

THE STONY BROOK PRESS

Vol. XX No. 6

"Broccoli does not have a nervous system"

November 18, 1998

THE STATE OF CAMPUS SAFETY

IS R.S.P. FALLING
APART?
P.3

THE TRUTH ABOUT
ALCOHOL AND CAM-
PUS SAFETY
P.5

HOW DOES RAPE
AFFECT YOU?
P.3 & P.7

GREEN DAY TO PLAY STONY BROOK...

By David Klein

For the past month, the Student Activities Board (SAB) has been planning on bringing Green Day, an alternative rock act, to the Sports Complex for a concert on December 4. By Thursday, November 12, the concert had fallen through. The reason given by the people involved in the planning of the event was that Green Day had a prior commitment to its record label, Reprise Records, to do a radio promotional event that day.

A different story emerges from people involved in the marketing and promotion of Green Day. They claim to know nothing of Green Day being asked to play Stony Brook, and say that Green Day isn't even on tour. Amanda Cagan of the Mitch Schneider Organization, an outside publicist used by Reprise Records to promote Green Day, said, "Green Day hasn't been on tour in three months."

Maha Osman, the Executive Chair of SAB, was under the impression that the show was to be a 'one-off' concert. She said that they were dealing with an agent named Stephanie Miller from an agency called Metropolitan. Osman claimed the agent was stringing them along while trying to get the record label to cancel the radio date.

Stephanie Miller, of the Metropolitan Entertainment Group, said, "There was an offer placed by the school, it was turned down." She also said, "The concert committee was rather slow in putting in an offer."

At SUNY Stony Brook there is a distinct process, as set forth by the office of Student Union and Activities (SU&A), for bringing concerts onto the campus. Nine weeks prior to the event, a reservation request for the venue/room needed for the date of the event must be submitted. For the Sports Complex, the venue reserved for the December 4 concert, two dates per year are already reserved for SAB for on campus concerts.

Eight weeks before the event, the group sponsoring the concert must meet with the Assistant Director of SU&A, Mary Smith. This is a preliminary meeting to review the program's content. At this point, a security check for references must be submitted to the head of Public Safety, Jim Lang, with copies sent to Fred Preston, Carmen Vazquez, and Scott Law. For the security check, Lang must be provided with the last three venues the band in question has played, along with the contact name and number of the booking agent.

Six weeks prior to the date of the event, the Standard Offer to the agency must be approved and signed off by the Executive Director of Polity (SPA), Stephen Adams, and the Associate Director of SU&A, Carmen Vazquez. The Standard Offer is then sent to the agency, with two weeks allowed for a response and haggling. According to Smith, it is here that the Green Day concert got clogged.

No contract with Green Day was ever signed. Osman said that the Standard Offer went out to Metropolitan on Monday, November 9. She said that on Wednesday, Stephanie Miller called back and said that Green Day might be doing radio that day. "This was the first time I heard anything about radio." According to Osman, Miller pulled the plug on the concert on Thursday night, speaking with John Sulit, the Concert Chair of SAB, and Stephen Adams.

This is as close as we've come to bringing a rock act to campus in the past four years, not counting The Spot.

The next step in the planning of the concert, which according to schedule should be four weeks away, is for the group holding the event to meet with the Concert Activities Advisory Group (CAAG). According to Associate Director of SU&A, Cheryl Chambers, the CAAG brings together all elements of the planning process for the purpose of ironing out the details of the event. Smith offered that rather than have those involved in the planning of the event go to each department individually, they simply need meet with the CAAG.

Smith said the CAAG is not supposed to meet until the contract is signed. A memo from Chambers, dated November 3, asks the CAAG to meet regardless on Thursday, November 5. Chambers said that they were being proactive, since the date of proposed concert was four weeks away.

In an emergency Polity (SPA) council meeting on the afternoon of Monday, November 9, Adams reports that the [proposed] Green Day concert will cost between \$77,408 and \$88,793. It says in the minutes to the meeting that "SAB feels the Concert is necessary. The advertising is an issue and must be out before Friday, November 13, 1998 in order to achieve a good crowd." A motion, passed by acclamation, reads: "To allow the Green Day concert to proceed, with stipulation that advertising goes out by Friday, November 13, 1998."

Polity Vice-President Sayed Ali explains, "We got a call from either Fred Preston or Carmen Vazquez saying that the Polity Council must vote to support the concert." When asked if the motion means that the Council would have pulled the plug by Saturday, November 14th, if no advertising had gone out, Ali replied that they simply would have advertised like crazy.

He then said that although the Concert Committee (a group formed a little over a year ago by

Fred Preston to help in a general sense with concerts) wouldn't [officially] support the concert because it was already within the sixty day limit, they were all very helpful. He said that Alan Inkles, of the Staller Center for the Arts, was offering any help necessary.

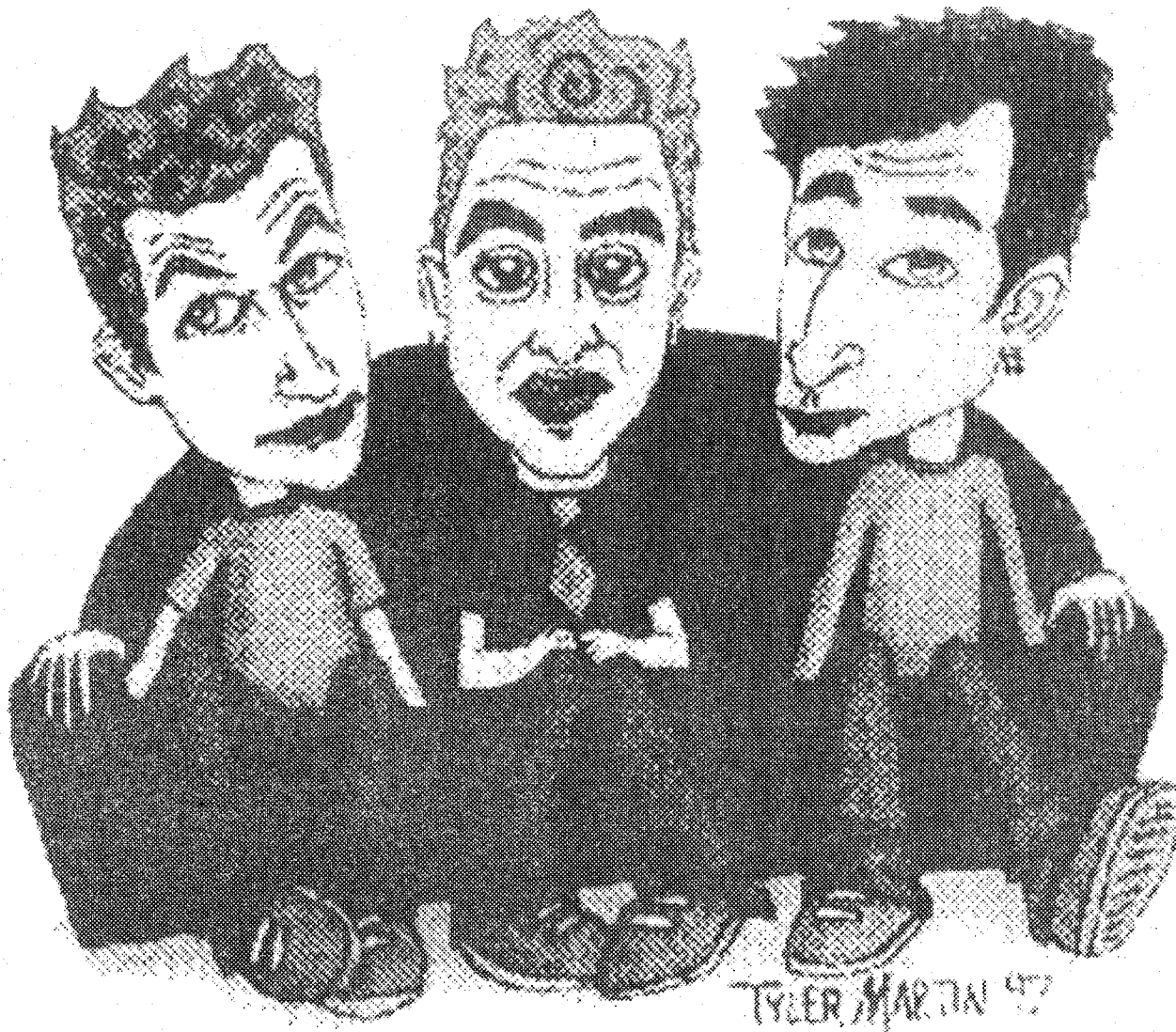
Alan Inkles informed me that he had been working with events over at the Staller Center for fourteen years. When I informed him that Green Day's management, booking agent, record label and publicist all claimed to know nothing about Green Day being asked to play at Stony Brook, not of Green Day doing any kind of promo on December 4, he said, "I don't believe for a minute that Maha [Osman] and anyone else involved thought Green Day was not available. The problem is that they were dealing with an outside agency."

A spokesperson from Atlas Third Rail, Green Day's management company, said that Green Day was not doing anything on December 4, not a radio show, nor any radio promo, to the best of his knowledge. On Monday, Stephanie Miller, of the Metropolitan Entertainment Group, informed the *Press* that Green Day was not doing anything on December 4.

It was also reported to the *Press* that unauthorized persons had also spoken with Stephanie Miller. At press time it was unknown if these outside conversations had occurred before or after the talk of the radio conflict was on the table.

On Monday, Amanda Cagan said, "They [Green Day] have absolutely no dates booked in December." However, a cursory check of the internet reveals that Green Day is playing in Sacramento on Sunday December 13, 1998.

Howie Klein, President of Reprise Records and a Stony Brook Alumnus ('69), was not contacted for this article. It would be interesting to know what he would think of all this.



SEX CRIMES ON CAMPUS: HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL?

By Sylvia Woolfe

Stony Brook students are expressing fear and anger about an apparent rash of sexual crimes on campus. Three rapes have been reported to date this semester, and rumors of more incidents are adding to the confusion.

"I heard from someone who works in the hospital that three girls were raped in one weekend and four people have been beat up," said a 19 year-old Gray College resident who declined to give her name. "I feel unsafe walking from Gray to O'Neill."

Despite efforts to improve safety at Stony Brook, reports of sexual assaults are on the rise. But conflicting reports from university officials are making students wonder if the administration is telling the whole truth about these incidents.

Douglas Little, Assistant Director of Community Affairs for Public Safety, told members of the Center for Womyn's Concerns in October that three rapes had been reported on campus this semester. In a meeting about campus safety in the lounge between Irving and O'Neill Colleges last Sunday, Assistant Director of the Residential Security Program and Mendelsohn Quad director Matilde Punnett also said that three rapes have occurred this semester. But Punnett claimed that two of the three incidents were acquaintance rapes that occurred on November 6 and 7, almost four weeks after Little's statement.

It is not clear whether this discrepancy is the result of miscommunication between Punnett and Little, or if it reflects an unofficial practice of underreporting rape cases.

Punnett admitted that she was unfamiliar with the incidents, and she read from a recent *Newsday* article about the apparent rise in campus crime. She refused to name the locations of the

two recent attacks, because the cases were still under investigation by Public Safety and the Suffolk County Police Department; students who attended a similar meeting in Benedict College were told that the rapes occurred in residential buildings.

Sources at University Hospital said that an Irving College resident was brought in for evaluation last weekend after having been raped. The victim was allegedly questioned in her room by Public Safety officers, and was interviewed again in the emergency department by Suffolk County Police Detectives. It is rumored that two students from another Long Island university are being sought as suspects in this case. If this incident was indeed one of the cases mentioned by Punnett, why wasn't she also aware of the other rape cases that occurred earlier in the semester?

Some universities hesitate to press charges against students suspected in sexual attacks because administrators fear that the school's reputation would be ruined. These students are often referred to academic judiciary committees instead of law enforcement authorities. Until recently, all records of disciplinary action were considered part of a student's academic record. Under the Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (Buckley Amendment), educational records cannot be released without the student's consent. For years, college rapists were protected from public embarrassment simply because they committed their crimes in school.

Little and Punnett independently confirmed a rape that occurred on October 13, in which the victim did not know the assailant. Yet, a police advisory announcement posted on campus soon after the incident stated that the victim was "approached, accosted, and assaulted" by the suspect. There was, however, no mention of a sexual

assault in the announcement.

Public Safety also claimed that there were no cases of rape or sexual assault on campus last year. Nevertheless, statistics show that one woman in four is assaulted in some way during her lifetime, most likely at the hands of a boyfriend or husband. Although it is not impossible, some students are skeptical that a campus with a large population like Stony Brook would have a perfect record.

"I think you should be cautious wherever you go," said Sherry, a 20 year-old Irving resident.

Acquaintance rape or assault cases are often unreported because victims may not define what happened to her as rape, because she knows the person and may have slept with him in the past.

New York State statutes define sexual assault as "any actual or attempted nonconsensual sexual activity including, but not limited to, forcible anal or oral sex, attempted intercourse, sexual touching, exhibitionism by a person(s) known or unknown to the victim." Rape is defined as "the act of sexual intercourse with a person against one's will and consent, or when they are unconscious, intoxicated, or otherwise physically intoxicated or otherwise physically unable to communicate willingness." Therefore, on the Stony Brook campus, a sexual act is considered an assault unless verbal consent is given.

The number of officially documented rapes may be just the tip of the iceberg. Unless campus officials become more candid and truthful in their public statements, students will continue to doubt what they are told.

"There are so many rapes that are unreported on this campus," said Sara, a 20 year-old O'Neill College resident. "It's a scary thing."

CAMPUS WALK SERVICE IN LIMBO

By Joanna Wegielnik

A recent strike by several Residential Safety Program (R.S.P.) employees has added to a lack of student confidence regarding safety on campus. The R.S.P. is a student staffed organization that offers to walk students and staff on campus during late night hours. Several supervisors and supervisors in training went on a strike late last week protesting, among other things, unacceptable working conditions, faulty equipment, and a decrease in wages. The strike, which was student initiated and not administrative (according to Matilde Punnett, assistant director of R.S.P.) coupled with at least three confirmed cases of rape in the past month, has led many students to question their own personal safety on campus.

The striking student supervisors agreed to go back to work until this Wednesday, November 18, under the condition that their grievances be addressed some time this week. A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, between the students and Bob Solow, director of the R.S.P. If no resolution is reached, the students promise to strike again.

