

# Statesman

Volume XL, Number 54

Thursday, May 1, 1997

First Copy Free

## India Studies Center Officially Opens

By S. N. SRIDHAR  
Special to the Statesman

On Saturday, approximately 600 Long Islanders cheered as India's Consul General in New York, Harsh Bhasin, lighted an ornate brass lamp, symbolically dedicating Stony Brook's new Center for India Studies. "From now on, there will be two Indian flags in my consular area," he said. "One at the Consulate in Manhattan, the other, the flag of intellect, will fly at Stony Brook." He will donate a 100-volume set of the collected works of Mahatma Gandhi and will help in the offering of courses on current affairs in India.

"It has given the 600+ Indian undergraduate students a focus, pride, and an identity. It will benefit students years from now. I feel proud, knowing that I helped lay the foundations for it," said Seema Pradhan, a junior studying medicine.

The establishment of Stony Brook's India Center has been hailed as an extraordinary accomplishment considering the climate of severe cutbacks. It is the fruit of a two year campaign by student activists, professors, and leaders of the Indian community, who worked in concert with

University President Shirley Strum Kenny, to transform a pipe dream into a reality.

The Center, located in the library on the fifth floor, has a library, reading room, multimedia lab, research and publications unit, and a development office. It aims to promote a better understanding of India by creating opportunities and resources for studying India. The Center's current projects include editing a survey of Indian civilization for the general reader, and a brochure documenting highlights of India's Freedom Revolution, both sponsored by the Association of Indians of America.

Introducing the Center, Professor S.N. Sridhar observed that India's fight for freedom is usually referred to as a "movement," or a "struggle," but never as a "revolution." The Center will work to correct distortions in the representation of India, without becoming parochial. Values, such as academic freedom, were often talked about as if they were uniquely Western, but India had a distinguished tradition of intellectual debate, right from the Upanishad times, which date back as far back as 1000 BC. The opening of the Center signified the opening of minds toward India and the



Courtesy of News Services

Last weekend, hundreds were on hand for the inauguration of the India Studies Center.

Center will strive to broaden scholars' world-view to include Indian thought and experience.

"These are exciting times for Asian Studies," said Kenny at the ceremony. She said Stony Brook was committed to building

a strong Asian Studies Program. "The Stony Brook India Center's pragmatic and integrated vision, encompassing the arts, humanities, sciences, medicine, commerce

See STUDIES, Page 2

## Pataki Chooses New Chair for SB Council

By ROB ANDERSON  
Statesman Staff

This past January, Stony Brook Alum Richard Nasti was appointed chairman of the Stony Brook University Local Council by Governor George Pataki. A 1978 graduate, Nasti is unparalleled in a myriad of accomplishments. As a double major

in political science and in economics, Nasti graduated summa cum laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average. He received a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law.

In his appointment to the Chair, Nasti explained "some of the main goals are to advocate for Stony Brook's advancement

and fundraising. This gives me a chance to do something specifically for the University at Stony Brook. There are many important issues that go further than tuition, for instance... "the future of the Hospital." Nasti continued, "in order to make this council work we have to be pro-active. I think I can help be effective in both the State and Federal Government and with the Administration."

In the early 1980's, Nasti served as chief council to United States Senator Alfonse D'Amato where he was responsible for the drafting of federal legislation introduced and passed by Senator D'Amato. Nasti was appointed Regional Administrator of the Urban Mass Transportation Administration (UMTA), by President Reagan, in 1984. He served as the chief federal transit official for New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and the Virgin Islands with an annual budget exceeding one billion dollars. Nasti served as Vice President in the Municipal Finance Department of PaineWebber, served as the Vice President and General Manager of the New York Post and now serves as the Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of H.J. Kalikow and Co., LLC, a major real estate development, construction and management firm in New York City.

Nasti served on the Board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. He also served on the Transportation Transition Committee of Governor George

Pataki.

When asked about the restraints the University has on spending without SUNY Central's approval, Chairman Nasti said, "we have to help sort out what the University can do without SUNY Central. The University should keep more of the budgetary percentages if we can handle the task at hand. I know Governor Pataki understands the critical importance of the University at Stony Brook. He has been very supportive of Stony Brook with many visits including a visit with a forty million dollar check which made construction for the new BiO-Tech. Center possible." Doug Little, Assistant Director University Police in charge of Community Affairs, said, "Rick Nasti is actively involved in the community. He goes beyond the board room taking special interest in students. It is wonderful to see an alum return to the University with the degree of dedication Rick extends toward our students and campus. He has conveyed a real concern

See Chair, Page 2

## Golden Key Receives Honors

By BIANCA LOBO  
Special to the Statesman

Earlier this month, Golden Key members from across the Eastern Region gathered together at the Rutgers University Campus in New Jersey, to celebrate their annual conference. Colleges and Universities as distant as West Virginia, Massachusetts, Georgia and Pennsylvania were represented at this event which turned out to be a success.

This was an especially momentous occasion for the Golden Key Society at Stony Brook, because it was here that the Stony Brook Chapter received two outstanding awards. Stony Brook was voted "Best First Impression as a Chapter" and Chapter Advisor Paul Chase was selected for the title of "Academic Coordinator for the Eastern Region."

Club President Hannah Morel who accepted the award on behalf of Golden Key, said, "This is truly an honor for which the Golden Key Society at Stony Brook as well as the entire campus community should be proud."

The Award for "Best First Impression as a Chapter," was presented in lieu of the excellent service and hard work that went into planning the 1996 Induction Ceremony.

The three day conference, at which at least 200 delegates attended from all over the Eastern region, consisted of seminars, workshops, and social events. It was an exciting opportunity for Golden Key members to learn a lot while interacting with students from all over the region and participating in a wide range of fun activities.

The Golden Key Society, is a nationally recognized Honor Society which strives to promote academic excellence and a strong sense of community. Although selective in its membership, its wide range of programs and events are open to anyone who is interested. It has sponsored events such as the March of Dimes, Foreign Student Services Orientation, food drives, etc. For more information, students are encouraged to contact the Office of Academic Advising at 632-7084. □

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# India Studies Center Opens

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world-view to include Indian thought and experience.

