

**Stony Brook
Cares Page 5**

**Women's Basketball
Game Page 7**

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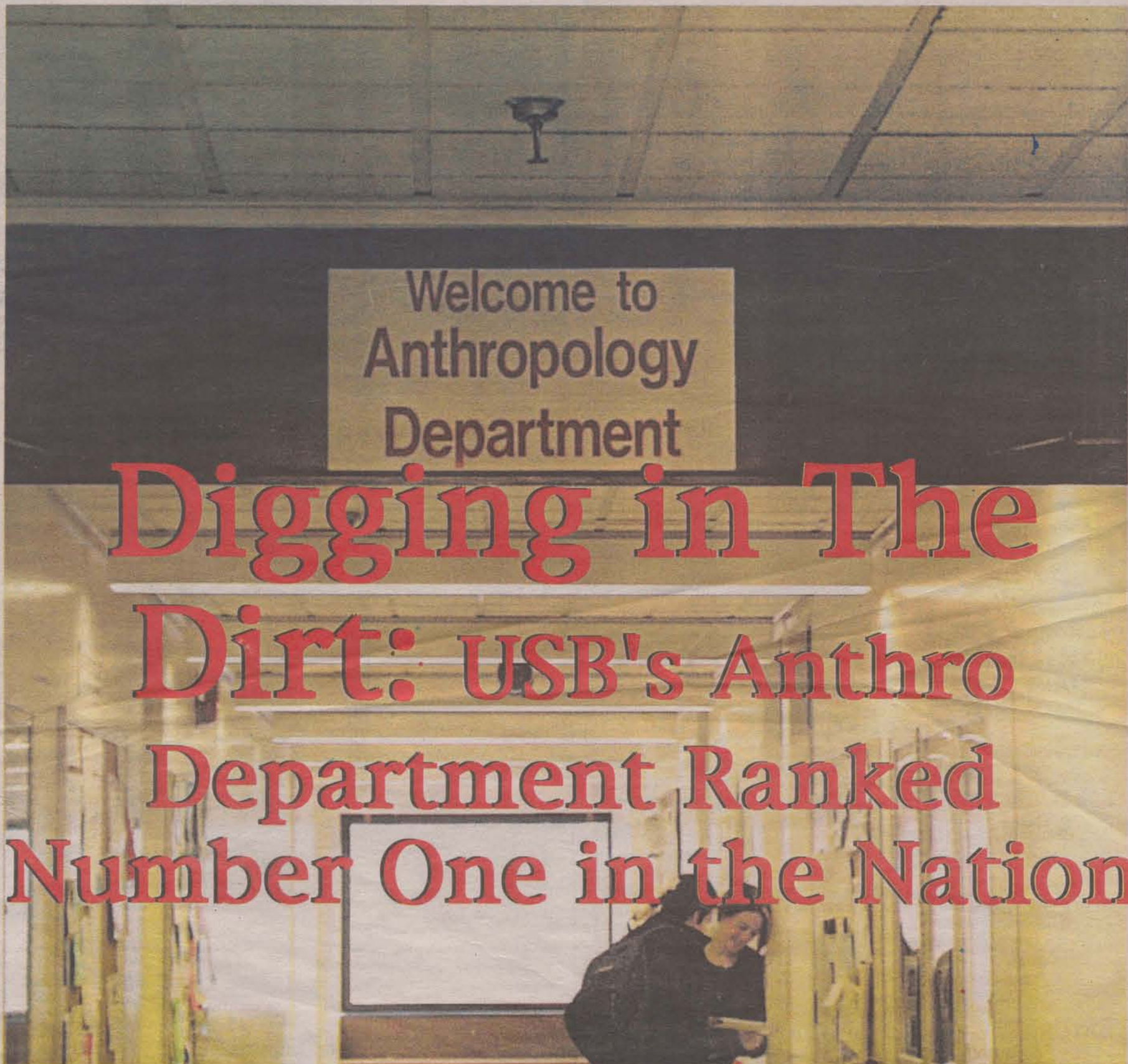
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Digging in The Dirt: USB's Anthro Department Ranked Number One in the Nation

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Tips to Trim Holiday Waste

Department of Recycling and Waste Management Offers Advice for the Gift Giving Season

By CRISTINA McLAUGHLIN
Statesman Contributor

The holiday rush is in full swing and so is the trash that goes with it. That's right. It is once again the most wasteful time of the year. How bad is it? The scrap translates to about 1 million more tons of trash per week. Here are a few tips to help the holiday season be a little less wasteful and expensive.

'Tis the season of drinking, eating and being merry. There are nothing like good parties to help spread the holiday cheer, but here are some ways to make it just a bit brighter.

Plan meals wisely and practice portion control to help minimize food waste.

Don't throw away those leftovers! Place them in a reusable container for later use. If your refrigerator has become overstuffed, send some home with the guests.

When you are all cuddling up to take those family pictures use your own camera instead of a disposable. Also, using faster film speeds, such as 400 to 800, reduces flash (no red-eye!) and extends the battery life.

Purchase camera reels with more exposures. By using 36 exposures instead of 12 you reduce waste by 67 percent and save yourself 40 percent in costs.

A happy holiday season calls for smart shopping! While most of us love the cheer that comes with gift giving, few of us enjoy the stress and extra money we have to spend. Utilize these tips for fuss-free shopping. They'll make you and Mother Nature a bit brighter this year.

Plan your shopping in advance.

Consolidating shopping trips saves fuel and lots of last minute shopping aggravation.

Stocks and bonds make great gift ideas for children, or anyone else. It's the gift that keeps giving and growing!