"The Residential Safety Program is an organization run by students to keep the campus safe. We work every night, rain, shine, summer, winter, etc. This organization is very valuable to the campus and should be appreciated but we are not. That is why we are walking out. All of the supervisors and supervisors in training will not

work until certain demands are met." The above appeared in an official statement released by the striking students on November 11.

Among the students' list of demands are increases in the number of radios available to R.S.P. staff; increases in the number of walking units from three to at least six; re-hiring of all R.S.P. staff who quit or were fired last week due to these conflicts; installation of an R.S.P. desk in every dormitory building; an increase in pay from \$5.75 per hour to \$6.50 an hour for the regular workers; an increase in pay for supervisors and supervisors in training to \$8.00 and \$7.00 respectively; the hiring of at least two more office assistants; and the purchase of new equipment, including rechargeable batteries for flashlights, and raincoats. The statement goes on to say that in order to "provide the residents with safety, these demands must be met...We share a deep concern for the campus and a willingness to provide it with the safety it needs."

When contacted by the Press, Punnett said that, while she could not give out any specific information about the situation, "the strike is no longer in effect and we are fully operational right now." She added that the strike was not an administrative decision; it was initiated by students. Those students no longer work for R.S.P." Punnett added that volunteers have been called in to replace the striking students who were fired or who quit.

Doug Little, assistant director of Public

Safety, said that campus police will also escort anyone who needs a walk.

R.S.P. is not without its problems. Two weeks ago, a female student requested a walk from SBS to her dorm at around 11 p.m. After twenty minutes of waiting, no walk unit showed up. She called the dispatcher again, thinking perhaps he misunderstood her and sent the unit to ESS instead. The dispatcher insisted the unit was waiting for her in the SBS lobby. She was in the lobby at the time of her call, and no walk unit was present. After an hour of waiting, she decided to walk home alone. It was past midnight. A walk unit never showed up. The next day, she called back to lodge a formal complaint. The person she spoke to was very uncooperative and rude. Perhaps if R.S.P. was better staffed, this type of situation could have been avoided or, barring that, handled in a professional, appropriate manner.

R.S.P. helps make our campus a safer place. R.S.P. previously operated on one level, a level at which they barely got by, yet still managed to make their presence known on campus. They can no longer do this under the current conditions. Severe understaffing and failing equipment prevent the students employed by R.S.P. from doing their job properly and effectively. Their grievances should be met promptly so they can resume providing the campus community with a valuable and sorely needed service.

WE NEED TO BE INFORMED

Rumors have been running wild for weeks around the Stony Brook campus regarding alleged rapes. Stony Brook students are confused, and apparently so are officials. According to officials, there have been three reported rapes this semester, the last occurring in November 7. The thing that arches our eyebrows is that a staff member was told on October 22 by Doug Little, Assistant Director of Public Safety, that there had been three reported rapes this semester. Perhaps Mr. Little was utilizing his psychic powers when he quoted that figure.

At a meeting Sunday night, Matilde Punnett, Assistant Director of RSP, informed residents that there had been three reported rapes on campus. The dates that she gave, however, were October 13, November 6, and November 7. Considering Punnett referred to an article from Saturday's *Newsday* during her

address to students, it seems more likely that she fell a little short in her estimate. One would think an RSP and Quad Director wouldn't have to refer to *Newsday* before informing students about such an important issue.

Furthermore, Punnett refused to divulge the locations of the rapes, meanwhile attendees at another meeting were told that they occurred in residence halls. A reporter from *Newsday*, however, was able to get this information from the Suffolk County PD and print it in his article.

Why can't administrators be honest with students? We have legitimate fears and concerns, which need to be addressed, and the information given must be accurate and consistent. Victim confidentiality must be upheld, but students have a right to know where they're not safe.

TO THE EDITOR

In Defense of "Conservative Brethren"

I rise in defense of my inarticulate conservative brethren, like Jacob Pulaski (Nov. 4 issue), who are routinely thwarted in the response section of "To The Editor." The Executive Editor used Pulaski's lack of writing style as evidence of his intelligence level. I can think of nothing else more culturally arrogant than to base someone's IQ evaluation on how well one uses the English language. In fact, this is the very thing our, dare I say "Liberal", college teaches us is wrong about the traditional view's of education? Aren't we supposed to be promoting an acceptance of whatever expressive form flows from the mouths (and pens) of our "Multi-Cultured" masses?

The Executive Editor certainly doesn't think expression denotes the complete value of thought, does he? He said, and I quote, "Fuck you. And learn how to write!" [emphasis added], this does not comport well with the Democratic tenants of "cultural inclusion" which are making daily inroads in our socially genteel, suburban school districts. Is this new Liberalism truly a "gentler, kinder" philosophy of civics? Or, is this just another form of despotism disguised as an empathetic plea to all "dispossessed" people [read-only certain minorities, and women] to rise up against the "oppressor", in a move to divide and conquer the "White Male Power Structure" while developing a Class antagonism that will ensure Socialism reaches it's rightful place as the predominate Social theory of our time?

The term "Liberal" used to refer to the open-minded, Free Market, and Free Will advocates. Over time it has turned into a conservative epithet for People who are, ostensibly, wary of the Free Market, and who have advocated a radical shift in our way of life in order to give up our social, and economic freedom to a Weberian model of the perfect bureaucracy. The last election's "Speak Bitterness" campaign ads, used mainly by the Democrats, should give us pause to reflect on Mao's campaign against the landlords in rural China, before defeating Chiang Kai Shek. That "war" wasn't won with force, but with a whisper in the ear of the "Poor, Lazy Drunkard" along with the poor farmer's who had had enough "mistreatment", and just "weren't gonna take it anymore". Just ask Italian Socialist, Antonio Gramsci,

he'll tell you, all you need is just a little agitation to get the Communist ball rolling... Thanks to Mao, 30 million people Starved during the "Great Leap Forward", But No, We shouldn't see that as an indictment of the "Great Socialist Endeavor", that's just a "simple failure of improper application of the Left's Ideals", Right? Tell it to the Chinese who had to eat their own children to stay alive, I'm not buying it here pal.

Mr. Pulaski may not write well, but He's got the "Right" idea.

Douglas Jensen
Teaching Student

[The Executive Editor responds:

I'm sorry that you misunderstood the purpose of my response to Mr. Pulaski's bitter tirade. Of course, I don't really believe that his careless writing or right-wing ideology provides an accurate assessment of his intelligence. But I'm also confident that most readers were able to recognize that my sarcasm was intended to illustrate the pointlessness of Mr. Pulaski's attempt to smear The Press's reputation through name-calling and personal attacks.

The Press provides an open forum for students to share their opinions, even if they are controversial or unpopular. But personal insults add little value to intelligent and informed discourse. Mr. Pulaski was the one who argued that I don't deserve to be the new executive editor simply because he doesn't agree with my personal beliefs. He did not make any arguments that were backed up with solid evidence. Instead, he merely bombarded us with meaningless labels and insulting jibes. Clearly, he doesn't appreciate the "Democratic tenants of 'cultural inclusion'" that you referred to.

So, I decided to poke fun at Mr. Pulaski's taunts with a bit of his own medicine. I said "fuck you" when he called us names like "commie pinko," "pseudojournalist," "asshole," and "assmunch". That was not an attempt to shut out the voices of those who disagree with us. It was meant to illustrate the lack of substance and sophomoric nature of the letter by responding in the same tone of voice.

I'm glad that you realize how silly it is to label people with dissenting opinions in this fashion. That was precisely my point.]

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Student Union
SUNY at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-3200
(516) 632-6451 Voice
(516) 632-4137 Fax

e-mail: sbpress@ic.sunysb.edu
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ALCOHOL ABUSE AND CAMPUS VIOLENCE

By Jill Baron

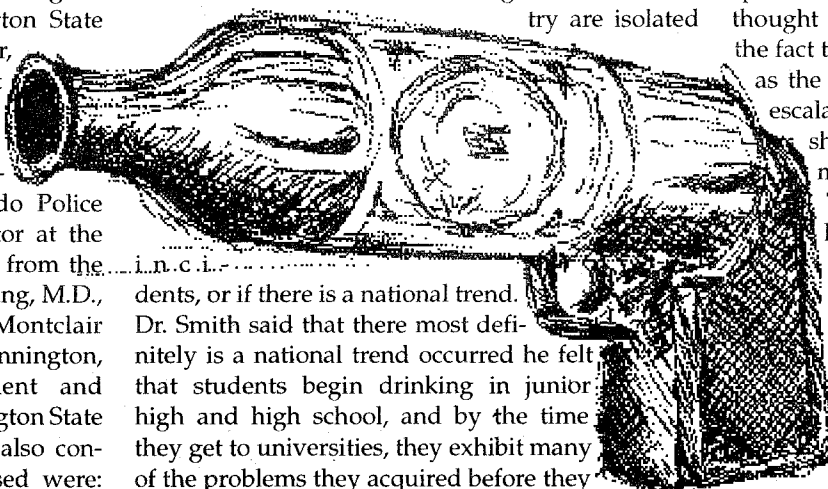


ALCOHOL ARRESTS AND DRUG ARRESTS ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES ROSE 10 PERCENT AND 5 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY IN 1996, ACCORDING TO A SURVEY PUBLISHED IN *THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION*. IN RESPONSE TO THESE AND OTHER DISTURBING STATISTICS, A TELECONFERENCE WAS HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH IN THE SAC AUDITORIUM.

A round-table discussion was broadcast live from Washington State University featuring Dr. Samuel H. Smith, President of Washington State University; Dr. Alan Lizotte, Professor, School of Criminal Justice, University at Albany; Andy Boyd, President of the Washington State interfraternity council; Joseph Pelle, Commander, Detective division and SWAT Team, Boulder, Colorado Police Department; Ron Stump, an administrator at the University of Colorado; and, via satellite from the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Richard Keeling, M.D., Professor of Medicine, and from Montclair University in New Jersey, Dr. Karen Pennington, Vice-President for student development and Campus life. Student leaders from Washington State University and University of Wisconsin also contributed. Some of the questions addressed were: What is the relationship between drinking and violence? How can we change the campus culture? What is the igniting force of violent outbreaks? What can we do to prevent it? What is the impact in universities and communities? What does research say about causes and solutions?

The broadcast began by saying that alcohol-related violence has occurred at many universities, and that in the past two years, three students have died from binge drinking incidents. The most recent was just this past weekend, when a 21-year-old student died at a mid-western university during what police have described as a "typical rite of passage." According to an autopsy, the student died from "acute alcohol poisoning," and witnesses said he had drank 24 shots in less than 2 hours. Scott

Fidel of Washington State University hosted the conference. "Our goal here today," he began, "is not to place blame, nor is it to focus on the details of the events, but rather our objective is to take a look at what's been happening, get some analysis as to why it's been happening, take a look at the impact on the universities and the communities the universities reside in, and finally and most importantly, to explore some approaches to solving the problem." 112 universities from 41 states and one Canadian Province had registered to watch the conference. The first question, posed to Dr. Smith, asked if the incidents that have been occurring across the country are isolated



...i.e., are they isolated incidents, or if there is a national trend. Dr. Smith said that there most definitely is a national trend occurred he felt that students begin drinking in junior high and high school, and by the time they get to universities, they exhibit many of the problems they acquired before they arrived at their institutions. He went on to say this these behaviors weren't necessarily the norm for all students. "As you go through the process, we really have a bi-modal distribution; we have one segment of our population that does binge drink, but most of our students, quite frankly, aren't in that category, and for all practical purposes they get very angry if they're placed in that category," he said. The conversation then shifted to the guests from Colorado. Joe Pelle, who is the commander of the detective division and SWAT team of the Boulder Police Department, was asked to describe an incident that had occurred at University of Colorado in May 1997. "We had two nights of rioting in May of 1997. It occurred at the end of the semester, as classes wound down. Friday

night/Saturday morning, May third, we had several block parties that had melted into one large party that resulted in 1500 to 2000 kids in one area, bonfires. The initial officers who responded right away were greeted with rocks and bottles. That led to two nights of full-fledged rioting, which cost the city of Boulder Police Department over \$400,000, over half a million dollars in property damage, 26 police officers requiring medical attention - one retired for the rest of her life at age 26 due to injury - it was a devastating event for the community, for the police department, for the university." Dr. Stump, the other speaker from Colorado, was asked about what he thought may have triggered the incident. He cited the fact that it was the end of the semester, and that as the police backed away, the students' actions escalated. He also mentioned a tense relationship between police and students in the community.

The conversation then turned to Andy Boyd, student and fraternity president at Washington State University, who described a similar incident that had occurred at his University. He felt the fact that the university is in a rural area and that there isn't much to do are the two main causes of the incident there.

Some strategies were discussed for dealing with this problem. Dr. Keeling of the University of Wisconsin, said, "We need to approach this problem as 'we' and not 'they'." He said the problem is beginning to be looked at as a community-wide, social problem rather than just an individual problem. He said that instead of entertainment based programs, real, long-term investments need to be made in students and campus culture. He said that campus culture needs to be changed, and the only way to do that would be to make students the absolute center of the cause. "We can't apply our old 'teach something, and then behavior changes' model, it just won't work... I don't think there will be any success without students and their involvement," he said.

CAMPUS NOTES

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

By Prof. Robert Kerber, President, University Senate

In my previous article in the *Press*, I outlined the functions and purposes of the University Senate, the principal body for academic governance on the campus. Since that article appeared, I am pleased to report that we have received from Polity the appointments of nine undergraduate students to positions as University Senators for the 1998-9 academic year. These undergraduate student Senators are Anthony Cavaco, Cindy Ceglowski, Nicole Daniel, Tajia Haynes, Matt Johnston, Eric Mariuma, Lisa Rodriguez, Frank Santangelo and Heather Schmitt. We have also been able to appoint undergraduate student members to many Senate committees, especially the Student Life Committee. Vacancies remain unfilled on several committees, however. If you are interested in serving as a student voice on a Senate committee, please contact the Polity office or me directly (RKERBER@notes.cc.sunysb.edu).

The Senate, at its November meeting, with student Senators actively participating, debated and passed some important legislation which will impact many students' academic careers. Effective in May, 1999, students academic standing will be determined solely by their cumulative GPA, with a 2.00 standard to be applied to all undergraduate students. This regulation replaces the rather complicated current system, which depends on both semester GPA and number of credits completed, with a sliding scale allowing lower grades for freshmen and sophomores.

