

## Analysis Prompts Consideration of New DEC System

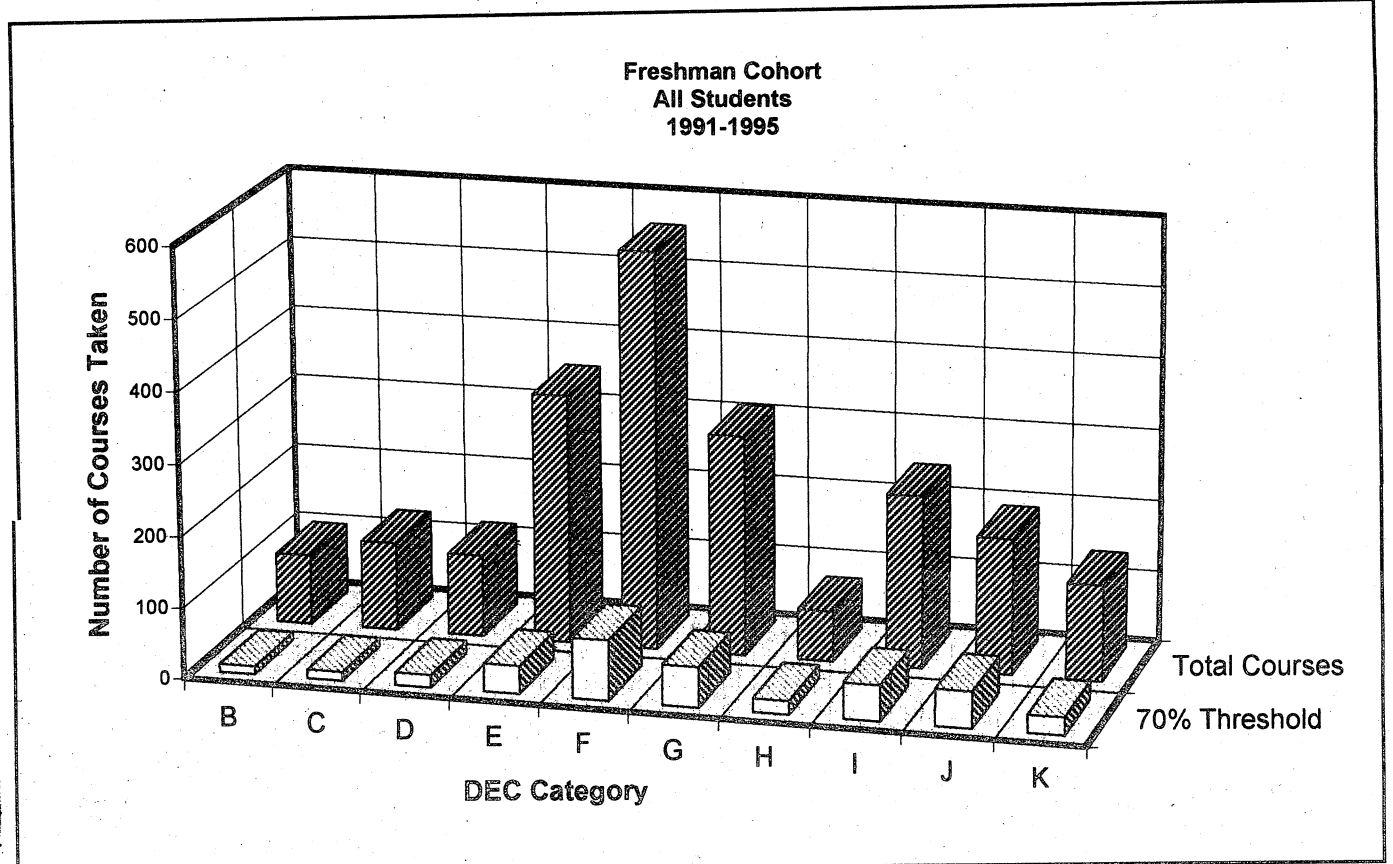
*Undergraduate Affairs has not made proposal, but presentation to Senate shows bulk of freshman are taking a small number of total courses offered to fulfill DEC requirements.*

By MATTHEW R. MAHONEY  
Special to the Statesman

Recently, the Student Polity Senate heard a presentation from Jim Mackin, the assistant dean of Undergraduate Affairs. Mackin said that the Office of Undergraduate Affairs has recently completed an analysis of the Diversified Education Curriculum, and is considering proposing a new DEC system.

The new system that may be proposed would add more sections of some of the more popular courses to the academic schedule of courses, while decreasing the frequency of availability of the more unpopular upper level courses. The analysis took place over a period of a year and a half and followed the DEC category choices of the Freshmen Cohort from 1991-1995.

What Mackin found was that there were many courses within the DEC that in fact did not fit the category they were listed under. Courses listed under the categories of the Humanities, category G, and Interpreting Texts in the Humanities, category B, offered classes that did not fit the category they were intended for. More importantly, Mackin said he found that for some of the categories there is an extremely large number of classes offered, yet students seem to be choosing the same few classes every term. He said this has led to many students being "locked out" of several popular courses, usually listed as lower division.



Courtesy of the Office of Undergraduate Affairs

Study shows that 70 percent of freshman who began in 1991 took only a small percentage of the courses available to them to fulfill their DEC requirements.

For example for category F, Social and Behavioral Sciences, there are approximately 600 different courses offered that will satisfy this DEC. Out of the 600 courses offered to fulfill the requirement, 70 percent of those students chose only to take about 90 of the courses being offered. "While it is not outrageous that we have 600

courses in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, it is outrageous that we have them as part of the DEC," Mackin said.

Mackin insisted that this was just an idea for a proposal, and that there is no definite plan to change the DEC and that the office of Undergraduate Affairs would not be eliminating any

courses. Mackin said, "Let me make this clear these are things that are being talked about, there isn't even an official proposal yet."

The Senate, and Vice President Monique Maylor however, were skeptical of the analysis and suggestions given by Mackin. Several members of the Senate were worried that if some upper level courses were given less frequently, then those courses may indeed be eliminated by the individual departments. Others worried that a change in the DEC would widen the already present animosity between the physical and social sciences. Still, others, like Maylor, agreed that some of our more distinguished faculty would be turned off to the idea of instructing a large lower division course, rather than the smaller upper division courses that they are used to teaching.

See DEC, Page 6



Lou Weinberg(l.) and Danny Pomerantz(r.) teamed up to create a birdhouse to enter in the Stony Brook Community Fund's "For the Birds," competition and auction.

## Partners in Creating

The Nassakeag Elementary School of Setauket, along with the Long Island State Veterans Home in Stony Brook, held a workshop on Thursday, to construct and decorate birdhouses to enter into the Stony Brook Community Fund's Second Annual "For the Birds" competition and auction.

15 young children will paired up with vets to build and decorate "Birdhouse in a Bag" birdhouse kits, designed and provided by Roger Allen, a retired shop teacher. Allen guided the participants in constructing

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# Women's History Month Calendar

## March 1-31

Exhibit *Courageous Voices* Leadership and Community. Administration Building, Admissions 1st Floor

## March 5-April 12

Exhibit: *Text and Identity 12 Women Artists*. Women Explore Identity (sexual, religious, social) in written and spoken words. Staller Center, Art Gallery Opening Reception Saturday, March 8, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Gallery hours, Tuesday-Friday 12 4:00 p.m.

