

THE
STONY
BROOK

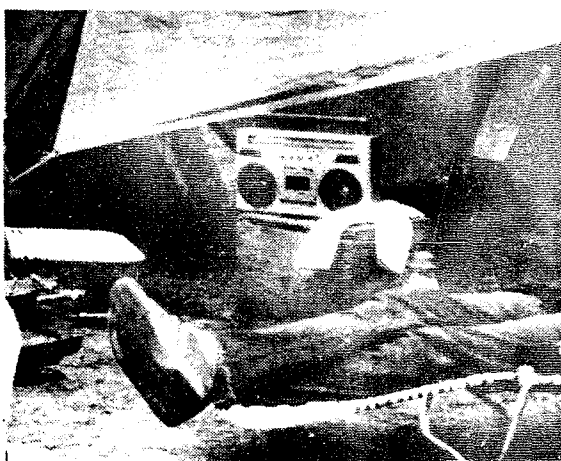
PRESS

Vol. 13, No. 12 : The University Community's Feature Paper : April 29, 1992

Dr. Khallid Abdul Muhammad



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POLITY TAKES ELECTIONS TO HEART

by Sparky McGee

As Union room 237 began to fill up Wednesday, April 15th, so did the tension as Tom Pye called the third to last Polity meeting of the semester to order. The meeting began with senator Fred Baptiste demanding an apology from senator Richard Cole, who Baptiste claims insulted various African-American clubs on campus. "These clubs have proven that they have a right to exist on this campus," said Baptiste. Cole responded by saying, "life sucks." The tension was obviously caused by last week's senator walk-out over the controversy of having Khalid Muhammad speak on campus. For those in a time warp, he is the very controversial Nation of Islam speaker who always seems to lean towards racism, segregation, and separatism.

However, there was more than that on the table last night. Election reforms were once again debated, and a motion was made that would enable Polity to adjudicate itself and suspend members that have been brought up on charges until they can go before the judiciary.

The motion requiring a 3/4 vote by the senate to suspend the rights of its members was presented by Fred Baptiste. It then promoted a lengthy discussion on the basic civil rights of all Americans. Clyde Cook, the senator for Chapin apartments, stated that, "Judge Clarence Thomas was not suspended pending his investigation prior to his Supreme Court appointment." His point being that no senator should be

suspended without a fair trial by the proper people. In the case of Vinnie Bruzzese, although he admitted his guilt, we still allow him by birthright to sit on the senate and vote for his commuter constituents.

This motion, however, was passed by a two thirds majority. It needed to pass by this much because it is an ammendment to the current Polity bylaws. (Good try Clyde! Maybe next time?)

There were those besides Clyde Cook, however, who adamantly protested this ammendment. In fact, the accused and almost ousted senator Bruzzese stated, "I finds the motion to be a political conspiracy. Suspension of privileges is a violation of the 14th Ammendment (due process of the law)."

No action was taken against Vinnie at this time. Since the judiciary committee is defunct, this motion was likely to have been created to get rid of Vinnie on their own.

No new news in the election committee department. They still have not agreed on how voting should take place in order to assure a fair and equal election. The senate council vetoed the motion to have one spot in the union, which will be open on 2 consecutive days from 8a.m. to 8p.m.

It was surprising to hear of this veto, since the senate voted unanimously two weeks ago to have this and other motions passed. Ron Nehring, another commuter senator, said, "if they do not override this veto we should just do

away with the entire election." Polity president Dan Slepian maintained that the purpose of the council veto was to counteract the walkout (and subsequent loss of quorum) by many senators at the previous Polity meeting, which occurred while a motion was on the floor to reconsider the election reforms. As it stands, they failed to override the veto.

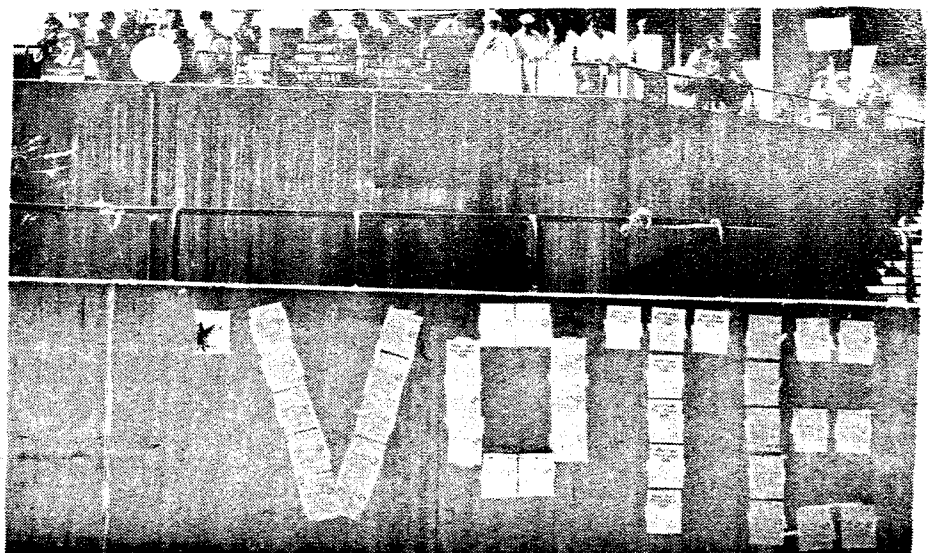
One of the influencing factors in

passing the veto was the reaction of many of the resident Leg's to the election reforms. According to Jonathan Hanke, Tusc

senator said his Leg was vehemently opposed to the reforms and Polity Treasurer David Greene maintained that

"if they do not override this veto we should just do away with the entire election."

R. Nehring



PRESS File

A New ARA for a New Year

By Sparky McGee

Despite what some students may call an outrage ARA has increased its meal plan prices for next year. With this however, promises Robert "Bob" Junghandel, District Manager for ARA, they will gain a new focus. Junghandel says that, "our focus will be very different, we will be talking with students, finding out what we did right and wrong." He has even mentioned hiring student cafeteria managers in order to establish a closer relationship with the students here.

For those still curious to why we have to face an increase in such hard times, is because it's tough all over, not just for students. The increase as far as Junghandel states is to "basically cover food and labor expenses," which are rising.

But despite all the bad students see they close their eyes and don't ask about the good which could come out of keeping ARA around despite the increase, which will not happen again next year. Although some think we are paying for their mistakes, we are not.

However, what we are paying for is what we have already been getting. Which hasn't always been bad, cold, and greasy.

The increase, which is about \$75, according to Junghandel, "will not be paying for their mistakes, they will be in the way of a substantial loss this year." He also went on to say that "we are only asking Stony Brook students to pay for what they are already getting." Their mistake came from underestimating the amount of meals students would be taking in Kelly, Roth, and H Quads. ARA's intention Junghandel said "was to provide the students with the lowest price possible without losing money." Obviously this failed so they thought why not offer the second lowest price possible and see how that works.

As students here we not only have the cheapest meal plan in town, but Junghandel says that "Stony Brook students have been very supportive of the meal plan as a whole, and that more students than before have signed up for a meal plan."

For those interested, FSA has issued a Food for Thought special edition, where they outline each of the seven plans available next year. This outline was

designed to help students pick the plan which best suites them.

Meal plan cost will work this way: Five of the options go for \$850, each having a different amount of meals and declining balance. The other two are designed for cooking dorms and off campus folks. One will be \$755 all declining balance, and the other a \$50 incremental. This last one is specifically designed for those who commute.

The one question I hear most students want to know about, is why can't we get a refund if we don't use all our d.b.? The answer is simple, in order for it stay a meal plan and retain its tax exemptness ARA can not offer a refund. What they suggest is to take a friend to lunch. If refunds were available, or if it could be added to next year we would have to pay a tax on the \$755, as well as in all of the places we would be eating. So stop asking the question and start eating.

In the more obscure land of ARA, Junghandel has agreed to investigate the use of illegal scales in the Union Deli. For those not familiar with this the scales at the registers plainly say not for use in legal trade. These scales are never set to counter-act for the weight of the cup, so the students not only pay for the food, but the cup itself. Junghandel promises to get to the bottom of this, because in

those rare instances they might even be undercharging the students.

Junghandel will also find out why the 1/2 lb. containers of salad can not be marked with a price, weight, and content before being put out for sale.

His suggestions for the use of the scales connected to the register will be looked into as well as getting a label making scale so we know what we are buying, before we buy it.

And for you New York pizza lovers out there, you will be glad to know that next year ARA will be turning from the pan to the screen. Which to us means thinner and crispier pizza. They are also looking into changing the topping policy so that we can have an everyday personal choice on what we want on our pizza, just like at any other pizzeria you might go to.

So remember don't be so concerned about the price and the food unless you are willing to talk to an ARA manager and work things out as a whole. The last thing they want is for you to stop buying the plan, and the last thing you want is to start all over with a new food service company.

Khallid: "Wickedly Great" Demagogue For Hire

By David IG Turner

You have to credit him; he's a practiced speaker - whipping up the crowd, eliciting and channeling anger towards facile targets, reworking history, anthropology, and religion to the end that is his goal. Simply amazing. He must have honed his craft for many a year on live audiences to have it so well rehearsed. To give Khallid his due, he communicated some positive messages to the Black brothers and sisters in the audience (it took him an objectively verifiable 6 minutes). He told them not to take drugs (especially the "white one," which I assume is crack), stay in school, know themselves, love themselves, and understand their roots and their right to Pride. He believes in African names, and denial of the Slave Names, and a Leader for the Black Nation. He declared that there is a "Cosmological Law that says that some mother somewhere is going to give birth to a baby. It's going to be a baby of Destiny. It's going to be a baby that will be born with the Cure, the Solution to whatever that Disease or Problem is. The same as it is with Oppression, Slavery, Bondage, Exploitation."

He seemingly missed some salient points about the Slavery of Blacks. Since Time immemorial, the northern Africans Arabs ("Semites") have enslaved Blacks, and sold them to others. Tribal (black) chieftains sold (black) warriors for pieces of shiny metal, for glass beads, for all sorts of nonsense. Tribes enslaved warriors and survivors whenever inter-tribal warfare ended in unilateral victory. In the "Kimmeth" (Egypt) that Khallid Muhammad seemingly identifies with, Blacks ("Nubians") were slaves of all the Dynasties of Upper and Lower Egypt, NOT the Egyptians themselves. Sorry, Khallid, I checked. You can find them on any pictographic representation; try the Metropolitan Museum in N.Y.C., enter and get a grip on history (not "His-Story") through looking at the tombs, the writings of the objectively verifiable Egyptians.

Khallid admits to choosing the "most despised and rejected, the people considered the lowest of the low, incorrigible, hopeless, irredeemable. To take a people like that and make them into the Chosen People is justice. A Black Man and a Black Woman, you are absolutely the Chosen People of the Living God." To perform this miracle, Khallid asserts that "the Original Cultured Man was black, and that Great Black Civilizations were extant while the White Man was living in his shit with corpses rotting next to him in the caves for 2000 years. The White Man didn't know anything about science, he ate his meat raw, busted animals in the head with a rock (laughter), dragged them back to the cave with blood and dirt and germs and diseases and filth drippin all over him...White people still eat their meat raw." He also posited that the Blacks are the original Chinese, Original

Japanese. We are, it seems, all "Johnny-Come-Latelys." Except, that is, for Blacks...As strange as this sounds, he posits that Black Civilization has been around for 2 million years...

