual students' rights and trying to eliminate prejudice and bias. Lastly SASU on campus is willing to endorse the Coca-Cola boycott because of investments in South Africa. These issues really began to make me think. Not all students support these issues. I wondered if as a SASU delegate for Stony Brook had the right to support these issues because ideally my job is to represent the concerns of all students. I was, am and will most likely continue to be slammed, harassed, and defamed for taking on such progressive issues. This is scary. No one likes to be ridiculed, defamed, or harassed for anything. I was no exception. I thought about how easy life would be if I were to be silent on some controversial issues and very vocal on "safe" issues. But while I was thinking, I found something out.

Politicians have this same exact concern, or at least say that they do. They are vocal on issues that only a vast majority of agree with to avoid conflict. I did *not* want to subscribe to this method of selling out. Thus I came to a decision, I am going to take stands, even if people disagree. This is easy to say, but much more difficult to practice.

I have always taken a stand. Often mine happen to be against those issues of the "Moral Majority," White Supremacists, College Republicans or Right to Lifers. I understand that they are in my constituency, so I will begin listening to their concerns, but I never have and never will sell out to what I truly believe in. Maybe this is poor politics. Maybe even printing this article is a sign of weakness, but I am only human. Honestly I do not care how politics are played, I only care about working towards a greater good, greater social justice, and true equality.

greater good, greater social justice, and true equality.

Vibrations

Feeling Free

by Kashif Siddiqi

So there we were, Jeff and I sitting in the mezzanine section of the New Ritz, waiting anxiously, anticipating the appearance of the Jack Bruce Band. But it wasn't just Jack Bruce who filled the Ritz to capacity on that Friday night. Rather, it was as the flyers boasted, the Jack Bruce Band featuring Ginger Baker.

Being a drummer myself, just the thought of seeing Ginger Baker, one of the greatest drummers ever, was enough to make me spring for the twenty dollar ticket. But for what I saw, I would have paid another hundred to see again (okay, maybe not a hundred, but easily fifty bucks).

The first one and a half hour set was devoted entirely to Jack Bruce's solo material, with the exception of, "Born Under a Bad Sign", a Cream classic which Bruce performed with his own band. The set included such songs as, "No Surrender" and "Let Me Be" from Bruce's *A Question of Time* LP, and "Can You Follow?" from the *Will Power* LP.

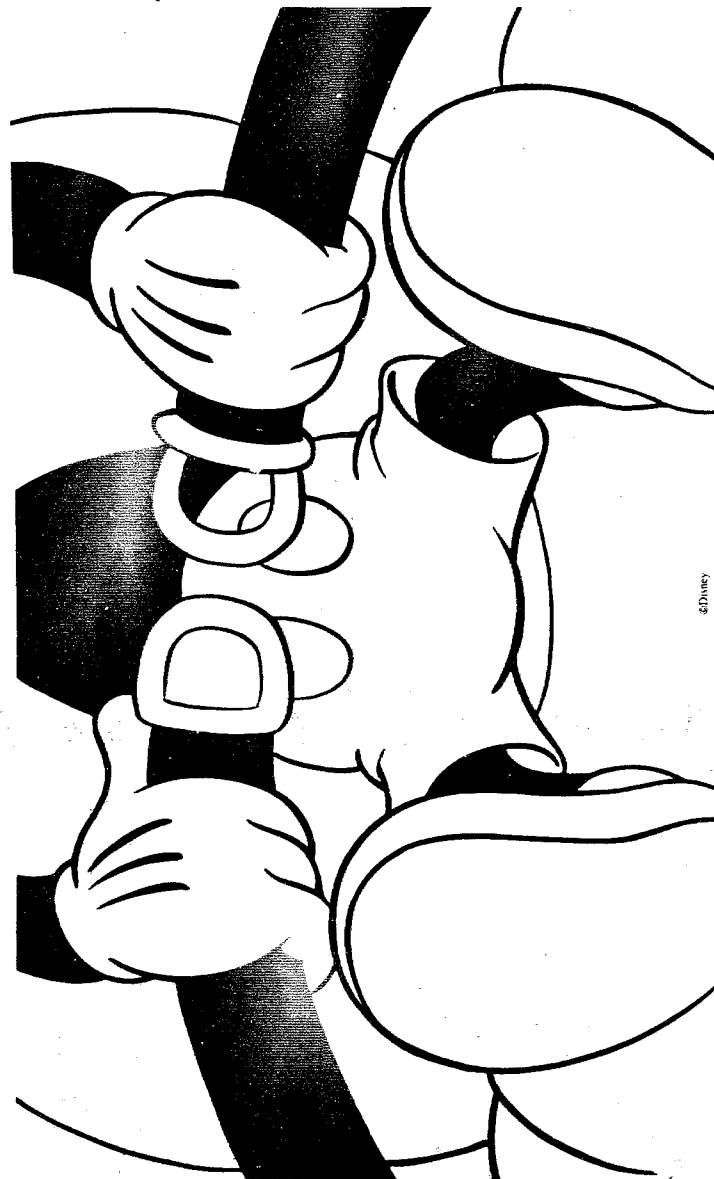
After about a twenty minute intermission, the real show began. Jack Bruce reentered with his band, only this time Ginger Baker was sitting behind the drums, instead of Dougie Browne, Bruce's own drummer. The five piece band included Jack Bruce on bass and vocals, Ginger Baker on drums, Jimmy Ripp on guitar, Bernie Worrell on synthesizer, and Steve Jordan on percussion (i.e. tambourine).

Immediately the quintet amazed the

exuberant audience by playing "White Room" another Cream classic. I would like to mention that all of the Cream material was played with a very blues oriented feel. That is, the songs were not played the way they appear on vinyl. Rather, the songs were improvised and Jimmy Ripp did not, in any way, try to imitate Eric Clapton's guitar work. This in itself made the show a success because, after all Jimmy Ripp is *not* Eric Clapton.

After playing some more Cream favorites such as, "I Feel Free" and "Politician", the band left the stage and Ginger Baker did a five minute drum solo (it may not sound long, but try to play with the intensity he did for five minutes). By this time, I was in heaven.

The band returned and performed encores of "Sunshine of Your Love" and "Spoonful" and the spectacle was over. To say that Jeff and I had a great time would be an understatement. Jack Bruce's stage theatrics along with Ginger Baker's remarkable talent made this show one of the best I've ever seen. For those of you who missed this one, I sympathize with you and offer you hope: there are rumors of a Cream reunion in the near future.



