

Statesman

Volume XXXIX, Number 24

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

First Copy Free

The Results Are In!

Student Activity Fee Remains Mandatory and All Unopposed Candidates Win in Polity Election

ENEILRYAN DE LA PEÑA
Statesman Editor

The winners of the recent Student Polity election were announced November 16.

Andres Vazquez, Keren Zolotov and Kelvin Inocent are the newly-elected Polity treasurer, secretary and freshman representative, respectively. The Student Activity fee, which funds Polity, will also remain mandatory.

Election results came in more than a

week after the elections. According to Polity Vice-President Nicole Rosner said the delay was due to a problem in the computer program that tallies the votes. "Everytime [the scanner] has to be changed slightly because of the new candidates and the referenda."

All candidates ran unopposed in the elections. "I wish I had an opponent. It makes it more appealing and people's qualities shine more by running opposed," said Vazquez.

Inocent said the races were unopposed due to "the lack of collective interest in involvement to Polity." Zolotov agreed saying, "It's very upsetting that the positions were unopposed. It serves as a reflection of this apolitical campus."

That however did not ruin the victory for all the candidates. "I'm very thrilled to win the elections," Inocent said. "The fact that I'm running unopposed as freshman representative is a surprise."

For Zolotov, the issue of winning was

unimportant. "The issue is not about winning, but about getting the job that I'm qualified for."

Vazquez', platform during the elections, was to make students aware of what their student government has to offer. He says he sees his goals being accomplished on a daily basis, through answering students' questions concerning Polity. "When people have questions, they can ask me," Vazquez said. "I'm very approachable."

"I hope to get more students involved, especially freshman students, [so they can] find out what Polity is all about," Inocent said. In addition, he plans to form a Freshman Committee, which he says will involve social activities and educational trips for freshman students. Inocent said it will also let students know what Polity has to offer and expose them to things they have not been exposed to.

According to Inocent, freshman students should expect a letter from him soon. "Each freshman will be getting a letter, thanking them for their participation in the election and to get some feedback

See POLITY, Page 3

Elegance Defines Central Ballet Of China at Staller Center

BY ALEXANDRA CRUZ
Statesman Editor

Elegance pervaded the Staller Center November 18 as the Central Ballet of China took hold of the Main Stage to perform to a sold out audience.

The 60-member ballet company performed *The Red Detachment of Women*, a full-length, two-act, Chinese ballet. Choreographed by Jiang Zuhui and Li Chengxiang, The ballet was adapted from the movie of the same title that featured the "Song of the Detachment of Women," by Huang Zun.

The Red Detachment of Women takes place during the 10-year civil war on Hainan Island. Qonghua, (Li Yan), is a daughter of a peasant, who is imprisoned by the landlord Nabatian, (Huang Minxuan). He orders her to be sold, but Qonghua escapes and is later recaptured.

The scene opens with Qonghua unsuccessfully fighting off her captors as they savagely beat her. Suddenly, a storm strikes and Nabatian leaves Qonghua for dead.

She is saved by a Red Army Cadre, who takes her to the Red Army camp.

Several days later, as Act II unfolds, colorful banners take over the stage as farmers and soldiers celebrate the newly founded Red Detachment of Women.

Qonghua joins the celebration and seeks revenge against Nabatian. People are filled with fury. Hong Changqing, the party representative of the Detachment of Women, takes to arms and fights for revolution and liberation.

Qonghua joins the army and seeks

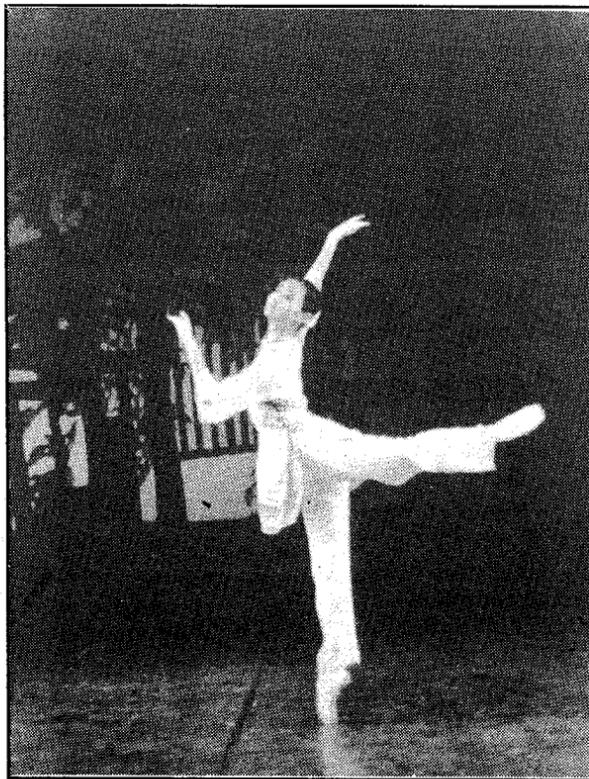


Photo / Columbia

Central Ballet of China

to avenge her Nabatian and her other captors and to liberate the country.

The company opened its performance with Act II of *Giselle*, starring Jiang Mei as Giselle. A village maiden, Giselle, is being sought by a stranger, whom she knows only as Loys. Loys turns out to be Duke Albrecht, (Xu Gang), in disguise.

Albrecht's deception is soon discovered by Hilarion, a woodsman, (Wang Quanxing, Dong Jun and Sun Jie), who has been rejected by Giselle.

Dressed in a white gown, reflecting the pale blue light of the night, Giselle soon finds out Albrecht's deceit, as Hilarion seizes

the opportunity to unmask his nemesis. Giselle discovers that not only has Albrecht deceived her with his identity, but he is also betrothed to someone else, Princess Bethilde.

The truth is too great for Giselle, and she dies of a broken heart.

Set in the heart of the forest, the next scene opens with the spirit of Giselle having been taken by the band of spirits, the Wilis, and is commanded by the Queen to draw Albrecht into the fatal round. A struggle then begins on stage between the Queen of the Wilis and the love that Giselle still holds for Albrecht, who in the end overcomes the evil as day breaks. Giselle's shadow then disappears beneath a bed of flowers never to be seen again.