The Black Nation, Khallid demanded, should be equipped with its own Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines. The Black Nation seemingly, should not be in

the unanimous acceptance of bigotry and racism by people given easy answers for difficult questions. Oh, and he also made sure that the anti-Jewish slurs were turned into anti-Israeli slurs, lambasting Israel for aiding South Africa (although he neglected to mention that Israel has aided Ghana, Nigeria, Cote D'Ivoire, and numerous other Black



BEEONE

Africa (which is "not the home but the throne of the Black Nation"), but HERE...Hm...isn't that kinda like Sedition?...Well, as rational as Black pride (and all pride, for that matter) is, Khallid dwelled at length on reversing the historio-religious dogmatic acceptance of White as good and civilized, and Black as bad and primitive. Hey-he has a linguistic point, but perhaps our innate fear of the unknown, the invisible, the dark is not racial but environmental.

His use of incendiary invective and his rhetorical appeal went straight to the audience's need for reassurance (for more than two and a half hours). They cheered. They laughed. They were entertained. Especially when he slid into Stand-Up Comedy, and mimicked how white people speak. "Heather, Dana, and Suzy" were castigated for being SLUTS if they get "Jungle Fever" and "put out" to the Brothers. "Behind your back many of the Blacks say that you are cheap. They say you give up the car keys and the car. They say you give up the credit cards and the credit. And if you ain't got credit, you give up the cash." Messages of anti-miscegenation and racial purity; if I closed my eyes, it could have been the flip side of David Duke and the Klan, even after his disclaimer...

"The Problem is not with crack, it's with the cracker." His ability to imitate, to jeer at whites really entertained the ignorant. They ate it up...Every "CRACKER" was met by a whopping big cheer. Every slur was accentuated by

African Nations with their agriculture, industry, and medicine). He told all the Jews that Blacks are the Chosen People, the True Hebrews are the Black People.

He is a "Truly Religious Man." The Question is; whose religion? Islam as practiced by millions of devout Muslims? No. A personal blend of myth and magic based on Kimmeth, the Black Egypt? Well, I guess so. A religion that uses the donations of poor and ignorant Blacks to financial gain? Seems so...I have read Elijah Muhammad extensively, and cannot separate racism from the positive goal of educating the ignorant Blacks of America, of creating an atmosphere of pride. As Khallid exhorted; "Look the God-damned white man in his cold blue eye, and say, uh-huh, Devil, don't even try!"

Farrakhan's "Hitler was a great man" gaffe was corrected into "Hitler was a wickedly great man." Well. My Islamic acquaintances were enormously pissed at Farrakhan's misinterpretation of the Koran. My Christian friends were surprised to find that "the Bible says that Jesus is a Black Man," had hair like lambs-wool (that "good, nappy Hair"), a "body like jasper," burnt brass...Everyone that I talked to (barring the one-cause fanatics who actually believe Khallid's line) was impressed with his ability to turn a crowd into racists. I sat next to two Black women, and talked to them before the lecture. After Khallid had driven his racial

wedge, they wouldn't even acknowledge my existence. They're racists now...Sad.

Most impressive of all was his ability to turn a buck. His newspapers were sold for \$2 each before the lecture. He was hawking his cassette tapes after the lecture. He said that he had returned his \$3000 fee, had financed his trip here on his own money, and requested donations while wearing a \$500 suit, \$500 shoes, four-toned socks, a diamond & emerald pinkie ring of gargantuan proportions, accompanied by Louis Vuitton luggage. He certainly knows how to milk his audience, squeeze every cent out of those who believe, who follow his "Corresponding Cosmic Connection." His bodyguards looked like inner-city ex-addict-thugs locked into a regimen of tough, proud, blind, belief. He reminded me of Rev. James Jones, of Guru Maharaj Gi, of all kinds of ordinary people who have learned crowd manipulation for profit. Hey, Malcolm X didn't charge admittance. Rev. Martin Luther King didn't sell papers and tapes. Rev. Ralph Abernathy didn't flaunt expensive jewelry. Rev. Jesse Jackson doesn't. They CARE(D). They're trying to change the situation of Black people in America, to improve, educate, keep hope alive, and redress the wrongs of slavery, create an atmosphere of equality and true harmony. They make our Black brothers and sisters into Leaders, not Followers. They, as opposed to Khallid, don't fleece the crowd, don't use Hate and Violence for a dollar. They earnestly believe in the Future, not just in the financial gain of the Nation of Islam. They organize voter registration, they change the communities, create opportunity. They don't sell their Brothers and Sisters short.

I have to acknowledge a great debt to Kathy Day of the Staller Center for providing tickets for the PRESS upon notification that press tickets had been denied all of Stony Brook's papers. What had seemed to be censorship by the sponsoring groups (or perhaps pure and unadulterated avarice) was rectified by Kathy's good offices, and I would like to thank her for this chance at viewing first-hand the effects of rhetoric upon soft-minds, of recording an objectively verifiable tape, Khallid's spleen and ire. This phenomenon was spectacular, and unique in its fervor and fanaticism, and although the Student Activity Fee might go to multicultural and tolerant use rather than one proposing racial segregation and division, I wouldn't have missed this craftsman for the world. Arambe, indeed!

A transcript of The Khallid Speech in its entirety will be published in the next edition of the PRESS

Quad Cleanup

May 1, 1992 10 am - 4pm

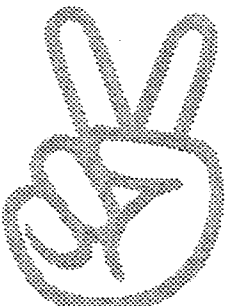
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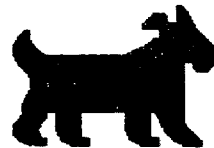
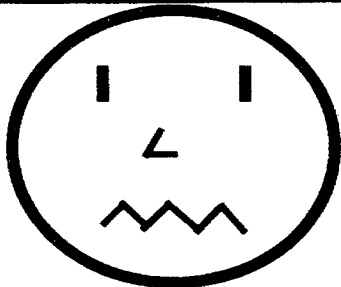
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POSITIONS TO VOTE ON:
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VICE PRESIDENT
SECRETARY
SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE
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SOPHOMORE REPRESENTATIVE
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STOP THE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS

By Shari Nezami

Brief History

In 1967, during the six day war against Egypt, Syria, and Jordan, Israel seized the West Bank and Gaza Strip, as well as Syria's Golan Heights and Egypt's Sinai Peninsula. Though the Sinai was returned to Egypt as part of 1982's Camp David accord, the West Bank, Gaza, and Golan Heights continue to be occupied and governed by Israel's armed forces. Most of these territories are under constant military curfew and a program of land expropriation and settlement of Israel's "own population" is being conducted by the Israeli government, supported mainly by the \$4 Billion per year that is sent to Israel by our government.

The West Bank is an area of 2,270 square miles populated by 1 million Palestinians, 200,000 of whom reside in refugee camps. There are also 205,000 Israeli settlers, more than half of whom live in Jerusalem and its environs. The majority of these settlers are from the U.S., and an increasing number come from the U.S.S.R. 52% of the land on the West Bank is reserved exclusively for Israeli settlers.

The Gaza Strip is 135 miles between Israel and the Mediterranean Sea. The Palestinian population is 750,000, the majority of whom live in refugee camps. Gaza's Jabalya Camp is one of the most densely populated places on earth. While the number of Israeli settlers numbers only 5,000, 40% of Gaza's land area is reserved for Israeli settlements.

Should the Settlements Be Stopped ?

Since the two territories were seized during a war, Israel controls the

territories as a result of military occupation, however lengthy this occupation has been, this confers no claim to sovereignty under international law. Paragraph 6 of Article 49 of the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War states that "the occupying power in time of war shall not deport or transfer part of its own civilian population into the territory it occupies." Despite this, however, the Israeli regime is conducting a program of land expropriation and settlement of Israel's own population throughout the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in direct contravention of international law and its legal responsibilities as an occupying power.

Life Under Occupation

In Jerusalem, entire Palestinian neighborhoods have been dynamited to make way for urban "settlements," often luxury condos for well-off U.S. settlers. Palestinian residents are forbidden to repair their homes, which are then condemned and torn down to make way for settlements. While Israeli settlements have unrestricted water access, Palestinian villages are limited to the amount of water they used in 1967. Tens of thousands of Palestinians have been jailed by the Israeli Occupiers for such crimes as wearing the Palestinian colors or being in Israel after midnight. Palestinians can be "detained" - jailed for a year without any charge at all. One Palestinian woman, recently interviewed on Pacifica, claimed she had been detained for an entire day, her only crime- opening her door after curfew. According to B'Tselem, an Israeli human rights organization, the torture of Palestinian prisoners is routine by Israeli security forces. The report goes on to



Rasha Houshiyyeh of Ramallah, blinded by a rubber bullet

state that one-fourth of the 20,000 Palestinian prisoners have been subjected to torture. Palestinian spokespersons claim the figure to be even higher. According to the Campaign to Stop Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestine, "prisoners have been deprived of medicine, food and kept in solidarity confinement sometimes for years. Other prisoners have been held in cages in desert camps without water; or unprotected in bitter cold." Avigdor Feldman, an Israeli attorney who has defended Palestinian property holders on the West Bank against land seizures, is reported to have told the Campaign that "Israel regards the occupation not as a military episode but as a national Jewish and Zionist affair. Military reasons for Jewish settlements are in best cases secondary, and in most cases a cover-up."

On April 1st and 2nd the Israeli military opened fire on unarmed Palestinian men, women, and children in the Gaza Strip market and the Rafah and Jabalya refugee camps. Reports indicate that the army deliberately shot to kill, several deaths being caused by army vehicles running over fleeing people. Residents defied a military curfew to hold a memorial procession for their loved ones killed in this attack and major protests are taking

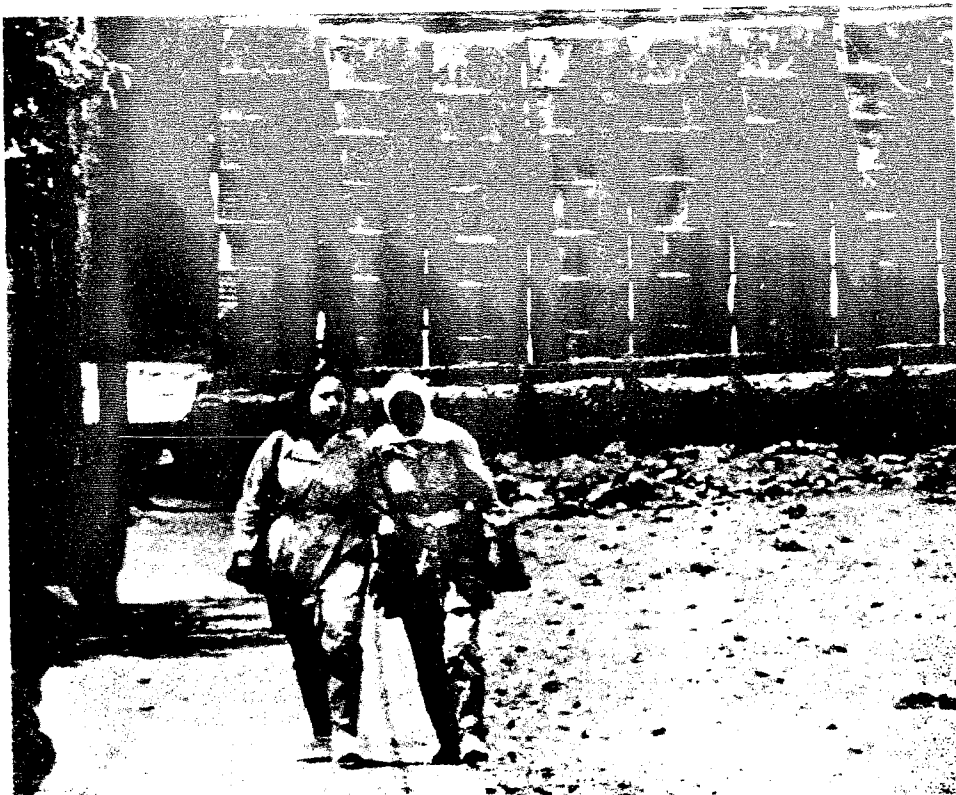
place throughout the Gaza Strip and the West Bank. The Palestinian community has issued an urgent call for world-wide condemnation of Israel and asked for solidarity from progressive people everywhere.

