

THE STONY BROOK

PRESS

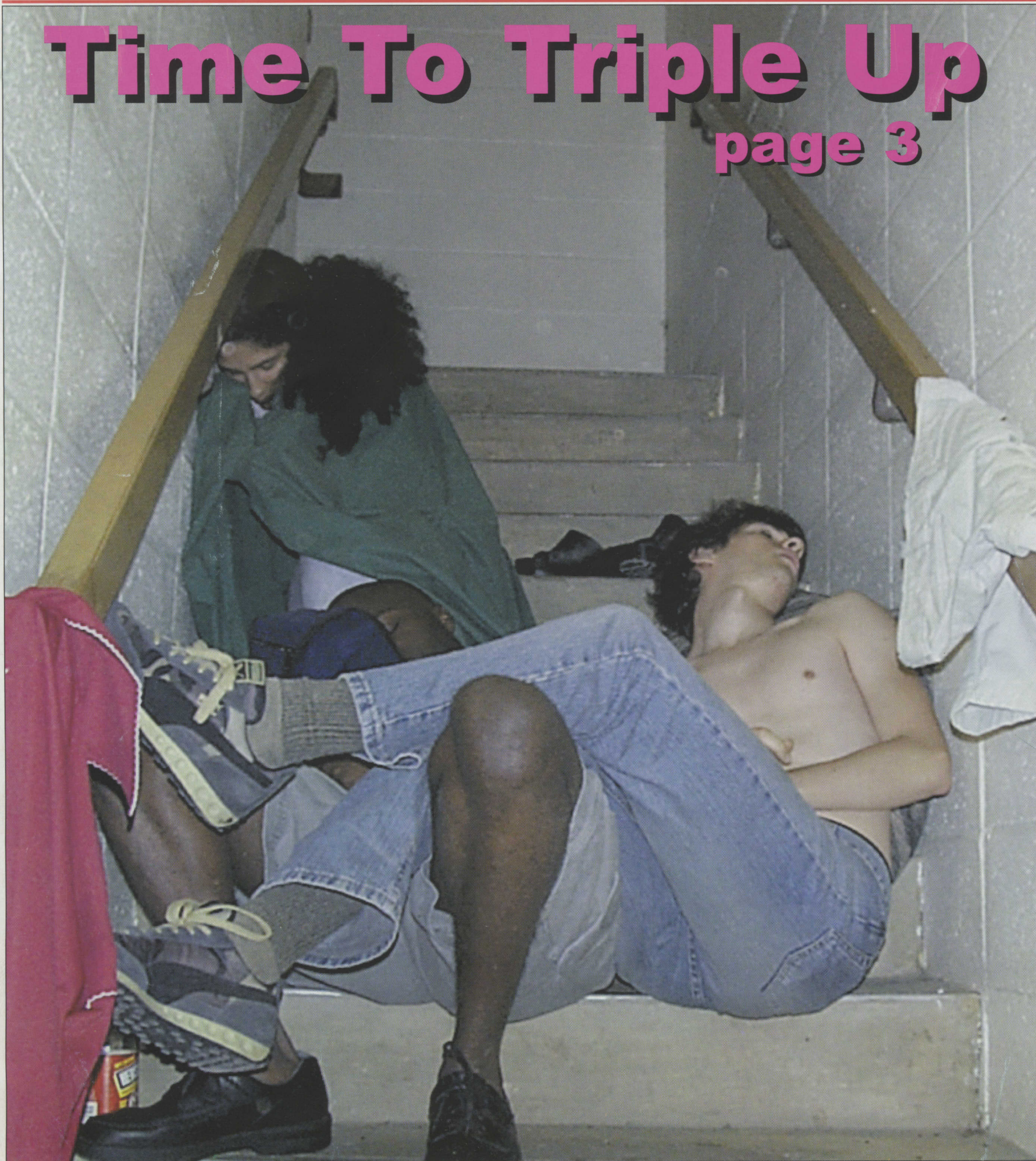
Vol. XXII No. 1

"Happy Housing Crisis"

September 7th, 2000

Time To Triple Up

page 3



Campus Events

Fall 2000 Art Exhibition

Form & Function in Stoneware--September 11- 13

Reception on Wednesday, September 13, 7-9:00pm

Senior Student Shows--September 26-October 11 and
November 6-21

All in the Union Art Gallery

2000-2001 Theatre Season

opens with Beckett's Happy Days on

Friday, 9/8, and Saturday, 9/9, at 8pm in Theatre II
of the Staller Center for the Arts. (\$6 students)

Astronomy Open Night

Fall 2000 Lecture Schedule

September 1: "The latest news on black holes and gravitational lenses."

October 6: "A ruckus from the cradle: Gamma-ray bursts in stellar nurseries."

Lectures are scheduled for 7:30pm in the Earth and Space Sciences Lecture Room (001).

Stony Brook Choral

Auditions for Chorale on **September 11 at 7:15pm.**

Auditions will be held in room 0113 in the basement of the Department of Music

Prepare a solo song, in any style, in the proper key for your voice and bring an extra copy of the music for our accompanist.

WUSB 90.1 FM

From Punk to Polka, Hip-Hop to the Hoedown, and Trip Hop to Talk Radio (632-WUSB).

Next training class starts Thursday, 9/21, 1pm.

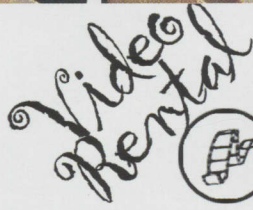
For more info: 632-6498 / info@wusb.org

Arcade

the noisy room in the basement of
the student union building
open 10am to midnight, mon-sat
and noon til 10pm sun.



six regulation sized
pool tables
amateur tournaments
cheap hourly rates



large selection of videos
both popular and obscure
delivery to your dorm*
weekend rental specials

*delivery service coming soon



snazzy lounge area, with
groovy 60 inch TV
available for club events
juices snacks and sodas



over 30 current standup
video games
play our Dreamcast for free!
and frikken' airhockey

"we suck 75% less than we did last year"

Back to Campus

By Ellen Yau and Diana Post

Next week, nearly 19,700 students, the largest enrollment of the school history, will head back to campus to participate in a variety of events as part of the commencement of the Fall 2000 semester. About 2,300 students will make up the freshman class; many of

About 2,300 students will make up the freshman class; many of them will be tripled into both corridors and suites...

them will be tripled into both corridors and suites as the university continues to advance its renovations and projects.

The University will also have a new Provost, Robert L. McGrath; a new Chair of the English Department, Peter J. Manning; a new President of Economic Development, Yacov Shamash; and a new Director of Libraries, Christian Filstrup.

The check-in and move-in for freshmen and new students took place this past Saturday, September 2, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., three days before classes began on Tuesday, September 5. A barbecue was held between noon to 4:00 p.m. President Shirley Strum Kenny welcomed the freshmen and new students on Sunday, September 3, at an assembly in the Sports Complex between 10:00 a.m. to noon. Elaine Chao, the CEO of the United Way of America and former Director of the Peace Corps, the world's largest volunteer organization, was the featured speaker of the late morning convocation.

The projected freshman class of 2,300 is the largest first-year class in the university's history. The enrollment of students is approximately 14,600 full-time undergraduates and graduates and 5,100 part-time students. Stony Brook officials anticipate about 7,000 students in 25 of its 26

class. The tripled freshmen will be forced to live in sets of three in a single dormitory room, two of the three may have to accommodate to a bunk bed.

This year, the tripled freshmen will extend into corridors and suites that have never been tripled before. The university will refund the tripled freshmen a mere \$100 of the \$2112 room and board fees for their inconvenience.

"I think the university is pretty messed up," said Terrence Chang, a matriculated junior and a suite resident of the Kelly Quad. "It's ghetto. In the suite layout, two of the three freshmen will have to share a desk."

Chang, who will assume the position of LEG president of Schick during the fall term, is appalled by the meager refund relative to the living conditions that the tripled freshmen will have to endure. "They could buy a textbook with the money they are refunded," he joked. "And maybe a bottle of white-out."

Meanwhile, the university continues to break ground for its series of developments. Among the construction projects completed or expected to be completed during the year are the new academic mall, a \$34 million Centers for Molecular Medicine and Biology Learning Laboratory, a new \$14 million stadium, a \$70 million renovation of the existing residence halls, and a new \$20 million dollar residence hall.

The Centers for Molecular Medicine and Biology Learning is a \$34 million six-story structure and the first new academic building constructed on university campus in 20 years. The facility covers 120,000 square feet and is connected to the Life Sciences Building at the ground floor and through two bridges at the second and fourth floors. The project houses 16 laboratories and state-of-the-art equipment – complete with conference rooms, libraries, lounges, and computers – to promote breakthrough discoveries in biomedical research.

The university hopes the project will enhance its reputation as the leader in integrating research programs into the undergraduate curriculum.

There are four primary research centers in

the facility: Structural Biology, Infectious Diseases, Developmental Genetics, and Cancer and Cancer Genetics. Each branch is headed by a director. Steven O. Smith is the Director of the Center for Structural Biology, Jorge L. Benach is the Director of the Center of Infectious Disease, William F. Collins III is the Director of the Center for Development Genetics, and Craig C. Malbon is the Interim Director of the Center for the Cancer and Cancer Genetics program.

Although only the ground floor of the building was open last year, many students suggested that the existence of the Center for Molecular Medicine and Biology Learning would be extremely useful in advanced research.

Ramiz Chaudhry, a third-year biology major and a neurology research student at the Life Science building, indicated that he is glad

that the university finally built something significantly academic, "considering the millions they spent on the fountain."

The new \$14 million stadium project will be the state-of-the-art home to the Division I teams as well as the campus and community events. This year, for first time, the university's athletics program has been upgraded to the NCAA Division I. The four-level facility, designed by Richard Dattner, P.C., is expected to enhance and showcase the school's athletics program. The stadium will have a seating capacity of 7,500; 500 are VIP seats, complete with seat backs, arms, and synthetic turf. Other amenities include a concession, merchandise and media services, and high intensity lighting for night and televised events. The project is expected to be completed by Fall 2001.

The \$70 million project is a nine-year residence hall renovation plan for the 26 existing dorms in the four Quads. The project is currently coming to a close and expected to be finished between December 2000 and January 2001.

The new \$20 million residence hall pro-



ject will be a three-story undergraduate apartment complex located behind the Roosevelt Quad parking lot, near the Kelly Quad, and near the Schomburg apartments. It will consist of four buildings with fully furnished apartments, fully kitchened, fully sprinklered and ADA compliant. The advantages over the graduate Chapin and Schomburg apartments are that these new complexes will have both Ethernet connection and central air-conditioning. It is expected to house 503 upper-division undergraduates. 176 of the 503 will be single rooms.

While some students are thrilled by the idea of undergraduate apartments, other students, such as Tracy John and Coyette Perkins, both matriculated juniors of the university, found the idea of new apartments kind of sketchy. "It sounds really good but it might cost more," said Perkins.

John suggested that the university sometimes overlooks what the students really need (referring to school's decision to splurge on the fountain). "They should either do a better renovation job or re-open that Tabler cafeteria. They build it and now it's just standing."

The opening of these new apartments, expected to be completed by Summer 2001, along with the expected completion of the nine-year \$70 million renovation project for the 26 residence halls, expected to be completed by Spring 2001, will increase the university's residence capacity by more than 1,000 to 7,900. Both projects are expected to relieve the overflow of students.

"It's ghetto. In the suite layout, two of the three freshmen will have to share a desk."

residence halls and both of its Chapin and Schomburg apartment complexes.

From the start of the semester, one dorm and half of another residence hall will be closed for renovation despite the increase of freshmen and overflow of students. Langmuir and the C and D wings of Benedict will be closed throughout December 2000. Both residence halls are located in the H-Quad, the northeast side of campus, behind the Union and near the Student Health Center.

Most students that formerly lived in the renovating parts of Langmuir relocated to James while the students that formerly lived in the renovating parts of Benedict generally moved to the A and B wing of the same dorm.

To resolve the overflow, campus residence tripled some members of the freshman

WELCOME FRESHMAN

STONY BROOK: WHAT A SWELL PLACE

"You may not realize it now, but when I look back, those first two years of college were the happiest days of my life."

-USB Graduate, Class of '88

Welcome to the best years of your life people. It will never be this good again. Make sure you enjoy it here because the Real World is wack. Stay as long as you can. Getting raped by the meal plan beats the hell out of taxes and car payments. Make them drag you out scratching and kicking the whole way. Tell everyone you aren't quite smart enough yet.

I've seen college graduates, they're weird. All they do is sit outside of 24-hour convenience stores getting into drunken brawls and begging for change. Sometimes you can sneak up behind them and tie their shoelaces together. They fall over and cuss up a storm. Now answer me, does that sound like a bright god-damned future to you?

Hang around this campus until you can no longer get laid here, (by attractive people, not lepers). Speaking of which, the first two weeks of college are the easiest time to meet someone. In all likelihood, you freshmen are about to meet one of the first people

you'll fool around with at school.

SOME QUICK POINTERS:

- Snacks, I can't stress how important this is.
- Drop USB 101, your time would be better spent listening to the couple next door have noisy sex.
- Respect your dealers. These people are taking substantial personal and professional risks to bring you a service. Don't forget them come the holidays.
- Bathroom shoes. Please wear them. Dorm showers are skanky.
- Every now and then, you will see a group of three or more people, dressed in uniform, marching closely together. These are strange robots, which randomly assault new students and take their shoelaces. Although they look foolish and pathetic, they need your ridicule, not your pity.

Taking things back to the Hallmark styles, your college experience is what you make of it, so make sure to balance having fun with staying off of academic probation. If you have too good a time they send you off into the real world early. Yikes.

