

Statesman

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First Copy Free

Provost Encourages Students to Fight Budget Cuts

By BEN VARGHESE
Special to the Statesman

Last Wednesday, the Student Polity Association commenced their first meeting of the spring 1996 semester. Polity President Annette Hicks gave her President's Report presenting an overview of the many problems that Stony Brook will undergo in the legislature. Hicks discussed the drastic cuts that SUNY is facing and what is being done to remedy the situation.

One of the major proposals is "Rethinking SUNY," which according to Hicks and the literature, is a "mutiyear, comprehensive, systemwide plan to increase cost efficiency" proposed by the State University Board of Trustees. One way this will be accomplished is "by empowering campuses to directly manage more of their academic and financial affairs and eliminating the use of campus and system resources."

Also on hand was Provost Rollin Richmond, who was the guest speaker at the Senate meeting. Richmond was not pleased with the overall state budget outcomes. "I am increasingly



Statesman/Kirk Nechamkin

Provost Rollin Richmond, addresses the Polity Senate at last Wednesday's meeting

unhappy with the direction in which New York State is going. We need to do everything we can to convince our elected legislatures that what's going on here is important . . . I believe that SUNY, in particular will be seriously threatened by the Budget reductions

identified by the Governor and his colleagues . . . we need your help."

According to Richmond, the highest priority is to take action on the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP), which is proposed to be cut by over \$100 million. "The Tuition Assistance

Program is the basis by which this institution is providing access for people of this state to get a good higher education . . . if the state removes this opportunity by taking away the money you need, then we're in trouble." Richmond continuously requested student assistance in this matter.

Almost 95 percent of our money, according to Richmond, is tied up in salaries that are paid to faculty and staff. Richmond said that all the money that goes to academic programs, professors, and the funding which provides the making of telephones, Xerox machines, and computers is \$79 million dollars. This has resulted in a 10 percent cut in the budget, and may call for a reduction in faculty and graduate students. Richmond also pointed out that "of the eight or nine hundred million dollars of the total budget for SUNY, only \$177 million of the dollars, including tuition comes from the state. The rest comes from the faculty and staff." Richmond was then open to inquisition

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Student Senate Takes Control of Student Press

(NSNS)-Journalism students at Eastern Illinois University got a real life lesson in censorship recently when the Student Senate passed a resolution placing all student publications under the control of the student government.

The resolution passed the Student Senate January 16 and was sent to the president's office for final approval. If approved, the resolution will require all student publications—*The Daily Eastern News*, *Warbler*, *Minority Today*, *Heartland* and *Vehicle*—to submit their budgets to the Apportionment Board for approval.

The Apportionment Board is made up of students and faculty appointed by the school president. Critics say the board is just a rubber stamp for the student government.

To journalism students, the resolution equals censorship, but to

the Student Senate, it is a cost-effective decision.

"It was a bad idea, not to mention unconstitutional," said John David Reid, director of student publications. "This is America. We don't want to have the government in charge of the press."

At Eastern Illinois, Student Publications automatically receives \$7.30 per student annually from mandatory student activity fees. Depending on student enrollment, the budget adds up to about \$76,000 a year for all five publications. Supporters of the resolution say that figure is simply too high.

"I'm concerned with lower costs for the students," said Bryan Gutraj, the author of the resolution and a Senate member. "They're spending too much money."

Although Student Senators say they are trying to save Student Publications from spending in a "frivolous manner" by making them accountable to the Apportionment Board, editors at *The Daily Eastern News* tell a different story, saying the paper is barely getting by.

"We don't make any money, we don't pay most of our student employees," said Reid. "And we're unable to upgrade our equipment to keep in touch with new technology."

The Daily Eastern News only

receives less than 10 percent of the paper's \$840,000-a-year budget from student fees. The large majority of revenues are generated by advertising, according to Heidi Keebler, the managing editor of the paper.

"We pretty much sustain ourselves on ad revenue," said Keebler. "The paper has 70 percent ads a day."

Keebler said the budget resolution passed after the paper printed a controversial rumor that black fraternity members must rape a white woman in order to be accepted into the fraternity. The rumor recently surfaced when a white female student was attacked in the student dorms.

"(Critics) said we gave the rumor validity," said Keebler. "But we clarified that (the incident) wasn't a rape and had nothing to do with a black fraternity."

The negative prattle about the article, however, convinced Senate members to vote in favor of the budget resolution.

Keebler said members of the newspaper staff will continue to fight the Senate decision.

"We made it clear that we would go to court," said Keebler. "Taking control (of our budget) doesn't make us accountable (to them)." □

All-Male Admission Policies Being Challenged in Supreme Court

(NSNS) - The United States Supreme Court heard arguments January 17 in a challenge to the Virginia Military Institute's policy of excluding women cadets, setting the stage for a sexdiscrimination ruling later this year, perhaps by June.

Officials of the American Civil Liberties Union testified last week that the constitutional guarantee of equal protection precludes the publicly-funded VMI from maintaining a male-only admissions policy. Supreme Court Justices must decide if a "substantively comparable" program for women at VMI is a lawful solution.

ACLU attorneys urged the court to strike down the male-only policy and issue a decision affirming that discrimination based on gender is illegal.

"The Court should integrate VMI into the 20th century," said Janet Gallagher, director of the ACLU Women's Rights Project. "The idea of setting up separate but 'substantively comparable' education facilities for women is no more acceptable than the 'separate but equal' schools once created for African-Americans."

Founded in 1839, VMI is the nation's oldest military college and one of only two state supported military schools which remain exclusively male. The other is the

Citidel in Charleston, S.C., which will probably be affected by the Court's ruling.

In a highly publicized case, Shannon Faulkner withdrew as the first female cadet at the Citidel last year, citing extreme stress from the experience. Last fall, Jennifer Mandeville enrolled in courses at VMI although she attends nearby Washington & Lee University. □

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School of Dental Medicine sprong classes, late registration and add/drop periods begin (late registration fee assessed).

Catholic Mass at Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2836.

University Senate Meeting. 3:30 p.m. sharp. Room 109, Javits Lecture Center.

Seawolves Men's Basketball vs. Southampton. 7:30 p.m. Sports Complex.

Prepared Childbirth Courses. 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. University Medical Center. Preregistration required. For information call 444-2729.

S.A.I.N.T.S. General Body Meeting. 8:00 p.m. Room 237, Stony Brook Union. 632-7080.

Tuesday, February 6

Grand Rounds in Psychiatry, "Recovery of Past Memories," Dr. Claudette Pierre, principal research support specialist, psychiatry. 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Level 3, Lecture Hall 6, HSC. Call 444-2987.

Catholic Mass at Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2836.

"Look Good, Feel

Better Program," for women undergoing cancer treatment. 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. 15th Floor, North Conference Room, University Medical Center. Free Parking. Call 444-2880.

Free Employee Breast Screening Program will be held from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Surgery Mod, Level 5, University Medical Center. No appointment necessary. For information, call 444-2565.

Wednesday, February 7

Family Medicine Grand Rounds, "Inpatient Presentation," Drs. Lynch, Prentiss, Fadly and Merritt. 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Level 2, Lecture Hall 4, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2300.

National Eating Disorders Screening Program. 10:00 a.m., 12:45 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. Stony Brook Union Auditorium. Free educational presentation, anonymous screening questionnaire, health care professional to discuss responses. For further information, call University Counseling Center, 632-7615.