Buckle Up For Spring Break '90

HOROSCOPES

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18): Question those who order! there are a lot of things going down that don't seem correct, and they may not be. Keep your chin up and challenge authority.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You can now do the task that you thought was impossible. Your inner strength is at its all time high. Go with it. Don't be afraid of what you are capable of. An Aries will befriend you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): There is a new road for you to travel during the weeks to come. live with this new freedom as though it were your last, but be careful (very careful). turns take you towards desired destiny. Reach for the stars. Don't allow a Gemini to get in your way.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21): It's time to peel off some of those winter layers that have covered your soul. Make peace with the world. Learn again how to feel. A Gemini awaits your hand.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your family is behind you all the way. Prove to yourself that you can do anything at any time. the stars are shining down on you — if you choose creativity, you'll come out on top. the only way to see the light these days is with your eyes wide open.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21): Enjoy your time while you still can. The weeks ahead are thoroughly filled with business. If you work hard enough, you'll soon gain the notice that you deserve.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19): Personal matters concerning a loved one is now in full tilt. Remain the person that you are, but be sure to compromise. The dark tunnel that you are travelling in will soon show you some light. As the days grow warmer, so will you.

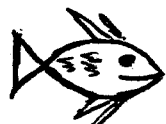
LIBRA (September 23-October 22): Now is the time to get back to nature. Go camping or just take a long walk in the woods. A romantic interlude is near. Remain your best friend, but don't keep rationalizing. Look in the mirror, if you can.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The dark clouds that now hang above you shall soon disappear. The sun will shine again! financial situations will now be settled for the better. let your heart be taken during the days to come. You will benefit within the arms of another.

LEO (July 23-August 22): Make big plans for an upcoming vacation that you well deserve. All that you have worked for these past weeks will finally develop into a positive outcome. Part hearty!! Look for a member of the opposite gender to guide you.

PISCES (February 19-March 20): These are your days. Pride, gusto, and joy are taking you towards your goal. Right on!! Keep on taking those little weekend trips and you'll be all right.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22): Get your act together! You can't keep relying on everybody else. It's up to you! The numbers 14 and 22 are really lucky these days for you. Sign the papers. Keep positive and all will turn out for the better. Keep on rockin.



TAKHAUD



He Ain't The One

Kovic Speaks

This is an interview that the Press did with Ron Kovic in 1983 as he settled into his brand new job at Stony Brook and about the same time as Tom Cruise was about to star in Risky Business. Six and a half years writer Ron Kovic came to Stony Brook, full of plans for lectures, books, and movies. One month later, without a goodbye or an explanation, he left. The lectures never happened, the books weren't published, and the movies went on without him.

I first heard of Ron Kovic in this passage from Hunter Thompson's "Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail 1972" as Thompson described the anti-war protests outside the Republican Convention.

Two weeks ago, Kovic arrived at Stony Brook to take up the post of Stony Brook's first writer-in-residence.

His autobiography, "Born on the Fourth of July" describes how Kovic was permanently paralyzed from the chest down during fighting in Vietnam, and his subsequent championing of anti-war, veteran, and handicapped causes.

At Stony Brook, Kovic will be writing and lecturing, preparing his three volume "American Elegy" about the Vietnam war and its aftereffects, and completing his next book.

As Dave Morrison, John Tymczyszyn, and I sat down with Kovic and his friend Ginny, he began to tell us about his upcoming movie debut:

KOVIC: In October, I'm going to be in a major motion picture. It's being made by the German director Wim Wenders, who directed Francis Coppola's "Dashed Hammett". He's directing "Paris, Texas". The screenplay was written by Sam Shepard and Wenders, and I look forward to it.

PRESS: What's the story about?

KOVIC: All I can say is that it's about a man and his little boy, and they go trying to find his wife in the desert, and they pick me up.

My first scene is where I'm picked up on a highway out in the middle of nowhere. Frederick Forrest is going to play the father, and he picks me up. I play a Vietnam veteran, in the middle of nowhere, not knowing where his life is going, hitching out on the highway. They take me into town.

Later I meet them at a bar where I'm shooting a game of pool, and Frederick Forrest asks me if I can help him get his wife out of some dance joint here she's working in, and he

asks me if I can help save her from the bandits that have taken her.

So I go over there and save his wife, and in my last scene I'm popping a wheelie down a hill in my wheelchair, with the bouncers of the bar chasing after me.

That's going to be my first movie. I hope to get into some more acting after that. I've met a lot of people in the film industry, and since I have the opportunity to be in film, I'm going to do it.

I wrote my first theatrical play this spring, called "Hurricane Street" which is pretty much based on a real life event I participated in. In 1974, a 17-day hunger strike in Senator Alan Cranston's office, which I was a leader of, became a national story of disabled Vietnam veterans who took over a senator's office in California to protest the disgraceful conditions in America's Veteran's Administration hospitals, and the poor conditions that veterans were being subjected to on their return home from the war.

This was when there was a tremendous amount of resistance to Vietnam veterans, to talking about the Vietnam war. It's become almost folklore now, popularized with the "Coming Home" movies and the television shows. You know, Tom Selleck has something about Vietnam every other week on his series, so it's a different time now.

I'd like to direct that play.

PRESS: Let's go to how you came to be at Stony Brook.
KOVIC: Well, I actually began a vacation. I spent this last winter in Santa Cruz, editing my three books, the trilogy I've been working on for the last seven years. It's called



"After the War: An American Elegy". I had been living in a hotel in Los Angeles for about nine months, after I'd come back from three months in Europe. When I came back, I felt a tremendous amount of energy, and I felt strong and confident enough to put one final push in to the trilogy, which had been a difficult project for me, very painful, mostly dealing with the war, the psychological impact on myself and my friends, all my friends who didn't survive, the years after the war, my parents, the town I came from...

PRESS: How are the books divided up?

KOVIC: One of the books is called "Massapequa", and it's about the town that I grew up in as a boy it's about the neighbors I grew up with, and a number of them already plan to sue (laughter).

The whole trilogy is about the baby-boom generation, the expectancy our parents had after they got out of the service, how people moved out of the city to the Massapequas and Levittowns.

I would say it would be comparable to other American works, like Edgar Lee Master's "Spoon River Anthology", his series of stories about people in the town of Spoon River.

"As a survivor of the holocaust of Vietnam I feel a definite obligation to my own people to speak honestly and to protect our young people from being subjected to the hell I went through."

After the sacrifices of World War II it was a great ideal for our parents to go out and have their own dream.

And the dream is not only set in the Levittowns and Massapequas, but also in Vietnam, because the dream was to go to Vietnam. That baby-boom generation was not just to live here, but they were to go 13,000 miles away to another war, and that war was to change them forever.

The books are also about courage, about how even though people are wounded in life, they can keep on living. It's about how my neighbors, who never had to go to a war, were also handicapped by this political and economic system we live under, which in many ways worked these people to death.

PRESS: How do you make the system better?

KOVIC: By writing, by talking, by participatory democracy, by not shunning people like myself, not pushing them aside because you're afraid of the truth, afraid of reality, afraid of my intensity, and the intensity of people who've gone through similar experiences.

I think the country has to move in a new direction, away from the selfishness and greed and away from military adventures in central America, move away from another war like Vietnam. We have to learn the lessons of the past, we have to move toward a more humanistic society, a more caring society.

We want people to know that they really belong, that they count in this society, that they're not just a bunch of isolated people trying to struggle it each day and survive.