## March 4-20

Exhibit: *Unfolding to Evolve, To Become Opened/Expand*, Stony Brook Alumnae Show. Twenty works by six alumnae. Stony Brook Union Art Gallery. Opening Reception Friday, March 7, 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. Gallery talk by Curator Mary Leto Wednesday, March 12, 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Gallery is open Monday through Friday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

## Tuesday, March 4

*Difficult Relations: Academics and Activists, Performers and Critics in Gay/Lesbian/Feminist Theatre/Performance Studies*, Speaker Jill Dolan (CUNY Graduate Center) 4:30 p.m. Humanities Institute, Main Library, E4340.

*Creating a Multicultural Women's*

*Movement*. Speaker Carla Jackson (Rutgers) Unity Cultural Center 7:00p.m.

## Wednesday, March 5

*The Waters of Eden: Visit to and discussion of Mikvah*. Leaving Humanities 165 promptly at 12:40 p.m. Reservations are required, so please call 632-6565.

## Thursday, March 6

*Concert of Music by Women*, Featuring music by Lori Dobbins, Susan McDonald, Daria Semegen, Sheila Silver, and Ludmilla Ulehela. Recital Hall of the Staller Center, 8:00 p.m.

*Something Extra Concert*, Yale University Female Singers. Langmuir, Fireside Lounge, 9:00 p.m.

## Saturday, March 8

Women's Soccer Tournament Pritchard Gym, Sports Complex, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Please call 632-7200 for more information.

## Tuesday, March 11

*Presentations on the History of Women in Science*. Math Tower, Commons Room 4 -125, Dinner: 6:30 p.m., Program: 7:30 p.m. \$

*The Joy of Lesbian Relationships*. Speaker Roberta Karant Langmuir, Fireside Lounge, 7:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m.

*Self Defense Clinic*: Adan Figueroa. Sports Complex, Exercise Room, 8:00 p.m. -10:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, March 12

*Feminism: The F-Word of the 90's?* Panel discussion moderated by Marci Lobel. Peace Center, Old Chemistry, 12:40 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

*Fighting the Feminization of Poverty*. Speaker Terera Gutierrez. Stony Brook Union, 7:00 p.m.

*Eating Disorders and Body Image Discussion*. Wagner College, 9:00 p.m.

*Bedtime Stories: A panel discussion on female sexuality and masturbation*. Langmuir, Fireside Lounge, 9:00 p.m.

Tribute to Women: Seminar on Women's Issues. Union Fireside Lounge, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Continued at the End of the Bridge with dinner and music, 9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

## Thursday, March 13

*Your Rights in Marriage*. Speaker Lynn Boland, Esq. Stony Brook Union, Ballroom, 12:00 p.m. -1:00 p.m. Reservations are required, please call 632-6040. \$

*Border Lives: Prostitution in*

*Tijuana*. Speaker Debra Castillo. Humanities Institute, Main Library E4340, 4:30 p.m.

## Saturday, March 15

*Women's Volleyball Spring Tournament*. Pritchard Gym, Sports Complex, 10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information, call 632-7200.

*Rescue Me: A Self Defense Workshop*. Langmuir, Fireside Lounge, 7:00 p.m.

## Tuesday, March 18

*Sexuality Outside of Marriage in Jewish Law*. Speaker Carol Kessner, Physics Building, Room 113, 12:50 p.m.

*The Odd Couple*. A female version of Neil Simon's comedy, directed by Alicia Martinez. Dancers will perform during intermission. Refreshments will be served. Stimson College Living Learning Center, Main Lounge, 9:00 p.m.

## Wednesday, March 19

*Portrait of Teresa*. A film about a Cuban housewife who encounters hostility from her husband when she becomes involved in politics in her workplace. Social and Behavioral Sciences, Room N320, 12:40 p.m.

See CALENDAR, Page 4

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Friday, March 7 at 8pm

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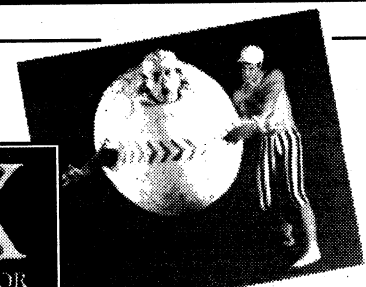
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# What Does Make A Class Worth Taking?

3

The question of what makes a class a good one arises at the end of the semester and throughout the year by students and teachers alike. Students wish to find classes that fulfill their major and University requirements, but are also interesting

A good example is the course Anthropology 102 taught by William Arens, professor and chair of the anthropology department. The course entails learning general principles useful in interpreting other cultures. Arens said that his initial interest in the field was from childhood. His first book was about Native Americans. "I was always interested in other times and places," Arens said. Other questions arose, this time about his students and his relationship with them. Students will

constantly visit his office for a consultation. Still they don't find it easy to talk to him because of the position that he is in. This is where student-teacher relationship becomes important. It is through the information given from the lectures that Arens tries to bridge that gap.

David Cafarella, and a student who wishes to remain anonymous, are two students currently taking this course. One student wants the credits, the other is taking the course to see what's out there, but both find the lecture interesting. "He brings up

facts up I never heard before," said the anonymous student.

What makes the course good?

"The teacher makes it good," said Cafarella. It's his "interaction with the students." Cafarella likes the way in which Arens presents the material. He does it in such way that is appealing to students.

How does Arens manage to keep the attention of his students?

"A physical presence, being active. . . I try to relate abstract principles to understanding personal lives," he said.

Don't be fooled though about the challenge of this course. "The tests are tricky. You've got to pay close attention," Cafarella said. Even so the course "makes you understand culture knowing the history behind it," said the anonymous student.

Some students find that they are unable to handle this course along with their other course loads, yet the best way to study for this course, like any other are to pay close attention to the lectures, keep up with the reading, and review your notes right after class.

Both students plan on taking another course in anthropology.

"Maybe something [with a concentration] on Japanese culture," said Cafarella. Although he's enjoying the course Cafarella would prefer it if it were a smaller class. "There's too many people. . . I would like more teacher-student contact," Cafarella said. Roughly 80 percent of students come to lecture versus the exams but this number declines as the semester draws to a close. And what about the course's view on extra help? There are two graduate and at least four undergraduate teacher assistants for this class.

Arens wants students leaving this course with "an appreciation of cultural differences." His advice to his current students as well as to future students, is to do whatever they find most interesting to them and to take advantage of these years to pursue those things that interest you. "I want them to have the intellectual ability to understand cultural differences and also to recognize that we [as a people] are more in common than we are different."

After all the factors are in, ultimately the decision in what makes a course a good one is individual. The answer is you. □

## Commuter Corner

Sherry Jones

at the same time.

Teachers wish to improve their course curriculum to better the quality of their courses presented to the students. They are many decisive factors that affect the decision of taking or not taking a particular course. Some of the factors the teacher, the student-teacher relationship, the way in which the course material is presented to the students, the way in which the students receive the course material, the interests of the students and the duration of the course.

