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Statesman

Monday
November 26, 1990
Volume 34, Number 23

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK

Next stop: Bus fee? *Marburger decides today*

By David Joachim
Statesman Editor-in-Chief

University President John Marburger said last night that the university has delayed its decision on whether to implement a 50-cent-per-ride user fee for campus bus service due to the budget crisis.

The fee, a result of the university's purchase of 12 new busses, could eventually be converted to a mandatory fee for all students, according to Hugh Mulligan, director of the Department of Parking and Transportation.

"The recent budget development is going to make it necessary to take a look at all fees," Marburger told *Statesman* adding that his final decision would be released later in the week.

The Student Polity Association has voiced its rejection of the bus fee, but says it is willing to compromise. "Any [bus] fee will be discriminatory," said Polity President Dan Slepian. But, he says, Polity favors

the mandatory fee over the user fee.

If a mandatory fee is implemented, Slepian plans to approach the administration with a list of "demands" in exchange for the fee. These include the building of new student parking lots and the return of resident parking to the Infirmary lot, which was converted to a faculty/staff lot earlier this semester.

"If we pay the bills, we should see something for it," said Slepian.

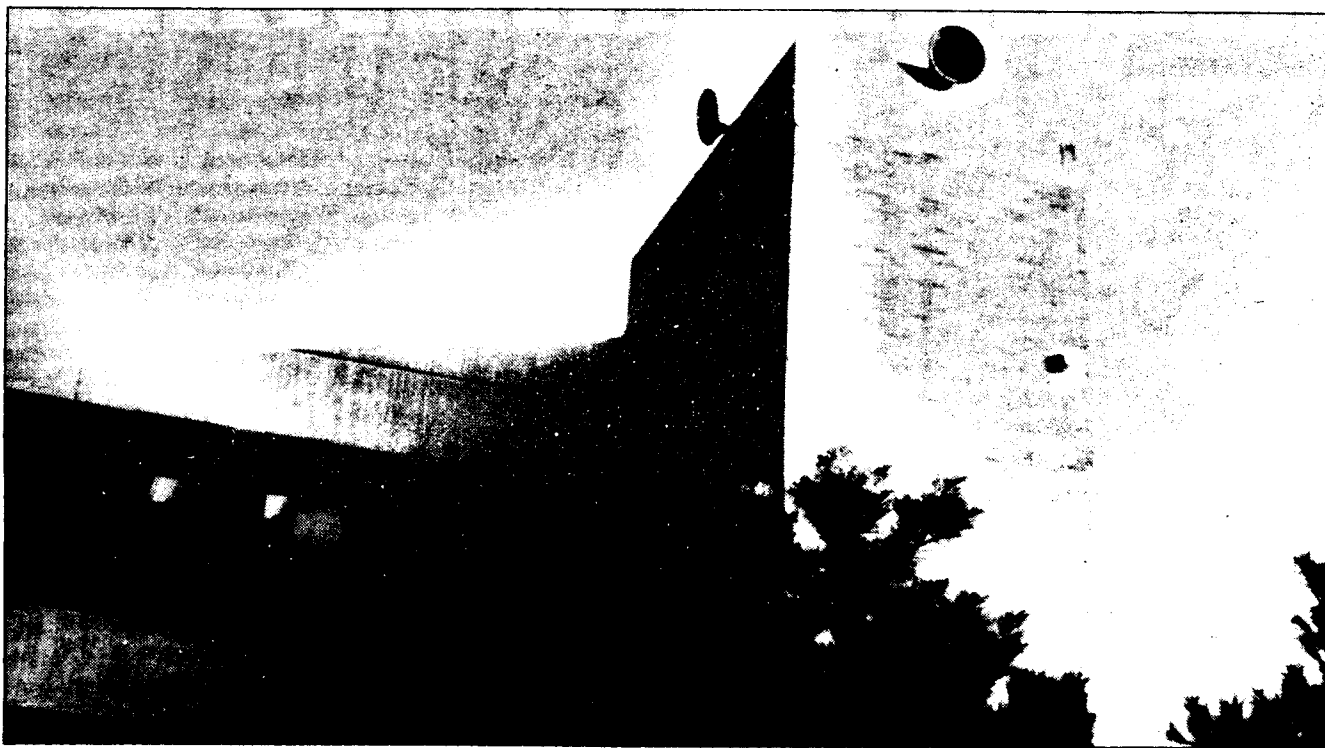
Students at the University of Buffalo recently were hit with a \$70 per semester "transportation fee," approved at the October meeting of the SUNY Board of Trustees.

The Governor's office said last week that mid-year cuts to the SUNY system as a result of the state fiscal crisis would total \$50.9 million, far worse than expected. The cuts will result in additional layoffs, cuts to services and increased tuition and fees for students.



University President John Marburger

Statesman File Photo



Statesman/Chris Vecirca

The Sounds of Big Ben Ring on Campus

A carillon broadcasts every hour from the Administration Building between 8 am and 7 pm. Today's SB Magazine looks at the campus' reaction to the musical stimulation.

Graduate student struggle continues

By Eric F. Coppolino
Student Leader Press Service

STONY BROOK — They teach thousands of courses, they grade papers, and they run laboratories. They're expected to come to work every day, they collect official state of New York paychecks and they pay income taxes.

But, according to the State University of New York and Governor Mario Cuomo, graduate student employees, such as teaching assistants (TAs) and graduate assistants (GAs), aren't really employees.

RELATED STORY, PAGE 2

It's a nearly decade old battle, and on the distinction, graduate student organizers say, rests a key point of democracy: whether the SUNY system's 5,500 GAs and TAs are allowed to hold a special election to determine whether they want to form a labor union to represent their own interests. Under state law, only officially recognized state employees are allowed to hold such elections.

See GRADS On Page 5

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Protests disrupt trustees

By Eric F. Coppolino
Student Leader Press Service

BUFFALO, Nov. 15 — It was only after eight years of stonewalling and being run in circles that graduate student leaders resorted to standing up at a meeting of the State University Board of Trustees and reading the Graduate and Professional Students Bill of Rights.

It was a symbolic gesture, but it made the point well: the trustee, flustered and obviously expecting the students to shut up when told to, twice voted to recess, then called an executive session and moved the meeting to a secret location on the Buffalo State College campus, where one organizer would later be arrested and handcuffed to a men's room fixture.

The issue: why SUNY refuses to allow the system's 5,500 teaching assistants (TAs), graduate assistants (GAs) and research assistants (RAs) to hold a certification election to form a collective bargaining unit.

"Over the past year, we've tried everything possible" said Chris Vestudo, organizer for the Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU), local 1188 of the Communication Workers of America (CWA). "We've sent 1,500 letters to the chancellor and the governor, we've met with several trustees, we even went so far as to engage in a hunger strike."

But, he says, SUNY isn't listening, and neither is Governor Mario Cuomo. Both the University and the Governor's Office of Employee Relations (OER) are vehemently arguing that, despite having full teaching responsibilities and receiving paychecks, graduate student employees aren't really employees, and therefore aren't entitled to the right to a unionization vote.

Consequently, they lack the health insurance, grievance procedures, mater-

nity leave or anything else considered a staple of state employment. Graduate student employees in states with unionization, including nearby New Jersey's Rutgers University, enjoy full benefits.

SUNY reasons that graduate student employees are merely "apprentices" or "professors in training" — or even, according to one brief, just like the people who make license plates and road signs in correctional facilities — "incidental employees," whose employment is incidental to their status as masters and doctoral students. Though their responsibilities include teaching every subject from molecular physics to T. S. Eliot, and covering half the courses in some departments, SUNY has argued that they're more like prisoners than teachers.

In a case currently, and its seems perpetually, before the state Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) to determine just what graduate student employees really are, SUNY audaciously cites *Prisoner's Labor Unions v. PERB* as a precedent for not allowing incidental employees to have unionization rights. Union organizers say the metaphor is remarkably apt.

"Imagine not letting people in Poland vote for a union," said Rick Eckstein, former GSEU president. "People in this country would be up in arms. It's unconscionable. We're pleading with the Governor to intervene."

For three years, the PERB case has been tied up in an appeal in which the normally three-member board is missing a member and tied one-to-one. Cuomo left the third board seat vacant for two years, then appointed a third member in the spring, who took a job with the Dinkins administration within weeks of being confirmed by the Senate. The seat remains vacant, and the GSEU case remains at the top of the PERB docket with nowhere to go.

'Take Back the Night'

By Abigail Cohen
Student Leader Press Service

BINGHAMTON (SL) — More than 100 women students and faculty participated in a "Take Back the Night" march last week to oppose violence against women, the largest such demonstration at SUNY Binghamton in some time.

As is traditional in Take Back the Night marches, men participated in a group discussion about rape, while women marched through every residential community on campus. Protestors chanted such slogans as "Women unite, take back the night," "Women, united, will never be defeated," and "Whatever we wear, wherever we go, yes means yes and no means no," to affirm women's right to walk where they choose at night without fear of violence.

At each community, the marchers

stopped and recited poems and readings dealing with violence towards women, and resistance against such. One of these readings was a letter to *The Village Voice*, in which a rape survivor describes in graphic detail the permanent physical damage inflicted upon her as a result of being raped.

Sarah Elbert, a professor of History and Women's Studies, and chair of the Personal Safety Advisory Committee, said that according to government statistics, one in four women will be raped in her lifetime. Elbert also pointed out that the slogan, "Women, united, will never be defeated," is 'not quite accurate, as all women are not united. Rape disproportionately affects poor women and women of color, she said, and that differences among women must be understood while acknowledging women's common concerns and goals.