The Central Ballet of China makes this show part of its first tour in the United States in the last nine years. The sole Beijing-based national ballet company of China, is subsidized by the government of China.

The company has performed all over the world, Eastern and Western Europe, the Far East, the South Pacific, Northern Africa and 11 U.S. cities.

Its grace and elegance brought to the stage all the emotions that were presented to the audience. All the anger, pain, betrayal, love and triumph were delivered to the audience with the company's every move and flight across the stage. It is no wonder that the show was sold out.

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THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On November 30, 1782, having previously agreed to recognize the independence of the United States from Great Britain, the two countries reached a preliminary agreement in Paris ... December 2, 1823, the Monroe Doctrine, opposing European intervention in the Americas, was enunciated ... December 2, 1859, radical abolitionist John Brown was hanged for treason ... November 29, 1864, the U.S. Cavalry savagely massacred the Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians who were peacefully awaiting surrender terms from the federal government in the Sand Creek Massacre ... November 29, 1916, the U.S. set up a military government in the Dominican Republic ... December 2, 1942, the first nuclear chain reaction, actually the fission of uranium isotope U-235, was produced at the University of Chicago under physicists Arthur Compton, Enrico Fermi, and others ... December 2, 1954, the Senate voted that Senator Joseph R. McCarthy (R-Wis.) was guilty of contempt of a Senate elections subcommittee, for abuse of its members, and for insults to the Senate during his Army investigation hearings into alleged covert Communist activity ... December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, a black woman, refused to give her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery Ala., ultimately causing a boycott by blacks of the transit system ... December 2, 1982, Dr. Barney Clark, a retired dentist, became the first recipient of a permanent artificial heart during a 7½-hour operation in Salt Lake City, Utah; Dr. Robert Jarvik designed the heart and served on the surgical team ... November 30, 1993, the Brady Bill, which provides for a five-day waiting period and establishes a national computer network as a means to check the backgrounds of gun buyers, became law when it was signed by President Clinton ... December 2, 1993, the space shuttle, Endeavour, along with its crew of seven, was launched with the ultimate purpose to repair the Hubble telescope.

Statesman Elections. Next Tuesday.

* 6:30 p.m. *

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Finally! Results From Polity's Election³

POLITY, From Front Page

from them," Inocent said.

Zolotov's efforts are aimed to raise student awareness and involvement. She has already started working on brochures and newsletters to help inform students of what is going on. For next semester, Zolotov said she hopes to organize a grass roots weekend for students.

According to the official results that were released by the election board, Andres Vazquez received 745 votes, with 87 write-ins for the position of Treasurer; Keren Zolotov with 730 votes and 80 write-ins for the position of Secretary; and Kelvin Inocent with 181 votes and 23 write-ins as Freshman Representative..

The Student Activity fee will remain

mandatory based on the election results. In the election, voters were asked to choose whether the fee would remain mandatory. 1057 votes were cast in favor of the mandatory fee, and 306 votes were cast in favor for a voluntary fee.

"The vote is to keep the referenda for four years," Rosner said. She said if the Student Activity fee had been

voted to become voluntary, the Polity council would have run a counter-referenda next semester, requiring students to vote again on whether the activity fee should remain mandatory.

"I'm very glad it was passed," Vazquez said. "A lot of people don't know what is being funded by the student activity fee. It helps create new clubs and continue funding of clubs."

"I feel that [the student activity fee] is a necessity," Inocent said. "It serves as a tool for us students to represent ourselves. Without the student activity fee, the campus would have a great loss, because it will lack student representation."

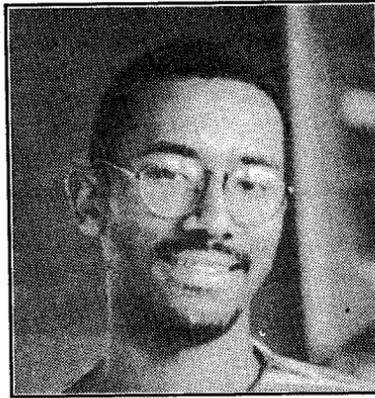
Zolotov said she was very happy that the student activity fee will remain mandatory. "I did not want to see everything that everybody worked for, go down the drain. The activity fee offers a lot for this campus." □



Statesman Photos / Lynn Klein
Secretary Keren Zolotov



Treasurer Andres Vazquez



Frosh Rep Kelvin Inocent

Imagination and Resourcefulness Abound in Kelley Dean's "Self Portrait of a House"

By ART GALLAGHER
Statesman Staff

One evening around twilight, passing through campus, by the outside of the Frank Melville Memorial Library, it was hard to fall short in recognizing a fetching display in through the libraries art galleries windows.

Kelley Dean's "Self Portrait of a House", a sculpture series, had been shown from November 6 to November 22, in at the Melville Art Gallery.

The sight I beheld was a luring luminescence, and not only of light, but of glistening polished copper. As I drew closer, a better sight revealed free falling water that poured into eccentric wooden sculptures. With further allurements, I found myself persuaded to explore onward.

As I entered, I experienced not only the sights of those attractive

creations that had me fond of investigation, but the wonderful scent of cedar and pine, from which these sculptures were brought into being. My next involvement was with the sound of the falling water. It was not just a convention of falling water, but rather a number of small waterfalls.

I soon found a place, and not any place, but my own comfortable place upon the floor amongst my fictitious falls. I relaxed, and composed the theme. I closed my eyes and inhaled the cedar and pine scents, while keeping my ears open to the cascades. I was in The Magic Garden. (with the exception of Sherlock the Squirrel and the Chuckle Patch.)

Dean's title "Self Portrait of a House", describes her target. Her objective was to "examine not only personal issues, but social issues as well... to identify with her art".

With her given objectives, Dean and those she shares her issues with will be the only one's to know. I think that is one of the attributes that makes her work special and interesting, to say the least.

On a flip side, there's a great amount of room left for our own ideas, and what we ourselves as artists, can make of these originations. For myself, I found my own interpretations in the piece of work shown in the photo on the bottom left. The structure stands tall, as if it were a person. I can see a stomach in the middle, with a window as the head. The window can represent a window to our souls. This window pours out water.