As a survivor of the holocaust of Vietnam, I feel a definite obligation to my own people to speak honestly and to protect our young people from being subjected to the hell that I went through.

All our government seems to be concerned about is making money, but what about the quality of our lives? We can still maintain the system that we have but we've got to move away from the way that we're living now.

Well I moved back and forth, Los Angeles, Santa Cruz,

San Francisco, about eighty-seven times. To make a long story short, I was visiting people on Long Island and I was going to go back to California, but I had missed my flight. So I was staying in the Rockville Centre Holiday Inn when I called my cousin Ginny and she invited me for dinner. So I went out to dinner, I stayed the night, and then I stayed the next thirty nights. In that month, Newsday did the article on me, and I got an apartment fifty feet from my cousin.

The following day, Les Paldy saw the story in the paper and called me on the phone and proposed the idea of being the first writer-in-residence. We set up a date for lunch. I sat down with a bunch of professors and Dean Paldy and I accepted. They gave me an office, a desk and a phone, and unlimited freedom to do what I want. So I decided on a structure of two lectures a week. They said I could just come down and write if I wanted, but I love people, I love to talk, and I've been public speaking for thirteen years.

I spoke at the Democratic Convention in 1976. I was thrown out of the Republican Convention in 1972. I debated General Westmoreland on "Good Morning, America". I've been arrested fifteen times, I've had six trials.

So I felt like I had a lot to give, and I wanted to give it. I love the university environment, and I felt that I could learn a lot by being here.

I've met a number of students already and they're all fascinating, all interesting. They're very learned, they have a very interesting perspective on life.

The last time I was in a university environment for more than a day was when I went to Hofstra in 1969-70, and I missed that.

PRESS: What are you working on now?

KOVIC: I have to be real careful with this. I can't tell you everything but Sunday, I just finished a book. I sat down and wrote it in three and a half weeks, a two-hundred twenty page book. I worked myself until I was exhausted. I don't want to say what it's about, but it's about some people I have known and some adventures that I've had.

PRESS: So when will the trilogy be published?

KOVIC: I'd like to get it out by July 4, 1984. Viking is interested in it. If not '84, then '85, but July 4, my birthday.

PRESS: How accessible have you found Stony Brook to be to handicapped people?

KOVIC: Pretty good. I do notice that I have to make a few detours, but I'm really good with a wheelchair. You can get can get around, no big problems so far.

PRESS: How do you feel?

KOVIC: I've been in a wheelchair for fifteen years, and I've

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War And Remembrance

never felt better in my life, with my disability than I do now. I've never felt stronger, I've never felt more abled and less disabled in my life.

I don't feel disabled. For Christ sake, my mind is jumping out of my head, it's leaping out of this wheelchair, nothing is going to keep me down, it's not going to stop me.

A lot of people say, just treat the disabled person just like anybody else, but we're not like everybody else. We have a disability, we've been hurt and I think that you should treat a disabled person with sensitivity. I'm not asking for sympathy, but what I want is for people to know, I want them to know what I've come through and have to deal with the rest of my life. I want them to appreciate my struggle and to appreciate the struggle of other disabled people. I want them to respect the fact that life may not be easy but we're dealing with it and we're making something of it.

I don't feel paralyzed any more, I'm proud of the way that I dealt with my disability, and I love the fact that I can drive now, that I can live by myself, that I can be teaching at a university, that I've been able to write books.

In fact, it's true that everybody is only temporarily able. Everyone's going to grow old, everybody's going to have a disability, and everybody's going to experience the ultimate disability of life and that's death.

PRESS: Regarding both disabled people and veterans, how is this present administration taking care of them?

KOVIC: The Reagan Administration? Terribly. The conditions are worse than ever before. Handicapped people are under attack, veterans are under attack. The V.A. Hospitals are still in poor condition. The government is shying away from further investigations of Agent Orange, they don't care.

The Administration in power right now, more than any other one, cares more about its profits, money and business interests than any other that I can think of. They're very blatantly selfish and greedy.

PRESS: They claim that by improving the business climate, they can make things better for everybody.

KOVIC: Talk to the elderly, talk to the handicapped, talk to the disabled. What about things like LILCO and their 56% cost increase? We've got to start being sensitive to people. You know, for every one person like myself, who survives a disability, there are fifteen or twenty other people who

didn't survive, who were broken by it.

This government is leading us into another war.

PRESS: Do you really feel that?

KOVIC: Absolutely.

PRESS: Do you expect a war during this Administration?

KOVIC: Yes.

PRESS: In Central America.

KOVIC: Yes.

PRESS: How come?

KOVIC: The provocative nature of our government which is creating a very dangerous atmosphere in Central America. They're provoking, they're setting up similar circumstances to the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

PRESS: Would it really be possible for an Administration to take this country into another war?

"You know, for every one person like myself who survives a disability, there are fifteen or twenty other people who didn't survive, who were broken by it."

KOVIC: Will this country go to war? Sure. Would the people stand for another? Absolutely. They supported the hostage crisis, they supported the fiasco in the desert. Look how chauvinistic they became during the hostage crisis. They'll send their sons again, they'll let them be paralyzed, they'll let 56,000 more American boys die in another war. They'll let it happen again, millions of people will let it happen again.

Why? Because they don't know what war is like, they just see the ads on television. The Vietnam lesson wasn't driven home sure enough and true enough.

PRESS: So has the country learned anything?

KOVIC: Sure, millions of people learned — and millions didn't learn. Millions of people are ready to let it happen again, while millions of people won't stand for it. You have a

very polarized situation that's going to develop — a Civil War type situation. That's what we're headed for.

PRESS: Is there any way to change that?

KOVIC: Sure. This interview might change it.

PRESS: Why don't you explain more about the lecture you will be doing?

KOVIC: Well, I'd like to have a lecture about disability, what it means to be disabled. I'd like you to be able to ask me any personal question you might want about disability and I'd like to be able to answer it. Any question you may have, I'd be willing to answer from my fifteen years experience in a wheelchair.

PRESS: Are you prepared to do that?

KOVIC: Absolutely. Ask me any question right now. What would you ask?

PRESS: About how you lived your personal life, getting around, your love life for example.

KOVIC: It's a very real question. You feel very vulnerable because you're paralyzed from the chest down. You can't have sex normally, the way you used to have it, you know. What are they going to think? Are they going to reject me? Is the woman going to want more? Is she going to go to another man if I can't satisfy her enough? And on and on. Sure, we'll talk about that extensively. I would completely open that up to whatever people wanted to know.

I'll talk about many things. What was it like being an anti-war activist, what was it like going to jail for the first time? What was it like to meet Al Pacino for the first time? What was it like to speak at the Democratic National Convention? Whatever you want.