The Senate also adopted a graduated policy for dealing with students who do not come up to the standard, with some students being urged to consult an advisor, some being required to obtain an advisor's approval of their subsequent registrations, some being placed on probation, some suspended,

and some dismissed. The process for petitioning a waiver of suspension or dismissal will be streamlined, and tight deadlines for appeals will be maintained. Some students-at-risk may be limited in their total credit load, and some will have to negotiate and sign performance contracts with advisors before being allowed to continue. The intent here is to assure that students in academic trouble confront the reality of their situations, and take steps to remedy them. The hope is to help students gain or restore their places as successful members of the academic community through active intervention. The Provost's office has assured the Senate that advising resources necessary to carry out this program will be provided.

At its next meeting, on December 7 (3:30 p.m., Union Auditorium), the Senate will take up a proposal which, like the foregoing, originated in its Undergraduate Council. This proposal will reconstruct the University Writing Requirement, DEC Category A, as a two-semester requirement. It is anticipated that many entering students will receive waivers from the first semester based upon satisfactory performance on the Writing Placement Exam administered at freshman orientation sessions. If passed, this proposal will take effect for students who enter Stony Brook in summer of 1999 and thereafter.

Also dealing with the Diversified Education Curriculum, a task force jointly commissioned by the Senate and the Provost is studying assessment methods for general education. It is working in the context of national and state efforts to define our general educational goals for undergraduate students, assess how well we are meeting them, and make changes in the curriculum which will help us to meet them better. We will be hearing more about this as the year moves along.

THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT JOURNALISM

By Jennifer Hobin & Glenn Given

ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS ATTENDED A CONFERENCE HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT ACTIVITY CENTER, ON "THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENT JOURNALISTS." THE CONFERENCE, A MEETING OF PROFESSIONAL AND STUDENT JOURNALISTS, ADMINISTRATORS, AND LEGAL ADVISORS WAS INTENDED TO EXAMINE THE "CHALLENGES FACING STUDENT JOURNALISTS, ADVISORS AND SCHOOL/CAMPUS ADMINISTRATORS IN A CHANGING AND EVOLVING JOURNALISM COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT."

The day long conference featured sessions on the relationship between student journalists and administrators, legal and ethical issues, and more specific discussions on how some college publications have covered explosive issues. The conference was potentially helpful to new student journalists who may not have been aware of their ability to access records or obtain funding for their media organization, and exactly what does and does not constitute libel or slander.

The conference opened with an introductory welcome by Dr. Shirley Strum Kenny which was followed by the keynote address given by Dr. Roy Peter Clark. Dr. Clark is the associate director and a senior scholar of the Poynter Institute, a nonprofit organization based in St. Petersburg, Florida, that trains journalists.

Dr. Clark talked about finding a new ground in student journalism, one in which both journalists and administrators work together to inform the public and foster democratic involvement in society. He insisted that students and administrators can no longer view each other as adversaries, but must realize that they have a common goal. Clark asserted that "journalism can no longer exist as unfettered libertarianism (wherein the press acquires and releases, without thought of impact, any and all information), or as staunch authoritarianism (where the administration, or any institution in power, would dictate what is printed and only let the positive news be released)."

The "College Journalist/Administration Relations" seminar panel included: Vicky Katz, a 44 year veteran of the media business, and current vice president of the New York City chapter of the Society for Professional Journalists; John Giuffo, former managing editor of the *Press*; Mike Hiestand, an attorney with the Student Press Law Center; Steven Klipstein, and English professor at Suffolk County Community College; and Gerianne Sands, a legal advisor to Stony Brook administrators and faculty members. The seminar opened with a discussion on crime reporting. The panel members focused on how crimes committed on college campuses are often deferred to local police departments instead of being handled by campus police. According to the panel members, this allows university administration to boast lower crime rates since crimes handled by local law enforcement are not counted as crimes committed on campus.

The panel members discussed the Buckley amendment which prohibits the release of a student's educational record without his or her written consent. Up until the recent modification of the Buckley amendment, administrators in many schools would handle crimes committed by students in a manner similar to the handling of academic dishonesty; these crimes are handled internally by means of the college judiciary. By using this process, the facts of these crimes can be considered part of a student's educational record

and therefore, withheld from the media. The modification to the Buckley amendment allows for the release of these records if the student is found guilty by the academic judiciary at his or her school. These amendments were raised in an effort to discuss the wall of misinformation that administrators present to student media in an attempt to prevent potentially damaging information from being disclosed to the community.

Allegations to this effect were made by *Statesman* editor Peter Gratton, and former *Press* editor David Ewalt. These charges were summarily dismissed by Vicky Katz and, in part, Gerianne Sands in what seemed to be an attempt to downplay the lack of disclosure on the part of administrators.

The ethics seminar that followed was intended to address the issues of privacy, fairness, fact versus commentary, and the issues of satire, parody, obscenity and indecency. Panelist and news director for 97.5 WALK-AM/FM, Donna Vaughan, encouraged journalists to follow three guidelines: Do no harm, have human respect, and be fair by covering an issue from all sides. Presenting the facts of particular issue is, of course, a priority. *Newsday* columnist Paul Schreiber said he "absolutely believe[s] in information and generally the more information the better." However, he also stated that "being ethical is the right thing to do. It makes your job easier and will take you in the right direction." Unfortunately, neither the panelists nor the students present at this seminar suggested how journalists could accomplish both of these goals in presenting potentially damaging news stories.

Instead of discussing the issues for which the seminar was intended, virtually all of the allotted time was spent on critiquing a response written to an angry student in the letters section of the *Stony Brook Press* by executive editor, Michael Yeh.

Yeh responded to a letter which accused him of having "SOCIALIST tendencies" and charged two senior staff members with being a "commie pinko." Yeh wrote a lengthy response which ended with "Fuck you. And learn how to write."

It was these last few words which captured the attention of panel members. Allan Wolper, a journalism professor at Rutgers University, blasted the *Press* for this response and claimed that the *Press* "made it difficult for people to disagree with [them]." Others at the seminar, including Schreiber, insisted that if the author of the letter that the *Press* received had warranted such a response it would not have been necessary to actually print it. As a student from C.W. Post put it: "the *Village Voice* lets people trip over their own feet."

Much to the dismay of the others present at the ethics seminar, discussion of the *Press* dominated the allotted hour and fifteen minutes. Toward the end of the seminar frustrated hands were raised in an effort to steer the conversation toward more useful discussion. Unfortunately, just as the conversation might have turned toward important ethical issues facing high school and college journalists, the seminar ended.

The remainder of the day was spent discussing issues such as current case laws that affect the freedom of the student press, as well as technologies available to make the lives of student journalists a little easier. Also discussed was the topic of how one goes about entering a career in journalism and what the best preparation for a career in the field would be. This last seminar reviewed current hiring trends in the news field and informed students about how they could take advantage internship opportunities in the local area.

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A SHOCKING TREND

By Hilary Vidair

One in seven college women in the nation has been raped. Four out of five of them were attacked by someone they knew. The Do It Now Foundation states that 70 percent of all sexual assaults are acquaintance or date rape.

Men and women can be friends, and a fundamental part of friendship is trust. When this trust is violated, it can prove to be one of the most damaging things that one friend can do to another. The American College Health Association defines acquaintance rape as when someone you know forces you to have sexual intercourse against your will—whether you are passed out, too drunk to refuse, too scared to argue, or for some other reason do not give consent. Date rape is more specific. It is forcing sexual intercourse on a date.

In the majority of cases, the victim has known the attacker for at least a year. The incident usually occurs late at night, on the weekend. 80 percent of cases happen in the man's home. Physical strength and/or psychological pressure are utilized to get sex. Often, drinking and/or drugs are involved.

Imagine that you are at a male friend's house watching movies. You've both had a few beers. He begins to tell you that he has always cared about you and begins to make sexual advances. You try to dissuade him, but he is persistent. You don't really know how to handle the situation because he is supposed to be your friend. Things get out of control, and he forcibly has sex with you. There is a great deal of awkwardness afterwards. Not knowing what to say, you ask him to just take you home. Have you been raped? The answer is yes.

Acquaintance and date rape statistics are drastically high, yet nine out of ten cases are not

even reported. In fact, nine in ten cases Many women remain silent because it is difficult to accuse someone who had previously been a part of their lives. Others are uncertain of their right to say "no." This stems from gender stereotypes.

In today's society, women are taught to be passive—to accept abusive comments—and succumb to what males want and need. Men grow up with the idea that they should be aggressive, in control, and never take "no" for an answer.

Children learn this right away, often from just turning on the television. Movies, commercials, and soap operas convey forced sex between people who know each other as normal. The American College Health Association says that one out of every twelve men admit to acts that are legal definitions of rape. The problem is that few of these men feel that they have committed rape or believe that they are rapists.

Kent State University performed a study showing that men who had forced sex on women in the past were more inclined to view a certain amount of aggression within personal relationships permissible. They were also more likely to believe that when a woman says "no," she doesn't really mean it.

The same study also found that two-thirds of women felt men frequently misinterpreted the level of physical intimacy that they found comfortable. 25 percent gave into sex due to verbal pressure, and 13 percent said they were physical forced to have sexual intercourse. Although it is not an excuse, these statistics demonstrate that sex must be spoken about honestly and openly.

Men must learn to realize that when a woman says "no," she means "no." Respect the fact that a woman has a right to make choices about her own body.

The most important thing that women can

do to avoid sending mixed messages is to express themselves. Don't be afraid to say how you feel. Tell the other person how you feel to open the doorway to effective discussion. Listen to their feelings, and ask if something is unclear. Know that it's perfectly okay to say "no" and resist sexual advances. If you feel uncomfortable with someone for any reason, stay in a public place. Leave if things get out of hand.

Of course, there are some situations in which it is impossible to just walk away. If someone is trying to physically force you into having sex with them, scream, as loudly as you can. Fight back to show him that you are not vulnerable. Aim to hurt the unprotected areas of his body, such as his eyes, nose, throat, knees, and groin. Resist in any way possible.

There are self-defense workshops available to women on campus that teach them how to deal with an attacker. Rape prevention classes are also offered. For more information, call Jeanette Hotmer at 246-3333, or Audrey Wolf at 246-2855.

If you do get raped, do not shower, douche, or change your clothing. This may destroy necessary evidence to convict the person who raped you. Go to someone you feel comfortable confiding in. Go to the infirmary or the hospital to receive medical attention.

Remember that you did not cause the situation to occur. It was no fault of your own. If you feel the need to talk to a professional, go to the CHOICE Center on campus, located on the second floor of the infirmary. You can call them at 632-9338, 6689, or 6682. Nobody deserves to get raped, especially not by someone they know.

Alexis Barrett contributed to this article.

Thousands March for MUMIA

By Robert V. Gilheany

Thousands of people rallied in protest of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruling which denied a new trial to political prisoner Mumia Abu Jamaal. The protesters marched on city hall demanding the release from death row of the African-American activist and award winning journalist.

The high court of Pennsylvania dismissed all of the evidence and arguments presented by Mumia's defense team. The lead lawyer, Leonard Wienglass, a noted civil rights attorney, called the ruling remarkable because the court dismissed newly uncovered evidence.

A cop that was guarding Mumia in the hospital the night he was shot said that Mumia made no confession. This testimony directly contradicted statements made by the police and the prosecution. In response to this, the court just said, "He was mistaken." When an eye witness said he saw the gunman run from the scene as Mumia lay bleeding in the street, the court just said, "He was mistaken."

Additional evidence included the fact that officer Falkner was shot with a .44 caliber bullet that could not have come from the .38 caliber gun that Mumia owned. To this, the Pennsylvania court said, "so what." The case will eventually end up in

Federal Court and the U.S. Supreme Court will make a decision.

The high court of Pennsylvania is dominated by judges who have the backing of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), a national police organization that is actively trying to get Mumia killed. Incredibly, one judge who was a member of the prosecuting team early on in the legal process was part of the ruling.

FOP took out a full page add in the *New York Times* calling for Mumia's death. They also pressured National Public Radio to stop broadcasting Mumia's segment "Live from death row, Mumia Abu Jamaal." NPR cowardly gave in to this fascist pressure and censored Mumia.

Mumia Abu Jamaal has been an activist all of his life. In the late 60s and early 70s, he was the minister

of information for the Philadelphia chapter of the Black Panther Party, a black power organization that fought on many issues including police brutality. Jamaal said he was literally kicked into the Black Panther Party. He and some friends decided to protest a speech by segregationist presidential candidate George Wallace. As a consequence, several off duty cops beat young Mumia and his friends. That led to the forming of the Philadelphia Branch of BPP. Mumia went on to become a journalist and a reporter on issues of police brutality and fairness. In short, he was a thorn in the side of

power.

Several hundred people gathered at the State Police headquarters on Broad St. for the rally. As speakers addressed the crowd, it grew to several thousand people. Pamela Africa, a surviving member of MOVE, a black radical group in Philadelphia, addressed the crowd. Pamela Africa gave strong words of support for Mumia and the people who took time to go to Philadelphia for the march.

Members of MOVE have been beaten, arrested, locked down, murdered, and fire-bombed the Philadelphia police and the FBI. Mumia, as an up and coming journalist, wrote about the organization. He gave a voice to people that have been systematically shut out of the mainstream corporate media.

Words of support also came from Leonard Peltier. An American Indian activist, and a well known political prisoner being held in the United States, Peltier sent a message of encouraging and supporting the release of Mumia Abu Jamaal and all political prisoners being held in the U.S.A.

The march went down Broad St. to city hall. People chanted, "Brick by brick, wall by wall, we will free Mumia Abu Jamaal," and other chants. The march was very energetic. Drums were played, signs and flags were waved, and some people brought horns. Groups from religious organizations like the Brudeholf and the Nation of Islam, gay and lesbian groups, political parties and black organizations marched. People came together to make a difference.