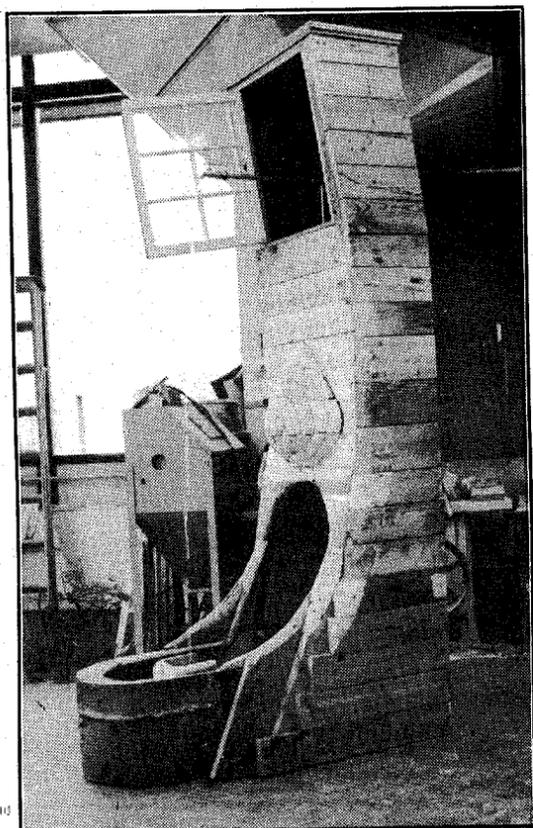
Perhaps this water can symbolize a mental or emotional energy that we pour out, and as it pours out it falls, falls with a disappointment of only landing into a shallow and empty barrel. Soon to question myself of

why the barrel stays shallow, and does not overflow, and where this water or energy is going.

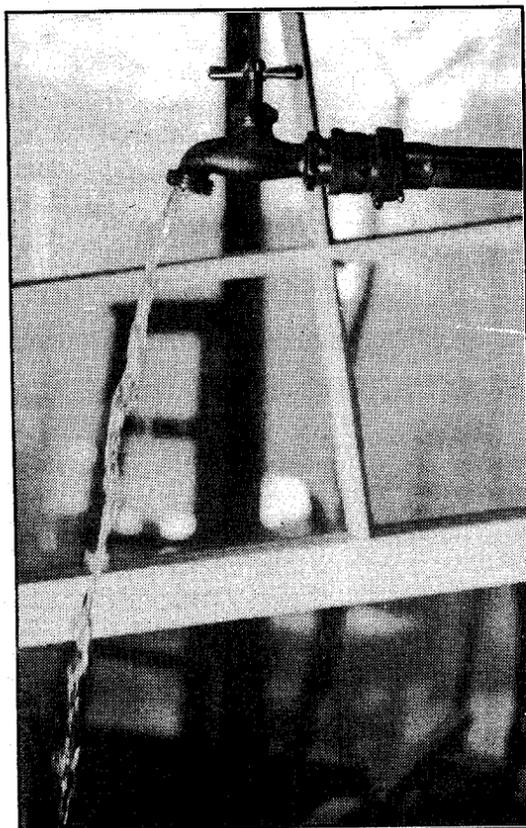
A conclusion, perhaps, is that water, or energy, really isn't wasted, although it may appear to enter that empty barrel. In turn, we recycle or take it back in, with a better understanding of how it will pour out the next time.

Dean exhibits imagination behind her work, along with an inventive and resourceful idea with the water, and a fanciful technique in sculpture. Dean shows us unconventional creativeness, that leaves us with a question for ourselves. I am eager to follow the rest of Dean's sculpture series.

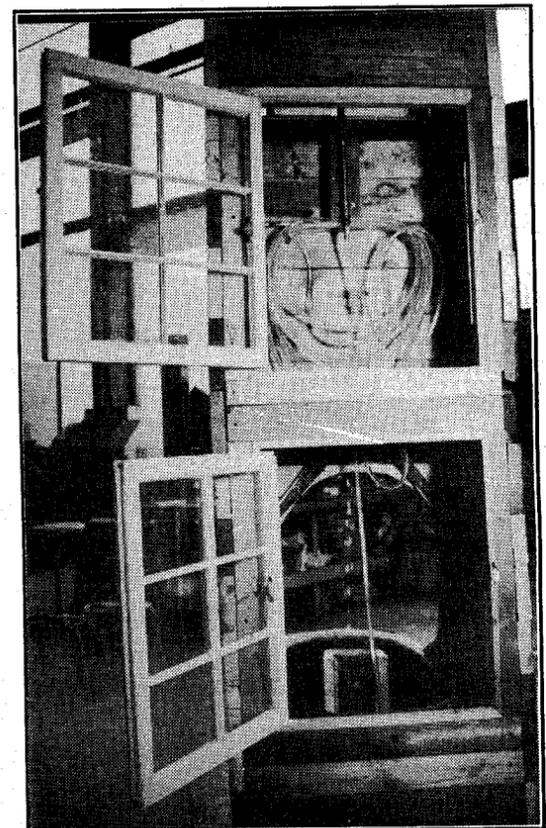
I feel that the only blight to this exhibit is the shortcoming of the galleries decor, and that in the future I would also hope that the gallery hall will be of more justice to Dean's shows. □



Photos / Kelley Dean
Dean's "Self Portrait of a House"



A closer look at the waterfall spigot



An inside look at the "Self Portrait"

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Carl Rowan's Commentary

What's wrong with me? I can't seem to get into a spasm of cultural and moral superiority that would allow me to join in the attacks on the talk shows of Sally and Ricki and Montel and the like.



Former Education Secretary Bill Bennett, Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) and others are trying to shame TV hosts and stations into abandoning what they call "sleazy" shows that feature and exploit "freaks."

I admit to being amazed that so many Americans are willing to appear on these "talk" shows to spill their guts about intimate, abnormal, often painful, aspects of their lives. But my dictionary says a "freak" is some kind of monstrosity, a word I would not apply to a young woman who complains that her mother stole her boyfriend and gets both Mom and the boyfriend to talk about it on TV.