Teaching is just sharing experiences, and if I can do that openly and honestly, I can teach a lot. In no way am I the champ or anything right now, in no way am I top of the heap and everything is fine. It's still a goddamn fucking struggle for me. I still hurt very much but it's not as bad as before. I've had to deal with a lot because of the war. I killed people there, I was part of an ambush that shot up a bunch of Vietnamese children. I had to pick up a child's foot and bandage it back to his leg. I had to pick up the pieces of a friend of mine who had been blown in half by an artillery shell. I can still smell the blood.

PRESS: Were you an activist before the war?

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Celluloid

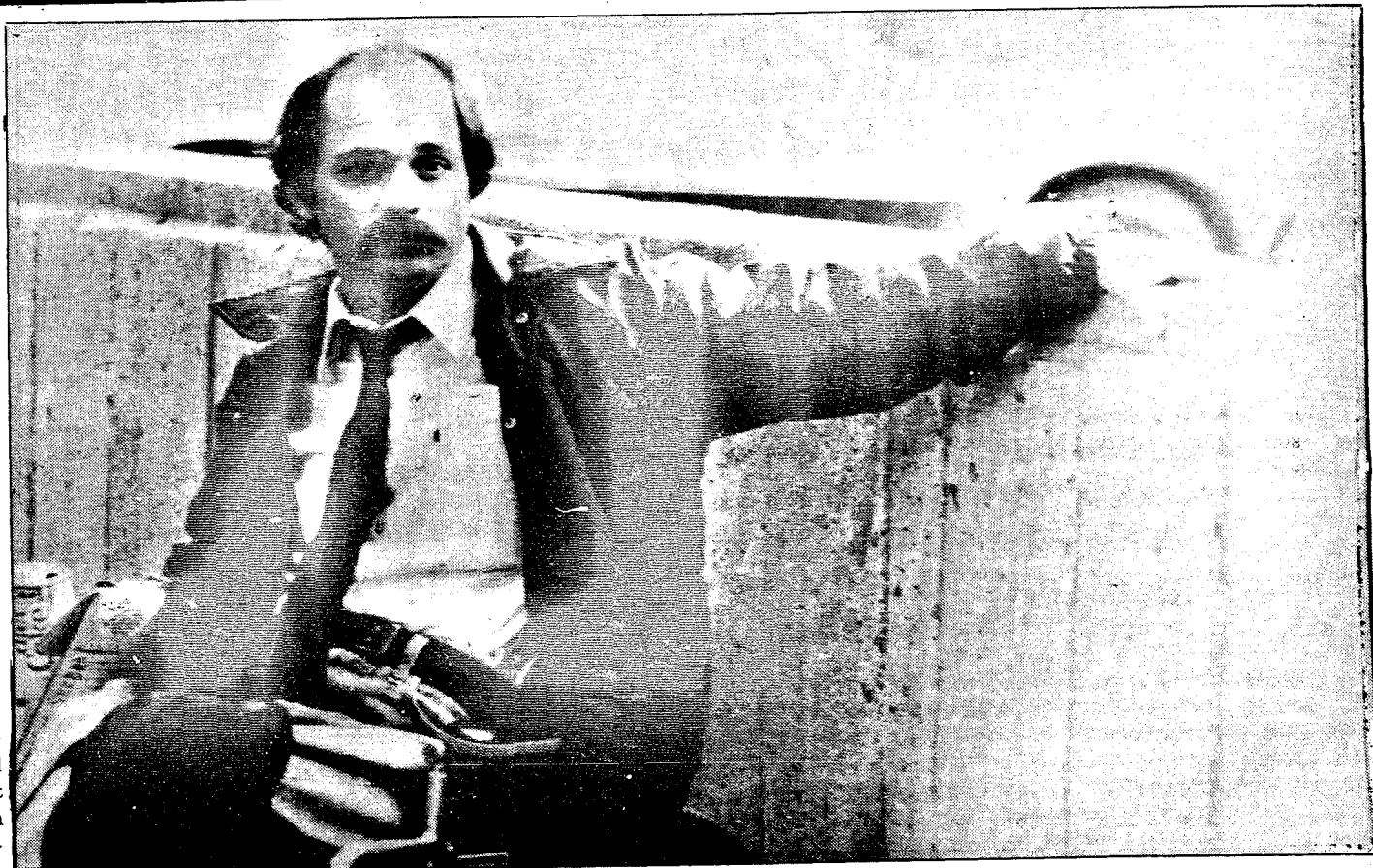
Fortunate Son

by Rob Gilheany

I was really excited when I heard that a movie was being made of Ron Kovic's book, *Born on the Forth of July*. I read that book in two days last year. It was required reading for Les Owen's class, History of the Civil Right's Movement. It was a story of an all American boy growing up in Massapequa, New York in the late 50's and early 60's. He was a Mickey Mantle fan, excelled in sports, and believed in God and country.

Ron Kovic was an outstanding wrestler in Massapequa High School, and joined the Marines right after the recruiters visited the school. Kovic was sold on being the best and serving his country — he was the perfect bait for government propaganda. Tom Cruise played the part superbly. He captured the innocence and naivety of a young

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KOVIC: Never. I was for Barry Goldwater. I memorized Douglass MacArthur's "Duty, Honor, Country" speech with tears in my eyes. I volunteered to go to Vietnam twice. I came back whole from thirteen months. I was a war hero. I did some of the most dangerous work in the Vietnam war. I did long-range reconnaissance patrols, behind enemy territory, for four or five days at a time. I went on twenty-two long range reconnaissance missions on my first tour.

PRESS: So was it just getting hit, or was it a number of things that changed you?

KOVIC: There were a number of "pops." A series of pops that led to a change. The first pop happened before I was even shot, and the captain burned a village with a Zippo one day, and I wondered what I was doing there. That was on the first tour.

Then when I killed a man that night, when we shot up the

kids, when I got paralyzed, and when I was in the intensive care wards, and I saw people who wouldn't ever have their minds again.

So then I came home and gradually realized that I was going to have to live with this for the rest of my life.

Another change, another pop was Hofstra University. I really shied away from the student protest movement — I thought they were crazy.

The next pop was in California, 1972, when two undercover policemen posing as Vietnam veterans, who were pushing me in a demonstration, and they decided to arrest me, they pushed me out of the wheelchair onto the street, and I was taken off to jail.

Seven years later one of them came up to me with tears in his eyes and apologized. By then I was full-steam ahead against the war, and I joined the Vietnam Veterans Against

the War and marched on Miami. I was dragged out of the Republican convention by Secret Service men after disrupting Richard Nixon's acceptance speech with two other disabled veterans.

We got within 100 feet of the President of the United States, and you could have heard a pin drop when Nixon started his speech, and we started yelling, "Stop the bombing! Stop the war!"

Four years later, I was to go up on a podium in Madison Square Garden at the Democratic Convention and nominate a draft-dodger for Vice President. I spoke in front of forty million Americans. It was the greatest moment in my life. The next greatest moment will be in about six weeks, when I begin teaching.