"These are exciting times for Asian Studies," said Kenny at the ceremony. She said Stony Brook was committed to building a strong Asian Studies Program. "The Stony Brook India Center's pragmatic and integrated vision, encompassing the arts, humanities, sciences, medicine, commerce and technology, will make it a leader in the next generation of India Studies programs," Kenny said, vowing to make it the best in the nation. She proposed the Charles Wang Asian American Center - which is distinct from, but complements the India Studies Center - will feature state of the art facilities.

Dr. Azad K. Anand, Chair of the India Studies Foundation, who helped raise \$100,000 at a recent Shanti Fund event, said that the Stony Brook India Studies was a top priority for the Indian American community on Long Island. He complimented Kenny on her vision and leadership. He felt that the Stony Brook model of creating an India Studies program that directly benefits students from day one by offering a range of courses and

activities was perhaps a more feasible model of partnership between the community and public universities than instituting a Chair.

Dr. V.S. Arunachalam, Distinguished Professor of Engineering and Public Policy at Carnegie-Mellon University, delivered the inaugural address. He said that India missed out on the Industrial Revolution and inherited impossible odds, such as its population and illiteracy. It has not had as much time with democracy as the United States, nor did it adopt totalitarian policies like China or the former Soviet Union. "The real winners are the people of India, who have preserved democratic institutions."

The audience was thrilled by an inspiring video made at the Center by Ashu Patel, an undergraduate student, chronicling the evolution of student activism and its successful outcome.

The program concluded with a three part concert, featuring Daisy Paradis on the sitar and Tapak Modak playing the tabla. There was also vocal music by Dr. Aruna Sharma, a teacher of an Indian Music Course at the University, and a Kathak dance by Trupti Sevak. □

# Pataki Appoints New SB Council Chair

From CHAIR, Front Page

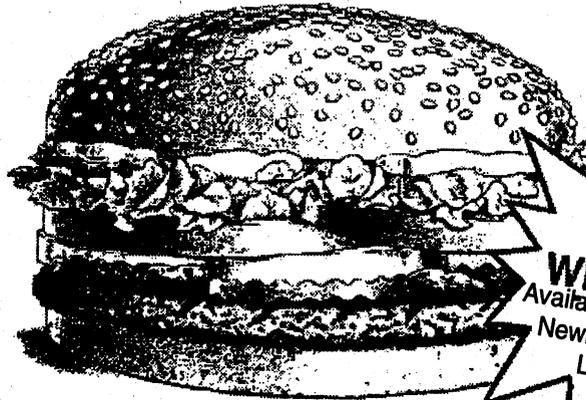
Assistant Director University Police in charge of Community Affairs, said, "Rick Nasti is actively involved in the community. He goes beyond the board room taking special interest in students. It is wonderful to see an alum return to the University with the degree of dedication Rick extends toward our students and campus. He has conveyed a real concern for everyone's personal safety and success". University President Shirley Strum Kenny said, "Rick has come in with such energy and enthusiasm that it is a great pleasure to work with him. We are very fortunate... he has amazing abilities in thinking issues through to positively effect the University and its future. It is terrific to have a Stony Brook alum head the Chair".

When recalling his studies at Stony Brook, Nasti spoke on the relationships cultivated while at school: "My first two years I lived in

James College... from there I moved to Douglas College where I spent my last two years. I continue to keep in touch with my suitemates". In reference to current events at Stony Brook, the Chairman said, "I am very enthusiastic. Many things have happened in the past year... Governor Pataki's introduction of legislation (a ground lease providing after a number of years the building is given to the University) which made the generous Wang contribution possible to expedite construction of the new Asian American Studies Center, and the recent Johns Hopkins Press Publication ranking SUNY Stony Brook 2nd in the Nation in public research universities... and these are only a few of the highlights".

In 1996, Nasti was a recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in recognition of his contributions as a business leader. Chairman Nasti expressed a continual support of the University and offered "SUNY Stony Brook is a wonderful experience". □

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Thursday, May 1, 1997

The Stony Brook Statesman

# What Exactly Does Happen to Those Evaluations?

By IRENE STALZER  
Special to the Statesman

You fill them out for all your classes every semester, but you never really know what happens to them, or who even gets to see them, until now.

The practice of student evaluations of courses and teachers is long standing and fairly common at most colleges around the country, said Ernest McNealey, former Dean of Undergraduate Academic Affairs.

At Stony Brook, it is expected of all undergraduate professors and teaching assistants of stand alone courses to have students complete the evaluations.

In the Fall 1996 semester, 29,892 evaluations were processed according to Raymond Maniuszko, Associate Director of Institutional Research. Maniuszko said that this number provides an accurate representation of students and classes considering the fact that in the Fall semester of that

year there were 11,267 students enrolled at Stony Brook. This number includes full-timers with 12 or more credits as well as part-timers with 11 or less.

The purpose of the evaluations, McNealey said, is two-fold. More obvious is the fact that it is important for professors to receive feedback on student's perceptions and reactions to their experience in class.

"They can be used as formative tools for organizing the structure or approach to providing instruction in a particular course," McNealey said.

Secondly, the results are often used as one of many items in discussing promotion, tenure and pay increases.

The course evaluations are comprised of two parts. The first is a set of three questions pertaining to the course and the instructor that a student can freely write out responses to. Questions include "What does the instructor do particularly well?" and

"What could the instructor do better?"

The second part of the evaluation is made up of a group of ten different characteristics of a good instructor including "Conveys enthusiasm" and "Shows concern for and openness to students." Students rate their professor on how well they fit these characteristics on a seven point scale by choosing, Strongly agree (1), Strongly disagree (7), or some other number in between. So in this evaluation a lower score is better.

There are three departments which seem to frequently receive the lowest/best scores according to McNealey. Those three are Hispanic Languages, Political Science and Africana Studies.

McNealey declined to provide the lowest scoring departments, saying it would be unfair because the quality of a department may not always be accurately reflected in the scores. For example, in departments with smaller

classes each student has a bigger affect on a teacher's score. One dissatisfied student will have more of an affect in a class of 10 students than in a class of 700.