Am I supposed to look down on a battered woman who tells of the horrors of her marriage — or "live-in" relationship — on a television talk show? The Justice Department says there are 572,000 cases of battered females reported every year and probably a larger number of unreported cases. It is not sleazy to air real cases of spousal abuse on television just because some "high-class" women are made uncomfortable when "low-class" women tell the ugly, self-humiliating truth about a very serious problem.

Most talk show producers find amazingly titillating and provocative ways to deal with issues such as incest, marital infidelity, runaway teenagers, teenage pregnancy, venereal diseases, homosexuality, alcohol and drug addictions,

interracial sex and, of course, fornication in all its permutations. But these are all compelling problems and widely-felt issues in America.

The talk show people merely TALK trash; the soaps simulate lurid, dirty behavior in living color; and HBO, Showtime, many other networks and Hollywood give us graphic, steamy versions of sexual intercourse as early as 8 p.m., complete with gratuitous breasts-and-buttocks nudity.

Bennett and Co., like all the morality cops of our time, swear that they don't advocate censorship. But many of their conservative disciples are screaming for boycotts and other pressures on advertisers who sponsor Donahue, Jenny, Leeza, Geraldo and others. Such boycotts are a form of censorship.

There's a measure of self-preservation in my refusal to join Bennett and Lieberman. I've been on a political talk show, "Inside Washington," for more than 30 years. During such times as the Watergate scandal, the Iranian hostage crisis, the S&L thievery, and this very day, some offended pols have regarded OUR talk show as blasphemous of presidents and congressional leaders and thus inimical to "a stable government."

I figure that to protect my right to free speech I'd better also protect those of Maury Povich, and even the rights of Jerry Springer.

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Heat	1988-89	25-67	6th
Hornets	1988-89	20-62	6th

SOURCE: Sporting News Official NBA Guide



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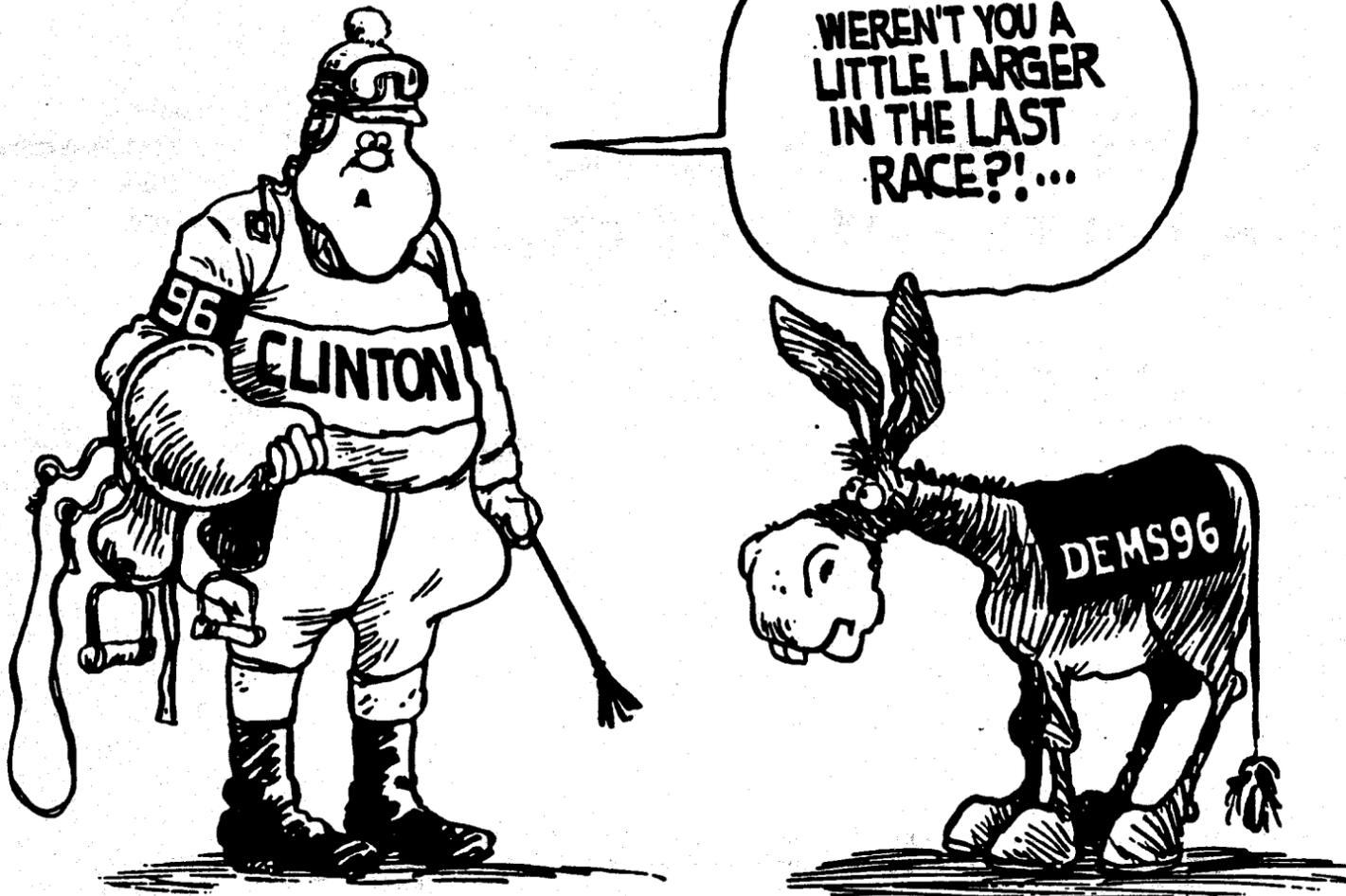
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author
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The Stony Brook Statesman Tuesday, November 28, 1995

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Preston Had Students' Best Interests In Mind

To the Editor:

What did we learn from last week's cancellation of The Show? Student money was wasted, yes. It seems as though the students have no voice, yes. Like it or not, we learned that sometimes Administration does know what is best for us.