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TOP 35

AS OF FEBRUARY 19

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2. Ofra Haza
3. Divine Styler
4. Skinny Puppy
5. They Might Be Giants
6. Jungle Bros.
7. Daniel Johnston
8. Renegade Sandwave
9. Public Enemy
10. Opal
11. Tribe Called Quest
12. Children
13. Meat Beat Manifesto
14. Marc Bingham
15. Suicidal Tendencies
16. Psychedelic Furs
17. Nine Inch Nails
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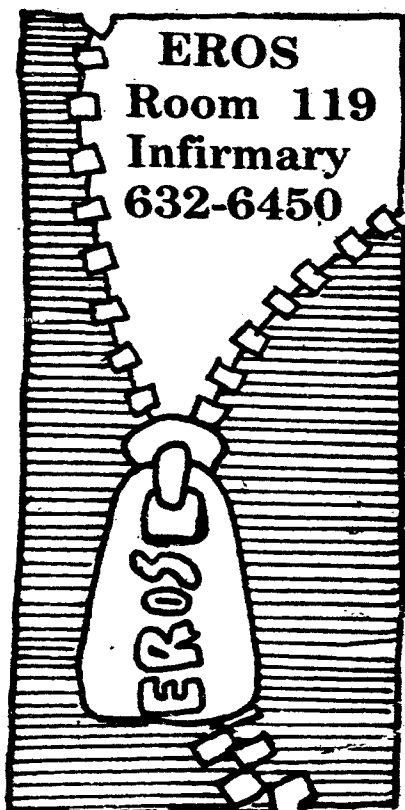
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Dear EROS,

Previously you explained what a dental dam is, but I'm not sure of the correct way to use it. Can you explain?

—Wondering

Dear Wondering,

A dental dam, sometimes called an oral dam, is a six inch latex square which can be used for oral vaginal and oral anal sex. Dental dams can be obtained through dental and medical supply stores. If you cannot find a dental dam, kitchen plastic wraps such as Saran Wrap, Handi Wrap or Reynolds Plastic Wrap can be substituted—a double layer should be used to provide maximum protection. Do not use materials such as plastic garbage bags which can contain harmful toxins.

Always use a fresh for each act of sexual contact; never reuse a dental dam. Before using a dental dam rinse it first to remove any powder or lint that may be clinging to it. Dry it by gently patting it with a low lint towel or allow it to air dry. Holding the dam gently by two edges with your hands, place it over the entire vulva, making sure to cover both the vaginal opening and the clitoris. Or using the same procedure, place the dam over the entire anal lining. Make sure to use separate dams if you engage in both oral anal and oral vaginal contact to avoid harmful anal organisms from entering the vagina. Once the dam is in place, you may use your mouth and tongue to stimulate your partner. When finished throw the dam away.

—EROS

Act Locally

continued from page 5

society than to be accused of being a hypocrite. Unfortunately under the circumstances ozone depletion, polluted seas, acid rain, deforestation, etc. it would be a mistake of the most catastrophic kind to allow the U.S. to get away with just being too unempathic. Life would go on as usual. This could kill us all.

To accuse the U.S. of being hypocritical is to invoke anger and invite defensive rhetoric. However, hopefully the masses of the world will see the threat of our extinction as a very real threat and not allow the rhetoric to pacify them. No, instead what people are calling for is action. Quantitative steps taken by the White House to decrease the amounts of pollutants, namely carbon dioxide, that our industrial energy producing plants emit. Quantitative action to decrease the amounts of energy this country wastes by instituting mandatory comprehensive recycling before jumping headlong into a fiery hole of incineration with all of its incredibly toxic (airborne or otherwise) byproducts. Business law 101 calls it a tort when one person does something to injure the welfare of another. So where is the justice? Canada is catching the acid rain produced by our smokestacks. The world is catching the heat trapped by the carbon dioxide produced by our short sighted egotistical, "just you try to stop me" attitude. The U.S. is a leader in the free

world, so why don't they lead? It's one thing to compromise when Bill wants \$15 and Ted wants \$5. But when Bill wants \$15 and Ted wants to live can a compromise be made? Should a compromise be made? I've done enough talking in our society when the people lead the leaders follow. That is the only way it works so some people better get up and get active. Write a letter, make a phone call. No one else will do it for you. We live in a wonderful place. Put in some effort to keep it wonderful for your children and mine, won't you please.



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Fortunate Son

continued from page 7

person willing to give up all for his country.

The movie, however, did not include the boot camp experience on the bus ride down to camp. On the bus ride there was a loud-mouth recruit who had popped some testosterone pills and was mouthing off about how tough he was and how he was going to be the best Marine ever. When they got to camp, the staff sergeants picked out this overweight recruit and broke him down by ridiculing him and he ended up packing. I envision that scene for some reason.

The war seen in the movie, like the book, depicts Vietnamese families and children getting blown away by Washington bullets. Kovic is shot in battle and the wound left him paralyzed from the chest down. Then the movie, like the book, shifts to New York City Veterans Administration hospital and a disillusionment with shoddy care and horrible conditions. He had to sit in his own shit for hours.

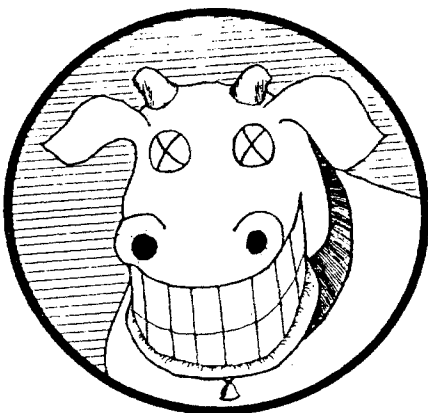
There were some great scenes in the book involving conflicts between Ron and his family. One involved his hippie brother over the protests that were sweeping the country; the other with his god and mother country. The movie focused on the emotional and physical strife that swept America but was short on the Tin and Tucston analysis of why Uncle Sam sent kids 13,000 miles away to fight for a puppet government.

The resolve of the Vietnamese people was touched on when Kovic and other disabled veterans crashed the Republican Convention in Miami in 1972. He mentioned that the Vietnamese have been fighting im-

perialist aggression for centuries. After being spat on by Tricky Dicky supporters he was dumped from his wheelchair and dragged away by cops.

Tom Cruise was a guest on the Arsenio Hall show recently and I happened to be watching. The scene from the film that was shown was of a young Kovic (Cruise) running in the rain and crashing his senior prom to dance with a girl he liked. I thought, "Gee, why didn't they show the scene where he was being beaten up by the cops." Arsenio Hall didn't ask any loaded questions or comments on what Kovic said at the Republican convention. He did say that Tom Cruise has been mentioned as a Oscar possibility.

I think he deserves the Oscar. He played a young, innocent, naive Ron Kovic and a disillusioned Ron Kovic in action. This movie is well worth the trip, make it.



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We Are All Robots

The Meaning Of Life Revealed

The Press received the following article from Norman Temple, a 73-year old self-taught, free-thinking, iconoclastic, free-lance writer. The article is excerpted from his self-published book on psychology of human behavior entitled "Society, Pain & The Unknown." We felt it contained ideas that intriguing and provocative especially to a strong scientific community like the one that exists at Stony Brook. After reading it you will either think Mr. Temple's theories are the greatest thing since sliced bread or that he has a few screws loose. Either way, it makes for interesting reading.