## News Briefs

### Scholarship for Women In Science

Applications are now being accepted for the Renate W. Chasman Scholarship for Women. This scholarship was established in 1986 to encourage women whose education was interrupted to continue their formal studies in science, engineering or mathematics. The winner will receive a one-time award of \$2,000 from Brookhaven National Laboratory's Brookhaven Women in Science, a not-for-profit organization whose aim is to promote the advancement of women in science.

Candidates for the scholarship must be U.S. citizens or resident aliens who live in Nassau or Suffolk County, or the boroughs of Brooklyn or Queens. They must be currently enrolled in, or have applied for, a degree-oriented program at an accredited institution. Their program of study for 1997-98 must be either at the junior or senior undergraduate level or at the first-year graduate level, to be pursued on a half-time or

greater basis.

The winner will be chosen by a committee of representatives from Long Island colleges and industry. The award will be made directly to the recipient, who will be expected to complete at least two consecutive school terms in good academic standing.

Application forms and further information can be obtained by writing to: Chasman Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 183, Upton, NY 11973. The deadline for applications is May 1, 1997. The award will be presented in August.

The Renate W. Chasman Scholarship Fund is supported by fund-raising events and by tax-deductible contributions from individuals and organizations. Renate W. Chasman (1932-1977) was a noted physicist at Brookhaven Lab. Her work influenced the design of particle accelerators around the world, including Brookhaven's National Synchrotron Light Source.

### Angels In America Approach SB

The Department of Theatre Arts presents Tony Kushner's *Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches*. A *Gay Fantasia on National Themes*. The production will be directed by Martha Banta, director of various productions in New York City and assistant director of this season's critically-acclaimed Broadway musical *Rent*.

*Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* is a dazzling blend of realism, fantasy and comedy. The play interweaves the lives of two couples: Louis Ironson, a Jewish word processor and intellectual, deserts his lover, Prior Walter, a sensitive WASP who is afflicted with AIDS. At the same time, Joe Pitt, a Mormon lawyer and protégé of sleazy McCarthyite attorney and power broker Roy Cohn, goes through the difficult process of coming out and making the decision to leave his Valium addicted wife Harper. Building upon these private matters Tony Kushner then transports the audience not only from Brooklyn to Salt Lake City and Antarctica but also from the Reaganite 1980s to the middle ages of Prior Walter's European ancestors. The play

equally explores the realm of illusions, death and heaven and rethinks political justice on earth.

*Angels in America*, Parts I and II, have been awarded the 1993 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the 1993 and 1994 Tony Awards for Best Play, the 1993 and 1994 Drama Desk Awards, the 1992 Evening Standard Award, three Olivier Award nominations for best play of 1993 and 1994, the 1993 New York Drama Critics Circle Award, the 1993 Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle award, and the 1994 LAMBDA Literary Award for Drama, among others.

*Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* opens on Thursday, March 6 in Theatre I at the Staller Center. Performance dates are March 6 through 8 and March 13 through 15 at 8 p.m., and March 9 and 16 at 2 p.m. Tickets for the general public are \$8, students, staff and seniors receive a special rate of \$6. To reserve tickets, please contact the Staller Center Box Office at (516) 632-7230. For more information or to arrange disability-related accommodations, please contact the USB Theatre Department office at (516) 632-7300.

### LGBT Conference To Be Held at SB

The Long Island College Coalition is proud to host the 3rd Annual Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgendered Northeast College Campus Conference. This event will take place during the weekend of April 11, 12, and 13 on the Stony Brook campus.

The Long Island College Coalition is excited to bring the LGBT Conference to Long Island, continuing the tradition started by SUNY Albany

three years ago. The 3rd Annual College Conference is designed with two main goals: to educate college students about current queer issues, and to unite the Northeast LGBT college organizations. This year's conference promises to have more workshops, programs and caucuses. The cost is \$25 and includes all workshops, buffet dinner, a dance and lots more! Only \$15 for L.I. high

school students.

This is your chance to prove that there is a strong, active and supportive College Community on Long Island. To find out how you can get involved visit the Stony Brook LGBTA located in the Student Union Room 045A. Please call (516) 632-6469 or leave an e-mail address at PRIDE@ic.sunysb.edu. We look forward to hearing from you.

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# Women's History Month Calendar

From CALENDAR, Page 2

**Violence Awareness Workshop Self Defense Seminar:** Jiu Jitsu Sensei, Phil Theodoro. Domestic Violence Speaker: Gayle Rawlings, Long Island Women's Coalition; Sexual Assault Speaker: Susan Koenig, Victims Information, Bureau of Suffolk. Student Activities Center, Lobby, 12:00 p.m. -2:15 p.m.

**The Retelling, Imagine the Voices:** Sarah and Hagar. Peace Center, Old Chemistry, 12:40 p.m.

**Take Back The Night March.** Meet under the Bridge at the entrance to the Student Union, 9:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 20**  
**Women and Music.** Folk Singer/Speaker Judy Gorman. Langmuir, Fireside Lounge 8:30 p.m.

**Acoustic Alternative Singer/Songwriter Marci Geller.** The Spot, Roosevelt Quad, Opening 8:00 p.m., performance 10:00 p.m. \$

**A Historiography of Technocriticism.** Speaker Catherine Sousloff Staller Center, Art Gallery, 5:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 21**  
**Maborosi.** Hirokazu Kore-eda's mesmerizing film about hope and regeneration. Staller Center, 7:00 p.m. \$

**Tuesday, March 25**  
**Women's Softball Game.** Softball field behind the Sports Complex, 2:30 p.m. For more information, call 632-7200.

**Saturday, March 29**  
**Women's Softball Game.** Softball field behind the Sports Complex, 12:00 p.m. For more information, call 632-7200.

**Monday, March 31**  
**Women's Leadership Recognition/A wards Reception** Stony Brook Union, Ballroom, 4:00 p.m.

- 6:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served.

**Material Girl: Job Placement and Career Development for Women.** Langmuir Fireside Lounge, 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 1**  
**Conversations with Kate Millet author of Sexual Politics.** Peace Center, Old Chemistry, 4:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

**Wednesday, April 2**  
**Breast Cancer The Hidden Disability.** Speaker: Carol Baldwin. Stony Brook Union, Ballroom, 3:00 p.m.