In the Fall 1996 semester, the University average on how "well prepared and organized" an instructor was 1.79. On the characteristic of makes subject "clear and understandable" the average was 2.19. The highest/worst score of 2.56 was received by instructors in regards to the comment "I have learned more from this instructor than from other instructors in courses of similar size and level."

The results of evaluations are not only seen by teachers. Each evaluation is first sent to the Chair of the teacher's department who shares and discusses them with the professor, said McNealey. A copy of the results are also sent to various deans, the Provost and polity. The department heads are interested in how well individual teachers scored while the deans and Provost are more concerned with how well each department scored as a whole.

Although the results of evaluations are not exactly in the public domain, McNealey says that students can access them through polity which keeps hard copies of past evaluation results. Students can go down to the Polity office and look at the results. They don't need to fill out any type of form, and can even make photocopies of the document.

A copy of the Fall and Spring 1991 results represented graphically for each course is available at the Main Library, according to Maniuszko. Students can go in and just ask for it at the reference desk. Teachers do not have an option to keep results private.

Three different departments are involved with the handling of the evaluations. Undergraduate Academic Affairs oversees the evaluation process each semester. They ask that the primary instructor for each undergraduate course be evaluated. A department designee is named to oversee the administration of the forms. Student volunteers in each class are selected by the professor to distribute and collect the forms in class. The completed forms are sealed in an envelope signed by the student volunteers and faculty member and jointly delivered to the departmental representative.

The evaluations are then sent to Computer Services which scans the second part of the evaluations that are on op-scan forms. The first part, which is not on op-scan, goes back to the department so that they may analyze it. Computer Services sends the results to Institutional Research which provides teachers with information on how well they compared to the University average on each particular characteristic. They compile the results and keep data files on them each semester.

"The point of the evaluations is essentially formative," said McNealey. "A desire to constantly improve and do quality control."

So next semester when you find yourself filling out the evaluations once again, keep in mind that your opinions may make a real difference. □

# Fun Weekends at SB Don't Exist

By CHRISTINE CAGLIANONE  
Special to the Statesman

When choosing a college, we weigh many options. Location, cost and academic programs are just a few of the things we consider to help us make the difficult decision. But let's face it. Many of us also

dormitories, their rooms should be their own to do in as they please. And if that includes entertaining friends, so be it.

"It's very irritating that every time people try to have a good time, it gets broken up within one hour," said Elina Gutman, 21 and a Dewey College resident.

"Because some of the buildings are half quiet lifestyle, they break up our parties constantly. It's

in those buildings, and those who prefer to be loud could do so without the constant interference from Public Safety."

"It's not fair to us that our attempt at a social life is always broken up because someone needs to sleep or study," said Tara Kenny, 20. "Especially on the weekends, if someone needs to study that bad, they should go to the library or go home. Just as they're entitled to their quiet time, we should be entitled to our loud time."

The Division of Campus Residences imposes many rules on the residents regarding drinking as well. Alcohol of any kind is not allowed in common areas such as hallways or lounges, even among the 21-and-over crowd. Kegs are not allowed on campus under any circumstances. Being caught with one could get you kicked out of your building. The reason given is that a keg of beer holds much more than the two gallons of alcohol allowed in the dorm rooms, no matter how old you are.

"I don't understand why if I'm 21 years old, and legally allowed to purchase and consume alcohol I should be allowed to have whatever I want in my room," said Kevin Kelly, Dewey resident. "We're paying a lot of money to live here, it's not like they're letting us live here as a favor. What goes on in my room should be my business as long as no one gets hurt, and if I want to have friends over, drink or play

See PARTY, Page 5

## Student Perspectives

contemplate whether or not the campus is known for its social atmosphere.

To put it bluntly, we want to know if it's a good party school.

To many, this seems like a frivolous reason to pick a school, but a social life and some good times are a plus when living on campus. Rumor had it that Stony Brook was one of the greatest party schools in New York. Well, was I misinformed.

Yes, Stony Brook's resident students try to have a good time. A small party, some music, a few beers, nothing major, nothing illegal.

But lately, whatever we do to enjoy ourselves is immediately broken up. Resident Assistants bang on the door, and Public Safety shows up with four police cars. Literally.

It's ridiculous and it's discouraging. When students are paying to live in the

not fair that people get to be loud and party in certain areas just because that's where they randomly got placed to live."

Gutman is referring to the housing departments policy to designate certain buildings in each quad as quiet lifestyle or non-quiet lifestyle. Some, like Dewey College in Kelly Quad, is half quiet, half not, depending on what your room number is. Rooms 100-112 are quiet lifestyle. 114-120 are not. So if you live in room 212, you cannot play your stereo, or entertain friends after eight o'clock p.m. If you live in 214, you can. This does not sound logical to me, and not to many others.

"It should be one way or the other. If a building is quiet lifestyle, then another building shouldn't be, not half and half," said Valerie Schurawell, 21 and also a Dewey resident. "This way people who require quiet lifestyle could choose to live

# Need A Boost of Confidence?

By CHRIS ASTILLERO  
Special to the Statesman

Just because you don't walk around with Oprah's poise and confidence does not mean that you have to walk around like the kid in elementary school who never got chosen for the kickball team. There are plenty of ways one can exude confidence, or at least fool themselves and others into it.

If walking around with your head down, occasionally glancing upwards to make sure you don't walk into a pole, is your idea of displaying your confidence, you have the wrong idea. By following some of these six tips, or combining a number of them,

you can feel more confident almost instantly.

Walk fully erect. Instead of slouching over like the Hunchback of Notre Dame, improve your posture and your ego by straightening out that back.

"It isn't hard to appear confident when you walk around with your head up and back perfectly straight," says Ralph Rosado, 19, political science major. "Just make it natural or it will seem like you're trying too hard. Walking this way forces you to look confident. This is one of the simplest tricks in the book."