Oh yeah, and make sure to pass out face down.

A NOTE TO YOU

Interested in writing for the Stony Brook Press? Submissions from the campus and surrounding community are always welcome.

All submissions should be submitted either on disk to room 060 in the basement of the Student Union Building or by email to stonypress@hotmail.com. Articles should be approximately 800 words for a half page and twice that for a full page.

Production Schedule:

- Issue #2 - Deadline, 9/16 @ 4pm
- Issue #3 - Deadline, 9/23 @ 4pm
- Issue #4 - Deadline, 10/7 @ 4pm
- Issue #5 - Deadline, 10/21 @ 4pm
- Issue #6 - Deadline, 11/4 @ 4pm
- Issue #7 - Deadline, 11/18 @ 4pm
- Issue #8 - Deadline, 12/2 @ 4pm

In addition, the Stony Brook Press will be having an open house [FREE FOOD] in the Arcade [FREE FOOD] on wednesday, August 13 [FREE FOOD] between 1 and 2 in the afternoon. There will be information [FREE FOOD], entertainment [FREE FOOD] and possibly a little something to nosh on [FREE FOOD].

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SENSE OF HUMOR

U r i n e T r o u b l e

By Chris Sorochin

Here is the text of a talk I gave at a workshop on employee rights during a conference entitled "Transatlantic Perspectives on Labor and Employment Law" on July 22 of this year at University College in Dublin, Ireland.

Perhaps I should start by flouting my unique expertise in this field. I'm neither a lawyer nor an actual legal scholar, but I do have one qualification that I suspect few other participants in this conference have: as an adjunct university instructor, I'm obliged to make ends meet financially by working a low level office job in the transportation industry. This gives me an on the ground perspective into matters which many here gathered may be accustomed to discussing on a strictly theoretical plane.

One bright Monday morning, earlier this year, those of my coworkers who are directly involved in operations gathered in the office as their respective crews reported and were individually escorted into the restroom by a gentleman resembling the late folk singer Burl Ives. Awaiting their turn, quite a few clutched large styrofoam cups of water in order to aid their performance, for it was drug test day. The tester stayed for a good portion of the day, during which all concerned more or less pretended that something essentially invasive and degrading was not taking place. After all, in the worldview of many a laborer, isn't degradation just another aspect of working for a living?

The tester departed with numerous vials of yellow fluid which were then to be analyzed for traces of certain substances, which, if detected, would result in the "suggested resignation" of the alleged offender. I say alleged because there's considerable doubt as to the reliability of these tests. I quote from a study released in 1994 by the Committee on Drug Use in the Workplace of the National Academy of Sciences:

"It cannot be overemphasized that without confirmatory testing and careful medical review, treating the results of urine drug screening is unacceptable and scientifically indefensible. Poppy seeds, which are commonly used on bagels and other baked foods, often do contain sufficient amounts of morphine to cause detectable concentrations... The widely used Vicks inhaler is also sometimes alleged to be the cause of methamphetamine, amphetamine or both being found in urine."

I try to make it a point not to keep up with office gossip, so the only person I know of who lost his job after failing a drug test was just as competent as anyone else, probably more competent than a good many others, and one of the nicer people who worked there. I happen to know that he did use recreational substances which are arbitrarily classified as illegal. But he wasn't the only one using them. In fact, the place is awash in forbidden substances in spite of the testing.

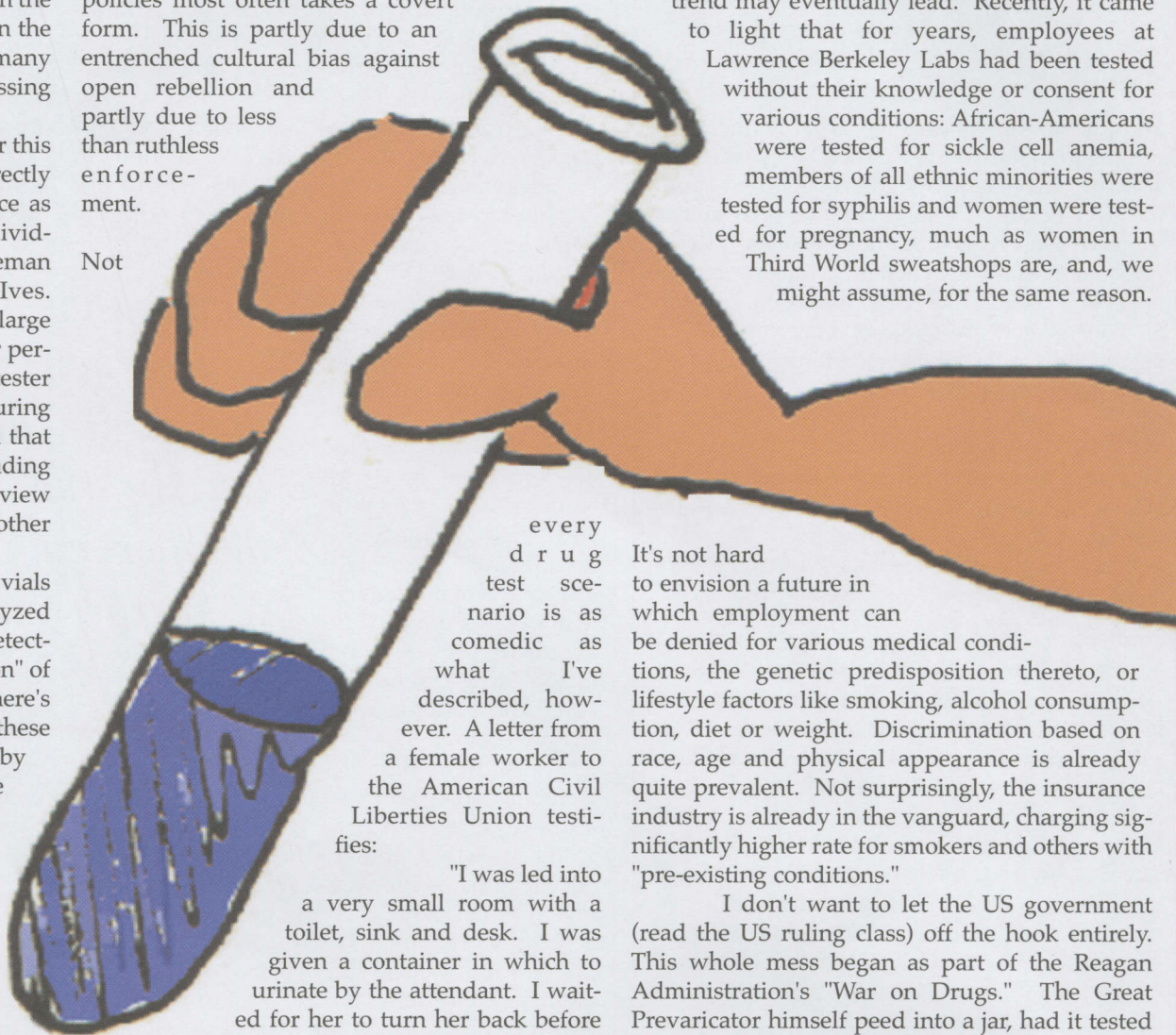
Several of my other cohorts, who have experimented with all manner of exotic mind alteration, were pleased as punch when they passed the test back in May. One of them, having been notified of the date of his test, merely abstained for the proper amount of time. Another made use of a potion to "cleanse the system," for which he paid \$37. It seems that drug testing has resulted in a huge, highly profitable, testing industry and a smaller, but equally prof-

itable, test-beating industry, proving once again the principle of "American ingenuity, which can turn anything into a vehicle for profit.

Yet another two, I'm told, obtained "clean" urine from an acquaintance and kept it warm on a car engine until it was needed.

I might add that when I told several of these guys that I would refuse to submit to such a test, they were quite uncomprehending as to why anyone would do so when it was apparently so easy to pass, illustrating a prime law of sociopolitical life in the United States, namely that resistance to unreasonable laws or policies most often takes a covert form. This is partly due to an entrenched cultural bias against open rebellion and partly due to less than ruthless enforcement.

Not



every
drug
test
scenario is as
comedic as
what I've
described, however. A letter from a female worker to the American Civil Liberties Union testifies:

"I was led into a very small room with a toilet, sink and desk. I was given a container in which to urinate by the attendant. I waited for her to turn her back before pulling down my pants, but she told

me she had to watch everything I did. I pulled down my pants, put the container in place as she bent down to watch gave her a sample and even then she did not look away...I am a forty-year-old mother of three, and nothing I have ever done in my life equals or deserves the humiliation, degradation and mortification I felt."

While there's little, if any, popular enthusiasm for drug testing among employees, it's quite popular with employers. Eighty percent of large employers perform drug testing on employees and most of these are not for safety sensitive jobs, but for positions which journalist Barbara Ehrenreich typifies as the sort of jobs you'd only want to do while stoned: low-level, dead-end grunt jobs, "McJobs" as they've been christened.

When I embarked on this project, I was under the impression that employers instituted these programs to curry favor with the government and its endlessly futile War on Drugs. Much to my surprise, employees are made to submit without state coercion. Rather, lurking at the bottom of things, as is the case with so many other small-minded evils in contemporary American life, are the insurance companies and

litigation lawyers. There is a belief, largely unfounded in any empirical data and most likely propagated by the drug testing industry, that use of illegal drugs outside of work is responsible for the bulk of accidents, absenteeism, poor performance and compensation claims. In other words it's looked upon as a money saving (and thus profit increasing) measure, even though drug testing itself is quite expensive. A study by the Bureau of National Affairs found that it costs the federal government at least \$77,000 to catch one drug user.

It's not pleasant to speculate whence this trend may eventually lead. Recently, it came to light that for years, employees at Lawrence Berkeley Labs had been tested without their knowledge or consent for various conditions: African-Americans were tested for sickle cell anemia, members of all ethnic minorities were tested for syphilis and women were tested for pregnancy, much as women in Third World sweatshops are, and, we might assume, for the same reason.

It's not hard to envision a future in which employment can be denied for various medical conditions, the genetic predisposition thereto, or lifestyle factors like smoking, alcohol consumption, diet or weight. Discrimination based on race, age and physical appearance is already quite prevalent. Not surprisingly, the insurance industry is already in the vanguard, charging significantly higher rate for smokers and others with "pre-existing conditions."

I don't want to let the US government (read the US ruling class) off the hook entirely. This whole mess began as part of the Reagan Administration's "War on Drugs." The Great Prevaricator himself peed into a jar, had it tested and then mandated that all federal employees submit to urine testing. Most of the corporate owned US media fell merrily into line with the alleged necessity of such tests, but William Safire, not noted for his liberal opinions, had this to say: "The Reagan Administration is undermining three of the most basic rights guaranteed by the Founders: No person shall be required to testify against himself; each of us is protected against unlawful searches; and every person is innocent until proven guilty." In an eerie paraphrase of Safire, the late writer and heroin addict William S. Burroughs fulminated that "the Founding Fathers must be pissing in their graves" over the latest attack on individual liberties.

It's interesting to note that much of the thrust of the Drug War was not on those who were in crisis, on the streets and committing crimes to support their habits, but on casual users, those who held jobs and lived otherwise orderly and respectable lives. One official stated that, in fact, these casual drug users were an even greater threat, although why this should be so was not made clear.

As you know, power structures, to maintain their hold, require enemies both without and

cont'd on pg 12

MIKE'S MESSAGE

Dear friends,

Women put up with a lot of crap, but this year's Presidential farce has to take the cake.

We now have four men on the "two" major party tickets running for the White House. Neither candidate, Democrat nor Republican, even bothered to CONSIDER a woman for Vice President, let alone appoint one.

Women: 53% of the population -- the MAJORITY gender -- and once again, there is ZERO representation. The minority still rules, still calls the shots, still holds the reins of power. That's called "apartheid."

You know what amazes me? That neither Gore nor Bush even tried to PRETEND they were considering a woman for Vice President! In the past, the all-male Presidential candidates have at least "floated" some names, or said "so-and-so" was on "the short list." They thought women might be upset if it looked like they were being ignored. So they played the game of interviewing "Pat Schroeder" for the job, or mentioning "Elizabeth Dole" as a "possibility."

No more.

This year, in what appears to be a political version of "battered women's syndrome," guy politicians have discovered that they don't have to do a damn thing to placate women voters. They are convinced women will just take it -- in silence.

And just as Dick Cheney is the true face of George W. Bush, Joe Lieberman is the true face of Al Gore. Lieberman's number one financial backer in Connecticut is the insurance industry -- and when they say "jump," he leaps. He even opposed Clinton's watered-down health insurance bill. He is an enemy of affirmative action. He has voted for tax cuts for the rich, voted for NAFTA, supports a form of prayer ("the minute of silence") in the public schools (and the granting of vouchers to help fund religious schools), and joined Al Gore as one of only ten Democrats in the Senate who supported Bush the First in starting the Gulf War.

In short, a real guy's guy.

Of course, not to beat a dead Corvair, but there is a candidate who is now, according to Tim Russert on "Meet the Press" last Sunday, polling between 11% and 15% in some surveys, and has chosen a woman as his running mate. His name is Ralph Nader and HER name is Winona LaDuke. She is a Harvard graduate from Minnesota and a Native American. She has a bunch of wild ideas women usually come up with, the kinds of things that probably keep them off the other tickets -- like, everybody should be guaranteed insurance if they get sick, or working moms and kids deserve day care, or maybe we should build a few less submarines in Connecticut and build a few new schools in the Bronx. Stuff like that. Chick stuff, ya know. Stuff us guys ain't got time for.