Shopping for gifts in antique stores, flea markets or estate sales is a great way to save money and reduce waste.

When buying electronic gifts, include a set of rechargeable batteries. They will save your loved ones a bundle in battery costs for the year.

When shopping bring your own plastic or cloth bags. These can easily be folded in your pocket or purse for later use, and are much more durable than the ones you'll be given at the store.

Buy gifts that don't require wrapping, like sports, Broadway, or concert tickets. Plants and gift certificates also work.

Show your loved ones that you really care. Be innovative! In this technological age, it is very easy to give back to the environment while giving to others. Here are some ideas that are sure to have them all thinking that you are a thrifty genius.

Send e-greetings to friends and family for a fast and wasteless alternative to greeting cards (check out the Electronic Postcard).

Save time, money and hurt feelings by sending one card to an entire family, instead of each individual person.

Reuse packaging material such as boxes, packaging peanuts, wood chips or bubble wrap when sending

out your gift to others.

Donate unwanted or old gifts to local charities to help those less fortunate.

Buy a tree that can be planted or mulched afterwards. Or buy an artificial one.

Wrap gifts in old comics, fancy bags (which can be reused!), or maps to help save money on wrapping paper. For big gifts, like a bike or CD rack, just put a bow on it instead of spending all that unnecessary time wrapping it up.

If everyone did their part to reduce waste, great things could be accomplished this holiday season. If every person replaced one paper

card with an electronic one we'd save 50,000 cubic yards of paper. If every family reuses just two feet of holiday ribbon we'd save 38,000 miles of ribbon. If each family reduces their holiday gasoline consumption by one gallon (twenty miles) we would reduce greenhouse emissions by one million tons!

Let's all work together to make this holiday season merry for everyone, including Mother Nature. On behalf of the Department of Recycling and

Solid Waste Management we would like to wish all of you a happy, healthy and GREEN holiday season.

Questions? Please call the Recycling Hotline @ 632-1514.



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USB's Anthro Grad Program Ranked No.1

NRC's Ranking System is Unbiased and Objective

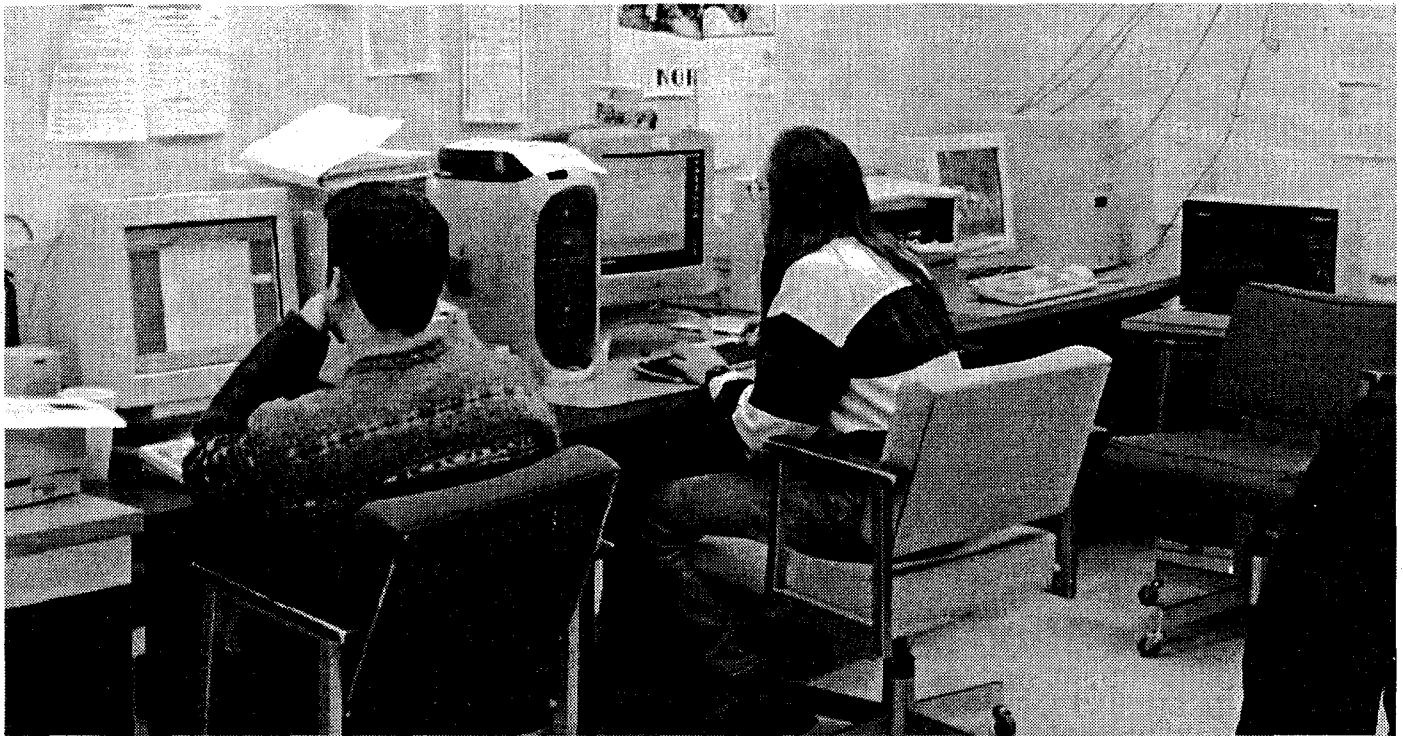
By ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

While doing her undergraduate studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, Kristina Hogg heard good things about Stony Brook's graduate program in anthropology. Such good things that she decided to come here to study primate conservation. "I was recommended very highly to go to Stony Brook since they are such a great grad school," Hogg said. "Then when I started reading papers by people I wanted to work with, [in her field] a number of them were here."