At the time, canceling the concert a week before the show may have seemed like Fred Preston and the administrators were the enemy, but after The Show's violent riots that occurred at a New Jersey college venue last weekend, they are just

the opposite. For those who want proof of this classified information that Preston was withholding, here it is.

Annette Hicks and those who publicly protested the cancellation should not only publicly apologize to Mr. Preston, they should thank him as well. Yes, \$4,000 of your student money was wasted but that number is nothing compared to the damage that was caused last weekend in Jersey and very possibly could have occurred here if not for Preston. That dollar figure is nothing compared to the amounts that could have been racked up in damages, injuries

and bad publicity.

The only mistake made by Preston and administrators was not finding this information out sooner. When they did find out the information, they had enough sense to prevent this from happening at Stony Brook.

Very often at this point in our lives, we students think we know what is best for us. This incident serves as a reminder that we don't always know what is and isn't in our best interest.

William M. Peragine

Preston Overreacted; Masse Has Racist Tendencies

To the Editor:

I'm impressed. It seems I'm something of a hot topic in your offices. There were two different references to me in the November 16th issue, so I'll address the editorial page blurb first.

By saying, "He continues to make decisions based on questionable evidence and ignorance," I was making a point about Dr. Preston's history of overreaction to possible concert dangers over the last four years. Dr. Preston, in 1991, banned festival seating shows, and later, moshing at concerts on campus because of a number of injuries at a Fishbone show in the Pritchard Gym. His enactment of this policy was a decision based on ignorance of what goes on at such concerts. His continued implementation of the policy was nothing more than hard-headed stubbornness. At meeting after meeting with Dr. Preston, I was privy to such enlightened opinions as Dr. Preston's displeasure with his daughter "slam-dancing at those raves she goes to." Bands such as Live were turned down because Dr. Preston felt "there was the possibility that some people might mosh" at such a show.

As for the recent cancellation of "The Show," I was told by members of SAB that they had contacted the programming boards at the schools supposedly wracked by violence as a result of the show, and were told that the shows came off without a hitch. No violence. I'm not saying that this is the case, but someone involved is definitely lying. Students should know *exactly* why their programming is canceled, not receive a response from Public Safety saying the information the decision was based upon is "confidential."

Fact: Preston has a history of ineptitude in concert decisions. Fact: In the unlikely event that violence had broken out at the concert, SAB takes out an insurance rider for each show that would cover any financial liabilities a lawsuit might create. No student would have to "...put up money to help subsidize the costs of settling lawsuits..." *The Statesman* should stop stroking Preston; he's wrong.

Now, on to Tom Masse's letter. Masse makes a number of assertions that, like many of his editorials, are based on faulty logic or misrepresentation of truths. The first of these assertions, that because he is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists who has "pledged to report and write fairly and accurately," he actually *accomplishes* these goals, is wrong. Was his lofty aim to report fairly and accurately considered when he and John Lowther quoted me out of context last semester to make it seem as if I meant something I didn't mean? Is he reporting "fairly and accurately" by claiming, as he did in his letter, that nearly half the undergraduate population elected him as commuter senator? (In reality, 22 people elected Masse senator, a number that equals half the undergraduate population only if the undergraduate population numbers 44.)

He also takes offense at my calling him out on his racist actions. Here are the facts: Masse voted for Richard Cole. Cole espoused racist bulls--- regularly (precisely in what context is "all black people disgust me" acceptable?) Masse did nothing, as a staff member of *The Statesman* to remove Cole as editor-in-chief.

His complacency was an unspoken approval of Cole's ideas. Simply put, if you're not part of the solution, then you're part of the problem. Masse exemplifies the problem.

Masse's attack on the AIM/EOP program only serves to further illustrate his racist tendencies. While it is true that the AIM/EOP program is not a race-based program, it is widely known that the majority of AIM/EOP students are minority students. White AIM/EOP students comprise about 11% of Stony Brook's AIM/EOP students. Masse knew this. If he supported Cole during Cole's claims of "inner-city" (inner-city is white-guy code for Black and Hispanic) students being the source of most campus-based crime, then he surely would have no problem attempting to deprive those same students of the right to attend Stony Brook.

Also, has anyone noticed the

tendency of bigots to fervently deny accusations of racism with "Hey, some of my best friends are black...?" Masse does this for a full one-third of his letter, claiming that because *The Statesman* staff included minority students, then it was impossible for him to be racist. He also claims "These days, labels like 'bigot' and 'racist' are used by ignorant people to describe others who they wish to believe are ignorant." So does he mean that there are no more bigots left living in the world? Are the terms so outdated as to have no applicability today?

I'm sorry, you're right, Tom. To call someone racist is wrong. Why, that might've been an applicable label during the '50's, when people didn't know better, but there couldn't be any bigots left, could there? Just innocent, oppressed, white males watching as their rights get trampled on by hungry, greedy minorities out for a free hand-out, such as those darn AIM/EOP students.

The man is a fool, and if anyone's beliefs are based in fantasy, they are his. I'm not the one claiming that there are no more real racists left to whom the term can be applied.

My opinions are not "based in political fantasy," but rather in solid, hard evidence from Masse's words and actions. The only reason Masse can "retain his integrity" is through his obvious feats of denial and reality manipulation. It must be nice to live in his world, where all people treat each other equally, and racism is obsolete, and a thing of the past. Unfortunately, most of us must occupy the real world, and in the real world, racism is very real, very rampant, and is an ideology regularly espoused by people in positions of power, such as college newspaper editors-in-chief.

The emperor has no clothes Tom, and it's a damn ugly sight, indeed.

John Giuffo

P.S. Two final points: 1) I only apologized to you Tom, so that when we came in to use your scanner, it wouldn't be so awkward. We have our own scanner now, so you can go f--- yourself. 2) "Hollow, now, ring his words...???" Who talks like this?

Letters and opinions can be delivered or mailed to:

Statesman
Room 075, Stony Brook Union
Stony Brook, NY 11790

Submissions can also be e-mailed to:
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All submissions (including e-mail messages) **must** include the author's name, address and phone number. Please do not exceed 750 words. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

Please type all letters and opinions and include any information you would like printed with your name.