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SUNY's mid-year cut set at \$51 million

By Eric F. Coppelino
Student Leader Press Service

ALBANY, Nov. 19 — Mid-year cuts to the State University of New York's operating budget will cost the system \$50.9 million, or 6.2% of its states support, according to the Governor's office. SUNY officials also said that the University system is facing an additional \$10 million shortfall from soaring energy costs due to the Persian Gulf crisis.

The massive spending reduction, which is part of a state-wide crisis, will result in a tuition hike expected to be \$300 per year, starting with an increase of \$150 in the spring semester. The budget cutting plan, ordered Saturday by Gov. Mario Cuomo, also includes reducing every TAP award — except for students receiving full TAP — by \$100 in the spring in an effort to save any available cash to reduce the state's worsening fiscal crisis.

Other drastic cost saving measures, including layoffs and a week long "furlough," or campus shut-down, are also extremely likely between now and March 31, according to numerous sources in Albany.

Both student leaders and SUNY officials were forthright that the tuition hike would not benefit students or the campuses in any way. SUNY Chancellor Bruce Johnstone said last week that, "There's no way this tuition will be seen as netting us anything more than less disaster," and told faculty and students at SUNY New Paltz Friday that students would see no benefit for their increased tuition.

Both the cut to TAP and the tuition hike are subject to the approval of the State Legislature when it returns to Albany

Student trustee abstains vote

ALBANY, Nov. 19 (SL) — Student Trustee Judith Krebs abstained on last Thursday's vote to support a hike in SUNY tuition, according to the State University.

Krebs, who is also president of the Student Association of the State University (SASU), was widely reported to have voted in favor of the hike in an overwhelming voice vote on a resolution intended to "give a sense" of the trustees' approval of raising tuition as part of the plan to close a massive budget cut, and apparently believed she voted "yes" herself.

Krebs did not challenge the reports until she received a call last Monday from the trustees' recording secretary, Martha Downey, who said she made an error and had no official record of a vote by Krebs.

"I called to ensure that the record was correct," said Downey, who was told by Krebs that she "didn't make any noise" during the vote. Silence during a voice vote is legally recorded as an abstention, and that is what will be reflected on the official minutes of the meeting. The final vote will be listed as 11 in favor, none opposed and one abstention.

Trustee Chairman Fred Salerno, in running the vote, called for "all in favor" and "all against" and did not ask for people to abstain, as is generally required under public meeting rules. A tape of the meeting indicated that there was no vocal opposition, which created the appearance of unanimous support of raising tuition.

Adding to the confusion is the fact that the decision by Krebs to "reconsider" SASU's stance on tuition took many students and student leaders by surprise, and some learned of it only when telephone calls started to come in from students who heard reports in the media that SASU was supporting a tuition hike under certain conditions.

The reports were traced to an Associated Press telephone interview with Krebs Wednesday morning, the day before the trustee meeting was held at Buffalo State College. The reports started to come up in newsrooms mid-day Wednesday. Krebs said that the reports over broadcast media was exaggerated because she told the AP that SASU was merely "reconsidering" its stance, not that it had already reversed it.

"I nearly fell off my chair," said New Paltz Student Association President Jason Black said when calls from angry and puzzled students started to reach him.

A tuition hike is still subject to one additional vote by the trustees, which is expected to be taken at the Dec. 20 meeting in Albany, and the approval of the State Legislature and the Governor. Johnstone told the trustees he didn't think obtaining legislative or executive approval of a tuition hike would be a problem.

An open hearing on the issue of tuition and revenue policy for the State University will be held in Albany Dec. 7. The hearing is intended to collect the student and public opinion on what the University's long-term stance on tuition and fee policies should be. For more information about the hearing, call the State University's main switchboard at (518) 443-5555.

today for an emergency session expected to last several weeks.

While the tuition hike, approved in principle by the SUNY Board of Trustees last Thursday, was widely expected in recent weeks, Cuomo's plan to cut TAP awards was totally unexpected, according to sources in the State University and elsewhere in state government.

SASU President Judith Krebs called Cuomo's decision to cut TAP "insane" given the reality of the first-ever mid-year tuition hike, and she vowed that SASU would fight any cut to TAP in the legislature.

"I think that most legislators will realize this is insane," Krebs said in an interview last Monday morning. "The most regressive way to solve the budget deficit problem is by raising SUNY tuition and lowering the amount of TAP that SUNY students have available to them."

Krebs said she would be making calls this week to major SUNY advocates in the legislature to discuss both the proposed cuts to TAP and the widely-discussed amount of next semester's tuition hike, which Krebs said SASU would fight to have held at the \$100 level.

The budget cuts are affecting every agency from local school districts to the state police to the the state highway department.

Earlier this month, Cuomo ordered all state agencies to

make plans to cut their current-year operating budgets 3%, 5% or 7% in anticipation of a nearly \$1 billion state tax shortfall due to a recession in the northeastern US.

The final figure of 6.2%, which was much higher than expected by most close observers of state government, was released late Saturday.

This cut comes on top of \$50 million in budgeted cuts already taken by the University earlier in the year, and follow two prior years of massive budget cuts.

So far this year, more than 300 faculty and staff positions and 3,000 class sections have been eliminated, and SUNY officials told the Board of Trustees Thursday that unless tuition was raised it might be necessary to fire as many as 2,000 people before the end of the year.

"I'm worried about a lot of other things," said SUNY finance chief Bill Anslow, who said his main concern was "trying to preserve the basic structure that exists," and said he and members of his staff have been working seven days a week during the crisis.

In other budget news, lobby groups for private colleges and universities across the state called for an additional \$25 million increase in state aid on top of \$100 million in so called "Bundy aid" already given to private institutions in New York. Traditionally, public school students in New York have not made Bundy aid a major issue.

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The deadline is December 10, 1990, and the winner will be announced in the December 17, 1990 issue of *Statesman*.

Why Are American Soldiers in Persian Gulf ?

AFTER THE AUGUST 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the deployment of the first American troops to the Persian Gulf, we heard several reasons for our doing so. President Bush told us that we were protecting Saudi Arabia from Iraqi aggression; enforcing a trade embargo that would force Saddam

situation were against the deployment. Those of us who are "patriotic" Americans justified the American stance without question. But most of us didn't know where to stand, so we allowed further events to unfold before we made a decision.

Since then, the rules have changed. Suddenly, we are hit with comparisons of Saddam Hussein to Adolph Hitler; threatened by the image of Hussein with nuclear and chemical weapons; told of Iraqi atrocities against innocent Kuwaitis; and told that our national security is at stake because Iraq threatens our "major" source of energy (actually only 7 percent of our total oil supply). Of course, what President Bush is saying is that even if Saddam unconditionally pulls his troops out of Kuwait, the United States now has a longer list of demands. Or, it could be further use of Republican imagery to gain

support for an elitist war.

It now seems that Bush will not pull troops out until Saddam Hussein is dead and a puppet dictator is installed. But Hussein is the same man who we befriended during the Iran-Iraq war.

To further American hypocrisy, we are protecting a monarchy in Saudi Arabia that treats women as second-class citizens and allows no popular participation in government. And we are asking for the support of the Syrian government: one that is suspected to have been responsible for the 1983 bombing of an American Marines base in Beirut and the 1989 terrorist attack on Pan Am flight 103.

The argument: the enemy of my enemy is my friend.

But this is the same logic that went into our alliance with "Hitler-like" Hussein for the past decade. Where does the hypocrisy end?

Congress' voice still goes virtually unheard. Although many congressional leaders have condemned any American offensive action in the Gulf, it seems they are waiting for the first American casualties before taking a strong stand and asserting power.

Americans have the right to know why in an era of spending cuts, we are spending \$70 million a day in the Gulf. And we should know why 300,000 Americans are putting their lives on the line.

Instead of using imagery — that trusty Republican weapon — Bush must be frank with Americans to ensure the government is acting in the interest of the populous. If not, we will be condemned to a war of the elite, in the interest of the elite, fought by the exploited lower and middle classes who have been conditioned to blindly accept that a war in the Persian Gulf is justified.

News Views David Joachim

Hussein to restore the nation of Kuwait; and protecting the western hostages in Iraq.

Most of us were stunned. Those of us who are adamantly opposed to war in any

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Grad fight continues

GRADS From Page 1

And as long as SUNY and the state can argue that they're not really employees, or delay the decision, they can be denied the right. SUNY's position was the subject of a protest held November 15 at the SUNY Board of Trustees meeting in Buffalo [see related story].

"Self determination is a matter of choice," said Jane Ely, president of the Graduate Student Organization (GSO). "Graduate students should be allowed the freedom to decide whether they should be unionized or not."

"Graduate student employees perform the same duties that faculty members perform. It's only because we're also students and have not earned our Ph.D.'s yet that we can be denied this basic right."

There is little doubt about how graduate students would vote if they were ever allowed to hold a "certification election," as it's technically known. Some are paid as little as \$3,300 for a year's work, though they earn an average of \$8,400 at Stony Brook. Their work agreement with the university includes no health insurance, maternity leave or other basic benefits of state employment.

Unionization, as it's done in New Jersey, Michigan and other states, would give graduate students the leverage power to work these benefits into work contracts on a regular basis, just like professors, Public Safety officers and other SUNY employees do through their unions.

Providing these benefits would be extremely costly for the State University, but, union organizers say, this should not influence the issue of self-determination.

Says Chris Vestudo, former GSO president and a statewide organizer for the Graduate Student Employees Union (GSEU), "There are a lot of ways that you can save

money by violating people's rights. That doesn't make it right."

University President John Marburger takes a different view.