Ralph and Winona have tripled their standing in the polls since they started. There is a momentum taking place and maybe, just maybe, the majority - women - will rise up and say enough of this male apartheid.

Yours,
Michael Moore

Paying Homage to the Two-Party Media System

By Norman Solomon

Isn't the two-party system wonderful? It really works!

Every day, we hear plenty of opinions. Top Democrats and Republicans stay "on message," and usually the nation's major news outlets are in sync. The media landscape remains largely uncluttered, so most people won't get distracted by other perspectives and choices.

The symmetry is dependable and perhaps reassuring. So, at the convention in Philadelphia, the TV networks aired interviews with Democrats who critiqued the speeches by Republicans. Later, in Los Angeles, the TV networks aired interviews with Republicans who critiqued the speeches by Democrats. What variety!

These days, politicians and pundits are working hard to explain how Al Gore and George W. Bush differ. Meanwhile, journalists are apt to bypass the many points of unity. In the media zone, if the major-party candidates agree, the matter is pretty much settled.

When Bush and Gore debate in October, they won't be arguing about their areas of agreement, that's for sure. The duo won't question the merits of NAFTA, the GATT treaty or the World Trade Organization. They won't argue over the global loan-shark activities of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund; they won't mention the devastating results for the world's poor. Nor will Bush or Gore challenge the massive power of multinational corporations, at home and abroad. As for the huge U.S. military budget -- the disputes between the candidates will center on how many more billions to lavish on the Pentagon.

As usual, some would-be interlopers are standing in the wings. This year, the main one is the Green Party presidential candidate, Ralph Nader. Despite scant media coverage, his campaign has gained appreciable grassroots momentum, and polls show him to be the strongest third-party candidate.

But the Commission on Presidential Debates -- set up 13 years ago by the two major parties and amply funded by large corporations -- knows what's best for its backers. The commission is insisting on a strict 15-percent-in-the-polls threshold for participation, a requirement that seems sure to limit the debates to Bush and Gore.

Despite its civic-minded pose, the commission has always been looking out for the interests of the Democratic and Republican parties. It arrived on the political scene in 1987 to hijack the nation's presidential debates -- while ousting the nonpartisan League of Women Voters, a group viewed by

the major parties' hierarchies as insufficiently subservient to their desires. At the outset, a New York Times headline got it right: "Democrats and Republicans Form Panel to Hold Presidential Debates."

Back in 1992, there was a breach in the two-party exclusivity. For several months, big media were taken with Ross Perot, who rode high poll numbers into the debates that fall. If there's going to be a populist leader embraced for a time by mass media, why not a pro-corporate billionaire?

Democracy, we're sometimes informed, is a messy business. But let's not make it too messy. The two-party system

"The two greatest obstacles to democracy in the United States are, first, the widespread delusion among the poor that we have a democracy, and second, the chronic terror among the rich, lest we get it."

streamlines the process. Democracy -- what a concept. No need to let it get out of hand.

The two-party system owes much of its strength to the limitations of news media, which we depend on for information and analysis. Yet the American press has always included some journalists willing to write about the big holes in emperors' new clothes.

In 1941, one of the country's more acerbic editors, a priest named Edward Dowling, commented: "The two greatest obstacles to democracy in the United States are, first, the widespread delusion among the poor that we have a democracy, and second, the chronic terror among the rich, lest we get it."

Six decades later, many illusions and fears are helping to sustain the two-party system. At times, along the way, poll numbers are cited to justify constricting public discourse.

We're told that Nader should not be in the debates because his support isn't high enough among voters. But sometimes, the popular will is flagrantly ignored: Polls consistently show that most Americans would like to see leading third-party candidates included in the debates. But, we keep hearing, that won't happen -- because Americans don't want those debates cluttered with any candidate other than Bush and Gore.

Isn't the two-party system wonderful?

Norman Solomon is a syndicated columnist. His latest book is The Habits of Highly Deceptive Media.

COLLEGE STUDENTS VS. PRESIDENTIAL PLANS: GORE'S TUITION TAX CREDIT PLAN

By Ellen Yau and Sharon Sung

GORE'S TUITION TAX CREDIT PLAN. ALTHOUGH COINED IN A FUZZY FEEL-GOOD TITLE, IT IS JUST AS CATCHY AS ITS LABEL: WINSOME AND ATTRACTIVE, BUT ONLY IN NAME. IT'S BEEN ALMOST SIX MONTHS SINCE VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE AND GOVERNOR GEORGE W. BUSH BEGAN TO AGGRESSIVELY ADDRESS ISSUES THAT ARE IMPERATIVE TO THEIR CAMPAIGN PLATFORM. WITH THE IMPENDING TRILLION-DOLLAR BUDGET SURPLUS NEXT YEAR, BOTH PARTIES SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPED MORE AND MORE MONETARY PROPOSITIONS. AMID THE HEAP OF MEDICARE, MEDICAID, SCHOOL REFORM, AND TAX-CUT PLANS, FEW ARE INVOLVED WITH HIGHER EDUCATION. GORE'S TUITION TAX CREDIT PLAN IS ONE OF THE ONLY PROPOSITIONS THAT DIRECTLY ADDRESSES COLLEGE, YET IT STILL INADVERTENTLY OVERLOOKS LOW-INCOME FAMILIES WHILE IT BENEFITS MIDDLE AND UPPER-MIDDLE COLLEGE-PAYING PARENTS.

In the symposium held in the University of Maryland last Thursday and the Democratic National Convention the week before, Gore used his Tuition Tax Credit Plan as a ladder to advance his popularity with both college parents and students. The proposal, an extension of President Clinton's College Opportunity Tax Cut program, provides American families with the option of a tax deduction or a 28 percent credit of a \$10,000 limit – a maximum of \$2,800 – to pay for college tuition and fees. The plan generates a pleasant ring, so what's the problem?

The setback is the terms. You know, like the microscopic fine print warning labels situated at some obscure region of most store products. The fine print provision under Gore's plan is that families of students that receive the Hope Scholarship are blocked from the potential \$2,800 credit. They must choose one or the other.

The Hope Scholarship is also a tax-credit plan. It is geared to aid families in financial need. Unlike Gore's plan, it is available only if the families' or the students' modified gross income – usually equivalent to the adjusted gross income – is below a specified amount.

The fact that families must choose between the Tuition Tax Credit Plan and the Hope Scholarship implies that there is little or no benefit for the low-income families because Gore's plan provides them little or no additional aid in financing the student's higher education. The people left to benefit are the middle and upper-middle income families because the cut-off limit to be eligible for the tax-credit is over \$100,000 (if both parents are married).

In the case of low-income families, Gore has put forth the Pell Grants as one of his "solutions" to the higher education cost quandary. Like the Hope Scholarship, the Pell Grant is an award granted to students primarily based on financial need. Under the Clinton-influenced Gore Tuition Tax Credit Plan, it will increase its maximum award to a total of \$3,500 – a mere \$375 increase from the current 1999-2000 maximum award of \$3,125. With college costs increasing by an average of 5% per year from the previous year, the beneficial effect on financial cost the Pell Grant increase would have is obliterated rather than nullified.

As matriculated SUNY students and potential ballots in one of these candidate's boxes, we are not impressed with the efforts both Bush and Gore have shown in improving circumstances or availability of higher education. Although most Democrats and Americans generally support Gore's Tax Tuition Credit Plan, it seems that they are misled. We are definitely not against Gore's plan, but we do find its monetary policy misdirected and misinterpreted.

Bush, the Texan Republican candidate, suggested that his 10-Year-Plan failed to gain wider acceptance "due to a lack of understanding" ("Gore Details Tuition Tax Credit Plan." *Newsday*. August

25, 2000, p. A28). Other than a promised increase in the Pell Grants, his plan has little or nothing to do with higher education; it is a \$750 billion tax-break proposal. Although it provides greater monetary relief to families of all incomes, it is more beneficial to higher income families. Moreover, the proposal itself is too unspecific and the amount proposed is too impractical. Gore's Tuition Tax Credit Plan, a part of his tax-cut plan, is one of the only proposals I have seen that caters to students in higher education.

Another provision of the College Opportunity Tax Cut proposal that Gore advertised in his Tuition Tax-Credit Plan is a more affordable method to pay back student loans. It calls for an increase in the Direct Loan program and cutting down fee origination costs; the overall message that Gore is trying to convey is that the average student will save money on paying back the loan.

The proposal is more of a "long-term" benefit that an average student will not see for a long time; in addition, it only details the terms of how the loan is paid back, rather than the amount of the loan. This ultimately boils down to the fact that it's still a benefit that primarily helps the middle and upper-middle income families. It won't help the lower income families since the loan amount maximum hasn't changed; the maximum is \$5500 a year at junior/senior status. However, it does not benefit the high-income families either, since most upper-class students generally do not seek loans.

Gore has not entirely kept to the terms of Clinton's College Opportunity Tax Cut proposal; he has modified the original proposal with terms of his own. The 401(j) account, an account similar to the 401(k) account that many job workers hold today, is Gore's unique addition to the Clinton-Gore proposal for higher education.

However, the audience this modification appeals to leans toward the middle and upper class. Unlike the 401(k) account, which accumulates money by workers contributing parts of their salary to the account along with matching contributions by their employer toward retirement, the 401(j) account accumulates money through similar means towards "job training, education, and lifelong learning."

On the surface, the plan seems quite attractive; the 401(k) account is popular for good reason and there is no reason that the 401(j) would not be just as popular. But it discriminates toward a middle and

upper-middle income audience; 401(k) accounts are virtually nonexistent in lower-income families and obviously would be of no benefit to said audience.

The 401(j) accounts potentially hint at other problems beneath the surface as well. 401(j) accounts hint at being destructively similar to 401(k) accounts, which would bring up a variety of problems upon establishment. 401(k) accounts, for example, vary widely from company to company. The transfer of accounts from company to company, difficult already with 401(k) accounts, would be compounded with the addition of 401(j) accounts.

In addition, access to the 401(j) accounts would present a certain difficulty. What exactly would define "job training, education, and lifelong learning"? 401(k) accounts are mostly accessible only after the participant reaches approximately 60 years of age – any time before would be virtually impossible (seeing that it is, after all, a retirement account).

What would allow access into 401(j) accounts? For example: wouldn't a company interpret "lifelong learning and job training" as an excuse for a worker to use the company's money to educate himself into a better-paid job (read: out of the company)? After all, half of a 401(j) account is quite possibly the

This ultimately boils down to the fact that it's still a benefit that primarily helps the middle and upper-middle income families. It won't help the lower income families since the loan amount maximum hasn't changed

company's contribution, and Gore's plan for education isn't limited only to young teenagers entering college; he's pushing for "lifelong learning."

Despite all factors, Gore's plan is not entirely faulty. Gore's National Tuition Savings plan allows families to save for education costs in an account that is inflation-free; it is an excellent measure to counter against inflation and rising college cost. On the higher education issue, it is light years ahead of Bush's promised increase in Pell Grants.

Still, that does not eliminate the fact that his plan fails to adequately provide for those who need the financial assistance. Those of you who have watched the televised speech presented by Gore at the Democratic National Convention might have envisioned Gore's idealistic traditional mom-and-apple-pie era of innocence for the country under his future leadership. As SUNY college students, many of us are ballot-bearers. Where do we, average college students, stand in the eyes of these two primary candidates? How do their current proposals cater to us and our families' aid? If we are not satisfied, should we neglect to enter our ballot or simply resort to third-party candidates—perhaps we should vote for the Green Party presidential nominee Ralph Nader? Will either of them propose a worthwhile plan that actually aids not only the middle and the middle-upper income families but all those in need?

Only in America

By F. L. Livingston

"We'll see a man on the moon before we see a Jewish president," my late father once told me, "and I know we won't see a man on the moon in my lifetime!"

Well, he was only half-wrong. Yes, we did see a man on the moon during his lifetime. But that was long before we even had a glimpse of the possibility of a Jewish-American president, or a Jewish-American vice president, for that matter.

Now, that second possibility is staring us right in the face. This is so because of Al Gore's choice of a Jewish senator, Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.), as his running mate. It was an historic decision that may ensure the election for Gore and cause him to go down in history as a "great liberal" and "forward-thinker." Or—it may destroy him.

Perhaps, I'm making more of this than I should. After all, as some other columnists have noted, the breaking of traditional barriers has become more common in the last half-century. As in Jimmy Carter selecting Andrew Young, to be the first African-American ambassador to the United Nations. As in Bill Clinton choosing Janet Reno as the first female attorney-general. Not to mention Walter Mondale picking Geraldine Ferraro as his running mate and, therefore, the first female candidate for vice-president from a major party. Etc.

Besides, Jews have been in the mainstream of American politics for a long time. From Haym Solomon, who helped to finance the American Revolution, to Henry Kissinger, Nixon's highly influential secretary-of-state, Jews have, on occasion, had the chance to play a prominent role in the shaping of US history.

So maybe I'm making too much of the specter of this Jewish candidate for vice president. But if I am, so is "everybody else." Why? I'm guessing that there are a number of reasons.

The "First Runner-up" Factor: One cause of all the fuss is that no American Jew has ever gotten this close to the crux of American power. And because, if the Gore/Lieberman ticket wins, it may mean a Jewish president in, say, 2008. A very exciting thought for many of us Jews and pro-Jewish liberals. Especially those of us old enough (groan) to recall a time when we didn't believe that even a Catholic could achieve the presidency. A Jew asked to run for such a high office? This is huge!

The "Only in America" Factor: "Only in America," said Lieberman, referring to his nomination, at the Democratic Convention. But the crowd went wild for him before he even began to speak, largely, it seems, just because of this dramatic first. They felt a certain pride, I imagine, in being the first major party to put forth a Jewish vice presidential candidate. And even, I contend, in the sense that this is a particularly "American" kind of thing.