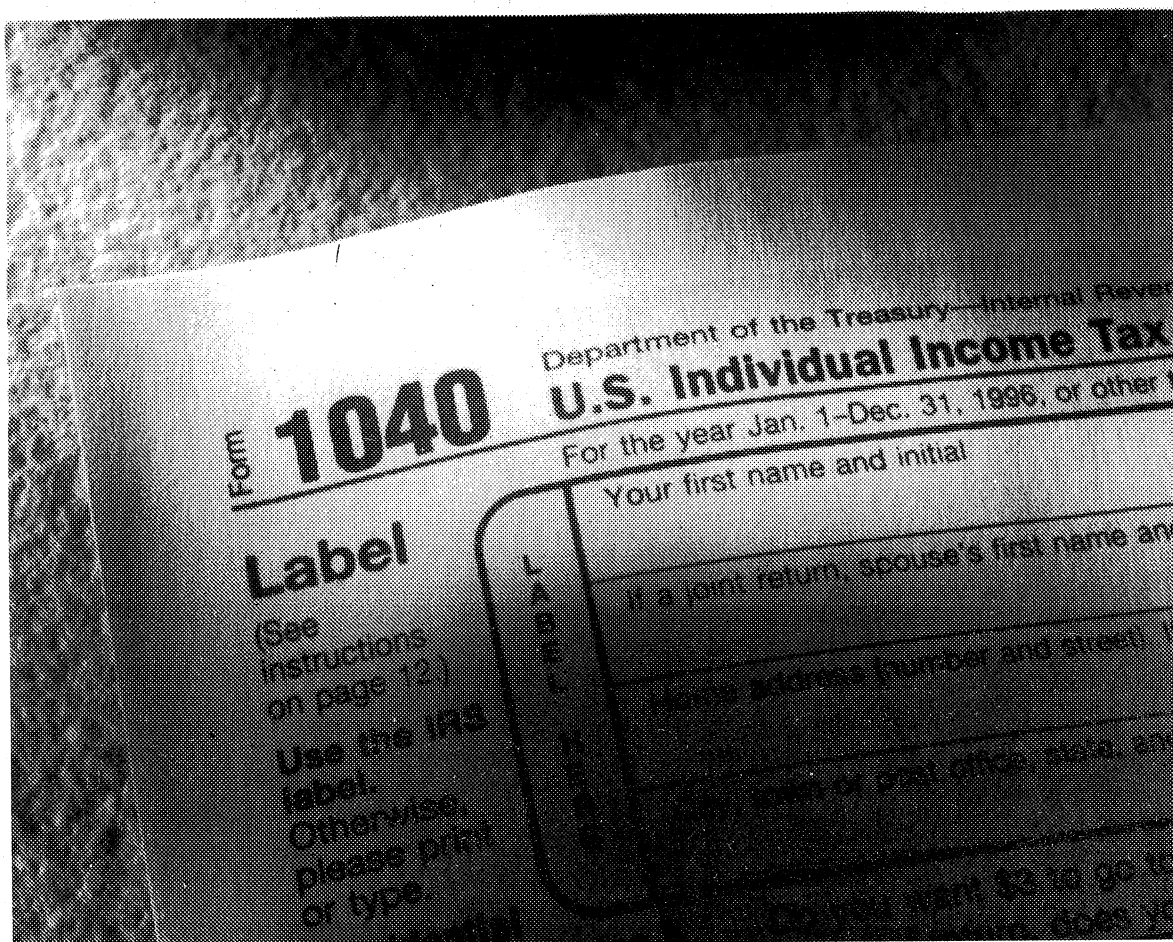
- ☐ Feelings of sadness or irritability
- ☐ Loss of interest or pleasure in activities once enjoyed
- ☐ Changes in weight or appetite
- ☐ Changes in sleeping pattern
- ☐ Feeling guilty, hopeless or worthless
- ☐ Inability to concentrate, remember things or make decisions
- ☐ Fatigue or loss of energy
- ☐ Restlessness or decreased activity
- ☐ Complaints of physical aches and pains for which no medical explanation can be found
- ☐ Thoughts of death or suicide

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# Partners In Creating

From BIRDS, Front Page

the pine-wood, birdhouses and also gave a "Bird Talk." All fifteen creations will be entered into the "For the Birds" competition and auction set to take place on Sunday, May 4th at the Stony Brook Village Center, Main Street on the Harbor. Proceeds from

the auction will benefit the educational programs of the Community Fund. The Stony Brook Community Fund is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of local historic sites and the conservation of environmentally sensitive areas. For more information call the Stony Brook Community Fund at 751-2244. □



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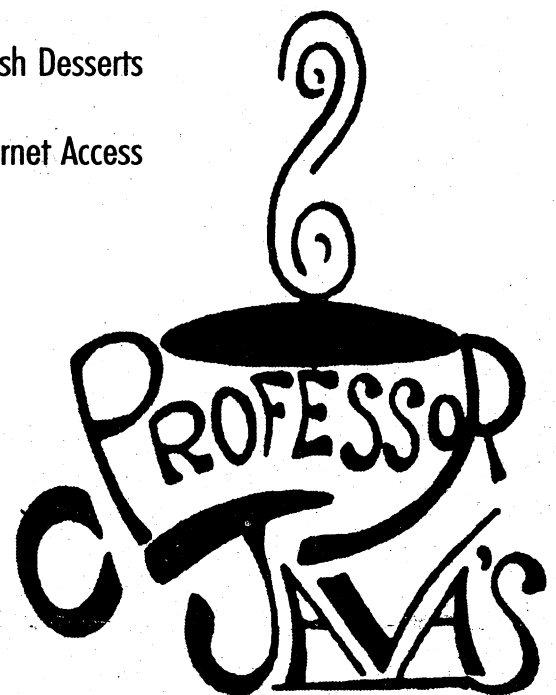
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## New DEC System Proposed

From DEC, Front Page

Mackin said that if changes are made, each individual department would have to revise the requirements for its major. The individual departments "need to do it in a responsible way, there's no doubt about it," Mackin said. "The bigger problem here, is that the students can't get into the lower level courses." □