MIKE FORBES = COLONIALIST TOOL

By Chris Sorochin

ne of the major catalysts that launched my checkered career as a political loudmouth was a piece of breathtakingly blatant intellectual censorship that occurred about four years ago, and at no less an institution than the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington. Curators had planned an exhibit featuring the restored Enola Gay, the plane that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima in 1945. They felt obligated to include material on what had happened to the people the bomb had been dropped on, as well as to examine the questionable legacy of the nuclear age. Well, a coalition of right-wing politicians and right-wing military groups joined forces and proceeded to make quite a stench in the halls of Congress and in the national media. A mindless debate followed in which the latest historical findings were ignored as inconvenient to the perpetuation of the comforting myth that the United States obliterated two undefended cities full of civilians only to avoid further bloodshed. This myth has been debunked many times, but never quite as publicly as it should be.

Anyway, the idea that a bunch of flag-waving Neanderthals could hold the national museum and its top historians for ransom (mainly by threatening the Smithsonian's funding if they didn't recant) so filled me with bile that I felt it had to be decried loudly. The exhibit turned out to be a neutered affair - another victory for the forces of ignorance - but not without protests.

We all know that history repeats itself, and in perusing the October issue of *Z Magazine*, I came across more politically-inspired smothering of honest debate. And this one involves our own cuddly Congressperson, Michael Forbes, newly re-elected poster boy of the suburban redneck contingency that seems to dominate public life in Suffolk County.

It seems that the New Israel Fund, a progressive Jewish organization, was planning a conference on the 50th anniversary of the founding of Israel at the Smithsonian. It's to be surmised that some of these folks refuse to subscribe to the official mythology of poor little Israel taking on the big bad Arabs and may have even been contemplating an examination of Israel's ethnic cleansing, apartheid policies and expansionist behavior vis-à-vis its neighbors. This, of course, would not do, especially as it would undermine the perception that all Jews are knee-jerk supporters of Israel and its corollary, that only anti-Semites criticize Israel.

The primary purveyor of this dogma is the Zionist Organization of America, which has recently come under the sway of right wing zealots. This group, although largely unreflective of the opinions of the majority of Jews in the US, still manages to cough up enough muzamah to spring for full-page ads in the *New York Times* (at \$70,000 a pop) rabidly denouncing the Palestinians as bloodthirsty subhumans. Morton Klein, head of the ZOA, set out to, in his own words, "persuade" Mike Forbes, who sits on the House Appropriations Committee, which directly controls the Smithsonian's budget.

Oh, to have been a fly on the wall as Rep. Forbes was "persuaded" to his ever to principled

position. Was it the carrot cake—the promise of a zaftig campaign contribution—of the schtick—the threat of being raked over the coals as an "enemy of Israel," a designation our elected officials fear like the plague—or some combination of the two that finally brought old Mike around?

As his official reason, Forbes made some schmaltzy noises about the planned conference "heaping unfair and one-sided abuse on America's [sic] most trusted ally." Now, I ask myself, just hat kind of "unfair and one-sided abuse" could a Jewish group be cooking up for Israel? Maybe as a heretical Jewish organization that wasn't following party lines, they were very dangerous to the well-manicured illusion that any criticism of Israel is automatically born of anti-Semitism.

So once again freedom of thought and inquiry bites the dust at the Smithsonian. Maybe we should stop calling this particular institution a museum and find a designation more suitable to what seems to be its real purpose. How about "The Smithsonian Clearinghouse for the Propagation of Comforting Half-Truths and Popular Delusions?"

Those interested in the history of this august institution of learning and the academic freedom it's supposed to uphold should revisit the case of one Professor Fred Dube, formerly of Africana Studies, which has finally been upgraded to a department. Well, back when it was just a mere program, somewhere in the mid-80s, there was big to-do surrounding Professor Dube. In one summer course on racism, on an exam, he had asked students to compare and contrast Nazism in Germany, apartheid in South African and Zionism in Israel. A disgruntled student reported this to a visiting Israeli professor, one Selwyn Troen, who then went on to raise a big stink, calling Dube a racist and summoning from the woodwork hordes of fanatical Zionists, who, in turn, brought the full weight of their considerable national constituency to bear on Stony Brook.

There was a great deal of self-righteous kvetching and kvelling from these folks, who called for Dube's head on a platter. This inspired some fairly nasty counterattacks from campus African-American and Arab activist'. At this time, the intifada, or uprising against Israeli occupation, was just beginning, and Palestinians finally were able to get something of a hearing in the United States. Shortly before, Israeli forces had conducted a bloody invasion of Southern Lebanon which had shocked the world and had punctured for many

Israelis the illusion that their country was somehow a shining beacon of democracy and fair play among the Arab savages.

There may have even been a teach-in or two to educate the community on the actual situation in the Middle East, but in the end, hysteria won out. A panel of six professors, three of them Jewish, was appointed to determine whether Dube had been guilty of any academic wrongdoing. They deter-

mined he hadn't, much to the chagrin of the Zionist pressure groups, who then ratcheted up the negative publicity campaign, not only against Dube, but the university as well. The professors who made this determination paid in the form of personal attacks. One of the Jews on the panel was personally vilified as a "self-hating Jew" by the right-wing Jewish press, and subjected to verbal abuse from family members.

One further wrinkle was that Professor Dube was up for tenure. (P.S. He didn't get it, even after a long and heated debate which included both support and opposition from the campus community and outside. Dube left

Stony Brook and now teaches at Evergreen State University in Washington.) Selwyn Troen and his wife Carol



MIKE FORBES

returned to Israel and opened a bulldozer dealership. Business is said to be booming under Bibi Netanyahu and his "wherever we pitch our tents" policy of ethnic cleansing.

At this time also, there was a right-wing organization called Accuracy in Academia, whose purpose was to harass leftist professors. These individuals posed as students, but were funded and coached by well-funded outside organizations. Campuses were the centers of opposition to the Reagan administration's policies of covert wars in Central America, nuclear buildup, the slashing of social programs and the inauguration of the prison-industrial complex; it became important to intimidate any dissenters. Another infamous example of rightist pressure groups exerting undue influence in academic matters occurred at Nassau Community College, where prune-faced puritans made a real big deal about the content of a course on human sexuality—a precursor of the self-denying antics of porno star Candace (a.k.a. "Candy Cane") DeRussy, whose steaming, coprophilic bondage flicks are still the toast of video-booth patrons statewide.

This all went hand-in-glove with the introduction of highly intrusive drug and alcohol policies in the dorms, the infantilization of campus décor (G and H Quads used to be a muted earthy brown, not playground colors) and a national campaign to transform higher education from a place of self-discovery and intellectual expansion into a breeding ground for pushy little wiseasses whose attitude was "Fuck learning, gimme my diploma so I can sell myself to Wall Street and start making loads of money off the backs of others." Although the Crash of 1987 put an end to the most egregious of these postings, the assault continues.

continued on page 12

"COULD THEY NOW HAVE THEIR POT?"

By Angelos K. Hannides

Earlier this year, when the majority of the members of Congress were spilling idiotic, unfounded ideas and opinions on paper, declaring marijuana "addictive" and of "no potential medical value" and calling these declarations a "Resolution on behalf of the People of the United States of America", little did

HOW DID THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA INITIATIVES FARE IN ELECTION '98?

they know what would happen in the November elections. It should trouble every single one of us that the House Joint Resolution 117 does not seem to reflect the opinion of the people in at least five States of the federation this year. Is it possible that many "Representatives" in the Capitol do not give a damn what their constituency thinks about this or other issues? (This last one is supposed to be a rhetorical question...). No illusions guys. The only way they listen is with initiatives from the citizens without the citizens they would pack up their behinds every two years. So, what really happened on November 3rd?

The Initiatives

In this year's election, seven States had ballots relating to medical marijuana. In short, here are descriptions of these ballots:

- 1) **Alaska, Ballot Measure 8:** to allow the use of marijuana for certain medical purposes;
- 2) **Arizona, Proposition 300:** to amend Arizona's current medical marijuana law (the one passed by the People in 1996) to require that marijuana prescriptions be authorized by the federal Food and Drug Administration or be authorized by the U.S. Congress;
- 3) **Colorado, Issue 19:** to permit the medical use of marijuana for persons with debilitating medical conditions and change state laws regarding marijuana for patients and their primary care givers;
- 4) **District of Columbia, Initiative 59:** to restore licensed possession, cultivation, and use of marijuana of medical purposes;
- 5) **Nevada, Question 9:** to allow the use of marijuana for the treatment or alleviation of certain illnesses as recommended by a physician;
- 6) **Oregon, Measure 57:** to make possession of less than one pound of marijuana a Class C Misdemeanor (this would justify imprisonment for up to 30 days, whereas now it constitutes simply a violation involving a \$500-1,000 fine);
- 7) **Washington, Measure 692:** to allow marijuana to be used for medical purposes for "qualifying patients," including those with HIV, cancer, multiple sclerosis and glaucoma.

As you can read for yourselves, the initiatives in Arizona and Oregon intended to backlash on the achievements of the movement in the past. All the others recommended improvements in current State laws regarding marijuana. In two States, votes were not counted: in Colorado, where the Colorado Secretary of State Vikki Buckley (R) determined on the day before the last day of ballot submission that the signatures were 850 short of the required total, and in the District of Columbia, where just at the end of October Rep. Bob Barr (R-Georgia) introduced an amendment to disallow vote counting in this initiative. This last case is far from resolved, since the American Civil Liberties Union promptly challenged the authoritative ban.

The Results

Below are the results from election day. To eliminate different interpretations of "yes" and "no" votes between different ballots, I have established the categories of pro-marijuana law reform and anti-marijuana law reform. For example, the pro-reform votes in the initiatives of Alaska, Nevada, Washington, Colorado, and D.C. would be "yes," whereas in

Arizona and Oregon, would be "no." For the cases of Colorado and D.C., I provide the best indications available.

State/Initiative	Pro-reform (%)	Against (%)
Alaska: Ballot measure 8	58.0	42.0
Arizona: Proposition 300	57.3	42.7
Nevada: Question 9	58.7	41.3
Oregon: Measure 57	66.7	33.6
Washington: Measure 692	58.7	41.3
Colorado: Issue 191	56.9	43.1
D.C.: Initiative 592	68.8	31.2

Source 1: Cable News Network. Precincts reporting 2209/3289 (67%)

Source 2: Firm of Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin & Associates. Exit Poll (Voters polled 763).

Also See Graph On Page 10

Where have all the white, christian, conservatives gone?

In order to answer this question, I will use four exit polls from Cable News Network to see if there are any wider trends as to how people voted on these initiatives. These exit polls involve the States of Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, and Washington. The only trend, which is consistent in all four polls, is the negative stance in the medical marijuana issue of the people who identify themselves as Republican, those who identify themselves as Conservative, and those who voted for Dole in the 1996 presidential elections (remember Dole urging the use of the Army in the "War on Drugs" back in 1996?). Also, negative opinions on the issue throughout the four States were shared by people who stated that they opposed or disapproved of Clinton, or wanted him impeached or to resign, or merely had an unfavorable opinion of him. So much for conservatives. How about "religious"? A pleasant surprise (it should be) that in only one case (that of Colorado) did the people who identified themselves as white, religious voters vote against reform. However, this category registered the lowest percentage in favor of reform in all four States: 32%. As far as race is concerned, it was not at all a factor. Aside from race, other criteria which did not seem to affect the way people voted were: income, age (except 60 or older in Colorado and Washington), change in state of finances since 1996, and education (with the exception of high school graduates in Colorado: 47%). It is worth to see how people voted with respect to the education they received, although I would like to stress that critical thinking is not really necessary to get a degree nowadays!

There seems to be a rising support for reform with increased education in all four States. On the other hand, apart from the exception of high school graduates in Colorado, education level did not seem to affect the positive view of voters on the issue.

Consistently in favor of law reform appear to be the people who either approve of, or support Clinton. The highest pro-reform percentages all over the four states were recorded among people who identified themselves as Liberals: normalizing the totals of individual respondents and getting the average percentage, they registered a 77%. The highest pro-reform support in all four exit polls was recorded by Washington voters recognizing that what they considered to be the top issue in the Senate vote was the environment.

Can we really blame the "Representatives"?

We need to check a couple of things before we let our rage loose against them. First of all, how did representatives from the five states passing initiatives vote on September 15th on the aforementioned H.J.R. 117 ("marijuana is addictive", "no medicinal value" etc.)? 310 out of a total of 434 presented voted "yes." There are 23 Representatives from these 5 States, all were present, and 18 of them voted "yes" (78.2%)! In view of the recent elections and the ballot results, that is a far cry from being representative of what people in these States wanted. But let's not jump the gun. These recent elections were not just for ballots. These very same 23 Representatives were also put to the test. How did they do? (Sit before you read). 18 of them kept their elected positions! Of the 5 who didn't, three voted "yes" on September 15th. Still, the

