

News & Views

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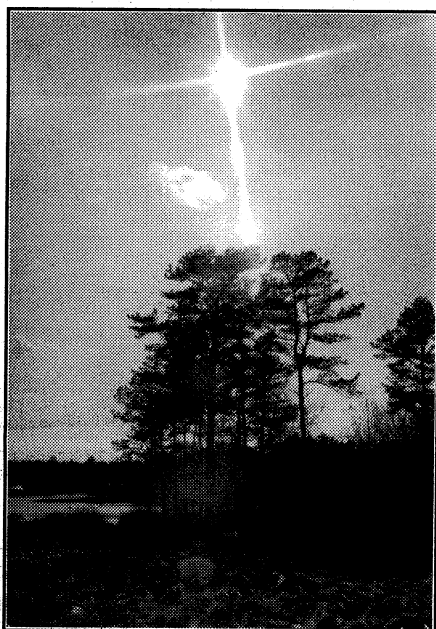
Think Globally, Act Locally: Drinking Water Protection and The South Setauket Woods

By Sally Kuzma, Editor and Graduate Student in Studio Art

Earth Day approaches, and with it, admonishments to 'Think Globally; Act Locally'. So how much do you really know about the ground beneath your feet? Or the water beneath the ground? The natural history of this area, what's left in between the shopping centers and highways, is surprisingly rich. And despite oppressive suburban sprawl, the political history of the fight for preservation of open space here is surprisingly fierce.

The Local Landscape: Meet The Pine Barrens at South Setauket Woods

Stony Brook's campus lies adjacent to one of the last significant remnants of Long Island's native forest, the Pine Barrens. South Setauket Woods, a 100-plus acre Suffolk County Preserve bordering Route 347 just east of the University, is home to red-shouldered hawks, 61 species of birds, red-backed salamanders, American toads, opossums, raccoons and other wild-



On Long Island, knowing where you stand means knowing the Pine Barrens, the predominant scrub oak and pitch pine forest that serves as a groundwater recharge area.

life. It is part of a pitch pine and scrub oak woodland ecosystem that once covered much of Long Island.

The remaining forest parcels lie in central and eastern Long Island, with notable preserves in the Calverton/Riverhead area, along the Peconic River and Bay, and on the South Fork at Hither Hills and Montauk Point. It hosts thousands of plant and animal species, many of them endangered or threatened, such as: the tiger salamander, the eastern mud turtle, the northern harrier, various insectivorous plants and wild orchids.

Formed by a unique set of geographical and geological conditions over the past 15,000 years, the Pine Barrens are one of the Northeast's greatest treasures. The characteristic sandy soil

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USB Provost Edelstein Is Out *Enrollment Crisis, Budget Disputes Cited as Possible Causes*

Tilden Edelstein will no longer serve as Stony Brook's Provost as of June 30, 1993. While Newsday announced Edelstein's resignation, University sources seem to agree that he was asked to step down, possibly due to disputes with University President John Marburger.

"This can't be bad news for grad students," said Norah Martin, Graduate Student Organization President. "Edelstein is the one who thought that the best way to save money is to cut grad student lines-- to the tune of \$1.1 million in 91-92."

Relieved of his provostial duties, Edelstein will stay on for another year to fill other roles such as contract negotiator in Albany on behalf of the University in talks with the Graduate Student Employees Union.

Martin cited budget problems brought on by a crisis over enrollment

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TAP Restored for Grads and Undergrads

Political efforts paid off for students who are receiving Tuition Assistance Program money. Letter-writing campaigns, phone-in lobbying, and leg-work in Albany contributed to a victory for grass roots activism. According to Financial Aid officer Sherwood Johnson, funds for graduate and undergraduate TAP were restored in the state's final budget document, which was finally approved last week. Previously, the Governor proposed eliminating TAP for incoming grads and phasing it out all together.

NYPIRG, SASU, GSEU, and the GSO all participated in the lobbying campaign.

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HOPING HE'LL STICK TO IT: Governor Mario Cuomo tries on a Grad Student Employees Union button from GSEU member Cas Ivanbrook, Philosophy TA at a March 3 encounter. Cuomo expressed his support for the GSEU in its efforts to get a good contract.

editorial

A Budding Scientist's Report Card: Why Science and Advocacy Don't Mix

By Tim Morton, Grad Student in Ecology and Evolution & GSO Treasurer

Sometimes a short introduction to the author helps a reader understand the ideas he presents. (That's the real reason they put paper book covers on clothbound books these days; they're not there to keep the book clean.) Annual student review is looming ahead and I began to wonder what effect some of my activities have on my existence as a student, and of the faculty's perception of this existence. There are three activities in particular: 1) I spent 2 years as a conservation biologist in Florida before coming to Stony Brook; 2) I've been involved with the GSO since I got here in 1990; 3) In two weeks I will present an invited talk at a government workshop on toxicity assessment in natural ecosystems (EPA). My random thoughts turned into a 15 minute talk at the Ecology and Evolution annual retreat two weeks ago where I presented the report card for scientists (right), to mixed reviews. Another mutation turned those thoughts into this article.

Why aren't more scientists involved in environmental advocacy? There has been quite a clamor in the environmental community of late about the lack of involvement of "real scientists" (academics) in the environmental process. Just when they are needed most with natural ecosystems and species disappearing at rates never before experienced.

I agree that scientists should be more active but I don't think the problem stops there. The problem is much more pervasive and deeper than just the sciences; it is symptomatic of academia in general. Why aren't proto-scientists (grad students) involved in much of anything these days? Why do we often have trouble getting quorum for a GSO meeting? Why do the senators from

about 15 academic departments make all the decisions in the GSO? That's easy: because the other 30 departments don't send a senator. But why don't they send someone to represent them?

To try and answer these questions I am introducing the idea of a Report Card for grad students. The idea is to take a process which is entirely subjective and transform it into one which is objective. With an objective discussion, there is no ambiguity.

For instance, if someone asked me how I felt about eggplant, I would say I

ues listed on the report card represent anything approaching reality? Do I lose 10 points for involvement in campus politics and am I jeopardizing my career as a scientist by consulting with the EPA?

This brings me back to the point of why students don't get involved. I feel there is a pressure-- maybe real or simply perceived-- to focus on your thesis. The pressure takes many forms. Others consider this the drive toward specialization, but I think it is something more visceral than that. You know your sup-

the same in the scientific field. The power differential may be the granting process, where a colleague may be in the position to review your grant some day and with the stroke of a pen derail your research program. If environmental advocacy may be viewed as non-science by a potential grant reviewer, why risk it?