Statesman reserves the right to edit the content of letters and submissions.

Views expressed in the letters and opinions section are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of *Statesman*, its editorial board, staff or advertisers.

Elections for editorial positions of *The Stony Brook Statesman* will take place in the newsroom (room 057/058 of the Union) @ 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 5. All staff are strongly encouraged to attend.

The Stony Brook Statesman Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Write us. E-mail us. Now!

Statesman Features

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Scorsese's *CASINO* - Don't Bother Gambling

It is unfortunate that the work of many established directors is often evaluated, not on the merits of the work itself, but, based on the fact that it is the director's work, and therefore must be good.

Martin Scorsese's *Casino* is one such case. If you gamble on this movie, you'll lose at least \$7.50.

Granted, great drama is often not fun or very exciting, but it still has worth. That is where this film loses me. I am more than willing to spend the time on a film that will teach, uplift, or even scare me. However, spending time (and money) on a movie that lulls you into a doze, only to wake you with some graphic mob torture and really unnecessary violence isn't what would normally be expected from a cast and

director that have the talent and creativity to do so much more.

The movie tells the story of a small time bookie, Ace Rothstein, played Robert DeNiro. He is so successful at this job, the Mafia sends him to Vegas to run their casino for



The Final Grade By Kristine Seitz

them. It is at the casino, the Tangiers, that this man's life begins to take shape.

At the Tangiers, he is surrounded by the Mafia, hustlers and cheats. It is also at the casino where he begins to find the legitimacy that he lacked being a bookie. Where else would a bookie find peace of mind but in a place where gambling is legal and even respected?

He loves running the place.

The casino floor is also where he finds his true love, Ginger, played by Sharon Stone. She hustles high rollers for a living and he admires her style, and of course her looks. (She is one of the few women I have seen who still looks gorgeous in the gaudy clothing, blue eye shadow, and fake lashes that was the famed style of the seventies, which is when this film begins.)

Her performance as the hustler, turned wife of the casino king, was a stand out in this film. She deserves a lot of praise for what she made out of the material she was given to work with.

The last piece to the puzzle is added with the arrival of Nicki, a friend of the casino king from back home. Joe Pesci plays this character, who was not only Ace's friend but also his former muscle from the days while he was still a small time bookie. There's good reason for his particular

position in life- Nicki is pathologically violent and provides most of the gratuitous violence and torture scenes in the movie. He is the catalyst for the challenges in Vegas which makes up most of the slim storyline of the movie.

On the whole, this movie was beautiful to look at with the abundance of neon and great costumes. The story, however, failed to grab my attention. In the end when each of the character's stories are resolved, I didn't feel any satisfaction. In fact, the characters were so bleak and unlikable, I didn't really care what happened to them.

Also, since it's a movie about the Mafia, you know at least some people's fates are bloody and painful. Taking all this into consideration, I could find a better way to spend three hours of my life.

THE FINAL GRADE: C-

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Getting started

- Use seed stock from a grower rather than supermarket garlic.

Planting

- Plant the largest cloves - tip up - two inches deep and 6 inches apart in rich garden soil with full sun.

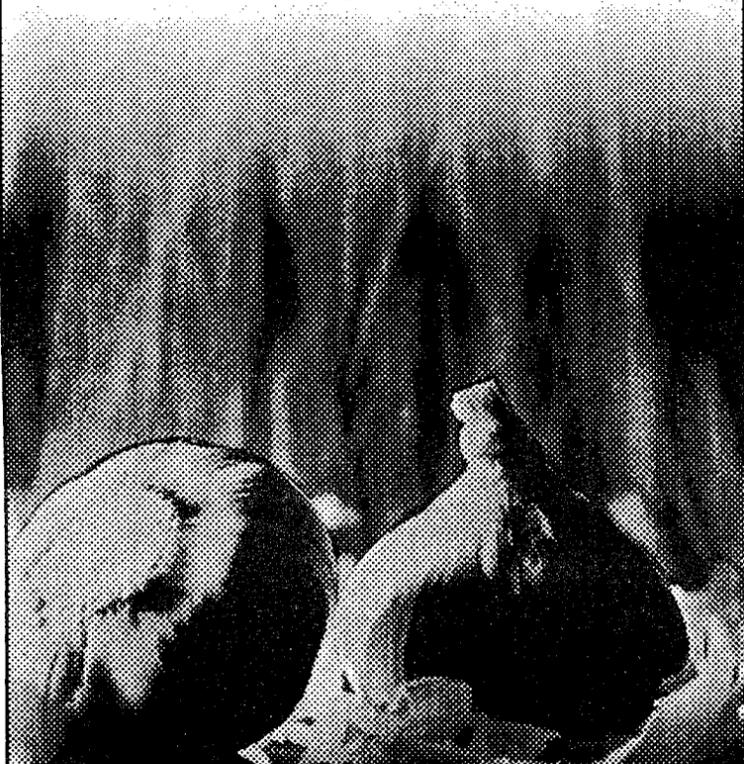
Cultivating

- Feed with granular organic fertilizer when planting and again in April and May

SOURCES: Country Gardens, KRT Photo

Growing garlic

Autumn is the season for gardeners to prune, rake and start planting for spring. Garlic is one crop that is started in the fall.



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Coming full circle

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Next week: Tips for
reducing stress



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(see next issue for more reasons)

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The Stony Brook Statesman Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Color Commentators Need Not Comment

It's 12:55 p.m. You've just watched an hour's worth of "ESPN Gameday." You've read about all the matchups. You've chosen your favorites. And now you and your friends have settled into your favorite chairs for six-plus hours of football.

Everything's perfect, *until...*

Paul McGuire, Dan Dierdorf, Chris Collinsworth or Beasley Reece

opens his mouth and says something incomprehensible. Usually they're saying something like, "Well, when the flag comes at that time of the play in this area of the field, it's so-and-so penalty." Nine out of 10 times, you've seen the penalty and know they have no clue what's going on.

Or something will happen, and they'll be babbling about something that has no relevance to the game, much less the play that just happened.