"SUNY's position has always been that graduate students are not employees," Marburger said Sunday night, explaining, "it would be very expensive to give benefits comparable to faculty." Such expenses, he said, could lead to a "massive reduction" in the numbers of supported graduate students.

But, Marburger admits, "I would call them a vital part of the campus community and an important part of the educational atmosphere," adding that the rights of graduate students need to be protected — but some way besides unionization.

But, he added, whatever his opinion on the issue of self-determination, "the distinction doesn't lie with me."

Where does the issue lie?

The issue is currently tied up before a special labor court called the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), which exists specifically to make ruling on public employment unionization issues.

An earlier PERB decision held, as SUNY is arguing, that graduate students are "incidental employees," or not employees distinctly enough to be allowed to hold a unionization vote.

Graduate students, represented by the powerful Communication Workers of America (CWA) union, have appealed the decision, but PERB, which normally has three members, currently has only two, and their votes are split.

For two years, Governor Cuomo refused to appoint a third member of PERB, and when he did last spring, the appointee quit after less than a month in office. Meanwhile, both Cuomo's office and SUNY Central continue to take the side that graduate student employees are not really employees, and that is where the case stands today.

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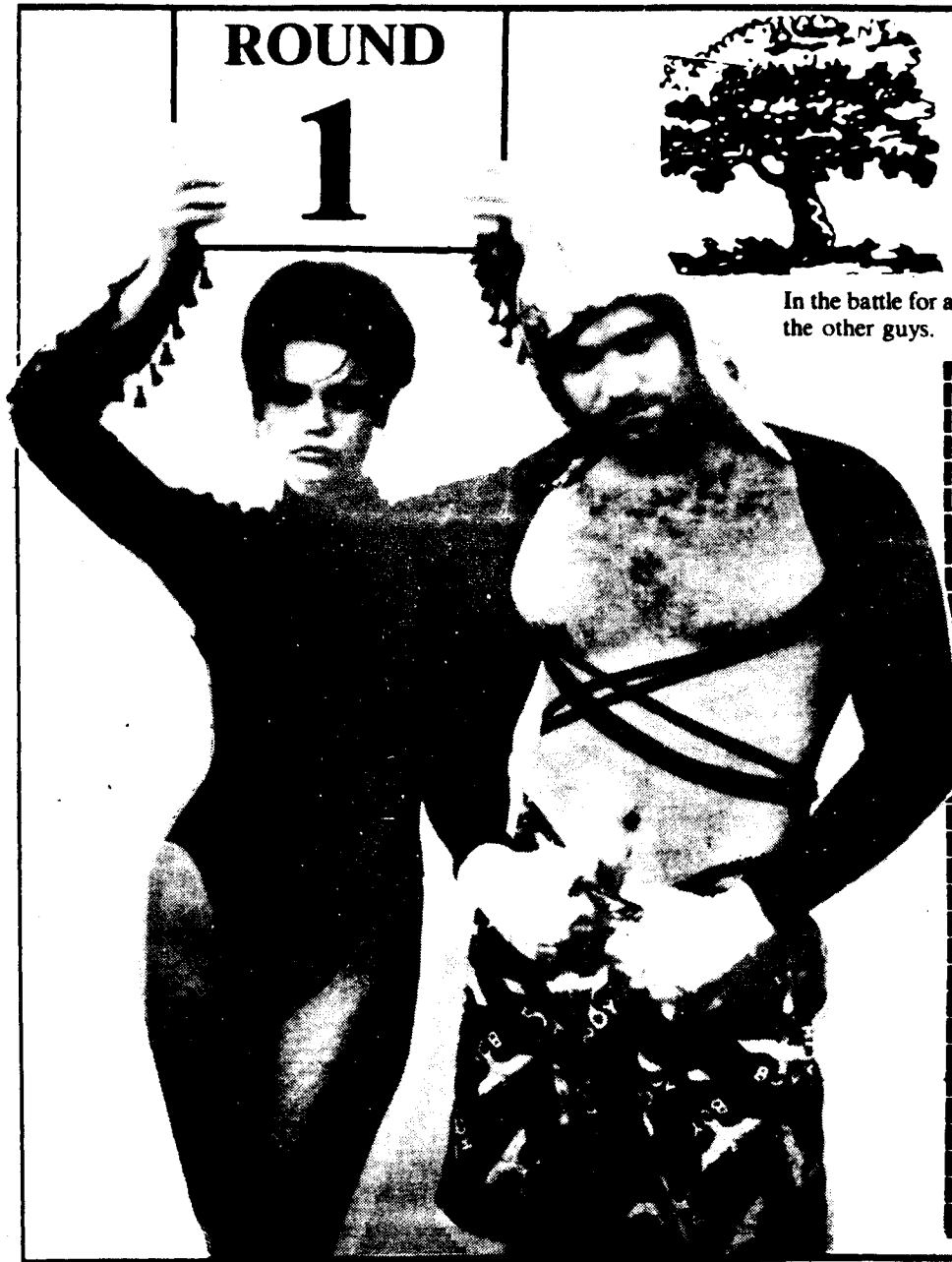
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Editorial

Marburger Wastes Time as SUNY Collapses

The SUNY system is unravelling as the state threatens mass firings; program and department cuts; tuition increases; and cuts to financial aid. But what will University President John Marburger be doing today?: Delivering Chinese food.

This job will be part of "Trading Places," an event sponsored by the Student Alumni Chapter in which a student trades positions with Dr. Marburger for a day. Marburger will be performing a student's duties on and off campus, while that student plays president for a day. In theory, it is intended to unite the student body and administration by making each more familiar with the other. But in practice, the event is merely a waste of time.

Leave it to SAC and the administration to create an event that is purely a publicity stunt. In the era of the "photo-op," administrators will stop at nothing to create good public relations.

The event offers little to the campus community, except maybe a laugh or two at a newspaper cover story depicting Marburger in history class. And it serves to inform and enlighten few beyond the two participants.

Perhaps SAC could learn from the organizers of the Student-Faculty-Staff Retreat. This event, which was held last month, allows faculty, staff and students to join together in a social atmosphere and discuss relevant university issues. And it lets participants interact personally in a laid-back situation to alter the intimidation factor that often dissuades conversation between the three groups.

More importantly, the retreat is a sincere attempt at gaining insight about the campus community. It puts very little stress on publicity and provides an opportunity for others outside of the event to profit from the experience.

Trading Places threatens the efficiency of more than just the president's office. Because the administration is so fond of the event, the "Student President" has meetings scheduled today with the provost, vice-president for student affairs, and the president of Polity, all of which will result in no real accomplishment.

Undoubtedly, the president, as well as the other administrators involved, often claim that there is

not enough time in the day to solve the many problems we face at Stony Brook. Perhaps they can think of these issues and the time they're wasting while they are enjoying themselves today.

And perhaps the next time there is a crisis on campus, we can cite this day of inefficiency when we are told that administrators are "too busy" to address our needs.



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SB *Statesman* Magazine

The life and chimes of SB's faceless clock tower

By Gail Hoch
Statesman Feature Writer

Big Ben's on campus. The sound of bells do not resound from Westminster Abbey in London, but rather, vibrate through loudspeakers atop the Administration building here at Stony Brook.

Since August 20th, a carillon has been broadcast every hour between 8 a.m. and 7 p.m., and employees and students at S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook have mixed feelings about the electronic simulation of the actual bells that chime from Westminster Abbey. "I think they're wonderful, but it took a while to get used to them," said Tony Gentile, a pretzel vendor who works near the Administration building.

"It makes me think how much longer I have to sit in class," when the carillon "chimes," said Dawn Martin, a junior.

"I think they're very nice," said Carol Thomas of the office of vice-president of Campus Services.

One man responsible for the carillon, a set of bells progressing by half tones, at Stony Brook is James Keene, Director of the Student Affairs Division of Career and Developmental Services, who said the carillon "is an attempt to try to improve the atmosphere on campus."

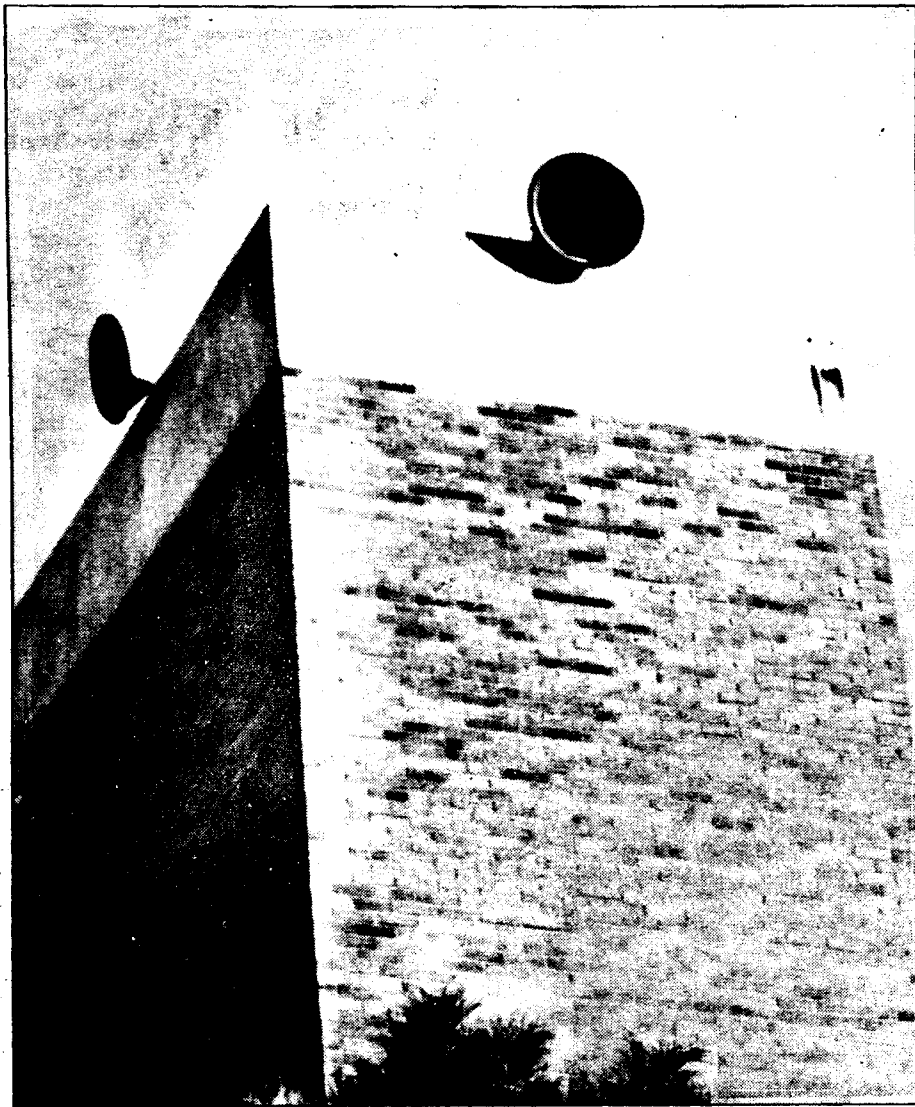
The idea, according to Keene, began in 1984 when John Ramsey, associate professor of Physical Education, proposed it to the Student-Faculty/Staff Forum.