It is not just Hogg, whose research includes looking at the effects of parasites and disease on primate populations as they get smaller and have more contact with humans, who thinks the anthropology department is a good one. Recent rankings by the National Research Council put Stony Brook's graduate anthropology program at number one in the nation. It is the only program at USB rated first in its academic field.

How colleges and universities rank in surveys often has a significant impact on the reputation of the institution. At the start of the junior year of high school both parents and students pour over surveys such as the Princeton Review and the U.S. News and World Report to help decide where to go for the next four years. But the rankings of the NRC differ significantly from those of Princeton and the World Report.

According to the dean of Stony Brook's graduate school Lawrence Martin, the rankings of surveys such as Princeton are more subjective than the objective criteria used to judge the NRC. "Reviews like Princeton are based on student surveys," Martin said. He pointed out that how students feel about their university is significant but he said that the NRC rankings show a different perspective. "The NRC is the only study taken seriously by faculty and students," Martin said. "It is based on looking at the strength of the research, citations, funding and the outcome of graduate



Statesman/Erin Rosenking

Graduate students at work in the anthropology department graduate computer room. The NRC ranking puts the program at number one in the nation. The department is the only one at USB that ranks so high.

students from the department."

John Shea, undergraduate director of the anthropology department, said that often these subjective surveys allow a school to keep a reputation for producing good scholars long after their ability to do so is over. "Many of these popular surveys simply poll a number of scholars and ask them to either rank the top ten or twenty departments or to name the best departments," Shea said. "In such a survey, respondents have an incentive to name either their alma mater or to name their own department, thereby enhancing their own prestige."

The NRC rankings are free from potentially creating a sort of ivory tower. "Since these surveys tend to poll faculty in leading departments identified by previous surveys they run the risk of devolving into a kind of circular reasoning," said Shea. NRC bases its findings on more quantifiable criteria such as publications by faculty in peer reviewed journals and the number and quantity of faculty obtained grants. "In every field, promotion decisions, pay and other

faculty rewards are scaled to these measures of achievement," Shea said. "All scholars have a clear incentive to write and seek grants as much as they can and because of this the NRC criteria measures their ability to do these things successfully."

But it was only recently that the NRC's ranking system judged institutions in such an unbiased way. Martin explained that in previous years, the rankings were based on the scholarly reputation of the faculty. People were given surveys and asked to rank the criteria on a scale of one to five, five being the highest. This could potentially cause the same sort of bias that the NRC was trying to avoid. Martin said that when people are asked to judge a school that already has a prestigious reputation, they assume everything there is good. "There is a story that says that Princeton was ranked very high for its law school in one of these surveys," Martin said. "The only problem is that Princeton doesn't have a law program."

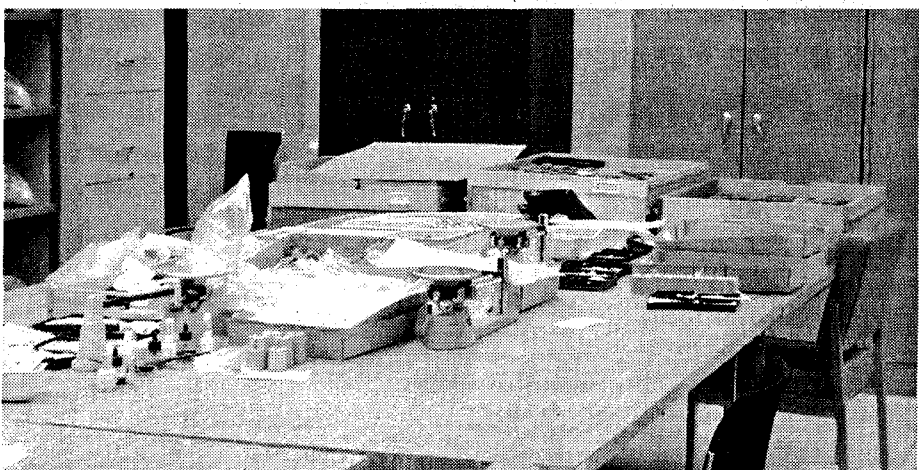
As a member of the Council for Research Policy in Graduate Education, Martin was part of a group assigned to look to see what data works and for ways to improve the study itself. "We made recommendations," Martin said. "We said that if you want to measure faculty reputation, that is fine, just do it in an informative way." Martin's recommendations included looking at the placement of graduates and where they go after, faculty scholarly output and the citations of faculty writings. Citations refers to the writings done by faculty that is later referred to in other writer's works.

Shea pointed out that the anthropology graduate program is actually an interdepartmental program that incorporates faculty from not just the

anthro department but also anatomical sciences, ecology and evolution, art history, social sciences interdisciplinary and African studies. "Anthropology is just one part of a larger graduate training program," Shea said. There are a number of features the department boasts that helped it achieve its number one status, including the Institute for the Conservation of Tropical Environments and the Institute of Long Island Archaeology, which according to Shea generates a enormous amount of grants. Shea said that other factors that put them at one include a relatively young faculty that is still working on making a name for themselves in the field, and highly selective graduate program. "These proto colleagues keep faculty on their toes about new developments in the field," said Shea.