Campus Now Brown Bag Lunch Meeting. Noon. Room 143-d, Old Chemistry. All welcome.

Catholic Mass at Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2836.

Marine Sciences Research Center Seminar, "Polar Ozone Depletion: Causes, Consequences and Prognostications," Robert Dezafr, professor, Institute for Terrestrial and Planetary Atmospheres. Noon. Room 120, Endeavour Hall, South Campus. Call

Bruce Brownawell, 632-9695 or 632-9411.

Diabetes Support Group. 2:30 p.m. Conference Room 084, 12th Floor University Medical Center. Call 444-1202.

Faculty Colloquium Series Lecture, "Natural Language," Mark Aronoff, professor, Linguistics. 4:00 p.m. Room E-4340, Melville Library. Free. Call 632-7765.

Opening Reception: Latin American Art Exhibit - "Crosscultural Journeys, North and South." 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Travels of two artists (Juan Alberto Mancilla and Judith Burns McCrea) and the influences of the "other" America on their work. LACC Conference Room, Room N-320, Ward Melville Social and Behavioral Sciences. Call 632-7517.

Seawolves Women's

Basketball vs. Bridgeport. 5:30 p.m. Sports Complex.

Intramural Basketball Competitions: Schick Super Hoops, Free Throw Contest, Three Point Shootout, Horse Competition. 7:00 p.m. sharp. Sports Complex.

Call 632-7168.

C.O.C.A. Film, "Strange Days." 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Union Auditorium. Free Admission. Call 632-6472.

Cystic Fibrosis Support Group. 7:30 p.m. Department of Pediatrics Conference Room, Level T-11, Health Sciences Center. Call 757-5873 or 385-4254.

Seawolves Men's Basketball vs. Bridgeport. 7:30 p.m. Sports Complex.

Malik Sigma Psi Fraternity, a forum on women's issues. 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Stony Brook Union Bi-level. Call 632-6828.

New Stony Brook Outdoors Club Informational Meeting. 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Hikers, skiers, cyclists, backpackers, rock climbers, birders, nature

photographers, etc. Room 216, Stony Brook Union. Call David, 632-7813.

Thursday, February 8

FSA Flea Market. 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Stony Brook Union Bi-level. Call 632-6517.

Hospital Chaplaincy Interfaith Prayer Service. Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2836.

Protestant Campus Ministry, Chaplain's Brown Bag Luncheon. 12:15 p.m. Room 157, Humanities. Dessert provided. Call 632-6563.

Campus Support Group for Patients, Family and Friends. 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Level 5, Physical Therapy Department, University Medical Center. Free parking. Call 444-1727.

Hillel Foundation, Jewish "Coffee Talk." 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Room 157, Humanities. Call 632-6565.

"A Tribute to Paul Robeson," with Kenneth Anderson, bass-baritone; Sylvia Olden Lee, accompanist; Dallas Garvin, tenor; Ida Mae Glass, soprano. 7:00 p.m. Celebrates Negor spirituals and Afro-American work songs. Recital Hall, Staller Center. Free. Call 632-7470 or 632-7230.

Juggling Club. 7:30 p.m. Fireside Lounge,

Stony Brook Union.

Minority Planning Board, Unity Party. 10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. Stony Brook Union Ballroom. Admission Charge.

Friday, February 9

Deadline for submission of nominations for Undergraduate Recognition Awards. For forms and information, call Roni Pasckes, 632-6700, or Owen Evans, 632-7080.

Last day for students to file applications for May and August graduation and be included in the May Commencement Program booklet (August applicants are invited to participate in the May ceremonies). Undergraduates file at the Office of Records/Registrar, graduate students at the Graduate School, CED students at the School of Continuing Education, and Health Sciences students at the HSC Office of Student Services.

Malik Week Merchant Day. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Fireside Lounge, Stony Brook Union.

Catholic Mass at Noon. Level 5, Chapel, Health Sciences Center. Call 444-2836.

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Provost Encourages Students to Fight Against Cuts

From POLITY, Front Page

by the senate members. Among the first to speak out was Polity President Annette Hicks who asked what they are doing for many graduating seniors having a hard time getting into courses, especially for DEC requirements. Richmond said, "This has been a problem, and will continue to be a problem for a long time. All I can say is, I think it is immoral for this institution to tell them what courses to take and then not provide the courses. But I assure you that

this is on the top of my agenda. Every time I meet with my colleagues, I say, what can we do provide courses for these students. I'm putting a lot of effort into this matter."

Richmond also proposes revisions in the DEC requirements. According to him, if we actually take a look at the courses that students take to fulfill the DEC requirement, we find that most students are in a limited number of courses. "Only 10 percent of the DEC courses are enrolling 90 percent of the students, which

means that 90 percent of courses have relatively few students." Richmond hopes to reduce the courses required for the fulfillment of a DEC category.

To further stress the issue, Polity Secretary, Keren Solotov, introduced yet another breed of cuts proposed by Pataki: elimination of 139 degree programs in SUNY institutions. In Stony Brook alone, the following degree programs are set to be cut: Atmospheric Sciences/ Meteorology, BS; Comparative Studies in

Literature, BA; Germanic Language & Literature, BA; Humanities, BA; Russian Language & Literature BA; Philosophy, BA; and Theatre Arts, BA.

Also on hand was Vice President of Student Affairs, Fred Preston, who addressed the issue of student parking and buses. "Very clearly, something is going to be done in the way of improving the service of the lots and improving the quality of the waiting areas for buses. The President [Kenny] has been very outspoken in getting this done in a reasonable amount

of time while keeping costs low."

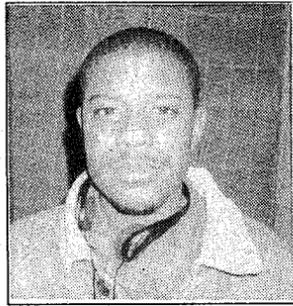
Many proposals were made at the senate meeting, but not much will be accomplished without the active support of the students. As Richmond said, "no one can sell this better than you... You have great leaders here, you have Annette, Nicole; you are going to carry a lot more weight than we do." Hicks added, "we know what's proposed and we know what we're up against." But where will Governor Pataki draw the line? No one knows for sure. □

Statesman Will Be Holding an Open House, on Wednesday, February 7th, at 7:00 p.m. Anyone Who is Interested in Writing or Photography, Should Come to Room 057 of the Student Union.

Oh, and by the way there will be FREE Food.

Campus Voices

Q: Do you think students will be able to beat the record at Break the Attendance Night?



"People tend not to care, especially at sports events, where school morale is needed the most. If they do care, it's for their benefit."

-Dwayne Fortune, 20, Sophomore, Major-Medical Technology.

"It's pretty low. It sucks because a lot of students are commuters, which makes things pretty difficult."

-Chris Graham, 21, Senior, Major-Theater Arts.

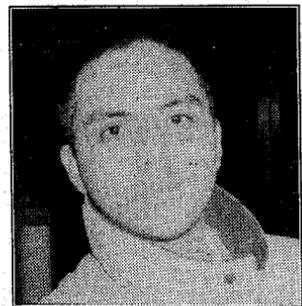


"There's not too many. They're too lazy. They feel that others will participate."

-Mini Thankachan, 18, Freshman, Undeclared.

"I don't think they're involved as much as other schools. In sports, students don't watch and don't support the team probably because we're not Division I."

-Niño Miranda, 20, Sophomore, Major-Economics/Applied Mathematics and Sciences.