The Jewish Vote: It may also be a very strategic move for Al Gore.* It's apt to draw back into the Democratic fold several of those Jews who have defected to the Republican Party. Or the Reform Party, etc. It may even attract some of those Jews who "grew up" in another party. Too, it's very likely to pull in the Jewish members of "the swing vote."

Granted, many modern American Jews, myself included, try to avoid voting on an ethnic basis, rather than an ideological one. But a Jewish vice president? That's hard to resist. Like, I said before, it's huuuge!

The "Anti-Jewish" Vote: Unfortunately, such strategy, if that's what it is, may backfire. Several Jews and liberals are actually dismayed by this daring decision because they worry that it may cost Gore the election. It may drive away potential supporters who harbor any religious prejudice. And those who simply fear political change. It may alienate voters who chafe at the idea of a non-Christian someday leading this nation with its large majority of Christians. (This may not be so much a matter of anti-Semitism as one of concern about any non-Christian.)

Sigh! Between now and November, be prepared to hear many "reasons" why a Jewish guy should not be our vice president.

A Question of Orthodoxy: The fact that Lieberman is an Orthodox Jew may also have both a positive* and negative influence on Gore's chances. It may further turn off some anti-Semitic voters. Also, it may thrust whole sections of the country away from the Democratic

ate a ripple effect for other minorities (blacks, Hispanics, etc.) Or as Senator Joe suggests, when you crack one barrier, "the doors of opportunity open wider for everyone."

If Catholic JFK had not captured the presidency in 1960, for instance, I doubt that Gore would have believed it possible to consider a Jewish VP now.

Such thoughts may further drive away those committed to the status quo. Or those who seek only the success of their own kind. But they're likely to attract voters who value full equality.*

The "Ishmael and Isaac in America" Syndrome: Some Arab-Americans have voiced the fear that a Jewish vice president may not be sufficiently tuned into their concerns for obvious reasons. But it was Lieberman who persuaded Clinton's 1992 campaign to welcome Arab-American support, and several Arab-Americans turned out for Gore/Lieberman at the convention.

The "Hey, America! How Do I Look?" Syndrome: Regardless, this largely unexpected move may impact strongly on Gore's image.* The very boldness of it belies the portrayal of him as "stiff" and "overly cautious." It also suggests an inner courage that can only serve as a plus.

Consider, too, the contrast between Gore's decision and Bush's much-criticized visit to Bob Jones University. True, Bush later made sure to distance himself from the alleged bigotry of the school. But in one swift gesture, Gore made himself look far more open-minded by comparison. A welcome effect on his persona, I think, except, perhaps, among the most right-wing voters.

The Shield: On a more cynical note, doubts about Lieberman may make him the ideal protection for Gore against assassination.* A Jewish vice president, especially an Orthodox one, may free Gore to take as many egalitarian actions as he likes, without fear. Even his most vicious far-right foes will prefer him to Lieberman.

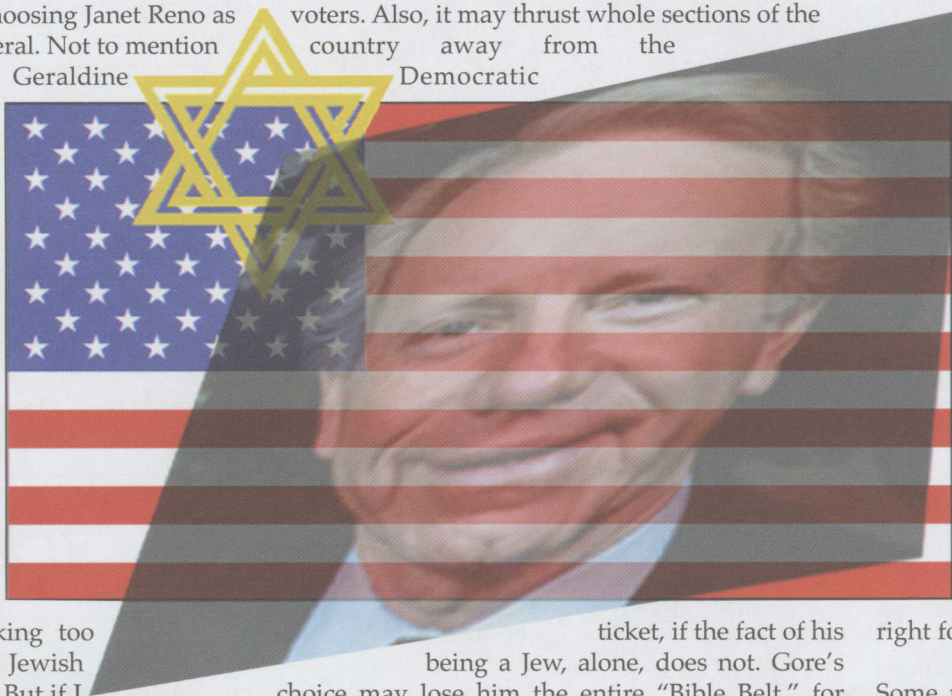
The "But I'm Not Like Him" Syndrome: Some politicians insist that it's Lieberman's moral conservatism that prompted Gore to seek him out.* More specifically, he was the first Democrat to condemn the president's sexual conduct. His candidacy may well save Gore from any jibes about the "character" of the Democratic administration.

It could have a strong appeal for those disillusioned with Clinton's promiscuity, regardless of religion. Placing Joe Lieberman on the ticket is something like putting up a neon sign that shouts, "Traditional morals practiced here!" This may attract the very social conservatives that his minority faith might otherwise repel.

Of course, Gore should not be held "guilty by association" with Clinton, but the chances of that happening are great. Especially now that there is talk of a Grand Jury seeking to indict Bill on criminal charges. This "new association" with Lieberman may be Al's best defense.

So, yes, Lieberman's candidacy is intriguing—and not just because he's Jewish. At the least, it's generated a lot of editorial comment. At the most, it may have a major impact on Election 2000. Either way, it more than passes that old test of newsworthiness, "Man bites dog!"

*At the convention, Gore declared that he chose Lieberman "simply because he is the best man for the job." Well, maybe so. But this doesn't change the fact that this decision may affect Gore's chances of winning in the ways discussed here.



ticket, if the fact of his being a Jew, alone, does not. Gore's choice may lose him the entire "Bible Belt," for example, as my older daughter pointed out to me.

Yet, I keep hearing that many religious Christians identify with the senator's stricter form of worship. Though I don't know how deeply that connection is felt or if it will translate into votes... Solidarity among the pious?! I'm not so sure. Maybe if Lieberman stresses the connection (A cautionary note: a recent Time/CNN poll, reported in the August 31, 2000 issue of Time magazine, found that "49%" of Christian rightists were disturbed that Lieberman "does not believe that Jesus Christ was the Son of God.")

Questions have also been raised about the degree to which Senator Joe's religious observance may interfere with his performance as vice president. Detractors have "wondered aloud" about his willingness to address a crisis that occurs on the Sabbath or a Jewish holiday.

But Judaism permits—and, actually, requires—one to help others on such holy days, even if it means breaking a few other religious rules. And Lieberman practices Modern Orthodoxy, which encourages one to participate as fully as possible in contemporary life. So his piety should not be a serious problem.

The fact that Gore is a Tennessee Baptist may also help to stem such concerns. A Southern Christian and a Northern Jew, a "Dream Team," said the Reverend Jesse Jackson at the convention.

The Ripple Effect: Gore's choice may cre-

DON'T ROCK THE YACHT:

BUSH/GORE 2000

By Sam O'Leons
of Billionaires for Bush (or Gore)

Like most Americans, I'll bet you're sick and tired of the liberal media telling you to vote for Ralph "Watermelon" Nader (you know, the one who's green on the outside and red as the blood of an American killed by godless Communists, draped in the red flag of Communism, on the inside!). If so, this article will be a welcome relief: its only purpose is to ask you to vote for a team you won't hear much about in the liberal media: Bush/Gore 2000.

The most important reason for you to vote Bush/Gore is, naturally, because theirs is the only team that will continue the economic growth that has benefited me and all the people around me so greatly. As the great John F. Kennedy used to say, "A rising yacht lifts everyone on it." Like all sons of wealthy men, Kennedy understood the importance of not rocking the yacht. That means,

when you're hanging on to the lifeboat trying to get your grubby hands to lift your grubby body out of the grubby water, you should have the decency to let go. "Let go, Jack, just let go!" like in *The Titanic*. Don't rock my yacht, Jack.

So you say, "I didn't see that movie, Sam." OK, sheltered one, if Kate Winslet can't convince you, let's try the great Kang and Kodos. When our illuminous overlords came to share their philosophy, they didn't mince words. "It's a two-party system," they said. Want to vote for a third party? "Go ahead, throw away your vote!"

As Kang, Kodos, and the *New York Times* have all said, there are clear choices in this election, and the American people deserve an uncluttered playing field. No, I don't know what you slackjawed knuckleheads have done to deserve that, either. But let's unclutter the playing field, and look at your two choices this year.

There's the War on Drugs. Who do you trust to prosecute fully the sleazy minorities who use drugs in spite of our cleverest advertising campaigns, while protecting the right of wealthy white kids to snort, smoke, and shoot in their irresponsible youth? Would you rather have a former pothead or a former cokehead fighting the War on Drugs?

And then there's the high price of oil. Do you believe the guy with close family connections to Texas oil companies would be better suited to fight Big Oil, or would you rather have the guy with close family connections to California oil companies? I know which one I'd prefer; how about you?

So those aren't big enough issues for you? How about communism vs. fascism? Yes, it's just like the last Good War all over again: Bush, whose grandfather's pals supported the Nazis, or Gore, whose father's pals supported the Communists?

What's that, you say you don't want to hear about the candidates' personal lives? You want to hear about the real important issues, like abortion and tax cuts? The ones with even bigger differences than the already big differences whose bigness has just been so bigly illustrated by my big examples?

Bush, that wicked manservant of the Christian Right, wants to restrict poor women's right to abortion. On the other hand, Gore, that evil slime-spawn of the Godless Left, wants to protect rich women's right to abortion. Where do you stand on this vital issue?

Bush, that son of a millionaire, wants to give a big tax cut to the wealthy, with pennies for the middle class. Gore, on the other hand, that son of a millionaire, wants a big tax cut on the wealthy, with nickels for the middle class. True, it's not quite a dime's worth of difference, but four cents is nothing to sneeze at.

"But Sam," you protest, "aren't those issues going to be determined more by the Congress than the President? After all, only Congress has the power..." I'm sorry, I forgot the rest of what you protested. Something about Congress. Look, you don't have to listen to me, take it from Senator Palpatine himself: "Congress is weak. We need a new President, a strong President." If you can't trust Senator Palpatine, who can you trust?

All right, let's keep trying. How about some really big issues, even bigger than the big ones I've embiggened already? Let's have the candidates speak on their differences in their own words, or at least in the words of their highly paid speechwriters.

What could be bigger than trade policy? Bush says, "I reject protectionism and isolation." Gore says, "Protectionism will only protect us from prosperity itself." Clearly these are two very different candidates: Bush speaks in the first person, while Gore speaks about protectionism in the third person. On the other hand, Bush's language is terse and direct, while Gore's is flowery and repetitive. Important differences, folks!

OK, maybe war could be bigger than trade policy. What do the candidates think of expanding the almost-victorious-yes-we're-really-close-this-time-I-can-feel-it War on Drugs to Colombia? Well, each of them understandably has trouble actually talking about it (rumor has it that even

mentioning the drug problem makes Bush's nose bleed). But Bush's advisors say we should send military aid to Colombia to fight the drug supply. Gore's advisors, on the other hand, take the opposite position and say we should fight drugs in Colombia with military aid.

"But gee, Sam, it doesn't seem like those differences are quite so large as you say and I blah blah and furthermore yadda yadda..." All right, fickle one, if you want even bigger issues than that, let's talk ideology. Let's talk about which party is really representing the people, rather than the chattering class-warfare special-interest elitist power-hungry big business that the other party represents.

Do you want the party that accepts hundreds of thousands of dollars in soft money at its convention and starts with the letter 'D,' or the one

that accepts soft money and starts with the letter 'R'?

Do you prefer the party that wants to increase the military budget by several billion dollars and is represented by an elephant, or the one that wants to increase the military budget and is represented by a donkey?

Do you want welfare programs abolished by an eight-letter party or a ten-letter party?

Do you prefer the party that claims God is on its side and religion doesn't have a large enough role in public life, or the other one?

Do you want the party that will fight strongly to expand NAFTA, or the one that will strongly fight to expand NAFTA?

But you claim that these enormous differences don't impress you, and then you start talking about voting for a third-party candidate, and I feel like I just haven't gotten through to you. Don't you understand that you're wasting your vote if you don't pick the winner? When liberals are putting \$100 on red and conservatives are putting \$150 on black, why must you persist in putting a dollar on that funky green square?

Let me explain to you how our electoral system works. A vote for Nader is a vote for Bush, because if Nader had not been on the ballot, you would have voted for Gore. Similarly, a vote for Buchanan is a vote for Gore, because you would have voted for Bush if Buchanan had been tied to the top of a tall building by John Hagelin's supporters. A vote for Harry Browne is a vote for Bush Sr., because had Browne been sent into the distant future in a space capsule, you would have voted for Buchanan, and since a vote for Buchanan is a vote for Gore, you're actually voting for Bush Jr. But due to the complexities of time travel, you actually end up supporting Dubya's father. A vote for Socialist David McReynolds is a vote for Warren Harding, by a simple calculation that we leave to the reader.