What Part Does the U.S. Play ?

Each year the U.S. government sends approximately \$4 Billion in aid to the Israeli government. With out this aid the Israeli government would be unable to keep up its military presence in the occupied territories. Nor would it be able to continue building the settlements. To date 210 illegal settlements have been set up and 300,000 more settlers are being forced to go to the Occupied Territories. The loan guarantee proposals for the settlements are coming up in Congress. It is interesting to note that U.S. banks are the main lenders and U.S. construction companies provide the main building materials for them. The Bush administration limits the number of Soviet Jewish immigrants to the U.S., therefore forcing them to go to Israel where they are then sent to the Occupied Territories by the Israeli government. Recently, Israel demanded that the German government issue deportation orders to 270 Soviet Jewish immigrants who had left Israel and insisted that they be returned to Israel.

In lew of the attack on Palestinian human rights the Campaign to Stop Israeli Settlements In Occupied Palestine has been formed to show solidarity with the Palestinian people and their fight for self-determination. The Campaign is located at 36E. 12th Street in New York City. They can be contacted at (212) 254-5385 or (212) 385-4233, they can be faxed at (212) 979-1583. Financial contributions and volunteers are needed !

Much of this information was obtained from a packet distributed by the Coalition to Stop Israeli Settlements.



Blocked entrance to Dhaisha camp on the West Bank

Tent City Revisited

By Robert V. Gilheany

Tent City, a housing protest that occupied land in front of the Administration and Physics buildings from April 1987 until the Fall of 1988, was one of the most remarkable collective activities ever set up on this campus. The protest, which began with students living in tents, endured three days of arrests in July 1987, and then maintained a presence through the use of wooden "tents." Innovative weekly gatherings empowered students angry with a university whose housing ranked among the worst, and most expensive, in the SUNY system.

Tent City went up near the end of a spring semester with full demonstrations and work stoppages by graduate student employees seeking better working conditions. Some issues being negotiated were the low base stipend of \$6,000, the need for comprehensive guidelines relating to the terms of employment for graduate students, the high cost and shortage of space at the university's day care centers, and the need for better health insurance. Back then the Graduate Student Employees Union was in the midst of its hearing before the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), fighting for the right to hold a certification election. (They are still fighting for this right, although victory appears near.) Not having union representation made it difficult to bargain collectively, and next to impossible to gain concrete concessions from the administration.

Jay Everett, then a Philosophy graduate student who with Janet Bohrer an undergraduate started the Tent City protest, Everett said he was afraid that the GSO Ad Hoc Committee, set up to negotiate with the administration, wasn't going to act strongly enough. He set up an independent movement to erect Tent City partly to shame the GSO into going on strike and partly to bring attention to the housing issue, which was not addressed in GSO's negotiations with the

administration. Everett said, "We needed to show people how to carry out a fight," instead of picketing and sending petitions out. Everett said he felt that the GSO would not have pulled off the second work stoppage if it wasn't pushed. He thought that the GSO committee was going to liberal out and not strike.

In 1987 the university was plagued not just by a shortage of housing but also incredibly dismal conditions. Residence Life was regularly tripling people up in double rooms. President John Marburger told Newsday that the campus needed 1,000 more dorm rooms to deal with the overflow. In this case, times have changed. Today there are many vacancies in the dorms due to the high cost and, probably, because most students have realized that it's better and cheaper to put together a house off-campus. Housing shortages were not the only factor in the protest. Affordability was also a major issue. This was one of the issues that attracted me to the Tent City movement. It represented free housing. The situation was just as bad then in regard to affordable housing. You have to come up with an exorbitant ransom just for housing, so a tent city is a wonderful, subversive way to buck the system.

Tent City's specific demands were centered on the need for affordable housing, ending the Town of Brookhavens oppressive zoning laws that limited the number of unrelated people who could live in a house to four (this has since been overturned by the courts), making summer housing available for homeless graduate students who can't afford housing, fixing the heat in the Chapin Apartments, and setting up a task force on housing and homelessness.

While much of this went on during the GSO protests,

and Tent City residents partook in GSO actions, undergraduates made up a large part of Tent City. In fact, many of the residents of Tent City were truly homeless students or members of the campus community. Back then, the situation in the dorms was even worse than it is today (if that can be believed). Students would go without heat or hot water for days at a time, and these dorms were the highest priced in the SUNY system! People were feeling ripped-off and began joining Tent City. By early May, approximately 30 students had pitched tents and were camping out on the oval patch of grass in front of the Administration Building. A chicken coop with egg-laying chickens and ducks was erected, a wood stove was brought in for cooking, and a community was being formed.

The second work

stoppage began on May 1 and lasted until May 5, when the university and members of the GSO negotiating committee reached an agreement ending the strike. A stipend increase, the formation of a grievance procedure, and a subsidy for child care were tangible victories. Another part of the agreement stated that no retribution would be taken against grad students who took part in the strike. Everett said that many deans at the university were pissed off about that. He also added that the then chairman of the Philosophy Department, Donald Welton, conspired to get him kicked out of the department. He also said that the funding was changed to discriminate against him. "I was the first fifth-year



Nadine Griffiths

PRESS File

ABD (All But Dissertation) graduate student to be denied funding in the department," he said.

With the strike over and graduation approaching, the administration moved to end Tent City. They always move to end collectively run co-ops that empower students, and Tent City would be no exception. Near the end of the spring 1987 semester, they started hinting that Tent City had no purpose anymore. There was a shooting in H Quad and Marburger used this as a pretext to end Tent City. He cited the safety of the university community and fears that Tent City would become a target of violence, and urged that Tent City come to an end. To dramatize the misplaced security concerns about the Tent City site, one night the Tent Cityers went to every dorm building on campus and magic-marked the window frames or doorways that were left unlocked or were broken. Every building on campus was found to have at least one door or window unlocked or unlockable. This showed the administration where their safety priorities should be.

Marburger, feeling pressure from SUNY, ordered students to leave the site or face arrest on the evening of May 17. But after students voluntarily dismantled the first site, they convinced him to allow a re-establishment of Tent City on the Grad Physics lawn. Marburger agreed but said the camp would have to disband on June 15, which the students rejected. "The Committee to Save Tent City" sued the university in an effort to get a restraining order blocking the clearing of the site. Deadlines came and went throughout June. On July 1 Federal Judge Leonard Wexler set a July 8 deadline for submission of oral arguments in the case. The next day, the university moved in.

They gave the students an hour to clear the site and when people refused, Public Safety and campus administrators used violent means to remove people and personal property from the site. Two students were injured; Nadine Griffiths suffered a head injury when she was thrown to the ground, and Kim Taylor suffered a knee injury as she was being dragged away.

The next day, students met with the administration and said they were going to re-establish the camp. Marburger said he could not allow it and the students said they would rather be arrested than manhandled.



Jay Evert at the stove/1987

George Bidermann

No Frills Polity Section

Just the way you like it Stony Brook... plain and simple. Here are the latest Student Polity election candidates. Asked were a series of long and complex questions on a variety of campus related subjects. Included are only the major ones...Sorry guys, no space. (Fair warning: candidate responses have been printed unedited and unexpurgated, grammatical errors and all.) The big day is April 29, so read up my kiddies...

President- is the advocate for the student body and a mediator between the students and the administration. The President must be able to handle procedural duties such as chairing Council meetings and preparing agendas for both Council and Senate meetings. He/She also appoints all the members of Polity committees, with a few exceptions.

Vice-President- moderates meetings of the Senate and must be able to perform the duties of President in the event of a vacancy.

Secretary- responsible for all forms of correspondence, keeping track of records and informing students of all actions of the Council and Senate

Class Representatives- delegate power to appropriate Polity agencies and promote a program of service, of political, cultural, and educational projects and activities

Judiciary- has jurisdiction over all Constitutional interpretations, school-wide judicial problems, and appeals from lower Polity courts. The Supreme Court of Stony Brook

The following questions were asked to all candidates below. the Pres. VP answered all four, the others only first two.

1. Why are you running, and what are your qualifications for office ?
2. What is the single major problem confronting students, both residents and commuters?
3. What do you see as the major problem within Polity, and how would you go about solving the problem?
4. What would you propose to improve the security at Stony Brook?

Candidates for President

Michael Lyons: President

1. I am running for President of Polity because I feel I can affect a change to make Polity representative of all Stony Brook students and their concerns. Polity has been severely deficient in its responsiveness to student's needs, and I have designed a series of proven programs that offer results not rhetoric, to end this problem. I have a broad base of campus involvement from which I have received a wealth of input on campus issues: I have been an Editorial Board member of a campus newspaper, an executive board member of the IFSC, H-Quad representative on the Room Rate Review Committee, Treasurer for a campus fraternity, a Resident Assistant, and an Alternate Senator for O'Neill College. (I helped ratify Polity's 91/92 budget)

2. Both residents and commuters are hurt by tuition hikes and cuts to financial assistance. These cuts to the State's Higher Education Budget jeopardize all students rights to an affordable education. Before we propose another solution that lacks substance and cannot deliver results, we must get to the cause of these budget results.

In a limited-sum game cuts are made according to propriety. Politicians in NYS put a low priority on higher education because 18-24 year olds have the lowest voter turnout rate of any age group, therefore it is politically "safe" to cut our funding. (The ramifications to the politicians who cut our funds is limited.) Seventy four percent of those registered to vote in our age group, vote! We need to register! I propose a massive voter registration drive through the Legs' in conjunction with NYPIRG. If we get all the potential voters registered, we will be given a polling place on campus, making it easier to vote. I also intend to empower the Legs', so students will have a reason to go, and lots of students will get registered. With 17,000 undergraduate students voting on one issue, "do no cut our funding," no sane politicians will cut education again.

3. The major problem with Polity is that it does not trust the students. Polity doesn't trust students enough

to tell them where your money is being spent, or bring the issues of Polity to the students. I have two programs I guarantee will bring issues and information to students and increase student involvement in Polity, which the students pay for.

The first idea is to take a half page out of the Polity page on Monday to devote to issues (motions,) of the senate, it will include how members of Polity voted on the issue, what their attendance is, what constituency they represent, and also would list potential agenda items for the upcoming senate meetings. Students would read about the issues on Monday, providing input to their senators at the Legs' on Tuesday and senators would go back to the Senate on Wednesday to represent their constituents opinions, not their own.

The second idea is to compile over the summer a handbook, free to students, that would list all organizations that receive Polity funding, these groups receive annually and a contact number for each group, so students can find out how to get involved. Or call up and have the groups tell students more about what they do. (1500 copies would be available in the SB Union lobby, more would be made as necessary.)

4. Firstly, I would not propose arming Public Safety, for I feel arming would not improve student safety. I would propose more night patrols by Public Safety officers, especially in south P lot. More lights are needed, in addition to more and better maintained blue-light emergency phones. Surveillance cameras could be utilized at South P at night.

The issue of rape and date rape need to be seriously addressed on this campus. A woman's issues program could be incorporated into orientation to educate men on women's rights.

P.S. Remember to vote this Wednesday, empower yourself. Show Polity students care enough to get involved.