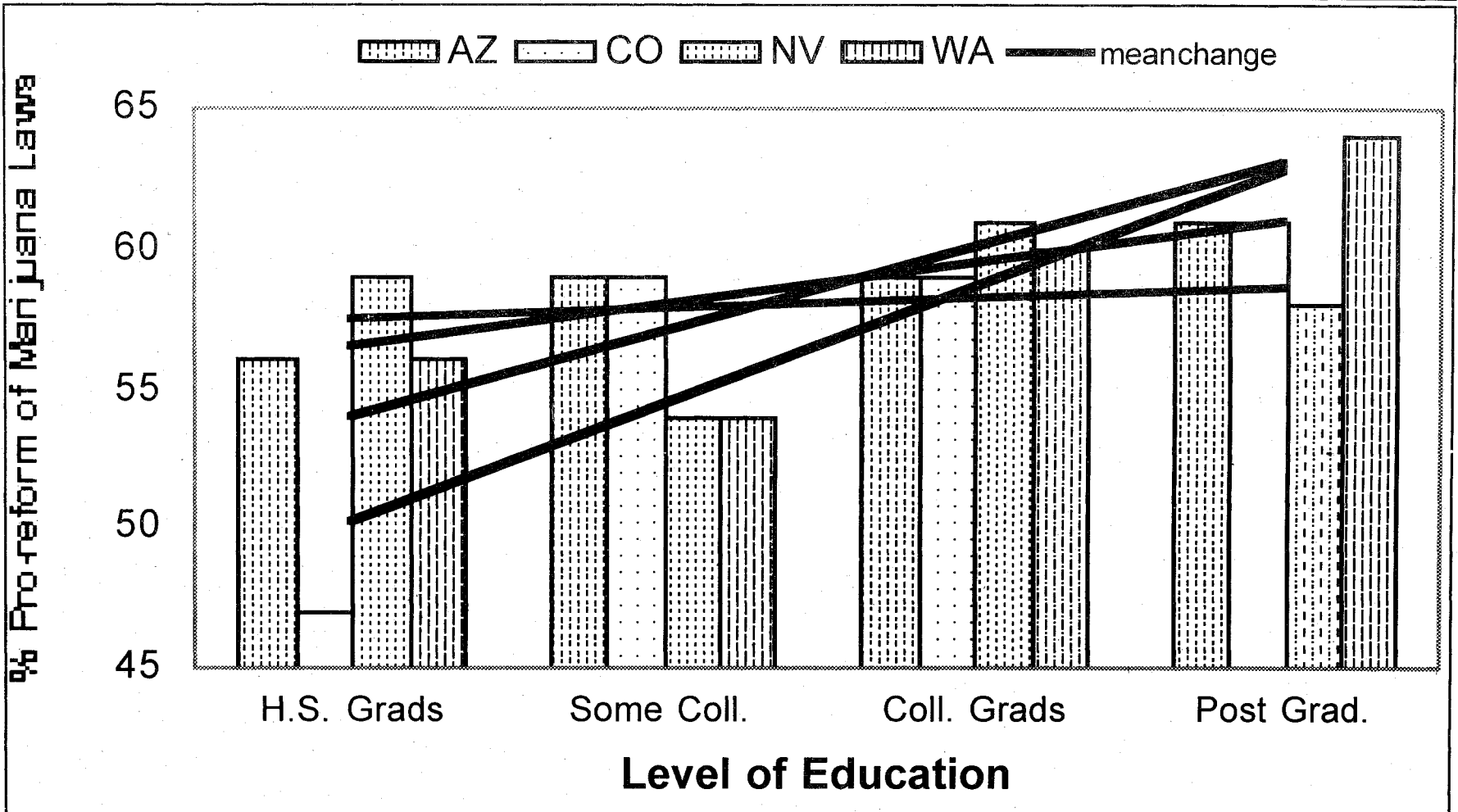
vast majority of them did receive the approval of the very same people who passed those initiatives! It is quite baffling, and all of us could speculate like crazy as to why this happens. I will not do that. Instead, I will urge everyone to consider how they can make their vote most effective in elections in the future. And, while doing that, keep in mind that (unfortunately or not) the federal legislation (approved by Congress and the President) supercedes state legislation.

Final Perspective

Times are a changing'. The movement is serious, dedicated, and focused in getting this one right. The conditions are not favorable. Gen. Barry McCaffrey is in charge of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. [A pompous, militant ass, who visualizes this country as a vast boot camp, and thinks he will "solve the problem" by treating it as a war (not hesitating to use the Armed Forces in the process)]. He is ignorant about what the specific issue of hemp is, and especially that of medical marijuana. The motive here is beyond money, pleasure, and recreation. It is about treating the pain of fellow human beings, it is about preventing certain diseases with the sole medication proven to do so. I would suggest to him not to fuck with that any more, and quit before he embarrassed himself any further. Finally, the prospects for the next election come out greatly enforced by these results. Hopefully, the day will come when the federal government's turn shows up, and they decide to restore not just medical marijuana use but the actual plant to the position it used to hold in our society before prohibition. We aspire to a bright future, both for the plant and for the eyes of our brothers and sisters with glaucoma.

For links, sources and further information, access: www.sinc.sunysb.edu/Stu/ahannide/hemp.html

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL LEVELS AND SUPPORT OF MARIJUANA LAW REFORMS



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FEATURES

BURYING HISTORY UNDER A COAT OF PAINT

By D.J. O'Dell

You don't have to be a theatre arts major to appreciate the theater lounge on the third floor of the Staller Center. From my experience at this university I would, without a pregnant pause, call it the most unique room to be found on campus. The best way to describe this room, for those of you who have not seen it, would be to call it a little world in and of itself-the result of a decade's worth of individual impressions and expressions. The walls are literally covered with quotes, numbering well over a thousand.

A number of these quotes are from students who were leaving Stony Brook and who wanted to acknowledge the friends and memories they found here. These range from the simple "Thanks for all the incredible memories. I'll miss you guys," to more lengthy leave-takings which praise the sense of community students found in this university's theatrical department. Some quotes record events which have taken place in the lives of those who have frequented this room while others, such as "We are the Music Makers and We are the Dreamers of the Dreams" affirm the creative force of theatre while imparting a noble and empowering purpose to its students.

If you've ever seen this room, and have had a chance to appreciate it as I have, you would be just as shocked as I was when I learned about the department's wish, or rather the heads of the department's desire, to paint over these amazing walls. The department finds the room to be less than aesthetically pleasing, but this opinion was strongly contested by many students with whom I discussed this subject. Ironically (or purposefully), the majority of theatre majors had yet to learn about this proposal. It seems that the leaders of the department hold little concern when it comes to the desires of its students, seeing as how they have yet to be approached regarding this issue and asked how they feel about the proposal. As this room exists (theoretically) for these students I feel they have the right to express their views against painting over the lounge walls.

Dave Rasmussen stated that not only was the lounge "aesthetically pleasing", it was "comfortable" as well. As Rasmussen (a theatre arts major) confirms, beauty truly is in the eye of

the beholder. It seems that, while the students find the room to be beautiful, it is the departmental heads alone who wish to change it. I believe, in this situation, the majority voice should rule. Those whom I talked with really did have an intelligent response when it came to this issue (I'm sure the department would be amazed).

For example, Rasmussen continued to say that "If the room were changed, people would only come to the department for classes and productions." Any change to this room would have a negative impact on a student body which has enjoyed a decade-long, intimate sense of community.

I came away from those with whom I conversed with the belief that this room plays a major role in establishing and maintaining their community. As many theater arts majors graduated last year, it would seem that the Department would want to do everything in its power to welcome new-comers. I can think of

no place which is more capable of meeting this need than the Theatre Lounge. New students find themselves being welcomed by majors into a community whose very history can be read on the walls of its lounge. Tovah Sherman (a junior theater arts major) directly supported this by saying, "It's history. There's ten years of people's lives written on these walls."

As Sherman points out, many of the quotes reflect interesting events in the lives of those who are or were part of this community. Something as ambiguous as "Don't give Tracy the toast" provides amusing moments and musings to be shared with others. It was great to enter into this world through these stories, as I learned from theater major Mike Miller. It was evident that Miller enjoyed a close sense of kinship with the lives of those who remain on these walls. He referred to this room as his "inspiration to graduate," a very powerful statement indeed.

Panithan Yamniyom, another theatre arts major, pointed out the uselessness of the department's plan, claiming that "People would just start writing on the walls again" (followed by

peals of insane laughter). In this light, we see this proposal as economically wasteful, harming the community by both using much-needed funds and by destroying a traditional aspect of this community. Another individual, who chose to remain anonymous, stated, "By definition theatre majors are weirdos. Leave us the fuck

alone." I found this quote to be like the walls themselves, a very personal way to express oneself.

This underlies an important theme running rampant across the lounge walls: that of self-expression. To begin with, a college (any college)

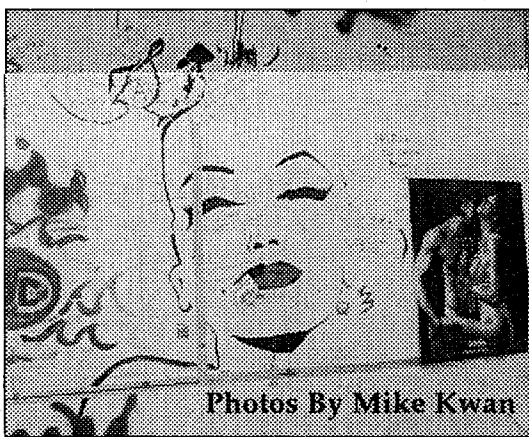
can be considered a great forum for self-expression. When you add to this a major whose very existence depends on self-expression, it quickly becomes apparent that the Theatre Lounge (as is) displays a certain sense of poetic justice. The room stands as a symbol and testament to the importance of First Amendment Rights. The opinion shared by man is that the

walls of this room come as close to describing what it means to be a theater major as possible. Sherman affirmed this when she said, "We're artists; we have to express ourselves. Some of the quotes may not be deeply philosophical, but they're still important."

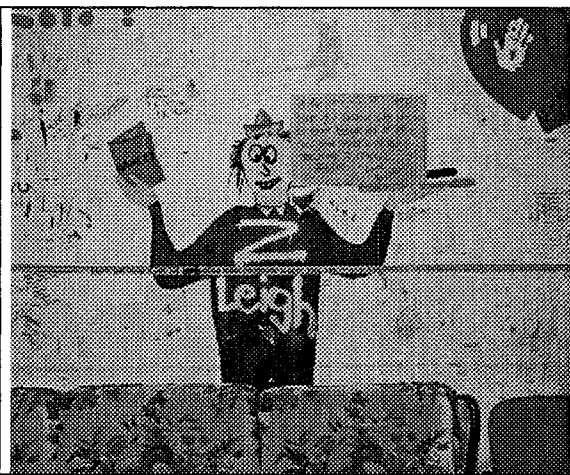
It is true that I have chosen to avoid the heads of this department while writing this article, but that too is poetic justice. Hopefully, the department will understand what it feels like to be left un-consulted. If anything, I hope this article might prod those individuals into discussing this issue with the students who obviously

care.

I'd like to share one of the most inspirational quotes I found on the walls. This quote lets students know that "Whatever your background, if acting decides to embrace you and take you to its heart, it will hurl you up there among the Gods."



Photos By Mike Kwan



FEATURES

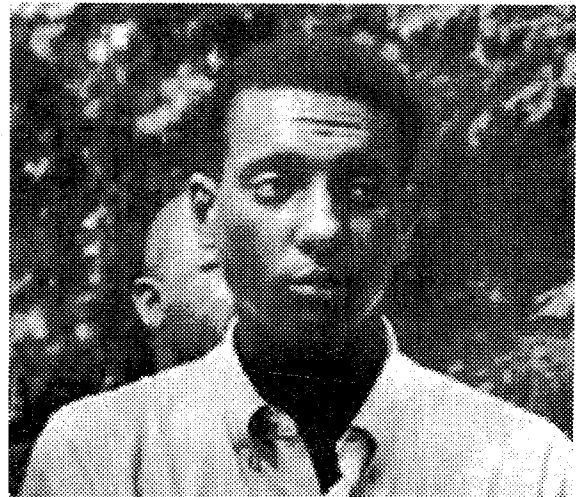
Sorochin, continued from 8

Mike Forbes was re-elected and so was that sworn foe of SUNY, George Pataki. "Senator Sleaze," Al D'Amato is but an unpleasant memory, and slimeball state attorney Dennis Vacco appears to be, also. Locally, Steve Englebright, of whom I am no fan (phony liberal), repulsed a challenge from a Republican confection by the name of John Jay LaValle. LaValle's campaign was a page right out of D'Amato's Dictionary of Dirty Tricks. In the summer, he attempted to play a sort of race/regionalism card by calling Englebright an "urban liberal." We all know that "urban liberals" favor sodomy, immigration, race-mixing, welfare and all manner of things decent Long Island chuckleheads abhor, yet enough people in this district must be "liberal" enough to have some antipathy towards this approach.

The pièce de résistance, however was a series of radio and print ads featuring Bonnie Manners, mother of Jessica Manners a 14-year-old who was brutally murdered in 1989. Christopher Loliscio was convicted of the crime and is currently in prison. After the conviction, new scientific evidence was presented that could possibly call into question Loliscio's conviction and Englebright supported an inquiry into the matter. This apparently enraged those who erroneously believe that the "justice" system doesn't make mistakes and anyone sent to prison must be there for a good reason, regardless of evidence. And is Mrs. Manners so unhinged by grief that she wants someone to pay and isn't too picky about whether that someone could possibly be innocent?

In other election news, I'm sure you're all painfully aware that the new governor of Minnesota is former pro wrestler Jesse "The Body" Ventura, who ran on a third party ticket...Some reports suggest that voters responded to Ventura's no bullshit style ("I don't promise you anything"), but a report on Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting's nationally syndicated radio show, "Counterspin," reveals that the media gave Mr. Ventura ample coverage due to the novelty of his earlier showbiz profession and this got his name and platform before the voters. Hmm. Why didn't the media out this way milk "Grandpa Munster" for the same reason? Could it be that Al Lewis actually has critical things to say about this system and who it works for, while Ventura seem to be doing a variation on his old ringside persona and macho platitudes are no threat to the status quo?

And speaking of machismo, as I petulantly bang this out on my keyboard, the vultures that run the United States are planning to bomb Iraq yet again. Does anyone get as sick as I do of hearing them threaten a different country every week? Last week it was Yugoslavia; before that was the fun with Sudan and Afghanistan; before that Libya, North Korea, etc. Why don't they make it sporting for once and threaten someone like China, who at least has the capability of flattening a couple of our cities? I swear I live in the geopolitical equivalent of the school bully. "Gimme yer lunch money or I'll make sure your kids die from lack of clean water and medical care."