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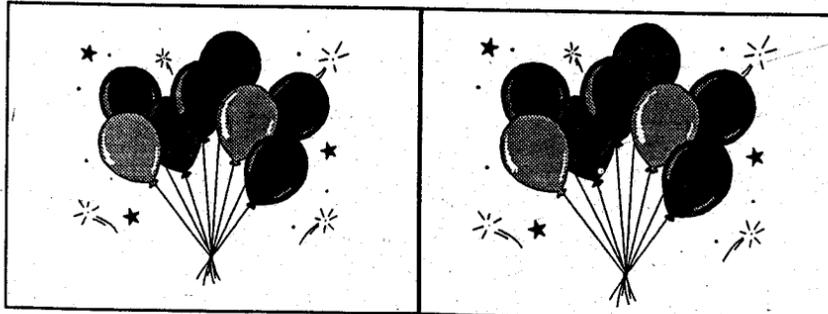
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FSA: Snowing the Students or Plowing Them Under

Do you have a Financial Aid horror story? Are you falling into bad graces with debtors while the University holds your loan money? Give me a call this week (632-6479 or 595-8741). I want to hear your problems!

Now that I have your attention...

Let me start by acknowledging that the Faculty-Student Association does many things in the interests of students. However, most, if not all, of what they do is at the expense of students.

For example, if you go to Basix in the lower level of the Student Union, you can buy postage stamps. I was told by more than one student that Basix was charging 50¢ for a 32¢ stamp.

They weren't when I was there; but, they were charging \$1.00 for three 32¢ stamps.

I called the United States Postal Service Consumer Relations Office. Their retail sales representative told me that as long as the shop is not displaying signs claiming it is not an agent of the U.S.P.S., it can sell postage for greater than face value. "Though I don't know why someone would want to make a profit on postage," she said.

So, once again, like Administration, FSA is not doing anything illegal, but they are profiting at the expense of the students. Chances are, they only stopped charging 50¢ for the 32¢-stamp because the Post Office opened the mini-branch in the library.

Still, "four cents isn't a big deal," you say?

Then take into consideration that on the second level of the Student Union, FSA "provides" a check-cashing service. They also "provide" other services at these check-cashing windows.

"Provide," according to Webster's means "to give." Well, FSA hardly "gives" these services. You are charged for cashing checks. You are charged for money orders. You are charged for everything.

If you want a \$10 roll of quarters, you are even charged 25¢ for the transaction.

\$10.25 for a \$10 roll of quarters?

How much time and effort does it take for FSA to "provide" you with a roll of quarters? Twenty-five cents worth?

I doubt it.

And let me tell you that there are very likely few non-students using these "provided" services. In fact, with all of these fees and charges, is it not possible that FSA "provides" all of their "benefits" at the expense of the students?

It makes one wonder why "Student" is second in Faculty-Student Association.

It makes one wonder why "Student" is listed at all.

Let It Snow?

It should come as no surprise that the campus is a lawsuit waiting to happen. The problem is not the six inches of snow we received Saturday morning, the problem is that Stony Brook's Physical

Plant — or, the "Department Of No'-Transportation" (DON'T — it's not just bad grammar, it's a waste of taxpayers money).

What plowing was done was done poorly. Dumping the mud-sand they use did nothing to improve conditions and will only add to the mess to clean up this spring.

The ineptitude drastically compounded the parking problems, leaving major lots half-plowed and dozens of cars buried in banks.

First, it's obvious that the University has plows. So, why can't they find someone to use them properly? The lot behind the Student Union normally has seven rows of parking spaces. The poor plow job left less than half of them available.

There is absolutely no reason why lots should be half-plowed, dozens of precious few spaces wasted. If anyone could give me a good reason why lots are half-plowed, I think I'd faint.

Why, also, is there no contingency plan for having residents move their vehicles so the plows can remove the snow from resident lots instead of haphazardly burying cars?

It's a new low in admin-student non-relations. It goes beyond inconsiderate and approaches hostile.

The administration wants current student to tell prospects what a great place Stony Brook is. I would not blame residents to tell visitors to look elsewhere. In fact, I would not blame commuters to do the same.

I'm told the University is working on "the little things," like landscaping and signage. Perhaps they should worry about the big

thing — like the students — first.

Applause for New Provost

Yes, the Campus Watchdog is ready to rout out the fungus and the vermin at Stony Brook, but he's also ready to give credit where credit is due.

Wednesday, Provost Rollin Richmond attended the Polity Senate meeting. In my opinion, he not only answered questions honestly, but sincerely and — I feel — with real concern for students' needs.

I think the students may have a new friend in Rollin Richmond.

Time will tell, of course. Let's hope we'll soon see more evidence that Wednesday wasn't just smoke.

Next Week

Where to go next? The Bookstore? The Sociology Department? Parking? The choices are endless.

I will, however, be updating you on some of the topics I've addressed through the first three weeks — especially "Where is your loan money?"

If you have an item for Campus Watchdog, write to Thomas Masse, Statesman, P.O. Box 1530, Stony Brook, NY 11790. Or call Tom at 632-6479 or at 595-8741. If you can't run with the Big Dog, stay under the porch!



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Student Involvement Needed to Combat Cuts

At the latest assemblage of the Polity Senate Wednesday, one message was made startlingly clear: The need to step up efforts to raise the consciousness of the student body at Stony Brook is of paramount importance.

Student Polity Association Secretary Keren Zolotov handed out a folder containing a four-page copy of information headlined by the Student Association of the State University of New York Inc. containing alarming information. It seems that Governor George Pataki and the SUNY Central Administration have been discussing the possible elimination of more than 139 undergraduate degree programs here and across the state.

This proposal, when coupled with the figures released in the latest budget projections, bespeaks an economic austerity that will strip the state system of its ease, openness and vigor. As it stands, that budget proposes more than \$100 million worth of cuts to SUNY, a \$250 tuition increase, and the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) requirements would be restricted. Put together, all students must soberly assess the impact these decisions would have on the trajectory of their educational career.

Most specifically to Stony Brook, the undergraduate degree programs slated for elimination are:

- Atmospheric Sciences/ Meteorology, BS
- Comparative Studies in Literature, BA
- Germanic Language and Literature, BA
- Humanities, BA
- Russian Language and Literature, BA
- Philosophy, BA
- Theater Arts, BA

Provost Rollin C. Richmond was on hand to answer the inquiries of alarmed senators

whose leaders were in universal agreement as to the urgency of the situation. He made repeated calls for student action to counter the cuts and stop the disassembly of higher education in New York. He seemed to be ready fodder for the freshly agitated senators. He was being held accountable for the gross injustice of a plan that he was in no way affiliated with or ready to endorse.

Monique Maylor offered G.R.O.W. (Grass Roots Organizing Weekend) as a ready-made elixir to the problems at hand. If we need student involvement and activity, then this outgrowth of the United States Student Association Foundation with its workshops and free food can certainly do the job. That job is training and organizing students for action.

Freshman Representative Kelvin A. Innocent adds a reprint from the Oct/Nov/Dec issue of "SASU Update" in his January 22, 1996 "What's New" newsletter adding further dimension to an, it seems, all pervading and immanent danger.

In her address welcoming back the Senate, Polity President Annette Hicks called for more action and dedication by students in combating budget cuts and program deletions that would emaciate state education in general.

Looking at the list of programs to be cut across the state it is not clear exactly what criterion was used to strike down degrees as diverse as Physics and Home Economics.

