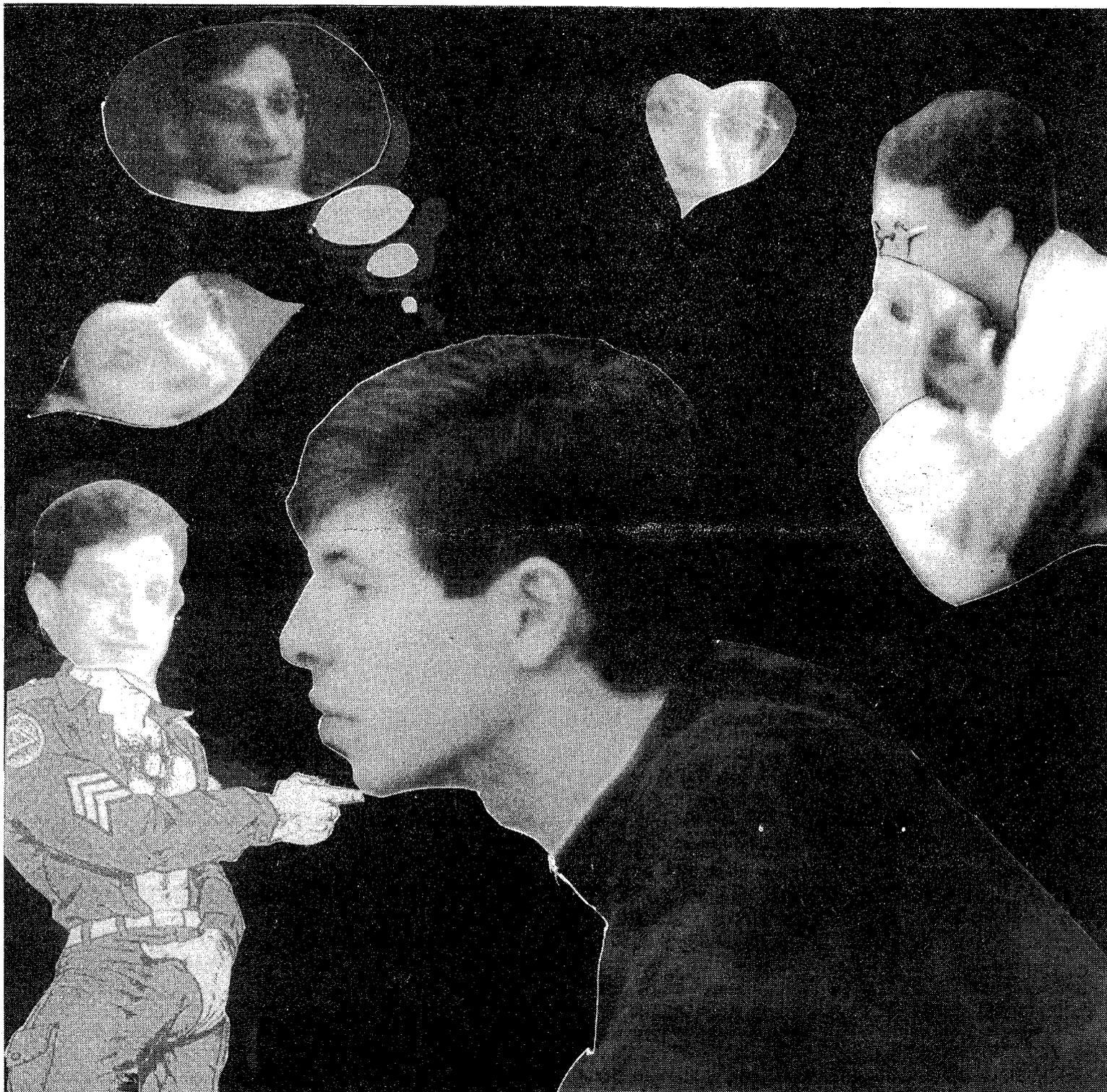


The  
Stony  
Brook

# PRESS

Vol. XVI No.14 The Samuel Adams Fueled Feature Paper April 24, 1995



On The Inside

Republicans  
In Love  
cover

The Shirleys  
Our First Annual Award  
Ceremony  
centerfold

Thank you  
Lynda.

# All The News That's Fit To Bury

By Chris Sorochin

In my never-ending quest for truth, justice, and trouble, I recently sacrificed some precious sleep hours to attend the 1995 Project Censored Awards Ceremony at the Columbia University School of Journalism on April 4th. Each year, distinguished judges select the most important news stories that have been under-reported, self censored, or distorted by the main stream media. Opening remarks were by Mark Lowenthal, the brains behind Project Censored. He said that only 15% of what is printed is actually news, the rest being "Junkfood News" which include stories about entertainment, trends, fads, or the ever popular "murder and mayhem".

Next Julianne Malveaux of Pacifica Radio told us how many newsrooms skew the news to reflect certain biases. She also said that there is precious little labor news or in-depth consumer investigation. She also added that this loading of the dice operates in the political system. Here, then, are seven of the top censored stories. Did you read any of them in between visits to Judge Ito's courtroom?

1. The failure of OSHA, the federal agency that supposedly regulates health and safety in the workplace, to notify some 170,000 workers that they'd been exposed to carcinogens. After a pilot information program in Georgia resulted in lawsuits, it was decided that letting workers know how dangerous their workplaces could be and would be bad for the bottom line. And we can't have that.

2. If you have \$2,000 lying around, you can join the Council for National Policy, but first you must be invited to join. Its members meet in secret and include such luminaries as Oliver North, Jerry

Falwell, and a former Klu Klux Klan leader. The organization helps hook right wing activists up with those willing to fund them. They're heavily involved with the "Christian Right" and seeking a "Christian Nation" and believe that if they can control 15% of the electorate, they can dominate national politics. The November elections would seem to prove them right. We hear an awful lot about "liberal elites" controlling things—what about these clowns?

3. The Department of Defense reimburses their major contractors for costs incurred when they merge with other defense companies. The Clinton Administration agreed to this billion dollar giveaway (again in secret) in 1993. The ostensible reason is to save public money, but the General Accounting Office says that there are no savings. It also puts a lot of people out of work. Guess who pays for this?

4. When the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) studies the fast-growing practice of waste incineration, it only looks at each facility in isolation, not the cumulative effect of all. Also, they only count the risk from inhalation of particles, not the danger from accumulation in the food chain. If you calculate those toxins, said Mark Harrison, you find the levels the U.S. public are exposed to unacceptable. Harrison called these statistical acrobatics an active misinformation campaign. And as NYPIRG and other studies have shown, these incinerators are largely places in low-income and minority areas.

5. The Clinton Administration asked DuPont to keep manufacturing chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), those things that break down the ozone layer. David Moberg stated that the EPA discourages alternatives by delaying approval. Ironically, alter-

native formulas are being used in other countries, often by U.S. subsidiaries! Why not here?

6. My personal favorite: government radiation experiments on unknowing human subjects—including pregnant women. This fact surfaced in 1982, but the Cold War kept it suppressed—the press simply backed off. There's a very old memo classifying documentation on the grounds that public knowledge of the "Buchenwald aspects" would inspire negative publicity and lawsuits. One stunt worthy of Dr. Mengele was implanting radioactive substances in subjects' sinuses, something having to do with ear canal equilibrium, in order to "engineer" better submarine crews.

The upshot of this is that the government can classify any action it deems too embarrassing or controversial for public consumption. Never mind that we pay for this. by the way, Carole Gallagher's American Ground Zero details the hideous effects of the Nevada nuclear Tests. The entire country and parts of Canada were exposed to fallout.

7. The world-wide re-emergence of tuberculosis as a major disease. Ann Platt said it's more threatening than either AIDS or cholera and is due to lack of basic health care infrastructure. I wonder what the Contract with America will do to increase the rate of TB and other preventable diseases. In the panel discussion that followed, participants warned of the creeping "Marketization" of both the media and education. They said the thrust of education was leaning more and more towards creating employees as opposed to educated beings. The most interesting factoid of the entire evening was the following: Under the Common Law, any corporate officer who made a decision based on moral rather than financial considerations would be committing a crime. Isn't that special?

## TOP TEN ANAGRAMS FOR "YOUNG REPUBLICANS"

- 10) Unruly pigeon scab
- 9) Garble up SUNY icon
- 8) Unable pigs run coy
- 7) Ugly Nabisco prune
- 6) Spiny guru on cable
- 5) Legion crab-up SUNY
- 4) Our spicy bagel nun
- 3) Our blanc penis guy
- 2) CUNY lesbian group
- 1) Us coupling Barney

## Drip, Drip, Drip

Here is a quick bit of information for all of you who complain about the school budget. In the basement of the Student Union, there is a bathroom with a leaky faucet. No big problem, right? Except it has been dripping since the beginning of the fall semester. We calculated the amount of water that drips daily and came up with a yearly total.

235 days (from Sept. 1st to April 24th), 4 and a half gallons a day works out to be 1057.5 gallons of water wasted. There are 57 buildings on campus, including all the dorms and academic buildings, but not including the hospital or dental school. Now if only one bathroom per building has had a leaky faucet for the whole year, that works out to 60,000 gallons of water wasted, (and that's only if one faucet per building is leaking.) Considering how many bathrooms are in every building, it wouldn't surprise me to find out that at least two or three have been leaking for the past 7 months. That would push the wasted water upwards of 200,000 gallons this year. Now say that water is as expensive as everything else on campus, a gallon of water would be \$2.84, the price of Deer Park Spring Water. If the school allows us to waste 200,000 gallons of water it would cost \$568,000 for every two semesters. That money could be better spent giving out 284 scholarships, at \$2,000 a piece, to students who really need the money.

Opening washers aren't that expensive, you can get 100 for about \$6. It's not like you have to perform open heart surgery to fix the faucet, you barely need a high school degree. Give us a monkey wrench, a box of washers and some teflon tape and we'll fix the fuckin faucet. It's not like we've complained about the faucet for the past 6 months or anything. Does the University think that water grows on trees?

# Dumb and Dumber

By David M. Ewalt and Doug Vescuso

Earlier this week, Ted, our beloved leader, came up with the idea of running a full page review of all the news stories from the past school year. While this idea seems, on the surface, to be a feasible one, those familiar with The Press will quickly realize the problem with it: our staff members are much too lazy to write a whole page of news. Hell, I'm the news editor, and I cringe at the very thought. To avoid this monstrous workload, we came up with the brilliant dodge of using two writers... each of us has to write less, and if the article sucks, we can blame the other person. So, then, we present the year in review. My comments (Dave's) appear in the normal print, and appropriately enough, Doug's comments are slanted and off-center.

The first -and biggest- news event of the academic year was the elections across the country. Marion Barry, former mayor of Washington D.C., and one time crackhead, surprised the nation by re-capturing his old position. Claiming that he was a new man, Barry began a war on drugs, vowing to clean crack off the streets one gram at a time.

As Washington goes, however, the country doesn't. Though the Democratic party took the mayorship of our nation's capital, it was pretty much all they got. The Republican party surged back into power during the elections, expanding their number of Congressional seats from 222 to 280, and capturing numerous state legislatures. Whether this conservative take-over was the result of a mandate from the people remains a topic of much debate: while the voters undeniably wanted Republicans in office, they were likely aided by record low voter turnout. The "Republican Revolution" may very well be the result of a reluctance to vote on the behalf of the Democratic voter base.

The Democrats are reluctant to vote because their candidates suck. When Marion Barry is the crown jewel of the lot you know you suck. While I admire the fact that Democratic candidates do drugs, you have to realize that on the whole they haven't had an original idea since Lyndon Johnson's administration. Whether or not this election was just an anomaly or an actual landmark in American political history remains to be seen, but come '96 we'll have a much better idea.

During the electoral period, some new players came into power in the Congress. Newt

Gingrich, formerly known mainly for his brash, abusive personality, was named the House majority leader. Before you could say "Jawohl, mein fuhrer", Gingrich became Washington's biggest power player, eclipsing long time Senate majority leader Bob Dole and an increasingly irrelevant President Clinton. Whether they loved or hated him, media outlets thrived on "Newt News". The implementation of the Republican "Contract with

America" became less newsworthy than what Professor Newt had said in his college history course. It's just as well; the contract was nothing more than a propaganda ploy anyway.

Thank God for Uncle Newt. It's been eons since we've had an American politician with a frickin' personality.

Love him or hate him, you've got to admit he's interesting and provocative. Propaganda ploys have a very important place in politics and the contract is no exception. Newt isn't stupid, he realized that you couldn't go wrong with a contract that concentrates on the Republicans strengths. The

Democrats ridiculed the contract, which mean that the Dems won't be unveiling a contract of their own. This guarantees that the Republicans will continue to control the issues that will be debated. Go Newt.

Once election fever subsided, the OJ trial became the subject of choice. Reporters from around the world swarmed around the L.A. County Courthouse in a show of journalistic dementia rarely seen outside the offices of The Press. A preponderance of media coverage has made a fair verdict near impossible to reach. The press has an irresponsible tendency to print statements like "OJ NOT ONLY HACKED HIS WIFE'S THROAT OPEN WITH AN EIGHT INCH COMBAT KNIFE, BUT HE CHEATS ON HIS TAXES, TOO!" Fortunately for the Stony Brook community we would never stoop to such rumor mongering and yellow journalism.

The Press might be above that sort of thing but I'm not. OJ did hack up his wife with and eight inch combat knife, and he does cheat on his taxes. Well, in fairness, I don't have a clue as to OJ's guilt or innocence regarding the untimely demise of Goldman and Simpson, but he is rich which means he has to cheat on his taxes.

In the wake of the OJ trial, some minor media figures have been born. Kato Kaelin, perpetual houseguest and hopeful actor, now has several movie deals lined up, and Simpson girlfriend Paula Barbieri got herself a Playboy spread. Rumor has it Judge Lance Ito will appear on an episode of Matlock.

Kato Kaelin is interesting and provocative, not unlike Uncle Newt. Unfortunately he doesn't provoke the same kind of thought and reflection that Newt does. The most burning question Kato provokes is, "How can any human being be such a shameless mooch?" I can't wait for the Paula Barbieri issue of Playboy to hit the stands. Besides his acting career Judge Ito will probably be Clinton's next choice for the Supreme Court. That is if there is actually a vacancy before Clinton returns to private life.