A vote for Gore is, of course, a vote for Bush, and conversely. For you see, if Gore had not been on the ballot, then Bush probably wouldn't have been on the ballot either, and so you would have voted for Gore anyway, which means you're

When liberals are putting \$100 on red and conservatives are putting \$150 on black, why must you persist in putting a dollar on that funky green square?

actually voting for Bush. A vote for Mickey Mouse remains a vote for Mickey Mouse, due to the peculiarities of the Electoral College, which are too cumbersome to explain with only a few paragraphs left.

Now as November whatever approaches, and you get set to enter that polling booth, close the curtain, and pull the trigger, I want you to remember something: this election depends on you doing the responsible thing for billionaires across the country. Whether you choose Bush or Gore, Gush or Bore, Lush or Whore, it's your voice that matters.

So choose or lose, kids. This election is all about you. Exercise the rights our Founding Fathers fought and died to prevent you from having.

Or don't. Just don't vote for Nader. Whatever you do, don't contact sbgreens@yahoo.com



Bush and Gore Scheduled to Debate in Boston October 3rd

THE LONE SURVIVOR. It's a powerful headline; powerful enough that without any other information, the morbidly anxious reader is immediately bombarded with images of a car accident taking

THE LONE SURVIVOR

By Kevin Cavanaugh

place several hours before dawn involving a drunk driver and three high school graduates, a terrible fire ravaging a house belonging to a family of five or, perhaps, for a reader of a more pessimistically imaginative inclination, a deadly plane crash in the snowy mountains of some far off place.

THE LONE SURVIVOR. That was the headline that appeared on the front cover of the New York Post on August 24. This headline, however, had nothing to do with a tragedy that killed all but one. This headline referred to the events of the night before; events which millions of Americans were already aware of because they had sat, eyes glued to their television sets, watching the story unfold, much as many of them did some thirty years ago when footage from the war in Vietnam was a part of the daily television programming.

What was so gripping as to warrant that front page coverage and that kind of steadfast television watching? The season finale of a thirteen week long television series, 'Survivor,' in which the "lone survivor" received a million dollar prize.

Certainly, any morbidly anxious reader not familiar with the series would have let out a sigh of relief upon breezing through the article. No car accident. No Fire. No Andes Plane Crash and Donner Party 2000. Just a clever headline and an article suggesting that there's nothing else important in world news and that all is well. No more Vietnam. No more Persian Gulf. Just Entertainment "reality" TV.

However, there is other news. Unfortunately, it's news that proves we can't say all is well. While New Yorkers woke up to news of one man's million dollar payload in the 14th minute, citizens of one European nation woke up to news of six powerful explosive devices scattered throughout the northern region of their country. For them news like this has been all too common. If our summer can be called the "Summer of 'Survivor,'" as water cooler conversation nationwide has led many of us to believe it is, then their summer can be called "The Summer of Blood."

The first device detonated at three in the morning near the offices of Terrain, a large and well known company; the explosion caused considerable damage to the building's entrance and the surrounding residential structures.

At around the same time, another bomb was discovered in the entrance of Seguros Bilbao, a large insurance company in a nearby city, but the local authorities were able to react in time and detonate the device in a controlled manner.

Also at the same time, two trucks carrying devices on their underside exploded in a parking lot next to a roadway linking two large cities.

A fifth bomb was placed underneath a which was in the parking lot of Transportes Decoexa, another well known company, and this one wasn't discovered in time.

The last bomb was discovered several hours later, during normal business hours, after a caller alerted the authorities when a suspicious package was delivered to the offices of yet another large company, Pinyón.

Fortunately, there were no injuries from this batch of terrorist acts, but the organization behind them has been around for 41 years, and during that time has been responsible at least in part for the loss of some 800 lives. Which terrorist group is this? Not the IRA of Northern Ireland or the PLO of the Middle East, but rather this terrorist group, Euzkadi Ta Askatasuna (ETA), hails from a mountainous area in northern Spain known as the Basque country.

The Basques, believed to be one of Europe's

oldest races, were isolated from other European groups. They developed and maintained their own unique language (Euskera) myths and art for millennia. Presently, the Basque country is divided political-

ly between Spain and France. Of its seven provinces, three are under French rule and the rest are a part of Spain. This division of the unique group has played a major role in influencing the politics of the area. In 1901 the founder of the Basque Nationalist Party, Sabino Arana, Coined the term "Euzkadi" to describe a hypothetical Basque state uniting the seven provinces, and it wasn't until 1937 when the ruthless General Franco occupied the area that the separatist movement seeking independence gained momentum. However, with the death of General Franco in 1975, a new political structure, a democratic one, appeared in Spain. The new Spanish Government allowed the Basques to create their own parliament and police force, both of which have allowed for great political autonomy in the region.

Still there are extremists who wish to sever all ties with Madrid. Those extremists with the original extremists who formed the ETA, or Basque Fatherland and Freedom, in 1959. ETA's violent terrorist campaign for the creation of an independent state began in 1961 with an attempt to derail a train carrying local politicians, and although nobody was



Baby Goes Boom.

killed in that plot ETA took its first victim 7 years later, a member of the Secret Police in the city of San Sebastian.

The violence continued and reached a high point in 1980 when 118 people were killed. In 1995 there was even an attempt on the life of the leader of the opposition Popular Party, and the present prime minister of Spain, Jose Maria Aznar. ETA's aggression towards political figures intensified in March of 1996 with the right-wing Popular Party's win in Spain's general elections. In response to the victory, ETA began to target local Popular Party politicians such as Miguel Angel Blanco. ETA kidnapped, and eventually kidnapped the politician causing a national outrage which brought an estimated six million Spaniards out into the streets.

Talks among Spain's main political parties to end the violence in the Basque region began in 1998, the same year that the Northern Ireland Peace Agreement was signed. It is believed that ETA was heavily influenced, through its relations with the IRA and Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm, by the Northern Ireland peace process. Sinn Fein is said to have advised ETA's political wing, Herri Batasuna, in creating a strategy for negotiations.

Finally, on September 18, 1998, shortly after ETA killed yet another member of the Popular Party, Manuel Zamarreno, ETA announced its first indefinite cease-fire. Presumably, inspired by the events in Northern Ireland, ETA hoped to negotiate for their demands rather than commit acts of violence to achieve their goal. However, the single round of peace

talks held between the group and the government during this truce served more to accentuate their differences than to resolve them. ETA insisted on negotiating for independence, while the government would only discuss disarmament. ETA's refusal to concede anything at all resulted in wariness on the part of the Spanish government. Officials are now saying that the announcement of

the truce was a plan ETA employed to buy time to reorganize, acquire supplies and recruit new members before launching a new offensive. The relief ended and the new offensive began only fourteen months later, this past December, when ETA announced the end of their truce. The violence resumed on January 21 with the killing of an army lieutenant colonel, Pedro Antonio Blanco Garcia, by a car bomb in Madrid. One month later a Socialist Party leader in the Basque country, Fernando Buesa Blanco, and his bodyguard, Jorge Diez de Lacalle, were also killed by a car bomb.

The next assassination occurred on May 7. This time the target was Jose Luis Lopez de Lacalle, a journalist for El Mundo, a major Spanish newspaper. The writer was shot dead in front of his home in Andoain on the outskirts of San Sebastian.

One month later Jesus Maria Pedrosa Ukriza, a local representative of the Popular Party was shot to death twelve miles outside Bilbao. ETA's next attack occurred just a few weeks later on June 25. This time there was no specific target. A car bomb was placed in a wealthy suburban area of Bilbao. The explosion caused substantial property damage and injured seven people. On July 12 yet another car bomb exploded, this time in front of two Madrid department stores. Ten people were injured in this early morning attack.

Just three days later a local deputy of the Popular Party, Jose Maria Martin Carpena, was gunned down in front of his wife and children outside his home in Southern Spain.

Refusing to let up, ETA planted another car bomb just outside a northern military barracks the following day. One woman was slightly injured by the blast. A week later another car bomb was placed in the suburbs of Bilbao. Four were injured by the attack. The fifth and final July attack occurred on the 29th. Juan Maria Jauregui, a member of the Socialist Party and former governor of the Basque province of Guipuzcoa, was shot dead.

In the beginning of this month, ETA followed up their viciously active July with three new successful attacks and one possible failed attempt in just over twenty-four hours. On August 8 a car carrying four suspected ETA operatives and 55 pounds of explosives exploded as it moved down a deserted street in Bilbao. Police believed the men were on their way to an unknown target. Twelve hours later he head of the employers' association in Guipuzcoa, Jose Maria Korta, was killed by a car bomb placed in a car next to his in the parking lot just outside his office building. Seven hours later and hundreds of miles to the south, a car bomb injured eleven people in an upscale shopping district of Madrid. On August 9 Francisco Casanova Vicente, a junior army officer, was shot dead as he arrived home in an area of Pimplona.

As one can see, ETA has a variety of targets: politicians, the police, the military, journalists and businessmen. Interior Minister Jaime Mayor Oreja said that ETA's blitzkrieg on the Spanish political, social and economic worlds is an attempt to force the government to declare a state of emergency in the Basque region which would "bring the conflict to the head." The disunity and distrust in this area of the world dwarf any argument had on that deserted island millions of Americans visited every week. Reality TV? No, it's not reality. It's pop culture. Pop culture beating out real news for the front cover of a major newspaper. There are many Spaniards who would argue over what it means to be a survivor.

Immigration And The Long Island Mentality

BY JOANNA WEGIELNIK

THE PORT JEFFERSON EDITION OF *SUFFOLK LIFE* ARRIVES TO MY HOME VIA MAIL ON A WEEKLY BASIS. GENERALLY, I DON'T BOTHER TO READ IT BECAUSE A) I THINK IT SUCKS IN TERMS OF COVERAGE AND B) I AM NOT A BIG FAN OF THE STAUNCHLY CONSERVATIVE LOCAL PRESS THAT IS IN OVER ABUNDANCE ON LONG ISLAND. I USUALLY TOSS MY COPY OF *SUFFOLK LIFE* IN THE TRASH OR I GIVE IT TO MY NEIGHBOR, VLADIMIR, WHO USES IT TO LINE HIS KITTY'S LITTER BOX. THE AUGUST 23 ISSUE, HOWEVER, CAUGHT MY ATTENTION. A CAPTION RAN ALONG SIDE OF THE FRONT PAGE PHOTOGRAPH READING, "ALIEN INVASION."



alleged criminal acts by undocumented or illegal aliens." On August 26th, however, *Newsday* reported that Suffolk County Police did not confirm Caracappa's claim of a crime wave, saying that crime has generally stayed the same or had dropped county wide. In fact, the

Newsday story said that reports of violence against Latino immigrants by local residents have been steadily increasing, especially since

The photograph shows four Farmingville residents holding signs that read the following: "Illegal aliens are invaders," "You deserve the type of community you are willing to tolerate," "INS clean up this mess." They are of course, referring to the hundreds of undocumented immigrants who live and work in many communities around Long Island. The immigrants, mainly Hispanic men, are becoming the favorite scapegoats of Suffolk County legislators as well as local residents.

The Suffolk County Legislature, spearheaded by Republican legislators Joseph Caracappa and Fred Towle, is proposing legislation that would revoke the licenses of contractors who hire undocumented immigrants as temporary workers as well as suing the Immigration & Naturalization Services (INS) for not enforcing local, state and federal employment laws. Local residents say the INS is ignoring "the growing problem of undocumented aliens which, in turn, is affecting the quality of life in certain communities around Suffolk," according to *Suffolk Life*.

If the legislation is approved, licensed contractors who hire undocumented workers will lose their license for one year on the first offense. A second offense will result in the loss of a license for five years plus a \$5,000 fine.

According to the *Suffolk Life* report, Caracappa was prompted to go forward with the legislation in response "to a recent spate of

Everyone is up and arms about the undocumented immigrants "invading" Suffolk county because they are not white. If large groups of Italian, Irish, Polish or German men were seen gathering on street corners every morning in search of a day's work, I seriously doubt any fuss would be made.

the proposed legislation has been introduced.

The *Suffolk Life* article reminds me of why I hate Long Island. When I say "I hate Long Island," I don't mean I hate the actual place. Quite the contrary; I think it's very pretty, the beaches, the parks, all this is great. What I hate is the "Long Island Mentality."

LIM is a unique state of mind that many Long Island natives seem to share. Concerns over property values (i.e. preservation of lily white neighborhoods), quality of school districts (i.e. preservation of lily white neighborhoods) and other "quality of life" issues (i.e. preservation of lily white neighborhoods) are the hallmarks of the LIM.

The Farmingville residents who appeared in the *Suffolk Life* photograph all share this L.I. Mentality. Everyone is up in arms about the undocumented immigrants "invading" Suffolk county because they are not

white. If large groups of Italian, Irish, Polish or German men were seen gathering on street corners every morning in search of a day's work, I seriously doubt any fuss would be made. Since the current influx of immigrants to Long Island is not of European/white origin, people are complaining and politicians like Brookhaven Town Supervisor Felix Grucci are responding with Orwellian quick fixes such as the "Neighborhood Preservation Act." This act, according to Grucci, "addresses constituents concerns of quality of life issues such as overcrowding in sub-standard housing as it relates to immigrants living in one residence." Big Brother would be proud.

The immigration debate, as a professor of mine once said, is ultimately one of values and as I see it, the undocumented immigrants who come to Long Island are not "invading." They come here with the hope of finding work and better prospects for themselves and their families back home, much like Irish and Italian immigrants did in the early 20th century. The jobs they take are the low-paying and physically demanding, jobs that native Long Islanders don't want. As long as the demand for their labor exists, they will continue to come here and I will welcome them with open arms. Sixteen

years ago, my immediate family and I emigrated to the U.S. from Poland for the same reason, the search for a better and more prosperous life than the one at home could offer.