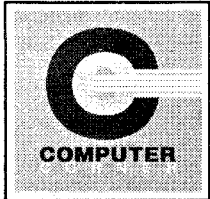
Trying to maintain the ranking is the next challenge for the department. Shea said that this is no time for the department to stand still. "We need to hire at least three new faculty members in tenure track lines," he said. "Our major institutional rivals, including a George Washington University and the University of Utah have a powerful incentive to build up their programs and to try to knock us out of first place."

Martin said that maintaining faculty production is important in keeping the department at number one, however he said that the department is just as strong now as it was ten years ago. "It's an extraordinary accomplishment," Martin said, "and anthropology is a remarkable department." Martin said that combining the various departments such as medical and arts and sciences is something that must be nurtured and sustained. "It has been a tremendously successful experiment," he said.



Statesman/Erin Rosenking

The anthro department, located on the fifth floor of the SBS building, has numerous labs such as this one.



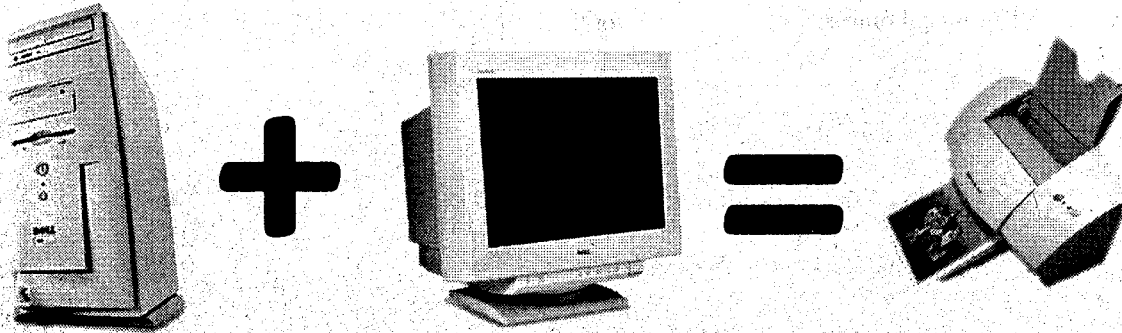
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Caring for the Community

SB Cares Program Raises Thousands of Dollars

By ADAM ZIMMERMAN
Statesman Editor

As the weather gets colder, and the end of the semester draws near, many people's thoughts turn to the less fortunate. The holiday season brings out the best in people, and some strive to help others enjoy holiday cheer. One program, however, has been reaching out ever since October 11.

Wrapping up yet another successful run, the Stony Brook Cares program once again raised thousands of dollars for selected on-campus organizations. The Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund, the University Hospital Auxiliary, and the Stony Brook Childcare Services, Inc, have received a running total of \$160,725, all of which came through individual donations.

The Stony Brook Cares program has a long-running tradition of raising substantial charitable donations. The program is run by Yacov Shamesh, Dean of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Operations co-chairs included Velio Marsocci, Nancy Davies, Ventryce Thomas, and Charles Robbins. Shamesh was quite pleased with this year's results.

"We are very proud of our fund-raising efforts this semester," he said. "We have encouraged people to

donate throughout the semester, and our efforts have really paid off in a positive way."

The annual fund-raiser earns money for the States Employees Federated Appeal (SEFA) and Long Island's United Way. SEFA works to gather state employee donations for a number of health, human services, and environmental agencies. The United Way works with more than 160 health and human service groups, raising money to help prevent youth violence, provide care for the very young and very old, provide job assistance training, and provide emergency food, clothing, and shelter to those in need. These two umbrella organizations then distribute the collected monies to all participating agencies, including those here on campus.

"Participants in the program can specify which organization will receive their donations," Shamesh said. "They decide where their donation goes, which makes it more of a personal venture."

Shamesh and his support team sent letters to various staff members and campus clubs and organizations seeking their support. Captains were then designated for various campus departments, who acted as coordinators for individual donations.

In a letter written to raise awareness of the fund-

raising effort, President Shirley Strum Kenny noted that we all have a responsibility to help those in need.

"The University has always been proud to be a partner and good neighbor to Long Island residents," she wrote. "The University is not only committed to educating students, but we are also committed to supporting community programs throughout Long Island."

Shamesh credited a dedicated staff with this year's success. "We had a great committee of people who worked very hard all semester long," Shamesh said. "The Administration and the President's Office were very supportive of our goals, and encouraged others to be as well."

The goal of this year's efforts was to raise \$175,000, a figure the program rapidly approaches. Thus far, employee participation is at 9.7 percent, as people from several different campus organizations have taken the time donate.

"Last year, we managed to raise \$152,000," Shamesh said. "We are proud to have already surpassed this total, and set a new record in the process. We are looking forward to even better results in future campaigns."

The Nutcracker Comes to Staller

Holiday Favorite Comes to USB for the Fifth Year in a Row

By KAREN RICE
Statesman Staff

Last Sunday, the Seiskaya Ballet performed The Nutcracker on Stony Brook's Staller Center stage. This performance was the second in a series of

performances this season which marks a five year holiday tradition since its premiere, December 15, 1995.

The performance is a heart-warming reminder of the holiday spirit and it has become a staple of the holiday season.

Lead dancers, Lauren Menger and Amy Ruggiero said that they wanted their viewers to get into the holiday spirit. "We want the audience to go home and feel like Christmas," they said.

The performance was marked by vivid colors that appeared on all the stage settings as well as on every performer's costume. Each dancer danced in lavishly colored satin and velvet costumes that shimmered and accented the dancing which was as vibrant as the costumes.