By way of explanation, the Provost used Stony Brook's own Philosophy Department as an example. That department, he said, was exceptionally qualified as measured by the high quality of its graduate students but it unfortunately specialized in an unpopular

style of philosophy called Continental Philosophy.

But what about History at Brockport, Chemistry at Buffalo and French at Albany?

No mention is made of what would happen to students who are now enrolled in these programs or of the faculty and staff whose livelihood depend on them. The senate leaders are obviously banking that their own enthusiasm and leadership abilities are going to siderail the proposed cuts. If students are interested in learning more about the situation than they are encouraged to participate more fully in the Student Polity Association where most of these activists can be located.

In all honesty, you *should* be interested.

The university system that currently serves 380,000 people is under severe stress to redefine itself in light of current economic realities. The state government straining under its own weight and a cessation of funds on the federal level for the same reasons has left the educational mission of SUNY in a quandary.

On the one hand more of a strain is placed on the system purely because all the skills needed in society today requires advanced training and SUNY provides that. But the reluctance of the governing philosophy to expand or even maintain levels of operating capital put the squeeze on those such as President Shirley Strum Kenny.

In the end, though, it must be duly conceded that the cuts and program cancellations are only proposed and not in any way final, as noted by Provost Richmond. But only if *students* put their best effort forward. Let each become involved. And LET EACH BECOME AWARE!

" [The U.S. education system] is always being blasted by the media. . . . Try as we may, it's very hard to get a story on what's going right."

**- Madeleine Kunin
U.S. cabinet official**

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, February 5, 1996

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"Let Each Become Aware"*

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Whittles Cites Polity Leadership, Senate As Reasons For Resigning

To the Editor:

When I first ran for the position of USSA Delegate, I was very happy doing the work I did advocating for the rights of students throughout New York State and the nation. However, in the several months that have passed, I have grown more and more dissatisfied with the leadership of Polity. But before I discuss the reasons for my resignation, I would like to apologize to the students of Stony Brook for abandoning them so abruptly. I am sorry for that, and I truly wish there was some way to avoid this.

Let me begin by saying that Polity is not totally to blame. I have been through quite a lot the past several months, and so my private life, coupled with Polity, has become too much of a strain for me to handle. The reasons for my anger with Polity are many, and I am afraid I can only provide a brief list here. I will start at the top, as there is no better place to begin.

Madame President, I tried this past semester to do everything in my power to make my position a better and more likable one, by starting things like a committee, and trying to organize events on campus. HOWEVER, every time I tried to start something, I would receive no help, and would only hear that I "was not doing enough."

And when I wanted to include people into USSA, such as Phil Russo, your reaction was that you were "not sure" that he was "a real student advocate." Dearest Annette, he was interested in helping, which more than I can say for almost anyone in POLITY, let alone the student body at large. Despite you turning him down, he persevered, and continued to help me. Instead, you apologize for not helping after the fact when it is pointless to do so. Maybe you should stop apologizing and start doing.

Speaking of doing, or lack thereof, I will now discuss my disgust with the Senate. Do any of you in the Senate actually know what power you wield? The answer is apparently a resounding "NO." You all must realize that being a senator is more than going to a meeting once a week. It involves so much more than that.

You must keep in mind that you are a student advocate, and as such should be trying to represent the students of your building, and of your school. You must keep in mind that you are the only group in Polity that can veto the council. How many of you knew that? Perhaps it is because most of you are only first year senators, and maybe I am being a bit harsh, but time and again I asked you for your help and support. And time and again I received little or more likely none.

How much effort does it take to get four signatures, one of which is your own? You all must learn to take a stand, for being a senator involves fighting for what you believe in. For example, the one chance you had this year to make a difference, you voted down. How many of you remember the vote on a letter of complaint to President Kenny regarding Dr. Preston's involvement in the concert process? You could have taken a stand, and proven yourselves as a group of people representing the wants of your constituency, but alas, you did not.

As much as I loathe to say this, I really miss Vinny Bruzzeze being in the Senate. Despite his evil ways, he certainly taught us a lot, and always kept us on our toes. And he was never afraid to stand up for what he believed whether or not everyone else around him agreed. I will miss you as a body, and hope that you will learn to stand up for what you believe in.

Before I leave I have some "Thank You" messages. First, I would like to thank Paul Wright for the many good things he said about USSA and SASU, trying to get us as much publicity as possible on an apathetic campus. I would also like to thank Alexis and Nadira Chandan — they provided so much support this past semester, and helped keep me going as long as I did. I'd like to

say thank you to Andrés Vazquez for his long hours working to find money so that I could get those new flyers or that extra seat on a bus. Then there is Keren Zolotov, you drove me crazy at times, but you taught me quite a lot, I'll miss you.

To Jeanette Galanis and Victor Malison, Presidents of USSA and SASU, you both taught me a lot and I wish I could do more than write a thank you. To the staff of *The Stony Brook Statesman & The Press*, for all the good press you gave SASU and USSA this year. To Stephen Adams, Mary Shearer, and Barbara Mandel for all the fun you provided me this semester and all the support you gave. To Edwin Quinones for sharing his office with me. To SAB for actually attempting to get a concert on campus. And finally, to Frank Maggiore, Heather Olivos, John Guiffo, Lisa Mather, Bryn Martino, and last but not least Miriam Ramirez for all the support and help they provided me this past semester.

Joshua J. Whittles

P. S. To Dave Shashoua. . . I have two words for you, and they are not "Happy Birthday."

Ed. note: Joshua Whittles has served as USSA delegate for Stony Brook since the start of last semester.

Unfair Politics in Sociology Department

To the Editor:

University policy does not always benefit the students here at Stony Brook. We say this, because students registered for Soc 247 received a not so wonderful surprise when they went to class on Tuesday, January 23. The instructor scheduled to teach the class, Jeanice Barcelo, had been removed from her position by the Dean of the Graduate School, Lawrence Martin, the day before the class began.

Mr. Martin has decided to enforce an age old policy concerning graduate student teaching that has never been enforced in the past. The policy states: only graduate students who have advanced candidacy for Ph.D.'s are allowed to teach at the State University of Stony Brook. Jeanice has a Masters in Sociology, a Graduate's Certificate in Women's Studies, and has been teaching effectively, efficiently and comprehensively for four years here at the University. She has accumulated many outstanding evaluations and recommendations from her students and colleagues. Clearly, Jeanice is fully qualified to teach the gender course offered at the University. However, this seldom used political regulation is not only denying Jeanice from teaching, but also denies the students who registered for the course the valuable information Jeanice has to offer.

University students should not be denied an educator who is willing to TEACH, unlike many other "professors" at this University. Andrea Tyree, the Department of Sociology Chairperson, is denying Jeanice the opportunity to address the unhappy students of Soc 247 to explain what is

really going on. Ms. Tyree is denying Jeanice her Constitutional right to free speech granted to all citizens of the United States. Is this University telling its students that qualified teachers are not wanted? Is it denying teachers their civil liberties? From our perspective, yes it is. The bureaucratic structure of this University has stifled the true intent of education, by suppressing the needs of its students, in order to uphold ideals that only support those who already have control. This type of political control circumvents the intent of education when it suppresses its inhabitants.

Claire Libert and Adam Healy

Ed. note: Libert and Healy are TA's who were scheduled to aid the class under Jeanice Barcelo's gender program, who have remained with the new professor for the sake of the class.