Being confined to a liberal college campus often shields us from the realities that lie just beyond the safe confines of Stony Brook and it is easy to forget that we live in one of the more conservative areas of New York. A conservative climate, much like the one surrounding the current immigration debate in Suffolk County, is perfect breeding ground for racism and bigotry. I'd like to believe that this type of ignorance could be confined to the pages of *Suffolk Life*, but unfortunately, it's a little too late for this. We need to look only as far as our own backyards to find it.

U r i n e cont'd from page 5

within. The Enemy Within, unseen and pernicious, must, of course, be detected and rooted out. In the process, extreme scrutiny is applied, although this scrutiny is more extreme for some than others, and a chilling effect on expression keeps dissent in check.

In the New England colonies of the 17th Century, this Enemy Within took the form of alleged "witches," who had to be ferreted out by means of mystical examinations, usually of the body of the accused, for signs of demonic thrall-dom. In many cases, the extremely modest Puritan women who were accused of witchcraft were made to disrobe before the court, a humiliating violation of personal integrity.

In the 20th Century, most notably in the immediate aftermath of both world wars, the Internal Foe were "communists," broadly interpreted to mean anyone whose politics or statements the government didn't like. Though many of the victims of the "red scares" were imprisoned (and a few even executed), most in the post World War II period were subjected to denial of employment in their chosen profession—the infamous blacklists in communications, education and labor.

Today's War on Drugs echoes both periods of internal repression as well as the obvious one, alcohol Prohibition, not coincidentally instituted at the same time as the post-World War I red scare. As you know, Prohibition criminalized large segments of the population, greatly strengthened both orga-

The law in this regard is extremely unhelpful, upholding, on one hand, the "right" of the employer to assert as much control of their employees both inside and outside the workplace as possible. I want to share with you a quote from the New York State Bar Journal of September/October, 1999, a special issue devoted to labor law. This is from an article by Peter M. Panken and Jeffrey D. Williams entitled "Employers Need to Observe Limits On Monitoring the Workplace And Reduce Privacy Expectations:"

"The best way to avoid workplace privacy disputes is to make it clear that employees may expect no privacy at work."

This charming sentiment is further elaborated thusly:

"Personnel policies should provide for the inspection of personal effects that employees bring to work and disciplinary action for failure to cooperate with and inspection. The policy should spell out what are considered personal effects (e.g. lunch boxes, packages, automobiles(!), wallets(!), purses(!) ... subject to inspection."

As an aside, I have to say that a great deal of the labor law material I reviewed seems to be quite unambiguously geared towards management. Another article is entitled "Cost Savings From Hiring Contingent Workers May Be Lost If Their Status Is Challenged" by William D. Fromkin

resources away from programs that help and empower workers towards a burgeoning police/prison state.

For example, in my home state of New York, spending on state universities has declined in direct proportion to an increase in spending for prison construction and New York is not alone in this regard. The United States now has the world's largest prison population, and most of the prisoners are nonviolent drug offenders. Prison construction and privatized "corrections" are among the nation's largest and most lucrative industries. This dubious feat has been accomplished by a steady erosion of constitutional rights and increasingly militarized, brutal and unaccountable police.

The harshest measures fall on the poor and unemployed (especially ethnic minorities, who comprise a growing percentage of the non-professional working class), but a consistent regimentation has been applied throughout society. Schools in New York City now have police officers permanently stationed in them and students on their way home are often subject to arbitrary stops and interrogations. Others around the country have metal detectors, locker searches by police squads with dogs and breathalyzer tests at school dances.

This is designed to prepare tomorrow's adults for a lifetime of regimentation, surveillance and identification checks. Drug testing is but the top of a very large iceberg. Response to massive demonstrations against the World Trade Organization in Seattle last November and against the International Monetary Fund in Washington this April have reminded the US citizenry once again that there's not much difference between our country and a dictatorship. Next week is the national convention of the Republican Party in Philadelphia and the response from the rulers to large scale discontent is to provide for more prison space and more

A huge problem in the US is that ever greater numbers of workers are considered "disposable" so companies can exploit them for even greater profits while compensating them to the minimal extent possible. And here are a couple of sharpies raking in the shekels by performing the Christian act of aiding and abetting the poor, misused executives and stockholders. It would be nice to see more labor lawyers on the side of labor.

nized crime and the more invasive aspects of government, and reinforced a belief that law and government are inimical to liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Legal challenges to workplace drug testing have mostly come from public sector unions; yet another good reason to oppose encroaching privatization. Private employers in the US have incredible leeway in violating the privacy of workers and imposing capricious rules. Since this is a conference on transatlantic perspectives, nothing better illustrates the yawning gap in attitudes in this regard than the opposition that Disney encountered when they attempted to implement some of their regulations on European workers at their park outside of Paris. They arbitrarily banned facial hair and earrings on men, imposed tight restrictions on jewelry and even shades of makeup for women, and subjected both genders to mandatory "smile" classes. To their credit, European workers resisted this as the automatonization it is, but all too many Americans see nothing wrong with the company demanding you chop off their dreadlocks for no good reason except to assert its power over them. People in the US believe that they love and revere liberty like no others on earth, but this belief increasingly takes on the air of a myth. When I told an Italian participant in this conference what I was speaking on, he told me that workers in his country would never accept such intrusions into their bodily integrity.

and Elliot D. Bernak. A huge problem in the US is that ever greater numbers of workers are considered "disposable" so companies can exploit them for even greater profits while compensating them to the minimal extent possible. And here are a couple of sharpies raking in the shekels by performing the Christian act of aiding and abetting the poor, misused executives and stockholders. It would be nice to see more labor lawyers on the side of labor.

In addition, many employers seek to extend their reach outside the workplace. Besides drug testing, courts have upheld bans on employees dating each other outside the workplace. I don't have statistics handy, but how many people meet their partners at work and just who are employers to try to extinguish a nice romance just to marginally increase their productivity and profits? Americans are working increasingly long hours and the workplace community occupies a greater and greater psychic space. I say once you leave the job, your time is your own and if they'd like it otherwise, let them pay you for twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week!

I'd like to close with the theme of the War on Drugs (and other internal "wars" on various things) as attempts to control the workforce, as developed by Christian Parenti in his book Lockdown America. Briefly stated, Parenti holds that in order to maintain and increase profits, the owner and investor class has used its political influence (i.e. money) to direct government

riot police.

On the international front, the pretext for US intervention abroad is no longer communism, but drugs. The 1989 invasion of Panama, just a little more than a month after the fall of the Berlin Wall, was the prototype, and as I speak, poison is being sprayed over large areas of Colombia by its government, funded and overseen by the US.

Finally, I would urge those in attendance not from the US to take a proactive role in resisting any semblance of this form of "Americanization" in your countries. We're no longer the country of the future, at least not a future anyone who has to work for a living wants to be part of.

They cut me off after 18 minutes, so I didn't get to the parts about the growing police state in the US or the spraying of poisons on Colombia. There was also, perhaps fortunately, no time for Q&A. One Irish participant did say it was very interesting. When I asked her, she told me that Irish companies don't require drug tests, but that her company does get calls from US firms looking to expand and they inquire as to whether it's done.

And the speaker after me, a big-time pro-management lawyer, was impressed enough to remove his suit jacket before beginning and pronounced me "a hard act to follow." In his talk, he reminded us of an outrage that I'd completely forgotten: employees being required to wear electronic badges that allow their movements to be tracked and monitored throughout the workplace!

Dorm Drama

By Debbie Sticher

I just got a phone call from a friend in my building. He's staying at his friend's apartment, perched atop a pile of his belongings. He just got a call from the head of the Division of Campus Residences, informing him that the move-in date of Thursday has now been extended to Saturday. He was on the early check-in list—both because he had to move out of his summer residence today and because he had to start work tomorrow. He sounded a little flabbergasted. I had to agree.

I came back from work today to my intersession dormitory. I rather like the dorm, it has a kitchen in the suite, and it HAS been my home for the past month and a half, after all. But I also have a car packed full of somewhat valuable stuff sitting in my parking lot. It makes me a little nervous not having a better place to put my paintings, my camera, and my books. And I can't help but think that if I did not have use of a car, I would be even more anxious, being on this horribly disorganized stand-by.

Last week, there had been rumors circulating that the dorms in H-Quad would not be ready on time for human occupation. My RA was already dogging me to move out of my summer room, and nobody I talked to seemed to know what was going on. Hoping to diffuse the little knot in my stomach, I called Campus Residences last Thursday:

"Hey, what's up. I'm a student currently residing on campus for intersession and I was wondering when I am supposed to move into James. I've received no information."

The Lady: "Well, we don't currently have that information at this time."

(audible sound of eyes bulging)
"Uuuuuuhhhh... well, uh, who DOES have that information at this time???"

The Lady (bothered to move from her desk): "Oh well... wait, lemme check."



Following some high-impact mumbling in the background, she came back on the phone to inform me that the contractor was taking longer than expected. Okay, I thought, that's not so bad, it rained a lot this summer, I'm a reasonable enough person to excuse this. I became consciously grateful

that I wasn't an international student, that I had a nice place to stay, and that I was kind of busy with work anyway. She added, "You'll probably receive some notification in the mail..."

So when I came back to my dorm today, a week later, I thought for sure I'd have a letter or a phone mail waiting for me. I'd run into a friend who'd told me he was moving in today, after all. I tried calling up James' college office, but the phones weren't even hooked up yet. I beeped my friend.

"Where the hell are YOU???"

I offered the rumors I'd accumulated over the past week of stand-by. I'd heard they're going to triple dorms. I'd heard more lounges are going to be converted into rooms. I'd heard people are going to be staying at Dowling. I'd heard the newly renovated dorms in H Quad still don't even have doors. I'd heard that they've over-booked the campus dormitories by about 1,000 students this year, about 500 MORE people overbooked than last year. He reminded me of one last rumor I'd heard: that I was supposed to move in Thursday.

Who knows what's going on? I'm trying to juggle the stress of this mess with my job, the anticipation of classes, and my mom, who really would like the car back. Even prisoners have guaranteed residency, and WE'RE paying for this. I don't think I'd mind so much if I was getting a semi-regular stream of information. The RAs don't even know what's doing on. I hate to be picky, but forgiving delays from weather, this is SOMEBODY'S fault. I'm positive this situation is inconveniencing more people than just me and probably much more severely. I just want the truth behind what appears to be poor conduct of business. In the mean time, my fingers are poised to dial the New York State Dormitory Authority until I catch wind of the status of the place I call "home."



Top Ten Things About New Roomates that Will Grate On Your Nerves:

- 10) Underpants on the floor constantly.
- 9) Eating all your Little Debbie snack cakes.
- 8) Nocturnal Emissions and bunk beds don't mix.
- 7) No matter how much bleach you put in their coffee, they still won't die.
- 6) Their incessant banter about how great things were back on the farm.
- 5) Their Al Pacino poster is cooler than your Al Pacino poster.
- 4) Repeatedly sleeping with your significant other; I mean the first two or three times could be an accident, but it gets to a certain point...
- 3) Their pet screaming cockroaches.
- 2) Their repeated attempts to abscond with your ass virginity.
- 1) Breathing.

SURVIVOR USB

By Glenn "Squirrel" Given

Well, hello incoming freshpeoples. Nice to see that mommy packed your favorite jammy-pants cause it gets mighty cold here at Stony Brook.

First off to all the ladies in the house: Stony Brook had 4 reported rape/sexual assaults last October. Considering that only 50% of all rapes are reported that means that there were probably 8 rapes last October and a significantly greater amount of sexual assaults. Multiply that by the number of semester you are planning on attending here and we get... not including summer classes... two hundred and thirty two rapes in your college career. And remember if your one of them even though only 3% of sexual assault and rape accusations turn out to be false only 10% of them are even prosecuted! Go Seawolves!

So, as you'll notice when walking through the academic mall we have a new 2 million-dollar fountain! Additionally a little of the beaten path one can watch 1 million dollars being spent to convert the campus owned estate Sunwood into President Shirley Strum Kenny's mansion! That's in addition to the new "safety phones" that took a year to install across campus.

Sorry to bring every one down but there were a few nuggets of information that weren't included in your orientation brochure.

Anyway onto the important survival information for incoming freshpeople.

It is important that you remember to never attend any school sporting event, they will only serve to embarrass you and those associated with you. Additionally you should never purchase any item of apparel with the school logo, or name on it. If you receive one free for some god-forsaken reason do yourself a favor and light it on fire. In addition to showing your disdain for sweatshop produced clothes you will have saved yourself from almost certain ridicule (mainly from me).

Freshpeople should keep it in mind that your RA or RHD is not some one who was chosen for that position, it is simply someone who could not

afford room and board and chose to sell out his/her friends in exchange. Now, being a RA or and RHD doesn't automatically mean that that person is a complete waste but it also doesn't mean that that person deserves any extra respect or attention. It's best to be on the safe side and avoid them at all costs. If you receive a forwarded message from them erase it because it will only involve you in their trivial matters.

There is one exception to this rule. It is dreadfully important that you get on the ball when it comes time to choose rooms for your next semester. You will be booted from the dorms if you don't complete and submit their inane paperwork expediently. There is a terrible housing shortage and you shouldn't be made to suffer. Your roommate who has repeatedly stolen your whiskey on the other hand can afford to have his/her papers "lost." Other than that treat your RA's and RHD's as if they were oncoming pedestrians in New York City, either look straight through them and keep moving, or shoot the hell out of them (assuming of course that you're a NYPD officer.) "What's around campus to take my fragile mind off the soul crushing work that

my 100 level course have heaped on my noggin," you ask?