However, the actual bells alone could cost a half-million dollars, and other electronically simulated carillons could cost anywhere between \$7,500 and \$50,000.

"The expense was staggering," Keene said, "and there were more desperate movements for the campus."

In March, 1985, Keene and Ramsey obtained an old carillon free of charge from the Veterans Administration Hospital in Northport through a state agency. Mike Mellore, a communications engineer with expertise in electronics, evaluated the system.

"The only thing that'd work were the



Statesman/Chris Vaccra

The clock tower speakers atop the Administration building.

speakers," Keene said. "Mike put a lot of personal time into it. He was able to take the clock, build an electronic interface which feeds sound into an amplifier and then through the speakers."

Keene searched the country for a specific "heath kit," which is a set of instructions and

the necessary parts to build a product, to build an electronic version of the grandfather clock the rings out Westminster chimes.

The entire system, which cost about \$1,000, was paid for by the Student Affairs department and by some contributions from

staff members, according to Keene.

Although several students have complained about the sound of the carillon. Diane Schutz, a senior, said the chimes "sound fake and pre-recorded."

Keene acknowledges this point of the carillon "The... clock was designed for use in the living room at home. The sound's nowhere near as pure as it can be if we had the real bells."

However, he said the present carillon is "much, much better than nothing."

Keene said that carillons are "found on campus and historic sites like Valley Forge. There are several faculty members who come from institutions with carillons."

Keene can sometimes hear the carillon from the front yard of his home in East Setauket, where it sounds less like a recording. "Unless you're standing right underneath it," Keene said.

One woman who does stand right underneath the loudspeakers in her office on the top floor of the Administration building, Carolyn Lass, said, "It sounds like an ocean liner in the fog."

And is that good or bad?

"Well, it doesn't sound like church bells," said Lass. "But it's nice. I like it."

Keene hopes the concept will be appreciated enough to put in a better system. "Even new speakers would help." He also hopes the alumni will make the donations necessary to get a better system. "Certainly for \$10,000 we can get something of better quality."

However, students such as Schultz believe the chimes "try to make the school into something we're not."

On the other hand, some students believe the carillon is a positive addition to the campus. "They add ivy to the walls," said Greg Hippolyte, a senior. "You just feel the establishment's more prestigious."

Although mixed feelings about the carillon remain at Stony Brook, the system has "been doing very nicely," and has been "very helpful at times to keep meetings on schedule," said Keene. "It becomes a pulse on campus."

Big laughs from a little guy in *Home Alone*

By Darren B. Davis
Statesman Feature Writer

Young Kevin McCallister is in for a big surprise this Christmas when he is accidentally forgotten at home when his family leaves for their European holiday in Twentieth Century Fox's production of John Hughes' *Home Alone*.

Kevin, played by ten-year-old Macaulay Culkin, is a Dennis-the-Menace type kid who is thrust into the position of home security monitor when he learns of a plot by two moronic house burglars, Harry and Marv (Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern), to practice their trade on his home. Meanwhile, Kevin's frantic mother, Kate (Catherine O'Hara), tries frantically to return home when she realizes that in their haste to make their plane, Kevin was overlooked.

Kevin's adventures are both heartwarming and hilarious as he unravels some of the mysteries of his neighborhood, eats all the junk he wants and fends off the would-be thieves with a barrage of homemade booby-traps and deterrents.



Twentieth Century Fox

Macaulay Culkin as Kevin McCallister in a scene from *Home Alone*.

Culkin is outrageous in his first lead role. He is of the rare breed of child actors who come off as genuinely funny and truly likeable, instead of bratty and annoying. Those who remember him as Miles Russell in *Uncle Buck*, another Hughes production,

will know what to expect. If you liked him there, you'll love him here.

Pesci and Stern as Harry and Marv are also terrific in their roles as the bumbling burglars. They embody the perfect amount of nastiness and slapstick that is necessary

for their parts. Pesci was most recently seen as a psychotic gangster in Martin Scorsese's *Goodfellas*, while Stern's most recent work was in Joe Roth's *Coupe De Ville*, this past summer.

O'Hara, who can be seen in Tim Burton's *Beetlejuice*, as well as on *Comic Relief*, is perfect as Kevin's panic-stricken mother, Kate, who frantically attempts to get home to her "helpless" child. She is both believable and humorous in her plight as a mother in a terrible predicament.

There is also a cameo appearance by John Candy as Gus Polinski, the polka king, who assists Kate in her return home. Candy has worked with Hughes numerous times in the past and with both Hughes and Culkin as the lead in *Uncle Buck*.

Hughes, who is also known for, *The Breakfast Club*, *National Lampoon's Vacation*, and *Mr. Mom*, wrote and produced *Home Alone*, while Chris Columbus (*Adventures in Babysitting*) directed this must-see, laugh-till-you-drop holiday film.

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The Fall

By Mary Wilson

It was the same road I walked down two months ago, yet it has become oddly unfamiliar to me. My pace was quicker than it would have been then, and with each step I felt distant. The distance can not be recorded in miles and turning around can not bring me back. Time is the only vehicle that can return me to the tranquil days of summer.

FICTION

The white caps on the water were violently crashing onto the shore. The lake was empty. The boats that once occupied it have now been replaced by clusters of colored leaves. I longed to see the still, mirror-like lake whose only

intruders were sailboats or the determined old men in their fishing boats. The stillness of the lake was so soothing, and watching the sailboats gently being escorted across the lake by the wind delighted me.

Those days are gone now, and I can almost taste the frost that is impatiently waiting to invade the town. The trees came alive from the passing breeze and more hints of winter began to float down and land in the water.

I walked down to the beach and stood on the sand. I felt another distance between me and summer. My feet, which were once free to feel the warmth of the beach, were now trapped within my shoes. I could still hear the faint sounds

of the children laughing as they made their castles in the sand. But, even the laughter was fading.

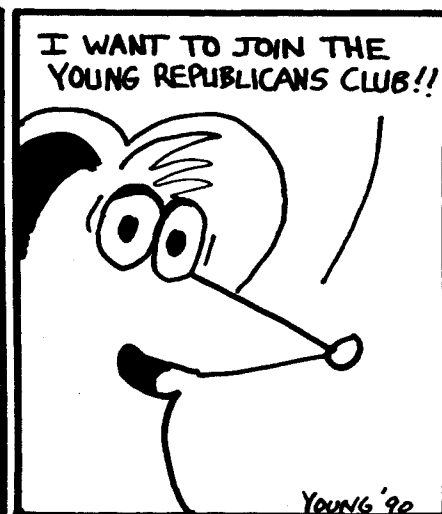
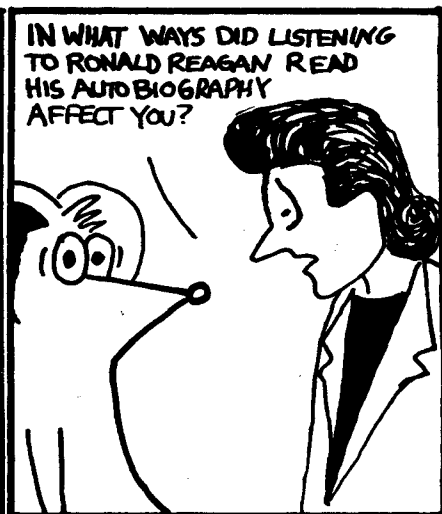
My hair was blowing with the wind as I took a long stern look out at the lake. The mountains did look beautiful with the different splotches of color across them, but I still can't help missing the monotonous green that once canvassed the hills. Soon there will be no colors and the skeletons of the trees will stand frozen in time. This thought caused an empty feeling deep in my stomach and broke my trance.

I went back up to the road and began to walk once more. It began to get colder as I kept walking, yet I am uncertain as to whether or not the temperature had actually dropped. I walked quicker and

began to rub my arms for warmth. My feet kept moving faster and faster and I swear I began to see my breath as I exhaled into the cold air. I broke into a jog but could not feel the tips of my ears or nose. It was getting too cold. I tried to think of warming thoughts of summer, but they were blocked out by the icy chill that was taking over my body. I was running too fast and I couldn't even see the end of the road. My vision was blurry from the watering of my eyes and the tears froze instantly.