Impressive performances were given by Seiskaya's guest artist, Rasta Thomas, along with Sugar Plum Fairy, played by Amy Ruggiero. Thomas leapt into the air with muscular grace and performed with a charismatic stage presence. His reputation is well known for strength and versatility since his performance at the 1999 Academy Awards. Ruggiero was an equally aggressive stage presence with effortless turns and leg extensions that defied gravity. The two dancers were well paired with each other.

Judging by the excited chatter that filled the auditorium, the children of the audience, as well as their parents, enjoyed the famous scene where the Christmas tree soars to unexpected heights while Tchaikovsky's music fills the air. Each child sat on the edge of their seat to get a better view of the colorful spectacle. Another audience favorite was the courageous scene where Clara, played by Lisa Woods kills the Mouse King, performed by K. Brodie. After the scene,

a disappointed child could be heard asking his mother, "Is it over?"

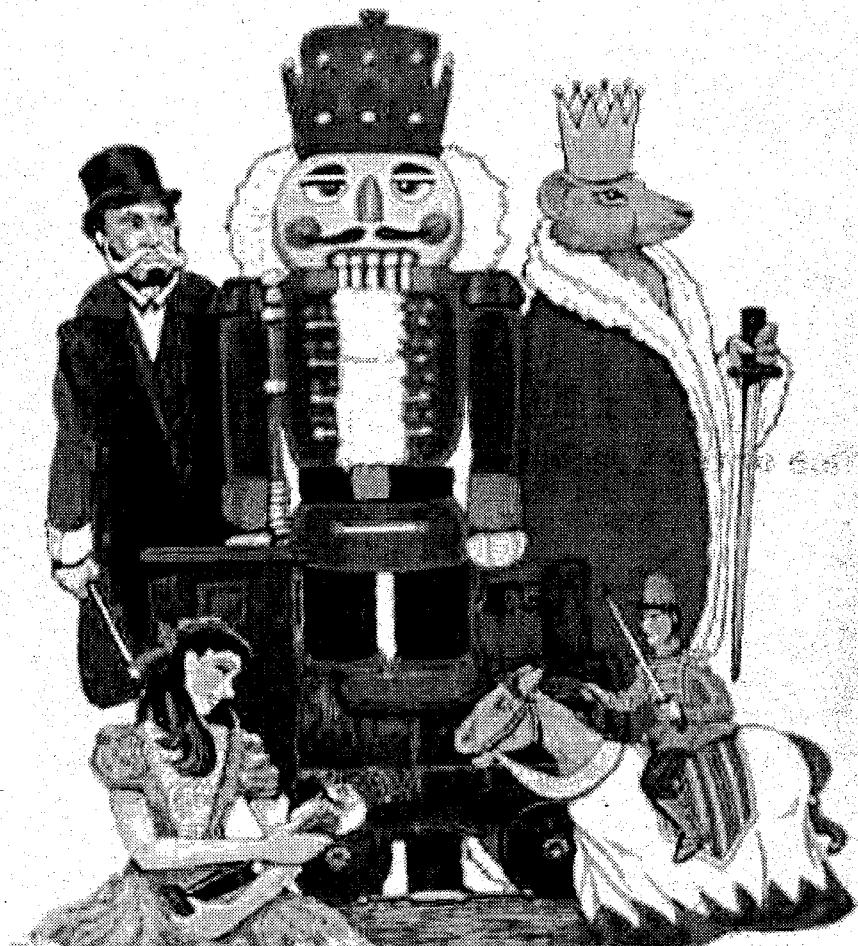
He was soon to find out that this was only the beginning of a series of spectacular and brilliant scenes. Woods was convincing as a young girl on the verge of womanhood. She danced gracefully accompanied by Cory Stearns as the Nutcracker. The pair displayed their passion for dancing with fluid movements and radiance.

Other heart-warming scenes included those where the younger dancers got the chance to stretch their stage legs. The second act's acrobatic clowns, tail-wagging sheep and gliding angels delighted young and old alike. Despite the young age of these dancers, their talent was apparent.

Other impressive performances include Marlena Bono as Drosselmeyer's, played by Steve Marsh, life-sized windup doll, and Julie Miller as the life-sized chocolate soldier. Bono's windup doll showed both robot-like as well as graceful qualities while Miller's chocolate soldier was enchanting and energetic.

Seiskaya Ballet's production of The Nutcracker was a captivating performance with an array of new up and coming talents. Each dancer their own abilities and character traits to add to the stage.

Upcoming Nutcracker performances are Saturday, December 16 at 1 and 7 PM and Sunday, December 17 at 1 and 6 PM. For more information, go to nutcrackerballet.com.



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Editorials

Until We Meet Again

Whew! Another one just about done. Yet another fall semester is about to end and a nice long break is looming just a few days ahead, of course not before you take a couple of finals. Whether or not you have three finals on one day and two more papers to do, doesn't it feel great to know that it is almost all over? You are one semester closer to graduating.

As hectic as the fall semester always is, it is definitely a fun one. In a way, we all dread going back to school at the end of the summer, but there is something both exciting and refreshing in starting off on a whole new academic year. It is a time to make new friends and get involved with new activities and to take off on a whole new course of study. It is like a fresh new slate.

As the semester wears on, we all get to witness the weather getting colder which means more than just going home to trade in sandals and

shorts for sweatshirts and boots. It also means that school is about half way through, you are probably right in the thick of things in all your classes and worst yet, mid terms are coming. Just the first in a line of times to panic and stay up all night with a book.

But as all things do, mid terms pass, the weather grows still colder and we get up to where we are now. Everyone is nervous about finals but at the same time excited about going home. Typical signs of the end semester include people walking around with cases of soda as they desperately try to spend the rest money on their meal card. Another is the scary site of teachers walking around with grade sheets, just waiting for your final to write in your grade and tape it to their door.