Williams' Stance on Abortion Just Plain Ignorant

To The Editor:

I would just like to respond to Mr. Williams' letter on how abortion is not a woman's choice. As I recall, the right to choose an abortion has been available to women since Roe V. Wade in 1973. So yes, not only can a woman make that choice, but she has the right by constitutional law affirmed by the Supreme Court of the United States to make that choice. I don't know where he got the idea that it wasn't a woman's choice — he must not be up on current legislature.

Furthermore, yes a woman's body does in fact reject an unborn fetus — its

called a miscarriage — so not only are you not informed on government issues, but you know nothing about the way in which a woman's body works.

As for pro-lifer's being self righteous, I still stand by that opinion. Why, you ask? Quite simple, the answer is. In the Bible it simply states that "let he who is free of sin cast the first stone" Hmmm, seems to me that humans are all full of sin — therefore, they have no right to judge the actions of others.

And now, last but not least, why I consider your response such an utter insight to ignorance — you are a man. You know nothing about what a woman must go through. No, abortion is not a man's choice, nor will it ever be, simply because men cannot get pregnant. If this is the case, why on earth would it be the choice of a man to have an abortion? Expanding on the point of a man's choice comes the subject of responsibility, most of the women I know who have gotten pregnant were left to deal with the situation on their own. Obviously, these men do not care whether they have a choice or not, since they decide to ignore the problem rather than dealing with it.

Make a mature, rational decision, you say? When one is 17, barely out of high school and her boyfriend leaves her, what rational decision is there? Her family may not be so rational, and just may kick her out of the house, and yes, this does happen. I'm not sure about the women in Mr. Williams' town, but the ones I know are incapable of paying for the costs of having a child, which women are responsible for whether they give the child up for adoption or not. So here you have this young, single mother with no where to go. Hmmm, sounds like a

great life for that child to grow up in. And two lives are forced to suffer because of a stupid, uneducated mistake.

It would be wonderful if the world worked in such a way that pregnancies would always be a joyous occasion, but welcome to the real world, Mr. Williams.

Heather Olivos

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Statesman Features

Monday, February 5, 1996

Five Guys Named Moe Grooves Into Staller Musical Tribute to Jazz Great Gets Audience Singing and Dancing

By CARL CORRY
Special to *The Statesman*

The Main Stage at the Staller Center Saturday night was a conga line fiesta when members of the award-winning "Five Guys Named Moe" got the full-capacity audience singing and dancing.

"Five Guys..." is a tribute to jazz great Louis Jordan and is named for one of his hit songs from the 1940s. Jordan holds the record for Top 10 Rhythm and Blues hits (55) as well as R&B No. 1's (18). He was one of the most influential figures of jazz music and is sorely missed by the jazz community since he died at age 66 in 1975.

The plot follows Lomax (Raun Ruffin), who is dumped by his girlfriend for being a drunken insensitive fool. Listening to the radio and drinking himself into a stupor, Lomax ignores the announcer's warning, "Don't touch your dial." With a loud bang and clouds of smoke, out pop five guys named Moe from behind the radio and the sides of the stage. Dressed in their zoot suits, they arrive in attempts to

save Lomax with advice from Jordan's songs.

Each actor gave justice to Jordan's hit songs. Actors included Angelo A. Adkins as "Four-Eyed Moe," Thierry Laurence as "Eat Moe," Michael A. Shepperd as "Big Moe," Rennard Eric Owens as "No Moe" and Dennis Wilson as "Little Moe." But, as they mention in their first dialogue with the audience, they are "best in harmony." They complimented each other's singing and were well in sync throughout dance numbers.

Each song was also a lesson for Lomax. He was advised in the ways women like to be treated and how to know what type of woman to avoid. Lomax, at first, denies that his actions are offensive, but gradually opens up



Photo courtesy of Five Guys Named Moe

Five Guys Named Moe

to what he is being told.

Toward the end of the first act, the actors get the audience to sing along to the Jamaican beat "Push Ka Pi Shee Pie." Although no one - including the actors - knows what

the song means, sections of the audience competed for the right of being the loudest.

One gentleman, known to us only as Ezra, was brought up on stage with some prodding from the actors when a spotlight found him to be silent during the song. For being a good sport, he was named as an "Honorary Moe." After Ezra's performance, the audience was invited on stage for an immense conga line. Half of the audience gratefully accepted, while the other less indulgent half was satisfied with dancing and clapping in their seats.

At the opening of Act II, the audience was treated to solos by the six piece touring orchestra, led by musical director/pianist Terry Hanson. Jamie Dubberly on trombone slid into harmony with trumpeter Mark Hoke and saxophonist John

Isles. Mike Dees on drums and Dan O'Brien on bass completed the jazz theme. The group is centered among light-blue colored sky scrapers seemingly in a dance.

Realizing what the others are trying to tell him, Lomax starts cleaning himself up by tucking in his shirt and buttoning his sleeves while on the way to The Funky Butt Club with the Guys.

After a number of songs like "Let The Good Times Roll," "Is You Is or Is You Ain't Ma' Baby" and "Caldonia," the Guys bring up three ladies from the audience. As if to make things even, the actors warn the ladies of the dangers of men.

By the end of the play, Lomax has realized his errors and wants to make things right with the woman who left him. He admits his love for her and everything is well. With their job done, the Guys return from whence they came.

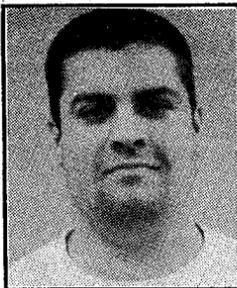
In all, "Five Guys Named Moe" is a fun and tune-filled romp. It is welcome around this neighborhood anytime. □

Catchy Titles, Killer Cover Art and Great Music

Every week the ethic is the same: I compile current music from across the United States, the United Kingdom and Europe; sort through the great wake of albums; make lots of calls and come up with the material that you should (and most importantly, need to) listen to. Every now and then, I get really fired up for a particular installment. Hold on to your genitalia. I'm about to lose it — no, for real.

All right, the album came out in July of 1995 and numerous publications have written about it — now it's my turn. Labeling occurs frequently within the music business in order to draw more listeners. No dice in this case. **Purple Bosco** has dropped a bomb into the traditional one-sided vat of Ovaltine, shattering stereotypes, with *Deeper*, released under I.R.S. Records. From start to finish, this noggin-buster will entice you with soul and funk relentlessly and force the most nocturnal conservatives within the music community to step out into the light.

"Tell Me Something" occupies only one area of this



TURN IT UP
&
PASS IT ON
RON STRAUSS

"Younger Man" and "All I Want" toy with soul, reggae, blues and whatever else tries to get in their way. I suggest

"rolling a perfect" for these, but I'm always looking for an excuse for that. This album will make you a candidate for serious therapy, send you on a skull-denting jolt into the world of funk and

soul and induce paraplegics to walk again. There is too much energy here. Someone get me a tranquilizer! Also, if you let the album play out, there is a bonus track hidden in the CD, after your journey ends. Enjoy.

Purple Bosco will be plucking and stomping their way through the West Coast with **The Line and Flat Broke**, playing in engagements as part of Reality Snowboards concert tour of the western U.S. ski resorts — maybe you'll be in the area. They have

played past engagements with **Weezer** and **Sublime**.