There is an additional internal drive added to the external. Let's say you've just spent your 7 years focused on your thesis and you are now the world expert on mating behavior in frogs of the genus XXX and you have a doctorate in hand.

REPORT CARD

Category	point value	comments
Got a PhD (have one soon)	+65 pts	good school +10; bad school -10
Major advisor well known	+20	unknown- no change
Publications...		
none	-65	not really a scientist
some	+10	working hard
lots	+25	quality not considered (###)
Hangs around dept. from 9am to 5pm	+25	even if its just to drink coffee, something is bound to sink in
Outside interests...		
Enjoys ballet, opera (high culture)	+10	Renaissance veneer
Enjoys football, Jell-O wrestling	-10	not to be associated with
Participates in above sports	-10 more	to be avoided
Politics...		
Campus government	-10	should be working on thesis
Other government	-25	questionable activities
Environmentalism	-50	not really a scientist

like eggplant. Why? In an objective consideration, I would rate my various likes and dislikes regarding eggplant and give them an overall score. So: it has a really cool purple color (+20), but it's mushy when cooked (-10), and the flavor is OK (+5). Overall, I like eggplant (+15). Though if you offered me some, I wouldn't eat it because it is (-5) in terms of eating quality. Now you're not confused when I say I like eggplant but refuse to eat it.

I realize it is much more difficult to objectify people, but in theory it is possible. As the situation now stands, we as grad students get evaluated every year by a group of faculty who make decisions affecting our future and they do this entirely on a subjective basis. If we had a report card with points laid out then we would know exactly what areas need developing and what we are doing right. We all should have a pretty good idea of where we stand. But what about things that don't fit in the pattern of academia, things like student government or environmental advocacy? Is my assessment true-- do the point val-

port is really not guaranteed and probably won't last beyond the 5th year. Add to that the possibility that someone may get a bad impression if they perceive something you do in a negative light. This is important in a subjective system because if someone with influence over your tenuous future has a nagging doubt about your abilities, it may come back to haunt you at some point in the future, like when they are deciding who will get support in a tight budget year. In a subjective system this never gets openly aired and it is difficult to replace some nebulous negative perception with a positive image or to know if and when you've succeeded in replacing it. So, maybe you're better off working 12 hour days and being miserable for a few years to ensure your future. And while you're at it, maybe it would be better to avoid any chance of getting negative points and simply sit in the office all day. Right? These pressures are imposed from the outside. That is, the pressure is applied directly or indirectly from someone else who is in a position of relative power over you. It is

It was an arduous journey, the road to the Ph.D. You trained yourself and worked every day to be an objective thinker. You distanced yourself from the object of study in order to see it in its natural state and not influence the outcome by your personal presence. (Ask a philosophy major if this is truly possible.) In statistical terms, you minimized the experimental error. In ecology, if you got too close your organism ran away. This highly coveted scientific state of mind (objectivism) runs directly counter to the subjective nature of environmental advocacy. This is a scary ground for many biologists. The comfortable confines of scientific objectivism must be left behind. When faced with a decision to preserve or develop, you can't say "Let's send an ecologist to study the area for two years and write a report." In an ideal world, yeah, let's study it some more. One more field season will really shed some light on the problem. But we don't live in an ideal world and species disappear every day. And remember, every good experiment

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viewpoints

Criteria: What It Means To Have A Job

I recently phoned a number of administrative offices asking about GA lines that might be available, so that I could inform readers of funding sources outside of traditional departmental offerings. I wasn't prepared for the hostile response I got from so many (but not all) of them. It was as if I were writing about some lurid private secret. We *do* advertise these positions, one office assistant yelled at me, just check with your department. And if the overburdened departmental clerical staff didn't get the ad into my mailbox in time to for me to apply, well, that's too bad.

What I learned from this is how GA lines (and TA lines, I might add) are viewed and used as favors to be doled out to good little boys and girls. And what a radical shift in perspective must happen as a result of unionization: we are employees now, and these are *jobs*. It's a simple concept— with substantial repercussions, and not just in the matter of open hiring.

For those of us in the humanities and other financially broken departments, where nothing is guaranteed — least of all next year's line, it highlights the importance of having clear criteria for hiring and firing.

Departments enjoy some autonomy in how they distribute lines. In times of severe budget crisis, as in the fall of '91, grad departments had the flexibility to respond in different ways. Some, such as the philosophy department, responded by not taking in any new students, or only taking in the very limited number that they could fund. Some had students accept without offers of support, knowing that they were not likely to get any in the

future either. Some had students accept without offers of support, but led them to believe it was on the way. And some by-passed funding of returning students to lure newcomers with fat offers of support.

The last two tactics are the least ethical, and yet seem to be in compliance with Graduate School guidelines, which, according to a Grad School representative, state that the proper use of TA lines is for recruitment (the written guidelines have yet to appear).

If this is indeed the policy, does that mean it's ok for a department to de-fund or not hire a returning student as TA, in order to use the money to draw in someone else (someone unknown and unproven) to take the job? How honest do departmental chairs have to be when making offers? In the case of by-passing returning students, does the Graduate School condone deceit? Does a department have any responsibility to returning students?

And how does a returning student, demonstrably qualified for a teaching position, challenge a department's decision to give the line to whomever they *like*, as opposed to whomever is most *qualified*?

TA lines are jobs; they are how grad students earn a living. If the Graduate School intends to support their continued use as recruitment lures, this must be balanced and backed up with clear criteria for hiring and firing, as well as protection for returning students who have already invested time, money, and effort in their programs.

-- S. Kuzma

Treasurer's Report: Sizing Up Next Year's Budget

The year is coming to a close and that means, once again, it's budget time. With the help of a few of the budget committee members (Chris Kushmerick, Anna Linders, John Intile, and Ida Fuchs) I am prepared to unveil our creation. For the most part everything will be business as usual. A few major changes are outlined below.

Cultural and Social- This category increased as a result of the GSO's decision to restart the graduate student lounge (GSL). As I reported in the last issue, the GSO has entered into an agreement with the Faculty Student Association (FSA) in order to bring this about. This agreement involved a contract in which the GSO agreed to provide \$15,000 to offset expected running losses for the start-up phase of the lounge. Should it be profitable from the start, then we will not have to give FSA the \$15,000 but that isn't likely. The lounge is likely to lose more than \$15,000 the first year but FSA has agreed to accept that risk as well as absorb all costs involved in converting the current location from a study area to a lounge. Also budgeted in the \$18,850 is \$2,000 for entertainment and miscellaneous expenses associated with the lounge.