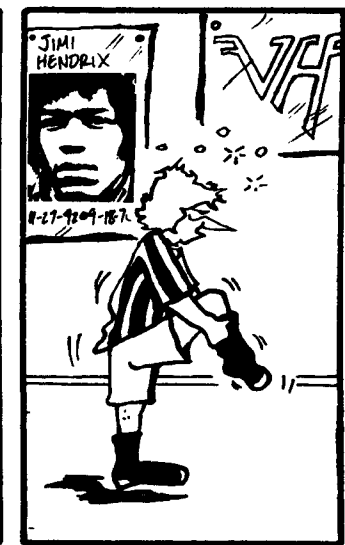
My feet began to get heavier and my arms lost all strength. I tried, for a final time, to turn my head, look back and catch one last glimpse. The road I had just traveled down could not be seen anymore. I froze.

Matt the Rat



Siene Young

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Deck the halls with lots of egg nog, Fa la la la la

THE STACK OF Christmas cards looked to be in pretty good shape. After I blew the dust off them that is. Last year it seemed like a perfect plan — send your Christmas cards out early. Yes, it was a perfect plan, however it was lacking in the execution department. Even though I don't remember most of the two dozen addressee's, all the cards will get mailed. The biggest problem will be having to explain why I wrote "December 1989."

The Funny Bone Otto Strong

Still stuffed with turkey, Friday seemed to be the obvious choice to get some holiday shopping out of the way. Unfortunately, a couple of thousand people also had the same idea. My stomach turned at the prospect of having to take a taxi from my parking spot to the mall entrance, especially since my last couple of meals consisted of a turkey omelete, a turkey cheeseburger and other assorted poultry

parts.

Needless to say the parking lot was not a very pretty sight. I had no interest in trekking from lot ZZZ, so I opted to play parking lot stratego. For those unfamiliar with the game, the one who gets a parking spot closest to the building in the least amount of time is the winner. I lost.

I started following people as they left the mall. This would lead me to their car. Good plan; however the couple I tracked had forgotten where they had parked. I finally got a spot, however it was really far from the store, so far in fact I walked past my house to get there.

Hours later, when I reached the mall, the last thing on my mind was shopping, but in the holiday spirit I fought on. Just after setting foot in the mall I was accosted by a guy named Zeke, dressed in a Santa Claus suit. Armed with a bell, he said he was collecting money for people who were displaced by glaciers in Jamaica. Feeling bad for the Jamaicans, I gave Zeke a couple of bucks. Later however, it seemed like a foolish thing to do. But hey, 'tis the season.

Once inside, I took out my Christmas list, which is very individualistic and took

a lot of time to prepare. I then began to gather my gifts. Three flashlights and four Totes umbrellas later, my personalized gifts and I waited on line for nearly an hour.

On my way down to the gift wrapping department I saw Zeke, surrounded by Jamaicans demanding their money. All he had to offer them was a brand new SONY Discman.

I then graduated to the gift wrapping line. Here, people wait to consult with a gift wrap specialist (a euphemism for an unemployed art major). These people assign a wrapping paper to your gift that gives it that personal touch. Too bad the gift wrap specialist doesn't know the gift is for your six-year-old nephew who tears through wrapping paper like Rosanne Barr tears through Big Macs. Suddenly, the two on-duty gift wrap specialists started throwing rolls of tape at one another and before I knew it they stabbed each other with the scissors. Just great. Now I have to wrap the rest of the gifts myself.

Utterly frustrated, I decided to head for home. En route to my car I noticed Zeke, already equipped with uniform, had

landed a new job as Santa, this time the type kids take pictures with. However, he didn't keep the job very long either. After telling numerous children the North Pole was too cold for anyone to live at and that Santa Claus really lived in Smithtown, he was promptly fired. This sent him into a wild frenzy, which included throwing fake blood on those who wore fur.

"She killed them all!" Zeke yelled. "Dance, Prancer, Comet and Blitzen! She killed them all!"

As the mall security guards read him his rights, he was overheard screaming, "The Grinch made me do it! The Grinch made me do it!"

The marathon walk back to my car made me realize that in order to survive the holidays I would need something to drink. I stopped off at the supermarket on the way home to pick up a quart of egg nog when I was assaulted by none other than Zeke. He was now employed at a Safe-Way posing as Frank Purdue's evil twin.

"I bet you didn't know turkey is even more popular for Christmas dinner," he said.

Better make that two quarts of egg nog.

On-campus romances: Do they bloom or bust?

By Nicole D. Bellamy
Statesman Feature Writer

Ah, the joy of being in love. What a wonderful feeling. And it's even more wonderful when the love of your life attends the same school as you, and maybe even the same classes.

Or is it?

Having your "significant other" near you all the time may be a dream come true, but it can also be a nightmare.

There are many campus romances going on at the State University at Stony Brook, and these four examples give the benefits and drawbacks of campus romances.

Kerry Keely, a 21-year-old senior, has been dating her boyfriend Keith Schenker, also 21, since their sophomore year. They met while signing up for Psychology 103 experiments during freshman year, but nothing came of the encounter. Then, a year later, "he just came to my room, out of the blue, and started talking to me," said Keely. At first she just wanted to be friends, but Schenker would always call her on the phone and stop by her room. Eventually, they became more than friends.

Keely feels her on-campus romance is a dream come true. "I see him everyday, for about five hours a day. I like being with him." Since Keely is from Brooklyn, and Schenker lives upstate, in Mahopac, the time they spend together here is very precious. Although Keely admits that, "it's hard to get away from him when I want to be alone." These times aren't very often though, since they spend an average of 40 hours per week together.

Keely also said that the relationship has been very good for both of them. "I study much better with him than without him," Kerry said. "I wonder what he's doing when I have to study and he doesn't." And she said that their grades haven't suffered at all. "I influence him to study more."

William and Sarina, both 21, who chose to keep their real names anonymous, recently celebrated their first anniversary. He said the biggest benefit of having a girlfriend on campus is that, "You get it whenever you want!" He laughed and then said, "Seriously, it's nice to have your companion there 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It's nice to have someone there to caress you when you're feeling sad."

William also feels that having Sarina there all the time can be a drawback. "I haven't slept in my room all semester," said William. He also said that it's hard to make new friends, because being in a relationship demands a lot of time.

He said that sometimes he neglects his schoolwork to help Sarina with her personal problems. He also said that when they do fight, he finds it hard to concentrate on his work. Since they have different majors, they don't have any classes together. When they do study together, they really study. "We'll take a break after an hour or so, and joke around with each other," he said, "but after that we get right back into it."

Even though he is happy with Sarina, William feels that

he would prefer an off-campus relationship. "I would feel more free to be with my friends both male and female."

The first time Delvon saw his girlfriend Claudia, whose real names have been changed, he told his friend, Al, "I'm gonna get that girl." And so he did.

That was four years ago, when they were both freshmen. They are both seniors and the relationship is still strong. By having his girlfriend on campus, Devon said, "We built a friendship that we couldn't have done otherwise."

He admitted that they do fight about stupid things. "Once, I missed the bus to go to the mall with her because I had something else to do, and she got really mad." And if they do have an argument, he said that he finds it hard to study. But when they do study together, it usually goes well.

Having a girlfriend on campus hasn't affected Devon's personal life at all. "I do what I want when I want," he said. "If I want to be by myself, I just go."

Leslie and Jeff, are another couple who chose to conceal their identities. Leslie has mixed reactions about her campus romance. "I love being with Jeff," she said "but I find that we fight a lot about stupid things. Once, I went to his room and it was a mess, so I started cleaning it. He got mad and

said I was acting like his mother. And I got mad because I hate his mother."

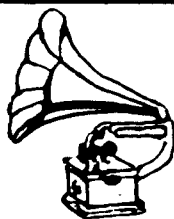
Another problem that Leslie finds with Jeff, is that they both have the same major, and therefore they have the same classes. "We even share the same textbooks," said Leslie. "This is a major problem because we fight a lot, but we are still forced to study together."

Leslie and Jeff, both 20, have been together since their junior year in high school and are both juniors now. "We went to the same high school, and when we were choosing colleges, since we both want to pursue a career in medicine, Stony Brook was our best choice," said Leslie. "And as much as I love Jeff, I think because we are forced to spend so much time together, our relationship has really suffered."

So what's going to happen to these couples when it's time to leave Stony Brook? "We both plan on going to separate graduate schools, far away from each other. . . we both want to continue the relationship, but I don't have much faith in long distance romances," Keely said.

Devon and William both want to continue their relationships, but they realize it's going to take a lot of effort. "Anything can happen in the 'real world'," said Devon.

Since Leslie and Jeff are having major problems now, she said, "I think we both need to get away from each other. We are planning to go to different graduate schools, and I feel the separation will be beneficial to our relationship."



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Viewpoint

What Happened?

By Eric F. Coppolino

To most students, a tuition hike seems like an inevitable fact of life, and if it comes one semester early, it's only because budget disasters don't always keep their appointments. Yet from inside the heavily guarded Board of Trustees meeting room at Buffalo State College, with just six students present and trustees rushing to make flights or to get to a fancy luncheon upstairs, it was an entirely different event. And when, two days later, news broke that state financial aid would be cut, not increased, the meaning of student consent to the unprecedented decisions both to hike SUNY tuition mid-year and by a massive \$300 annually, and for the first time since 1983, was profoundly changed.