There is a little jovial block that has existed for years. It is the block that has housed such artists as the **Gin Blossoms**, **Blind Melon** (a most unfortunate situation) and others. You know

that comfortable little neighborhood. It's the one where all the inhabitants sit in green pastures licking oversized lollipops, while gazing up at cloudless skies, without a care in the world. The **Daisies**, who hail from Oxford, England, are looking to take up residence and set up a solid picket

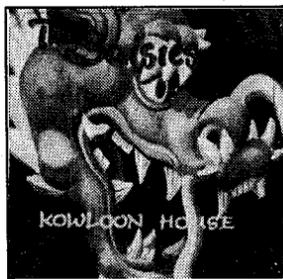
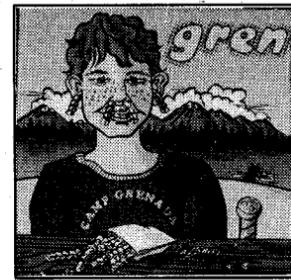
fence.

Their debut LP, *Kowloon House*, offers an interesting adventure into the happy-pop genre. It's not overly done and is easily digestible. "Aeroplane Day" and the title track, "Kowloon House," provide clean alternative vibes and rhythms that mirror **Toad The Wet Sprocket**, combining raw talent and a

definite knowledge of what "the younger generation" wants to hear. Jamie Hyatt (vocals, guitars), Mark Willis (guitars), Dan Kemp (bass) and Simon Wickerson (drums) have a well-rounded sound, culminating blue-grass at times to escape from being labeled as "another one of those bands."

The **Daisies** have played past engagements with **Radiohead** and in all likelihood will soon enjoy success in the U.S.

Camp Grenada, the new LP from **Gren**, has been on a ferocious tear. I love this sucker. It's totally carnivorous and nasty — not to mention well produced. I



Dissection Rages on Storm of the Light's Bane

By MARC WEISBAUM
Statesman Staff

What's left for you to do when you finally get something that you've been anxiously awaiting? Criticize it to no end? Sit back and enjoy it? Wait for something new?

That's exactly the predicament that the black metal community has been trapped in. With the release of Emperor's *In The Nightside Eclipse* domestically about a year ago, nobody has known where to go since. What could possibly top, or even match for that matter, that album? While there have been slews of new black metal releases, few have been of any merit worth mentioning.

Sweden heard our cries and answered the best that they could. **Marduk** stepped up to the plate with their offering *Opus Nocturne*. A lightning fast exercise in speed, the album tore most of the competition to pieces, but some of us still were not satisfied.

Our prayers have finally been answered with the release of **Dissection's** sophomore outing, *Storm Of The Light's Bane*.

Hailing from the same neck of the woods as **Abruptum**, **The Black**, and **Marduk**, Dissection has carved out (pun intended) an identity all their own.

The eight-song affair opens with an instrumental, "At The Fathomless Depths." The next track, "Night's Blood,"

was previously included on the *Death Is Just The Beginning Volume 3* compilation and displays Dissection at its best. The perfect marriage of speed and melody ties the song together and even brings to mind a cross between **Sepultura's** "Beneath The Remains," from the album of the same name, and **Immortal's** "Unsilent Storms In The North Abyss," from their ferocious album, *Pure Holocaust* — if you can imagine this hybrid.

The following track, "Unhallowed" is a whirlwind of speed, but the band is competent enough to take a song of such tempo and keep it from coming across as generic. The fourth track, "Where Dead Angels Lie" is another previously released track from a compilation on Wrong Again Records. It takes the listener midway through the album and continues to pummel for another four tracks.

So what sets this band apart? Musicianship elevates Dissection above their peers. This band is tight as Hell (alright, another bad pun). Drummer **Ole Ohman** (since replaced by **Swordmaster's Tobias Kellgren**) is blindingly fast and solid, meshing together with **Johan Norman's** and **Jon Nodtveid's** (who also does vocals) dual guitar attack. As for bassist **Peter Palmdahl**, this is one of the first stylistically black metal albums where you can hear the bass playing. It is also one of the only albums of this nature that doesn't simply consist of one blast

beat after another. Sure, there are songs with blasts in them, but the band is mature enough that they are past that speed/heaviness belief that many bands appear to be stuck in. Rather, the band judiciously uses speed; "Night's Blood" being testament to this fact.

What else sets them apart? Unlike many other albums being released from Norway and Sweden, the sound quality is crystal clear. For some unknown reason, many bands from those countries hold the belief that their albums should lack good sound quality, which is something nobody seems to fully grasp. Perhaps Dissection has a larger budget because they are carried by

a larger label (Nuclear Blast) as opposed to No Fashion Records, who released their debut full-length, *The Somberlain*.

Still not convinced? Black metal isn't your bag? Well, the band isn't exactly black metal. Their music certainly does borrow heavily from that extreme genre, but they put a much greater emphasis on melody. They are leading the new wave of bands, such as **In Flames**, out of Sweden, who are more similar stylistically to **Entombed** circa *Left Hand Path* or *Clandestine*.

While the band is affiliated with the

See STORM, Page 12

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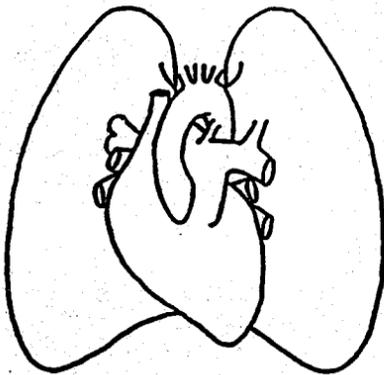
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If you would like to place a classified, please call Frank at 632-6480.

Statesman will be holding an Open House on Wednesday, February 7. If interested come down to Room 057 in the Student Union at 7 p.m.



Photo / Nuclear Blast America

Dissection Rages

STORM, From Page 9

black metal genre, it would much rather choose to let its music do the talking, not its actions.

For those of you who are intimidated by the intensity of this music—if Dissection doesn't break the ice for you, nothing will!

DISCOGRAPHY: *Into Infinite Obscurity* 7" EP (Corpsegrinder

Records)
The Somberlain LP (No Fashion Records)
Storm Of The Light's Bane LP (Nuclear Blast) □

CONTACT: Dissection
 c/o Jon Nodtveidt
 P.O. Box 8723, 40275
 Gothenburg, Sweden

Turn It Up

GREN, From Page 8

think Tom O'Heir (who has produced albums for **Belly** and **Dinosaur Jr.**) may have had something to do with it. They pump out this retro-pop-punk meteorite totally ambivalent and disconcerted.

Webster's fine publication offers me no answer to what a "gren" is, but lead singer and guitarist, Brett White, has his own explanation: "It's the sound of your thumb being stuck in a doorjamb." That's a pretty damn big thumb, my friend.

Songs such as "Pop Songs" and "Ego" have finally proven once and for all that their life after **Green Day** — and just in time. They are the perfect sedative to our current "situation." "She Shines" has been a significant accomplishment from this band of merry men. Marcus Gonzales (bass) and Possum (drums) — yet another alias — team up with White to sift

their way through the soot to defy preconceived notions about pop-punk, break the myths and set new standards within the industry. The results speak for themselves: sales are up, the video has been added to MTV's 120 Minutes, Q104.3FM has added it to their playlist and L.A. already knows how good they are. In addition, they played some dates last summer with the **Ramones**.

That's it for this week. Special thanks to Jeneane Ardolino and Nathan over at I.R.S Records, who live up to what they say (and most importantly, send me the material when they say they will).