The committee is aiming for a September 1st 1993 opening date. The Lounge will be located above the Fanny Brice Theatre (near New Grad Apts.) on the second floor, serving coffee, beer, wine, and food. It will be open to Graduate students, most of whom are of legal drinking age; undergrads generally are not and will be excluded. This is intended to be a grad student hang out.

RAP Travel Money- RAP is costing the GSO much more than we ever intended. The whole idea was to provide seed money and draw in funding from outside sources to pay the majority of the bill. There are two reasons why this is costing us so much more now than in the past. First, we are drawing in less money from outside, the budget cuts have been hard on everyone. Second, the number of students applying for travel money has grown incredibly. Two years ago at this time, we had processed 61 RAP requests. Last year at this time, we had done 68. This year the number is already well in excess of 100 requests and the busy summer season is yet to come. I am willing to make a commitment to fund all valid requests we receive right through the summer. We were seriously considering ending the program for next year but in the open house discussion between the grad students and the Faculty Senate Research Committee it was very clear that this money is important to students. Next year we intend to lobby the administration and grad school to provide additional funds.

Travel- This category has fluctuated a lot over the years. This year's executive council was more tied to home than the past groups. The senate intends to create a new executive office for next year, the external vice-president. This will be a person who will serve as liaison between Stony Brook and the outside world (i.e. Albany). It's not a paid position; the allocation is intended to cover travel costs to attend meetings.

Printing and Publication- We are planning an augmentation of the News and Views. The single paid person on the staff does editing, reporting and typesetting. But there are many interesting leads for stories that we simply can't follow up for lack of time. We rely greatly on reader input to fill the pages and would like to encourage participation in more in-depth reporting. This budget contains \$2,000 for reporter salaries to be spent at the discretion of the editor. This is not very much, considering how much time it takes to write a story (the other story I have in this issue took an entire day and it didn't even require research!). Advertising in the paper brought in \$3,000 last year. I propose to hold this in reserve, earmarked for the paper, to give further flexibility in our publishing endeavors.

Total- The overall budget this year is significantly higher this year as a result of the above mentioned changes. These represent a significant change in the direction of the GSO. Back in 90-91, the GSO spent \$30,000 on advocacy (outside groups who lobby and generally represent our interests to the legislatures.) We still are in that business, but to a lesser degree. Many of the issues we were actively lobbying for back then, such as health care, are now under the purview of the Union. Our focus for the past couple of years has been in campus politics, getting students included on university-wide committees to make certain that our concerns were heard here on campus. We intend to maintain that aspect of the GSO and to venture into the area of improving the campus social environment. The GSL will be a major improvement. We have the support of the administration (a pat on the back), and FSA (financial) to ensure its success, everyone realizes this is long overdue.

Activities Fee- In order to cover the expenses entailed by these new directions, I propose an increase in the activities fee. Full time students currently pay \$18.50 per semester, part time just under \$5.00. The new fees will be \$20.00 and \$6.00 per semester. This proposal will be on the ballot when you vote for new GSO execs in the coming month. I urge you to support it as I

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Report card--

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raises more questions than it answers. Decisions must be made, and they must be made based on limited information. You may make mistakes; in the science world this can end a career but in the real world it happens every day. People forgive you; after all "You're only human." Scientists, I fear, tend to give up some of this humanity when they accept the role. It comes along with the objective thinking and just as it is hard to make a subjective decision, it is hard to accept the possibility of making a mistake.

I was asked this question at the conclusion of my talk, "What makes you think you are qualified to go to Atlanta and represent the interests of science?" As I see it, what the environmental movement needs is thinkers. Thinking is exactly what a University is all about. As a grad student you are an apprentice

thinker, when you get the degree you are a full fledged thinker. Heck, you can even think of yourself now as a paid thinker, albeit underpaid. If I don't accept the challenge then the task will likely fall to someone who is not a professional thinker. I'm willing to go to this meeting with an open mind and think. When presented with a limited amount of data, the same data that anyone in that position would get, I will integrate that information with all that I've learned, I will weigh the evidence for and against, and I will make a decision. Am I qualified? SURE I AM! No one gets a certificate in environmental advocacy. You're an advocate if you say you are and people believe you. The same holds true for any academic discipline. I'm an entomologist, an ecologist, and a phytochemist because I say so with enough conviction that other scientists believe it.

special report

Drinking Water Protection and The South Setauket Woods

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is the foundation for a low-lying open-canopy forest, and the matrix of a natural filtration system for groundwater recharge. Rainwater (or snow) falling on the Pine Barrens percolates down to replenish the aquifer below, supplying the people above with a continuous supply of fresh drinking water.

A Fragile Place

The Pine Barrens is both a vital ecosystem, and one that is easily destroyed. A contiguous area of land must be preserved if the Pine Barrens are to survive. The constant development and subdividing of land around the South Setauket Woods, for example, threatens its ability to function as habitat and recharge area. Further development, therefore, must be quickly controlled.

A contiguous "greenbelt" is needed in the Pine Barrens, first because it is essential to the preservation of the area's rare and endangered species. Each species requires a minimum area in order to survive. Numerous parcels of Pine Barrens preserved in a patchwork fashion will not support species whose minimum range is larger than the individual parcels.

A greenbelt area is also needed because of the pine barrens dependence on

fire. Fire is nature's way of maintaining the barrens. The cones of pitch pine are tightly sealed with resin; it takes a forest fire to melt the resin and release the seeds. Fire also clears out species that would otherwise crowd out the pine barrens most specific flora.

The greenbelt approach is also vital for maintaining the area's scenic and recreational value. Hiking, canoeing, birding and other activities cannot take place in a wilderness broken by roads and housing developments.

Protecting Drinking Water

Virtually all of Long Island's drinking water is drawn from a single system of underground reservoirs known as aquifers. The Environmental Protection Agency has classified its aquifer system as a "sole source aquifer" requiring special protection. Much of the Pine Barrens is classified by the county as SPGAs or Special Groundwater Protection Areas.