Kwame Ture (Stokely Carmichael)
(1941-1998)

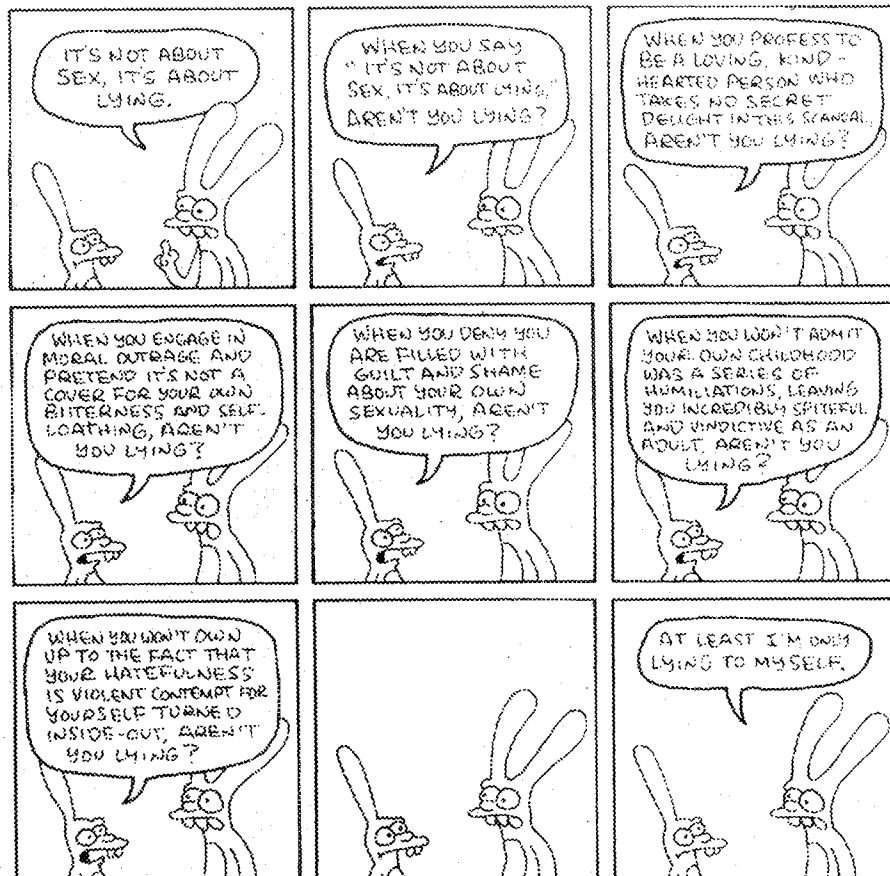
*In memory of the former
leader of the Student
Nonviolent Coordinating
Committee in the 1960s, for
being an inspiration to stu-
dent activists and for his ded-
ication to racial justice in
America.*

Rally For Womyn's Safety
Wednesday, December 2nd
Campus Life Time
in The Staller Pit

Sponsored By the Center For Womyn's Concerns

LIFE IN HELL

©1998
BY MATT
GREENING



**HAITIAN STUDENT ORGANIZATION
PROUDLY PRESENTS ON
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1998**

**Annual Cultural/
Fashion Show
In the Stony Brook Student Activity
Center Auditorium
8pm**

**Semi-Formal
Stony Brook Union Ballroom
11pm-3am
Live performance by the band
"CONTACT"
Haitian Food will be served**

Ticket Prices
Single event
\$4 w/USB ID
\$5 w/o
Combo Ticket
\$7 w/USB ID
9 w/o

All are invited to
come and share
our culture
a portion of the
proceeds raised
will go to the vic-
tims of hurricane
George



Graduate Student Lounge

Open Wednesday through Saturday with live music

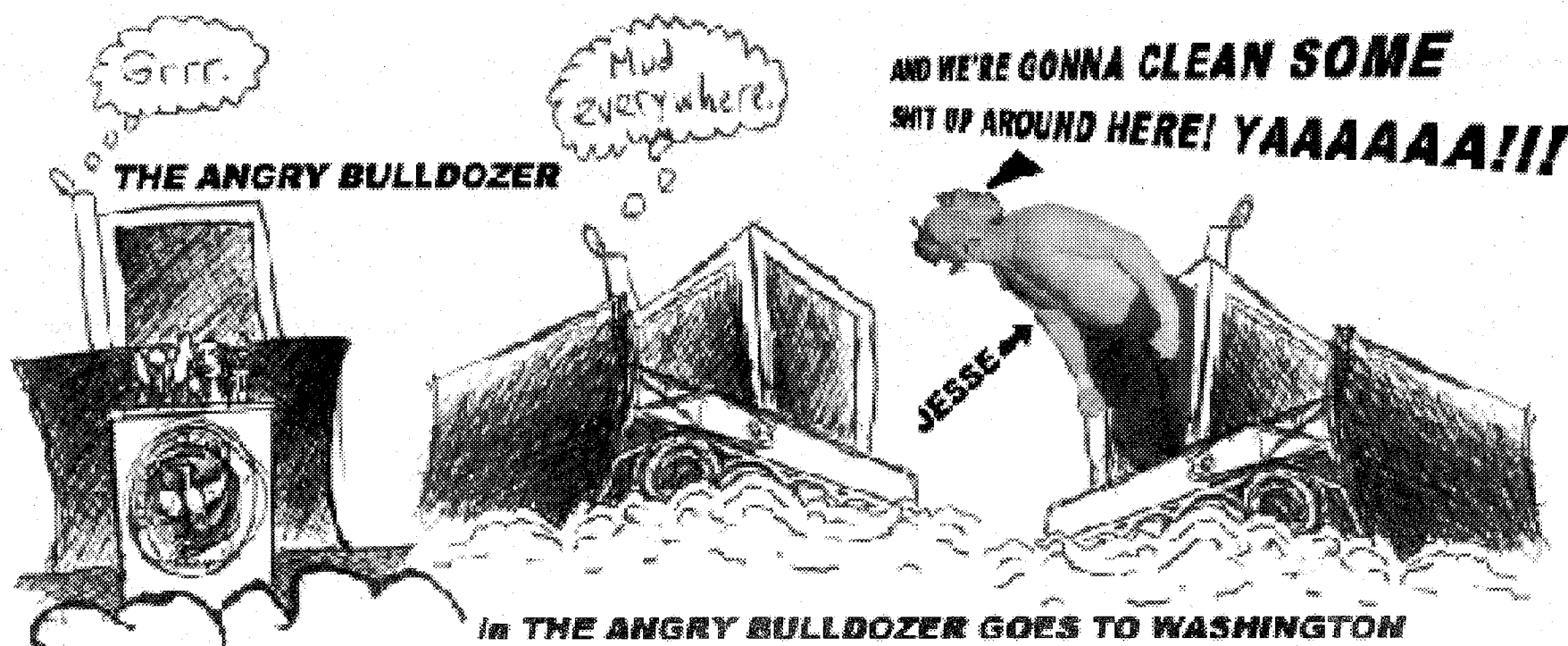
Wednesday 11/18
VIBES Benefit:
Supergenius, Neutron Cafe, A Day For
Honey
Thursday 11/19
Reckoning
Friday 11/20
[Comedy Night] Hot Tin Roof
Eddie Trap

Saturday 11/21
In-Tune Dance Party
Wednesday 11/25
Brother Simple
Thursday (thanksgiving) 11/26
We're Open
Friday 11/27
TBA Saturday 11/28
Cha Cha Lessons

Located in the
Janny Brice Theater,
Roosevelt Quad

Top Ten Reasons Green Day Isn't Performing at Stony Brook

- 10) Billy Joe can't rap
- 9) Catering by Deng Lee's
- 8) Ward Melville students deemed a security risk by Fred Preston
- 7) PepsiCo is the corporate sponsor of Green Day
- 6) Seven out of eight SPA Goons failed the Mosh Certification Test
- 5) SAB contract drug dealers punked out.
- 4) Drummer Tré Cool isn't
- 3) Chickened out due to the increase in crime on campus
- 2) Green Day was disheartened by the homecoming game, in which the Stony Brook Seawolves football team lost 43 to 16!
- 1) Concerts? We don't need no steenkin' concerts!



BATTLE OF THE CENTURY

Boba Fett

PRO

He has a jet pack. Gives noogies like they're going out of style. He's the galaxy's most renowned bounty hunter. Vast array of hi-tech weaponry. Rarely cries during "Steel Magnolias. Minty-fresh breath. Helmet doubles as a crock pot. Flawless high school attendance record. part of the Big brother program in which he teaches young inner city youth the finer points of bounty hunting. Brushes AND flosses after every meal.

CON

He's dead, and even before he was dead he was a fictional character. Throngs of narmby narmby sci-fi fans haunt his every move. Underneath all that armor there's probably a scared little boy who wants to go home. Hissy fits day in and day out. easily distracted by shiny object. On the off chance one of his targets escapes is so stunned that he can only react with "Huh-uh! You can't do that!". In effect, Bounty Hunting is the grown up version of the kid in your bio class who would turn you in for secretly mocking the teacher.

Often imitated never duplicated pure unadulterated whoop-ass

VS

The Stony Brook Statesman

PRO

Brad "Baby Face" Gratton. Willing to "fudge" statistics about their number of readers. It's in color. Uses (and I quote) "Actual Journalism." Mike Kwan's ghetto hardened street fightin' skills. Their office keeps the riff-raff off the streets and in student media where they belong. Easy to poke fun at.

CON

Polity Senator Frank Santangelo. Reading more than one article in a sitting can cause you to pray for death. Pete "Surly Old Man" Gratton. Distinct lack of jet packs; generally accepted to be a tool of "The Man;" their staff on a whole is best described as "skittish" Reacts to criticism like a shocked weasel.

16,000 issues of inanimate death delivered twice weekly

Who Will Win? You Decide.
E-mail your votes to: ggiven@ic.sunysb.edu

The Lunatic's Ravings

By The Lunatick

Well, we predicted it when those signs first went up. They made this campus look more like a fast food place than a university. We all

Welcome to Mc University Thank You Drive Through.

knew it was bound to happen and it did. At about 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 11 some poor starving individual mistook the south entrance to the university for a drive thru to a fast food restaurant. This individual went right through the sign and demolished it. The aftermath looked like something seen only in those cheesy '80s chase movies. The car was sticking half way through the sign with the shattered pieces of the sign all over. All that was missing was the light bar and either Bandit or Bo and Luke driving off laughing and waving (well it would have helped if the car was a cop car too, but you get the point).

The best part is the care taken to ensure nothing would happen to the signs when they were first constructed. It was anchored in concrete. The wires were underground and ran up through the base so they couldn't be tampered with. Finally, the sign itself was graffiti proof. An attempt to deface the sign could be taken care of with a simple cloth and soap. What they should have done was crafted it out of titanium, or something that could withstand an assault by a motor vehicle.

I can just imagine the poor driver. Probably starving after a long day at work. Looking for a fast food drive-thru and then seeing

the sign at the entrance. The ethereal glow from the sign filling their eyes. The driver struck dumb by it like a deer in front of headlights. Finally at the last minute before turning into the entrance the driver discovered it was not a drive-thru but a university. He went to avoid the entrance so he could find a fast food joint (we all know just how good the food is here, BARFFFFF!). Instead he went crashing into the sign, partially out of confusion and partially out of rage that a



university would have the audacity to imitate a respectable food service. I think ramming those signs is something a lot of us have wanted to do (along with destroying that damned county park that used to be the painted rock, but that is a conversation for another day). It was a costly mistake for the driver, however I think it is safe to say that far more damage was done to the sign than the car.

All that was left of the sign was a single rack of lights, the base and the two concrete pillars, one held on only by the wires that power the sign.

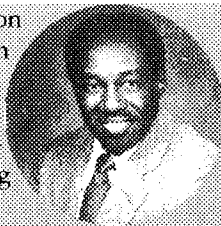
In a way it is symbolic of this university. The new symbol and signs were created for our own President Kenny. Her first duty as president was to remake the symbol of the university (which was only done a few years prior). The idea seemed to be that changing the symbol of the university would make all the problems go away. A new symbol would unite the university together behind it and have students and staff joining together and singing. I DON'T THINK SO! All it did was waste a lot of money including replacing a series of sign that were less than two years old. So now the sign and the symbol lay shattered, broken, like hundreds of things in this university (hell I'm not even sure what the name of it is anymore). The wonderful beautification process of putting pieces of art and tables everywhere, has resulted in rusted hulks everywhere. As for the tables, bring back the benches, bushes and trees they were far more comfortable and brought a peaceful air to campus. How about Kenny's idea of getting rid of all the lines in admin and replacing them with walk-in offices to make the place more attentive to individuals. Now you sit there trying to get peoples attention, since in a waiting area it is easier for them to ignore you. And the food service, we don't even want to touch that (new service different scam). What do I know though-these are just the ravings of The Lunatick.

SUNY Admin Theatre

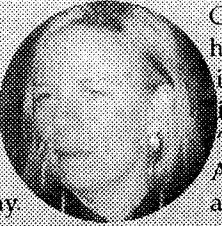
Doug Little really likes his "fun" he likes "fun" morning, noon and night



Fred Preston is frozen in this position for all eternity. A fitting fate.



Candace has been raised from the dead by voodoo hounsans. She is still gay.



Charles Wang has a prosthetic forehead implant. His "Computer Associates" are really ninjas.



Shirley could not make it today. Milla Jovovich has taken her place.



Ever wonder what happens when you take five people involved in the administrative duties of the SUNY system and put them on Jeopardy? Well, in another dimension, we did, and boy was it a hoot!

So now, with out further adue, I (Glenn Given) present SUNY admin Theatre Episode 2: Jip-parody

And the categories are...

Affairs (student)

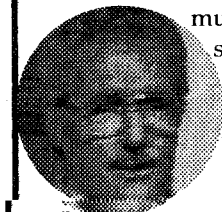
Capitals Beginning with "U"

Palindrome

West Dakota

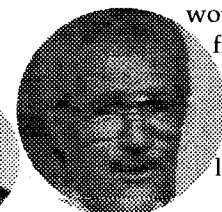
Journey

"Steve Perry, Neal Schon, Ross Valory, Steve Smith, and Jonathan Cain were members of this band whose musical stylings redefined modern rock as we know it."



Who is Styx?

"No, Mr. Wang, I'm sorry, the answer was Journey. Journey was the answer. Also, Mr. Wang, the judges have asked if you would refrain from yelling the answers quite so loudly."



BZZZZZ



Multi-pass



Jackass



.....

BACKSTAGE

Hot Damn! Wang better put that buzzer down before I pour him a hot cup of shut-the-fuck-up!!!



TREBEK, I HAVE A OFFER FOR YOU.



Oh... sweet Jesus!



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED HERE WANG... I'LL BE THE ONE ASKING THE ANSWERS NOW.



AGENDA.



THIS UNDERWORLD OVERLORD HAS HELPED THE DEFAIRIOUS SHIRLEY STRUM HENNY FURTHER HER "LOBSTER BOY"

COMPUTER ASSOCIATES, HEAD-ED BY THIS MAN, ONCE ATTEMPTED TO FORCE STUDENTS

TO DESIGN SOFTWARE SOLELY FOR HIM.

"Who is Charles B. Wang?"

"Who is Charles B. Wang?"

"Who is Charles B. Wang?"

THAT'S CORRECT!

THAT'S CORRECT!

THAT'S CORRECT!

Final Jeopardy!!!