The trustees' resolution deliberately includes no numbers and no commitments to students — just an overwhelming "sense" that SUNY wants to raise tuition. The figure of \$300 a year and \$150 per semester was raised at the beginning of the discussion in the context of helping close a low-end, 3% or \$26 million budget gap. Now, with revelation that the budget gap is 6.2%, or \$50.9 million, plus \$10 million in energy costs associated with the Iraqi war, it's evident that \$150 per semester is an "at least" figure. Unless students come out fighting in the coming weeks, Chancellor Bruce Johnstone can take his resolution to the Capitol and get whatever the Governor and the legislature will go for. Yet with elections over, with finals approaching and with the official voice of students already on record as supporting a tuition hike, student power is at an absolute low.

SUNY's soaring price tag has dominated student news during the past six months, starting with the trustees' approval of the \$132 parking fee last spring; then the board's approval of the mandatory \$100 health fee in September, which had mysteriously doubled the week before the final vote; then a \$70 transportation fee for Buffalo students in October, setting the precedent for other campuses with similar plans; plus sudden 50% jumps in bureaucratic fees (such as drop/add fee, transcript fee and library fines); and hikes in parking ticket fines and practically anything else the University system can attach a cash charge to. Let's not forget about food service prices and a planned \$100 increase in dormitory room rent next year — and the near-certainly of yet another increase in tuition next fall.

Tuition hike or no tuition hike next semester, it's clear thanan \$2,000 a year since 1983, seemed to cement the argument that this direction had to change. But with last Thursday's vote, it was clear that none of it would change. The Chancellor committed

verbally to no new "tuition-like" fees next semester (parking and health are already old "tuition-like" fees) and told the board that fee rollbacks were out of the question — and that campuses are still free to create campus-specific fees not covered by financial aid. Discussion of these issues went no further. There were no arguments, no debates, and not even the meekest resistance to the Chancellor's extreme position of charging students everything he could possibly charge them. Further, key issues like protecting library hours were not even raised; and it was clear that a tuition hike was part of a plan that included layoffs, and not in place of them.

Amazingly, the word "access" was not uttered *one time* in the entire eight thousand word discussion on the highest-ever SUNY tuition hike simultaneously with the deepest-ever budget cuts; \$100 million in base cuts this year, resulting in the loss of 3,000 class sections and 300 faculty and staff jobs — before the latest \$50.9 million cut.

For all these reasons, and many more, consent — and at times defense — of this tuition hike by student Trustee and SASU President Judith Krebs was, at best, a major tactical error for students and at worst, an outright betrayal of the protected communities that SASU knows it exist to support: non-traditional students, many of them women and often working two jobs to survive; people of color, for whom access to SUNY is often the first time anyone in their family has had a real chance of attaining a higher education; and the thousands of students who must support themselves because financial aid has been cut or because their families cannot or will not contribute to their educations. This is equally regressive to working-class families paying taxed to the state, generation after generation and year after year, who could finally afford to take advantage of the State University. But those days, it seems, are fading fast.

When the possibility of a mid-year tuition hike was first reported Friday, Nov. 9, Krebs was, at least on the outside, sticking to her guns on these basic issues, charging that raising tuition mid-year was unacceptable because it amounted to nothing more than "charging students for the recession." Yet less than a week later, SASU was openly supporting a tuition hike, and for reasons that sounded remarkable like the ones given the next day by the SUNY administration. What is more remarkable is how swiftly the decision were made — both SUNY's decision to seek an increase in tuition, and SASU's decision to support it under certain minimal conditions, none of which, in reality were met.

What happened?

Letters

Homophobia Will Not Be Tolerated

To the Editor:

Coming to campus this semester, we see our University promoting Unity and Diversity. If it was up to Stony Brook's President John Marburger, that catchy slogan might read, "Unity and Diversity at Stony Brook, unless you are lesbian or gay."

The student Senate recently passed a resolution that would ban the ROTC program from campus, as well as any military recruiting. The resolution now awaits the signature of President Marburger, and he has informed us that we will continue to wait, until Thanksgiving, at the earliest.

Why?

Is our president homophobic, or is he just

afraid of losing "precious" Dept. of Defense contracts that flourish within the departments at this university? A message must be sent to the U.S. military institutions that discrimination and homophobia will not be tolerated.

Discrimination policies such as this will not change on their own, and we certainly cannot expect any initiative from our leaders, whether it be in the U.S. government, or here at the university. The burden, therefore, lies on the students to end these practices. A call goes out to anyone (that means you) to do something that will end discrimination of our sisters and brothers, whether its writing letters or making phone calls to Marburger, or planning and taking part in more direct actions. The pressure must be kept on.

Scott MacDonald

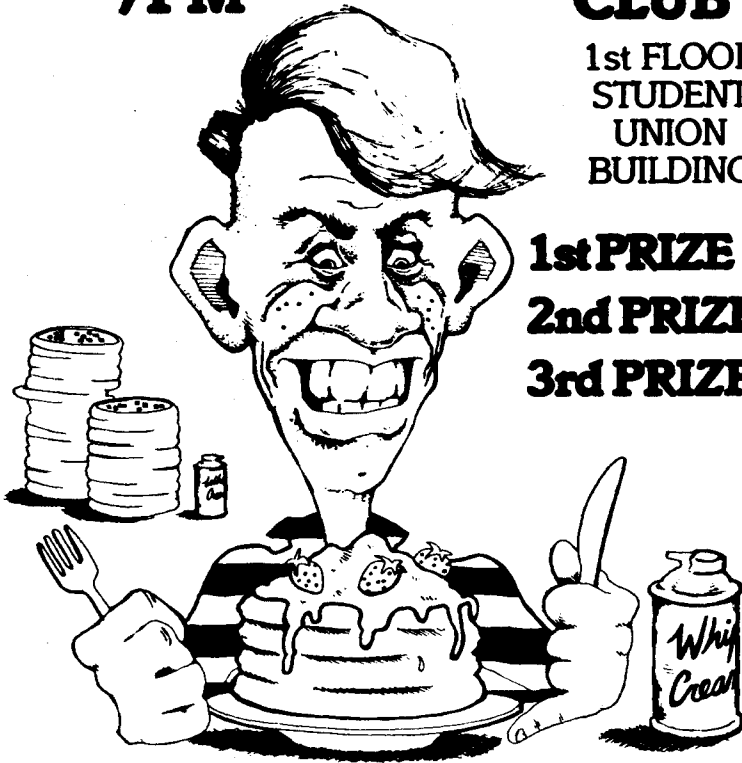
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Thanks given to stars

Sports figures deserve mention for 1990 season

CARREON From page 16

To Pat LaFontaine, the man around whom the Isles' offense revolves. Thanks for shouldering the burdens that come with stardom. The criticisms, the questions, and the adulations. You've remained humble and sane through it all.

To Mark Fitzpatrick, the Islander goalie diagnosed with a debilitating disease. Thanks for traveling with the team, giving talks and autographs along the way, as you remain brave despite such a setback.

To Neil Smith and Roger Neison who have restored the Rangers to some semblance of an organization after countless tumultuous regimes. Thanks for the trades and non-trades on Neil's part and the successful blend of veterans and youths on Roger's end.

To Brian Leetch, who will be one of hockey's top-notch superstars. Thanks for the maturity which belies your age and for the grace in which you handle the puck and handle New York, (fans and reporters included).

To Jan Erixon for proving in every game that the impor-

tance of offensive stats is in the eye of the beholder. Thanks for your work along the boards and your persistence in shadowing the opponents' biggest scoring threat, although viewers notice the goal team (X) scored before they notice the ones you prevented.

To Mike Richter and John Vanbiesbrouck, the goalies of glamour who man the nets for the Blueshirts. Thanks for the kick-saves, pad-stops, and glove-catches as your masked faces don't hide your spectacular acrobatics.