Candidates for Vice-President

Scott Joachim: Vice President

1. As a former Polity Judiciary member, senator and

Statesman editor. I have dealt with student issues from all angles. As Vice-President, I intend to bring Polity to the students, increase awareness and produce an efficient, accessible and accountable student government.

2. The greatest problem confronting students is the inaccessibility of Polity. The more accessible Polity is the more it promotes diversity and new ideas. It's time to put the word students back into student government.

3. As the forum for all student concerns, Polity needs to be much more efficient. The senate's time is often wasted on personal conflicts and personal agendas. As the moderator of the senate, I will not allow the constant bickering and grand standing which now defines the senate. The students deserve results.

4. The issue of campus safety is one of the most serious issues facing us students. Before we concern ourselves with arming Public Safety, we must first lobby for more lighting, more blue light phones and a safe environment.

Jerry Canada: Vice President

1. I am running for the position of Vice President because I see a need for some "new blood" on the council. My point of view on vital issues is unjaded. The council is definitely lacking my kind of objectivism. Co-chairing the Student Activities Board is an extremely important duty of Polity's Vice-president. I strongly feel that such a powerful and prosperous organization should be led by someone who is aware of the importance of cultural and political diversity on campus.

I have been a senator for Irving College for this past academic year, and as such I am and have been extremely active in Polity. I chair the International Affairs Committee and the Athletic Budget Subcommittee, and co-chaired the Academic Affairs Committee. In terms of the senate itself, I traveled to Albany to lobby for student's rights, and I expressed my concerns about tuition increases and financial aid cuts to Arthur eve, Deputy Majority Leader of the New York State Assembly.

2. The inability of students to participate in the Administrative decision making process is counter-productive to both students' best interests and their rights. Administration should be a group of employees who work first for students, and then for the state. Instead, the opposite is true. Unprecedented fees and policies are instated regularly without student knowledge or support. It is as though the burden of running this university has been placed on our shoulders, rather than on the shoulders of those who are being paid to carry this burden.

3. Although I feel that it is both productive and necessary that Polity officers represent different points of view, the rift that now exists within the body serves no purpose other than delay in making decisions and fanning the flames of personal conflict. Better communication needs to be instilled in Polity, and it should begin with those holding Polity's highest offices. Working to establish peace in Crown Heights this past summer taught me that the worst way to resolve issues is to enter a conflict representing only your best interests. I see this happening with Polity, and I strongly support the hiring of an outside consultant to teach Polity officers to work together and resolve conflicts without mud-slinging. Officers must learn to realize that they were elected to represent a larger body, a constituency. My ultimate goal is to help make Polity what it should be, a student government working together to achieve common goals.

4. It is outrageous that the students of Stony Brook can not go home for a weekend or for a break without worrying about the security of their personal belongings. Public Safety has an important job to do when we're not here as well as when we are. Extra security around the clock must also be implemented in the commuter parking lots to aid in the prevention of the numerous break-ins and assaults that occur there virtually every day.

I don't feel that arming the Public Safety officers is the answer to our security problems. This is a college campus, where the behavior of students is often adversely affected by alcohol and other substances. A campus is also a place where students should feel at home. Turning Stony Brook into an armed campus can only make a bad situation worse. A lot of people feel that arming Public Safety would be a positive move, as it would increase our opportunities to hold concerts and other large events. As far as I am concerned, being able to attend a concert is not a fair trade-off for the possibility of an accidental or purposeful shooting of even one student. Instead of the drastic measure of arming, I would strongly recommend the hiring of a private security firm or some other such organization to fully evaluate the procedures and performance of Public Safety over a period of weeks. We could use such an evaluation to make improvements in Stony Brook security. This is the only fair beginning to a solution.

Rachel Richards: Secretary

1. I have been involved in Polity for the past year. I have seen many areas which need devotion and I plan to devote myself these issues if elected. I have been a member of a Sorority which has given me a sense of comradeship and a knowledge of teamwork, all of which I feel will be an invaluable asset to working with students as a member of Polity. The most salient feature that I possess, that makes me most qualified is that I have been a student here for the past four years, and have had to personally combat various issues facing students.

2. I'm not going to pick one of the controversial issues often discussed, for I don't feel there is one issue that is most important. Students at Stony Brook are extremely diverse and what maybe be a major problem for some may not be a problem for others. Although, one problem that does face every student (commuters and residents) is the lack of unity amongst them. If elected, I would like to see Polity become the vehicle that drives students together.

Oral Muir: Secretary

I am running for Student Polity Secretary because I

have been witness to the squabbling and infighting that has in a great way crippled Student Polity's ability to develop coherent policies and effectively serve students. Instead of sitting back and hoping that someone will step forward, someone who will serve the best interests of students first, I have thrown my hat into the race in order to humbly offer my services to the students. I have now been involved in student government for the past nine (9) years of my life.

I graduated salutatorian of my high school class. I was class president and also president of my high schools branch of the Arista Honor Society. Here at Stony Brook, I have been the President of the Unity Cultural Center for the past year. My position at the Unity Cultural Center is akin to the roles of the Polity President and Polity Executive Director combined. My agenda for the past year has been one of active cultural education. We now exist in a global community where it is no longer enough to simply exist along side one another. We must instead foster an understanding that would reflect the true state of our existence. We are cultural and ethnic units that must communicate, cooperate, and compromise with each other, in order to facilitate true forward progress, and also to be functional in redeveloping and employing new strategies in dealing with faltering socio-economic models.

I have also for the last three(3) years served on numerous committees advocating students concerns and issues. I have served as Co-chair of the Residence Hall Associations Residential Improvement Committee, where we tackled issues varying from tuition increases and fees, to providing better facilities to students who pay cooking fees. I have also served on the Student Health Action Committee (SHAC,) where I have, for the past year, argued against any arbitrary increases in the student health fee from \$45 to \$50.

The single major problem confronting students, both commuters and residents, is that of economic uncertainty. This leads to questions as to what standard of living will a college degree afford us in a failing economy. This is a paramount problem. Many student leaders are content in tackling issues such as the arming issue etc. However, when faced with tuition increases, financial aid cuts, and pressures at home, it sometimes comes down to a question of attending school next year. Even if you can afford school for the upcoming year, what happens when our resumes are placed at the bottom of a pile of resumes that belong to the past three graduating classes? Many students have questions in reference to what fields they can access even if their degrees reflect another discipline. This indicates that career development services need to be made more accessible and broad. It is crucial that higher education and advisors promote technical proficiency, flexibility, and diversity being demanded by a changing job market. By all means, students need a government that will address the issues that affect them, however, students must hold their elected representatives responsible for also addressing the problems that effect them.

This, I believe, can be accomplished by and through the constituent organizations of Student Polity in the short term. I would dedicate my energies to addressing the issues that concern students, but also utilize this position, if elected, to developing comprehensive long term solutions to some of the problems that affect students.

Tricia Stuart: Junior Rep

1. I am running for the position of Junior Representative to increase the needed interaction between the students and their representatives of Polity. Students are often manipulated due to their lack of knowledge of Polity. If elected to this position, I plan to present the available campus resources through programs I've researched and plan to implement. Interaction and awareness are vital in accomplishing any goal. Polity has a great amount of potential, which has been retarded due to this problem-"lack of interaction."

I believe I offer the qualities and experience needed to

represent the Junior Class. Through working as an Assistant Treasurer of Polity, I've gained the qualities of being approachable, open-minded and hard working and I've gained the experience of interacting with the student body, forming a good rapport. I have also learned how the structure of Polity is run. Therefore, I believe I am the qualified and dedicated liaison the Junior Class needs to benefit from Polity's resources.

2. Tuition increases and budget cuts, I think are the major problems facing students today. The voice of the student body's objections are ignored. We need someone who's going to make a difference and not talk the difference.

Joe Villanueva: Junior Rep

I am running for Junior Representative because the inefficiencies in the Polity Senate. The Senate is deviating from student issues. Quite simply, I will bring the senate back to its grass roots.

I am a leader, a man of ideas, and not afraid to stand up for my constituents.

My qualifications are as follows:

- Active member of Eisenhower Leg for two years.

- This year I am Leg President.

- I am familiar with the senate. I have attended several meetings.

- I was a member of SAC. I helped in 1990 home coming celebration

- Last month I rallied outside the union to protest the tuition increases.

- Last semester I marched to stop parking fees.

The single most important problem for the residents and commuters is **UNITY**. Even though there are many problems such as tuition increases, large classes, security, parking etc. These are only the symptoms to the disease. The panacea is student unity. If students come together, we *will* have a wave of influence to drown out any bureaucratic body. Seventeen thousand students acting as one will achieve great changes.

Kim Bost: Judiciary

1. I am running for this position because I am interested in becoming a part of student government on campus. I have been a student at Stony Brook for three years and I have never had any direct involvement with student government, so when the position for judiciary opened, I decided to give it a chance and run for it. My qualifications are experience with being on an executive board. For the past two years I've sat on the executive board of African-American Students Organization. This has enabled me to gain experience in negotiating with people and decision-making, which I feel are important assets as a judiciary candidate.

2. The single major problem confronting all students is the current economic recession facing the state. Budget cuts have made it most difficult and inconvenient for students to get the quality education they came to Stony Brook for. All of the classes are much larger than they should be. For the classes that are offered, some are offered at inopportune times of the day because sections have been cut. As a sociology major, I'm forced to take mandated class from 8 to 9:20 p.m. For returning students this may be a favorable option but for a full time student this could create major problems. A student could miss out on extracurricular activities they want to participate in or it may cause a problem for a student trying to get home. Some students have jobs which require them to work in the morning. If they have classes they are mandated to take which are offered only during one semester, early in the morning, this can cause a major discrepancy between their classes and job. Other students are forced to wait for some classes because they aren't offered during some semesters. This is bad because it could delay graduation or a rise in class standing. All of these problems need to be faced head-on in a hurry or else the educational system as we know it (or rather, knew it) is headed for disaster.

WE at the press support those candidates who had the time to answer our questions.

continued from Letters, page 12

be rehired as adjuncts at a lower salary. More generally, hiring adjunct will bring in people with no commitment to the university and the program in which they will be teaching.

The GSEU is a presence on campus committed to remind the university community that graduate student rights must be addressed.

Dear Editor,

The Article "Peace in the Middle East" which appeared on March 11, 1992 is an excellent example of what democracy as envisioned by the founders of our constitution is supposed to stand for.

Having attended Uriel Savir's Seminar on prospects of peace between the Israelis and Pales. myself, I was unimpressed by the way in which the apparently very talented Shari Nezami, depicted a side to Uriel Savir which was not revealed in previous articles covering the event, or describing his outdated ideas of "peace".

Having visited Israel several times it was not difficult for me to forsake the former depiction's to sympathize more closely with Miss Nezami's accurate diagnosis of Uriel Savir's insensitivity towards the Palestinian people of the region and indeed blatant ignorance of the roots of the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts or as he called it "Israel Bashing."

I and many of the student body greatly appreciate the risks taken by the editorial arm of the Press in agreeing to bring their readers both sides of the story. Keep up the good work!