In our next issue the *Press* will look at Mr. Temple's responses to the many questions asked regarding his theories. If you have questions for Mr. Temple, he can be reached at: Box 268375 Chicago, IL 60626

by Norman Temple

Forget reincarnation! Forget astrology, ESP, psychic powers and metaphysical happenings! We cannot time-travel and we have no souls, because we are not what we think we are!

After 53 years of analyzing human behavior I've come to a conclusion about life that is startling and unbelievable at first thought. I've tried to convince others of my beliefs, but my concept sounds so bizarre that no one places any credence in it. I doubt whether any of you reading this article will be convinced, but I hope that someone out there will give my hypothesis some consideration. Here it is:

When you look at another person, what do you see? A face? A body? Of course you do. But did you know that you are also looking at a collection of cells? "Sure," you say, "everyone knows our bodies contain cells." But did you know that we are nothing but a living mass of organized cells? These cells developed sensory organs in us to provide for, protect and preserve the continuing existence of the cells themselves!

Even though we know our bodies are composed of trillion of cells, we are totally unaware that our body cells control and direct our every moment and thought! Call it fantasy or science-fiction, call us robots or clones, but you and I are nothing but separately-operating units of communally-controlled, organized, synergistically-benefitting, living-cell organisms!

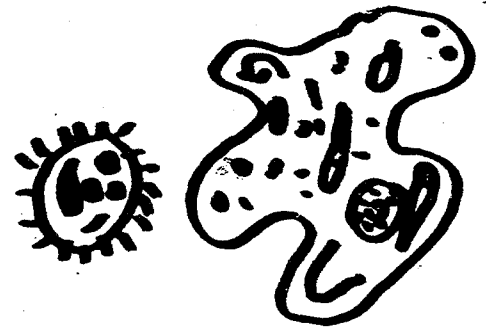
The cells have evolved and developed through millions of years into various forms: humans, animals, birds, insects, plants, etc. These various forms of life were produced and controlled by the cells. Skin, hair, feathers, scales, arms, legs, etc., are for the safety, well-being and protection of the cells. In other words, we are not entities living for our own benefit. We are living units doing the bidding of our cells, seeking food, water, shelter, comfort, safety and pleasure in an effort to keep our cells alive and in good health.

We are living units doing the bidding of our cells, seeking food, water, shelter, comfort, safety and pleasure in an effort to keep our cells alive and in good health.'

Far-fetched? Not if you stop and think about it. According to my dictionary, "A cell is a small, usually microscopic, mass of protoplasm bounded externally by a semipermeable membrane, usually including one or more nuclei and various nonliving products, capable alone or interacting with other cells of performing the least structural units of living matter capable of functioning independently."

In very basic terms, cells are composed of molecules, which in turn are composed of atoms, which in turn are composed of smaller units. Let me outline what I believe happened millions of years ago: atoms combined to form molecules, molecules combined to form living cells. The atoms and molecules obtained and maintained their energy

"Even though we are composed of trillions of body cells we are totally unaware that our body cells control our every movement and thought...you and I are nothing but separately-operating units of communally-controlled organized, synergistically benefiting, living cell organisms!"



through chemical absorption. The cells, in turn, required not only food for energy to maintain their existence, but warmth and light. Their food consisted of proteinacious micro-organisms.

The development of the five senses was a gradual one. The single cell organisms that were created through chemical reactions originally had only one sense — the sense of touch. By coming in contact with micro-organisms, they simply absorbed them. By absorbing and digesting food, the cells grew larger. In time the molecules that developed the cell unit could no longer control the larger unit: it had become too cumbersome. So they formed a duplicate cell unit inside the cell, and when it had matured to the point of independent survival, it separated from the original cell and began a life of its own. Thus began the reproduction cycle, which continues to this day with all forms of life, albeit in different methods that the assorted cell units devised.

(If you want to know which came first, the chicken or the egg, it had to be the chicken, since eggs weren't "invented" when life first began.)

As more cells divided, their quantity, naturally, increased. Rather than disperse individuality, many of them fused together and formed living units that worked together for the benefit of the entire unit. This was the beginning of animal life.

As time went by, these fused cells gradually developed reflective sections that react to sunlight. When the sun would shine, its light would strike these reflectors, and the cells would be able to discern movement in their general area. They were able to distinguish small shadows from large ones, and wisely attacked the small ones. When the sun went down, the cells rested. This pattern evolved into the wake/sleep cycle.

The cells reflective sections gradually developed to the point where they could discern not only shadows, but also the outline of shadows. This was the beginning of the second sense: sight. eventually, over millions of years of adaptations to their environment and struggles for their survival, the other senses developed, sharpened and strengthened.

Sex and the Single Cell(s)

If one were to accept my conclusion that all animals are collections of cells that control and direct them, one could then view in a different light the flight of birds and insects to distant lands, as well as the journey of whales, salmon, turtles, elephants and other animals to various areas for reproduction, food, shelter, and/or death.

Hibernation, nesting and other "instinctive" habits, drives, and flights from predators, as well as dangers or hazardous encounters, are in many cases instigated, directed and/or controlled by the cells of the individual animal, not necessarily by the animal's perceptive or instinctive skills.

With this thought — that our provided us with all our senses for identifying friend from foe nourishment from inedibles, pain from pleasure, safety from danger and comfort from hurt — the one "necessity" the cells have little control of, and is not instinctive/innate in civilized humans, is sexual intercourse. Due to the human's superior intelligence (over other animals), their cells' control over their sexual desires are not instigated, determined or governed

by their cells' actions, as is often the case with lower animals, but by a learned response.

If all humans would wear clothes constantly, camouflaging their sexual differences, and never exhibiting their bodies, the individual sexes would not perceive directions from their cells to copulate, and would, naturally, perish.

The "instinct" for mating among the other animals — particularly the lower animals — is nothing more than directives from their cells which control the physiological/biological/seasonal and/or glandular changes and processes of/for the animals' reproduction habits.

Autonomous Functions

Nothing provides as much proof that we are a cellular-constructed unit, controlled and directed by our body cells, than the autonomous functions of our bodies. The cells provided us with intelligence, so we could seek and find food, water and shelter. They provided us with muscles so we could move about, catch prey, and escape threatening situations.

They provided us with eyes to find sustenance; hands to catch, hold, eat and drink things; taste buds; odor-detectors; touching and thinking, to analyze and approve or reject foods. And if some deleterious food or drink escapes our surveillance network and enters our stomachs, the cells employ their own quality control system to dispose of harmful and/or unhealthful solids and liquids.

Another autonomous function is breathing. this is the most important need of the entire life system. The cells knew it, therefore they provided three orifices for ingress of oxygen and egress of carbon dioxide. No other sense or appendage has more than two (not counting fingers and toes).