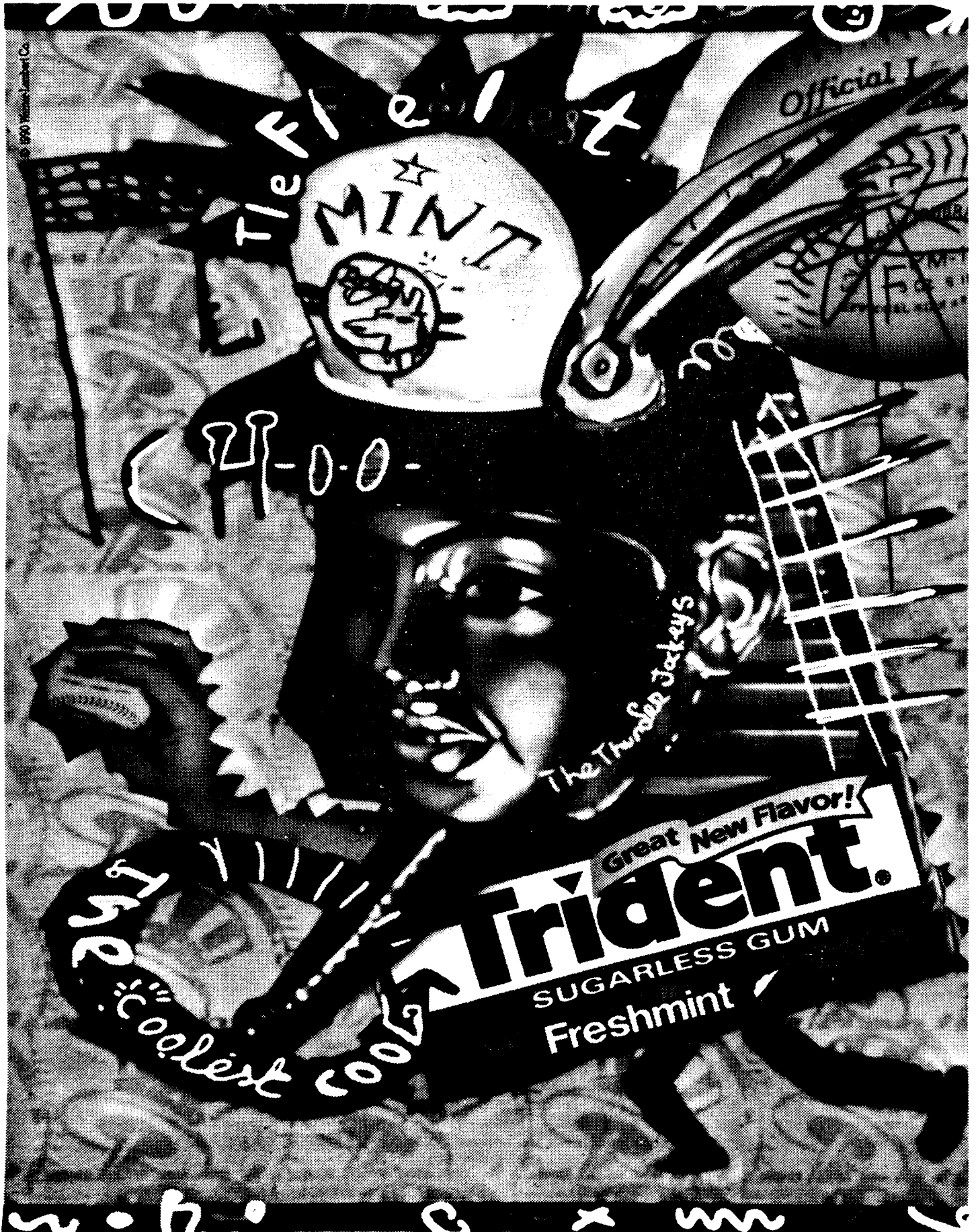
And to James Patrick, whose gallows of humour and quiet intelligence has helped him survive seven years of New York. Thanks for tolerating fans and reporters as they asked you for the upteenth time about the team you were supposed to be traded to next. The management did right by offering you a pretty contract, well-deserved considering your physical and mental labours of professionalism.

In the spirit of this grand occasion, it is fitting to acknowledge the services of those who add a little bit of distinction to New York. May they continue their wondrous ways as they strengthen fan belief in a series of frenzied enigma called sports.

Statesman needs photographers this semester. If you are handy with a camera, or have any darkroom experience, we could use your help. Come down to room 058 of the Student Union on Sunday or Weds. evenings. Your life will change forever.

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NCAA bureaucracy has made 1990 into a farce

AH, THERE'S NOTHING LIKE NCAA bureaucracy. If anything has gone right with the 1990 college football season, it hasn't been stressed. Not only are non-deserving

Raven's Eye View Eddie Reaven

players being nominated for the NCAA's top award, but non-deserving teams are playing in bowls once reserved for the highest echelons of squads.

Entering the last week of the regular season, the top contenders for the Heisman Trophy were the same as those at the start of the year. This might mean that these players have played up to standards, but more realistically it means that these players were contenders if they had a mediocre year or a good one.

The Rocket is his name, and scoring is his game. Or so Notre Dame publicists would like Heisman voters to think. Raghil Ismail, the Fighting Irish's top scoring threat and easily college football's most talented player, has scored just six

times this year. He is the current favorite for the award.

Then there is Brigham Young's latest addition to its quarterback hall of fame, Ty Detmer. He leads all quarterbacks with 4,869 yards passing, mostly against lesser teams such as Utah and New Mexico. But, he does have the ignominy of having thrown almost 30 interceptions, including five against Utah State on Saturday.

These two might be the most talented of the lot of 1990, but not necessarily the most worthy. Sure, Detmer has led BYU to a 10-1 record and a number five ranking, but Shawn Moore led Virginia to a number one ranking and is currently the top ranked quarterback in Division I. Furthermore, Ismail could surely lead Notre Dame with his aggressiveness. And he might be the top pick in the 1991 NFL Draft, but he just doesn't have the numbers.

The most worthy candidate may be Colorado's Eric Bieniemy, who is second in the nation in rushing with 1,628 yards. And the Buffs currently hold the number one ranking. But what about Oklahoma State's Gerald Hudson, the nation's leading rusher? Or Texas A & M's Darren

Lewis? Or Houston's David Klingler?

All those mentioned above had stellar 1990 campaigns. All were unheard of, outside of Bieniemy, before the season. None will win the award.

To say the Heisman is a farce is unreasonable. Both Barry Sanders and Andre Ware won the award with little television playing time. But a good player from a well-televised team will defeat a great player from a non-televised team any year. How do you think Notre Dame's Tim Brown defeated Syracuse's Don McPherson in 1987? And what will the explanation be when Ismail walks away with 1990's award?

This year's bowl fiasco also helps prove its worthlessness. Virginia, 7-0 and number one four weeks ago, wrapped up the Sugar Bowl spot and then proceeded to drop three of its next four games, two to Maryland and Virginia Tech. But Virginia cannot be dropped after it signs a contract with bowl officials. Therefore, the Sugar Bowl will pair a non-Top Twenty team against the SEC champion, who could very well be Tennessee, a 7-2-2 team. So much for thrilling endings.

Since bowl officials insist on making

bowl bids six weeks into the season, there is a good chance it will backfire. That is why the Orange Bowl or the Sugar Bowl will always pick a Notre Dame or Miami over a fly-by-night team such as Virginia or Georgia Tech, leaving the same matchups year in and year out.

Since the Orange Bowl paired up Notre Dame and Colorado, two weeks ago ranked numbers one and two, respectively, Notre Dame has dropped to seventh with a loss at the hands of Penn State. Therefore, this year's bowl games will not have a national championship at stake. It is all up to Colorado, who defeated Big Eight rival Missouri earlier this year with the help of a fifth down. So, it in fact should not even be contending for the title. Be thankful for great reffing, Buff fans.

And, let's not forget the Fiesta Bowl-Martin Luther King Jr. struggle, with teams defecting from consideration until number twenty-one Louisville graciously accepted a bid.

With nine bowl games on national TV on January 1, viewers will have their choice of which meaningless game to watch. They probably would be better off listening to Milli Vanilli.

By Adam Sherman
Statesman Sports Writer

The acquisition of a pivotal player, whether it be an established veteran, or a spry rookie, can propel a team into a different stratosphere.

The team that now features a player that fits that mold is the Portland Trailblazers. That player is Danny Ainge, who signed as a free agent this season to become part of a squad which was the Western Conference

Ainge finds new home

champion only a year ago. When the Sacramento Kings left him unprotected, the Blazers snatched the shooting guard. Last season, off the bench, Drazer Petrovic and Danny Young, respectively, were the first two guards off the bench. They both didn't provide enough offensive punch to serve as reliable sources for reserve duty.

His identity, too, has sustained a makeover in Portland. Unlike in Boston and Sacramento, where he contributed as a starter, Ainge will assist solely as a reserve in Portland; unless a starter gets injured. Though inserted in spurts, averaging roughly 20 points per game, Ainge has shot a blistering 64 percent from the field as well

as making seven of his first fourteen attempts from three-point range. The trio of Clyde Drexler, Terry Porter, and now Ainge, make a formidable force that will challenge the threesomes of Detroit's Isiah Thomas, Joe Dumars, and Vinnie Johnson; and Dallas' Rolando Blackman, Ron Harper, Lafayette Lever. This new face may just be the missing component required to smooth out any of the wrinkles the Blazers' complexion has. He may perhaps guide them to a championship season.

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There's money in the cards

By Robert Abrams
Statesman Sports Writer

People of all ages collect baseball cards. Some do it because they enjoy the hobby while others do it to make money, much like investing in the stock market.

One might wonder how baseball cards and stocks are related. Both are investments in which prices fluctuate daily. While stock prices rise gradually, baseball card prices increase enormously. For example, a Topps card of Oakland's Jose Canseco has gone from a 1986 price of \$3 to its current \$150 price tag.


Buying baseball cards takes a greater deal of skill than trading shares of stock. This is because there are no set prices for cards. Experienced collectors can easily haggle their way into buying cards at bargain rates. One example reflects this notion very well.

Last August an experienced collector entered a card store in historic Coopertown, NY, the site of the baseball Hall of Fame. The collector came upon an extraordinary card, a 1966 Topps Ground Out Pete Rose card. Having only \$10 dollars to his name, the baseball card connoisseur doubted that he could obtain it. He nevertheless asked for the price and could not believe his ears when he discovered that the dealer only wanted \$7.50 for it. Using all his skill, the collector grabbed the card, only having paid \$5.00 for it.

Unlike investing in the stock market, baseball card collecting is relatively easy. Instead of analyzing graphs and financial forecasts, all a collector needs to know is who the star players are. These cards are the best bets because even if a player has a bad season, his name alone will keep the card's price steady.

In addition to being safer than stocks, card collecting can be much more profitable. An aspiring law student could easily afford a career at New York University Law School with the proceeds from the sale of a 1951, 1952, and 1953 Mickey Mantle baseball card set.

In the world of hobby and investment, baseball card collecting can provide many enjoyable hours for those daring enough to flip the cards.