The main threat to water quality lies on the land above the aquifers. Any contaminants which the rainwater contacts will be carried with it into our drinking supply. Household sewage and septic tank waste, fertilizers and pesticides used on lawns and farmland; solid waste, including toxic chemicals, in land-

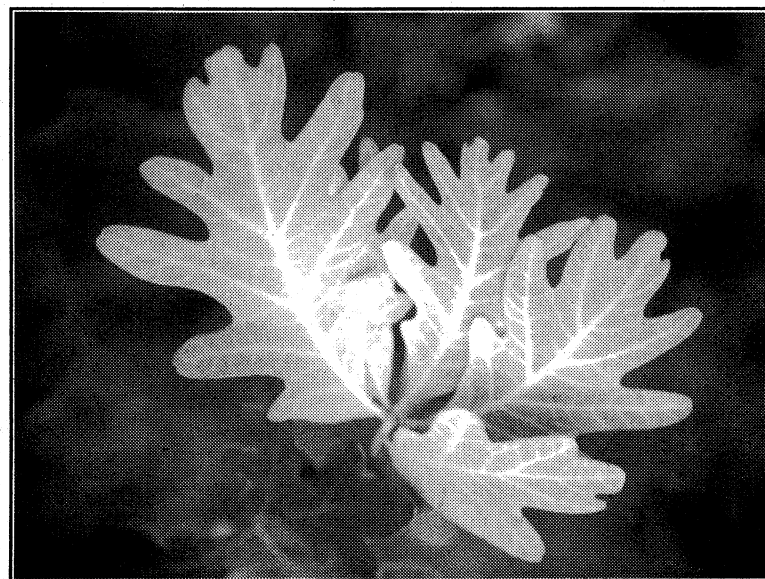
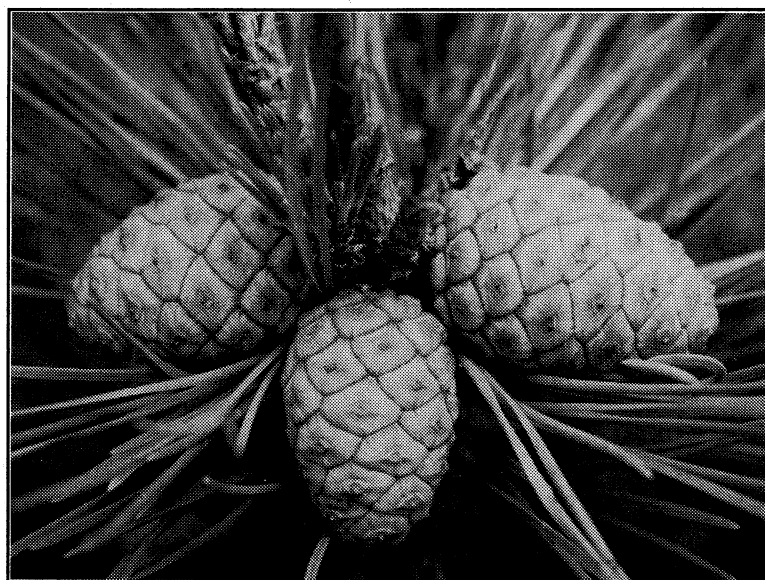
fills; industrial wastewater and chemical wastes from laboratories; pet waste and livestock manure. South Setauket has suffered most recently from underground gas leaks from the Northville storage tanks on Terminal Road sent plumes of benzene into the aquifer, malfunctioning sewage treatment at housing

developments, and possible hazardous waste leakage from illegal dumping at Suffolk Materials Mining on Sheep Pasture Road. The need to protect the remaining recharge area is acute.

The quality of our drinking water depends, therefore, on how Long Island's land is used. The more land used for homes, lawns, agriculture, business and industry, the greater the contamination of our aquifers.

Development also reduces the quantity of water available. New houses and business create demands for new wells. More paved roads and parking lots also reduce the supply of fresh water, because more water runs off into lakes, rivers, and oceans, instead of percolating down into the soil.

Open spaces such as South Setauket Woods are not a luxury, but a necessity.



Pitch pine cones and scrub oak leaves.. the signature of the Pine Barrens woodland

Undeveloped land gives us our island's only uncontaminated surfaces, providing the vital paths by which pure rainwater can reach the aquifers.

The Fight For Open Space

The fight to preserve South Setauket Woods has involved slick-talking developers, angry and vigilant civic groups, equivocal public officials, and some deeply committed leaders with the vision to imagine a future Long Island without additional shopping centers and developments— a Long Island that is economically and environmentally healthy.

Local government is more fragmented than the Pine Barrens themselves and perhaps the source of the problem. Multiple layers of government

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GSO EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

The Graduate Student Organization is holding its annual elections for officers. The four elected officer positions are President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. These are paid positions with a stipend of \$200/month.

The deadline for submitting petitions to be included on the ballot is April 15th. Any graduate student is eligible to run for office; contact the GSO office, Room 206, Central Hall for full information.

This year's ballot also includes several referenda, including a referendum to increase activity fees to subsidize child care and a referendum to support NYPIRG.

The GSO is responsible for distributing graduate student activity fees, as well as RAP money, which graduate students can use toward expenses such as travel to academic conferences where they may be presenting their work. The GSO is as the voice of the graduate students in dealing with the administration: when they want to know what grad students are thinking, they ask us.

GSO Secretary Tom Pepper has resigned from his post, effective April 12, 1993.

We are grateful for his past service and wish him good luck.

Edelstein Out-

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figures as a possible reason for Edelstein's removal. SUNY's funding of Stony Brook is based on projected enrollment figures, which are looking dismally low for next year. In a worst case scenario, Stony Brook could end up having to give back \$2.8 million in the fall, according to Martin.

The University will take steps to reduce the anticipated shortfall, such

as accepting all wait-listed students, and accepting those whose applications are pending completion. Other options are lowering standards for transfer students (from 2.5 GPA to 2.3).

It is expected they will also loosen standards for MA and MS applicants. It is in the University's interest to keep graduate students from leaving and to expand masters programs.

special report

South Setauket Woods--

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diffuse the responsibility for zoning, water quality, and environmental quality. Keeping track of the various planning board meetings, public hearings, pine barrens commission meetings, water commission meetings, and various county government schemes to dismantle the Drinking Water Protection Program is a full time job. The single daily newspaper on the island, Newsday, doesn't have the staff to cover the commonplace garden-variety corruption that goes on in the warrens of local governments (only when it's the mega-million dollar McNamara variety). The average concerned citizen is easily overwhelmed and out-manuevered.

Organized citizen groups, however, are a significant force in local politics. Civic organizations in South Setauket and Brookhaven, backed by the Long Island Pine Barrens Society, initiated a lawsuit against the Town of Brookhaven that may still be appealed. (This is separate from a suit decided in December that called for a cumulative assessment of development projects pending throughout the Central Pine Barrens.) State Assemblyman Steve Englebright, a University professor and geologist by training, has led the fight in local government and is an uncompromising supporter of open space preservation.