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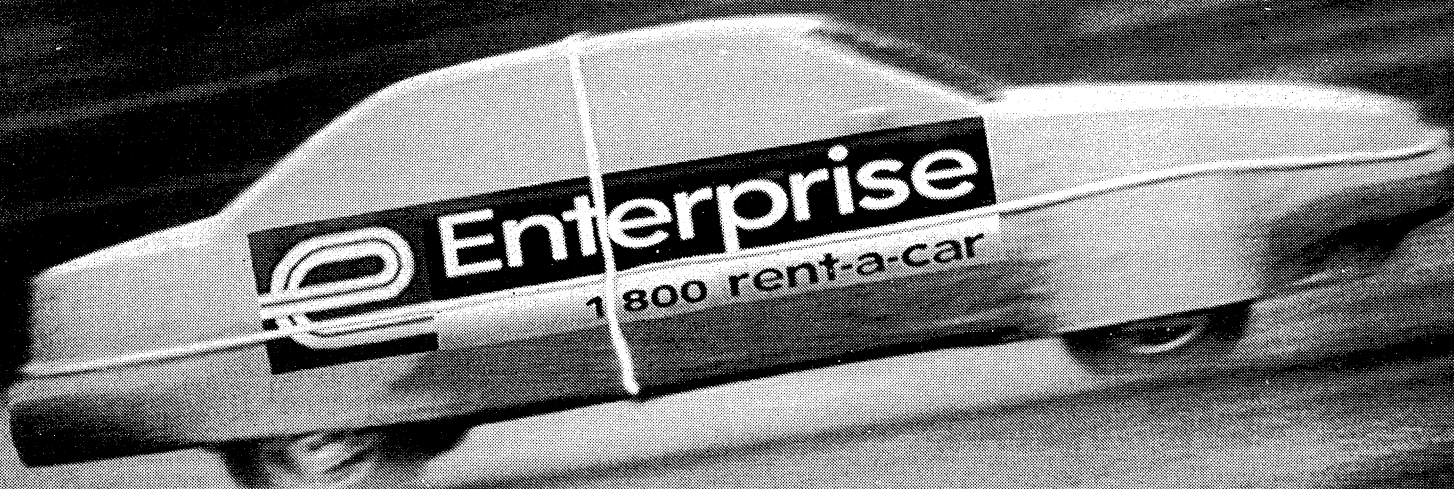
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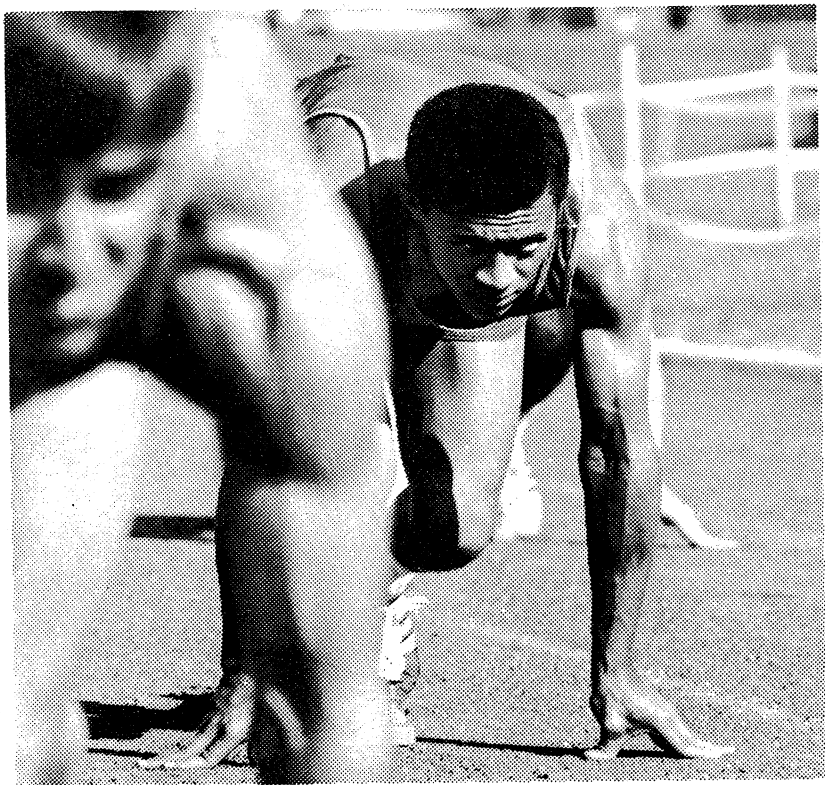
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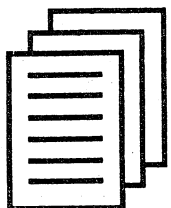
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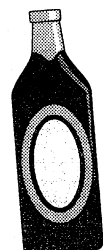
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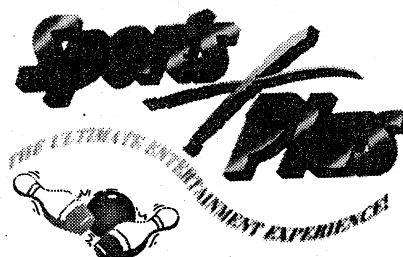
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# EDITORIAL CARTOONS

Op-Ed: (by r. jay magill, jr.)

lately, the humanities always seem to be embroiled over methodology. and because they look squeamish compared to science and its one methodology...



... administrative types take cultural debates to mean that the humanities aren't doing any "real" work, and they slowly withdraw funding from such "extraneous" programs such as art, english, philosophy, music, theater...



...in ignorance of some of the advice given by lesser scientists themselves:

"when i examine myself and my methods of thought, i come to the conclusion that the gift of fantasy has meant more to me than absorbing positive knowledge."



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**Statesman**

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## Mother Teresa Has Only Done Good For Humanity

### To the Editor:

Siddharth Dadlani tried to do a good thing and write an article on Mother Teresa. Unfortunately, like most secular articles on Mother Teresa, it doesn't tell us much about her beliefs, but is dreamy and sweet and nice. Perfect bait for a shark like Rosenthal. His letter answers Dadlani's article with complete and utter ignorance and succeeds in not only bashing Mother Teresa, but the Holy Father, and The Catholic Church as well.

Rosenthal's obvious problem is with the Roman Catholic Church and what they stand for. Mother Teresa is not only a Roman Catholic nun but, in a Church filled with corruption and non-believers, she is a pillar of strength for the true Roman Catholic. Rosenthal says that Mother Teresa "avoids any discussion of the social causes and the manipulation of poverty, and by standing against contraception and abortion, she does nothing to speak against the ways in which the population growth contributes to the woes of many areas of the world."

Evidently he got his information on Mother Teresa from the articles in Time Magazine. Evidently he has missed her books and speeches, and her infamously long history of quotations. Like most opponents of the Church, Rosenthal has committed the primary blunder; he has formed his opinion without investigating any reputable sources (like Mother Teresa herself in this case!) If you want true information on the Catholic Church go to quality sources. Rosenthal's research would be the equivalent of

getting information on African-Americans from the KKK.

Although I cannot condense all of the utterances of Mother Teresa to a few lines, let me attempt to enlighten the Rosenthals of the world a little bit.

As nice wealthy Americans we have no concept of poverty. Because we are generally good people, we are appalled by the lack of what we call "normal" and "necessary." Our society has become a valueless, Godless society. However, in many third world countries "necessary" means an entirely different thing. The people there hunger not just for food or medical care, but for someone to love them, for someone to show them God's love, and give them the faith they need to make it to the next life. The Roman Catholic faith teaches that we are in this life for only a short while and then we will live with Jesus in heaven. Of course if you don't believe in heaven you will have a hard time with this.

Mother Teresa, as one of the most Orthodox Catholics around, believes this! She lives this! Her sisters awake everyday and promise to "quench Jesus' thirst for souls!" They don't wake up and promise to make a perfect world where everyone can have food! The greatest poverty to a Christian is not knowing Jesus! By standing against abortion and contraception Mother Teresa holds true that Jesus is the answer, not the inventions we have created to fix our mistakes. If people lived with the values of the Catholic Church there would be no need for contraception or abortion. Therefore, to Mother Teresa, abortion and

contraception are like putting a band aid on a gaping wound. Obviously, Rosenthal disagrees with this philosophy, as do many others.

However, it is Mother Teresa's philosophy, and she not only believes it, she lives it every single day to the utmost of her ability. She lives her entire life with 100% faith in her God. Do you Mr. Rosenthal? I have been to Mother Teresa's homes for the sick

and dying, I have worked side by side with her devoted Missionaries of Charity, I have seen a dying child, a dying man, a dying woman reach out not for food, or a cure, but for the love of Jesus, I have seen them smile and die with strength and dignity, knowing they are going to God. You won't find that in Time Magazine Mr. Rosenthal.

Sincerely,  
Joseph Flynn

## Stop the Killing of Animals

### To The Editor:

Are SUNY Stony Brook students who eat hamburgers responsible for vanishing species and (on public lands) the killing of wild horses, buffaloes and other animals? Would cattle ranchers saying, "we have to" be slaughtering animals competing with cattle for food if students everywhere stopped buying beef?