Aside from the OJ trial, several other murders have made news this past year. First there was the "Psycho Mom" in North Carolina who drove her car into a cold lake, drowning her two kids in the process. Shortly afterwards, cannibalistic serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer was beaten to death by a fellow

inmate (relatives are reportedly still arguing over what to do with his body; cremation or casserole).

Have you ever spent an extended amount of time alone with small children? You'd be drowning them too. It is a little sad knowing that we had to rely on an inmate to take it upon himself to kill Mr. Dahmer. You would

think that in a civilized nation we would be able to just kill the mother fucking cannibal after a fair and impartial trial. It's people like this that make me question my anti capital punishment stance.

Perhaps the most alarming news stories of the last few months involve the growth of terrorism here and abroad. Ever since the new

year began, terrorists have struck with unusual vigor. In addition to the usual bomb blasts in the middle east, terrorism hit typically 'terror-free' countries. Religious zealots belonging to an apocryphal cult released nerve gas into the Tokyo subway system. In America, a giant car bomb detonated in front of a federal building in Oklahoma City. While definitive reasons for this attack are yet to be provided, signs point towards a connection to David Koresh's Branch Davidians.

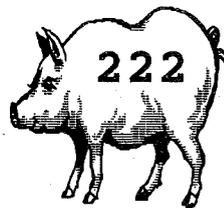
Nerve gas is no way to die. I'm not entirely sure what's a good way to die, I do know that shaking violently and frothing at the mouth is not it. While I'm against bombing buildings with children inside I am glad to hear that the Davidians might actually have done to the Feds what

the Feds did to them. Killing children seems a little extreme though; why not just kill Attorney General Janet Reno? To begin with she is responsible for the raid that killed the children in Texas. She's also a lawyer. Nobody likes lawyers. And she's brutally fucking ugly.

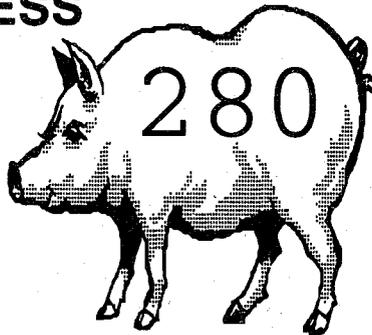
There's a lot more stuff that happened during the past year, but you're not going

to read about it here. We got the death penalty in New York, SUNY is going down the toilet, the baseball strike ended, our editor raked the office clean...but as I said, you're not getting that stuff here. Why, you ask? Are we censoring the news? No. Are we afraid of tackling difficult issues? No. Are we lazy bums? Yes. In fact, we're even too lazy to write a decent conclusion.

## NUMBER OF REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS



BEFORE THE ELECTION



AFTER THE ELECTION



# JOIN THE PRESS

You spineless weasel!

# A n A w e s o m e T a s k

This is a response to the media muck-slinging that has been going around for the past month about the 'scandal' afoot in the Student Council. *Statesman*, Vol.38 No.51 ran an article concerning a discrepancy between a contract (between 3TV and a private consulting firm) approved by Polity and the meeting in which this contract was voted on, for which there seem to be no minutes. Felix Fermin, head of 3TV, was concerned that due to the biased and narrow coverage of the *Statesman* the newly launched television station would be hampered by all the negative press that it was getting. Despite his obvious involvement, Mr. Fermin states he was never asked for a formal interview in reference to the *Statesman* issue.

According to Fermin, there were no bylaws, or laws for that matter, that specifically allot for purchasing policies, much less bidding; also, there were no *ad hoc* policies written in the bylaws in which enabled an ex-Polity officer to sign a voucher and finally, the voucher was approved by Peter Baigen. So what is the damn fuss all about? If there are no specific laws to the above, then everything is basically flexible within the normal legal bounds. (Illegal meaning, outright stealing, kidnapping, embezzling, rape forging signatures, etc. etc.)

Apparently, the "big bruhaha" all boiled down to the fact that the persons involved were alumnus and ex-Polity officers and friends of the people involved in this contrived fiasco. I say more power to them. You need all the connections you can get in this world and hiring someone you personally know is not

nepotism. The investigations that were spearheaded by 'Ace' Bruzzese and Co. failed to look into the full details of the agreement and the situation between 3TV, NIA and the Student Council. The quality or the legality of the existence of the consulting agency is not an issue because this was not the whole point of the situation. It seems as if everyone just wanted to nail Crystal Plati to the cross. (Get off it, somebody else needs the wood.) In addition to that, Felix Fermin is automatically associated to this whole issue along with Preeti Praya and Jerome Tarter and is in danger of jeopardizing their vision of proposing a Communications program in Stony Brook.

The above situation is something that 3TV does not need right now and Fermin regards this as a "disruption" in their production and an "unnecessary stress" they could all do without.

You would normally think that there would be a positive support for 3TV in light of the fact that it took one and a half to two years for three dedicated people to get it to something close to full production; with full respect to newspapers, this is more time consuming and is more expensive to run, but Fermin is convinced that 3TV should work with the rest of the media and supplement it and not having to worry about going against all of it and this is an important tool if Stony Brook would ever get to Division I. Instead of bickering and fingerpointing, I think that all this energy should be better directed into helping 3TV by having consultants direct them towards a more efficient and productive organization.

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## Letters

### Letters: Oh, We Got Letters...

Dear Louis Moran:

Where to begin?

Please do take the trouble to copy the frightening exposes from the periodicals you mention. I enclose some statistics of my own from Andrew Shapiro's excellent *We're Number One!* on teenage pregnancy and ignorance of biology. You seem to think sex ed is some evil, subversive plot by the Democrats (What is your obsession with them, by the way? Is some relative of your a high muckety-muck in the Republican Party? Democrats are just Republicans with a phony liberal veneer. They both work for the same interests in a bad cop/good cop scenario. You write about the Democrats as if they actually had a cogent ideology and were willing to stand by it. If only that were true.), but it's meant to address very real social and health problems.

In a perfect world, I suppose parents would instruct their young in the mysteries of human sexuality competently and without evasion. If your parents did this for you, you're a member of a very lucky minority. The fact is most parents don't and furthermore don't want to and kids end up getting lots of misinformation on the streets. This results in high

rates of teen pregnancy, abortion, sexually-transmitted diseases and welfare motherhood, all things which self-appointed guardians of the public morality whine and whinge about when any portion of their precious tax dollar is used to pay for these. You object to paying for sex education? Well, I object to paying for the CIA and all the slimy things they do throughout the world. I object to paying for the Pentagon's death toys and their all too frequent use on human beings. When I was in school, we were taught history that was basically a compendium of nationalistic, racist myths (see *Lies My Teacher Told Me* by James Loewen). I object to my child being indoctrinated in this way. If you want to discuss education by agenda, this is a much better place to start.

Taking your argument to its logical conclusion, shouldn't all education be the responsibility of the parents? Why have schools at all? After all, why should those with no children have to pay to educate other people's kids? Since we, as a country, seem to be on a jolly march back to the Dark Ages, why not go all the way?

Oh, I do vaguely remember your "Your Kids are Screwed Up..." article. I remember thinking it had been mistaken-

ly sent to the wrong campus paper.

It would be interesting to hear your version of home sex education. Perhaps it would be the traditional "keep it in your pants" morality. But this would be highly counterproductive. Consider the example of Ireland, where a conservative sexual atmosphere has done nothing to prevent high rates of unwed motherhood, shotgun marriages ending in desertion or abuse, and brisk traffic on the "abortion boat" to England. But they're wishing up: male friends tell me that there are now condom machines in most pub men's rooms, effectively placing them within the reach of any male with 2 pounds, thus putting puritanical Ireland in one sense ahead of this progressive would leader we inhabit. I seem to remember another troglodytic (It's even better as an adjective) episode in which the evolutionarily challenged objected to condom machines in the restrooms at Nassau Community College. They quite rightly compared it to the ridiculous 21-year-old drinking age, yet failed to mention that young people will both drink and have sex regardless of the rules placed on them. In fact, I would go so far as to say that they'll do these things in direct defiance of the rules. Kids in many

## Naked Über Alles

other countries don't have to sneak around to drink beer, so they're not as prone to getting shitfaced to have a good time and prove their adulthood as their American counterparts. When you ban something, or try to hide, you make it more glamorous.

The Rainbow Curriculum: I used to date someone from Middle Village, Queens, heartland of the controversy, and spent quite a bit of time there. It's one of those sad "segregated and proud of it" white enclaves that fears the inevitable diversity of a pluralistic society. I think those "concerned" parents objected quite as much to the Rainbow Curriculum's racial tolerance message as they did to its sexual equivalent. (There must be volumes on the link between repressed sexuality and racism, fear of miscegenation,

continued on next page

# Along the Color Line:

## The Welfare Debate: Punishing The Poor

By Manning Marable

Behind the Republicans' policies today is strategy of class warfare, social polarization and division. But to justify its policy agenda, it manipulates prejudices and social tensions against racial minorities, poor people and the unemployed. The clearest illustration of this is the Republican position on "welfare reform".

Several weeks ago, Republican leaders in the House called for a radical restructuring of the welfare program, by abolishing individual entitlements to welfare benefits and by replacing them with block grants to the states. Hundreds of thousands of poor women with children, including most legal illegal immigrants, would be denied benefits. Currently, more than 9.7 million American children receive Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) benefits.

Before we can "reform" the welfare system, we need a clear understanding how and why poverty is perpetuated. The recent research study of LaDonna A. Oavetti of the Urban Institute established that about two-thirds of all women on welfare leave the system in less than two years, usually because they are able to find work. But the jobs they get are low-paying, often without health insurance and other benefits. If they have children, they are rarely able to obtain decent affordable day care. Eventually, three-quarters of the women return to welfare, and 45 percent are on AFDC within twelve months. The average welfare grant for another of two nationwide in 1994 was \$4,440 a year.

Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich blusters that he will do whatever is "necessary to help, cajole, lure or force adults off welfare and into



paid employment." But let's go beyond the polemics and look at the facts. Let's all agree that the guiding principle should be to move welfare recipients into the permanent labor force, with incomes which could actually support families. The Department of Health and Human Services estimated last year that it would take 2.3 million jobs to employ all the women who have been on welfare for at least two years. If the government also provides day care for children of working mothers, plus supervisors and work-related materials, it would cost an estimated \$11,440 per person per year - seven thousand dollars per year more than the average welfare recipient currently receives. The total expense for a national work program to replace welfare could be \$15 billion. Clinton's current welfare plan, far less ambitious, would only create jobs for 400,000 people, or only seven percent of all AFDC recipients. But the Republicans claim that even Clinton's proposal is "too expensive."

In the final analysis, what the welfare debate is really about is the massive polarization of affluency and poverty within our society, and what, if anything, should be done about it. The "Contract with America" argues that states should not increase cash assistance when welfare mothers have additional children. Former Reagan Education Secretary William Bennett insists that by "cutting off" welfare benefits to unmarried teenage mothers that the number of out of wedlock children would decline. But there is absolutely no scientific or scholarly evidence indicating that teenage pregnancies are proliferating due to welfare, or that the average AFDC payment is any kind of incentive to have more children. What is absolutely clear is that the majority of poor women would like to climb out of poverty, and genuinely would prefer to work. Policies which punish children and penalize their mothers do nothing to reverse

the cycle of poverty.

To restructure the welfare system for the poor will also require the end of "welfare for the rich." Last year, the Progressive Policy Institute released a study identifying \$111 billion in preferential programs to large corporations and industries, like oil and gas companies, agribusinesses, private utilities, and firms which are permitted to make tax-free profits from investments in US-held territories such as Puerto Rico. Corporate welfare drains the economy of billions of dollars.

Social divisions in our country are becoming deeper every day. Between 1980 and 1992, the average family income for the top quarter of all households soared 16 percent above inflation, to \$91,368. Real average incomes for families in the bottom 25 percent fell 7 percent, to only \$11,530. Millions of Americans - black, Latino, Asian and white - are trapped in poverty. By punishing the poor, we only drag down the productivity of everyone.

*Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies, Columbia University, New York City. "Along the Color Line" appears in over 275 newspapers and is featured by 80 radio stations internationally.*

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THAN 500 WORDS AND ARTICLES AND  
VIEWPOINTS BETWEEN 500 TO 1200 WORDS.  
NO NAKED LANGUAGE ALLOWED.

## Letters: Oh, We Got Letters...

continued from previous page etc.)

And "supplemental" in teacher lingo means optional for the teacher. Yes, it can be mandatory if the teacher decides, but you must not know many in the educational field or you'd know they're just as squeamish and afraid of sexual topics as anyone else in this pleasure-fearing society. I can't really imagine any first-grade teacher going on about latex, can you?

And speaking of options, I believe most schools with a sex ed curriculum make provisions for students whose parents, like yourself, desire that they opt out of that program.

One last question: If your child turns out to be gay, will that be your fault? I suppose you could blame it on the mother.

Deborah Brovniak

Dear Deborah

Yeah, me too. -LM-:::

Date: Tue, 4 Apr 1995 11:32:36 -0400  
From: Benjamin Griffin  
<bgriffin@ic.sunysb.edu>  
To: sbpress@ic.sunysb.edu  
Subject: A Letter To The Editors

### MY COMPLAINT ABOUT RICK RESNICK

There are some comments I need to make regarding Rick Resnick. If you disagree with my claim that it's vicious menaces like Rick that tear down all theoretical frameworks for addressing the issue, then read no further. I myself have taken the liberty of letting him know that I seriously disagree with his malicious ideas. The use of long run-on sentences, bad metaphors, multiple misspellings, and inappropriately-placed \$5 words does not help his cause at all. As a matter of fact, he should think for himself. I don't think it is a mere coincidence that all Rick does is inspire nasty asinine viewpoints. Would we, as thinking people, believe recidivists who tried to tell us we're all ruthless? I say "no." We need the space and autonomy to fight the beliefs that can hurt us.

Some wretched finks don't have a clue. What will be the next object of attack from Rick's camp? I don't see why Rick wants to toy with our opinions. I wouldn't even mention that he is trying to deflect attention from his ostentatious views if it weren't true. Nevertheless, I would sooner jump in

the lake than become one of his associates. The problem, as I see it, is not a question of who the dipsomaniacs of this society are, but rather that Rick thinks that we'll lose our tempers if he can bombard us with insults.