This spring as the Long Island

economy shows signs of recovering, development projects in the Route 347 area that have lain dormant are rearing their heads again. While lobbyists are pushing for comprehensive Pine Barrens Preservation Act in Albany this month (modelled on successful plans in Cape Cod and New Jersey Pinelands), activists in Brookhaven are keeping an eye on a number of projects.

- Southgate University Park. This R&D/industrial park on 1222 acres North of 347 has been in the works for some time. The builder illegally bulldozed a 55 foot wide access road into the place, in '89; development has been stalled since. Why does the University look forward to its going through? Possibly new customers for the University's new sewage treatment plant. Ironically, the builder is still haunted by sewage problems at an earlier phase of his project built nearby.

- Laurel Hill, a proposed development next to Kettlehole Park, off of Nicolls Road and adjacent to South Setauket Woods. Only 6 houses, but its septic system would be draining into the aquifer very close to a county water authority well in the Pine Barrens.

- DAKA Realty has several proposals for the area. DAKA Corners, at the southwest corner of Nicolls Road and 347, would be 110,000 sq. ft., of commer-

cial space (read shopping center).

- Carrefour, a company based in France, originally wanted to build a hypermarket or mega-mall at the intersection of Pond Path and 347, right near the DAKA proposal. They've scaled back their plans after much local protest. They'll settle for just another shopping center.

- Heatherwood Acres, a housing development bordering the South Setauket Woods off Arrowhead Lane, and AVR's Nesconset Shopping Center simply add insult to injury.

In January, the University itself was the cite of what many environmentalists called a blatant disinformation campaign. A Groundwater Symposium was held at the Staller Center January 26th, sponsored by USB, Suffolk County, and the Long Island Regional Planning Board. Claiming that the drinking water alarm has been exaggerated, the Symposium presented a point of view that seemed to say aquifer contamination is worth the risk, because its resources are vast and we have the technology to clean it up. Suffolk County has already lost more than 100 wells due to contamination, environmentalists pointed out. Treatment costs between \$500,000 and \$1 million to clean one wellhead. Prevention is by far the more economical and safer route.

TAX TIME!

**All Foreign Students
Must File an
Income Declaration
Form (1040NR) and
an Information
Statement
to the
Internal Revenue
Service by April 15.
Those who haven't
earned income in
the US last year
must file these
forms by June 15.**

**Forms are available
at the Office of
Foreign Student
Services.**

Call Jean (689-8510) or
George (331-3076) for
more information.

Graduate Student Employees Union
Local 1188/Communications Workers
of America

GRADUATE STUDENTS NYPIRG GETS RESULTS:

- Preserving The Environment
- Protecting Consumers
- Registering Students to Vote
- Fighting for Higher Education

VOTE YES

for

NYPIRG

AND KEEP NYPIRG AT STONY BROOK

Since 1983, Stony Brook Graduate Students have shown overwhelming support for NYPIRG and currently fund NYPIRG at \$2.50 per student per semester as part of the student activity fee. In order to keep NYPIRG active on environmental, consumer and social justice issues at SUNY Stony Brook, vote YES for NYPIRG.

New York Public Interest Research Group, Inc.

Friends of the Hill Planting

Special thanks to those who contributed
time, money, and materials to the planting of the hill
on Forest Drive, South Campus

K. Van Bourgondien & Sons, Inc.

Dr. Santo Albano
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Valerie Adamec
Melody Thomas
Diane Carbocci
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Gary Wojdyla
Nicole Gantshar
Suzanne Hillman
Gerry Taylor
David Allen

profile

Louisa Emmons: Into the Wild White Yonder

News & Views interviewed Louisa Emmons, a Ph.D. student in physics. Her research takes her to both the south and the north polar regions to study ozone depletion in the atmosphere. Her interest in the problem stems from a concern for the environment, and her work puts her in a good position to comment on this global environmental problem.

News & Views: Your research takes you to Antarctica periodically... what's it like there? Where do you stay?

Louisa Emmons: It's a beautiful place. I've gone three times with my research group. We leave in the middle of August and come back in the middle of October—a two month stay, which is the springtime down there (springtime means it's about -20!). That's when the ozone hole appears. It's pretty much filled in by November, the weather starts getting bad so we can't take measurements after that.

We stay at McMurdo station. NSF runs the base. About half the people at the base are navy personnel; they take care of logistics. They fly the planes down, they fly helicopters out to field camps, they help run cargo operations.

N&V: Do you do all your research at the base or do you travel across the continent?

LE: No, we're right there. We have a building called Little House which is just a mile from the base, so we have to drive, but that's as far as we go.

N&V: Are there a lot of other scientists there?

LE: Yes, especially in the summer—up to a thousand people, mostly marine scientists. During the winter there's a core of about 200 people who are mostly support crew.

N&V: Do you get outside much?

LE: All the buildings are separate, so we have to go outside to get from one place to another. We live in a quite comfortable dorm, with a living room with a TV and a VCR. They usually house the scientists together and the staff people and navy people have other dorms. There isn't much of a social life. There are four bars. This year they changed the Officer's Club into a coffeehouse; they make cappuccino and stuff. There's a gym, a Quonset hut converted into a basketball or volleyball court, a weight room. There are a couple places where we can go hiking and that's what we do most for recreation. We hike out to a volcanic core called Castle Rock...

N&V: Any wildlife?

LE: Seals—actually a lot of them this past year, and they seemed to be pupping quite early. We saw a couple of pups before we left in October and that's usually just when they're starting. Later on in the season in the summer, you'll see penguins and whales. But everything is frozen—McMurdo is on an island 30-50 miles from the continent—so there's not much going on. The seals are strong enough to break up through the ice and they come and lie around basking in the sun. But nothing else shows up until after the ice breaks up.

N&V: What kind of research do you do? Do you actually measure the size of the ozone hole?

LE: We measure molecules related to ozone depletion. We could measure ozone, but there are a lot of other people doing that. We mostly measure chlorine monoxide (ClO), which is a product of chlorine atoms which results from CFCs destroying ozone, so measuring ClO is an indication of how much depletion has gone on.

N&V: Has your scientific involvement lead you to any political views on the problem of ozone depletion and the environmental degradation? Do you think the government, for example, is doing enough to address the issue?

LE: I've always been very concerned about the environment and wondered what could I do about it. I had decided I wanted to do physics, and when I got here I found out Robert deZafra was studying the ozone layer. I thought that was amazing work, and that's why I joined his research group. I felt like I could really do something. I don't know if I really am. We're mostly just measuring things, which helps us understand what's happening in the atmosphere. But it's awfully complicated to come up with a remedy. But, I certainly think action needs to be taken to reduce the amount of chlorine in the atmosphere. Even if we stop right now, the ozone depletion will keep getting worse for another 100 years because CFCs have a very long lifetime in the atmosphere, some of them as long as 100 years.