Wear something that you normally would not wear in order to bring attention

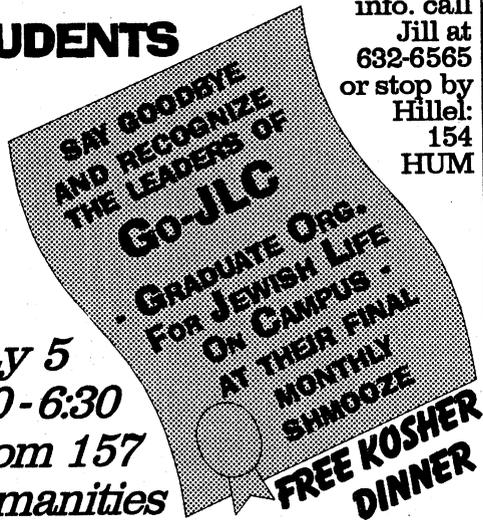
to yourself. The aphorism "you look how you feel" is right on the dot. If you feel you look bad, or not as good as you could, you tend to look that way.

So next time you've get a free moment, instead of sitting on your concave love seat watching reruns of Ricki Lake, be productive and get out of your house by hitting your nearest mall. Purchase that new Calvin Klein dress, or Donna Karan blouse and strut your stuff. Wearing it will not only help you feel great, but can make you look great too. Just try not to spend too much or you'll feel the

See CONFIDENCE, Page 6

## GRAD STUDENTS

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# Weekends Don't Exist at Stony Brook

From PARTY, Page 3

my stereo, I should have the right to do that."

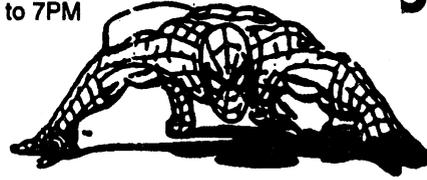
And it's not only in Kelly Quad. I was at a party in Roth Quad that was interrupted every half hour, and eventually there were four police cars there, and nothing illegal was going on. It happened to be a student's 21st birthday, and he was entertaining some friends who were of legal drinking age.

This is not an uncommon occurrence, wherever you live. It seems to many, including myself, that the University at Stony Brook is an institution geared only towards those here to sleep and study and nothing more. With all the interferences by campus authorities when students are enjoying themselves, it appears that socializing is discouraged. With over 6,000 students living on campus, most of them, including myself, leave school to go home every Friday afternoon. Many of my friends ask me why I go home on the weekends, and I tell them, "my mother imposes less rules on me about partying than this school does."

I'm a 21-year-old adult away at college, and I'm trying to balance my studies as well as a social life. I don't think I need to defend my desire to enjoy myself during my college years to this school, my RA or anyone else for that matter. I think at this stage in our lives, we're capable of determining for ourselves what should and shouldn't go on in our own rooms. If I wanted to be silent, I would've joined a convent. They wonder why we go home.

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# Some Tips to Boost Up Your Confidence

From CONFIDENCE, Page 3

effect it has on your wallet afterwards.

Do something you're already good at. If you're an expert on surfing the net, go to your local Internet Java joint and impress the customers with your in-depth knowledge of America On Line. Or help that cutie who has no idea how to access his e-mail account. If you sink shot after shot in pool, hit the nearest billiard hall and win a couple of extra bucks.

By doing something that you're already an expert on, you can showcase your talent and boost your self confidence. Rosie O'Donnell and Ellen Degeneres still cracks jokes when not on the air to boost her own

ego now and again. Everyone does.

Flaunt what you've experienced or what you own that is impressive or valuable. Make yourself feel better by accidentally dropping that A+ metaphysics paper or reminiscing about the trophy you got in the 10th grade, sinking the game-winning goal with 3 seconds left on the clock.

In short, show off but be as nonchalant as you can be about it because along with helping your own ego you could appear too self-absorbed. This is a sure-fire way of attracting attention. Proceed with caution, though, because excess can lead to disaster.

"I sometimes find myself bragging a little too much," says Lyshaan Hall, a 20 year-old junior, business major. "You initially get

attention, but if you continue on for too long, become more obnoxious, if anything."

Shades. Putting on a pair can be the ultimate solution. If you thought that the only purpose was to keep sun out of your eyes, you're dead wrong. A pair of Ray Ban's or Oakley's can be the smartest investment you've made in a while. So besides looking cool, you can solve that confidence problem ASAP by himing your nearest Sunglass Hut.

A pair of sunglasses gives the outside world no access to one's eyes, so no one knows whether you're staring or not. "I just wear a pair of shades," says Aldrina Osborne, a senior. "That way I can walk like I'm not being affected by anything. I can look

intimidating, but in reality no one has any clue what I'm staring at."

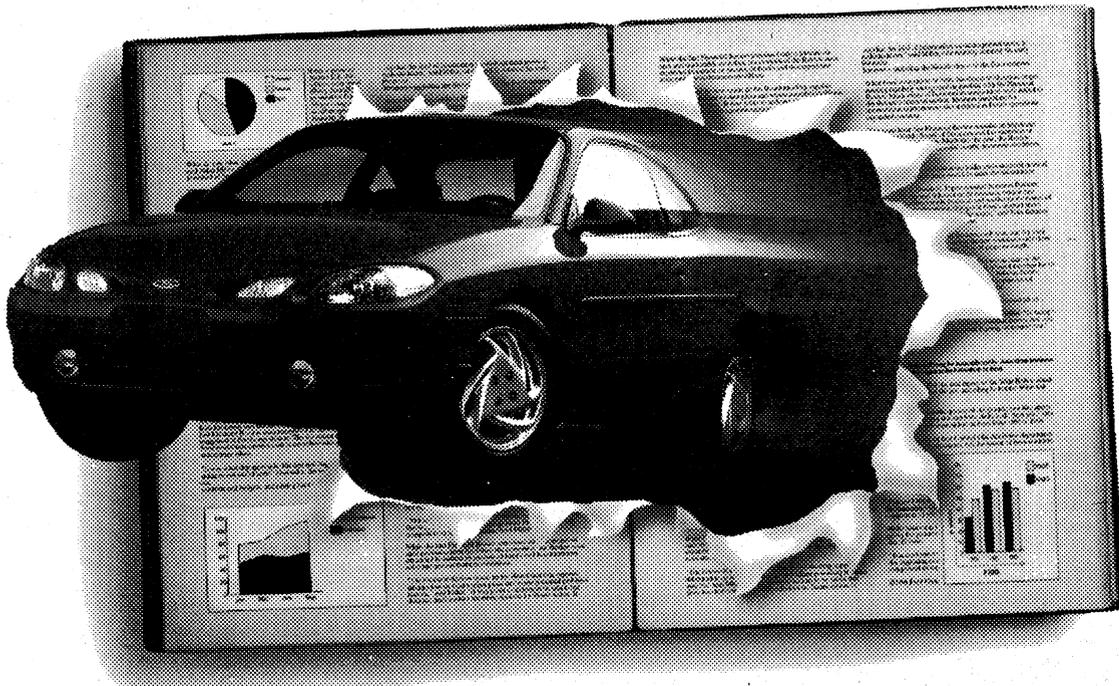
You can even cry, or be completely lost with a pair of sunglasses on and look like you're about to conquer the world. The eyes reveal so much about a person and are a vital part to confidence, so if they're not exposed, they're not giving you away.