There are many autonomous functions, as we well know. They were all provided by the cells, and each one serves a purpose: the maintenance of a healthy body, so the cells can survive. To list a few: breathing, digesting food, sweating, sneezing belching/burping, hiccupping, salivating, shivering when cold, shaking when frightened, sleeping, dreaming, resting when tired, blood circulation, heart pumping, bowel/kindey excretions, hair/nail/body growth, metabolism, blood sugar, temperature control, etc.

If there is any question about the origin of life; evolution; who we are; what we are; where we're going; where, who and what we've been; the body's autonomous functions supply the answer. We could not live more than a few minutes without breathing oxygen; we could not live very long without food and water; and, most significant, we could not utilize/convert air, food and water, stay healthy, and continue to live and reproduce without the "autonomous" operations of our body cells.

(I write "autonomous" with quotes, since we, with our remarkable intelligence, believe we are on the outside looking in, when actually we are the end product of a mass of cells that operate a united entity, with our skin, tissues, muscles and bones holding it all together. To our cells there is nothing autonomous about keeping the unit — the human — working and in good health. All the cells labor continuously, and no separate specialized group of cells in our bodies works without direction or molecular-geneticized instructions.)

Thoughts On MLK Day

by Lee Gundel

Many people point to the issue of racism at USB and say that we cannot resolve such issues here if, as a country, we have also failed to find appropriate solutions. Others (such as the media, misguided individuals, and people who have something to gain from it) tell us repeatedly that the predominant feeling between the races is negative. The war along the color lines, we are told, is constant and unremitting — it will, supposedly, drag us down into ever increasing cycles of violence, hate, and degradation. It is such things as this that the prophets of doom are proclaiming. You can see it on the news every day — you might have even heard something about Morton Downey Jr. having run ins with skin heads about it.

We do not have to think this way, though.

My gut reaction to this kind of thinking is that it's dead wrong. It is true that there are horrible things going on in race relations today. It is also true that Stony Brook is not a stranger to such problems — but just because there are problems doesn't mean that interracial tensions are going to escalate beyond are control. What it *does* mean is that we have a problem dealing constructively with the issue of race relations. But it does not mean that the problem is unsolvable.

Racism is not like the law of gravity — it is not (nor will it ever be) a natural or normal part of human affairs. It does, of course, exist, but there are other forces working in complete opposition to it, and if you want to fully understand the situation between the races then you must take these forces into account as well.

I tried to take these forces into account during my Sophomore year when I and my friend Tom tried to form a club to promote positive race relations. At that time, Tom and I had realized that many of the ethnic groups on campus had, somehow, become isolated from one another, and we were not pleased with the results. It seemed to us that many of the groups on campus just didn't connect, and that many people — be they white, black, hispanic, or Asian — sought friendships among people of their own race. Both of us knew and appreciated the enormous cultural and ethnic diversity of the people on campus, and decided that a club should be formed for the purpose of bringing these different people closer together.

Unfortunately he and I never went through with these plans. The whole thing fell apart on the drawing board and, even though he and I got all the necessary paperwork and signatures, we never presented our ideas to Polity to get



ourselves recognized as a club.

So the club never happened, but something did happen the following year that almost brought the racial tensions at this school to a breaking point. And that something was the Quincy Troupe case.

If you were here at USB during the Quincy Troupe case, then you'll know why I'm bringing it up now. If you were here then you probably remember the kind of charged atmosphere at USB at the time, and the horrible allegations being made back and forth between the black and white commu-

ities. I remember most of these allegations with a sense of revulsion because they were, for the most part, the result of the ignorance and hatred that is part and parcel with racism.

The one allegation that I remember most vividly was made by a black man who claimed that whites are, on the whole, subhuman, unfeeling, and part of a huge conspiracy to keep down and exploit minorities. He made it very clear that there were practically no exceptions to this rule.

At the time I was deeply angered by this man's allegations. How could this man who did not know me accuse me of being so cold and uncaring? How could he accuse me of lacking even the basic fundamentals of human sympathy and understanding, when he did not even bother to know anything about me besides the fact that I belonged to a race that he regarded as his enemy? I wanted to know what motivated him to make such accusations, and wondered why someone I did not know was claiming ethical and spiritual superiority over me.

A few days later the realization struck me that he was attacking the foundations of my humanity because somebody had done the same to him, some (or maybe a great many) racist bigots had unjustly told him that his race, his ethnic background, and his cultural experience were inferior to that of the white American "mainstream" society. He therefore felt a need to raise himself above the level of the "white culture" by indiscriminately attacking it, its values, and the people who belong to it.

He became, in other words, just as much of a racist bigot as the whites who tried to invalidate him and his cultural perspective.

I realized at this point that I was coming to understand how racism functions within our society — how hate engenders hate and how, without even realizing it, whole groups of people come to stereotype and lash out at individuals from other groups. And I came to realize one more thing: that I and my friends did not fall prey to this racist way of thinking. We did not think according to an "us and them" mentality, and did not condemn individuals because of their race, color, or religion. We came to accept individuals on the basis of their individual merit, and have realized that it is only by this that an individual can be fairly judged.

It also became increasingly evident to me that the downward spiral of racism, no matter how strongly entrenched it was in society, could be broken.

I knew because I had broken it.

Save The Earth

by Alex Fear

The author is NYPIRG Project Coordinator.

I sit here in my office till late at night trying to organize or neaten things up. Tonights light night task consisted of taking articles, possible 50 or 60 of them, that have been cut out of various newspapers ranging from the Port Jefferson Herald to the London Globe over the course of the semester and organizing them neatly into files arranged by subject. A simple, quick task for most people. But then most people aren't caught up in details like I am. As if making sure they all look pretty isn't enough, I am often caught up in reading for a second time what I had already read once. Tonight was no exception.

Recycling; incarceration; composting; standardized testing; Nelson Mandela; the plastics ban; the ozone layer; deforestation; drift-net fishing. The list goes on. All these issues I had some cause to cut over the semester. I compared them to others within the same category, of course, that was the only way to figure out who stood where and did what. Making comparisons across categories was an advanced maneuver that I had not yet attempted till tonight. Even tonight I did so only because it caught my eye and made me so irate that I had no choice.

The issues involved are the depletion of the ozone layer and drift-net fishing. "They're related," you wonder? Not directly. Let me try to explain to you how mad I was when, practically written in black and white, I learned that my country was a pathetic, short-sighted, Macheavelian hypocrite. Don't get me wrong. I knew most of these

allegations were true prior to tonights revelations. However, when it jumps out at you like it did at me, it somehow seems to be a little more powerful.

President Bush, self-proclaimed environmentalist, the editorial written by Daniel S. Greenberg shortly before the new year in the New York Times stated, was going to attack the greenhouse effect. Host an international conference. That's very good rhetoric. It got him elected. What happened to the conference? Good question. I was asking the same thing. Strike one.