Statesman readers might be reminded that in addition to being threatened by the lawmaking of officials elected with the help of

powerful cattle interests, reckoning may also take the form of one of the many health problems associated with eating beef. Processed animals already fed to cattle could have included sick cows, horses and even family pets falling victim to rancher trappings. Mad-cow disease incubates slowly. When you eat your hamburger how much of the blood of vanishing species is on your hands? How much blood from the trapper mutilated family pets runs down your chin?

James Griffin

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# FEATURES

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & STUDENT LIFE

Monday, March 3, 1997

## Catch the Buzz. . . Bee Research at Stony Brook

By KRISTINE SEITZ  
Statesman Staff

Biologists have hypothesized for many years that color vision in bees evolved as a way for these insects, an already existing species, to take advantage of a new food source, the nectar of the newly evolved flowering plant. This hypothesis went unchallenged for years until Stony Brook biologist, Dr. Lars Chittka, looked at the question in a unique way.

Chittka began his studies as an undergraduate in Goettingen, Germany. He had trouble deciding which subject to study, psychology or biology. He chose biology because it gave him more of an opportunity to study the brain and its functions.

When he moved on to graduate school in Berlin, however, Chittka joined a lab that was studying honey bee learning, where he could

combine his biology work with his interests in psychology.

Chittka, himself, did work that supported the idea that bee color vision adapted to flower color. This work included measuring the physical properties of flower colors and feeding them into an evolutionary computer simulation.

He asked the computer to design a system that would be optimal for detecting and distinguishing flower colors. "The result was striking," Chittka said. "The computer found exactly the same color vision system as we find in bees! Not even an ingenious engineer could design a better system . . ."

Color receptors are specialized cells in the vision system that are sensitive to light energy. The peak sensitivities of each type of cell correspond to a specific range of wavelengths that can be perceived by the nervous

system as a range of a certain color. Humans, for example, have three types of receptors which are sensitive to wavelengths in the blue,



green and red ranges. While humans have only three types of receptors, many insects have four and five types of receptors and all insects can see UV light, according to Chittka.

Although there was evidence supporting the old hypothesis, there still remained the possibility that bee color vision did not

develop in response to flower color. To explore this possibility, Chittka began by researching the color receptors of other insects and invertebrates, like spiders and crustaceans, using existing literature. He found that many insects and invertebrates have exactly the same color receptors as bees. Chittka realized that animals such as crabs, locusts and spiders don't visit flowers as a part of their lifestyle and, yet, have the same visual perception for color.

He concluded, therefore, that these color receptors did not evolve as a way to utilize flowers as a food source.

To further explore this idea, Chittka performed a comparative phylogenetic analysis. This method uses a kind of "family tree" to trace the origins and relationships between groups of organisms. The basic assumption made in this analysis, is that biological

traits are more likely to stay constant over time than to change. "Thus," Chittka explained, "for example, if we find that all insects have six legs, we conclude that the ancestor of all insects had six legs, rather than concluding that the number of six legs had evolved millions of times independently." Since a number of insects, spiders and crustaceans share the type of color vision system bees have, and each of these groups had evolved before flowering plants,

Chittka came to the conclusion that these organisms probably all evolved from a single organism that possessed this type of color vision system. This makes the color vision system in bees much older than flowering plants.

What makes Chittka's analysis so unique is the way he applied the phylogenetic method. This approach is generally used to reconstruct how animals may have looked millions of years ago by using the traits of their descendants.

"While clever behavioral experiments allow us to 'take a look into the brain' of an animal that lives now," Chittka explains, "The phylogenetic method allows us to do the same for animals that are long gone from the surface of the planet!" In this case, we gained insight into how bees and their ancestors looked out onto world several hundred million years ago.

Chittka is now considering further investigation in related areas. One possibility lies in the investigation of why so little evolution occurs in the color receptors of many insects by studying the variation of color receptors within a single species.

He is also considering the study of the impact of pollinator color vision on plant colors.

We can only anticipate what sorts of novel approaches Chittka will use as he continues his research here at Stony Brook. □

## Paving the Way for Blue Meanie

By MARC WEISBAUM  
Statesman Staff

Rule number 1: If a band really sucks, don't waste your time writing on them (after all, any press is good press). Rule number 2: If a band is good, help them out, but don't elevate a decent effort to genius. Rule number 3: If you can't read a band's logo, 99% of the time they aren't worth wasting your time on anyway. Rule number 4: If a band is cool enough to send picture disc vinyl, the least you can do is write something.

Well, Chicago's **Blue Meanies** have found their way into these pages via rule number 4 (there are actually ten, but they are too long to list). The band's latest release, *Pave The World* (Thick Records) is a 10" clown covered festival of chaos. The two sides of this release are quite drastically different. While the first side overflows with punky/ska/jazz/LSD/you-name-it energy, the

second side is much more dark and brooding.

Hats off to the boys for

MTV. **Sublime. No Doubt**. No thanks. Fans of these bands and other skapunk



Blue Meanies

their interesting and intense covers of "Happy Together" and, though not listed, "Ace of Spades." While I've never heard any of their earlier releases (a seven-inch and a full-length), the Meanies play much more convincing ska than all of the crap that has been branded with that tag on

favorites **Rancid** will find that this many tentacled platter will easily meet or surpass the standards set by the "big guys." Ironically, the band don't like to be thought of as ska, and you can't blame them for not wanting to paint themselves into a corner. Ultimately, the best thing about this

disc is the energy. The band have successfully captured the frantic fury onto vinyl, and it's clear that the band had a great time doing it.

This seven man spazz attack have a far quirkier and fun sound than all of those "buzz" bands put together, some of which the Meanies played with on the Warped Tour this past summer. They've also just completed a U.S. tour with **Reel Big Fish** and **Goldfinger**, but don't fret, they should come back around in the next few months. Fans of ska-tinged punk, rock and Pee Wee Herman are urged to check out The Meanies the next time around. Just remember to leave your rude boy gear home not expect a "ska" show!

DISCOGRAPHY: *Urine Trouble 7"*

*Kiss Your Ass Good-Bye LP*

*Pave The World 10"*

CONTACT: Thick Records

916 N. Damen  
Chicago, IL 60622



# Leave On The Porch Light — The Blues And Soul Of Pointblank —

BMW's packed with children sporting custom sport jackets, rubber-necking, cyber-technologies, working-mothers and media circuses all lend a helpful hand in thrusting our beleaguered souls into New York's 'life-marathon.' If "you snooze, you lose," because "the early-bird gets the worm."

Unfortunately, this thought comprises much of our college music. We love the gritty underground layers of the NYC-music scene. We love the fast-paced, the bizarre and the unusual, as we strive to escape reality. And if you watched the Grammys and paid close attention, you saw few authentic blues-centered musicians (aside from **Tracy Chapman** and **Eric Clapton**) who enjoyed the spotlight.

The reason lies within the fact that the 'reality' and 'lifestyle' of the blues and soul buries itself behind a layer of humility; as impenetrable as diamond and as beautiful as it's casing. And it's casing has come from centuries of development. The tangible evidence lies within the early folk rhythms of early slave narratives and folk tales; a mixture of plight and toil was blended with, and eventually sung as, stories to deal with the heathen of slavery. Before Brare Rabbit got his own gig and someone started to write down his exploits, it's

well-known that he stroked a pretty mean banjo. So, it's not surprising that humility isn't a marketable item within the flashy universe of MTV and the super-glossy pages of *Rolling Stone*. Even the timeless **B.B. King** went high-profile, culminating his skills with, the ever-changing, **U2**.