When no other alternatives, you can talk trash and put other people down to make yourself feel better. This is not strongly recommended, but if it works, take a stab at it.

"You would be surprised, but the littlest tips can work wonders, says Gardy Joachim, a sophomore, respiratory therapy major. "I know from experience that fooling people with these tricks can make a world of difference." □

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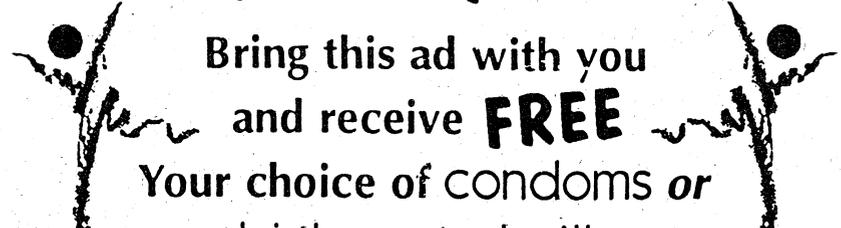


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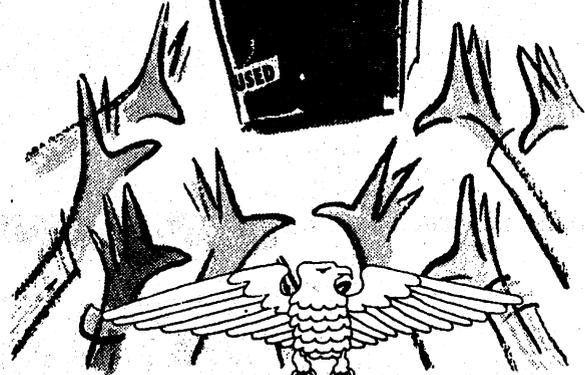
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# EDITORIALS

## More Pro-active Polity Moments

We could not end this year without noting one last time the calamities that continue to surround our Polity leadership. In a special meeting held last night, the Polity Senate was set to cast votes on its budget for next year. However, in what is one of the most important meetings held every year, the Senate was unable to hold a vote because many members left as the meeting dragged on. Last night was the last chance for this meeting to occur this semester.

Close readers of our newspaper during the last year remember well the petty bickering that has marked the Polity Senate meetings. Last night was no different. The Senate had a quorum, or the two-thirds of members, necessary to vote on the budget until back and forth name calling erupted again. Keren Zolotov, in another show of professionalism, called the Sergeant-at-Arms of Polity, Jose Pena, "a liar," among other things. Mr. Pena then left, whereupon the Senate lost the numbers of members needed to vote on the budget.

We can no longer conclude that the election saga that has

occurred recently was a mere accident of those running for the leadership for next year. Time and again, this Polity Council has not shown the leadership or maturity that a large campus community deserves. We are saddened that their legacy to this community is one of bickering and ineptitude. Again and again these leaders hide behind supposed efforts at "student empowerment" that never appear, and then play hard and

fast with Polity by-laws that were meant to protect the rights of students. They use business marketing clichés such as "proactive" and "efficiency" for the same reasons they are used in the business field: to mask a lack of ideas. Last night, back-fighting between our leaders again stopped progress on real issues that concern this campus. At this time of year, it is normal for us to thank those who served our community, leaving it better than when they got here.

We find that difficult to do here. No matter how much the Polity Council, including its President, attempt to duck and hide, they are the ones ultimately responsible for the cynicism that their corruption and arrogance helped create. On our Op-Ed page today, Ms. Zolotov offers her reasons why students should, despite the crisis she leaves behind, continue to be involved in the affairs of this community. We will continue to wonder if this plea comes too late.

## Special Thanks

As the school year comes to an end, we must mark an end to another volume of *Statesman* newspapers. Unfortunately, this also means we must note the moving on of many who have given much of their time and creative energies to putting out this twice weekly newspaper. Without their help, this newspaper would not only have had much more filler, ...wait that's just about it: Without these people, we would have had much more filler.

Ron Strauss has again and again come with great interviews for his "Turn It Up & Pass It On Column." He just has a way of continually reminding us. We'll miss all of his helpful comments at editorial board meetings, and mostly his

drawing ability, which he was able to show off in our edition released earlier this week. We wish Ron the best of luck. Burp On!

Marc Weisbaum is another of our music columnists leaving our features department. Due to Marc's coverage of the musical underground, our readership among the Goth' crowd is at an all-time high. In addition, in his years here, Marc has covered a wide range of musical subjects, from Death Metal to Hard Core to Death Metal. We wish Marc the best of luck as well.