The Dutch, always the environmentalist people, decide to pick up where Bush left off. They host the 68 nation conference that Bush seemed to have forgotten.

Politely enough, they invite the United States to send a representative. I don't know why. They should have known from the way a U.S. conference got dropped like a brick that any representative sent by Bush would be on a short leash and muzzled like a pit bull. True to instinct, "the chief U.S. delegate to the conference, William K. Rielly, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, was enstructed to reject any timetable for emissions reductions." Why did we even waste our taxpaying dollars. It would have been a much shorter flight and much cheaper to have just requested a transcript of the conference and slept in that day. "In any case, Rielly went, but was muzzled, except for the old fallback of calling for 'more research.'" Rielly was not alone in the doghouse, though. Japan and the Soviet Union followed suit.

Now we switch to the ecological damage that Japan's

habit of using drift-net causes. With 30-milelong nets, the Japanese fleets roam a size of the Pacific ocean larger than the continental United States. Strip mining of the sea it's called. Used ostensibly to catch squid, the nets (also used by South Korea and Taiwan) are a prime killer of whales, seals, dolphins, and other marine mammals, many of which are protected. Kenjiro Nishimura, head of the Japanese delegation at the annual International Fisheries Conference, called the United Nations resolution to end drift-net fishing "an extreme measure" and accused the nations of "relying on emotional and irrational discussion." "Japanese officials at the United Nations said they would not cut down... until there was thorough documentation that the nets were causing marine destruction."

Sounds familiar doesn't it? The only question that remains is how gentle we are. Do we say that the U.S. should be more empathetic towards Japan's situation or do we accuse the U.S. of being blatantly hypocritical? Twenty or thirty years ago we might have asked the U.S. government to put themselves in Japan's shoes. We are asking them to stop employing what we see as an ecologically damaging method of producing something that Japan needs five times as much as the U.S. does per capita: fish. It is a major industry. The stability of a nation depends on it. Now forgive me if I'm mistaken (which I don't believe I am), but if we were to substitute U.S. for Japan and energy for fish, what do you think we would see? The same argument exactly. The question still remains, though, is it empathy this country lacks or hypocrisy this country employs? To lack empathy is a much more acceptable fault in today's

continued on page 1

Clubbin' Ministry

by James Blonde

Some journalists for whatever reason think it's in when doing music reviews: to burn the group to further their own petty careers or to upset the music field in general, even at the expense of their favorite bands.

I decided before the show that I would be favorable in my review, and praise Elaine Jourgenson, the founder of Ministry, power musician behind such bands as Pailhead, Revolting Cocks and Skinny Puppy.

But, like I said, this was before the lame attempt at a concert that was perpetrated at the New Ritz.

These industrial boys, born and bread on our very own Strong Island, combine the best of MIDI-mosh with artsy stage theatrics like smashing large metal cylinders against the ground, creating pitches reminiscent of what happens when a wrench is thrown into a large factory machine, grinding it to a halt, and their use of powertools on stage, spraying the mostly apathetic crowd with sparks.

The second warm up band, the once danceable German power trio KMFDM, failed not only to play any of their club songs, but anything near entertaining to the now growing aggressive audience. These guys may got it going on in Germany but audiences here in good old U S of A don't like to be talked down to, let alone played down to. KMFDM, like other bands that rely heavily on samplers and synths, put too much on tape and lack on stage. Don't get me wrong, I like digital as much as the next cyberpunk, but basslines

where there are no bassists, and keyboards where there are no keyboardists don't cut it in my book unless your stage show is pretty damn good. One heiny-boy in stockings and a dress does not constitute damn good to me, although I can't speak for everyone, judging by the catcalls (male and female) he got everytime he bent over to adjust his amplifier. If he only played guitar as much as he stroked it, these guys might have a halfway decent act.

After a wait gauged only by four \$3.75 beers I had at the bar, the stage crew finished putting up the chain link fence which separated the two crowds in the New Ritz, the one in the audience, and the one on stage.

Ministry went through all of its new album, **The Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Taste** as well as playing the heavier cuts off of **The Land Of Rape And Honey**. Absent was, "You Know What You Are!", or any of the band's other dance tunes.

Alaine and cooriginator Paul Barker seemed to fill this void with excessive use of the guest performer. although this is nothing new to anyone who has survived er attended a Ministry show. Ministry, matching themselves with the likes of Jello Biafra (Formerly of the Dead Kennedys), various members of Skinny Puppy, Richard 23 (of front 242), Luc Van Acker (fellow Wax Trax recording artist) and Chris Connely (Revolting Cocks).

Grand Wizard rapped on "Test", and the rest of the evergrowing band distributed the rest of the songs evenly amongst themselves, trading vocals (where

Chris Connely scaled the fence shouting abuse at the audience) with heavily effected guitar solos.

As more guitarists flooded the stage the swarming black hole of a mosh pit widened, sucking in innocent bystanders of all genders.

By the time Ministry got into one of their most guitar-laden songs from Mind, "Thieves" the stage transformed into an endless wall of shag metal cuts, head-banging to the beat of the two drummers.

Meanwhile in the audience. Drinks were spilt as teenage girls were accidentally knocked down to the ground as people were thrown about in a melee of anarchic action that can only be described as what Moses must have seen after spending forty days on the mountain taking dictation from God and returning to his people who had spent those same forty days in a drunken sin filled stupor servicing a false god fashioned out of a cheap gold plated statue.

The crowd abused each other, fights broke out, people got so drunk they puked in one of numerous cans placed conveniently around the establishment for just such a purpose. Dancers knocked dancers to the floor, the nicer ones helped their victims up off the ground with a friendly slap on the back. Those were the clowns that got left on the floor in the spilt beer when it was their turn.

By their encore I had lost interest and mingled with friends who had already begun the deploy homeward. The show isn't a total loss, it was good to hear a few Pailhead tunes thrown in with the band's normal set which not only was beefed up

since previous shows, with the addition of all those guitarists, but a lot smoother. No more waiting to change reel to reel tapes or waiting for sequencer programs to boot up.

It seems Mr. Jourgenson is running out of ideas and focuses the music around the interplay between instruments on stage, and not high tech wizardry in the studio. This also accounts for the numerous joint projects with other musicians. These include Jello Biafra who stopped here in 88 on his spoken word performance against censorship, Edwin Meese and the powers that be in general. Jello gets my nomination for crossover slut musician of 1989 for the Jourgenson-Biafra 12' **LARD** that when was still hot off the presses, more like sat molding on the shelves, he gets a cut on Ice-T's (west coast rapper for those out of the know) **Freedom of Speech Just Watch What You Say**.

Special shouts go out to MJXII, my man Tom, DJ Slave (formerly Paris NY and main man behind 24/24) who was in the house, now that he has a lot of of weekend nights off HA-HA, cutest couple award goes to Karen and Heather from the borough of Queens, Bronco, blond Tom (no relation) and the truly wonderful staff of the New Ritz. They actually had confiscated chain belts bat weapons after the show. Imagine that.