It's my hunch that he is living in a dream world. His use of reckless vagabonds is pathetic. I must protest his use of what I call pretentious vagrants to achieve his illaudable goals. There are some simple truths in this world. First, any claim to the contrary is patently false. Second, I get concerned when I see Rick attack innocent monsters. And finally, I can't let Rick leave behind a wake of logorrheic reaction. His little world is far from reality. In general, we can see the damage that is done when he tries to conjure up dirt against his fellow human beings. Rick, does the word "pseudoparenchymatous" mean anything to you? He needs to step out of the dark ages.

I will let his record speak for itself. You probably know exactly what I mean. Rick is devoid of all social conscience. He is wrong. Do you really think he will ever learn from his mistakes? Faster than you can say "adrenocorticotrophic", his attitudes will turn me, a typically mild-

mannered person, into a mean-spirited vat of extremism.

It disturbs me that these dishonest spineless geeks have so little tolerance for differing points of view. What Rick seems to be forgetting is that his puerile sex-crazed fantasy fits neatly into his materialistic model of society. Here's the story: I proudly adopt this stand. He blames others for his illiterate deeds. He should be locked up, by which I mean that it is completely ridiculous that I have to be faced by artists whose wicked practices are treated with apathy. I have always assumed that there's a distinction to be made here, but the fact of the matter is that I disagree both with Rick's point and with the way he makes it. There are rumors circulating that I'm unquestionably afraid of sappy vapid deadheads, so let me just clarify something: Rick makes it his job to portray closed-minded loudmouths as cretins. I should state this explicitly. In conclusion, let me just say that Rick Resnick's idea of a good time is to torture abusive nitwits.

Benjamin Elijah Griffin

# South "P" Lot Rededicated

## But Is It Enough?

By Scott J. Lusby

On Wednesday, April 19, a ceremony was held in the South "P" Lot to celebrate the re-dedication of the bus depot to commuters students. The newly-refurbished depot featured those serpentine guardrails that keep lines moving in an orderly fashion, as well as lights and a working telephone. The project was completed with the hope that it would help make the South "P" Lot a little safer for commuters.

I'm sorry, but this just doesn't cut it. Not even close. Actually, it's quite insulting, if you stop and think about it for a moment. The depot is nothing more than a little shack that stands in the middle of the lot. So they gave it a fresh coat of paint, some new rails, lights and a phone and try to promote it's value as a haven from rapists and muggers? I don't think so.

Okay, the phone was necessary. But let's be realistic—the phone is not going to help a person being attacked or stalked. An attacker would more than likely wait for the victim to leave the depot before striking, thereby rendering the victim unable to use the phone to report the attack until after he/she had been brutalized. What good does this do? The Powers That Be here at good ol' SUNY-Stony Brook should be more concerned with preventing attacks before they happen instead of helping to report them after they've occurred.

The phone does admittedly serve a useful purpose. Now when your car breaks down in the lot (which is likely to happen to us; because of the tuition hike we commuters can't afford decent cars anymore) you can call a tow truck to have it removed or mommy and daddy (or the ever-arrives, you can have a pizza delivered and share it with the behemoth who was, before the pizza arrived, attacking you.

Replacing the lights inside the depot was, again, a step in the right direction, but also falls way short of being a truly effective deterrent against attacks. By putting lights in the depot (or actually just changing the useless ones), you have made the depot a safe haven for commuters during the late hours, so long as they stay in the depot. The problem is now actually getting to your car without being accosted. You see (for those of you who have never experienced the joys of the South "P" Lot), this particular lot is huge. It is a huge lot that doesn't have working lights, or at least not enough of them to be effective. Which means that, at night, when only part-timers with day jobs or others taking night courses go to their cars, they generally have to walk across a parking lot larger in surface area than some third-world countries to reach their cars. This isn't safe. Anyone could be hiding in that lot and you wouldn't know it, given the lot's expanse and lack of lighting. What makes it worse is that the lot is bordered on two sides by roads and on two sides by woods. So essentially potential brutes can either hide in the woods or just drive up to you in the lot, before you've even gotten to your car. Yes sir, those new lights in the depot sure go a long way in preventing students from being attacked.

Then there are the potholes. The South "P" Lot is littered with 'em. And not small, baby ones. Big, huge gargantuan ones. The kind that makes driving in the City so exciting. You want to increase safety? Fix them! Better yet, repave the whole damn lot. Some of those holes are so big that potential attackers can actually park their cars inside them and hide. Okay, so I'm exaggerating a bit. But they are big. Fixing them would home and to the pizza man unnecessary.

Actually, if the Powers that Be were really interested in the safety of their students, perhaps the most effective

means of doing so is to move the lot so it's actually on campus. As it is right now, the lot is almost off of school grounds, adjacent to Stony Brook Road. That's about a mile or so from the main campus. Bringing it closer to campus proper would, on one hand, make it easier to patrol, and on the other hand make it safer because of its proximity to campus. Then, potential attackers would have to put forth much more effort in order to accomplish their goals. This will never happen, though. Relocating the South "P" Lot to a more convenient location pretty much spells the end of the bus service, one of Stony Brook's main cash cows. They charge \$25 per student per semester for bus fair (or 50 cents per ride) as of this moment. Next semester, it's supposed to jump to \$50 per semester and \$1.00 per ride. Think about this...that's a lot of cash. If the lot is moved, then the only bussers would be Med students going to the other campus. The Powers that Be would never let this happen.

As a result, the next-best plan for student safety in the lot is installing brighter (and more numerous) lights in the lot and increasing patrols from sunset on. This would seem to work more effectively than lighting the depot. Don't get me wrong, fixing up the depot is a good thing—it needed to be done. But don't hold a "Rededication" ceremony and make such a big deal about it, because it's not. This ceremony was more of a public relations event than anything else, deemed necessary to: 1) justify next semester's doubling of the bus fair; 2) Get some good PR after the tuition hike, and 3) At least finish one of the campus' half-completed buildings.

Thank God I'm graduating this summer. If I was a returning student, I'd be insulted by this "Rededication" bullshit. With all of the unfinished buildings they have on campus (such as the new Powers that Be have the gall to make a big stink about refurbishing a shack in the middle of a parking lot? Give me a break!

# The Bloody Battle

By Vic Alfieri

So here we are. It's April. The flowers are blooming and we're in the final stretch to finals. Only, just when you thought everything was over and it was time to relax, pre-registration rolls around the corner in its stress-filled glory. Yes folks, it is that time. The time when friends and classmates are forgotten in that fight for the last spot in that important class that has only one section and very limited space. A time where begging and pleading is done daily and grown men cry for their mothers. It is a time when all the administration clerks go on vacation (or so it seems), and the building is reminiscent of the DMV in super slo-mo.

For English majors especially, the battle can be a brutally bloody one. With the number of students in this particular major growing by the day and the number of classes diminishing, it is a free-for-all for the very limited space in these classes. The reasoning behind the lack of courses is that the English program has lost nine professors in the past three years and have not replaced one. Granted, with all the cuts that are coming, the idea is to limit spending. But when you don't have enough professors to teach the

courses, something must be done for the students.

For those of you who are interested in focusing on American literature, find another focus. Of the seventeen literature courses available next semester, there are only two legitimate American literature courses (EGL 218 & EGL 368) and the Native American literature course has already been filled as of the end of telephone registration. Compare that to the eleven British literature classes and you will see the lack of variety in this program. Where are the African literature courses or the Caribbean/Latin courses? Where is the well-rounded program that

everybody talks about? One professor told me that he was "volunteered" to teach a certain course due to the fact that there is a lack of professors to teach the course schedule. This university wants to be known for it's academic accomplishments and standards, but these things have steadily decreased in the recent past. It isn't that the pro-

fessors are bad. The ones that I have been in contact with have been very good and understand the students' needs. There just isn't enough of them.

Next semester, you will notice that most, if not all, of these courses will be held in Javits or one of the other large lecture halls. Instead of teaching two sections of fifty students, they will just pack as many students as possible into one of these rooms and pray to keep their attention for fifty five minutes. The days of small intimate classes focused on class discussion are long gone. The students are now forced to deal with large lectures where the focus will be on the group as a whole and not on the individual.

The last English Department bulletin stated that if a student has not completed all of the required pre-requisites for any registered course, they will be de-registered. They want to save these spots for the students who have done all of the work. Also, for those students who were thinking about taking a literature course to fulfill a D.E.C. requirement, you might want to consider another course. The conditions might be more worthwhile to try another type of course.

Ladies and gentlemen, this is just the beginning. The proposed cuts from Albany have not even been instituted yet. There really is no place to go. These kinds of cuts are happening everywhere. So until things do change, drop the gloves and come out fighting, because if you don't go for blood, somebody else will.

**NOTICE TO STUDENTS REGISTERING FOR ENGLISH COURSES**  
BECAUSE THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT RECENTLY LOST SO MANY TEACHERS, AND BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF UNDERGRADUATES TAKING ENGLISH COURSES HAS DRAMATICALLY INCREASED AT THE SAME TIME, WE WILL HAVE TO STRICTLY ENFORCE PREREQUISITES IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT QUALIFYING STUDENTS ARE PLACED IN THE COURSES THEY NEED TO GRADUATE. WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION IN INFORMING YOURSELF OF THE PREREQUISITES.

# Who You Should Vote For: A Rogue's Gallery

The following is a run-down of the candidates for three positions on the Senate. The other positions, including the numerous representatives, are not accounted for, because no one really cares who gets nominated to those positions anyway.

## PRESIDENT

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Annette Hicks: I personally know Annette Hicks, and I can say that any failure she may have had in spearheading any type of campaign against any type of unjust source has failed merely because her opponents in the Senate do everything in their power to nip these programs in the bud. People like Daube and Bruzzese would rather have their parents pay an extra \$1800 per year in tuition than support any movement Hicks has to offer. It wouldn't shock me if Hicks made a statement about lessening air pollution and some of the Senators pooled their money and built a smoke-stack on campus. Don't vote her out, folks, just keep some of these senators off the board next year. Namely Der Transfer Fuhrer (i.e. Ken Daube). He says he may be transferring to the University of Vermont next year, but I wouldn't worry about it.

Sean Harris: From what I understand, Sean is not a bad guy. His platform, while quite vague ("Bring Stony Brook together" — what the hell does this mean, Sean? I don't want to be brought together with a lot of the people on this campus), attacks a lot of issues I find important, such as the ban on festival seating and the lack of food service competition, but let's be honest with each other, folks. A

Polity President doesn't get anything done except work through lower-level politicians and defend him or herself against personal attacks.

Final Word: Vote for Hicks. She's spent a year suffering as the brunt of everyone's unfair jokes, and it's about time that she got a chance to show everyone what she really can do. Remember, Sean is not a bad guy, but it's not quite his turn.

## VICE-PRESIDENT

+++++

Nicole Rosner: Nicole not only demonstrates through her overly long and boring platform that she is drastically out of touch with students (what does MPB stand for, Nicole?) but that she has also spent way too much time on the Senate. It says she's been a council member for two years. I've been here for two years. It's a very long time. In that space of time, she has done nothing noteworthy. In short, she is old, dull, and useless.

Laura Pace: In retrospect to Nicole's litany of monotony, Laura's platform shows exactly what she's done and how she's done it. She's a freshman, she's spent one year on the council, and she's decided to try and do something with her ideas, rather than remaining dead-locked at a lower level... unlike Nicole, who spent another year just sitting on her butt. What's more, I see Laura spending a lot of time in the offices on the 2nd floor of the Union, while I see Nicole Rosner spending more of her time running around socializing on the 1st floor of the Union.

Final Word: Laura's slogan ("Set the Pace") may be a trifle-bit corny, but she certainly seems a hell of a lot more refreshing than Nicole. I'd rather have somebody with ideas in the Vice-Presidential chair rather than the political equivalent of a blind person stumbling around in the dark.

## POLITY SECRETARY

+++++

Lisa Mather: An R.A., a trained fund-raiser, and a person with former experience as a secretary. She has clear objectives, such as utilizing the Public Relations Committee and making more students involved in Polity.

David Shashoua: What can I say about David? He's spastic, he opens his mouth without thinking, he drools, and he's friends with Richard Resnick. He may not be human. Someone peed in his genetic pool and he's gotten a hell of a lot further than he deserves to.

Final Word: Vote for Shashoua. It's just a stupid Secretarial position. No one's going to bother reading the damn minutes anyway, although they'll sit and debate them for hours. Besides, he's amazingly fun to watch. No one on this campus is as stupid-looking as David. He does wonders for the self-esteem. Without him, this paper would have no one except Resnick to make fun of, and Rick doesn't need us to look like a fool. (Oh yeah, and he's graduating.)

## Anarchy In The U.K.

By Heather Rosenow

People have long known of the troubles in Northern Ireland. Many people still ask, once they've found out you are Irish, if you are a Protestant or a Catholic. The meaning behind this question endures. Even now with a cease-fire and negotiations at hand, there are questions and tensions. Will this cease-fire end like so many of the others did in bloody civil unrest? Generations of children in Northern Ireland have grown up in a terrifying reality. The most horribly mutilated victims of this violence did not fall to snipers or bombs. From infancy many of these children are taught fear and hate and too many grow up with aspirations to kill.

In a relatively recent interview Jerry Adams stated that he felt it was his job to make this generation of IRA volunteers the last generation of IRA volunteers to be forced to take up guns against the British. He compared the situation in Northern Ireland to the end of Apartheid in South Africa. He said "that many feared the whites would not embrace their new society when in fact they were proud to be able to call themselves South Africans." Peter Robinson, a representative from Northern Ireland elected to the British parliament, said in response to Jerry Adams' statement that "In Northern Ireland it was the majority which ultimately got control. The majority of people in Northern Ireland see themselves as being British and their identity is such that they are looking towards London. The minority, but a substantial minority, see themselves as being Irish and their identity is such that they are looking towards

Dublin. You can't give life to one without killing off the other, and there is nothing in between."