Our Sport's Department will be hard pressed to replace Jawad Hasan in the coming semester. Many an impressive article was delivered from Jawad's hands after he hopped out

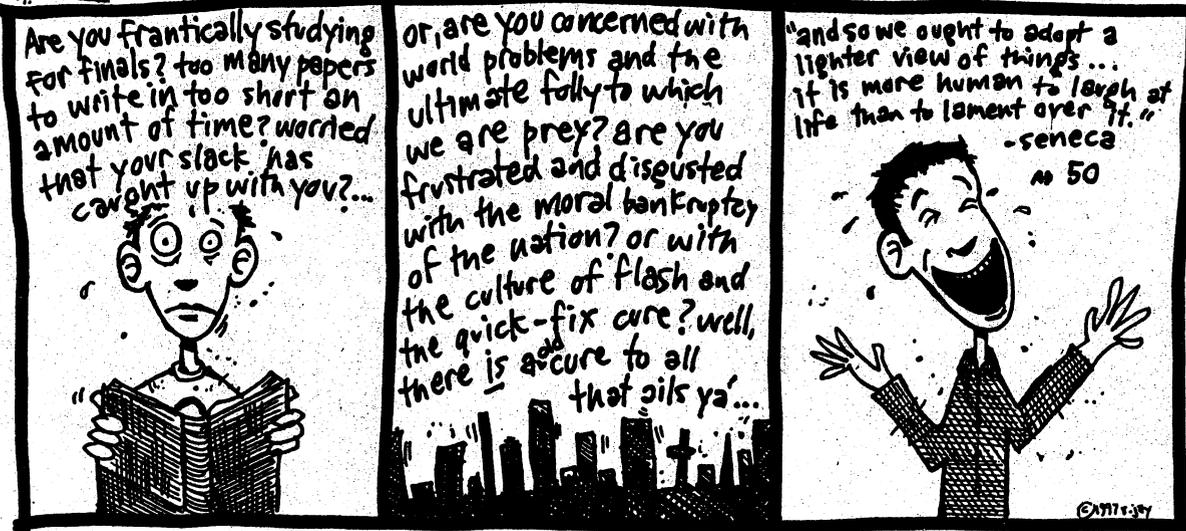
of his bedroom window in the middle of the night. We, of course, continue to wonder if people with B.A.'s can still be grounded. We will look at Jawad for the answer.

In truth, we are really grateful for the contributions of those who will be moving on after this issue. We wish them the best, and hope they'll keep in touch.

Lastly, we are the most grateful for the dedication of our fearless leader for the last three semesters: Alexandra Cruz. Dubbed by the *Press* as the only respectable person at this paper, (one need only look at the articles of Ron, Marc and Jawad to differ with that assertion) Alex marks the best of what Stony Brook has to offer, even if she would be hard-pressed to describe what the inside of a classroom looks like. Alex steps down to Associate Editor as of next year in order to concentrate on her school work. We would all like to give Alex a special thank you. Without her incredible ability to stay awake for days at a time, we're sure that even this edition would not have been published.

To the rest of you, our readers, we thank you for sticking with us for another year. With the help of Alex, Ron, Marc and Jawad, we hope our paper has been informative and fun to read as well.

**Op-ed** (by r.jay magill, jr.) ©1997



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**Statesman**

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## Polity President Defends Her Record

### Fellow Students,

I was elected last year to represent the undergraduate body on the student government level and have served as the president for the past year. Throughout this year, I have handled my position within Polity as honestly, fairly, and diligently as I could, let alone the social, academic, and family life I sacrificed for it. I did not imagine that the year would end on such a bitter note: the nullification of the elections. But now that we were dealt this card I feel I have the right (and furthermore people owe it to me) to respond.

I recognize that the public opinion and perception of Polity is hurting now. It is understandable. If I was on the outside (which believe it or not, I was at one point in my college career, not affiliated with Polity) I would doubt the legitimacy of the student representative body here at Stony Brook. However, I want you the student to be an educated and proactive participant in this outbreak of criticism.

First of all, let it be stated once and for all that all the recent criticism of Polity's

regulations and governing documents are politically fueled. In my eyes, this discredits much of the "so-called official" talk about "process" and the need to stick to it. "Process" is important, but the spirit and attitude in which student leaders go about doing things is more important! Do you want a Parliament Procedure Memorizer or a fighter for student rights?

Second of all, the past few weeks have been quite disempowering for us, as students. I know- we all just voted and felt that our say will count and all of the sudden elections get nullified and we are told to vote again...Beyond that, much of the criticism of Polity was directed at non-students instead of proactively approaching Council and Senate with concrete solutions. In all of this madness, we forgot one very important fact. Students fought for the right to have an autonomous, self-governing body. And now we have it here at Stony Brook, and it is called POLITY. Does it mean anything to have an autonomous, student-run and funded organization? People will always have

criticism (I prepared myself for that a long time ago) but to say - there is a lot more at stake here than we realize:

Did you register to vote in the beginning of the year when we did our voter registration campaign?

Are you looking forward to having the meal plan in the Student Activities Center?

Are you happy we did not get the \$250 tuition increase last year?

What if your friend got hurt in a party - do you not need SBVAC ambulance to come pick up him/her?

What if you wanted to campaign about a decision of administration that is hurting students? You have your representatives follow up on it.

Did your LEG get their money processed last minute for an event and Polity made sure it went through?

I don't wish to undermine criticism of any elected body (I would be the first person to encourage holding elected officials accountable to their constituency), but I do not wish to put an end to vicious

and hurtful claims. I want us to keep the vision of Polity and student's self-governing on mind. Proactive criticism will only improve Polity as a body. However, what is going on right now is malicious and counter productive. We will end up shooting ourselves in the foot. If administration (and state legislatures?) will take over our money and do away with our autonomous self-government, what will we say then? Maybe we should sincerely question the criticism that is surfacing at such a convenient time - election - and whether it is truly meant to improve Polity.

Finally, I call to you, the students, to not let the recent outbreak of malicious - intended rumors and statements to break down your spirit. Polity might not be perfect (it's pretty close) but, our student spirit of involvement and activism should not be discouraged. On the contrary, we should want to get more involved to create progress within Polity, recognizing the importance of its existence.

**Keren Zolotov**  
Polity President

## Vote Against This Foolish System

### To the Editor:

Why vote against Monique Maylor, the candidate for the Polity Presidency? Well, she cheated. "So what," you ask, "so has everyone that has held the Polity president's office in the last three years. It is just an example of real world politics reflected in our school." Well think about this. Not only would you have a dishonest person in office, again nothing new, but you will have someone that is so incompetent that they cheated, and got caught at it.