Besides being nervous about finals, for many, this is a festive time of year and the first thing to

look forward to is the joy of the holidays which we get to share, book and notebook free unlike Thanksgiving, with our family and friends.

Enjoy that break while it lasts because after a tough semester, three weeks can seem as short as three minutes and before you know it we will all be back on campus for what is certainly a dreary time of year. The dead of winter, which means icy walkways and frigid walks to class, keep the mind off the books and on to hot chocolate and the cozy pajamas some lived in over the intercession.

So enjoy your break while it lasts and make the most of your time to rest by day and play by night. Everyone at Statesman would like to wish our fellow students the best of luck on finals. Have a great, safe and fun holiday season, and like it or not we will see you in a few weeks.

Commentary:

Tools of the Trade: Why UP Should Carry Guns

By ADAM ZIMMERMAN
Statesman Staff

Imagine a carpenter going to build a house. He has his saw, his planks of wood, and his nails. But he has no hammer, no means of connecting the wood to build the house. He is not much of a carpenter without his hammer.

Sound ridiculous? You bet it does. Why would we ever consider a carpenter who is without his hammer?

Better yet, why would we ever consider a police officer who is without his gun?

"We're the ones moving toward trouble, when everyone else moves away from trouble. We have to expect the unexpected. Threats can appear at any time, in the blink of an eye, at any second. That's the nature of the job."

These are the words of Officer Phil Morales of the Stony Brook Police Department. An 11-year protector of this campus, he serves as the department's Chief Firearms Instructor, having received his instructor's license through Suffolk County's police department. He is proud of the rigorous training he and his fellow officers must undergo.

"We test semi-annually at an outdoor firing range, once in the heat of summer, and once in the cold of winter", he said. "The drills keep us sharp, and just as importantly, keep us from getting complacent."

"The number one deadly error

for any police officer is to get complacent". Morales told me. "That's why we have such extensive training. That's why we're trained on Article 35, which instructs us on how to combat Deadly Physical Force. That's why we take a written exam, on which a 100 is the required mark."

Lieutenant Patricia Sarubbi, 21 years on the force and herself a licensed firearms instructor, voices the same strong opinion. "We are continuously trained, and trained well", she said. "It refreshes and reinforces what we already know, and helps us become better officers."

The firearms issue is a young one on campus. The force was not given police status until 1998, when Governor George Pataki deputized our so-called "Peace Officers". It was that order which led to our officers becoming armed, which in turn created the controversy with which we now are forced to deal. Prior to 1998, our officers were carpenters without their hammers, cops without their guns.

"Before we became deputized, the department rule was known as General Order No. 5," Morales said. "We still got calls and responded to the areas. However, if it was a weapons situation, we were not permitted, for any reason, to enter into that situation. We had to turn our backs and literally walk away."

Morales continued. "Once we

left, we had to wait for the Suffolk County department to respond. Sometimes, it took 20-30 minutes for them to arrive on the scene. Ironically students criticized that policy also. Now, we can respond immediately, and enter any situation immediately. We can do our job the way it should be done."

Talk about an archaic policy. Imagine being assaulted with a weapon, and having to wait 20-30 minutes for an armed officer to come your aid. 20-30 minutes, when your life can be taken from you in a matter of seconds. Suddenly, complacency seems very dangerous. That is an important realization; complacency IS very dangerous.

Don't take my word for it, though. Take the word of Officer Frank Rastelli, a 20-year veteran of the force who worked the graveyard shift for several years. "We do live on a safe campus. Violent situations occur very rarely, but they DO happen", he said. "We understand that a gun is not a toy, and we also know that we need it to keep the peace."

"It's no different than the mace, the handcuffs, or the radio we carry on our belts. It's a part of the uniform, a tool of the trade."

Officer Tom Cavataio, 18 years of experience under his belt, also sees the firearm as part of the officer. "We've become full police

Continued on page 8

It's Not Over 'Til It's Over

Women's B-Ball Comes from Behind to Beat American

By CHRISTOPHER HUNT
Statesman Staff

Things were looking bleak for the Stony Brook women's basketball team going into halftime in Monday night's game against American University. Not too many things were going well, the team was plagued by poor shooting and was getting beat on the defensive end. And that was just the immediate problems.

Freshman standout guard, Sherry Jordan did not practice for the entire week with the exception of Sunday, in which her time was limited. She was suffered a injury to her Achilles tendon that would cause her not to start against American University and junior Erika Shipley would start in her place. The Seawolves went into the half down by 9 (36-27) and had a lot of things to fix in the locker room.

The only reason bright shot of the half was their successful behind the arc. Of their 27 points, 15 of them were from 3-pointers and they shot 50%. The problem was having the same success in front of the 3-point line. The Seawolves were shooting 35.5% at the half and were 0 for 3 at that free throw line. Sherry Jordan alone, shot 1-7, scoring just 3 points.

Coach Trish Roberts quickly assessed the problem her team had in the first half. "We just played terrible in the man [defense], she said. So going into the second half she decided to switch to a zone defensive set.

At first, it seems as though no amount of change would affect the outcome of this game which American University looked to be in total control

of. American started the half with an 8-0 run pushing the lead to 17. But in the midst this run, all of a sudden things didn't look so bleak. First, freshman Theresa LoParrino nailed a 3-pointer to end the run, then her teammate Jordan came alive. She began to drive the ball to the basket relentlessly, scoring 3 straight baskets and being fouled on each one. She connected on 2 out of the 3 foul shots. The lead was suddenly cut to 5.