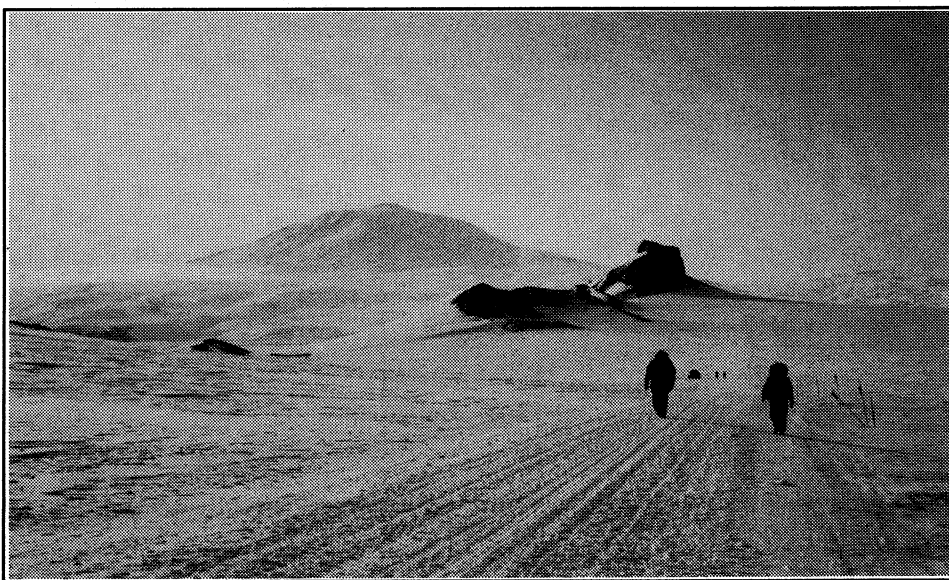
N&V: Is there any action being taken currently that you would point to and say, that's a good thing, we need to do more of it?

LE: Well, there certainly have been regulations passed—the Montreal protocol. And there was a follow-up on that, signed in London, that will reduce world-wide chlorofluorocarbon emissions. But CFCs are still being produced, still being sold to developing countries because they don't have good alternatives, so I think there's still a lot of work to be done in terms of regulation. And it's not clear if some of the replacements for CFCs are actually better. HCFCs—which are supposed to break up in the atmosphere, in the lower atmosphere, sooner than CFCs so that the chlorine won't make up into

the stratosphere, the hope being that the chlorine would then rain out. But we're still introducing a lot of chlorine into the atmosphere which is not good, and the effects of HCFCs are not clear.

N&V: Is there anything we could send up there to neutralize the chlorine or make it less harmful?

LE: People have thought about that, but doing something like that always has some other effect that's unpredictable. So it's hard. At the moment, it's serious over the southern hemisphere. The



Hiking from McMurdo Station to Castle Rock. Mt. Erebus in the distance.

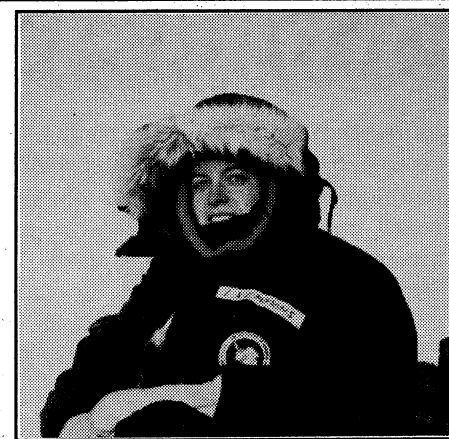
ozone gets so depleted in the summer. It eventually recovers in the fall, but the depleted air circulates and sweeps up over New Zealand, South America, Australia, even as far as the Equator. So that's serious, because almost half of the ozone is gone in some of that air, and up by the equator where the sun is so much higher in the sky there's a lot more UV radiation than over Antarctica.

N&V: I had heard from friends who recently went to New Zealand that you can't survive there without sun block; you can get burned in about 30 minutes because of the ozone-depleted air.

LE: The studies of the northern hemisphere have also shown there's been a depletion in total ozone over the last decade or so, but it's worse in the southern hemisphere.

N&V: Why is it that?

LE: The ozone hole appears at the south pole because it's much colder in the stratosphere there and there are reactions that occur on polar stratospheric clouds that release a lot of chlorine molecules. As soon as the sun hits them in early spring, the chlorine molecules break up into chlorine atoms and they destroy ozone. It all happens very quickly. Over the northern hemisphere it doesn't get as cold, so there are not as many polar stratospheric clouds and so the depletion never gets as bad. There is a polar vortex over the south pole which keeps all the air situated over the center of the



Emmons stays warm in NSF-issued parka.

pole where it sits in darkness. Over the north pole this vortex gets pushed off the pole a little bit so in the winter it's in darkness part of the time, and sunlight part of the time, so it doesn't get as cold, so not as much chlorine builds up.

N&V: It would seem that the more industrialized northern hemisphere would have a more severe problem, but that's not the case.

LE: No. Air gets mixed quite well in the troposphere. Ozone depletion occurs in the stratosphere, the next layer up. So by the time it gets up there, whatever started at the ground level is pretty well distributed.

N&V: Are there any actions you would recommend individuals take to reduce CFC emissions into the environment? We know that CFCs are used in styrofoam products, for example...

LE: I don't know, The problem is so enormous. I always avoid styrofoam cups, but that's just a drop in the bucket. I think government action is really what's going to make a difference. I expect Clinton and Gore will make some significant changes.

N&V: Our country's record on this has not been so good in the past..

LE: No, even in the Antarctic Treaty—the US did not want to renew it because it forbid any mining or oil exploration. Reducing the environmental impact on the globe has a large economic impact, and most of the world is unwilling to accept the burden of this.

N&V: Are there any environmental activists in Antarctica?

LE: Greenpeace maintained a small camp near McMurdo for a year during the Antarctic Treaty negotiations. They wanted to be included in negotiations and felt they could be considered as an interested party separate from the US if they had an independent base. The NSF discouraged people from having any contact with the Greenpeace camp. Possibly to avoid establishing any precedence for helping outside groups by giving them food or delivering mail. But it may have been for political reasons.