At least in the past when the elections were fixed it was done skillfully. No proof has been found aside from offhanded comments that people have said that they voted ten times. No hard feat when you consider the current way elections are held and tallied. A foolish system to say the least.

This was the first opportunity in three years for a clean election, due to the fact that none of the current council was officially running. It is widely believed though never proven that the past elections were fixed, and

that the hand-picked successor of the previous president always won. Do you think that it is hard to get a few social security numbers and enter fake votes? It is especially easy when you run the elections. A totally independent firm is needed to collect and tabulate the vote.

If the last election is any sign of what would happen with our student

government should Maylor be elected, we'll be headed back to the days of Platti and unproved embezzlement. Except this time, people will be caught. That's the kind of people that we will be dealing with.

I am not affiliated with any of the candidates, but I will say this. Vote for anyone but Maylor - vote for

yourself, vote for Bugs Bunny, anyone would be better. But please vote. If you once and are caught but nothing happens, what would keep you from doing it again? Our elections are a joke. At Stony Brook, democracy does not exist. Change that by voting.

**Ryan Muldoon**

## Proposed Majors Don't Compete

### To the Editor:

Your editorial, "How Much For A New Major?" (April 29), focused on the role of financial support in the establishment of majors. Isn't it the case that the Provost's academic plan, which was published nearly a year ago, identified a strong need for programs such as Asian Studies? The issue of private contributions is an entirely separate matter that need not be addressed here. What should be addressed is that both the University administration and the local community, corporate and residential, feel that

expansion into areas such as Asian Studies is vital to Stony Brook's growth as a University Center

Even with recent progress, Stony Brook's curriculum still needs to play catch up with a lot of other universities that have well established majors in a wide variety of fields. Instead of viewing newly established programs as competing with one another, we should view them as increasing our academic and career opportunities. Majors like Journalism are earmarked on the Provost's academic plan, and we urge the administration to expedite its

establishment for the benefit of all students.

We all have to gain from a diverse and well-rounded curriculum, but needless to say, things don't happen overnight. On a final note, the establishment of the India Studies major discussed in the editorial has not yet taken place. Until an India Studies major is instituted, students like myself are awaiting the further strengthening of Asian Studies and its contingent courses.

**Ashu M. Patel**  
Undergraduate Student

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# FEATURES

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & STUDENT LIFE

Thursday, May 1, 1997

## Boredom at Stony Brook On the Weekends Where To Find The Fun On Campus

By SHEEJA FRANCIS  
Statesman Staff

The parking lots are half empty and there is a long line around the Long Island Rail Road ticket booth.

It must be Friday afternoon, which ultimately that means that the crowds at the station, and most of the additional cars on the road are residents of the University at Stony Brook rushing to get off of the campus.

Those that are left behind are already looking forward to Monday, and hoping that this weekend won't be as boring as last.

Since most residents of the University at Stony Brook are either from Long Island or New York City, a large portion return home every weekend like clockwork.

The school's reputation for having lifeless weekends also add to the degree of desertion.

But don't fret if you are a regular weekend resident,

there may be many opportunities that you may have not been aware of to liven up your weekend. Here are some possibilities:

1. If you are a health nut, or you just want to get energized or have fun, then you may want to check out the attractions at the Indoor

The Sports Complex is located right in front of the Physics building. The Complex has everything from indoor tracks and a weight room to a pool and a dance studio.

"You can always work out til' you collapse," said Mariya Romanenko, a psychology major from Brooklyn, who lives in Mount college and occasionally stays on campus during the weekends.

2. If you are a sports fan or like to see things in person, there are Seawolves games that are held in the athletic fields or the Indoor courts every weekend. Of course, there will be more action outside in the Spring and Fall

seasons.

Most Seawolves Teams are division two in the National College Athletic Association, with the exception of the Lacrosse team which is division one.

3. If you like to be part of the action, there are intramural games played almost every weekend either at the Complex or on the fields.

They always have the intramurals," said Clarence Saint-Vil, a political science and business major, who used to live in Roosevelt quad. "Most people don't know about them." The schedules for the intramural sports can be found at the Sports Complex.

4. For the wild ones, there are always parties at the Union and at the End of the Bridge restaurant. Information about and schedules of these type of dance parties can be found at the ticket office in the main level of the union.

5. If you are still a kid at heart, you can head down to the arcade located in the basement of the union.

The arcade houses all kinds of goodies to occupy at least a couple of hours of your time. Make sure you bring a lot of quarters.

5. For the constant shopper, the Smith Haven mall is a 15 minute bus ride away from the campus.

The mall has everything from Macy's to a movie theater. However, if you don't own a car, make sure you finish all your business there by 5:30 because that's the time for the last bus back to campus. Of course it's an added bonus that the ride is free.

6. You come back from the mall and you are ready for entertainment.

Instead of turning on the tube, why not look through the COCA movie schedule to see what's playing?

COCA is a student run organization that feature

reasonably recent movies at the union auditorium on the weekends and on Wednesdays. The Staller Center for the Arts also shows recent movies as well. Tickets are sold at reduced rates to students, versus the usual \$7.50 at regular movie theatres.

7. If you want live entertainment, you can always check out what's playing at the Staller Center. The Staller Center has many performances by many nationally and internationally known artists. The Graduate Student Lounge, *The Spot* also frequently features live bands on the weekends. However, you must be 21 to get in.

8. The one possibility that tops all the other ones is that if you can spare \$ 7.25, you can hop on the LIRR to the Big Apple, where the opportunities are endless.

There are many events to go to at Stony Brook on the weekends, you just have to know where to find them.

## East Coast Assault II, They're Back

By MARC WEISBAUM  
Statesman Staff

NYHC. Straight and to the point. With how many bands that do everything they can to be seen as "hardcore," it's great to see how many compilations have recently surfaced that are dedicated to the true bands.

Fitting into this category is *East Coast Assault II: The Second Coming*, a double disc bulldozer of eastern aggression. This compilation contains more underground bands instead of the usual *Sick Of It All* tinged collections. Also of particular note, is that each band is represented by at least two songs, not your usual one shot deal where your are left wondering what else the band has to offer.