ALL RIGHT THIS ONE'S FOR ALL THE MARBLES...THIS MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CEO ONCE SPENT A ROMANTIC WEEKEND IN BARBADOS WITH SHIRLEY STRUM HENNY.



GET THEM, MY NINJAS!!!

Ninjas, ninjas everywhere but we still love our ol' Wangy. Hope you weren't too scared faithful readers, but watch out, them Ninjas are ornery.

Next heart stopping issue: Another failed attempt to libel our beloved staff by implying that they are slaves to their vices.



INTERMISSION

I'll take Journey for 200 Alex.

No, I'm so sorry Mr. Wang. The answer was "Quien es Godzilla". No, I'm sorry Mr. Wang. It was Uxmal...No, I'm so sorry Mr. Wang. You may not have a bathroom break. Unfortunately you're incorrect Wang. The answer again was Journey...No Wang...Niet!...I'm sorry. Don't be a la zapatos, zapatos, zapatos???? Mr. Wang would you put down the buzzer? Nien!...There is no West Dakota...Mom, Mr. Wang, the answer was Mom. I'm sure you've had many student affairs but I don't see how that is pertinent to the game...Mr. Wang, please refrain from throttling Ms. Jovovich...Lika taku tooku...Ohhhhh so close Mr. Wang. The answer was Software Developer. It's time for a commercial. Mr. Wang, stop making idle threats. Where's my coffee!!!



Libel of the Dead!

By Johnny Backslash

According to the 6th trade edition of the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual, "In general, there can be no defamation of the dead. No one can sue on behalf of a deceased individual on the basis of false and defamatory statements made about that individual." We at The Press are thrilled.

Jimmy Stewart

Beloved American actor, known for leading roles in such feel-good classics as *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Mr. Smith Goes To Washington*, beat his wife every night. And his manager. And his cat. And Elvis (see "Elvis," below). Mr. Stewart also had a cocaine abuse problem. Mr. Stewart would typically snort between five and a baker's dozen lines of coke a day. These episodes would usually be followed by a session of beating the stagehands and cameramen involved in his film projects with his belt, which he referred to as "Daddy's Belt of Hot Death." Mr. Stewart was involved in a nefarious conspiracy to send chemical weapons to the Belarussian Liberation Front during the early '70s-weapons paid for by taxpayers with money appropriated for helping poor deaf children.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Eleanor Roosevelt was a spy for the Japanese. Set adrift in the Pacific by a California couple in 1897, she was raised by a wealthy Japanese businessman who obediently laid her at the feet of Emperor Hirohito. She was trained in a high mountain conclave, wherein she learned the supposedly outlawed arts of the Ninja. Re-integrated into American society, she quickly climbed the ranks of politics. It was Eleanor Roosevelt who provided the information to the Japanese that made possible the infamous bombing of the U.S. Naval

Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The "Kamikaze" thing was her idea too, an idea that led to the loss of life of not only countless Americans, but young innocent Japanese men as well.

Elvis

Elvis is the devil. Elvis was cast from heaven when he turned from God's light. Elvis had a habit of tearing the hearts from live virgin girls. The last thing these girls would see as they slipped the surly bonds of this earth was Elvis sloppily consuming their hearts- hearts still beating with an unholy fervor.

George Washington

George Washington was a cross-dressing pedophile. George Washington played the nation's "founders" like so many wooden puppets. The Constitutional Convention was a farce: Washington called all the shots, bullying the framers of the constitution with little more than the threat of physical violence. Washington's "Constitution" was carefully orchestrated to deny blacks and women the right to vote. Washington found blacks and women loathsome. He preferred young white boys.

The Final Crew of the Space Shuttle Challenger

The final crew of the space shuttle challenger did not, as is commonly believed, spend their last days preparing for their ill-fated mission. In fact, had they prepared as they should have, they would still be alive today. Instead, the set about to produce low budget pornographic videos using NASA equipment. It was their intent to produce the first zero-gravity pornographic movie. Those bastards got what they deserved.

Princess Diana

Princess Diana was, personally and professionally, a whore.

Gene Kelly

Throughout the '50s and '60s, Gene Kelly collected monies under the auspices of a fund for the study of the common cold. What Kelly failed to mention is that this study would intentionally infect newborn babies with the so-called "common" cold. Over three thousand innocent children were sent to early graves by the lovable star of *Singin' in the Rain*. This project grew out of Kelly's contacts with German Eugenists-contacts made during the three week period in 1937 when Kelly visited Germany at the personal request of his homosexual lover, Adolph Hitler.

Andre the Giant

Coming from a background of petty larceny and other lesser street-crimes, as Andre the Giant gained in fame and power in Hollywood his criminal misadventures grew larger and deadlier. In the end, he was stealing billions of dollars from the trusting public and bragging that if he "hadn't killed a man in twelve hours" he "had no damn appetite." Andre lived his last days in fast cars with faster women, and will be remembered for his penchant for necrophilial felching.

Chris Farley

Chris Farley was not addicted to cocaine and heroin. Chris Farley did not frequently hire prostitutes. Chris Farley was a vegan, and ate only parsley. Chris Farley played basketball between five and six hours a day with his buddies from the Chicago Bulls. Chris Farley was not funny at all.

WELL OFF THE BEATEN PATH:

Class and entertainingly bizarre encounters with Blue Man Group

By Lisa Aviles

Stumbling about New York City and all of its strangeness at times can strike the stumbler with a sense of unexpected ennui. There are, after all, enough art galleries, vintage shops, and chic restaurants to satiate even the most trendy of city day-trippers. This is where *Blue Man Group* comes in. Innovative, energetic and distinctively fun, the renowned performance art show *Blue Man Group*—which has been running since November 1991—is anything but banal.

Combining the elements of paint, photography, music, drum playing, physical stunts, and audience participation, the Astor Place Theatre show *Tubes* is a manifesto of delightful, energetic absurdity. Completely covered in cobalt blue paint, the three Blue Men come onstage and rapture the audience with their drums, stunts, and humorous antics. The audience members in the first twenty rows are given plastic raincoats to shield themselves against the flurry of paint flying upwards and outwards from the frantic

beating of drums and yes, strangely enough, a set of tubes. Audience members are chosen and become part of the actual show, subject to paint and Jell-O. In one part of the performance, signs are flipped too quickly for the audience to read, eventually throwing the theatre into a fit of self-reflexive laughter at its own neurotic reactions to sensory overload. For all of its non-seriousness, the performance manages to address contemporary debates about art and technology. Through ridiculous, attention grabbing stunts, the audience is left to entertain these notions in a way that is brilliantly diverting.

Blue Man Group's many appearances include "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno"; "Live with Regis and Kathy Lee"; "Entertainment Tonight"; MTV; "CBS This Morning"; "CBS Sunday Morning"; and "NBC Weekend Today." Discussing ideas in a salon, *Blue Man Group* originators Matt Goldman, Phil Stanton, and Chris Wink began meeting as far back as 1987 to organize some sort of artistic endeavor, becoming the writers, composers and producers of the original

Blue Man Group. Since its inception into Astor Place Theatre in 1991, the original cast has, in years, expanded considerably. The ticket price of \$49.00, goes to support AIDS research funding. *Tubes* is a well-worth-your-time city endeavor, best experienced with those who enjoy laughing at themselves as well as others. This makes *Blue Man Group* an especially entertaining possibility for groups of friends.

Coming from a place where controversial discussion about art and technology is painstakingly and relentlessly 'hot and heavy,' Blue Man Group, with all its bizarre fun, succeeds in presenting a refreshingly different approach. With sound, color, music, stunts and live audience members, *Blue Man Group* accomplishes the much-needed feat of innovation.

For info on tickets call: Astor Place Theatre at (212) 254-4370, Ticketmaster at (212) 307-4100 or on the web at www.ticketmaster.com.

THE GUIDE TO GETTING IT ON!

By Terry McLaren

Sex.

Everybody loves to talk about it, but how many are actually having it? And of these lucky fornicating people, how many have the proper skills to actually give themselves and their partners a pleasurable sexual experience?

Enter *The Guide to Getting It On!*, an informative, extensively illustrated manual for the coitally uninformed. The marketing geniuses at Goofy Foot Press sent me the second edition of this illustrious publication for review. Needless to say, since the book's arrival in the Press office there have been violent brawls over readership privileges and our productivity level has plummeted drastically. Finally, I reclaimed my rightful property and locked myself in a room to thoroughly, um, review the book in privacy.

The Guide doesn't claim to be the final authority on sex. The disclaimer at the beginning of the work even states "There will be times when it is better to consult your beautician, bartender, or best friend. You might also speak to a physician or licensed sex therapist." It also warns against venturing beyond the bounds of common sense. On a legal note, the disclaimer also advises the book "talks about sex acts which are illegal in some states, particularly North Carolina. Know your state's laws about sex and break them at your own risk."

A quick perusal of the book's "Bed of Contents" shows that just about every aspect of the horizontal mambo is discussed and/or illustrated. Chapter titles include "Oscillator, Generator, Vibrator, Dildo", "The Importance of Getting Naked", "Oral Sex: Vulvas and Honey Pots", "Circumcision- The Penile Calamity" and "Techno' Breasts & Weenie Angst."

Besides discussing fun and funny aspects of "gettin' busy," *The Guide* does attack the serious side of sex. The tough decisions that come with an unplanned pregnancy are discussed, albeit briefly, and "Birth Control and Gnarly Sex Germs" (Chapter 39) takes up 20 pages of the manual. This chapter contains a lot of very useful, important information that isn't given to you in high school sex-ed classes



(whose main purpose is to discourage teens from having sex). The *Guide's* authors actually acknowledge the pleasure involved in sex and how sex feels even better when one's mind isn't occupied with pregnancy and disease worries. They discuss talking to partners about safety ahead of time and make the point that people in this country will spend hours getting ready for a party, washing their cars or caring for their pets, but when it comes to birth control they can be completely lazy and irresponsible. The scariest thing I found in the

chapter was a recent study's findings that the Chlamidia rate among sexually active teenage girls was 40%. For God's sake, be careful and get tested regularly.

The Guide goes into great detail about male and female anatomy and psychology. It explains that men and women experience sex differently and explores what is defined as "masculine," "feminine," and "erotic."

There is a tone of friendliness and approachability to the book that isn't present in much sex education literature. The reader feels almost as if he or she is talking to an older, more knowledgeable friend or sibling when paging through *The Guide*. There are no holds barred and there is no such thing as a question that is too explicit or uncomfortable.

The whopping, 668 page manual does its best to address all topics and issues related to sex and sexuality.

The authors even admit that if they were to give certain topics the coverage they're due, such as STDs, their chapters would be 100 pages long. When *The Guide's* senior author, Paul Joannides, and his co-authors don't have first-hand experience with a certain topic, they're honest about it. This leads to subheadings such as "Life As A Lesbian, As If We Had A Clue..." The authors supplement their own information with research findings and reader feedback from *The Guide's* first edition.

Some of my favorite parts of the book were the reader comments sections at the end of certain chapters. Questions such as "What's your favorite position?" "What do you like the most about intercourse and what do you like the least?" "One-night stands vs. long term relationships" and "One in the hand...Who sticks it in?" are followed with readers' frank and sometimes amusing responses.

At the end of "Playing With Yourself," the masturbation chapter, there is a quiz. The reader has to guess which answers to the question "Have you ever needed to masturbate while away from home?" came from men and which came from women. People admit to getting off at work, in the car, on a bus, in toilet stalls, and in front of the computer.

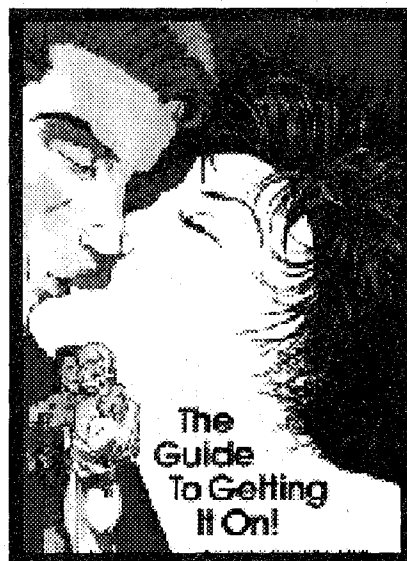
The end of chapter notes in the book are often amusing and/or informative as well. Chapter 21, "Up Your Bum- Anal Sex," has a great conclusion. "If anal sex puts people at higher risk for AIDS, why do a chapter on it?"

Driving a car puts most straight couples at greater risk for death than having anal sex. This guide would be more reckless asking most of you to start your car than in writing on anal sex."

Sex toys, sex toys and more sex toys are also addressed in the pages of this tell-all manual. "People also confuse the vibrator with the dildo, which is like confusing a rhino with a giraffe. Both are native to the bush, but that's where the similarities end." What a crack-up. *The Guide* recommends that one doesn't feel at odds with his or her lover's sex toys, but instead incorporate them into their romantic forays. Toys can do much to expand a couple's pleasure, whether they are together at the moment or just taking some "time for themselves."

Chapter 4, "The Dirty Word Chapter," was one of my favorites. It makes a very good point about American culture and use of four-letter-words. Sexual slang words are used by Westerners most often to express frustration and anger, and to hurl insults. They are hardly ever used in fun. In Sweden, a culture the authors call "more sex-friendly than our own" people are more likely to swear about yellow snow than sex acts. Being the woman in sex is also considered a huge insult. How is a woman supposed to feel comfortable and secure participating in sex acts when her entire life she's been hearing "Suck my dick" and "Screw you"? What kind of message are we sending when we equate sexuality with anger and rage? Another little tidbit I gleaned from this faboo chapter was a definition of foreplay as "everything that's happened between you and your partner since the last time you had sex." I loved that. It stresses the importance of overall attention and respect for each other rather than "Okay, we're in bed now, I guess I have to be attentive."

Although I didn't have the time to give *The Guide To Getting It On!* the careful perusal and study it deserved, I give it a hearty recommendation. My colleagues and I spent many a happy moment reading parts of *The Guide*, sharing select portions out loud for the general benefit of all in the office. The book's illustrations add to the already incredible text. It is mentioned in the book that the illustrator, Daerik Gross, had difficulty capturing all that's entailed in an intimate act into a single frame. Well, hats off to you Mr. Gross for a job well done. *The Guide To Getting It On* is comprehensive, informative and fun. Reading the guide is easy and enjoyable and the book is a welcome addition to any well-rounded sexual being's library.