Cynthia Fareed

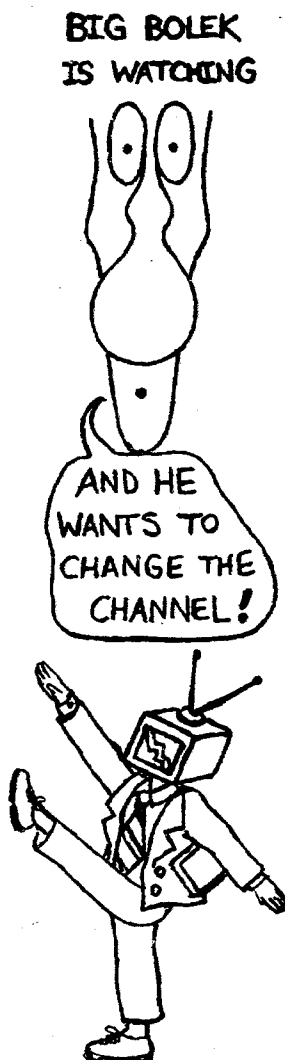
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record, for a more live approach." For example, although there was a lot of number-crunching in a track like 'Download', the album was recorded at the analog Mushroom studios not some fancy modern digital outfit. "It had a recognizable sound," said KEY and this

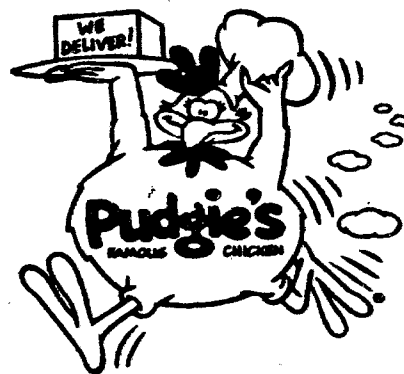
shows in the noisiness and classic rock grittiness of the record. Lyrically the album is full of what KEY calls "a lot of eye-opening scream therapy," and he also points out that Ogre's role is a little different being straight for seven months before the record's completion. As Ogre said in a press release, "The end of a certain period in my life seen smack dab in the middle of a lot of pain and confusion." This record is, "the product of being near death, of being read those last rites..." Thus the most introspective Skinny Puppy album to date. If

Skinny Puppy Last Rights

Produced by DAVE OGILVIE AND DEVIN KEY



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VIVIssectVI was Skinny Puppy screaming about world conditions, Rabies was Skinny Puppy and Ministry screaming about world conditions, Too Dark Park was the screaming film sound-track to world conditions, than Last Rights is Skinny Puppy screaming about Skinny Puppy. The band doesn't see too much further past the upcoming tour, when they'll be in New York at the Ritz on June 9th. But who could ask them to predict life after death...? "Killing Game," which is a dramatic soliloquy, Ogre as Lady Macbeth, is the groups first planned video, a song too fierce for MTV.

From the sinister serenade of "Love in Vein", to the astral vision of "Download," the new Capitol release should both surprise and delight Skinny Puppy fans and possibly make a few new ones, hopefully scaring the hell out of a few people in the process.

MJ12

grafik courtesy of CIRCIUT

the other Muhammad



So there were critics including yours truly who doubted the integrity of SB when it came to RAVING, but alas such qualms were quickly dispersed as LGBTQA, SACA, and DJ Mohammed came by storm to MINDFUNK last Thursday nite, all night, in the Fannie Brice Theater. So there were those somewhat HOMOPHOBIC and rightfully so as the closet drag queens of SB came out of hiding, but so what? The Brothers and Sisters present showed all a positivity and unity rarely seen at Stony Brook, who knew what cool people conglomerated behind the heavily stickered door in the basement of the Union. SAB not doing their job did the students a grave disservice by not providing the proper atmosphere for the TRUE RAVE STATE. Yet only by love and unity did the truly hardcore people like Brandon and Darren and our own Dean Markadakis (who incidentally looked ravishing), get together what turned out to be the highlight of campus events. Who hired the stooges at SAB to throw sappy frat house parties and Chocolate Pudding wrestling?? For my \$37 Student Activity fee I should see some more good clean raving where almost a hundred and fifty people had nothing but a good time.

It was a great party for Stony Brook," said Beat-rice, Stony Brook's only hardcore techno DJ on Sunday late night in Hardcore Heaven from 2-4. Getting in for me and the Photo Editor, Beeone, was a tad difficult due to the unbelievable demand for tickets, but soon we were presented with our stamp, our free condom, and our free Charms Blow Pops. It took a bit until the party started rolling and a few scantily clad honeys entertained everyone in the two large cages on either side of DJ Mohammed. But all at once the first RAVE RUSH started and there was no turning back from there. Several more PRESS members were present including Monique, Rob Gilheany, and Joe DiStefano. We were all glad to let off some steam especially since this particular production has been Hell.

No emphasis on drugs (though they were there) and no meat-market mentality. People felt really comfortable just having a good time with no pressures. But the best was the true multicultural spirit there. All races, colors and sexual orientations danced in true freedom and harmony, only to hardcore techno. The campus goes on and on in it's futile efforts to TEACH multiculturalism, but this was the first instance where students FELT the kinship with their brethren of color and style. Women were not treated as sexual objects. They could relax and dance, and gays played with no fear of retaliation. But that is enough politics — the head game stopped with MINDFUNK. If I didn't see ya, I'd hate to be ya! Peace from MJ



fighting for the right to rave

Looking Back Five Years Later

More than 45 arrests took place over the nights of July 3, 7, and 9. All arrests from July 7 and 9 were eventually thrown out of the court, and students accepted ACOD's (conditional discharges) on the July 3 arrests.

University did renovate the Chapin Apartments, but the presidential (Marburger) idea to solve the affordable housing problem was to propose constructing a new grad complex with rooms renting for \$400 a month. "This is for people who were making \$500 dollars per

site and at the Graduate Student Lounge, a great bar/hangout that used to be located in Old Chemistry; in fact they played long after Tent City itself ended.

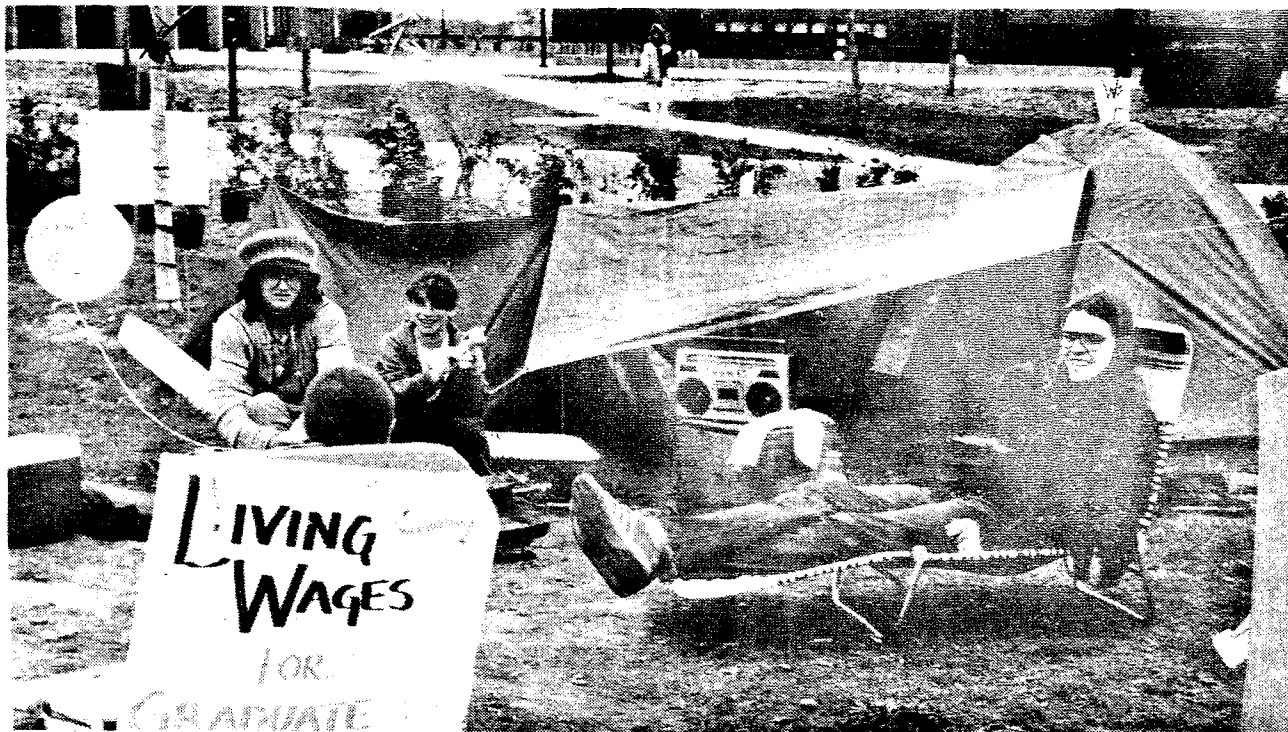
The appearance of Tent City evolved through the 1987-88 year. Junk furniture, many signs, and even a pool and ladder, toilet, and television were added to the site. For a while the site was covered with wooden signs that were constructed in the shape of tents. These signs conveyed the sentiments of the ongoing movement. In Spring 1988, the night before Jesse Jackson was due to make a campaign appearance at Stony Brook, someone burned down all the signs. The administration didn't do much to investigate it even though setting fires on a campus that receives federal funding is a felony. It turned out that a Polity politician who was connected with the College Republicans was bragging about it.

The signs were rebuilt, but the presence on the site began to dwindle over the summer of 1988. By Fall, the students had agreed to dismantle the remaining signs. It took until the Spring of 1989 for the court cases to be resolved.

Tent City focused attention on the university's housing problems like no other demonstration in memory. It helped spur the Chapin rent strikes on 1988 and 1989, and the university was forced to expend energy and

funds into fixing up its slums. But for me, what was most important was that a lot of people were radicalized and drawn together by it. Stony Brook has not seen this type of community of resistance since.

George Bidermann contributed to this article.



Lajla Lund (hat) and friends at site

A week after the last arrests, Federal Court Judge Wexler ruled that students had the right to carry on the protest for as long as they wanted, but the administration could prohibit overnight camping on the property of the university. This ended, for good, the living phase of the protest.

The GSO put Everett on the Presidential Ad Hoc Committee to negotiate housing problems. Some of the demands that were not met were the setting up of temporary emergency housing for students who were evicted or homeless. Many of these students lived in offices throughout the campus. They showered in the gym locker room and shaved in the bathrooms. The nerve-racking thing about living in offices is the fear of

month," Everett said. "If that's your idea of affordable housing," he told them, "then you're stupider than I thought," and walked out of the meeting.

Tent City became a community of resistance over the next year, as wooden signs and "tents" were built and gatherings held regularly. On Wednesdays they had barbeques and people would gather to talk, play music, and party. All food was bought communally and poorer students gave what they could. The Tent City Orchestra was formed with Mark Stewart, Mike Morgan, Lajla Lund and George Bidermann on guitars and other stringed instruments, Ruth Heidelberger on violin, Colin Forsyth on tuba and Brian Aksamit on harmonica. They did mostly cover songs with a few originals, song

Dan Smith



Jay Evert and Michael Morgan

Dan Smith

Think About It!

Before Khallid Abdul Muhammad came to Stony Brook many groups had mobilized against him. Polity had a huge debate over it and some senators even walked out during the meeting because the issue was dragged out.

Then there were the flyers which were meant to warn the students about the man whom Polity was bringing to speak here. Had anyone actually heard him say those things? But still if it was in the *New York Times* then it must be true. There was such a rucous made over it, and all that did was attract more attention to him and make more people want to go see him. Some might say that people like him should not be ignored, that they should be fought, and maybe they're right. However, the more controversy we afford them, the better it is for them and their cause. More people will be attracted to see them and they will earn more money. Really, think about it, how many events at Stony Brook pull 800 people? The event itself was better advertised by its opponents than by its supporters.