Since the violence broke out in 1969, 3,000 people have been killed and 36,000 wounded. Both sides did their worst; the IRA at one point bringing their war to England, and Pro-British terrorists once killing during an IRA funeral. In Belfast there is a "Peace Wall" separating two working class neighborhoods where nationality is determined by how



people worship the same God. Since the most recent cease-fire, hopes have been high because negotiations have been in the works between the two governments. The tension still exists because both sides fear that the other will get control. The Protestants fear that if the Irish-Catholic minority, long discriminated in Northern Ireland, come into power that they will in turn be discriminated

against. All watching are wary of a flare of tempers which could hurl the population back into a bloody civil war.

There are many who feel that Bill Clinton has been instrumental in the negotiation process. Some are also angry because of tensions which developed between the British government and the United States government as a result of Clinton's public support of Jerry Adams, who was formerly strongly affiliated with the IRA and the political party which represented it, Sinn Fein. Clinton gave the proverbial green light to Adams to collect funds to support his cause as long as he promised the funds would not be used to purchase weapons. Many of the cynics in the United States were left wondering what time yesterday Clinton was born. Keep in mind that a great deal of the voting public claim to Irish ancestry or are recent immigrants from the isle of green. Our darling president had no desire to offend any of us.

The reactions to this have been mixed. Many people who have lived in Northern Ireland feel that it will take more than a cease-fire to end 25 years of "troubles." Also many people involved in our government are worried about offending Great Britain, our long time ally. The negotiations have since produced some proposals which lend hope to some but make others nervous. Many Pro-British citizens fear that all negotiations will eventually lead to a re-united Ireland. In the end the most we can hope for is an enduring peace through the frustratingly slow negotiations process, and a final decision which pleases all involved.

The Earth knows nothing as large as the ocean...no one tries to pull you from your home...no one knows a mind as expansive as mine (nor an ego as deserving.) It is from this vantage I give you

# OCEANSIZE

Dear Readers,

Let me extend my thanks and disbelief in your response to my little advice column...good grief I have been inundated with so many excellent letters that I and my staff of 40 can barely keep up. Thank God I'm going syndicated and won't actually have to answer letters myself, so here is a best of Oceansize until someone takes my stead...

Dear Oceansize,

I writing this letter under duress...my...roommate is making me write you...he, um, she killed her mom and...with an ice pick, and...well she wants to know what to do about it.

Scared in Seattle

Dear Scared,

You should load a van up with 1200 lbs of explosives and leave it in front of a Federal Building in a city ill prepared for a terrorist attack. Then blow it up on your way to Britain so you can later avenge the travesty happening in Northern Ireland everyday.

Dear Oceansize,

I have a skin discoloration on my back that is really big, I think it might be a tumor. It is growing exponentially by day. What should I do?

Icky Thing

Dear Icky Thing,

Remember when you prayed to God to get that extra little thing on your body...after you watched Uroto Suki Doll, the Anime classic? Well sometimes you get what you ask for, just not on the side of

your body you expected the prehensile thing you prayed so very hard for.

Dear Oceansize,

My hair is changing colors. It all started when some guys had a fist fight over what color my hair is...the guy who said my hair was red won the fight and now my hair is sort of a black cherry color. What do I do now?

Purple

Dear Purple,

Well Heather, purple is a pretty cool color for punk rock chicks now-a-days so I say run with it. Use your hair to get good looking punk rock guys. Try to get guys that weigh over 150lbs though. So have fun with your icky purple hair and the next time you need to change the color of your hair I will adjust the tides in your favor.

Dear Oceansize,

Theories say that homosexuality might be genetic and not a lifestyle choice. Recently I unexpectedly walked in on my father bugging the paperboy! Does this mean I'm gay?

Think I'm Straight

Dear No You Aren't,

Well although homosexuality hasn't been proven to be linked to genetics, you have wholly another problem. You are a voyeuristic, latent homosexual. Not that there's anything wrong with being gay, if that's what you want to do. You didn't walk in unexpectedly! You heard the moans, you wanted to

see your father's triumph...the one you had wanted to claim as your own; isn't that the real case Doug? Fess up and be gay, hey, be ecstatic if you want!

Dear Oceansize,

I have a problem with sheep: I'm fucking obsessed with them! Worse yet I've found peers equally obsessed with them. One of them even wants his coffin to be a sheep (He read National Geographic...and...anyway). Another was recently apprehended (the one whose father has flings with the paperboy) in England for having kidnapped and abusing 600 under aged sheep! (Oh the humanity!) What can I do?

Sheepless in Stony brook

Dear Sheepy,

What you probably don't know about sheep is two-fold: Firstly sheep have no age restrictions, secondly sheep did not exist prior to 1967. NASA invented them during a space probe manned by goats. When the radiation shield failed on the probe the goats were turned into fuzzy sheeps. The lie that sheep were herded in the early part of humankind for cotton is just that; a bold faced lie. Cotton is a plant. But polyester is sheared from sheep now in the post industrial age. Wool comes from bees of course and honey from honey suckles. Wool can also be sheared from Yaks, but only by people in the Ukraine. Cows were used for orange juice until the shuttle launches in the 80s, and now they make egg nog. Hope that helps.

## Top Ten Adjectives Most People Would Like and Dislike to Describe A Potential Blind Date

### POSITIVE

- 10) SEEKING U.S. CITIZENSHIP
- 9) PROMISCUOUS
- 8) ITALIAN
- 7) NEEDY
- 6) ORPHANED
- 5) NAKED
- 4) MASSAGE THERAPIST
- 3) MEDICATED
- 2) ON BAYWATCH
- 1) VULNERABLE

### NEGATIVE

- 10) BORN AGAIN
- 9) RABID
- 8) ITALIAN
- 7) WEB-TOED
- 6) BLEEDING
- 5) GERIATRIC
- 4) CARCINOGENIC
- 3) MEDICATED
- 2) SIMIAN
- 1) SCALY

# COMICS

<p>WELCOME TO THE DOGBERT SHOW. TODAY I TALK ABOUT GETTING GOVERNMENT OFF OUR BACKS.</p>	<p>I DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE SOMEDAY YOU CAN BUY LIQUOR, CIGARETTES AND FIREARMS AT A DRIVE-THRU WINDOW AND USE THEM ALL BEFORE YOU GET HOME.</p>	<p>BASICALLY, ANYTHING THAT GETS RID OF PEOPLE IS OKAY WITH ME. BUT BEFORE YOU GO, BUY MY NEW BOOK.</p>
<p>MY HOBBY IS GEOGRAPHY WOULD YOU SIGN MY BOOK TO EACH OF THE CONTINENTS BY NAME?</p>	<p>ARE YOU AWARE THAT MY BOOK RECOMMENDS A TWIRLING WEDGIE FOR PEOPLE WHO ASK FOR TOO MUCH?</p>	<p>WE FIND THE LINE MOVES FASTER IF I DO THIS TO THE FIRST CUSTOMER.</p>
<p>I'M RETIRING FROM MY MEDIA EMPIRE AND PUTTING MY VAST WEALTH INTO REAL ESTATE.</p>	<p>MY PLAN IS TO BUY ALL THE PROPERTY ON EARTH AND EVICT EVERYBODY WHO DOESN'T AGREE TO BE MY PUPPET.</p>	<p>CAN I BE KERMIT? THAT'S A "MUPPET." IT'S ALL SPELLED OUT IN YOUR LEASE.</p>
<p>EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY WE WILL NO LONGER USE OUR SPARE CUBICLES TO HOUSE CONVICTS.</p>	<p>YES!!! OUR OPINIONS MATTERED!</p>	<p>ACTUALLY IT'S BECAUSE THE PRISONERS COMPLAINED.</p>
<p>BAD NEWS IN 1985 WE'RE REPLACING THE COMPANY DOCTOR WITH A REGISTERED NURSE.</p>	<p>BAD NEWS IN 1990 WE FIRED THE NURSE AND PUT THE ASPIRIN AND TOURNIQUETS IN THE VENDING MACHINE.</p>	<p>BAD NEWS IN 1995 WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO INCREASE VENDING MACHINE REVENUE BY FIFTEEN PERCENT.</p>
<p>I'M PLANNING TO TURN THE HOUSE INTO A GAMBLING CASINO.</p>	<p>ISN'T THAT ILLEGAL? NOT IN THE TINY REPUBLIC OF DOGBERTLAND. I SECEDED FROM THE REPRESSIVE HOMELAND THIS MORNING.</p>	<p>I DON'T REMEMBER VOTING ON THAT. HERE'S YOUR GREEN CARD.</p>

Dilbert © by Scott Adams

<p>I THINK THE BEST WAY TO PURSUE MY GOAL OF WORLD DOMINATION IS TO BECOME A TALK RADIO HOST.</p>	<p>I'LL PROMOTE MY UNIQUE CONSERVATIVE VIEWPOINT THAT PEOPLE ARE IDIOTS WHO DESERVE TO BE MOCKED.</p>	<p>WOULDN'T PEOPLE SHOW YOUR VIEWPOINT TO BE FLAWED BY VIRTUE OF THEIR INTELLIGENT QUESTIONS? LIKE THAT ONE?</p>
<p>DOGBERT'S TALK RADIO I'M THE SMARTEST CREATURE IN THE UNIVERSE AND YOU ARE ALL DOLTS.</p>	<p>TODAY I'M TAKING CALLS FROM PEOPLE WHO THINK THEY UNDERSTAND COMPLEX ISSUES BECAUSE THEY WATCH "CROSSFIRE" ON CNN.</p>	<p>"...SO WHY NOT PUT ALL POOR PEOPLE IN ORPHANAGES?" PUT YOUR HEAD UP TO THE SPEAKER, BOB.</p>
<p>TODAY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SEX AFTER MARRIAGE. MANY LIBERALS SUPPORT THIS DEPRAVED PRACTICE BUT I DO NOT.</p>	<p>IT CAN LEAD TO HEAD-ACHES, FATIGUE AND UNWANTED FAMILY MEMBERS WHO BECOME CONSULTANTS.</p>	<p>"WOULDN'T YOUR PHILOSOPHY LEAD TO THE EXTINCTION OF MANKIND?" CRY ME A RIVER, LIBERAL.</p>
<p>WE'VE GOT A LOT OF EMPTY CUBICLES BECAUSE OF DOWNSIZING.</p>	<p>I HIRED THE DOGBERT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO CONVERT PART OF THE OFFICE INTO PRISON CELLS WHICH WE'LL LEASE TO THE STATE.</p>	<p>SOUNDS LIKE A BIG JOB. NAH A LITTLE PAINT, NEW CARPET AND WE'RE THERE.</p>
<p>I DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR TO PUT CONVICTS IN OUR SPARE CUBICLES.</p>	<p>DON'T BE SUCH A BIGOT THESE PEOPLE HAVE MADE ONE LITTLE MISTAKE. OTHERWISE, THEY'RE JUST LIKE EMPLOYEES.</p>	<p>I THINK THERE ARE A FEW DIFFERENCES! YEAH, THEIR HEALTH PLAN IS BETTER.</p>
<p>HEY, BLOODY WHAT ARE YOU IN FOR?</p>	<p>UNLIKE YOURSELF, I AM NOT A PRISONER HERE I CHOOSE TO WORK HERE OF MY OWN FREE WILL!</p>	<p>GREAT I'M IN THE FREAK SECTION. I LIKE TO WORK.</p>

# THE 1ST ANNUAL STONY

**Death To The Environment Award (Biggest Waste of Paper):** *The Stony Brook Statesman*

**Green Peace Award (Biggest Conservation of Paper):**  
*Blackworld*

**Biggest Waste Of DNA:** Richard Resnick  
"I'm flattered and honored to win this award."

**Biggest Waste Of Spittle:** Dave Shashoua

**Bruce 'Buskin' Baldwin Award (For The Use Of Words Beyond The Range Of The Average College Student):** Bruce Baldwin

**Best On-Campus Concert:**  
"Yeah right."

**Best COCA Movie The Press Staff Ruined:** Star Trek: Generations (Fri. Mar 22nd 9:30)  
"The most fun you can have at the movies is to go with our staff. We ruin and we rule."

**Best Issue Of The Press:** The "Genitalia" issue Vol 16 No. 9  
"We're only talking about the quality, not the actual look of the paper. We took more shit for a medical term oh yeah, and the naked lady on the front."

**Best Top 10 List:** Ways to raise \$251,000,000 in Vol. 16 No. 9

**Best House Ad:** "Thomas Jefferson" in Vol. 16 No. 10  
"Thomas Jefferson, underage girls, he's my idol."

**Most Pretentious Category:** Best Issue  
"It was close, but Best Issue won the award. Actually any award we gave to ourselves is rather pretentious."

**Most Complained About Article:** "Dr. **Fistfuck**"  
"I can't believe those spineless faggots apologized for that."

**Easiest Country To Make Fun Of:** France  
"Someone recently wrote us a letter defending France, saying that the Americans are as obnoxious as the French. I guess they haven't been to Quebec lately, and they aren't even really French up there."

**Best Cover:** "Sensitivity Uber Alles" Vol 16. No 7

**Best Unfinished Building:** The new union

**Nicest Dorm:** At schools we can't afford

**Ugliest Dorm:** Take your pick

"Unfortunately people will be fighting over this award, sad isn't it."

**Coitus Interruptus Award:** For our advertisers for pulling out so fast.

**Biggest Staff Fixation:** Marbles  
"We were going to go with something else but would have been taken to court over it."