The arts

A Fuller Projection of An Absent Painting

Jeffrey Sturges: MFA Thesis Exhibition
March 29 - April 16, 1993 at the Library Gallery
Reviewed by David Raskin

In Jeffrey Sturges' thesis exhibition, we take the "tree test". The "tree test", which is similar to the Rorschach ink blob test, is a projective test used by psychologists to explore the unconscious. We look at something and our understanding of it is based on unconscious factors.

Sturges first presents fourteen framed photographs of trees that dominate their surroundings. These photographs, taken at night, are uniform in height but vary randomly in width from panoramas to snapshots. Though they are lined up left to right as a narrative, no story is told. One photograph could be a solitary tree, the next a grove squeezed by the cropping, and another a pair isolated in a field. Each image is unknowable beforehand, and because of this each photograph demands attention to its content. We think that the wider photographs will have more trees. We understand left-to-right as a temporal sequence. These expectations are programmed, but Sturges negates them. In this manner, he draws attention to the fact that unconscious factors shape our perception.

Sturges builds on this point in a second work of art. He uses the visual dynamics of an absent painting as a till to re-present his summer vacation, which is displayed as an artwork in three stages. First, Sturges mapped his trip. There are two drawn maps of Europe that show the path he took. They differ from each other slightly because one is a Fuller projection (The Fuller projection technique is used to transform the spherical globe into a two dimensional map). Second, the two maps were copied and painted to look like rectangular sections of the absent painting. The line that follows the path of his trip remains distinct. Third, Sturges photographed the rectangular sections of the absent painting and enlarged the images. These photographs were

mounted on panels and arranged as in the small painted maps. In this final stage, the drawn maps from the first image have totally disappeared.

In these three segments, the process of perception is made clear. Sturges' trip is first recorded (with a map). Second, this recording is embellished (by painting). Finally, the trip is only an embellishment (seen as enlarged photographs). In this manner, Sturges explores different stages of perception. The original map stands for his experience. The map with painted rectangles stands for the role his unconscious has in shaping that experience. The map with painted rectangles stands for the role his unconscious has in shaping the perception of that experience. The photographs of the painted sections of the map are his memory of his perception of his experience. But Sturges casts doubt on the entire process. He shows us two possible pathways, and even they received their start in an absent source.

Sturges stresses the role of memory. In this stage, only embellishment remains. The enlarged photographs are by far the largest works on display and the two pieces occupy an entire wall. Photography and the cibachrome printing process have turned the drab quality of actual paint, as signalled by the second stage, into lusciously rich and dynamic gestures-- small brush strokes become huge rips of color, as one color



is pulled out of another. Photography as a metaphor for memory, in this case, makes it all look better.

Jeffrey Sturges art does some-

thing that is increasingly hard to do. It successfully develops an intelligent idea while being visually appealing. And we've also been shown that perception is always just a "tree test".

UPCOMING ART EXHIBITS

Maureen Palmieri

Outdoor Art at South Campus, in bloom now through...

Patty Hubbard

Library Gallery, April 26 - May 7

UPCOMING MUSIC EVENTS

Graduate Recitals

Studio A, ECC building, next to the Javits Center, unless otherwise noted.

- April 12, 4pm Lin Wang, MM piano
- April 13 4pm Chadd Merrigan, MM piano
- April 14 8pm Patricia Davis, DMA violin
- April 15 4pm MiJung Im, DMA piano
- April 15 8pm Kevin Hosten, DMA flute
- April 16 4pm Won Kyung Cho, DMA violin
- April 17 4pm Robert Romano, BA Clarinet
- April 18 12 noon Michael Reingold, MM horn
- April 18 8pm Rupert Thompson, MM cello
- April 19 12 noon Susannah Chapman, DMA cello
- April 20 2pm Sanne de Graaf, MM cello, Choral Room 0113
- April 20 4pm Greg Hesselink, DMA cello
- April 20 8pm Stephen Feldman, DMA cello
- April 22 4pm Darius Wisniewski, DMA bass
- April 22 8pm Cindy Lauda, MM bassoon
- April 23 4pm Jeffrey Forden, MM horn
- April 25 4pm Carol Kraus, MM clarinet
- April 25 8pm Jane Hoffman, DMA flute
- April 28 3pm Hok Jin Jun, MM percussion, Choral Room 0113
- April 28 4pm Nayoun Park, DMA voice
- April 29 8pm Paul Carroll, MM percussion
- April 30 12 noon Angelique Toews, MM violin
- April 30 4pm Lisa DeLuca, MM violin
- May 1 4pm Melinda Newman, DMA oboe
- May 1 8pm Patricia Benstock, DMA violin
- May 2 8pm Anna Maria Baeza, DMA clarinet
- May 3 12 noon Jordan Vogel, MM flute
- May 3 4pm Graduate piano trio
- May 3 8pm Hsing Chwen Hsin, DMA piano

Young Latino Film making presents

Colombian Films

presented by their directors

Amanceres by Edgar Gil

Secuestro by Camila Motta

(English subtitles)

Facilitator: Ann Kaplan

April 27, Tuesday

Humanities Institute, Library 4341 7:30 pm

Followed by refreshments

Sponsored by Graduate Students of the Spanish Department, the GSO, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Working Group

calendar of events

A selected listing of events on campus that may be of particular interest to graduate students

Tuesday, April 13

Alternative Cinema presents: "Daughters of the Dust" (USA, 1991). Director Julie Dash. 7:00 and 9:30pm. Student Union auditorium. \$2 at the door. 632-6136.

"Victimless Crimes and Crimeless Victims: Women, Crime and the Australian Media," a brown bag lunch seminar with Helen Yeates, Humanities Institute, 12 noon, Library 4340.

Greenpeace, the international environmental organization. 9 pm. Guest speaker, Emily Davis. Slide Show, fact sheets, question and answer period. Sponsored by Campus Residences. Call 632-6761 for info.

Wednesday, April 14

"What Women at all Times Would Laugh At: Representation and Authority in Medical Texts circa 1670-1730," a lecture by Estelle Cohen, Humanities Institute Lecture Series, 4:30pm, Library 4340.

Noontime Concert, presented by the music department in Studio A in the ECC Building, next to Javits Lecture Hall.

Friday, April 16

"The Donohue Sisters," a play directed by Gerry Cosgrove, 8 pm in Theatre 3, Staller Center for the Arts. \$2 suggested donation at the door.

Institute for Medicine In Contemporary Society, "Images" working group examines the production, use, and interpretation of images in our contemporary culture. 4 pm Radiology Conference Room, Level 4, Room 135, HSC. 632-7345.