People like Khallid Abdul Muhammad are dangerous. However, we must look at them in the context of the society that they represent. Not everyone likes the things that Khallid Abdul Muhammad has to say he's a racist, and a sexist. He plays race politics and feels that he can uplift one race by denigrating another. Anyone with a brain knows that this is wrong. If black people are better than whites by virtue of the fact that whites were nothing more than a bunch of cave animals, what does that prove? What about the fact that "It ain't where you're from, it's where you're at?" Should we judge an entire group of people by where they supposedly came from? Whether your ancestors are kings or criminals what bearing does that have on who you are and what your life is all about?

While no one can deny the fact that African history has for far too long been ignored, this is not the path to remedy that problem. If people like Khallid Abdul Muhammad want to help uplift the Black Nation, how about starting a

scholarship for young Black men and women who wish to pursue higher education but can't because they don't have the money.

As for those who claim to hate Muhammad and racism, why don't they ask themselves what was the last thing they did to fight racism. How many letters did they circulate opposing Dr. Levine of CCNY when he made derogatory statements about the African people?

If people really want to get rid of figures like Muhammad then they need to get rid of racism. They need to fight for a society that provides equal opportunities for everyone.

If you wish to stop Muhammad then stop racism whether or not it effects your racial or ethnic group. Only when we realize that we're all one community can we defeat Muhammad.

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LETTERS

Letter to the University Community

by Jean Rousseau

on behalf of the Graduate Students Employees Union
Coordinating Committee

The Provost Ad Hoc Advisory Committee report was released Monday, April 13. This report, also known as the Gelber report, analyzed different scenarios that would respond to the present financial crisis at Stony Brook. This "Gelber" committee included only tenured faculty, and no junior faculty or graduate students, supposedly to insure objectivity.

The creation of this committee was the Provost's attempt to defuse criticism about the lack of consultation. If the Graduate Student Employees Union had not disclosed a reconfiguration plan in the Humanities and Fine Arts, many faculty would never have heard about these scenarios.

The Gelber report cautiously recommended against implementation of the various proposed scenarios of administrative restructuring and academic reconfiguration. But the true character of the present situation is conspicuously absent from the Report. In fact, the administration is attempting to take advantage of the current budget crisis and further a hidden agenda. What the administration would like to see come out of the budget crisis is a different university, in which departments with strong external funding are promoted at the expense of state-funded departments. The fact that the president of the university is suddenly able to find \$1.4 million to reduce the deficit is remarkable, especially when very few people were aware that these sums were available.

The real priorities of our university are not debated in the Gelber report. Provost Tilden Edelstein and some of the deans are the ones who decide what will happen at Stony Brook. We agree with Ann Kaplan, Director of the Humanities institute, who during a meeting of the

Humanities and Fine Arts faculty asked for true consultation, not a consultation that only consists of agreeing upon what has been already decided. Collegiality at Stony Brook is a smoke screen for the authoritarian policy making of these administrators.

We are witnessing a top-down administration that does not care about the input of faculty and graduate students. As an example, the Philosophy department is under the control of the Provost, the Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts, Patrick Heelan, and the Chair David Dilworth, who are constantly overruling 16-4 votes by the faculty. Furthermore, whenever graduate students object and try to provide input into the future of their program, they are dismissed as being in the pocket of the faculty - as being part of the "tyranny of the majority." The Provost has declared that as long as the actual crisis is not solved, there will not be any new students accepted. In the long run, this will kill the Philosophy department.

To face the financial crisis, some departments had to freeze the admission of new graduate students. It is presented as a temporary situation that should not harm departments irremediably, since it should last only one year. The problem is that these departments are among those targeted for reconfiguration. For example, the Germanic and Slavic languages department faces a double blow. Besides a freeze in admissions, they must face the whims of Provost Edelstein who declared that he doesn't consider the academic value of D.A. programs offered in this department of sufficient caliber. The implication is that no new TA lines will be provided for this department.

We consider that graduate students should have a say in any decisions that will affect them. A single graduate student member on the priorities committee is merely token participation, rather than genuine input in the elaboration of policies. The input that graduate students could have had through the Graduate School was also eliminated when the Provost excluded the Graduate School from the TA lines allocation process. His decision to unilaterally modify the vice-provost for research position into a vice-president for research position also contributed

in marginalizing the Graduate school. This was instrumental in causing the resignation of the vice-provost of the Graduate school, Alex King. The Gelber report appropriately points out that the Graduate school role and authority should be re-established.

One million dollars have been cut from the TA budget, which directly affects graduate student stipends. Moreover \$1.2 million will be cut from the deans' budget. This implies that even more graduate students will lose their stipends. Provost Edelstein has said repeatedly that Stony Brook was too generous with its graduate students. To justify his position he refers to the Jennings report. This report was produced in May 1991 by an external review committee appointed to study the research environment at Stony Brook. In this report, the generous number of teaching assistantships and graduate assistantships is described as significant assets for the research environment. For the Provost this "generosity" is a liability. Graduate students who receive state-funding can only expect support for four years. Many students are only receiving half lines or quarter lines, which amount to \$4400 and \$2200 respectively. Considering that the average length of a Ph.D. in the Humanities is seven years, and that the cost of living at Stony Brook is extremely high, we question this so-called generosity.

The external reviewers of the Philosophy department stated that funding for graduate students is barely adequate. We believe this to be true for every funded graduate students. The Gelber report, however, states that "plans to develop additional Ph.D. programs, or to enhance current ones, will most likely require additional resources for the support of graduate students. We support the provost's plan to study a restructuring of graduate student support." We are concerned that no new funding will be available for graduate students. Moreover, we fear that the provost will further decrease our support. Tuition waiver as income implies that graduate students would have to pay taxes on money they actually never receive. Secondly, there is the issue of adjuncts. They will be hired to replace TA's and faculty. Some graduate students will

Along The Color Line / The Chasm of Race

by Dr. Manning Marable

Even Martin Luther King, Jr., would be perplexed about the growing pessimism which pervades American race relations. Despite the passage of civil rights legislation and the elimination of legal barriers to equality, the difference between African-Americans and most whites seen greater today than during the segregationist era of George Wallace. Ironically, the greatest racial divisions seem to be among young people below the age of twenty-five.

In October, 1991, Peter D. Hart Research Associates conducted a nationwide poll of 15 to 24-year-olds, concerning their racial beliefs and perceptions. The profile which emerged illustrates that many young Americans virtually live in two separate racial universes. When asked whether colleges should give "special consideration" to recruiting and admitting students of color, 51 percent of the young whites were opposed. Two thirds of all young whites expressed opposition to businesses which gave "special consideration to minority job applicants." While opposition climbed to 78 percent to the question of whether employers should extend "special preference" in evaluating minority job applicants.

The figures indicate that millions of white Americans think that white racism no longer exists, and that the chief victims of discrimination are whites. For example, when asked whether "discrimination was more likely to hurt a white or minority person seeking scholarships, jobs or promotion", 49 percent of the whites declared that they "were more likely to loose out." In contrast 68

percent of young African-Americans, 52 percent of the Latinos, but only 34 percent of the whites believed that "minorities were more likely to lose." About half of all young Americans polled characterized race relations as "generally bad."

The striking difference in racial perceptions can be attributed partially to the reactionary rhetoric and repressive policies of the Reagan-Bush administration. Reagan's open embrace for apartheid in South Africa, his hatred of civil rights and affirmative action regulations, have influenced the racial outlook of many young whites. Instead of approaching racial problems with honesty and objectivity, many whites would prefer to live in a world of lies, myths and illusions. Like Reagan, Bush and Buchanan, it is easy to twist reality to conform with one's self-serving interests.

Many white students believe the myth that less qualified minorities are displacing more qualified whites as faculty and administrators. But the truth, according to the Carnegie Commission educational report, is that when the level of educational attainment and scholarly productivity are equal, that African-Americans still receive tenure and promotion at lower rates than whites. Whites hold about 87 percent of all tenure-track faculty positions at American universities.

While students frequently complain that affirmative action policies elevate "unqualified" students of color into their colleges. Yet few discuss the policy of "legacies", the practice of admitting the sons, daughters and grandchildren of alumni to colleges, even when their academic records are less than competitive. At Harvard College, for example, the general admission rate for undergraduates is only 10 percent of all

applicants. However, the admission rate for "legacies", the children of the elite, is 44 percent.

There is a myth that hundreds of Latino, Native American, and African-American students are taking opportunities away from whites. But the reality is that during the 1980's, the percentage of high school graduates who went on to college actually declined. In 1975, about 36 percent of all Latino high school graduates aged 18 to 26 were enrolled in college. By 1988, only 26.8 percent of all Latinos in this age group were in college. The same retreat from educational equality occurred for Black students. In 1975, 32 percent of all Black high school graduates age 18-26 were attending college; thirteen years later, the percentage had fallen to 28.1 percent. Meanwhile, the enrollment white students in these years actually increased, from 32.4 percent of 18-26 year olds in 1975 to 38.1 percent in 1988.

At the heart of the fractured soul of America is the frightening chasm of race. So long as many whites prefer to live in a world of dangerous illusions, while cynical politicians like Bush peddle the poison of "reverse discrimination", no genuine inter-racial dialogue is possible. Fighting for full equality, string enforcement of affirmative action and challenging the myths about race are the only steps which will achieve real understanding across the color line.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of Political Science and History, University of Colorado, boulder. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 230 newspapers internationally.

Rebuttal to Shari Nezami's "Peace in the Middle East," March 11, 1992 PRESS.

In the interest of journalistic integrity, I am honor-bound to correct what are either amazingly ill-informed views, or totally irresponsible misrepresentations of fact with regard to the Middle East and Israel.

Well, Shari, the "usual Israeli statement 'we have always wanted peace,' end of story" as you so inelegantly put it, is, in fact, the truth, and nothing to look down your nose at. Persecution of Jews, Shari, goes back to time immemorial, including Chaucer, Shakespeare, Marlowe, York's slaughter of its Jew, Hitler's "Final Solution," the Mufti of Jerusalem's plans, and the insatiable jealousy of seven Arab nations that invaded the Jewish State after the Partition Plan separated what was left of Palestine into an Arab State and a Jewish State. Jerusalem, left by the British to both the Jews and the Arabs as an open city, was invaded by Jordan, and kept until liberated in 1967. Jordanians are allowed free passage into Israel, and cross the Allenby bridge every day to trade, work, and prosper.. Jews were not allowed in Jordan/Jerusalem, nor are they allowed to set foot in Saudi Arabia... 44 years ago, Arab nations did not merely "refuse to acknowledge the existence of Israel," Shari; they INVADED Israel en masse. Wholesale slaughter, Shari, not "lack of acknowledgement" was their broadcast goal for Jews- a Jihad, a Holy War to rid Islam of the Jewish blot in its midst, besmirching an otherwise pristine Islamic map...

Israel was not created by Europeans any more or less than Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan et al: The Sikes-Picot Treaty, Shari, was the Franco-British answer to dividing up the spoils of the Ottoman Empire's holdings, post WWI. Palestine was divided up once again by the British, the lion's share going to Trans-Jordan, a fiction carved out of the Palestinian Mandate for a Hashemite prince of Saudi Arabia.. "Jordan," you will find, is 68% Palestinian, although I never quite understood what that name means. Fedayeen, the share-cropping peasants moved around under the Ottomans, were what is now considered a Nation. 'Shortest historical creation of a nation to date... Unfortunately, they were drifters, working where they could, and never making quite enough to buy their own land. They grew amazingly incensed when Jews (Weizman, Hertzl, Ben-Gurion, WIZO, the Baron de Rothschild) bought the land in Palestine from the Turkish owners at six times the going price (after all, the Muslims were selling to desperate Zionist Jews, supply is stable,

demand increases, prices soar). Somehow, when Turks (their brother Muslims) were oppressing them, it didn't matter, but when Jews asked them to leave the land bought for Jewish settlement, the fedayeen were (are) outraged! What insouciance! What cheek! Jews! Yes, Shari, "Jewish persecution" HAS been around a long time, and your tongue-in-cheek snide references to Jewish persecution amounting to innuendo that it is a myth, is simply more of the same. Don't you feel proud of your contribution to such a long list of Anti-Jewish invective-spitting, rabble-rousing fanatics?