**Best Best Sexual Position:**  
Involves pullies and generators  
"Don't even want to know about it."

**Person Who Acts Most Like Bart Simpson:** Garrison Hoffman

**Best Distance Marble Hurler:** David "Big Foot" Ewalt

**Most Accurate Marble Hurler:** Scott "The Squealer" Lusby

**Easiest Target For Our Marbles:** The offices of Specula.

**Person With Funniest Name In USB Directory:** Charles Pancake

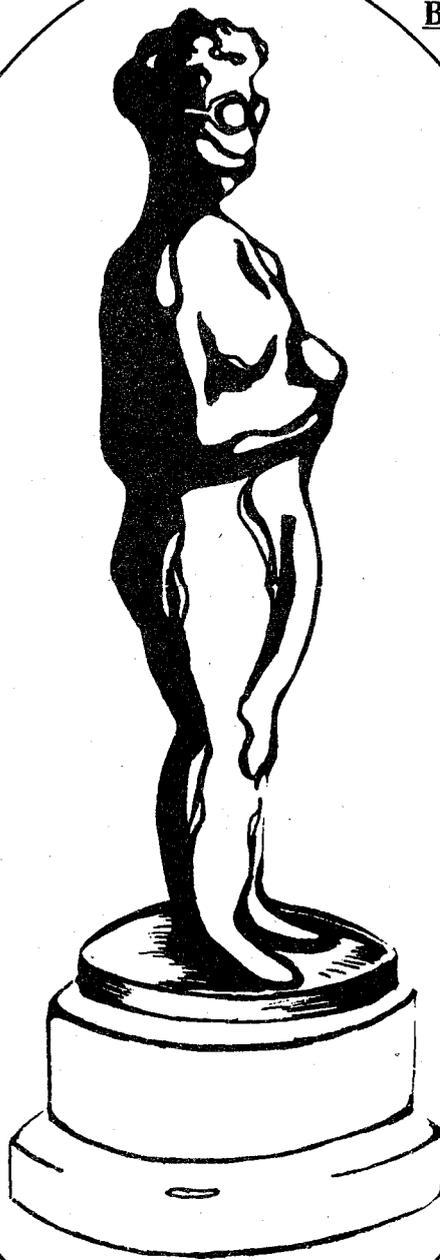
**Most Bizarre Item Found In Office:** Rob Gilheany

**Best On-Campus Food:** Samuel Adams Double Bock

"After we bring it on campus of course. No campus establishment is wise enough to carry it."

**Worst On-Campus Food:** Re-wrapped pop-tarts in the Union Station Deli

"And we are pretty sure it is illegal."



# BROOK PRESS SHIRLEYS

**Most Obnoxious Admin Member:** Munchkin in Bursars

**Best 3TV Show:** The "Dwight K. Barkley Show" interviewing David Samuel Shashoua

"A masterpiece of modern journalism. I laughed 'til I cried."

**Best Unused Story Title:** (Tie)

1. Wanted: Dead, White, Heterosexual Males (actual title: Justice For All)
2. Dorkfest '95 (ICON '95: Way Out There)
3. Dr. Fistfuck Goes to Washington (Cesspool On The Potomac)

**Most Fixed Voting Result:** That Seven Vice President Thing

**Biggest University Runaround:** Getting Office Keys

**Best Cartoon:** "Faraway, So What?" by John Giuffo Vol 16 No. 10

**Staff Member Most Likely on Express to Hell:** Doug Vescuso

"Fuck all of you."

**Most Disgusting Office Story:** Felching

"Self-explanatory."

**Most Paranoid Staff Member:**

Lou Moran

"I'm telling you NASA can watch me through the cable."

**Most Anal-Retentive Staff Member:**

Lou Moran

"I'm a Virgo with a rising Virgo sign."

**Best Movie:** Any Anime featuring prehensile penises

"When you see a penis open doors, crack open a beer and behold a demon all at once, you shiver, and wait to evolve."

**Worst Movie:** Anything without prehensile penises

"Only makes sense, doesn't it. Although Pulp Fiction and the Shawshank Redemption were real good, but alas, no prehensile penises."

**Best TV show:** E.R.

"Only bad thing is there is not enough sex, but then X-Files, which came in a close second, has even less."

**Worst TV Show:** Thunder in Paradise

"Hulk Hogan and a big boat, yeah can't you just see the Emmy's rolling in."

**Hottest TV Babe:** Gilliam "Scully" Anderson from X-files

"Something about a woman with thick ankles and a story someone once told me."

**Hottest TV Guy:** George Clooney

"I'd buy knee pads for this guy."

**Hottest Rock Babe:** Tanya Donnelly

"Anyone who wears a sundress in their concert ads gets our vote."

**Hottest Rock Guy:** Melissa Etheridge

**Hottest Movie Babe:** Uma Thurman

"Ted wanted it to be Lara Flynn Boyle, but I changed it to Uma."

**Hottest Movie Guy:** Brad Pitt

"Hello, Tristen."

**Best Civilization Player:**

Ted "No Social Life" Swedalla

"It's taken me a long time to become this socially inept."

**Stupidest Off-Campus**

**Political Move:** Jesse Helms introducing Benazir Bhutto, the President of Pakistan, to the Senate as the president of India.

**Weirdest Smell:** I-CON

"Cheese, hippy juice and B.O."

**Coollest Screen Saver:** Worf hacking up the desktop

**Worst Thing Actually Overheard At The Holocaust Museum In Washington, D.C.:** "If there's one thing I hate worse than standing in line, it's standing in line with a bunch of Jews."

"Don't blame us, we only overheard this and did not find it funny at all."

The voting was done by the staff in a drunken stupor one Friday night where two of our staff members, who will remain anonymous (Doug & Heather), had to be hosed down with beer because we can't afford a paternity suit.

KABLOOEY by BLUE



KABLOOEY by BLUE



# HACK - HACK - HACK

By Louis M. Moran

Cyberspace is hot. Now that Mom and Pop Americana can 'cruise the net' from such benign ports of call as America On-line and the oldest commercial hacker hangout, CompuServe. Five years ago in two towns geographically across the country, but optically less than a second away, two cybergangs waged a war neither would win. And Michelle Slatalla and Joshua Quittner, Newsday reporters have written a slick book to tell us all about it. *The Masters Of Deception* is such a good story that it won't matter if you are a casual computer user who is amazed at what that thing on your desk can really do, or a hard core hacker reminiscing about the old days.

Aside from first editionitis, (those annoying typos that make 1984, 1894 and has, nas) this book is riveting. Initially the book comes off a little too slick as the reporters try to sound like hackers, who are mostly teenagers, but end up sounding like forty-somethings trying to sound like teens. Around page 86 they start to get the hang of it, or maybe I got numb to it, either way I never put it down. Sucked up all 200 plus pages in a sitting (well actually I had a eight hour nap during my sitting).

The story starts off in January 15, 1990 when AT&T crashed. So what AT&T crashed? Well AT&T you might remember is the long distance carrier and guess what they own the phone lines...yeah the government deregulated them and made a bunch of pissy little phone companies but AT&T still owns the lines, copper and optic, that carry the signal. New York City became a cyber-island that could not get or send anything over the lines AT&T laid down. You can't call your grandmother in Tucson, you can't call 1800 anything, you can't get a fax from the

home office in Des Moines, Manhattan is dead. All the principle characters in the book are sweating it out; "Did we do that?"

A running theme throughout the book is the unknown. The main hackers are all brilliant kids who despite their Mensa IQ's they don't know who they are talking to 3/4 of the time. When you log onto Electronic Bulletin Boards and post messages signed with handles like Acid Phreak ("PH" shows up a lot as it is homage to PHones) you can never be sure who you're 'talking' to.

The authority figures don't know who's on-line inside their phone system, they're chasing ghosts too. And so the story begins. We catch a glimpse of the first major cat and mouse chase in cyberspace. Other people had been caught out there selling credit card numbers, long distance cards and long distance phone calls. A whole gang had never been caught before, and no one ever suspected that there were gangs of computer geniuses.

Cybergangs are a strange thing. Unlike streetwise city

gangs capping each other with gat's and nines, cybergangs are introverted geeks who occasionally steal garbage bags looking for passwords and codes. No one gets hurt, physically anyway. When you credit cards are being used to fund cyberpunks and long distance calls, or your computer is logging massive hours crunching numbers because these kids have Commie 64s (remember Commodore 64s?) that can't, it hurts.

The book is fantastic if you were ever a neo-hacker breaking game codes and running about on modems when places like CompuServe required a Ph.D. to navigate. A time before IBM clones ruled the Earth and computers were still amazing things and AT&T wasn't prophesizing our cyber-future... "You will."

Regrettably it only skims the surface of what these kids did and never tells us how to crack into databases like InfoAmerica so we can terrorize people with their credit histories. Quite a bit of mention goes to 2600 (a nod to the megahertz tone all phones ran on once) the hackers handbook which comes out monthly for all of you who really want to know where to get this kind of info. You can't help but realize that the authors really like these guys despite the fact that they are criminals in the legal sense of the word.

You'll like them too because Slatalla and Quittner will make you like them. It's hard to dislike anybody in the book except the other gang LOD (Legion Of Doom) from Texas. They're not so hard to dislike, especially when they turn their knowledge for good. That's right good...read it you'll see. MOD ended up meaning Masters Of Deception, but initially it didn't mean anything, it was simply the next iteration of LOD. You'll even like the two AT&T guys chasing the kids around.

What you'll like most if the book though. You'll look really cool carrying it around too, it will look like you know something about cyberspace and all that 'net stuff. Looking good is a lot more important than knowing your shit: See also; your professor's bookshelves!

**Read the Press now because we are going to the beach to try to exterminate the sandpiper. We will still be printing, but not as often and we are still taking submissions.**

**The dates of the two summer issues will be June 12 & July 31**



## We Survived: The Year In Review

By Sara Weiss

By the time many of you read this, the school year will nearly be over. Instead of just rehashing what has happened to this place in the past ten months or so, I thought I would just review the year from the perspective of a freshman whose view isn't quite the norm. The freshman in question is your humble writer herself.

There is only one word I can use to describe being a freshman, hell. Lets start off with the first day, I might as well have worn a sign that said "Warning: clueless newcomer." I mean come on, don't tell the upperclassmen weren't playing Spot the Freshman 'cause all of us were walking around with those damn campus maps in our hands asking for directions every five seconds. One reason for this of course was the fact that the maps didn't show the areas blocked off by construction.

Then there was the campus bookstore which, having been run by Barnes and Noble last year and losing the bid to run the place this year, was now being run by a new company who was subse-

quently screwing up the book orders big time. Think about how many times you went there asking for a certain book only to be told it would be in next week and then returning the next week to find out the order hadn't even been sent. Even better is going there to buy a notebook or a pen and getting ripped off so bad it's not even funny. Anyone who spends over five bucks on a notebook might as well shoot themselves in the foot because that's how dumb they truly are.

Lets get back to the construction issue. Am I the only one who noticed that by early December they had blocked off nearly a sixth of the campus for a building that may or may not be finished? Or how about all those trucks blocking the Engineering Building and the gravel walkway near the Library which, if you weren't wearing sneakers, you'd break your neck walking on. Now I'm not saying the building of the new Union is a bad thing because it's not; but at what cost to the students? You try getting from Engineering to ESS when the path is closed off in the time they give you between classes.

Then there was that horrible day back in November when the voters of this state voted Pataki into office. Since then it's been a slow downward spiral. First he wanted to cut back funds to SUNY schools, next a tuition hike. None of which makes any logical sense, since the reason many of us go here is because we can't afford to go anyplace else. Think about it, think about how many hours you worked shoveling shit to a bunch of ingrates in order to be able to pay your tuition. Then, for those of you who actually did, ask yourself why you voted for the schmuck. I don't understand politics nor do I pretend to, however, I just find it hard to believe that enough people were jaded enough to vote for a man who didn't even have a solid platform to stand on during his campaign.

After all that many of us are still around. Even we lowly freshman have survived, we've thrown out our maps and gotten involved in this place. A few of us are actually coming back next year at which point we will attain the rank of sophomore and get to play Spot the Freshman at the start of the fall semester. Till then, its been a helluva year and I'm glad it's over.

# An Idiot's Guide To The Chaos

This is a quick guide to the candidates who are running for Polity Office. In case you couldn't find time to hear their speeches, here are their platforms. *The comments are based on the average time students on this campus spend on researching who is attempting to run the school next year, which happens to be 1.74 seconds.*

## Annette Hicks - Polity President

Hi, my name is Annette Hicks and I am your Polity Vice President. I am seeking your endorsement in my campaign for President. During my tenure in Polity, I have made it my first priority to take a key role in fighting the battles that affect us as students at Stony Brook. Most recently I spearheaded the campaign against the Governor's Budget Cuts to Higher Education.

As President I will continue to uphold the true meaning of Polity - By the People for the People.

My platform is based on three principles

- Service
- Student Empowerment
- Dedication

Please help me to help you!

*—Well so far, Annie, it doesn't sound as if you did much. You spearheaded a losing campaign and as everyone knows you can't fight administration. Will you have a Polity for the people by the people, or just those who understand Canadian politics...and I'll take a Coke and a large Mozzy Stick, thank you for your service.*

## Sean Harris - Polity President

My name is Sean Harris and I'm running for Student Polity Association President. The reasons why you should give me your vote are simply that Polity needs to be made more effective and I believe that I can accomplish this.

I've already made an agenda to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of Polity. Some of the items included on this agenda are:

- Bring Stony Brook together
- Providing events on weekends to make the campus more interesting
- Providing better advertisement to let students know of current events
- Make better use of 3-TV
- Bring festivals seating back on campus
- Provide food service competition

Everyone complains about how Polity runs, now it is time to change it.

*—Let me comment on your agenda in a free word association way...*

*Segregate every person to themselves, you mean more interesting than rape and gun-play?, isn't that what the Newspapers are for?, yeah, give that office space to The Press, how about a concert too?, and around the home stretch here comes Hamburgler with The Burger King on his tail but wait here's Dave Thomas and his redheaded step-child daughter oh but how did the Taco Bell's get across that line?*

## Ideal - Polity President

My name is Ideal Candidate and I am running for Polity President. The promises I make to you are very simple:

- Free bus service
- Lowering tuition
- Legalize marijuana
- Increase all club budgets, except Statesman

*—Got my vote!*

## Nicole Rosner - Polity Vice President

Hello my name is Nicole Rosner, I'm running for the position of Student Polity Vice President. The past two years I have been very active in representing students at Stony Brook. I have been a council member for two years and I wish to continue fighting for student issues. Listed below are some of the ways in which I have been actively representing students:

- Sophomore Rep
- Undergraduate Council
- University Senate
- Polity Steering Committee
- Voter Registration/Education
- Former Freshman Rep
- Polity Executive Director Search
- University Provost Search
- Student Faculty Staff Retreat

The position of VP has the responsibility of chairing the Polity Senate. As Chair, I would make the Senate a more effective body, so that student issues are taken seriously and student concerns are addressed. The position also entails overseeing organizations such as SAB, MPB, and COCA. As VP I will increase communication between these groups and the students, so that the groups can effectively represent the interests of students. Finally, I would like to continue my efforts in representing students at all levels of this University. Thank you for your time and your support for Nicole Rosner as Polity VP.