After a 3-point goal by American, the Seawolves would force a few turnovers that led to 3 straight lay-ups for Erica Shipley. During that run Jessica Burch would have to 2 assist and Kelli Cofield picked up 2 steals. Now the score was tied. This was just to be followed by another basket plus the foul by Jordan that would put her team up by 3, their first lead since early in the first half. After 11 lead changes and the score being tied 8 times, the Seawolves made another run late in the half.

Their defense was virtually impenetrable in the second and American would soon have to resort to fouling to stop the clock. Unfortunately for American, the Seawolves shot 85.2% from the line in the second half and was nearly perfect from the line in the closing minutes of the game.

Sherry Jordan rebounded to score 17 of her game-high 20 points in the second half. LoParrino finished with 12 points and Jordan's replacement in the starting line-up had 11. Kelli Cofield was also instrumental to the win, grabbing 13 rebounds and point guard Jessica Burch led the team with 9 steals. She also shot clutch free-throws that would keep her

team ahead late in the game; she finished 7 of 9 from the strip.

Roberts attributed the lapse in the first half to her team just not being aggressive. She said they were getting beat in the man-to-man defense and American was getting too many easy baskets. "Playing zone forced them to shoot from the outside," she said. Roberts knew that she had to have a talk her team at halftime and that they would have to come out of the locker room almost like a different team.

She didn't seem too concerned with her team's inefficiency from the field in the first half, Roberts wanted her team to make a better defensive effort. And they did. Stony Brook out-scored American 53 to 34 in the second half. They also forced 15 turnovers and although they shot well from the 3-point line in the first half, their defense and aggressive caused them not to shot one 3-pointer in the second.

Jordan's turnaround the second was the catalyst for the run that won the game for the Seawolves. A mentally tough Jordan said her injury did not affect her at all during the game. "When your playing, your don't really think about anything," she said. Jordan did admit that she felt some pain in the first half when she put up an airball. The second half for her was completely different. She didn't know what she did differently between the first and second half but she said that the speech from her head coach did help. Her view towards playing through her injury personified her team's never-say-die attitude. "I'll do anything to play," she said.

Victorious Again Women's Basketball Earn Another Win



Statesman/Erin Rosenking



Statesman/Erin Rosenking

The Stony Brook Seawolves walk off the court victorious (left) after beating Monmouth's Hawks 75 to 59. Stony Brook shot 52 percent in the second half and Monmouth went for 22 percent in the first and committed 14 turnovers. After the

game, Theresa LoParrino was interviewed on live radio by WUSB 90.1. LoParrino scored 22 points in the game.

Saturday it is on to Mississippi State where the Seawolves take on Howard for the MSU tournament.

University Police Should Have Guns

Continued from page 6

officers now", he said. "Because of that, we get treated with more respect and authority."

Another important realization is that this campus of 30,000 strong is an OPEN campus; people, outsiders, can literally come and go as they please throughout the day. Obviously, most are harmless so far as violence is concerned, but

can we be positively sure that everyone is objective is so innocuous? The answer is no, there is no way to be 100% sure. So officers need all the help they can get.

"Our guns help reduce the risk we face every day", Morales said. "We have jurisdiction over the entire 1,100 acre campus, plus several areas

outside of campus property. Not only that, other agencies rely on us for assistance; The Long Island Rail Road, Suffolk County. Their departments depend on us too, and we have to be ready to respond with force if the situation warrants it."

Consider 10-1. Those are numbers too us, but to a police officer, they are a cry for help. 10-1 is the code officers use when they are involved in a dangerous situation they cannot handle on their own, and thus need immediate backup. How effective would our officers be without an effective means of control?

"That's why we go through such rigorous training; it helps us become seasoned, mature officers", Morales said. "No police officer wants to be involved in a situation where the gun has to come out the holster, but it is necessary nonetheless."

All of the officers to whom I spoke pointed out several times that violent crimes are extremely rare on campus, and that we should be proud of our safety record. But they also made sure to stress that if this line of thinking leads to complacency, we've committed a crime of our own, a crime that won't show up in the police statistics.

So what's the message? The message is that we're all police officers, in the sense that we all strive to keep the campus safe. So it is our duty to respect our officers, and even respect the guns they carry. Yes, in a perfect world, police officers wouldn't have to carry guns. Then again, in a perfect world, police officers don't exist.

I have used this space previously to salute our university's finest, and I proudly do so once again. As for those who are critical of officers carrying guns, their ideology is not as far removed from the ideology supported here as one might think; after all, it is the sincere hope of both groups that the guns will never have to be used.

I call on critics to take this to heart, and in turn support the good guys who wear the badges on their chests, and the guns at their hips. All the good guys have to be on the same page.

For if we are not, how can we ever hope to fight the bad guys?