The Inquisition ring a bell? The Babylonian Captivity? The Jihad with Muhammed at its head? The Roman enslavement? The 1939 White Paper limiting Jewish emigration to Palestine? The War of Independence, fought against seven land armies of Israel's Arab neighbors, with Yemen and Sudan chipping in for the Islamic Jihad of our century? Hmmm-Jewish persecution...Shari, maybe you've been reading biased history books. Or maybe you haven't been reading at all.

How, Shari, would "Arabs [see] Israel as the final foothold of Europeans and Americans in the region?" Perhaps you forgot, the British Mandate's 1947 Partition Plan? America was not involved in any way, and the Partition Plan heralded the EXIT of the British, with not a foothold to be seen for miles.

Insinuating that the return of the Sinai Desert was of no import is totally inaccurate (with your snide comment that "rumor has it that bananas are being grown there now"), childish, and not worthy of a University newspaper! The strategic importance of the Sinai Desert for Egypt is paramount for both the defense of the Suez Canal, and for offensive action against Israel. The Multi-National Forces of Observation (of which US Marines are an integral part) are stationed as a buffer zone, and regularly check whether the treaties agreed to under Begin, Sadat, and Carter are being upheld. Mubarak, unfortunately, is no Sadat, and has breached the agreements many times, until warned severely. There is no "free trade," nor "tourism" of Egyptians with/in Israel (although Israelis do go to Egypt, and get murdered in Cairo with impunity, slaughtered in Ras Burkah without receiving medical aid, their killers becoming national heroes); both conditions of the peace wrought at the expense of Sadat's life. Egyptian fishermen use hand-grenades to fish (I suppose using nets

is too strenuous), ruining the coral reefs that were the most beautiful in the world (Dahab, Ras um-Sid, Sharm-el-Sheik, etc). The Bedouins that used to inhabit the Sinai have moved to Israel (Beersheva) as the "City Arabs" of Egypt are, seemingly, incompatible with the Bedouin mentality. The Bedouins (and the Druze in the Golan Heights) serve in the Israeli Defense Forces as trackers, are best at hunting the spoor (scent) of terrorists (Arabs). Interesting?

Shari, in your denigration of the Israeli blueprint for Autonomy you fail egregiously to mention that Israel will grant all but military independence to the "Territories" and "Gaza." Sorry, Shari, but we will not make mistakes twice, and allow a rabid group of fundamentalist fanatics to attack our civilians from within our own borders. Suicide is not high on our list of priorities. You do understand, don't you?

Now, let's get something straight, Shari, just between the two of us. The Hizbollah, as you have written, is a terrorist organization. As such, it has no protection whatsoever from the Geneva Convention and the Protocols of 1977. When the PLO bombarded Israeli civilians with Katushya rockets in 1982, and when the Hizbollah perpetrated Belligerent Acts against Israel, you will find, if you peruse the International Law that you so rashly flaunt, that Israel has every right in the book to retaliate against acts of unprovoked aggression. Sorry, Shari, but your whole article rests upon what can only be called a lack of information, and this is damaging in the extreme to the PRESS's reputation as a serious forum for intelligent, considered thought. Childish statements allowing that "Syria and Israel may be working together to sabotage the Peace Talks" are but destructive gibes, not befitting the levels of intercourse that Universities are purported to achieve. Pretending that Islam is not attempting to irradiate the Jewish Blight from amongst its domain is ostrich-like in the extreme, and although the sentiments you espouse are populist, "sexy-pseudo-liberal," they are neither considered, factually correct, nor faintly resembling what may be termed the "objective reality" that we all inhabit, hopefully in peace, and without recrimination, snotty articles, inexact and unprofessional misuse of the forum that this University so generously allows us.

David Israel George Turner.

LES PAUL:

TALKING WITH A LIVING LEGEND

BY ERIC PENZER

On the surface, it might seem that interviewing musical legend Les Paul would be extremely nerve-wrecking. After all, where would you start? The man has done everything! However, once I got past my nervous inhibitions, I found talking with Les one of the easiest things in the world. It seemed as if he was an old friend that I hadn't spoken with for many years.

Les and I discussed different aspects of his career, which might be described as a constant roller coaster ride from invention to invention with a bit of time squeezed in to actually make music using his inventions. It is no surprise that Les classifies himself as an inventor first and a musician second. When I asked him how he found time to actually use his own inventions, he replied, "Most of my day is spent perfecting things I've invented. Out of my day, very little time, if any, is put towards music. The music was always secondary in my life."

If Les Paul were to put together a resume listing all of his inventions, it might read like a list a studio engineer would take shopping before opening up a new studio. His many inventions include the solidbody guitar design and amplification, multi-track recording on disc, using variable recording speeds, delay, echo, phase shifting, flanging, close-miking,

sound-on-sound tape recording, and eight-track tape recording. I am not exaggerating when I say that this list only really scratches the surface of Les Paul's accomplishments. When asked which invention he feels was his most important, Les laughed and said, "That's like asking me which one of my kids I like the most."

Recently, Les' musical recordings were documented as a four CD boxed set entitled, *Les Paul: The Legend and the Legacy* (Capitol). This set includes the best 75 tracks of Les and Mary Ford's recording career between 1948-58. The fourth disc is a bonus collection of rare material, much of which has never before been released to the public.

On putting together the collection, Les had final say over the entire operation. Les recalled that "we were willing to put in 14 or 15 hour days, seven days a week to get it exactly right." While re-mastering old material for a new format might seem a difficult task, Les stated that the production team on the early recordings anticipated having to re-master the material and thus made it perfect the first time around. Les' motto was, "We're liable to resurrect this stuff 50 years from now and we wanted it to sound good then!" Well, anyone who listens to the material on the boxed set knows that Les succeeded.

It really was great to be able to talk with a living legend. At 76 years old, Les is still doing what he does best: inventing and playing. But don't take my

word for it; go see for yourself. Les can be seen still playing every Monday night at the famed lower Manhattan jazz club, Fat Tuesday's.



Pre-hysterical Daze

by Josh Gazes

The great thing about animation, is that it enables artists to explore subjects that might otherwise be impossible. Even themes that have been covered before in other mediums, can be done in more inventive ways through the use of cartoons, claymation, etc.

Such is the case with *The Fourth Animation Celebration*, now playing at Cinema Village in Soho. The feature length presentation is a compilation of short animated films from film makers all over the world. All of these films are successful in finding innovative ways of treating both old and original ideas. Many of the films, however, failed in achieving perhaps the most important function of animation, to be entertaining.

Understandably, cartoons do not have to produce uncontrollable laughter to be entertaining. Cartoons can treat serious subjects, yet (as is the case with political cartoons in the papers) it seems that humor is a key element in the success of a cartoon. Too many times during *The Fourth Animation Celebration*, however, did I find myself not laughing (not even to myself). The cartoons that were funny, often dragged on too long and quickly beat a subject to death, thereby stretching out the material far longer than it should have. Such was the case with *Pre-Hysterical Daze*, one of three films included in the film as a tribute to Tex Avery (the other two, *RRRINGG* and *Unsavory Avery*, were not funny at all). In *Pre-Hysterical Daze*, film maker Gavrillo Gnatovich of the USA, looks at what the life of cave men would have been like if they had lived simultaneously with the dinosaurs. This, of course, is not a new theme, in fact it has been done so frequently in both Saturday morning cartoons and movies that most young children believe that cave men and dinosaurs did coexist. This cartoon saves itself however, by the incredibly expressive animation constantly depicting the various cavemen as bewildered

simpletons whose existence is mostly occupied by running from famished carnivores, or chasing appetizing herbivores of the reptile family. Five minutes of these chases would have sufficed, but the film maker chose to continue this for another two and a half minutes, making it a bit too long.

Other funny films were guilty of the opposite, being too short. Although funny, the credits to these films were longer than the actual cartoon. *Office Space* was one such movie, also by an American film maker, Mike Judge. The toon was about an office worker named Milton who explains that his boss has repeatedly made him switch desks in the office, and that he just can't take it anymore. In between picking his nose Milton explains that the one comfort he has, is that his boss has promised him that he can keep the stapler that he was given. This film only lasts a few more seconds, in which time Judge shows the viewer, how it is possible for ordinary people to all of a sudden just snap, and blow up the building in which they work.

Included in this compilation of films, were the winners of the World Problems! World Solutions! contest held by MTV. Most of these politically correct shorts were interesting, but lacked humor, the best of which was a message about recycling which depicted a world in which the trees were tired of taking shit from people who don't care about the environment.

There were a few very enjoyable pieces, that almost made up for the general lack of humor in the rest of the films. The opening segment, *Canfilm* by Bulgarian Zlatin Radev, was an amusing metaphor for blind faith in society, and the power of political leaders exemplified by Hitler and

Mussolini. In *Canfilm*, Cans of canned cherries live in a city of cardboard boxes, with little canned pets. A Can of canned tomatoes rises to power, however, and Gestapo-like cans wearing black labels go around forcing the canned cherries to change their labels. Radev milked this metaphor for all it was worth, and even showed the assembly line process that the cans would go through as they were changed from cherries to tomatoes and conformed to the new political power. This film, although genius and witty at almost every point, exemplified the failure of the *Fourth Animation Celebration*, as it ran far too long, lasting over eighteen minutes.

If you really like animation, my advice is to wait for the *Festival of Animation* which will be coming to the same theater, and in past years has been much more entertaining.



The Lion and the Gazelle

(with apologies to animal behavioralists)

Dysfunctional Fables

the elders' hatred and ignorance. The philosophers were right-animals have no morals. Although it could lead to danger, it does not pay to be open-minded.

by the way, an eland is the world's largest antelope. it is big mean, and dangerous to know.

by Rachel S. Wexelbaum



One day the Lion found a gazelle and decided to eat her, but the gazelle obviously did not approve. "Please don't eat me," she cried. "My children won't be able to find the waterholes without my guidance and they will die!"

"I'm very hungry!" growled the Lion. "If I let you go, where will I find my next meal, and when?"

The gazelle's eyes teared a bit. I have sharp eyes, Lion. If you let me live I can show you where the others are."

"Very Well. Tomorrow morning then, you must come hunting with me."

The gazelle was extremely grateful to the Lion for sparing her life, and the next morning she accompanied Him to the grassy plain. As promised, she pointed out many fat zebras and wildebeests for His prey. This had gone on for many days, and the Lion began to see the gazelle differently. She had a lovely sense of humor, humility and the most beautiful dark eyes He had ever seen. She was more polite and graceful than any Lioness He had ever met, and He became curious about her life. "How are your children?" He asked her one morning.

She hung her head. "They do not do well," she whispered. "Every night they cry for their papa who was killed by a lion. During the day I have to leave them with my sister, who is very cruel. It is hard being a single mother. What can I do?"

"Perhaps you should remarry." The Lion gently

wrapped His tail around her. "If only I could begin to tell you how happy I am that I spared your life..." And He proposed His undying love and devotion for the gazelle, how He no longer hunted her people and would give His life to protect her children from all Hunters' harm. Upon hearing this the gazelle's eyes lit up in ecstasy, for she had always admired His blend of strength and compassion, his hunting skills, and his lustrous tawny mane.

"I love you too, Lion," she said.

He smiled then chuckled a little. "Please forgive me, but you never told me your name!"