*—Nicky, you wrote way too much, I got really bored...can you say MTV?*

## Laura A. Pace - Polity Vice President

Hi, my name is Laura A. Pace, and I am your Student Polity Freshman Representative. I am seeking your endorsement in my campaign for Vice-President of the Student Polity Association. During my past year at Student Polity, Student Advocacy on the University, State and National levels have been at the forefront of everything I have done. I have also been the voice of the voice of the students on numerous committees.

As a member of the Board of Directors of F.S.A., I have worked with the improvement of Dining Services and other student services on this campus. I have also served on the Teaching and Learning Task Force and the Undergraduate Project Steering Committee.

As a member of the Board of Directors for SASU, Student Association of the State University of New York, I have been at the forefront of organizing this campus in the fight against Governor Pataki's devastating budget proposal.

As Vice-President, I will continue to set the PACE for students.

- Student Advocacy
- Experience
- Commitment

*—I heard you were really cute so I'm voting for you and your nose ring.*

## Polity Secretary- Lisa Mather

Hello, my name is Lisa Mather. I have served as I.F.S.C. secretary, and Fundraising Chair for Psi Gamma Sorority. I was recently involved in Take Back the Night March, and am a R.A. I am an active member of our community, looking out for our concerns.

My major goals, as your secretary, will include utilizing the Public Relations Committee, to enhance communications, and to bridge the gaps between the various camps communities in order to bring a balanced vision of our communal needs into Polity.

I would like to focus on recruitment, meaning making information more available to students on how to become involved, encouraging them to become more active in our University community. Polity Secretary is more than minutes. To me it is also:

- Communications
- Vision
- Recruitment

Lisa Mather for a refreshing perspective.

*--Go girl*

## Polity Secretary-David Samuel Shashoua

I am David Samuel Shashoua, currently a CSA Polity Senator and the Polity Senate Secretary. I am seeking your nomination for the position of Polity Secretary. I have been involved with Polity since my days as a Freshman. My reason for running for a position on the Council is to try to represent more of a different view towards the Polity structure. Most of the candidates for the Council are from a similar stock, without any regard towards the common student. When I am nominated and win the position I will represent more of the common student's view. Remember, I am an experienced Secretary; being the Polity Senate secretary for 2 years; CSA Acting Secretary for a year. Thus, I have the knowledge and experience for the position of Polity Secretary.

*--You fucking wish you sorry excuse for a spittle, there was a reason why they have elections every year: so other people could have a chance in these positions. I don't care about your experience and the number of years you sat in office, that's more the reason you should leave. Your ass is getting fat.*

## Senior Rep. Julio Alarcon

- Diversity
- Experience
- Dedication

### Accomplishments

1. Director of Student Polity Association Security
2. Student Union Building Manager
3. Building Legislature Treasure
4. Treasurer For Destiny
5. R.H.A. Rep.

### Goals As Senior Rep.

1. Senior Year not Senior Week
2. Senior "Stress Reliever"
3. December Commencement
4. Outdoor Graduation
5. Diverse Programming
6. Don't Forget December Graduates

*--We at The Press like lists, but I'm wondering if 'Senior Year' could be anymore vague. Even though Seniors are by far the most represented on campus, let's hear it for Super Seniors, just a promise of a full year of unnamed things doesn't help us vote for you. Be specific.*

## Senior Rep. Steve Bae

Hello Fellow Students!

My name is Steve Bae and I'm running for Student Polity Association Senior Representative. The reasons why you should give me your vote are simply that Polity needs to be made more effective and I believe that I can accomplish this.

Some of the things in which I would like to help change to make more effective are:

- 1- Bring Stony Brook Together
- 2-Providing events on weekends to make the campus more interesting.

# Idiot's Guide (continued)

- 3.- Providing better advertisement to let students know of current events.
  - 4.- Make better use of 3 TV.
  - 5.-Bring Festival Seating back on campus.
  - 6.-Provide food service competition.
  - 7.-Give Cultural Clubs and Organizations more representation
  - 8.-Create more Senior activities
  - 9.-Make better use of SAB
- Everyone complains about how Polity runs, now is the time to change it.

*--Backing only one member of the Media Wing was your first mistake. Even though we are rarely seen in these dungeons, The Press and even Statesman, can help enormously with getting your message out. Take for instance Mr. Resnick, if we hadn't blown up his ego, who would have, David Shashou? And that bringing Stony Brook together crap, our advice is don't even bother, you'd have an easier time getting David Duke appointed President of the NAACP.*

### Senior Rep. Erika Abel

I am running for Senior Rep. because I would like to continue to advocate and program for students. I have worked hard for students over three years at Stony Brook as a Polity Senator, Commuter Students Association President and as a student representative to the following campus wide committees:

- Undergraduate Council
- Parking and Transportation Committee

- Union Advisory Board
- President's Task Force on Building Communities
- Faculty-Student Association-Dining Committee
- University Senate
- Polity Steering Committee

It is through this work and the Campus wide programs that I have organized (Spring Festival barbecue, Casino Night, etc.) that I have gained experience that will help me achieve my goals to benefit Seniors.

### Academic Goals

- 1) Elimination of Registration blocks due to unpaid Library and parking fines. This would ensure that Seniors could register during Pre-registration and wouldn't get blocked out of classes they need for graduation.
- 2) Ensuring that Seniors can take classes they need to graduate. Departments must offer an adequate number of sections and permit Seniors into required courses or offer students alternative courses that fulfill these requirements.

### Programming Goals

- 1) Senior Job Fairs which can provide Seniors with real job options and career opportunities hopefully involving both local businesses and larger corporations.
  - 2) Graduation events which will give Seniors a memorable close to their final year at Stony Brook along with Senior week activities with special activities for Seniors and their friends.
  - 3) A Senior Project. A noticeable change on campus from the Senior graduating class that contributes to the campus community. Not just a monetary gift but rather a project that Seniors create.
- These are just a few of the things I have planned

for the next year so please give me the opportunity to represent the Senior Class.

*--Anyone who promises to get the school to allow you to register, even if you are blocked, gets my vote, but what are the odds that you can pull it off? Also forget Casino night, how about a full-time casino, we have room in our office for a crap table and a few slot machines.*

*The rest of the Polity positions are not really that important (Junior Rep, Sophomore Rep, USSA Rep and SASU Rep) these are just ego boosters for these people who will try to run for a better position next year. All these positions are stepping stones for the ultimate ego highs that they will try to reach next in the 96-97 school year. Also these are one person races and need not be covered.*

**Vote Vote Vote Vote**

**Voting will take place on  
Wednesday April 26th &  
Thursday April 27th.**

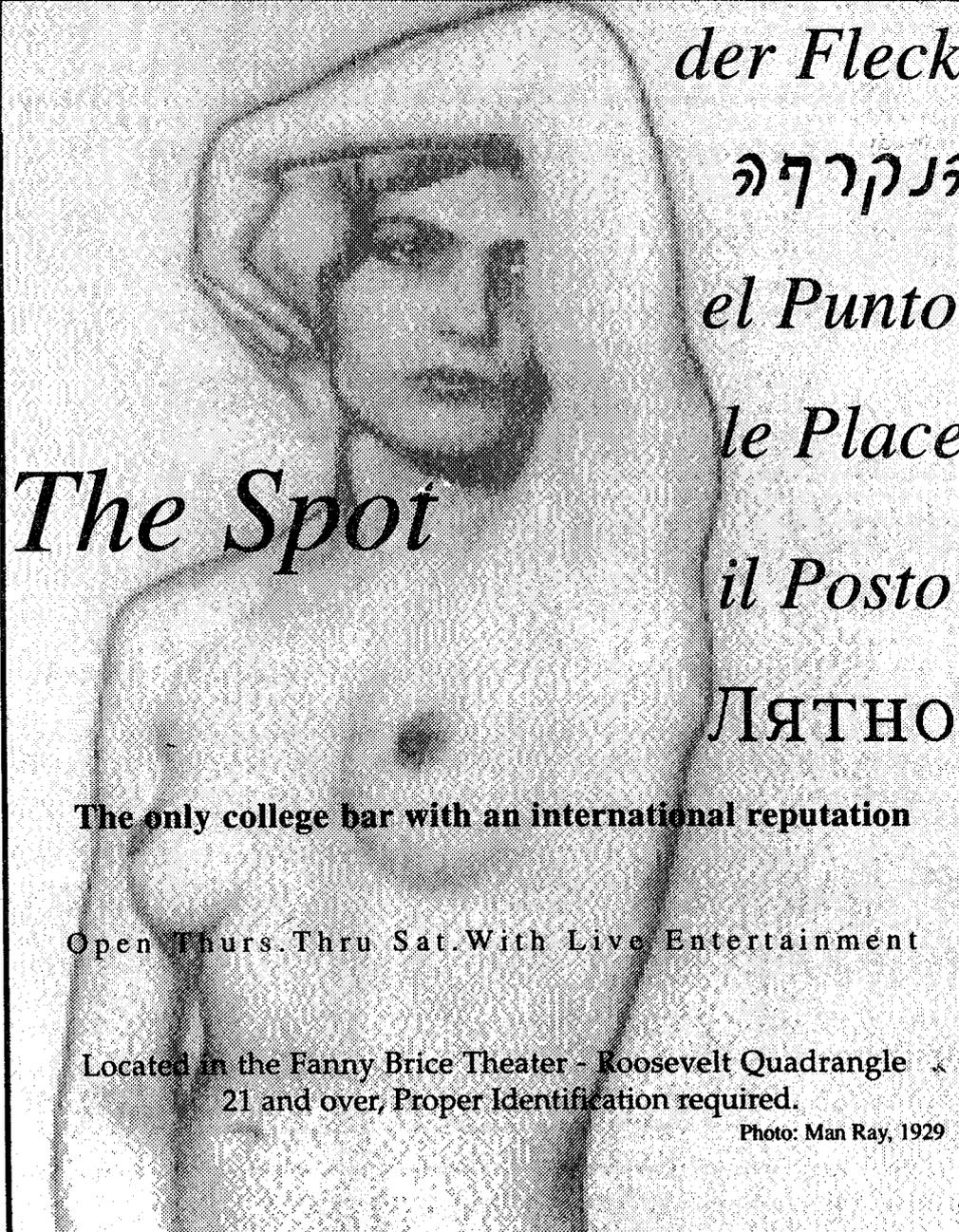
**In the Union and Javits.**

**The Press would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's papers.**

**Without your help this paper would still be a grove of trees somewhere waiting to be cut down for the Statesman.**

**We don't want that, now do we?  
See you in the Fall.**

**Except Bruce; we hate you, never come back, stay in Chicago forever. Especially Ted, he says fuck you... okay we all say that.**



*der Fleck*  
*הנה קרן*  
*el Punto*  
*le Place*  
*il Posto*  
*ЛЯТНО*

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21 and over, Proper Identification required.

Photo: Man Ray, 1929

# SHIFTLESS & LAZY

By Louis M. Moran

I am of the mindset that things happen to you because they are your fault. Perhaps the fault lie not in your actions of this life, but in a past life. For instance, your car always seems to be in the shop (or perhaps on the lawn), well maybe you beat your camel in a past life and the karma is just now catching up to you. You are ultimately responsible for everything that happens to you, basically, it is your fault. No need to go about searching for what ails you now that you know you are to blame!

One thing that can't be held against you too harshly is how you were raised. Although I have friends who were raised by jackals and they seem well adjusted, I do know that a severe lack of parenting, or very poor parenting can cause people to become...well, scummy. If your mother never mentioned that selling crack to six year-olds and shooting people at produce shops was a bad thing then perhaps she was lacking in some way. And now for her sins you are a menace to society, coddled by sociologists and bleeding heart types who want reassurance of their superiority over the scummy people and gain it through benevolent helping hands.

So, because it has become very trendy, I now lay official blame for my shiftless and lazy ways on my parents and their 'no pressure' parenting that has lead me down this path...for what is more shiftless or lazy than writing; not to even use the lung muscles to push the poison air past the vocal box to say what's on the mind.

I remember the first time shiftless and lazy was used to describe me. I remember sifting through those words like sand through my fingers, thinking, what excellent verbiage! Shiftless and lazy. Not just without shift, but lazy to boot. Perhaps, even if I had a shift, I would be lazy still. Even with the

prospect of shift my lazy side would ooze out of me like burbling juice from a hot pie, a hot pie I would lazily eye as my shiftless ways would leave me penniless and prone to thievery. Because I was both shiftless and lazy I could cite that as an accomplishment on a resume'.

"Mr. Moran I notice a year long gap between this job and your last; what did you do during that time?"

"I was shiftless and lazy during that time."

"You mean to say, you were both shiftless and lazy for an entire year."

"Yes I was."

"Mr. Moran, I have no need to continue looking to fill this position, you are our kind of man. I expect great things from a man who was shiftless, but a man who was shiftless and lazy, for an entire year; well I expect you to double our bottom line!"

I tried to imagine what the shiftless and lazy were doing this year. Probably nothing, but maybe they were lying around in robes and moo-moos in recliners of ill repute and repair while flipping the channels trying to catch the last two numbers of the lawyer hotline. Perhaps they were scrounging around under their car mats looking for a dime to complete a dollar so they could place their fate in the bouncing, numbered ping pong balls of state lotto. Maybe they were reading a day old newspaper hoping the crossword wasn't filled in, especially now that they had the answers.

I had to imagine, because on the day I was called shiftless and lazy I had just gotten home from a fifteen hour shift on the sales floor. The term 'breaking my shoes' suddenly had meaning for me. Everyone knows retail is hard but so few can comprehend what the first hot day of summer means to an appliance salesman. There is no great rush to purchase a TV or stereo. There is no single event

that makes people of one mind set to purchase an oven. As the mercury tops 90 though the people remember what makes them cool, AC, air-conditioning, cool air. So for fifteen hours I haggled, argued and sold ACs.

"Well Mam you have a room that is 7,000 square feet, that's why you can't buy a 5,000 BTU AC. Look I'll show you how to figure it out...Mam you'd be better off with a bucket of ice and a fan!"

The showroom floor was about 110° and someone would invariably walk in and say, "Boy is it cool in here!" After three or four times of that nonsense I snapped and said, "Where were you, sir, Hell?" And that was what the good parts of my day were like.