Next week: *Combine, Buzzcocks and Limblifter.* □

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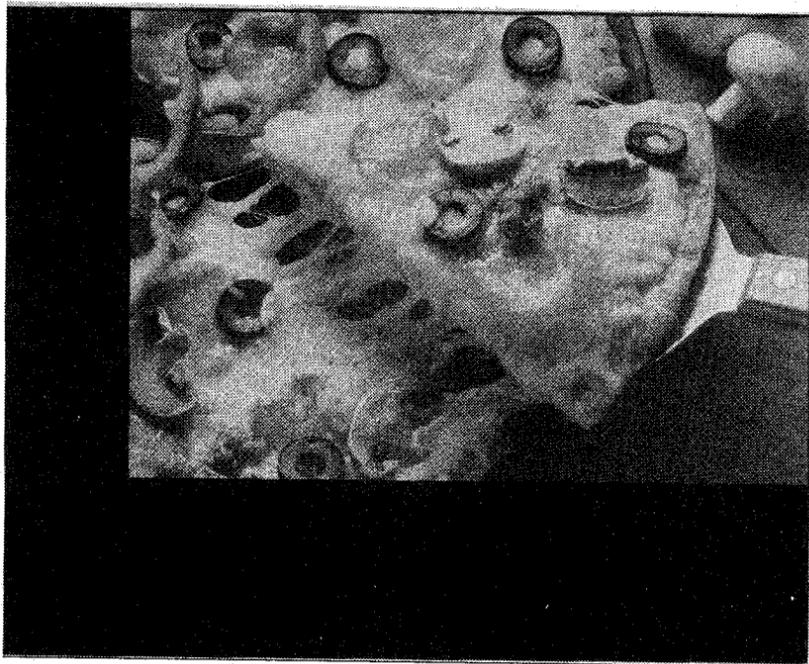
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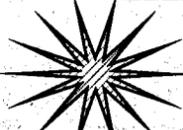
find out which are true.

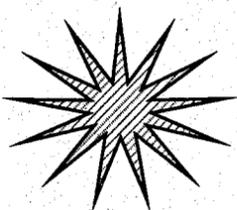
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STONY BROOK SPORTS BRIEFS

Men's Basketball Long Season Continues

The Seawolves came close to upsetting conference rival Sacred Heart Sunday, but fell short and lost 74-70.

Devon Gibbs hit a jumpshot with 5 minutes remaining to give Stony Brook a 56-55 lead, but Sacred Heart hit 10 of 12 free throws in the final minute and a half to put the game away.

Larry Gibson had 18 points, 4 three-pointers and 5 assists. Orlando Reid also scored 18 points and had 8 rebounds. Marc Blot pulled down a team-high 15 rebounds and Eric-

Austin Johnson had 9 points on three three-pointers.

Men's Swimming

The men's swim team closed out their double-meet season with a 127-100 point loss to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Alex Mills won the 200 Butterfly in a time of 2.05 and led a four-man team of Greg Bird, Mark Sutura and William Dawkins to the win in the 400 relay in 3.3077.

Intramurals

Stony Brook has the largest turnout in intramural basketball this year with 53 teams. There will be 4 Divisions of competitions - Co-ed, Fraternity, Men's Independent and Men's Resident.

Wallyball will have only 2 divisions, Co-

eds and Men's. Schedules will be posted on Monday outside the Intramural Office. Teams should come down to copy their schedules.

Roster additions will be allowed until the team's second game. A reminder to graduates, faculty and staff - if you have not paid your \$6 participation fee this academic term, it must be paid before you can play. Forms to order t-shirts are available in the intramural office. Orders must be in by Wed. Feb. 7th. Stop by the office for more information.

On Wed. Feb. 7th at 7 pm in the Pritchard Gymnasium, the Intramural Tip-Off Tournament will be held. In a full night of basketball action, the Schick Super Hoops 3 on 3 Tourney, the Three Point Shoot-out, the Free

Throw and Horse competitions will also be played. There will be a women's and a men's division and will be open to all Stony Brook students, faculty and staff. There will be no fee to play.

Schick Super Hoops is a half-court game played by two teams of three players and one substitute. Registration will begin at 7 pm that night. The first 100 registrars will receive Tip-Off Tournament t-shirts. Please bring Stony Brook ID! Winners of the 3 on 3 Tourney will receive Schick Super Hoops t-shirts and shorts. Winners of the other contests will get Intramural shorts. Call or stop by the Intramural office for more details and rules. -By Aimee Brunelle

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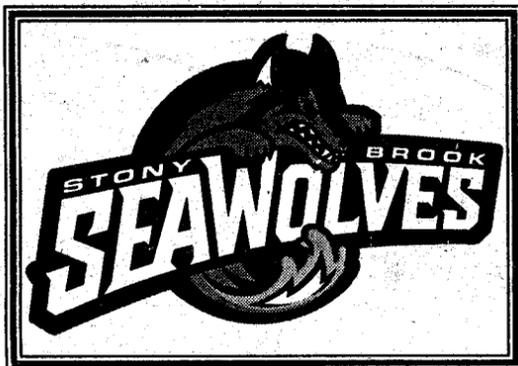
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Statesman SPORTS

Monday, February 5, 1996

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK BY DAVE CHOW

Dawne Thomas is as natural an athlete as they come. Her lean, muscular body is a pantheon to physical power. When striking an imposing stance either on a soccer field or on the hardwood of a basketball court, her body seems to dare her opponents and say, "yeah, go ahead and try." Even when Stony Brook's most notable two sport star is off the field and in her normal everyday trappings, she conveys the presence of something perpetually smoldering.

But as imposing as she can look, on a personal level her aura undergoes a miraculous transformation - where an intense storm rumbles on the outside, inside the eye is revealed to be as pleasant as a spring's day. A smile from Thomas can light up a room of any size.

Recently, the senior forward has been playing some of the best basketball of her Stony Brook career. Last week against Keene State and Franklin Pierce she scored a double double with 13 points and 12 rebounds, and 12 points and 6 rebounds, respectively. Also, in a game against Queens College, she scored 6 points and pulled down 6 rebounds. She is the **Stony Brook/Statesman Athlete of the Week**.

Thomas grew up in Grenada and moved to the States in 1991. She attended Nassau Community College in '92-'93 and '93-'94, before transferring to Stony Brook. Her first

year at Nassau she lettered in track and field, soccer and cross country. It wasn't until her second year that she started getting the playing time in basketball and soccer and began to truly stand out. In her sophomore season she started on both teams and earned regional honors. For basketball she was an All American nominee. In track she was team MVP, and overall, she was Nassau's Female Athlete of the Year.

All the more remarkable is the fact that she never played organized basketball or soccer before college.

Thomas explained that where she grew up, she just didn't have the opportunity. "In Grenada they didn't have sports for girls. I always liked soccer and sometimes I would play with friends in the streets."

She walked onto her teams at Nassau, and

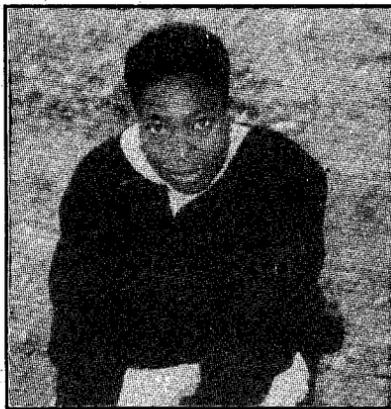


Photo Courtesy of Sports Information

Dawne Thomas

when she transferred to USB to earn her four year degree, she did the same for soccer and basketball here.