One of the premier labels you'll find strutting a wayward line to promote career-musicians of blues and soul is Pointblank Records.

The music of **Albert Collins** and the **Icebreakers** has been captured and remastered from a series of '92-'93 performances. The "Master of the Telecaster" was so much more. His iron grasp of working-class blues and blue-collar strife is a sterling mirror of a man who left this world with so much more to give. But what he left us with, is the blueprint that every blues musician strives to attain in some level — even if they front that they're not. His pick-work in his rendition of, **Little Jonny Taylor's**, "If You Love Me (Like You Say)" is all the coaxing that a disciple of blues will need.

The rock and reality of, **Duke**

**Robillard's**, *Temptation* offers a trendy melody-based fusion of traditional jazz themes and '90's attitude; overwhelmingly progressive, it shocks and flows as easily as pop and strokes the happier vibe within "I'm really up shit's creek" blues.

Fundamentally bluesy, it will appeal to lovers of honky-tonk crispies melded into rock. Tracks like "Live To Give" and Robillard's rendition of, **Sugar Boy Crawford's**, "What's Wrong?" are granulated, raw and stirring. Much like Robillard, **John Hammond** combines a rock-steady flow, but centers his forte around medley and soul within *Trouble No More*. But this puppy generates it's peddle-power from a crank of toned down 20's-style swing and jilted harmony. It ebbs between ballroom coos and big-band elementation, with

tracks like "Fools Paradise" and "Love Changin' Blues."

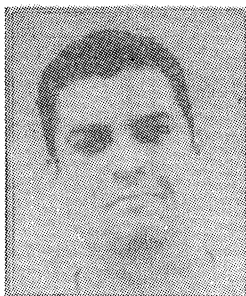
Funky-vibed blues can be found rockin' within the noggin of Mr. **Pops Staples**, who drops some funky props to tunes from **Dylan** and **Curtis Mayfield**, as well as a memorial to **Albert Collins** in *Father Father*. He's

an old buzzard turning new tricks. He's absolutely amazing. And so is Gary Moore's tribute to '60's blues legend, **Peter Green**, in *Blues For Greeny*. Green's fame resulted from shmoozing it up among greats like **Fleetwood Mac** and **Clapton**. But his real power came from his unearthly guitar action. Anyone who can testify to the goliath of experiencing **Stevie Ray Vaughn**, would agree that Green was at that level. And Moore's tribute is as strait-up — and tangy — as a knob job.

For a more adolescent flow minced with the lyrics of a wise-man, harmonious hooks and timeless symmetry, **Jamiroqui** combines '70's disco, funkadelic, tribal, fusion jazz and blues themology in *Traveling Without Moving* (Work). Simply the best musicians album of 1996 — hands down. I haven't been this fired up in a long time. I took four dumps in three hours and bit at my nails until they bled. This is art, and anyone who's lookin' to 'get down' in a big way or 'max out,' will find a tidy boogie blanket within the liquid fibers of this super-shaker.

That's it for this week. Special thanks to my boys:, Pete at Virgin and Frank at Sony. Mad props.

**Next Week:** the interview with the **Hazies**; high-energy pop from Tampa Bay. See ya here.



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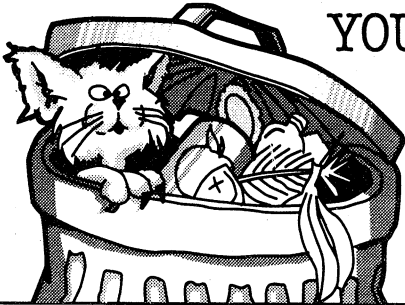
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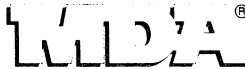
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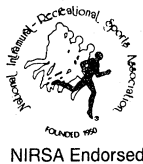
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# Natasha's Stars

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Don't listen to a friend's advice since it's off the mark. You are upset when unexpected guests drop by without so much as a phone call later in the week. However, this could be fun, so try to be more flexible. The weekend looks good for quiet activities.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) You are disappointed when a family member reneges on a planned get-together this week. If buying a gift for someone, be sure you know the person's tastes and avoid spending too much. A weekend getaway is possible, if you don't go overboard in expenses.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Someone who owes you money is slow to repay you—which should serve you as a lesson for the future. You and your significant other need to achieve a meeting of the minds concerning mutual funds. You want to spend, but your partner wants to save.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) It's not a good time to share those innovative ideas you have for business this week. Someone is just waiting to take credit for

them, leaving you out in the cold. If shopping this weekend, watch expenditures.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) A certain someone in your social sphere is just to handing you a line. It's best having a to maintain your distance and remain skeptical. Don't let flattery sway you. In business, make sure your goal are realistic.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) You spend some time this week tapping your toes, waiting for someone who's not on time for an appointment. Be careful of someone who promises more than can be delivered. This weekend, I avoid mixing business with pleasure.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) In considering your social options, make sure you honor obligations you'd made previously. A financial proposal made this week is really just a long shot. Generally, this is not a good time to gamble.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Sift the person's tastes and through your social invitations and used discretion. If not, you'll find yourself yawning

through a dull, uneventful social gathering. Extra expenses arise in connection with travel for those on the road.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21). In your pursuit of pleasure, be careful not to take unnecessary risks. In romance, you have a tendency to be a bit impulsive this week—which is unlike you and could lead to trouble. Try to be more careful.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) You have time to socialize this waiting week. Yet, you need to spend some time on a work-related project early in the week. Curb your tendency to spend too much when shopping for the home.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) You're having a difficult time making up your mind this week about a purchase you're considering. Seek out a family member's opinions. The weekend favors moderation while out socializing.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Epicurean delights appeal mightily this week. However, exercise some restraint or you face a stringent diet at a later time. This weekend, keep lines of communication open with family members.

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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, March 3, 1997

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written by  
**Tony Kushner**

directed by  
**Martha Banta**

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# STATESMAN SPORTS

MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1997

## MARCH SADNESS

### *The Seawolves Look To Next Year*

**Making an early exit from the playoffs this March, the Seawolves need to address questions for next year's team.**

By SAMI AHMED  
Statesman Staff

After finishing with a record of 10-16 (6-12 NECC), and taking an early exit in the conference playoffs, the Seawolves enter the crossroads of the off-season. Will they improve to a somewhat competitive level of play in their conference or will next year be just a repeat performance of this season?

For the Seawolves to be better next year, 6-11 center Neil Edwards must be more aggressive at the offensive end of the court especially now that leading scorer Brian Hennessey will be graduating. Edwards showed gradual improvement during the year after coming back from a knee injury, his third. For him to continue to get better he must remain healthy. His health problems extend back to his stint at San Jacinto Junior College in Texas before he transferred to USB.