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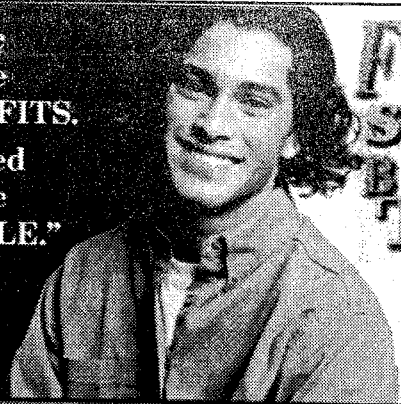
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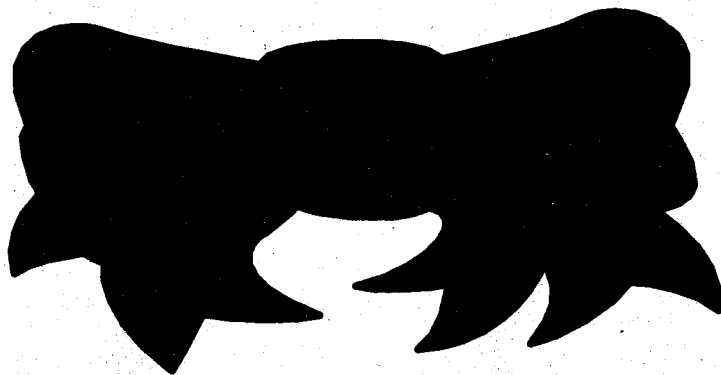
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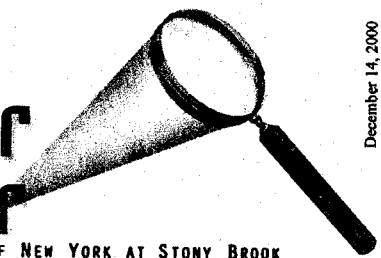
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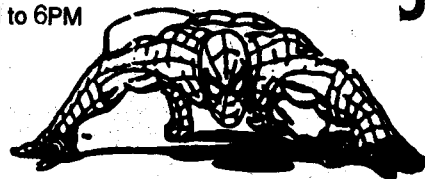
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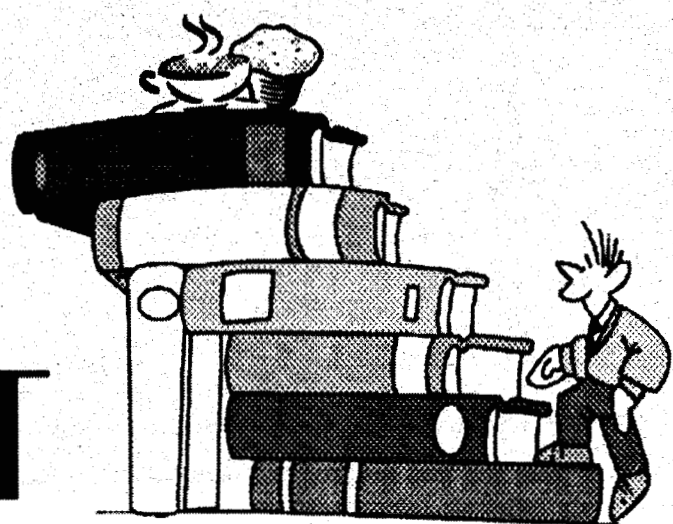
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Features

A Room With a View

Artist's Installation Offers a Glimpse into the 1970's

By JOHN SANDERS
Statesman Contributor

When viewing Chris Stackowicz's installation *Retrospective*, currently on view in the Melville Library Gallery, one is reminded of the Turkish myth of Gyges. Possessing a ring that makes him invisible, Gyges becomes a model for seeing without being seen, a feature that is effectively employed by the artist. The myth of Gyges is necessary to say that *Retrospective* breaks this ring. It goes beyond mere visual information to be sincerity, sincerity in the form of revealing the underpinnings of a baroque period of American culture, the 1970's.

Retrospective is a recreation of a 1970's den, complete in every way down to the minute details of an eight track player, a plaid couch and various glass curios lining the wooden shelves. In fact, the piece is such an intricately constructed web of interconnecting visual stimuli, it is hard to know where to begin to look.

Immediately one is faced with the stuffed and mounted deer heads which appear to observe the viewer as the viewer observes them. Spatially, the eye is next drawn to the plush couch to assume the position of worshipping a staple of 1970's life, the television which is flanked by several stands and shelves

which display "how to do it" manuals.

Perhaps most striking are the complex lithographs upon the walls which are not exempt from the 70's theme with their wooden paneling. The figures in the pictures, both men and women, operate upon each other in a way that reflects the culture embodied in the room. A dialogue of gender negotiation is opened up, forcing one to consider just what happens to men and women in this type of space and culture.

The "how to have sex manuals are not the only way sexuality comes through in *Retrospective*. The piece explores constructions of sexuality, especially sublimated conceptions of sex through the use of tools. As a den, complete with fondu cooking coffee tables, meat cutters and a hot dog roaster, it also offers the exploration of a homosexual social space where guys can hang out, both literally and physically. However, this combines with the bookshelves full of romantic novels with many of the sex scenes highlighted, forcing the viewer to wonder about the role of women in this environment. Is this a place for a man to learn how to do it and be a man or is it a place for him to deal with homosexual tendencies? Or could it be a space where women construct ideas of masculinity



Statesman/Tina Chadha

While showing the staples of 1970's life, including a television and a fondu pot, it questions the sexuality of those that would hang out in this den.



Statesman/Tina Chadha



Statesman/Tina Chadha

Retrospective featured all the accoutrements of a den from the 1970's from an eight track player to a plaid couch.

just as they themselves are being operated on by men? Ultimately, the perception of how sexuality operates in this embodiment of a baroque period of time depends on the viewer but the questions "*Retrospective*" raises can contribute to contemporary ideas of how sexuality is related or surfaced through a lived in environment.

The sincerity of the work comes through every object, every arrangement

and every mark in the room being a trace of Stackowicz's hand and conception. The artist gives a presentation of the world as he sees it; it is a presentation of his face. The work is truly a work in making visible of oneself through the work that breaks the ring of Gyges. *Retrospective* will be in the Melville Library Gallery until December 18. It is open Monday through Friday, 11 am until 2 pm.