Sunday, I was up in the Boston area watching the Patriots-Bills game. One of the Bills recovered a fumble near the goal line and downed it in the end zone for a touchback. Personally, I

though he had possession outside the end zone so it should have been a safety. The officials ruled he didn't have possession until he was in the end zone, thus a touchback.

Collinsworth never said a word. No replay. No explanation. Probably no idea that it even happened.

For true football fans who know what's going on, it's nothing less than annoying. For new fans and fans that don't understand the game as well, it's unnoticeable until they start asking *you* questions. I, of course, don't mind the questions, but I don't get paid \$100,000 a year for it.

And then there's their recommendations on the two-point conversion. Most color commentators are former (sometimes current) coaches and players. They're getting their first exposure to the conversion in pro football as anyone else is.

The problem is, they act and speak like they have the answers. They call the play like they're watching a college game, completely

ignoring the fact that the NFL's two-point conversion success rate is now *under* 40 percent. In almost every situation, they say to go for it.

Not in the pros, pal. It's a different level of the game and you just can't do the same things.

Today's color commentators make remarkably stupid statements, babble about non-game-related topics (usually of no relevance to today's news, either — just babble), and misinform on a regular basis.

There have been a few former coaches and players that do a decent job. Most producers inferred that that meant most would be as good. Unfortunately, they were wrong.

Finally, there is the color commentator's most grievous error: rooting for one of the teams.

Above and beyond their stupidity, irrelevance and incorrectness is the outright blatant arrogance and rudeness of taking one team's side in almost every call made during the game.

Hey, if it's a local broadcast, fine. Local commentators should root for local teams in local broadcasts. But in nationally televised games, like Monday

Night Football, it's not just obvious and bad, it's wrong.

Fans are watching the game to root for one team or the other. Not only do fans have to worry about the other team and the officials, they have to listen to the announcers' crap. Then it's just not fun anymore.

And then there are the guys, like Collinsworth, who will root for one team the whole way through ... until the other team makes a comeback. Then he makes some kind of lame statement like, "They've really played above their game today," and rain accolades upon them for the rest of the contest.

I know I shouldn't let it get to me. The thing is, there's a lot of talent out there that could excel at these jobs. They just don't have household names.

There is talent of that caliber right here at Stony Brook. I've heard them on WUSB. I've seen them in action. They know who they are, and I wish them luck if they try to stay in the field.

Ramblings...

Lots of good college action during the weekend. I thought Ohio State was going to pull it off. As much as Northwestern deserved a bowl, I felt bad for the OU kids. What a great season...

As far as teams moving around, sending the Tampa Bay franchise to Maryland is the best idea, yet (well, besides sending Art Modell over Niagara Falls in a barrel).

"Baltimore Buccaneers" has a neat ring to it. And for crying out loud, just leave everyone else where they are... Speaking of Florida, doesn't it seem strange to anyone else that they suddenly have more pro teams than any other state in the country? That includes two ice hockey teams. Yes, I said two ice hockey teams in Florida. I know they've had them for a while but, for some reason, no one seemed to think it was odd at the time... Back to Baltimore, that city just became the first in the United States to win the Canadian Football League's Grey Cup — that's like the CFL's Super Bowl. If an NFL team moves to Baltimore, the Stallions will need a new home. Any ideas?

Well, That's It

Next week: Scarlet and Gray: The End, Part I.



Scarlet and Gray

THOMAS F. MASSE

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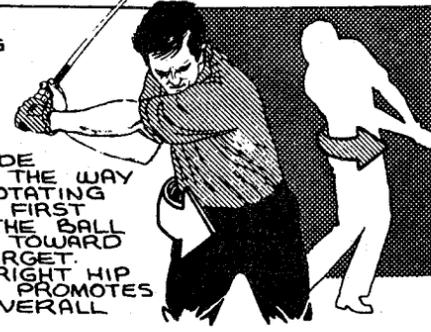
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standings as of 11/22

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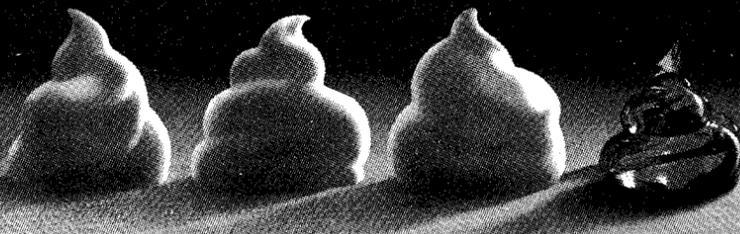
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STATESMAN SPORTS

Tuesday, November 28, 1995

Men's Basketball Drops Season Opener, 75-70

Plays Division I Hofstra Tonight in Long Island Rivalry

By DAVE CHOW
Statesman Staff

After losing a close battle with Scranton 75-70 on Saturday, the Seawolves hope to spell upset Tuesday night against Division I Hofstra. The Seawolves and Flying Dutchmen will do battle at Hoftra's Physical Fitness Center, 7:30 tip off time.

"We're playing an opening game for a Division I team. Usually when teams select an opening game opponent, they're pretty confident they can beat them," coach Bernard Tomlin said while stressing the word "confident" with an indignant rise in his voice. "We hope to change that. We feel that we can go in and have an

excellent chance to win that ball game."

It would be a huge win if they could pull it off. Hofstra will also be hungry for the victory because after this home opener they will have to play their entire December schedule on the road.

The Seawolves aren't going to let the divisional difference scare them and, according to coach Tomlin, consider taking on Hofstra's imposing front court as a challenge.

Darius Burton is Hofstra's point guard and floor leader. He is one of the top guards in the North Atlantic Conference. Seth Meyers, a transfer from UNLV, will start as the other guard. Still,

Tomlin likes the Seawolve's chances. "We feel it's a great opportunity for our two point guards Lionell Saunders and Larry Gibson. Ron Duckett has proved he can shoot the ball well. I think they will match up well and we're going to cause some problems for them."

The 'Wolves catch a break because Hofstra's newest guard, Lawrence Thomas, another transfer from UNLV, will not be eligible to play until Dec. 28th.

Last year these two teams met in a game Hofstra won 79-60. Hofstra was 10-18 and finished last in the NAC conference.