I got home at 11:30 and all I wanted was a pizza. I imagined, very hard, that Domino's would call me and ask me what I wanted on my pizza. I even mentioned it out loud. To that my good friend who was on his eight or ninth month of unemployment, living at home, eating regularly and sleeping till noon, said, "You are shiftless and lazy...you just sit in that chair and don't do nothing!"

Here I thought the fact that I made it to the chair and didn't sit in my car weeping every night was some kind of accomplishment but as it turned out I was shiftless and lazy. But, I was shiftless and lazy not just one or the other I was both and I thought that was certainly something to be proud of but as it turns out Dave held those words in a totally different light. He'd meant it as an aspersion!

To him, shiftless and lazy was much worse than merely being shiftless or lazy. To him, a grown man who works fifteen hour shifts ought to come home and yoke up a plow. "That a man must break his back to earn his day of leisure, will she still believe it when he's dead?" Sang John Lennon, he was singing to us, the shiftless and lazy.

## I-CON Never Slows Down

By Ted Swedalla

Just because I-CON XIV is over, doesn't mean the people who volunteer their time at I-CON, are packing up before they begin work on I-CON XV. The largest science fiction/gaming convention on the East Coast doesn't go into stasis, it just becomes less visible.

It is a year-round job for these volunteers. Blane Atkins says, who became Publicity Director at the end of February, "I came on too late to get effective campaigning done. Next year, we'll have a whole campaign. Try to make people realize that I-CON is year-round." I-CON is the convention and I-CON is the group that presents the convention.

Next years' dates have already been chosen, I-CON XV in 1996 will be April 12-14. The dates have to be chosen this far in advance because "it can take one person eight months to line up a media guest because of shooting schedules," John Madonia says, an I-CON Board Member.

And rather than go for one "big star that's not available on weekend or to sign autographs," Madonia says, "we prefer to get more accessible to sign autographs and talk with people."

For the past 15 years, I-CON has been growing exponentially and Madonia has been here for every one of them. "If we had 500 people at the first one, that was a lot." Now there are almost that many tables for dealers - more than 170 tables. They were sold out for a month prior to the convention.

The reason Atkins became involved with this years convention had to do with last year's I-CON in 1994.

"I was trying to figure out what was going on with the set up on the convention," he remembers, "why was I running all over campus."

"It's the structure of the campus that dictates the layout of the events," explains Jeff Nagel, President of I-CON's Board of Directors. "There isn't one particular building that could satisfy all our needs." Movies are shown in the Javits Convention Center, gaming events, like Dungeon & Dragons and Magic: The Gathering, are held in the Humanities building and the Dealers' Room is the Indoor Sports Complex.

Usually conventions focus in one 'track,' whether that be comics, gaming or animation. But I-CON has concentrations in many tracks, which include all of the above, plus a writers forum, an amateur film festival, and an art show.

"So much is going on, if we lost a track not many people would notice," Madonia says.

Each track is run by a different person and "each person wants to make their track the best," says Jeff Nagel, "but there is only so much money."

Since I-CON is a non-profit organization they can keep their ticket prices low compared with other conventions of this size. "We out drew World-CON last year," Madonia remembers, "I-CON drew about 5,000 and World-Con about 3,500. You can't get into a convention this size for less than \$40." For a non-student, this year's I-CON was \$28 for the three days. For students it was \$10.

"At best I-CON is a nice atmosphere," Madonia says. "At worst it's a nightmare."

One reason why people might not get involved is "regular people think that we are weird," Atkins says.

The people of I-CON, who spend their free time on this event, have trouble explaining why they volunteer. They joke that it has something to do with masochism.

Hand written submissions will be given to a certain member of our staff whose name rhymes with "Slug". He will sprinkle them liberally with salt, pepper, and expensive beer, and then fold them into paper airplanes which he will throw at the eyes of our editors. Please type them, my vision is bad enough already.

**FOR KEN AND ANNETTE, EVERY SENATE MEETING IS A NO-BRAINER.  
SPITTLE, SPITTLE--HEH, HEH, HEH!**



--dave "sufferin' succotash" shashoua  
**HEY! HE SAID "SPITTLE"!  
THAT'S COOL!**  
--rick "razorback redneck" resnick

**HOLD UP! WHERE'S  
MY PICTURE?**  
--vinny-re-al bruzzese

**KEN DAUBE ANNETTE HICKS**  
**DAUBE AND DUMBER**

POLITY PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE ELECTION BOARD A SENATE/COUNCIL/JUDICICARY/3TV DISASTER A WELL DONE SPOOF KEN DAUBE  
ANNETTE HICKS 'DAUBE AND DUMBER' DAVE "I'M DOWN WIT G.O.P." SHASHOUA RICK "I AM GOD OF POLITY" RESNICK  
VINNY "WHERE'S MY CLOSE-UP?" BRUZZESE SPOOF OF YOUR STUDENT GOVERNMENT ITS FUNCTION LOBBYING--NO MORE, NO LESS  
COSTUME DESIGNER IN DAVE'S CASE, YOU DON'T EVEN WANT TO KNOW BY THE WAY WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING READING THIS CRAP?  
NO SPITTLE VOTE ANYONE--WRITE IN IF YOU HAVE TO! CAN YOU BELIEVE YOU'RE ON LINE FIVE ALREADY? YOUR NEXT PRESIDENT NOT KEN OR ANNETTE  
THE FUTURE OF POLITY UNCERTAIN THE SIXTH FACE OF CRYSTAL PLATI JOHN LOWTHER PHOTO BY JOHN WHO? .A.S.S. PRODUCED BY MACINTOSH QUADRA 650 DIRECTED BY WHO ELSE?

**wensdays @ 7:whenever we get quo--enough people**

# What's Your Sign?

By Ted Swedalla and Sarah Russell

The problem with rallies is that they are usually boring, the weather is never good and it seems like there are too many people doing their own thing. But rallies can be exciting in a sexual way. They are an excellent place to pick up people of the opposite sex.

When you think of meeting people at rallies the 'Hollywood scenario' always goes through your mind. [You become engaged in a heated debate with a very attractive person of the opposite sex to the point of screaming 'you are an imbecile' at each other, then when the tension is strong enough to burst a steam pipe, one of the arguing parties kisses the other. The next scene is always the two parties ripping off each others clothes and then furiously having sex on every piece of furniture and every appliance in the apartment. I have know idea why they usually end up in an apartment, but they usually do.]

But rallies are never like that, but it is easy to pick up people at these events. All women need to do is squish up next to some guy (blaming the crowds of course) and start screaming in unison whatever happens to be the chant of the day. Then, when the rally hits a lull, all she has to do is ask him to get some food, and he'll follow. Remember a way to a man's heart is his stomach, and if he is sincerely interested in the rally and not you he isn't worth it anyway. Either he has different sexual orientations, he is completely whipped by a girlfriend at home, or he happens to be the next speaker.

For guys, it is not that easy. Here's what not to do: bring roses—likely to show that you're just there for

the chicks; hand out pamphlets and/or hold up posters with your name and number, along with explanations why calling you is just and righteous—likely to show that you're just there to get laid; wearing tank tops (between the months of October and April) and shout about how you're going to beat anyone down who doesn't agree with this sweet little thing right next to you, and hey, how would you like to straddle my shoulders to make my point?—usually shows you're just there for the chicks (unless of course, she's the one squashed up next to you because of those awful crowds.)

To get the female's attention, you must show genuine concern for the item being rallied against, and that involves some studying. (Women can tell when someone is trying to fool them so don't even bother.) If you have genuine concern in the rally and somehow got her to talk to you, don't get all excited and ask her to leave early to get some food. (They hate people who get tired early and can never follow through.) Towards the end, if dinner arrangements with you don't seem to be in her plans, ask if you might see her again at the next rally of this type (this is why a good deal of studying is required.) If she accepts, make sure you exchange phone numbers, just in case some kind of spur-of-the-moment rally occurs, so you can invite her. At your second rally together, you have cleared that first difficult hurdle and can now proceed like it is a normal second date.

Warning: For the men: Just make sure she's not one of those raving hysterical women who wants to voice her opinion all the time, they have a bad habit of holding debates with you when you're

most vulnerable. For the women: Avoid men you find arguing with everyone when no one's listening, usually not very good in bed.

Another great place for meeting people is a wedding. You usually only know half the people there and probably won't ever see the other half every again. The best prospects are cousins or friends on the other side. They Usually they live out of state, especially if the bride and groom met in college, and if they didn't bring a date then they can't be too serious about anyone they are seeing.

For guys weddings couldn't be bigger turn ons, three of the male species favorite things occur at weddings; garters, booze and cleavage. And if you happen to bang the bride's second cousin in an unused part of the building, you'll both have something to brag about for the rest of your lives.

It's definitely a field day for women too. All the men at least attempt a suit and tie, and most have showered. Tip #1: guys who look comfortable in tuxes probably have good jobs and money. Wedding also remind the unbridled men of their freedom (and the bridled, their lack of it), thus most are more than happy to assist you with your fantasy of undressing and being undressed by a man in a suit. Tip #2: if you do go for the harnessed men remove lipstick and leave no marks.

So remember, whatever at a boring rally or a seemingly boring wedding, or even just picking up milk on the way home, there are endless ways to have hours of fun but (if you meet a dude of chick with the initials S.T.D. we are not responsible.)

## FINALLY...

By Dan Healy

On Thursday, April sixth in the Union Ballroom, this great school of ours finally held a concert. It was not the usual rap or reggae concert, I mean we actually had a concert featuring mainstream music (or alternative, whichever you prefer). I was one of the two hundred people in attendance and let me tell you how happy I was to hear a guitar being played in the Student Union.

The concert was hosted by the Stony Brook Music Society, the Stony Brook Commuter Association, and the Student Activities Board. The objective of the show was to give the students something to do on a Thursday night and to showcase some of our schools finer bands. On the bill that night was *Eskimo*, *Mad Planets*, *My Favorite* and *The Girlymen*.

When I arrived at seven o'clock, I was an hour early so I decided to meet the people involved in the organization of the concert. I was introduced to Andrea Vaughn and Jonas Lerner. They explained to me how hard it is to put on a show like this. It took them seven months of hard work to get one night of music in the Union. There are risks involved in this type of show that must be looked at carefully. There is always the possibility of a mosh pit, there can be fights, someone can break an eardrum, etc.. This was all taken care of by the security staff composed mainly of students who gave up their Thursday night to work this event.

After I walked through the metal detector set up at the front door, security had to frisk me. Frisk me they did. That was the best feel I have received in a long while and quite frankly, I enjoyed it. They got just about every part of my body and even made me stomp my feet. I don't know if they did that for security reasons or just for a laugh. I emptied my pockets, took off my hat, handed over my bottle

opener, and went on in. They did a good job preventing people from entering with dangerous objects and that made me a lot safer.

Inside the Ballroom, security and campus police had control of the situation. They were well equipped for anything. I never expected so much security to be there. But, I guess if you want to hold a concert, you have to be prepared.

The only thing that I found strange was that they did not open the doors until the first band started playing. *Eskimo* opened the night and was a pleasant surprise to me. I heard that that was their first gig and I was pretty skeptical. By the time all of the people waiting in the lobby got in, their twenty minute set was over. The crowd was now ready to hear some good music.

After *Eskimo*, Andrea took the microphone and thanked everybody for coming down and gave a warning about moshing and the consequences. *Mad Planets*, followed by *My Favorite* and *The Girlymen* kept the crowd dancing in a mix of punk and new wave music. Although I could not see the last two bands, I heard nothing but good reviews of them.

The night ended at about eleven thirty and was a huge success. Nobody got hurt and everybody had a great time. I think Andrea and Jonas were more pleased than anyone.

Now what this campus has to do is try to get more involved in activities like this. I'm sure most of the people in this school would like to have more shows like this but you do nothing. Andrea and Jonas did something and it turned out great. This campus is a concrete jungle with nothing to do but if you really want to get something done, it could be turn out great. If two people can do what Andrea and Jonas did, imagine what can be done if we all become involved.

**AIDS  
EDUCATION  
SPEAKER  
SCOTT  
FREED  
8PM  
UNION  
BI-LEVEL  
TUESDAY  
APRIL 25TH**

By Rachel S. Wexelbaum

for all those flyin' and floatin' graduates, and everyone who we met on the way

Does our graduation ceremony mark the end of life, or just the beginning? What does it symbolize, anyway? What do we really learn from our professors, friends and bosses while we're in college, and for what kind of world are they preparing us? Is it the real world they warn us about, or just the one in our minds? We are so young—only twentysomething—yet we feel *so old*. Is "college" just a coming-of-age ritual for the sheltered children of the bourgeoisie, or sanctuary for the unprotected where they learn to fight the bourgeoisie? Perhaps college is the last time we can savor childhood before we take our place on a burger assembly line, or some other sorry excuse for a job.

It's a good thing that most of us have enough people around whom we can call friends who have travelled down the hallowed halls of ivy with us. If we didn't help each other we would all go insane, and no one would reach the finish line. It's not necessary that we come in first—only that we survive to reach the end.

Believe it or not, our non-human friends experience similar events to graduation ceremonies in their lives. Imagine the significance first flight has for a duck. Now the world becomes so much larger than a splash and a waddle across the riverbank, and the duck comes to the gritty realization that she is no longer a fuzzy duckling anymore. She will live to join her people on the flight southward. Even more dramatic is the salmon's graduation ceremony—journeying from the ocean to fresh water to spawn, then returning to the ocean once again!

So much to learn along the way...

Once there was a young duck who was the smallest and weakest of her family. Unlike her brothers and sisters, her wings were not yet strong enough to fly and she remained in the shallow water while her family flew across the land. How Duck wanted to fly! She studied up on the masters of flight—Leonardo Da Vinci, Jonathan Livingston Seagull, the Wright Brothers, Yuri Gagarin—and exercised her little wings every day. "I will fly," she kept telling herself. "I will fly..."

"Fly, schmy," a gurgly voice told her. "If you can swim, you can fly."