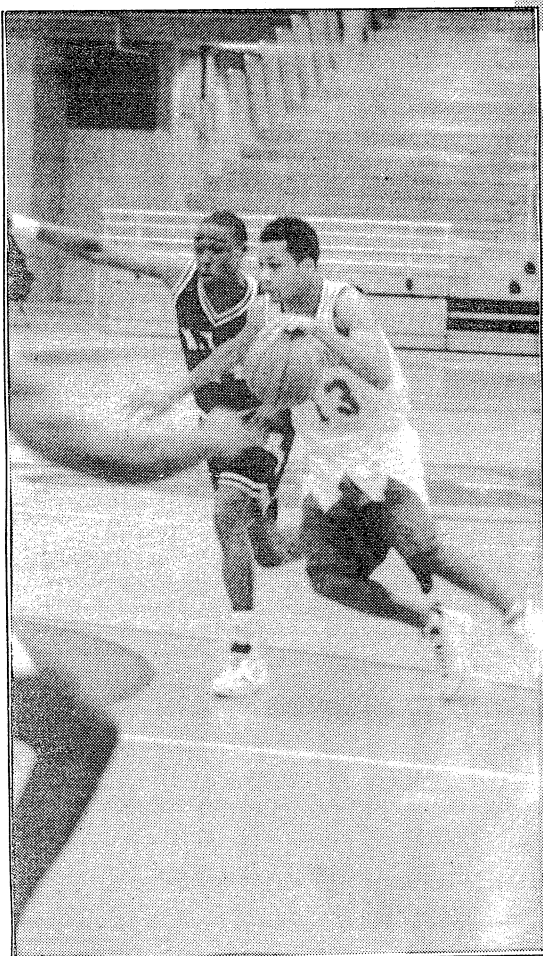
Another key returnee for next season will be point guard Larry Gibson. Coach Bernard Tomlin said it is one of his priorities in the offseason to recruit another point guard to move Gibson to shooting guard every now and then during games. He showed some flashes of brilliance during the year at the offensive end, namely against Keene State in which he scored 24 points. At times during a game he could carry the whole offense. He has excellent moves, but must improve upon his shooting. He shot a career high 37.4% which is not as good as it should be.

One of the few good things to occur during the season was that many of the freshman got major minutes of playing time. One such player was forward Ryan McDermott. Coach Tomlin said that for him to improve he must grow into his body. At 6-7 190 pounds, McDermott was constantly pushed around under the boards by bigger forwards in the conference. Coach Tomlin will need to help the front line by pursuing a power forward this off-season and improve the rebounding woes of the team.

Another freshman who must make an impact next year if the Seawolves hope to improve is guard Rob Hartman. Coach Tomlin said that if Hartman had not gotten a wrist injury late in the year, "He would have been the freshman who showed the greatest improvement as the season went along." He had some good games off the bench and one great one in which he scored 27 points against Bridgeport.

Guard play will be very important next year. With Edwards most likely becoming the focal point of the offense, the defenses of other teams will look to collapse around him and try to keep him from getting the ball. One way to counter that is for the guards to improve their overall 3-point shooting. Freshman Rob Burton is one of many players who the Seawolves will rely upon to fill that role next season. The two-time All-New York State performer from Brentwood High School did not play this season due to a stress fracture. If he can average anywhere near his scoring average of 27 points per game like he did during his senior year in high school he could become one of the team's most important players, but it's too soon to tell.

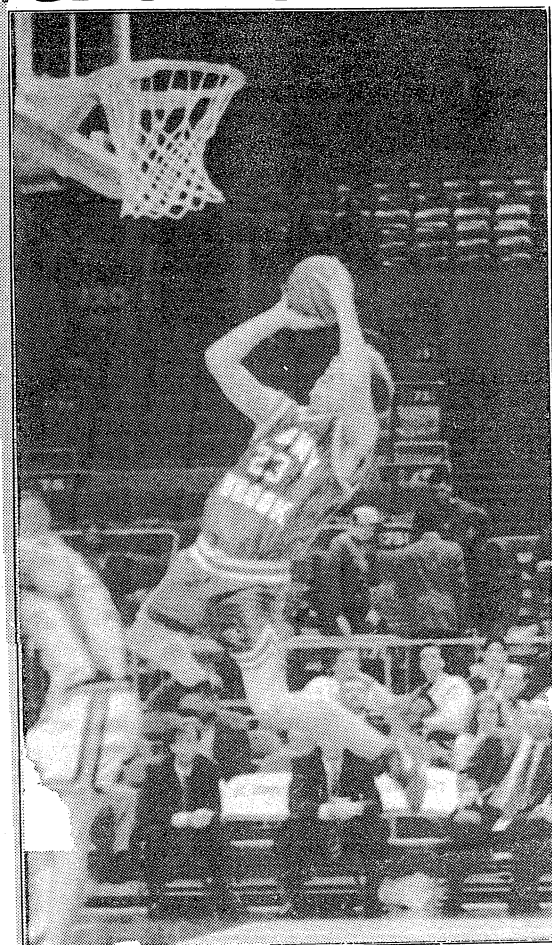
The Seawolves will be a very exciting team to watch next year. If the freshmen continue to improve and the team gets some key recruits, this team could shoot straight to the top.



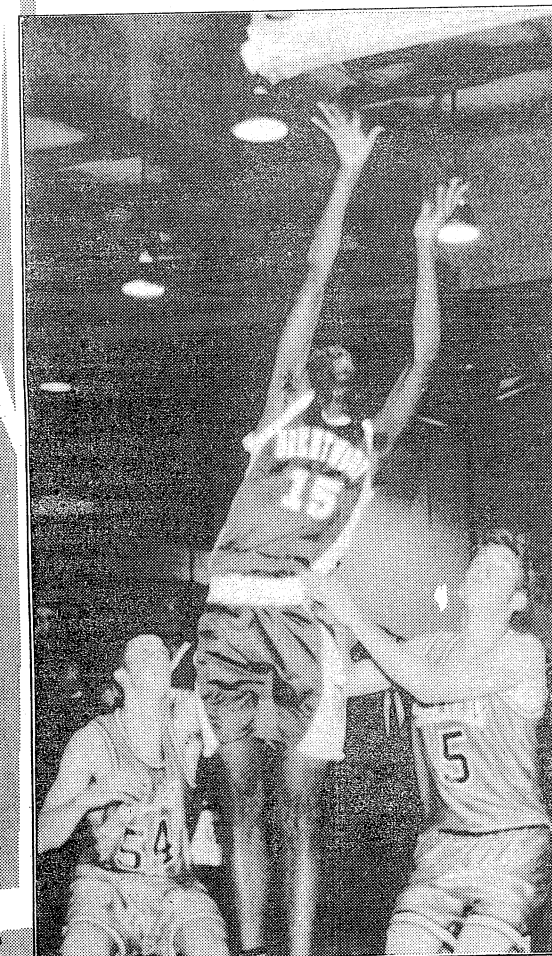
Coach Bernard Tomlin would like to recruit an extra point guard to have the flexibility of playing Larry Gibson(13) at the two guard position sometimes.



Ryan McDermott (dribbling) needs to keep improving to keep from being pushed around by the bigger forwards in the league.



The 'Wolves will miss the deadly long range shooting of Brian Hennessey, who will be graduating.



The anticipated return of Rob Burton(15) next season will provide instant offense to the back-court.