Since her arrival for the '94-'95 season, her talent and potential has been noted with extra regard. In her first season in basketball she played in all 25 games and was the second leading scorer among returning players. Regardless of her inexperience, people always expected something a little more from her on the court. For

a majority of her USB career she has been coming off the bench. Only until now, in the past four games, has she finally solidified a spot in the starting rotation. Thomas readily admits that the difference has been her focus.

"I have been more composed recently. Before I lacked composure. My playing has settled down and I can now incorporate things my coaches have been telling me." Thomas also admits she had had an added pressure on her, knowing how others scrutinized her a little

more closely than ordinary players. "because of that I tried hard to play as well as others expected me to play. But it sort of helped me in a way. It makes you feel good that someone expects you to do well."

Thomas expects the Seawolves to get it together and finish the year strong. "I hope we will make our conference playoffs. The season has been tough because a lot of the competition has been above us. Because we have more experience as a team we should get better."

I have some goals, but I don't want to say, because I don't think it's good to open a door before you go through it."

Thomas would like to thank soccer coach Sue Ryan and Sally Flaherty of the Athletic Department for the support they have given her. Ryan and Thomas have remained close friends even after the close of the season, and Flaherty has provided help for her in academics.

In closing she admits one thing that has greatly irked her about Stony Brook. "I feel it is disrespectful how the fans have not come out and supported us. It is important for a team when fans come to see them. When they are there, referees are afraid to make some calls and also it give energy to the team. So I would like more people to come out to the gym." □

Fox Trax; A New Ice Age Has Cometh

Deep in his own defensive zone, Brian Leetch retrieves the puck and sends a soft, blue touch-pass cross-ice to Ray Bourque. Bourque, a defenseman for the Boston Bruins, evades a forechecking Jeremy Roenick and sends a 75-mph-plus red laser of a pass back to Leetch. Bourque's pass appears to have eyes on it as the puck squarely catches the tape of Leetch's stick.

Leetch stickhandles his way up ice, the New York Rangers defenseman deftly maneuvering the ghostly blue puck from his left to his right and back again. Leetch spots Pittsburgh Penguins dynamo Jaromir Jagr breaking off the wing into the offensive end of the ice and delivers a beautifully precise pass that crosses the blueline a split-second before Jagr does, narrowly avoiding an offside call.

Jagr is shadowed by AlMcInnis, but Jagr avoids the St. Louis Blues defenseman by skating around the back of the net, where he finds Bourque open on the blueline. Bourque sits on Jagr's pass and, in an instant, the puck turns from a soft blue to a fierce red as Bourque one-times it, sending a laser blast on goal to sitting-duck netminder Ed Belfour.

Belfour, the perennial All-Star goalie of the Chicago Blackhawks, somehow manages to catch up with the fireball and gets a glove on the shot, deflecting the puck into the stands. The puck appears to explode, turning from blazing red to a blue blur the second it hits Belfour's glove.

On January 20, 1996 the NHL

unveiled their on-ice answer to Pro Football's ill-fated instant replay experiment of a few year's ago - Fox Trax. In an attempt to sway a new core of viewers to the hottest game on ice, Fox TV introduced an electronic puck that on-screen appears as a blue "blur" or "glow." When the Fox Trax travels in excess of 75 mph, a red "laser" or "comet" appears.

The above sequence of events occurred in the third period of the NHL All-Star game, the introduction site of Fox Trax. And while reviews on the puck have been mixed, - "the blue blur is annoying" or "it's too much like a video game" - the Fox Trax gives the viewer a visual sense of the game's speed like never before.

"You've got to try new things," NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman said in the January 29 issue of *The Sporting News*. "We have a fast-paced, hard-hitting, exciting game. If people give us a chance, then chances are good we can turn them into fans - and that's the way we will grow."

The Fox Trax is not geared for the die-hard purists of the sport who complain that the game is becoming too gimmicky, it is clearly intended for the casual fan, who's chief complaint is usually their inability to follow the puck. But even the long-time followers of hockey, like myself,

can appreciate the enhancement of the puck for what it provides the viewer - an up-close look at a game that is far more intricate than what normally appears on the TV screen.

Only with Fox Trax can the viewer see the velocity of a Mark Messier wrist shot as the puck turns a blaring red, or a deflection in front of the net as a Paul Coffey comet-tail slapshot turns blue as it tips off the stick of Sergei Fedorov. Only with Fox Trax can someone see the wild, unorthodox combination of NHL, MTV, Steven Spielberg and Star Wars rolled into an eye-

appealing technological orgy. The Fox Trax is a normal NHL puck that is sliced in half and hollowed out. Inside, a circuit board that is slightly bigger than a quarter is connected to emitters and a battery. There are 12 dots inserted around the perimeter and four on each side of the puck. Sensors on top of the plexiglass track the \$100 puck, receiving signals 30 times a second from the infrared emitters in the puck.

It remains to be seen whether Fox Trax is just a passing gimmick or a permanent inclusion into the fastest game on skates. Despite the fervor the futuristic puck has created in the hockey world, the Fox Trax does have its shortcomings. One change that I would like to see is making the Fox Trax puck a black

blur instead of blue. The blue is distracting to the eyes, and using the regular color of the puck would lessen the video-game appearance.

But even if that color change is made, it is still impossible to tell whether or not Fox Trax will ever venture beyond the intrigue stage; whether or not it will ever be used for more than special situations, ie: all-star games, skill competitions, etc.. More importantly, it is impossible to tell whether or not the Fox Trax should be used for more than special circumstances. I guess only time will tell.

But until then, a brand new Ice Age has begun. Ready... or not.

The Inside Scoop of the Year: The Cube has received information from a reliable source that the C.W. Post football team, who will play Stony Brook at Seawolves Field next year, will receive the services of the second string quarterback from Division I powerhouse Florida. It was two years ago that C.W. Post was involved in a similar situation with another quarterback, Perry Klein, who now plays in the NFL with the Atlanta Falcons. Klein transferred from D-I Cal in order to position himself for the NFL draft. I guess it worked for him. The Cube will keep you up to date as more information becomes available.

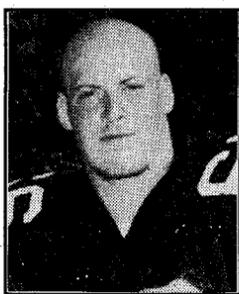
Sports Journalism Reaching The "Critical" Point:

In the sports journalism profession it has become increasingly

fashionable to be a cynic. No local writer is better evidence of this theory than Rob Parker of *Newsday*. His columns commonly appear to have no rhyme or reason, and on Wednesday, Parker reached a new low. The day after Magic Johnson returned to the NBA following a four-year absence that was brought about by his contracting of the HIV-virus, Parker ripped Johnson apart for not being the same player that he was in his heyday. The article, titled "Slowtime," went on and on about how Johnson shouldn't have returned.

In my opinion, it is about time the constant critical view of sports ceased. Here was the first publicly known HIV-Positive athlete to play a major professional sport in America. It also happened to be Magic Johnson, one of the most renown athletes in the world. And in his first game, the night before the Parker column was in *Newsday*, the Johnson-led Lakers set an NBA season-high for assists in a game with 44. The number of stories that could be written about Johnson were endless. And the only thing that Parker could come up with was "Slowtime?"

Sports journalism is indeed reaching the critical point. It's time for Sports editors at the major publications to take notice - give the people what they want. Rob Parker and his bland brand of cynicism is not it, that's for sure. □



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