The 'Wolves Lose Opener

On The Road 75-70

The Seawolves opened their '95 season in Scranton PA with a nail biter. Making their debut as a Division II team, the 'Wolves made a good showing until the final minutes, falling by five points. Ron Duckett returned to form with 20 points and newcomer Jason Kaufmann led USB with 23 points.

The Seawolves led at halftime 40-34 on the strength of Kaufmann's shooting. He scored 13 of his points in the half and Duckett scored 12.

In the second half Scranton's inside game came on strong. With

Stony Brook leading 60-58, Scranton went on a 7-0 run and took a 65-60 lead with 2:23 left in the game.

Senior Marc Blot did an admirable job, snatching 9 rebounds while filling in at center for Orlando Reid.

Coach Bernard Tomlin summed the game up, "I guess in the second half we kind of ran out of gas. Our best inside player, Orlando Reid, couldn't make the game and I guess that was the story of the game. We had a nice run in the first half and went up ten. In the second half, we went up by ten but we just didn't have enough rebounding strength and that was the difference in the game." □

CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK BY NICOLE J. SEQUINO

There must be something in the water at Sachem High School.

Or maybe it's in the food?

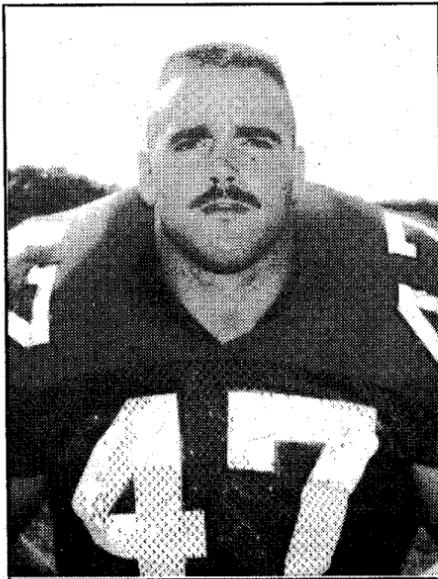
Well, whatever it is, Stony Brook has certainly been fortunate that Sachem graduates seniors James Leach (Farmingville, NY) and Maura Gormley (Holbrook, NY) played their collegiate athletics for the Seawolves. The Brook was especially fortunate last week when their individual performances led their respective teams to season-ending victories - and earned Leach and Gormley **Statesman / Stony Brook Co-Athlete of the Week** honors.

Leach, who certainly gave the Seawolves a defensive boost in their final win (40-21) against Albany last Saturday with 18 tackles, could not have been happier to be the Co-Athlete of the Week.

"It feels pretty good to be chosen for this," said Leach. "I've been playing for Stony Brook for quite some time, and I had been hoping to achieve this."

The Albany game was twice as sweet for Leach, who set season records for the most tackles and

unassisted tackles in a season, with 99 and 44, respectively. He completed the year with a total of 106 tackles and 45 unassisted tackles.



Photos / Sports Information

JAMES LEACH
STATESMAN / STONY BROOK
CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

him."

While Leach was expecting at least "a little more" in terms of his team's results in the season, coach Kornhauser, acknowledging the 'Wolves move to Division II, was quite satisfied with the Seawolves 7-3 final record.

"If you would've asked me in August if I would have wanted a 7-3 record, my answer would've been yes," said Kornhauser. "In all of our three losses - Western Conn, Wagner and Plymouth State - the one thing I wish I had back was the muddy

Western Conn. game. But the team work, the camaraderie, the effort by both coaches and players made it worthwhile. We gave everything we

had, and worked hard that's all you can really ask for in a season."

It is the second time this year that Gormley has been honored as the AOTW. Last week, Gormley was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Most Valuable Player for her performance in last Sunday's Division II ECAC Volleyball championship.

"I'm very thankful, but I didn't expect this at all," Gormley said of her achievements.

"Maura is our best player, our go-to player," said Volleyball Coach Teri Tiso. "She deals well with pressure and is our leader both on and off the court."

Gormley amassed 31 kills, 30 digs, eight service aces and three blocks to help the Seawolves take the championship by beating Bryant in the semi-finals and Pace in the finals.

"Maura definitely hit well Sunday,"

said Coach Tiso. "Both her serve-receiving and serving were a significant factor for the championship win."

The Brook subdued Bryant College in three straight sets 15-11, 17-15 and 15-3, Gormley pushing the way to the championship match with 16 kills 11 digs and five service aces.

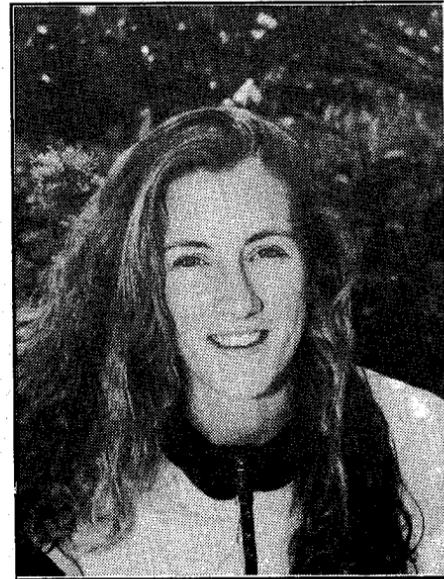
"I wanted to go out strong," Gormley said of her performance. "But I think I've played better."

The 'Wolves didn't give much leniency against Pace, defeating them 15-2, 15-13, 13-15 and 15-10. Gormley added 15 kills, 19 digs and three service aces for the Brook's victory.

The 'Wolves had lost to Pace twice before this season, once at the Southern Connecticut Invitational and again at Pace University.

"At those games, Pace played better than us," said Tiso. "We weren't hitting as a team."

According to Tiso, having a home advantage last Sunday for the Championship was one of the major contributing factors for the Brook's win. "The home advantage helped, of course, we were 7-0 at home in post-season play. The girls really were determined, and, after the NECC Conference wins, had confidence in playing hard for the win." □



MAURA GORMLEY
STATESMAN / STONY BROOK
CO-ATHLETE OF THE WEEK