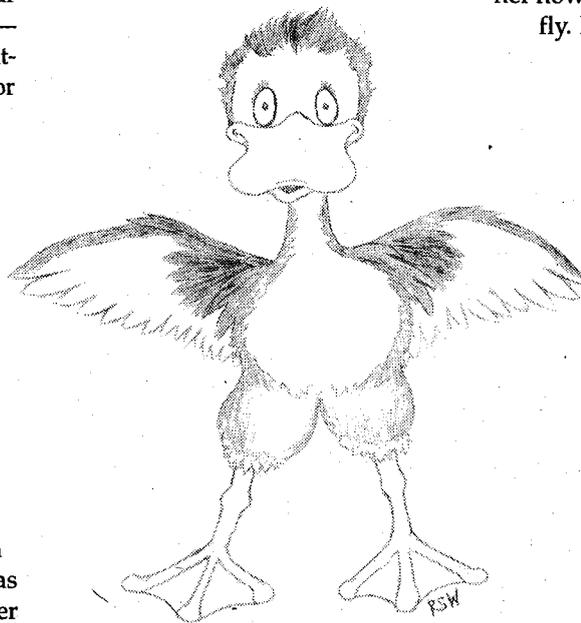
Duck looked around and saw Salmon's head poking through the water. "I wish it was as easy as

you say," she sighed. "My family wouldn't even wait for me. All of the other ducks left, too."

Salmon splashed the water with his tail. "Pooley on them! I tell you what. I show you how to fly while I wait for my girlfriend. She didn't make it to the stream yet—I'm always so early."

Duck wasn't so sure what a fish could do for her, but no one else had taken time out to teach her. At this point anything was worth a try, and Duck let

Salmon teach her how to fly. He



squint-

ed at her

books critically, and

she put them away. Then he studied her wings. "Flap your wings, kid," Salmon instructed. "Show me what you've got."

As she beat the air with her wings Salmon ordered her to stop. "Wings aren't a problem," he observed. "This is a real predicament. How are you at leaping?"

Duck did a little hop in the water. "Is that good?"

"That ain't a leap, sweetheart—that's a twitch. Here, watch me!" Salmon began to leap and twirl through the air like an Olympic gymnast. "Full of life, huh? Your heart has to be into it—you gotta do it now or—"

Suddenly, right out of the sky an eagle swooped down and grabbed Salmon in her talons. Without thinking Duck chased after Eagle and got her to drop Salmon back in the river. When she returned to the water, Salmon was gasping and bleeding heavily. "You flew," he heaved. "I told you it was easy."

"But what about you?" Duck cried. "You're hurt. The eagle will come back...how are you going to meet your girlfriend now?"

"Listen, kid. I scratched your back, you scratch mine. If I give you something, will you promise me to find Marge and give it to her? Just the fact that I made it this far is a miracle..."

Duck promised to find Marge and give her Salmon's present. With his last ounce of strength Salmon rubbed himself on Duck's back and told her, "You'll know Marge when you see her. She'll be the one who'll jump over your back to take my present..." And after that he said no more.

It made sense. Salmon would only like someone who could jump as high as himself.

Soon Duck saw schools of salmon filling the stream. At times it seemed as if there were more fish there than water! She smiled at them...they were lucky to have made it this far. This was their goal: they braved the rapids for one night of lovemaking. Poor Salmon, she thought. He had come so far...he deserved to whoop it up with Marge.

Suddenly a feminine gurgly voice caught her attention. "Hey, Duck! What are you doing here all alone?"

She knew it was Marge right away. What could Duck possibly tell her? "I have something for you from your boyfriend," she shouted over the rowdy party noises. "He couldn't make it..."

Marge leapt out of the water and took her present from Duck's back. "Oh, he made it all right!" she shouted before she landed back in the water. "He made it just fine..."

KEEP ON PRESSIN'! MAKE THE TRADITION YOUR OWN, CONFUSE THE LOSERS AND ENLIGHTEN POTENTIAL LEADERS.

**MORAL:** When faced with whatever we have to do, we do it.

**MORE IMPORTANTLY:** Good things never come to an end.

*We want everyone to have a good summer, except for the people who either called our advertisers and made them cancel, came down to the office and complained about the word genitalia, or interrupted a staff meeting to spit on our News Editor.*

The Press meets every Wednesday at 1:00pm in room 060 of the Student Union.

If you join The Press you can exploit your position and put words like "Polity" and "Rectum" in the same sentence just because you feel like it.

# What Do You Want To Do Tonight?

By Chris Cartusciello

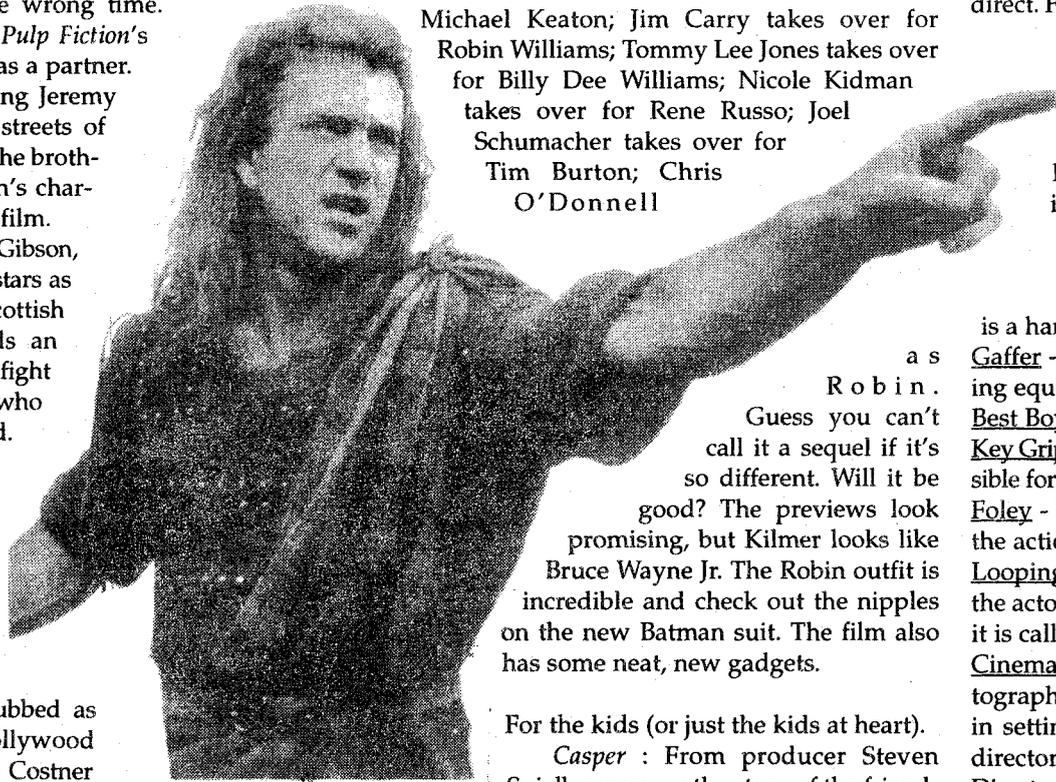
Summertime is coming and that means beaches, volleyball and sitting in a dark room with 100 other people. It's that time of year when the studios put out their biggest and their best. Lets take a look at some of the premiere movies that are coming out this summer.

**Die Hard:With A Vengeance** : Bruce Willis is back as John McClane, the cop who's always in the wrong place at the wrong time. This time he's got *Pulp Fiction's* Samuel L. Jackson as a partner. They end up chasing Jeremy Irons through the streets of N.Y.C. Irons plays the brother of Alan Rickman's character from the first film.

**Braveheart** : Mel Gibson, who also directed, stars as a 13th century Scottish warrior who bands an army together to fight the English tyrants who rule the land. Hundreds of extras went all out in a mock battle with many ending up in the hospital. The actual scene made it into the final film.

**Waterworld** : Dubbed as "Fishtar" by Hollywood insiders, this Kevin Costner flick could prove to be the biggest flop ever. Word from the set is not good and it will have to make \$600 million worldwide just to break even with it's \$200 million price tag. Dennis Hopper plays the villain.

**Judge Dredd** : Sylvester Stallone stars as the futuristic British comic book hero. The film has a great



look and the effects are incredible. Let's just hope the script lives up to the hype.

**While You Were Sleeping** : Minutes after Sandra Bullock and Peter Gallagher meet he falls on some train tracks and ends up in a coma. When his family arrives at the hospital she tells them that she is his fiancée. In the meantime she falls for his brother, Bill Pullman. Light, romantic comedy that could make it big amongst all the action pics.

**Batman Forever** : Val Kilmer takes over for Michael Keaton; Jim Carry takes over for Robin Williams; Tommy Lee Jones takes over for Billy Dee Williams; Nicole Kidman takes over for Rene Russo; Joel Schumacher takes over for Tim Burton; Chris O'Donnell

as Robin. Guess you can't call it a sequel if it's so different. Will it be good? The previews look promising, but Kilmer looks like Bruce Wayne Jr. The Robin outfit is incredible and check out the nipples on the new Batman suit. The film also has some neat, new gadgets.

For the kids (or just the kids at heart).

**Casper** : From producer Steven Spielberg comes the story of the friendly ghost. The effects in this make *Jurassic Park* look ancient.

**Mighty Morphin Power Rangers:The Movie** : Doesn't matter how good or bad it is, it will make a fortune. Oh boy, I can't wait.

**Pocahontas** : Disney's bid at another music Oscar. Mel Gibson does the voice of John Smith. It will

premiere in Central Park on four screens for 15,000 people. Tickets are free, but by lottery only.

Other films to look for sometime in the future:

**Spider-Man** : James Cameron will write and direct this much anticipated film. Schwarzenegger will star as Doc Oc or Sandman. No word on who will be Peter Parker.

**Star Wars:The Clone Wars** : The next three Star Wars films will be done all at once and Lucas will direct. First film is set to be released for the summer of '98. For the 20th anniversary, in 1997, Lucas will put out the original again with added scenes that were originally cut and new special effects.

If you are like me, you sit through the credits at the end of each movie. (Yes. I have a lot of free time.) If you are also like me, you know what all those people do. If you are like most people, you don't. Here is a handy guide to help you along.

**Gaffer** - The chief electrician in charge of the lighting equipment.

**Best Boy** - Chief assistant to the lead gaffer.

**Key Grip** - The lead stagehand on a set who is responsible for moving scenery and on-the-spot carpentry.

**Foley** - The re-recording of sound effects to match the action of the film.

**Looping** - The re-recording of dialogue to match the actors lip movements. If in a different language it is called dubbing.

**Cinematographer** - Person responsible for the photography, lighting and technical elements involved in setting up a shot. (Bet you thought it was the director).

**Director** - Person responsible for the overall quality of the film, from performances to dramatic elements. Can make suggestions to the cinematographer.

Now is the time to toot my own horn. My Oscar predictions were almost right on the money. I went 9 for 10. Pretty good for a hack from Long Island. Enjoy the summer and its films.

## Critical Reflections

By Bruce Baldwin

*This being my last opportunity to publish an article in The Press, I feel somewhat obligated to do so. Rather than write another art review, however, I feel compelled to write something in a more personal vein. I have enjoyed writing reviews while at Stony Brook and, once in a blue moon, have even had the gratifying experience of being approached by a somebody who had actually read one of my pieces without my having asked him or her to do so. But I digress. The following is one of the many personal statements I have written during the course of my nearly complete senior year. I offer it not just because I'm too lazy to write something new, but also because I thought it was a pretty decent personal statement. Due to the numerous graduate schools I applied to and awards I applied for, I had to learn to tolerate writing personal statements.*

I entered college with the ambition of becoming an artist. Choosing a curriculum that exposed me to a variety of media, I gravitated towards sculpture and did well in this area. However, during my sophomore year, I became increasingly compelled to put my ideas regarding art into written words as opposed to plastic expression. I found writing allowed me to articulate my thoughts in a less ambiguous manner. Writing also enabled me to receive what seemed to be more honest critical responses than did sculpture. Thus, I abandoned the plastic arts to pursue the thorny business of art criticism.

Initially, I attempted to address theoretical artistic issues. Although I found this rewarding, it became apparent to me that I simply did not have enough experience with art criticism to postulate theories that were of any real significance. Therefore, I began writing reviews of exhibitions on campus and recognized this to be the most effective means for me to develop my skills as an art critic.

As is hopefully apparent in my published essays, my interests in journalism lie in the realm of scholarly art criticism. The University Art Gallery as well as the Library and Union galleries have been fruitful sources of subject matter for me, and campus newspapers have been effective vehicles for my writing. In addition to my contributing to campus newspapers, I have also been Assistant Features Editor for *Statesman* and am currently Associate Editor for *The Stony Brook Press*. Editing has not only exposed me to the physical process of taking a newspaper to press, but publishing's day-to-day responsibilities such as working within budget, recruiting contributors, and dealing with unexpected difficulties such as computer malfunctions on production night. Writing reviews has not only been a cathartic exercise but has allowed me to apply what I have learned from my professors toward practical ends. The conceptualizing, writing, editing, and layout involved in each of my articles have provided me with valuable insights into the career I wish to enter.

During my studies at Stony Brook, I have focused

upon learning to apply psychoanalysis to art criticism. Having incorporated this practice into essays and research papers, I received valuable feedback from my professors. However, publishing work in this vein has provided me with the unique challenge of communicating my ideas to a larger, less specialized audience. This, I feel, has been one of the most positive aspects of campus journalism for me, since identifying with whom you are attempting to communicate remains one of the finer points of writing essential to effective journalism. Thus, I feel my experience with campus journalism at Stony Brook will prove invaluable to me in graduate school and beyond.

*Well, there you have it. I'm on my way to the M.A. program in Art History at the University of Chicago. Stony Brook, even with all its exurban weirdness, has been a singularly integral part of my scholarly development. If I were asked to give any advice to an ambitious undergraduate looking to get ahead at Stony Brook, these would be my pat answers: 1) Don't take shit from anybody, especially when it comes to your grades. 2) Don't ever let Stony Brook make you feel out of place (unless you're really weird, its not you, its the school, believe me). 3) Take advantage of every resource available to you: Campus newspapers, the undergraduate TV channel, professors' office hours, et cetera, et cetera; YOU pay for them, use them! 4) Don't take any shit from graduate students in your department or anywhere else. Many of them are pathologically insecure and try to make themselves feel better my ragging on undergraduates.*