"My name is Ayisha," she said, twitching her ears.

"Ayisha, would you accept my paw in marriage?"

"Yes, although it would be best if you come home to meet the children."

That evening Ayisha brought the Lion home with her to meet her two daughters. when all of a sudden five husky elands accosted Him and stabbed Him to death with their horns. Then they brutally raped the gazelle and left her for dead as well, screaming "Cannibal bitch! Cannibal bitch!" as Ayisha's daughters wept...

MORAL: The children suffer most from

IN A SHORT WHILE, YOUR EARS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO A CD5 BY MATTHEW "NO I'M NOT MORRISSEY" SWEET ENTITLED "SUPER DEFORMED."

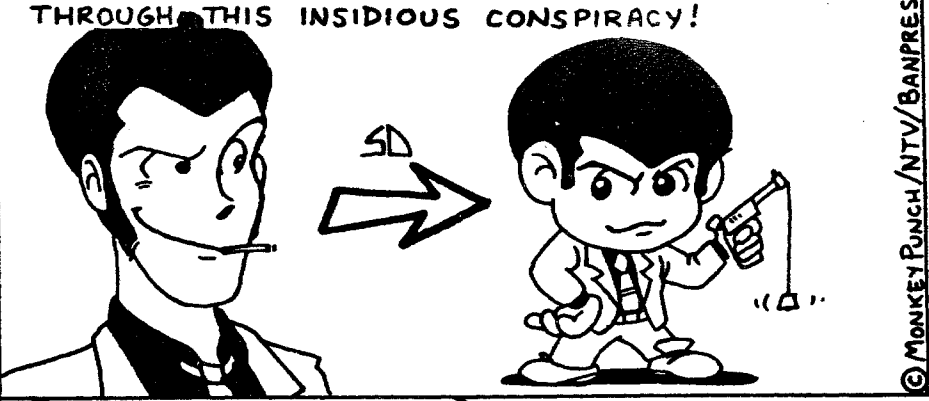
MANY OF YOU WILL WRITE THE TITLE OFF AS BEING LOVABLY SELF-DEPRECATING. BUT SOFT! THE TITLE REALLY REFERS TO A SERIES OF JAPANESE TOYS AND CARTOONS!

SUPER DEFORMED
(OR, "WHAT DO YOU MEAN, 'HATFUL OF HOLLOW' WAS TAKEN?")

BROTHERHOOD OF DADA


THE "SUPER DEFORMER" SERIES TAKES ESTABLISHED CARTOON CHARACTERS -- REASONABLY "NORMAL" LOOKING ONES -- AND SQUISHES THEM DOWN INTO HYPER-CUTE, "HELLO KITTY"-ESQUE MUNCHKINS.

SHOWS SUCH AS "MOBILE SUIT GUNDAM", "ULTRAMAN" AND MY FAVORITE, "LUPIN III", HAVE HAD THEIR CHARACTERS TURNED INTO DEWY-EYED URCHINS THROUGH THIS INSIDIOUS CONSPIRACY!



SD

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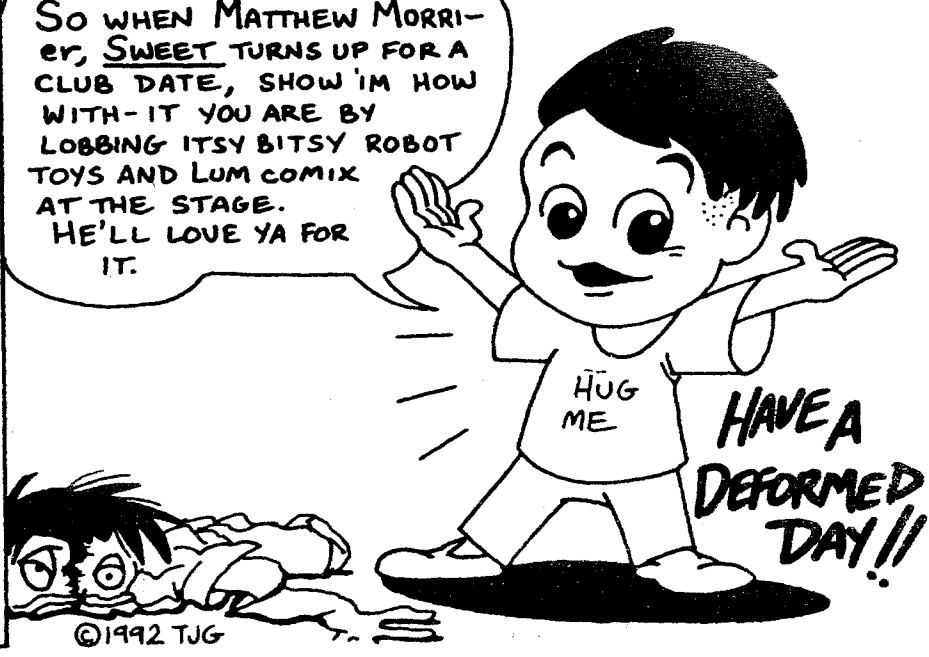


HERE IN THE STATES, THE EXAMPLES THAT COME THE CLOSEST TO MIRRORING THIS ARE "TINY TOONS", "THE FLINTSTONE KIDS", "MUPPET BABIES", ETC...

YOU CAN FIND GENUINE SD TOYS IN THE US AT SCI-FI CONVENTIONS AND SOME COMIC SHOPS. YOU MIGHT ALSO TRY "SD VALIS" FOR SEGA GENESIS OR "SUPER DEFORMER" FOR SUPER NINTENDO (COMING SOON).

ZZZP

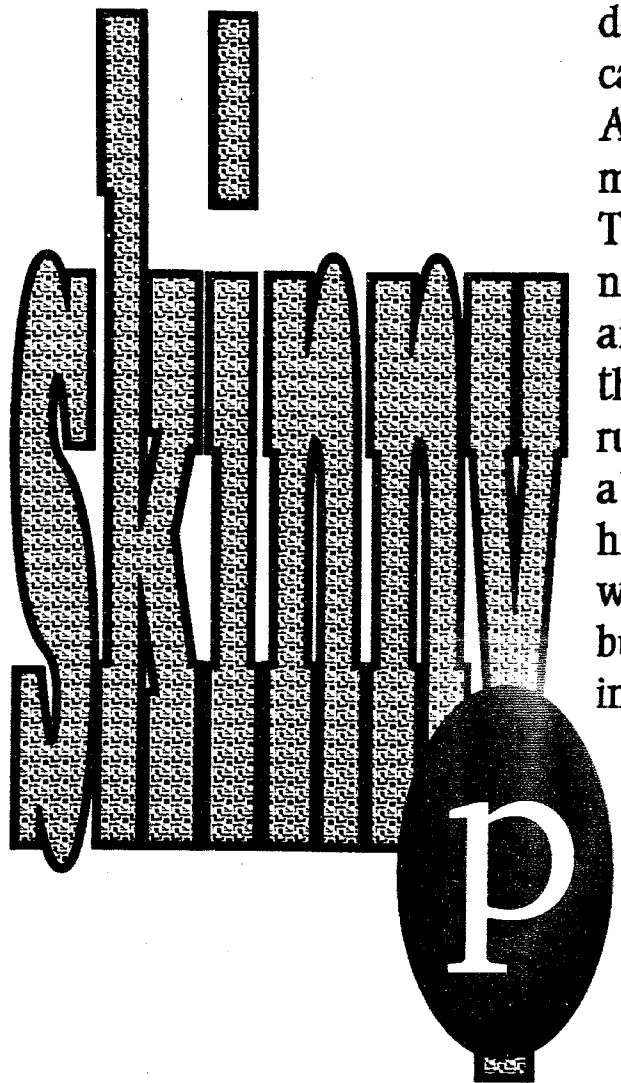
SO WHEN MATTHEW MORRISSEY, SWEET TURNS UP FOR A CLUB DATE, SHOW I'M HOW WITH-IT YOU ARE BY LOBBING ITSY BITSY ROBOT TOYS AND LUM COMIX AT THE STAGE. HE'LL LOVE YA FOR IT.



HUG ME

HAVE A DEFORMED DAY!!

©1992 TJG



date line 1992...mass murderers are featured on trading cards...Benneton advertises its clothing by featuring a dying AIDS patient and his family...Nirvana and Metallica are pop music...the media opens the wounds of Tyson, Clinton, Ashe, 'Magic'...Abortion replaces baseball as a national pastime...humanity loosens it's necktie and gasps polluted air saturated with UV...animals are desperately used to prolong the pitiful evil lives of skinny, horny, selfish people...Satan rules...whales die of AIDS...homoerotic art flourishes...women are abused more today than at any other time in history...pornography flourishes..women's rights seem more to be women's wrongs....corperate America continues to escape the burdens of the middle class who are taxed to pay for a thriving industrial-military complex..Skinny Puppy releases 'Last Rights'...

u p p y

they taught the killing game first

Did you miss something? The connection between what's going on and the release of the rumored last record by a relatively underground cyperpunk band? Is it the end of homo sapiens as we know it? Are things cycling to a shrieking bloody end? If you aren't scared by this author's paranoid ravings then pick yourself up the latest in skull-rattling beats; gloomy, cinematic, doom-synths; pressure-cooker, pit-and-the-pendulum basses; and vaguely familiar past-nightmare samples; flocked by Vocoded, Metal Mistress, Distortion Pedal vocals...

Skinny Puppy's Last Rights. Nevermind the fact that these last rights wouldn't even get the Pope into heaven. This is more than Jesus and Mary Chain, Jesus Jones, and 'Welcome to Paradise'. Skinny Puppy have grown past poking fun at Televangelists. They are torturing themselves with notions of their own life after death. They taught the killing game first and they prove it by killing themselves, toying with the idea of resurrection to earth. Already they

have musically reincarnated themselves in such side projects as Hilt and The Doubting Thomas records, sticking their fingers in the holes of 'alternative' music, making music suitable for the cinema of tomorrow. A Cinema of hacking away at women, scenes of violent sex, incest, bestiality, shooting, cartoonish heroism, nationalism, nudity aimed at children, and Satanic ritual. Already they have done what is nowadays becoming more and more difficult, making a video which gets banned because of *violence*. Anything will go in the future and someone needs to make the music.

It is debatable whether psychotic people are naturally attracted to Skinny Puppy, or if Skinny Puppy listeners have, due to exposure, become incurably psychotic. What is pretty much not debatable is the impact that such a band has had on music. The Industrial scene however aged and bloated it is, has opened the aesthetic sensibilities of alternative music fans globally, and Skinny Puppy is the symbol of this scene, the gods of this religion. Their concerts feature a



Press release

berserk slam-dancing misanthropic audience, which can see itself filmed from a horsehead camera, onto a screen plagued with visions of vivisection, torture, pornography and war. Ogre, the bands lyricist and vocalist, violates himself with pretended self-torture, self-hanging, and other well-acted out scenes of self-abuse. cEVIN KEY bangs on an assortment of digital drums and keyboards, churning out restless rythm. Duane Goettel floats the gloomiest samples and gothic synth lines into a cybertrip multi-media performance art-o-rama.

But somehow mimicing the decaying Industrial scene, Skinny Puppy has managed to break down musical composition. The way they approach their mix of thudding drums and gritty samples has begun to deteriorate. The new album is the culmination of anti-compositional pop music. While all their albums, especially VIVI Sect VI, experimented with composition, this is the best example of a bands attempt at no composition, remeniscent of academic experimental taped music with the emphasis on the sounds of the instruments, rather than where they are.

"We dissected our original intentions," said cEVIN KEY the band's drummer in a phone interview, "as the drummer I do get more physical energy into the

(continued on pg. 10)