First, let's address that issue. More than likely you are under two dangerous delusions that can potentially destroy any possible enjoyment of your freshman year.

1) You are enrolled in USB 101.

USB 101 is a "skills workshop" class intended to rot your brain from the inside out. There is nothing even remotely useful to be gleaned from this foolish waste of precious time. Withdraw from the class the minute you have read this article or your very soul may find itself in jeopardy.

2) You believe that prerequisites make two tugs on a dead dog's cock of a difference.

Once you've dropped USB 101 you can get into a class that you might actually learn from. Right off the bat you should be aiming for 300 level courses. Why you ask? Three reasons; first they're just as affective in ridding your self of DEC credits as 100 level courses. Secondly they are, on average, EASIER and less time consuming than 100 level courses (this is because 100 level courses are designed to "weed" people out of majors). Tertiarily, they count as upper division credits and will free up valuable sections of your Junior and Senior years for copious drug use.

Speaking of which:

Drugs on Campus: Fortunately most illegal narcotics are readily accessible on or near campus. In fact at last count I knew of more drug dealers living on campus than non-drug dealers. Additionally it is clear to me that scoring any type of "hard" narcotic (cocaine, ketamine and heroin) and/or hallucinogen (LSD, E and Shrooms) is far easier than getting quality pot. A word to the wise though, don't go looking for drug dealers, wait until you see someone in the act of imbibing drugs before inquiring whether they sell them. Lets move on as I have been forbidden by many of the *Press'* staff to give out our secrets.

Like Jeremy Piven said in PCU "Don't have a car? Find someone in your hall who does and make friends with them on the first day." There is next to nothing to do on campus! Rumor has it that years ago there were concerts and worthwhile events on campus. Today the Gestapo tactics of our security officers and administrators combined with an all but incompetent concert planning board have crippled a venue that used to serve the likes of The Doors, Ani DiFranco, Fishbone etc., etc.

There are a few neat events in the Spring Semester and a handful of interesting places about SB but not much. If you're looking to drink you have few options:

a) The local SB and Port Jefferson Bars (The Spot, Checkmate, Village Pub, Tara's Inn, or if you like your beer with a side of date rape, rohypnol and scabies you can frequent the Park Bench) although all of them will card.

b) The supermarket or PJ Beverage Center, which will also card.

c) Trying your luck at a Frat party, which is basically the same as the Park Bench only with more

games of Ookie Cookie, Date Rape, Gang Rape, Acquaintance Rape and keg stands.

So my best advice? Get a yearly train pass into Penn station.

Or if you are truly desperate and inept you could join a club. Blech! Of the clubs on campus the following list represents those most likely to be cults:

- Brothers and Sisters in Christ (BASIC)
- Life Talks
- The Student Polity Association

There are a lot of them out there so just assume that any group sporting Greek Letters, spouting anything relating to the bible or considering themselves part of the Student Government will want to put you in a compound and force you to drink their icky Kool-Aid.

There are a few clubs worth patronizing though. Our beloved liberal rag The Stony Brook press for one, or our curmudgeonly old companion the Statesman

As well as noble groups like:

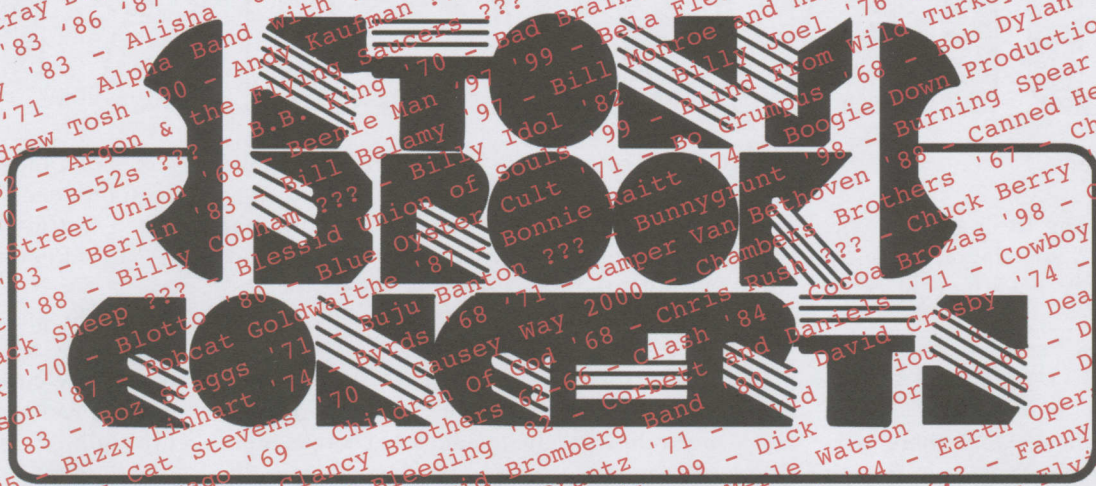
- Sinorama- the Taiwanese Students Organization
- Animated Perspectives- for all your animated demon porn needs
- NYPIRG- saving the world from Republicans and giving you credits!
- WUSB-FM- Help them cut down on Dead air
- And finally 3TV, which was shut down but is now back like the 5th rocky movie.

For the truly adventurous start your own club. It's easy just get three friends and 200 signatures and Polity will throw 500 bucks at you. Now buy something that is justifiably needed by your club with your own money and reimburse yourself. Close down the club and return the product with a photocopy of the receipt. Viola five hundred dollars!

For future reference the administrators at Stony Brook have their collective heads stuck up their asses. Don't expect anything to be done with any modicum of ease here. If you want any results what so ever, in any department or branch of administration, you must bypass all the lower levels of employees and go directly to the person in charge. If they're not there, wait or make an appointment, leave a gazillion messages on their personal phone and email. I can not stress this enough. You will be repeatedly fucked like a cheerleader dipped in beer at a Frat house if you do not do this.

For all the students who came to college believing that they could succeed in life as a Studio art, History, English, or Philosophy major: I am sorry. Call the waiter and get your check now before it's too late. Seriously though think about your choice of major. Most of the liberal or fine arts at Stony Brook are only prepared to turn you into another faculty member. Some exceptions exist though with our superb music department and uh... that's the only one I can think of. In closing those of you who have chosen your major already should be aware that the average college student changes his/her major 9 times before their junior year. So don't be such a self-assured son-of-a-bitch. Some one is gonna slap some respect into you and it just might be me.

Remember kids the only million you'll walk out of here with is the million you owe.



Upcoming:

9/6 Mother Freedom 1pm

9/7 Rusty String Band 1pm

9/23 Sleater-Kinney 8pm

Homecoming Concert TBA

10/27 Dancehall Reggae Show TBA

Psycho Naut

By Tim Connors

A Psycho Naut is someone who has consumed large amounts of acid, knowing that it is a mind-altering experience. There is a fine line between mind altering and permanent psychological damage. Acid punches holes in the container of your mind.

There is no way of telling how you will react to it. The ambient mood that you bring to the trip will be amplified. A random thought may become the focus of eight to nine hours of deep introspective thought. If you have problems with your mortality, acid will force you to examine your death, and that can be quite traumatic.

Acid is not a social drug. At first you want to be around someone else who is tripping, so that any anxiety you experience when going into an introspective state can be alleviated. When you go into that introspective state, being around other people is okay. But there probably will not be much conversation. That's the way it was for me. Everyone's experience differs. This is part of the appeal of acid.

The first time I tripped out was on two hits of blotter paper. I was taking anti-psychotic medication so I didn't get visuals. Visual hallucinations occur when taking large amounts of acid, or when you close your eyes and watch what your mind's eye is producing without the interference of sensory input from your eyes.

That first time I was with a group of people, and we were building a raft for the Roth Regatta, people were tripping and sniffing cocaine. The cokeheads were dancing to techno music and provided hours of entertainment to those of us tripping on acid. It was the best time I ever had in the lounge of the building I lived in.

I was a resident assistant at the time. A few weeks later one of the guys I tripped out with scored some more blotter paper. We tripped and wandered around the campus. At first there wasn't much conversation. I felt uncomfortable; I had been keeping secret the fact that I had spent a fortnight in a psycho ward at the hospital. Once the acid took hold, I started to recount the story of when I was in the bin.

Generally acid is dangerous, but it helped me make light of a previous experience of which I was ashamed. I joked around about the people in the bin, and kept the other guy laughing for nine hours. The memory of my time in the bin has faded, but at the time it was flesh wound inflicted by the hottest on-campus vacation spot.

Window pane acid is much stronger. I took three hits of it followed by half a bottle of cheap Vodka. A really hot girl asked me to get her and a friend some acid. We were having a small party, and I knew the RA on the floor so I figured everything would be OK. I was wrong.

The girl had some whiny-ass bitch at the party; his ex-girlfriend showed up and he got loud. Granted, telling him to sit down and shut the fuck up wasn't the right move. I was drunk and tripping to the moon, so that drama was just too much. He was loud and the RA came and tried to quiet us down.

Eventually he left, but the damage was done. I was having a bad trip on a lot of acid. So I went to the resident assistant's room and smoked some pot with a couple of the other RA's. Smoking pot made me paranoid, probably because I'm a paranoid schizophrenic. The RA's roommate was an asshole and started spouting shit about how I was about to go off on how the CIA was after me. That would fuck up most people on three hits of window pain acid, but I just told the people in the room about my diagnosis. One girl said she knew I was fucked up, but damn. I was bugging out so I split to find some isolation with other people. That may not sound like it makes sense, but I wanted the company of others without having to interact.

I found someone who helped me out and just chilled through the rest of the trip. To this day I still feel uncomfortable around groups of people because of the anxiety that those groups of people triggered in me that night. That wasn't the last time I tripped out though.

There were a couple more times, but



after that one bad trip it was never the same. In addition I had difficulty finding other people to trip out with. For some reason most people are afraid to take acid. I don't blame them, but I also am grateful for the experience. It allowed me to become conscious of how environment and interaction with other people can change thoughts and perceptions of reality.

Most people don't question reality. But the old doors of reality can be closed while new doors are opened. Not through the use of acid, but rather through introspection. Acid made me painfully aware of my feelings and how they were influenced by my thoughts and vice versa.

It's difficult to say how the two conscious regulators of reality perception are interrelated. Language and thought are learned sound patterns that influence feelings. And feelings are innate reactions that are conditioned responses to environmental cues. The beauty and danger of acid is that they go into overdrive. When I closed my eyes I saw patterns and the need to perceive and evaluate reality went no further than the light show on the inside of my eyelids.

Be warned though, I'm a schizophrenic

and my thought patterns and the amount of attachment to my feelings probably differs from yours. Thoughts are based on trained sound interactions called language; however, there is a marked tendency to become paranoid under the influence of drugs. That might have been detrimental to me if it weren't for the fact that I am not too aware of what my feelings are, or why I should even bother to focus on them. If you are an extremely emotional person, or just afraid, don't use drugs because the emotions you bring to the experience are the foundation for how you will react to the chemical change that occurs in your mind when using drugs.

If you already use drugs, can't stop, want to, but don't know how, I'd suggest attending a Narcotics or Alcoholics Anonymous meeting in the Student Activities Center. Narcotics Anonymous meets on Tuesday nights at 7:30 in the SAC room 309. Alcoholics Anonymous meets on Wednesday nights in the SAC; read the meetings list posted on Wednesday to find the room.

There is a simple but profound message there: if you don't pick up drugs or alcohol, you won't get high. Thinking about a life without drugs and alcohol is impossible for me; the only extent that I can abstain from using them is for today. I worry about tomorrow when it comes. Life without drugs is more challenging, and there are things about myself that I have been avoiding by using drugs. The pleasure of using drugs goes away after a while, and I am left with the choice of continuing to numb myself or to face life on life's terms.

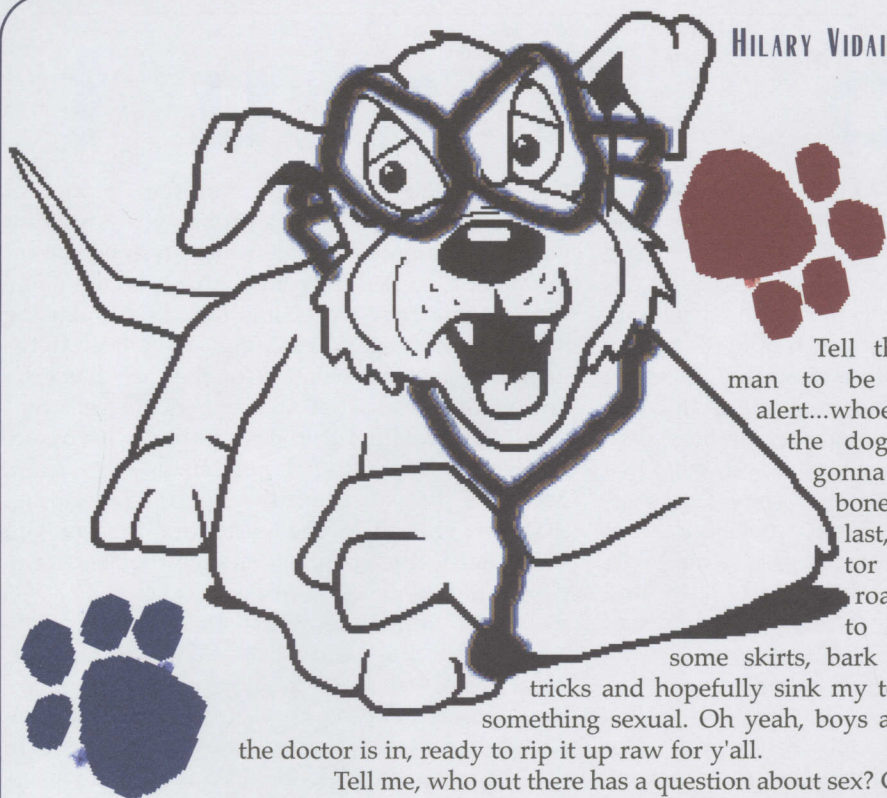
I mention those meetings because when I initially intensified my drug use when I came to college, I thought that was just part of the college experience. There was a progression of use for me to larger amounts of differing substances. I would stop for up to two months, but somehow I always ended up at a bar and the progression would continue like I hadn't missed a day.