I-CONXII, Science-fiction conference. Exhibits, workshops, guest speakers. Friday 6pm, Saturday & Sunday 10 am. Adults \$25 in advance, \$28 at the door; students \$10/\$12; under 12 \$7/\$10. Advance tickets at Polity Box Office. 632-6045.

Music Department Colloquium: Ernst Hoetzl, Graz Musikhochschule. Baroque performance practice. 4:15 - 5:30 pm, Room 3317, Music bldg.

Saturday, April 17

I-CON XII, see 4/16.

"The Donohue Sisters," a play directed by Gerry Cosgrove, 8 pm in Theatre 3, Staller Center for the Arts. \$2 suggested donation at the door.

Sunday, April 18

I-CON XII, see 4/16.

"The Donohue Sisters," a play directed by Gerry Cosgrove, 2 pm in Theatre 3, Staller Center for the Arts. \$2 suggested donation at the door. There will be a post show discussion following this performance.

Writer's Club Meeting, 2 pm. Poetry Center, 239 Humanities. Peer group workshop follows.

Monday, April 19

"The Donohue Sisters," a play directed by Gerry Cosgrove, 8 pm in Theatre 3, Staller Center for the Arts. \$2 suggested donation at the door.

Tuesday, April 20

"The US Academy in the '90's: Turbulence in the Mainstream," Frank Bonilla, CUNY, Hunter College. 1pm. Reception to follow. Javits Room, 2nd floor Library. 632-7243. Grad School W. Burghardt Turner Lecture Series.

Wednesday, April 21

Cultural Food Festival, A diversity of food and dance, Earth day exhibits, and music. Fine Arts Plaza, 11 am - 3 pm.

Noontime Concert, presented by the music department in Studio A in the ECC Building, next to Javits Lecture Hall.

Contemporary Chamber Players: "Meet the Composer Charles Wuorinen," Studio A in the ECC Building, next to Javits Lecture Hall. Free.

Thursday, April 22

Distinguished Lecture Series: "The Clinton-Gore Technology Policy: Where Does the University Fit In?" Lewis Branscomb, Harvard Center for Science and

International Affairs. 4 pm. Alliance Room, Library.

Ecology & Evolution Lecture Series: "Global Warming: Risks, Uncertainties, and Appropriate Actions," Michael Oppenheimer. 8 pm. Reception follows. Earth & Space Science Lecture Hall. 632-8600.

Friday, April 23

Caribbean Day Festival. 11 am - 5 pm, Steel Band, dancers, exotic foods. Stony Brook Union.

Saturday, April 24

Chamber Singers Choral Concert, Studio A in the ECC Building, next to Javits Lecture Hall. Tickets \$6, \$4 for students & seniors.

Sunday, April 25

Judaic Studies/Africana Studies Interdisciplinary Two Day Conference: "De-mythologizing Blacks and Jews." Noon - 4pm; Monday 9:30am - 4:15pm. Stony Brook Union Aud. \$21 for both days; \$15 one day; \$8.50 lunch on Monday. Call Carol Kessner at 632-7457.

Bach Mass in B Minor, Bach Aria Group, LI Masterworks Choir, and Musica Sacra Orchestra. Richard Westenburg conductor. Ward Melville High School, Old Town Rd., East Setauket. Tickets \$25; students half price. For tickets call Staller Center Box Office, 632-7230. For more information, call 632-7239.

Tuesday, April 27

Alternative Cinema presents: "Down By Law" (USA, 1986). Director Jim Jarmusch. 7:00 and 9:30pm. Student Union auditorium. \$2 at the door. Call 632-6136.

Contemporary Chamber Players: New works by Stony Brook Composers, 8pm in Studio A in the ECC Building, next to Javits Lecture Hall. Free.

Thursday, April 29

Department of Philosophy Colloquium: "Philosophy In Art" Walter Watson, professor, philosophy and Nina Mallory, professor of art history. 4pm room 214 Harriman. Reception to follow. 632-7570.

Department of Music Lecture-Demonstration: Electro-Acoustic Music, Johnathan Berger, Yale University. 7pm. Call 632-7345 for location.

Treasurer's Report--

continued from page 3

think the potential benefits to be gained from these changes in the GSO far outweigh the \$2-3 you will spend each year. Should the proposed increase fail, the budget will be slimmed slightly but the changes outlined are important-- too important to give up-- and our budget has very little fat. The shortfall would be covered by a one time reduction in cash reserves. If you look closely at the budgets for 90-91 and 91-92 you will see a net income greater than expenses. We currently have a net savings of approximately \$20,000. This year's budget is expected to come in right on target so that savings will still be there next year. In this budget I could have chosen to just spend that next year with no increase in the fees. I chose not to follow this route because I think it is important to maintain a certain amount of liquid assets on hand for reasons none of could ever foresee. Think of it as insurance.

One last note: you will also find on your ballot a referendum on whether to keep the activities fee mandatory. Obviously I urge you to support a mandatory activity fee; without it the GSO as we know it would cease to exist. I have heard questions like, "Why have both a GSO and a union?" They are different creatures doing different things. The union exists now (whether you like it or not) and they cannot do the things the GSO does. Just as the faculty have a union and a faculty senate, the students need a union and a GSO.

GSO Senate Meeting

Wednesday April 21

7pm

Room 201, Central Hall

Pizza Will Be Served

Graduate Student Advocate Position Available for 1993-94

A paid position: full GA line with full waiver; responsibilities include mediating disputes and following-up certain grad student grievances. Candidates will be screened by the GSO Executive Council and the Graduate School. Deadline May 1st. Call Ida Fuchs at the GSO Office for more information-- 632-6492.

Lecture Hall.

GSO PARTY

AT THE END OF THE BRIDGE
FRIDAY, APRIL 23RD 9:00PM

LIVE MUSIC WITH
OUTERBRIDGE CROSSING
AND WARDANCE

Insight

Insight Computers,
Tempe, Arizona

The Official
Computer of the
Stonybrook G.S.O.

486DX-33 ^{Mhz} ^{Cache} ^{ISA}

- 4MB RAM - 64K Cache
- 120MB (240MB w/ Stacker)
- 12ms IDE Hard Drive
- 14" Super VGA Color Monitor
- 24 Bit 1MB Graphics Accelerator
- Both 1.2MB & 1.44MB Floppy Drives
- 2 Serial, 1 Parallel, & 1 Game port
- 101 Key Keyboard - MS DOS - Mouse
- Stacker & Dr. Solomon's
- Anti-Virus Software



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