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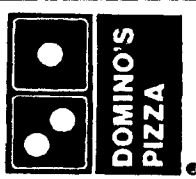
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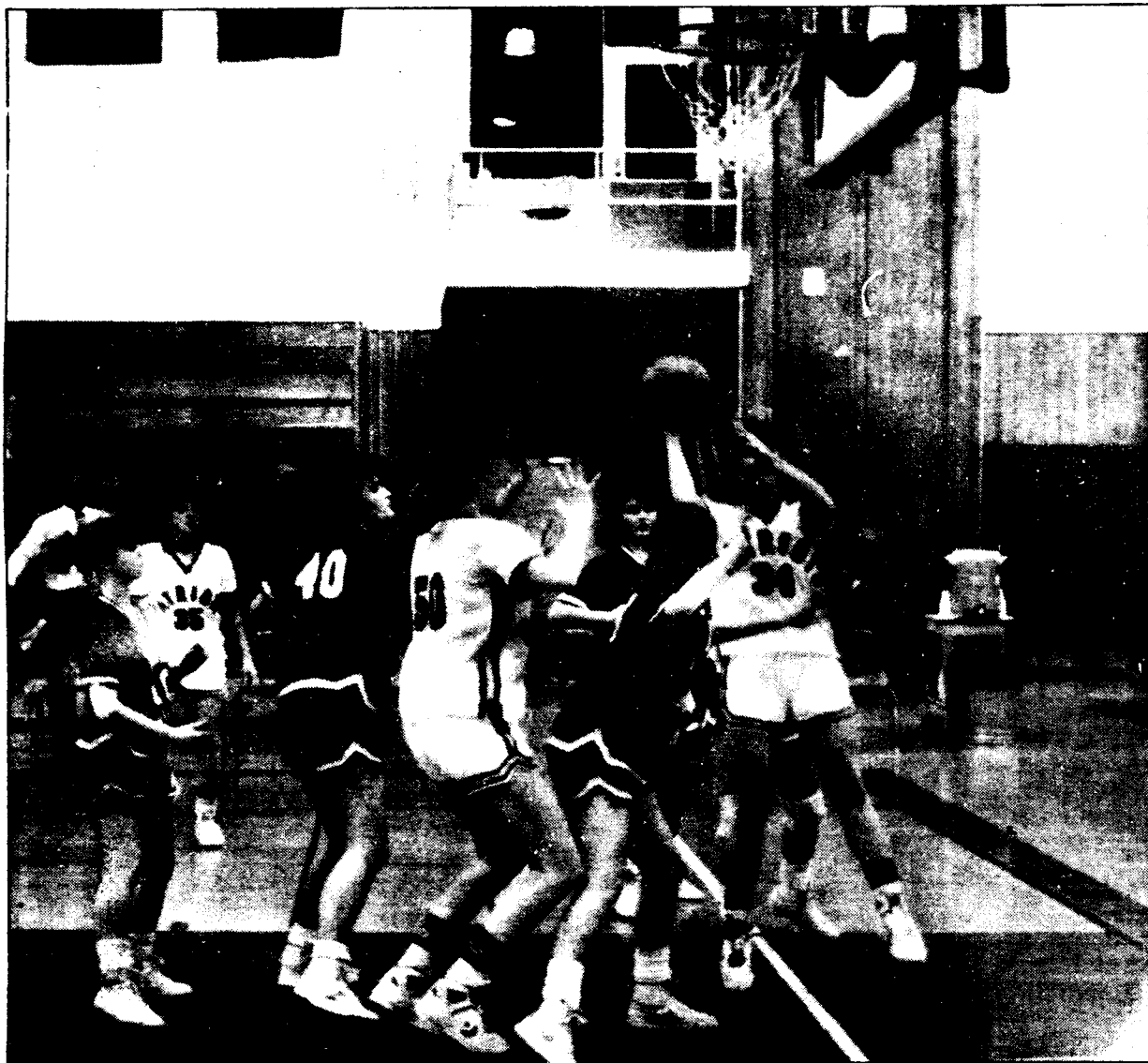
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Statesman Sports

Monday, November 26, 1990



Statesman/Al Bello

WHAT A START-The Lady Pats defeated Southampton, 59-49, Tuesday, to give themselves a 3-0 season start

Lady Pats remain undefeated

By Pete Parides
Statesman Sports Editor

The Lady Patriots extended their record to 3-0 with a come from

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

behind 59-49 victory over visiting Southampton College Tuesday night.

It was a strong defensive effort that rallied the Pats from a nine-point deficit at halftime. In the second half of play, the Pats allowed Southampton only 16 points while closing the 10-point victory with 35 of their own for the final half.

Leading the ladies to victory was Katie Browngardt, who scored 23

points while grabbing 13 rebounds.

Freshman Joan Gandolf also played a big part in the Stony Brook victory, garnering 10 points and capturing 10 rebounds.

The Lady Patriots' next challenge will take place on Wednesday night when they travel to Old Westbury in an attempt to keep their streak alive.

Eagles spoil clash of the titans

The Philadelphia Eagles spoiled next week's battle of the unbeaten.

In one of the most anticipated non-playoff games in NFL history, the New York Giants and San Francisco 49ers were expected to meet on December 3 in the first game ever between 11-0 teams.

The Eagles and Randall Cunningham had other ideas, however, beating the Giants 31-13 on Sunday for their first loss of the season.

Cunningham threw TD passes of 49 yards to Fred Barnett and six yards to Calvin Williams. He also jumped in from a yard out for another score at the end of a drive of over nine minutes. The Eagles, leading by just a point at halftime, scored twice in 22 seconds early in the fourth quarter to break the game open.

It was Philadelphia's fifth straight victory and improved its record to 7-4.

"We knew we could beat them. They knew we could beat them, we just didn't know how," Cunningham said.

Just 22 seconds after Cunningham's scoring pass to Williams gave Philadelphia a 24-13 lead, Byron Evans intercepted a tipped pass from Phil Simms and ran it in for the

clinging touchdown, 2:10 into the final quarter. Cunningham finished with 17 completions in 31 attempts for 222 yards and rushed nine times for 66 more.

The Eagles' 405 offensive yards were by far the most against New York this season.

The Giants lost for the first time in 14 regular-season games dating back to last December 3, when the Eagles beat them 24-17. A victory would have clinched the NFC East title.

The Giants, who ran the ball 60 percent of the time in their first 10 games, but only 14 of 54 plays on Sunday, took a 7-0 lead early on a 15-yard TD pass to Mark Ingram from Simms, who finished 17 of 40 for 234 yards and was intercepted twice, matching his total for the 10 previous games.

The Eagles, by contrast, controlled the ball with short passes to Byars, who caught eight for 128 yards, including one for 54 when he was totally uncovered on a New York blitz.

And they had an edge of almost 2-1 in time of possession, adding a drive of 8:48 in the second half to the 9:22 march in the first period.

A word of thanks to local stars

By Sandra B. Carreon
Statesman Sports Writer

Four days after the Day of Thanks — with the bellies full and the hearts content — it's time to bid gratitude to some of the Metropolitan area stars.

To the NJ Nets, who in their affinity for defeats have managed to etch their name in the record books for most consecutive road losses (33). Thanks for being the best at something.

To Patrick Ewing of the New York Knicks, thanks for exhibiting, night in and night out, that it is possible to play hard every minute, every quarter, and every half of every match. May you get the contract you have earned.

To Mark Jackson, for listening to everyone's advice: get back into shape; and for proving you are still capable of handling the first-string point-guard role.

To Kiki Vandeweghe for finally accumulating considerable minutes on the floor and not on the sidelines with some kind of injury or other. Thanks for playing well, despite a bothersome back.

To Phil Simms. Thanks for leading your NY Giants to a 10 and 1 record thus far. And thanks for forgiving the hasty Meadowlands bunch when they booed you towards the end of last season, assuming that your string of intercepted passes was the only reason for the gradual and collective team breakdown.

To Bruce Coslet, who has at least minimally camouflaged some of the Jets' shortcomings with his timely and proper substitutions. Thanks for removing the green shirts from the hands of Joe Walton.

To Kevin Maas, who instilled some fire and spirit to the fans, not to mention the Yanks, with his second half heroics. Thanks for the homeruns you managed to amass in such a short stint. And thanks for restoring excitement for the Yankee future.

To the Boss, yes, George Steinbrenner, for reinstating a plaque in Manhattan's uptown to commemorate the true "Pride of the Yankees," Lou Gehrig. Thanks for replacing what was once maliciously stolen, thereby affirming the special niche which the Iron Horse has carved in NY sports history.

To Frank Cashen, who in one year has completely transformed the Mets from a homerun machine to a running team, more conducive to Shea stadium. He booted Davey (who loved the dingers) and hired Buddy (a genuine fundamentalist); Cashen bade farewell to Straw, Mr. Power, and is in the process of cajoling Vince Coleman, Mr. Stolen Base of the National League.

To Howard Johnson, who amidst the Met front office turmoils and clubhouse squabbles has remained the diamond in the dust. Thanks for your flexibility — third base, shortstop, now outfield, maybe? — and your class.

To Darryl Strawberry, whose eight years with New York put the Mets fans in the seats and brought the Media in herds. Thanks for your unpredictability that made being a Met fan anything but boring.

To John MacLean, the NJ Devil's right winger who passes the puck as unselfishly as he passes the praise. Thanks for your "clutch attitude" in terms of scoring goals and your "clutch attitude" in terms of dealing with the reporters.

To Lou Lamoriello, the Devil of a GM who was gutsy enough to enact Glasnost on Ice. He heads a melange of cultures — Canadians, Americans, Russians, Finns, Swedes — who all pledge allegiance to the Jersey team. Thanks for reminding everyone that if there can be camaraderie in a locker room, there can be camaraderie in this world.

See CARREON On Page 12