The college experience is about trying and learning new things and ideas. Some experiences will be positive, and others negative. The main goal for me was to finish school - that goal would have been reached with less pain, failure, and humiliation if I hadn't been drinking and using drugs. Somewhere along the way I lost control of the drugs, and pursuing the chemically altered conscious became the center of my life and college was a means to support that.

There were two forms of insanity in my life. The first was the schizophrenia; that caused me to occasionally hear voices and have paranoid thoughts about hearing voices. The second was repeating the same mistakes over and over again and expecting different results.

The same mistakes were not just the drug use, but also relationships, work, friends, study habits, living arrangements, medication compliance, diet choices that led to weight gain, and just about any other choice I could fuck up repeatedly. Somehow I graduated after going to three universities, and having difficulty at all of them. My life had become unmanageable and I was powerless over the use of drugs. That realization, coupled with the desire to stop using and to salvage my life to the extent that I can, led me to Narcotics Anonymous.

JOIN THE PRESS



HILARY VIDAIR'S

DR. DOG

Its Like A Pornographic Episode Of Full House

Tell the mailman to be on the alert...whoever let the dog out is gonna get boned! Ah, at last, the doctor can roam, free to look up some skirts, bark at some tricks and hopefully sink my teeth into something sexual. Oh yeah, boys and girls, the doctor is in, ready to rip it up raw for y'all.

Tell me, who out there has a question about sex? Come on, I can't hear y'all. Suck it up sweetie, and learn not to stutter on the rough rider's route to the rude and crude! There's gonna be mad question-askin' answer passin' (including some special guest speakers) and an all around roll-in-the-dirt-reading.

That's right, folks! Roll out your libidos and let's get pumpin'! Every issue, this section's gonna be jam-packed with YOUR questions on lickin', stickin', hidin' and hoin'. It'll also contain some juicy stories about sex on campus. Aw yeah, I'm gonna jam those in too, nice and tight. Can you feel the friction? It's gonna be freaky!

Now don't be shy! I am not your lover, or your

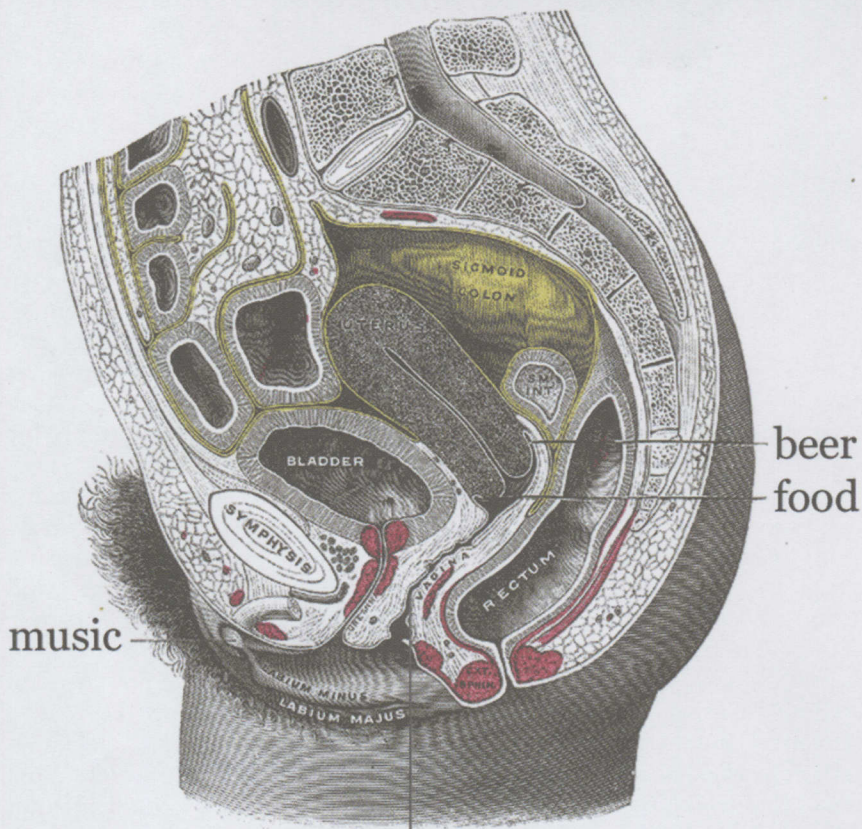
mom, or your homosexual fantasy (?)...I am Dr. Dog, the one, the only, sex advice columnist on this here campus. Right about now, I want all y'all to start gettin' your swerve on, so you can write in the details. And if you're stumped, or in a slump, write on in and I'll get you humped! Aw yeah, baby, we're gonna have mad chemistry flowin' up in this mo'fo.

So who's ready to rumble? I need one of you bold souls to let our readers know the deal! I'll start you off with a couple of questions to answer, then you're on your own. Speaking of rollin' solo, where is the weirdest place you've ever masturbated on campus? Did you go there specifically to masturbate or did you just happened to be there when you started feeling a little randy? Was there a chance of getting caught? What was the view like? Write in and let me know your story.

Tell ya what...whoever can come up with the nastiest sex question about the human body (or bodies) and/or a steamy sexual saga will be featured in my next screwy column. So get to steppin', ladies and gentlemen, and turn those thermostats on! If you try it out, write it out! Shake those bon bons my way! This is gonna be the dirtiest, hardest, most fun and "educational" column on campus. Stony Brook's gonna be shakin' (dip, baby, dip!)

What are you waiting for? Start typing! Don't worry...I only bite if I have to. If you want complete anonymity, write to me via a Hotmail account where you don't have to use your real name. So get ready to wil' out! Dr. Dog's in the house! All inquiries will be researched with my own paws.

The doctor is in! Send your masturbatory stories along with any quirky questions to stonypress@hotmail.com by Fri. September 15!



The Spot

jazz series, poetry series
world music, cabaret

2nd floor fannie brice theatre
wednesday through saturday
6 pm to 2 am

SLEATER-KINNEY,
the ultimate
girl band,
will be
playing on
the *Stony Brook*
campus

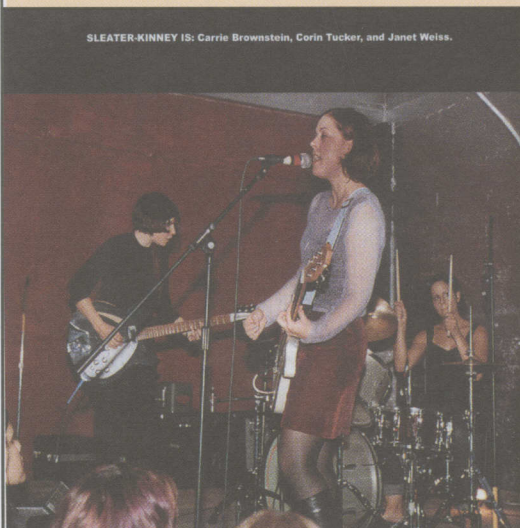


Saturday,
SEPTEMBER
23RD.

Union
Ballroom

8 PM

7\$ w/ SB ID
10\$ w/out

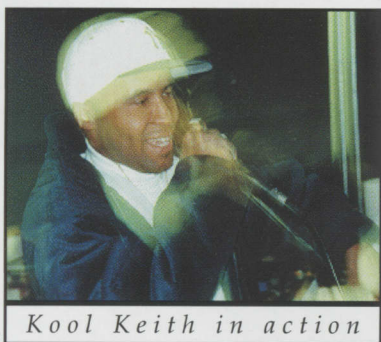


SLEATER-KINNEY IS: Carrie Brownstein, Corin Tucker, and Janet Weiss.

GRAIG SCHLANGER'S BIGMOUTH

Analog Brothes: *Pimp to Eat*
(Ground Control Records)

Well Brian, you were right. I have now officially reviewed a Kool Keith record for three consecutive issues (those of you who didn't catch the summer issues have no idea what I'm talking about). So who are the Analog Brothers? Well, this is a project deserving of sincere anticipation from the underground hip-hop community. Kool Keith and Ice-T (under the analog monikers of Keith Korg and Ice Oscillator respectively) and three others of lesser notoriety (Silver Synth, Rex Roland and Mark



Kool Keith in action

Moog) have united to put together a project that reeks of Kool Keith Korg's sense of hip hop eccentric humor.

The Analog Brother 5 have thrown together a more than satisfying package of spacial and haunting beats accompanied by hilarious rhymes galore. Any critics who felt Ice-T would have trouble following Keith's oddball style are silenced as early as the "Analog Brothers Intro." Ice-T proves that he hasn't lost a step in his rhymes over the years (though a lot of commercial appeal) and works perfectly with Keith throughout the entire record.



The Ice Man

So as not to overload my recent Kool Keith coverage, this review will be kept really short. The bottom line? Anything Kool Keith contributes to ends up being dope. It's a fact. This is no exception. Looking for great rhymes and a few laughs? Pick this up. It's Kool Keith and Ice-T on one record! You just can't go wrong.

Morbid Angel: *Gateways to Annihilation*
(Earache Records)

Coming home from a long day at the office and finding an advance tape of the new Morbid Angel record in my mailbox proved one of the jolliest moments of my summer. Morbid Angel is not only my favorite metal band, they are one of my favorite bands of any genre. Their music is well-written, intricate, evil, and chal-

lenging all at once. Guitarist Trey Azagthoth has proven himself in league with the likes of Eddie Van Halen over the years while the drumming of "Commando" Pete Sandoval has led to severe foaming at the mouth of drummers world-wide. Add the guitar expertise of Hate Eternal axeman (and extremely nice guy) Erik Rutan and the bass guitar and BRUUUTAL voice of Mr. Steve Tucker and we've got serious shit here.

This record sees Morbid Angel taking a more atmospheric stance with their song composition often sacrificing speed (one of my favorite aspects of an M.A. song) for richer song structure on this record. The results are overwhelmingly positive (well, as positive as death metal can be...). This record is another masterpiece to add into M.A.'s already rich back catalogue. Standout tracks include "Opening of the Gates," "Summoning Redemption," "Secured Limitations," "God of the Forsaken," ...well, actually, there aren't really any filler songs here. Every track is unique in the way only Morbid Angel can be. A definite winner and excellent addition to any collection of heavy music, in this pre-packaged and manufactured age of Static-X, Staind and Coal Chamber.

Neil Young: *Silver & Gold*
(Reprise Records)

Arguably, Neil Young has remained one of the most relevant rock artists of the past several decades. And why not? Young has a back catalogue that rivals Prince's modern collection, not to mention his contributions to Crosby, Stills Nash & Young and Buffalo Springfield. Like Prince, Young has also dabbled in multiple genres over the years with rockabilly, southern rock, folk, and even electronica (though even he admits this venture wasn't a great success) coming to mind. When most of his contemporaries have struggled to gain acceptance in the youth-dominated world of



"Yikes"



I Once Got Busy In A Burger King Bathroom

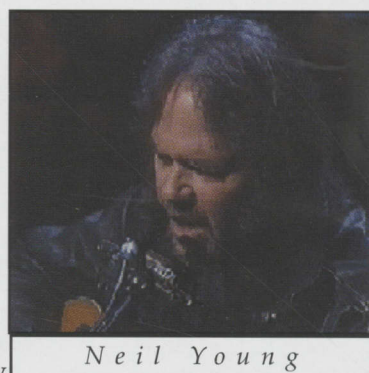
Strikes
Again

modern music, Neil has earned the respect of most modern performers. Even acting as a father figure to Pearl Jam just a few years ago. Also not forgetting the "Godfather of Grunge" title he was dubiously awarded in the early '90s by the music press.

So in the year 2000, with the charts dominated by nu-metal, boy bands, and fake Mafioso rap (Note: it was refreshing to see the new De La Soul debut at number 1), Young should obviously do something extremely dramatic to stand out from this crop and stay relevant. With that said, leave it to Young to put forth his most mellow record in nearly a decade with *Silver & Gold*. The record seems to be a proper sequel to 1992's quiet *Harvest Moon* release, and was probably inspired by the recent reunion tour and new record from Crosby Stills Nash & Young.

Anyone who enjoys the many faces of Neil Young really can't go wrong here. Capturing Neil at his most docile and emotionally vulnerable, the listener is treated to ten new songs. Many have a very southern, almost country feel. Anyone familiar with his past work should completely understand the feeling. Songs such as the campy but catchy "Buffalo Springfield Again" and "Good To See You" are classic Neil. "Daddy Went Walking" also retains a very southern feel while acting as an ode to his pops.

Silver & Gold is an excellent step for Neil in the year 2000. Die-hard fans will eat this up. More importantly, even casual fans should be able to glide through these tracks and enjoy the always-relevant songwriting skills of Mr. Neil Young.



Neil Young

**1 in 4 Long Island residents
suffer from a venereal disease**

**Though there may not be a cure,
The Press can help . . .**

**Come to The Press
Open House**

**1pm wed. 13th
at the Arcade
in the
Union Bldg
*free food***

**The Stony Brook Press
*'cause it's all about suppression***