Illustrations taken from *The Guide To Getting It On!*

D-KLINE'S



It's weird how we think about, react to, and appreciate music. For most of us these things are constantly in flux. What we like now we might've been put off by yesterday. And what we hate today we may love tomorrow. A lot of it is based upon our own experiences and sensibilities. As a case in point, I present my relationship with The Stooges' *Funhouse* album.

I had never even heard of the record before I'd read, on the last page of an '86 issue of *SPIN* magazine, a piece about it by Henry Rollins. He was asked to write an essay on some of the records that he found most influential. He basically wrote about only two records: *White Light/White Heat*, by the Velvet Underground, and The Stooges' *Funhouse*.

Of course I had heard of The Stooges, and their lead singer, Iggy Pop, before this. I'd been into punkrock for over a year and I had a nasty habit of reading anything I could on the topic. I had come across the band's name in countless interviews and articles on punk. It always said that the punks looked back to the MC5, Stooges, and NY Dolls as influences. Sometimes an article would list the Velvet Underground instead of the Dolls.

So, being the impressionable young one that I was, the next chance I got I bought both records. I got a cassette of the Velvet Underground and I bought *Funhouse* on vinyl. Since the Velvets were on tape, I popped that into my car stereo right away. It was strange. Not what I expected at all. It just sounded weird to me. The song, 'The Gift,' was okay, an odd little story, sorta morbid, a novelty song at best. And with the limited knowledge that I had at that time, the best thing I could liken the album to was Frank Zappa; it was just different.

Funhouse, on the other hand, sounded like the worst bit of heavy metal crap I'd ever heard. Not what I expected at all. It didn't sound like the punk bands I was used to: The Clash, Ramones, Sex Pistols, Dead Kennedys, Circle Jerks... It was neither political nor funny. And back then I was just getting into the loud, fast rules aspect of punk. *Funhouse* was loud, but not fast at all.

Now, as bad as the A-side sounded, the B-side was even worse. I asked myself 'Who the hell listens to this crap?' Not me. So I filed it away in my record collection and forgot all about The Stooges' *Funhouse* album.

Fast-forward four years to the fall of 1990. I'm big on a group of oddball French skapunkers called Mano Negra and they have the opening slot for the Iggy Pop show at the Academy in NYC. I score some tickets from work and get a group of friends together to go to the concert. I am warned that the show will start early, so if I want to see Mano Negra I'd better get there real early.

Now, early is a vague term. I'm used to concerts in NYC running on NYC time: starting after 10 p.m. and not stopping until 2 or 3 a.m. And those shows had four or five bands on the bill. This one had only two. So I get there early, like 9:15, and walk in the door just in time to see Mano Negra walk off the stage. I'd just missed them.

So I turn to my friends and I say, "I just missed Mano Negra, who I came here to see, Iggy Pop had better be good." Iggy didn't disappoint; he was awesome. He blew me away. The whole show seemed charged with a sort of sexual energy.

SCHIZOPHRENIA

One song in particular seriously impressed me. It was a slow dirge that everyone seemed to just grind to. It was a long song with one word I remembered being said again and again: DIRT. When that song had finished, I asked the person next to me what song it was and all I was able to make out was something about an old Stooges song. I didn't remember anything about the old Stooges record that I had filed away in my own record collection.

Two years later and I'm living in Italy and hanging with a bunch of Italian music fiends, students, artists and workers. Iggy appears on lots of their mixed tapes. Sometimes, when they'll get together to strum guitars, they'll play the Stooges' 'No Fun,' which comes off The Stooges' first album and of which Alessandro has a copy of.

Soon my friend Chiara and I are dj-ing and promoting an alternative rock club in Milano. Iggy Pop is a staple of our night. We alternate between 'Lust For Life,' 'The Passenger,' and his cover of 'Wild One.' And of course we spin 'No Fun' off of Ale's Stooges' album. The classic Iggy poster-no shirt, pants unzipped, no underwear-hangs on the ceiling above us. He becomes the spiritual den



mother of the dj booth, and I'm becoming quite the Iggy Pop fan.

One year and two Iggy Pop concerts later, I'm back on Long Island and getting reacquainted with my record collection. I kid you not when I say that it took five seconds from when I stumbled upon *Funhouse* in that collection and it was blasting out of my speakers. And it totally kicked my ass. Now I was ready for the groove and feeling emanating from that piece of wax.

Side one starts with 'Down On The Street.' It is down and dirty with a rhythm that goes straight for the crotch. 'Loose' is, well, it speaks for itself: "I stick it deep inside, 'cause I'm LOOSE. Always." And the music keeps driving this feeling right into your gut.

Next song comes from phraseology penned by Kathy Asheton, sister of guitarist, Ron, and drummer, Scott. Since Iggy was sometimes her beau, she and her friends let him in on what they'd say about guys they were eyeing. 'I got a 'twat video' eye on him,' they'd say. Iggy turned it into 'TV, Eye.'

'Dirt,' the next cut on the album is the song that I remembered liking three years earlier at The Academy show. Seven minutes of music to grind by. Seven minutes of heaven. Or hell. Depends on your value system.

'Dirt' ends, and I'm partly pumped and partly drained. Regardless, the record has got to be turned over. I need to know what else this record can give me.

Side two starts with '1970.' Taking its cue from everything that was ventured on the first side, '1970' takes it to the nth level. But then, three-quarters of the way into the song, horns enter the mix. They're not playing ska, nor even traditional rock 'n' roll. What's with this jazz crap? What's with this atonal shit?

'Funhouse,' continued in this jazz vein. Iggy commands, "Blow Scotty!" Who does he think he is, James Brown? (Boy was I still a punk-ass kid with a lot to learn.) I pick the needle up and place it down on the last song, 'L. A. Blues.' This one sounds like someone playing ping-pong while losing their mind. And there're those damn horns again. What is this crap?

So side two was throw-away, as far as I was concerned. Nothing, however, graces my turntable more than *Funhouse* does. And usually, when 'Dirt' ends and I'm forced to get up and either turn the record over or put on another record or put the needle right back into the groove on side one, I opt to replay the first side.

Three years later and I've got a brand new car (no big deal) with a CD player in it (big deal). Another six months and I purchase *Funhouse* on CD. It sounds great in my car. And then, after the last second of the seventh minute of 'Dirt,' something magical happens. The CD player doesn't ask me if I want to turn over the Cd, change Cd's, or go back to song one; it simply continues with the next song, '1970,' which is to say the second side of the album.

This time, when the horns come in three-quarters of the way into '1970,' I no longer think, "What is this shit?" But, with a whole bunch more musical experiences under my belt, I think, "This is awesome! The horns really work to push the song along." While listening to 'Funhouse,' I think how frenetic it is. And the horns really work to add to that feeling. 'L. A. Blues' sounds like Skronk Jazz; three years earlier I had no appreciation for that NYC downtown jazz stuff.

My opinion of the record hasn't changed much in the two years since. Now I can listen to any song on the CD (haven't touched the vinyl in a while), it just depends on my mood for which song I start out on. There are only two other things I want to leave you all with.

-When *Rolling Stone* did their story on the 100 records that should be in your record collection, *Funhouse* was on it.

-The best of Iggy Pop has since been released. Oddly enough, it contains songs off of the first and third Stooges albums, but *Funhouse* is conspicuous by its absence. This is as it should be. *Funhouse* stands on its own. There's more sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll, dirt mood, and, most of all, FEELING in the seven songs on *Funhouse*, than all the other albums combined. So if you have a chance to pick up anything Iggy Pop, make it the Stooges' *Funhouse* and remember: If it ain't loose, it ain't worth a fuck.

(D-Kline hosts a radio show on WUSB 90.1 FM every other Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. Sometimes he is found on the air on Tuesday nights at midnight. Rarely does he shower and he never shaves.)

READ THIS BEFORE YOU REGISTER

SOC 361

Historical Development of Sociological Theory
Professor Kurthen

I signed up for SOC 361 like a diligent little student, since it is a requirement for the sociology major. I was unpleasantly surprised. Professor Kurthen is from Germany, and boy are his ways foreign. He passes around a little roll book in which everyone has to put an "X" next to their name each class session. If someone tries to leave the room, he will chase them down the hallway and berate them until they return. After one such incident, he told us that we can't fool him because he has information on all of us, and to prove his point, he whipped out pages and pages of our ID photos and numbers. Pretty scary. He also gives pop quizzes, and if you forget to bring your textbook, you will not be able to answer the questions. He likes to nit pick. Also, if you are not in class when he gives one of the dreaded quizzes, you fail. If you miss one of his tests, you have to write a ten-page paper to make up for it. So basically, if you are normally an A student and feel confident in your academic abilities, this class will obliterate your self confidence really fast. And his accent is pretty damn annoying too.

HUM 121

Death and the Afterlife in Literature
Stuart Kendall

A great class finally made better by a more accessible time slot (MWF 10:30-11:25 instead of last semester's MW 7:00-8:30). It's a perfect opportunity to learn many perspectives about perhaps the most important factor of life: Death. With texts ranging from Poe to ancient Chinese folklore, the work load is daunting but interesting. If you don't like reading (then why are you in college?) then avoid it, but if you don't mind pounding through a novella every week or so, go for it.

It's not taught by the same professor as last year (Wang I think), but I had the fortune of being in Kendalls' film studies class this year and have found it to be a joy. Stuart will go over his notes for the class, and basically only tests the subjects covered in his notes, which cover all the basic foundations of the texts being reviewed. Hopefully, he will encourage more feedback than in his film class (but then again the film course is early in the morning, so you can't blame him for being tired).

EGL 226

American Literature Since 1945
Professor Bente Videbaek

If you're looking to fill your upcoming schedule with a literature class, we strongly suggest this course. Not only does this class cover a plethora of topics, it also gives readers a chance to see how the form of the novel has evolved, and the many ways in which authors might arrange their ideas to enhance their themes. In the course last semester, the readings included such authors as: Don Delillo, Leslie Marmon Silko, Elie Wiesel, Amy Tan and Toni Morrison. If you're tired of focusing solely on racial and feminist literature, this class will provide a great and novel change of pace.

THR 117

Film/Video/Audio Narrative
Professor Marion Weiss

Some people shouldn't be allowed to procreate; Weiss is one of those people. This is solely because her children may grow up and try to teach, and in doing this would more than likely take after their progenitor. Weiss is one step from total ignorance concerning her topic of discussion. Her warped views on film and film theory are illogical, off base and mainly unfounded (i.e. citing Carrie as the quintessence of the Horror film genre). She speaks not as an experienced professional, but merely as a mouthpiece for pop cinema. On many occasions, her discussions, tests, and notes will contradict each other. What a waste of flesh. The bad news is this class is a requirement for the Theatre Arts major and the Media Arts minor. I suggest you wait until she leaves and catch this otherwise interesting course when it is taught by a capable teacher.

MAT 125 vs 123 +124

So math ain't your forte. So what? One semester is shorter than 2 semesters. 125 is a shortened version of the 123-4 track. If you go to class, you will pass. If you want to go to class for 2 semesters, 123-4 is for you. If you aren't a dumbass, or you have a light semester coming up, take 125. Hey, sissy-boy, challenge yourself a little. Take it from one who has taken 123, once

and 125, 1.67 times. If you are a science major, you need the math. There is no way around it. Do it in one fell swoop. If you can, try to get Stephen Preston as a TA.

Last call for BIO 152

If you have taken 151 in your SB career, this is your last opportunity to complete the 151-2 track. The Bio powers-that-be have decided that the same info will be spread over 4 classes. Again, lets do the math. Four semesters are more than one. If you don't take this last opportunity, you may have to take all four (you may not, but why roll the dice?). Let me say that the class is quite complex, but suck it up, stop being a bitch-you are a science major and you have to take it.

PSY 250

Survey of Biopsychology
Dr. Patricia Whitaker

You have probably heard the rumor that humans only use ten percent of their brain, but did you ever stop to question what the other 90 percent is doing? The truth of the matter is, humans use all of their brain. If you take biopsychology with Dr. Patricia Whitaker, you too can find out what's happening where.

In biopsychology, you will learn about the biological basis of human behavior. In short, all the cool stuff that happens in your brain that allows you to function, or not, as the case may be. The course covers (but is not limited to) neuroanatomy, nerve impulses, and neurotransmitters. You'll learn about the biology of learning, memory, language, emotions, and movement. Especially interesting topics include psychopathology and psychopharmacology. So if you are interested in knowing what's going on in crazy neighbor Ned's head or what's happening in your brain after the usually Friday night party, this is the class for you.

Although the class is often offered at 9:30 in the morning, Dr. Whitaker seems to enjoy teaching it, and as a consequence, it is very interesting. While the lecture material is challenging, Dr. Whitaker counts eight out of the ten exams so everyone has the opportunity to obtain a grade indicative of their potential.

EGL 378

Contemporary Native American Fiction
Professor Bob Sheehan

This class is just as cool as it sounds! Not only is the material interesting, but the professor is a peach. Actually his Santa-like countenance will at once soothe and assure you. If you have any trouble in the class (which is nearly impossible), Sheehan is always more than happy (and capable) to help you. Sign up early-this one fills up fast.

BIO/GEO 353

Marine Ecology
Prof. Jeffrey Levinton

Even the most avid landlubbers will develop their sea legs in this exciting journey through the world under the sea.

The course began with an introduction to basic principles of oceanography, ecology, and evolution. Dr. Levinton discussed important processes and challenges facing organisms in the water column and the sea bed in an entertaining medley of trivia and wit.

Since marine biology is a diverse subject, the second half of the course focuses on specific environments such as estuaries, kelp forests, coral reefs, salt marshes, and sea grass beds. Human impacts on the sea, including pollution and fishing, are discussed with an emphasis on Long Island and New York Harbor.

Students were required to write three short papers during the semester. These papers were no sweat, however, for Dr. Levinton provided many valuable resources on his marine biology web page.

Hands-on participation is also an integral component of the course. Everyone spent one merry afternoon chasing fiddler crabs and mucking around in the salt marsh at the Flax Pond Marine Biological Laboratory in Old Field.

The textbook, written by Dr. Levinton himself, is quite easy to read. The most important thing to remember in this class is to have fun. The only prerequisites in addition to introductory biology courses are curiosity and a sense of humor.