Swinging first is *Negative Male Child*. The gut wrenching vocals of both "Little Brother" and "You Touched Me" beat the unsuspecting listener

senseless. But NMC aren't the only hard-hitters. *Commin' Correct*, Rick of *25 Ta' Life's* other band unleash their brand of *Agnostic Front* tinged hardcore in "Knowledge Is Power" and their eponymously named track. This mixture of more established acts with some lesser known bands gives the perfect blend of old favorites and new curiosities.

Other mainstays include *Hatebreed* (extremely violent hardcore) and the powerhouse *Enrage*. *Enrage's* trio opens with a somewhat bizarre phone conversation in "The Laffing Dawg," but soon erupts into furious crowd destroying intensity. "You took all my dreams and crushed them" is drilled into your head and probably, if you were to catch them live, through it. *Assault II* also models some more punky-tinged hardcore via *Fastbreak's* "Where It Lies," "Behind" and "Said & Done."

However, don't expect *Green Day*, or you're in for a painful surprise. The comp also lists contact addresses for each band, with the exception of NMC. In addition, the sleeve is adorned with some energetic live shots. If you only buy one hardcore comp in your life, make it this one. Or hold out for volume III. There's still 12 more bands to go!

One of these 12 is *Stigmata*, who have also just unleashed their third full-length, *Hymns For An Unknown God*. Here, we see them serving up their bludgeoning form of hardcore in "Life For A Life," "Judgment Comes Crushing Down" and "Redemption Song" (not the *Bob Marley* tune recently remade by fellow east coaster's *Life Of Agony*). On *Hymns*... we, of course, get a more in-depth idea of what this band about. Their latest sounds similar to *Cro-Mags*, which is explained by Harley Flanagan's

(now in *White Devil*) appearance on the album and assistance in production of this slab. Riley's vocals are similar to Freddy Madball and the music bares some resemblance, as well, but there seems to be a bit of a *Sepultura* influence in there, as well.

One listen to album opener "Save Us" and one can hear similarities to Sep's "Nomad." The following track, "Nothing But Enemies," however, trods more familiar ground like that of Madball and their predecessors, AF.

Any sucker for samples will love this album simply for the introduction to "Hands Of God." One of Robert DeNiro's many intense passages in *Cape Fear*. Another priceless sample: Jim Jones' last sermon in the beginning of "Nothing But Enemies," which also appears in a live version as a bonus track at the end of the CD. The lyrics of Riley (similar to *Shelter* in their

Krishna influence) paired with guitarist Mike Maney's musical mayhem add up to the quintessential hardcore release of '97. "Burning Human" with its shared vocals between Riley and Flanagan sums up the band's message quite well: "We better change our ways."

*Attention Hardcore Fans: Agnostic Front are playing May 17 at The Roxy in Manhattan along with Hatebreed, 25 Ta' Life, Madball, War Zone, Merauder, Lordz Of Lrooklyn among others. Better get a helmet...*

Pssst... Those Damn Hype guys also put out another issue of *Chord* 'zine, which covers virtually every corner of extreme music. Get in touch and get involved!

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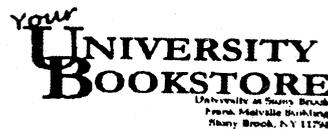
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# Athletics Is Moving Towards Equality

By ADAM TOPHAM-RATTINER  
Special to the Statesman

According to lore, those women caught viewing the Olympic Games, which only included men, were thrown off the cliffs. However, women in Sparta, another Greek civilization, were encouraged to train from childhood in running and other competitive sports. Today, society has made big strides for women, as can be seen in universities like Stony Brook; however Stony Brook still needs to equal out the athletic facilities.

Since 1972, when Title IX of the Education Amendment outlawed discrimination by sex in all public schools receiving federal funds, women's sports in universities took off.

Stony Brook is an excellent case in point. In the mid 1970's the university men's swim team consisted of one swimmer, a woman, and the rest were men. Last year there were more female swimmers on the women's team than male on the men's team. The university has come a long way in years, but not far enough. The ratio of males to females in athletics overall at the university is about two to one, while the ratio of males to females on campus is about one to one.

According to the Gender Equity Survey filled out by the athletic department there were 242 male athletes and 118 female athletes in 1996. Out of 17 head coaches only 4

were female, and they coached women's sports.

Historically men have received more attention in sports. In the Grecian Olympics men competed to see who was strongest. It was not until the latter half of this century that women became more active, participating in most of the sports men do- from boxing to soccer. Athletics are an essential part of students' education, building confidence through the strong connection, and the importance one has on a team.

As at other American universities, Stony Brook started with what were once considered mainstream sports, such as basketball, baseball, track and field, football and swimming. Over the years they added female athletes to sports, such as swimming, and eventually added women's sports, such as basketball. Currently it is a national trend to add women's sports. New popular sports include volleyball, gymnastics, water polo, lacrosse, and crew.

Some schools, such as Brown University, found themselves in a bind when they actually did cut some women's sports, volleyball and gymnastics, along with some men's sports. That situation went to by the United States Courts of Appeals and was reversed in Cohen versus Brown. Cohen brought to light the three ways schools must improve athletics. The Dean of Athletics at Stony Brook, Richard Laskowski knows these three prongs backwards and forwards.

"The gender equity part of Title Nine states that you can't deny either sex equal opportunity," said Laskowski. "There are three prongs to meet the guidelines of title nine.

"One prong is providing proportionate people compared to your university population. It should be about fifty-fifty. We are not fifty-fifty. We are about two to one: men to women.

"The second prong involves our having made an attempt to get to fifty fifty. Recently we added a full time women's softball coach."

According to the NCAA Gender Equity Survey 65.4 percent of the athletically related student aid at Stony Brook goes to women's sports, and 34.6 percent of the athletically related student aid goes to men's sports, so the department of athletics is giving the women a disproportionate amount to encourage more female athletes. This is an effort to help fix the problem, by encouraging the athletes with monetary incentives. The athletic department is fixing the problem for a more equal future.

"The third prong involves asking the question have we not met the needs of the female athletes?" Laskowski said, referring to the other NCAA standard the department must fulfill. "In the past, club sports such as women's lacrosse had asked us to upgrade. They decided they would

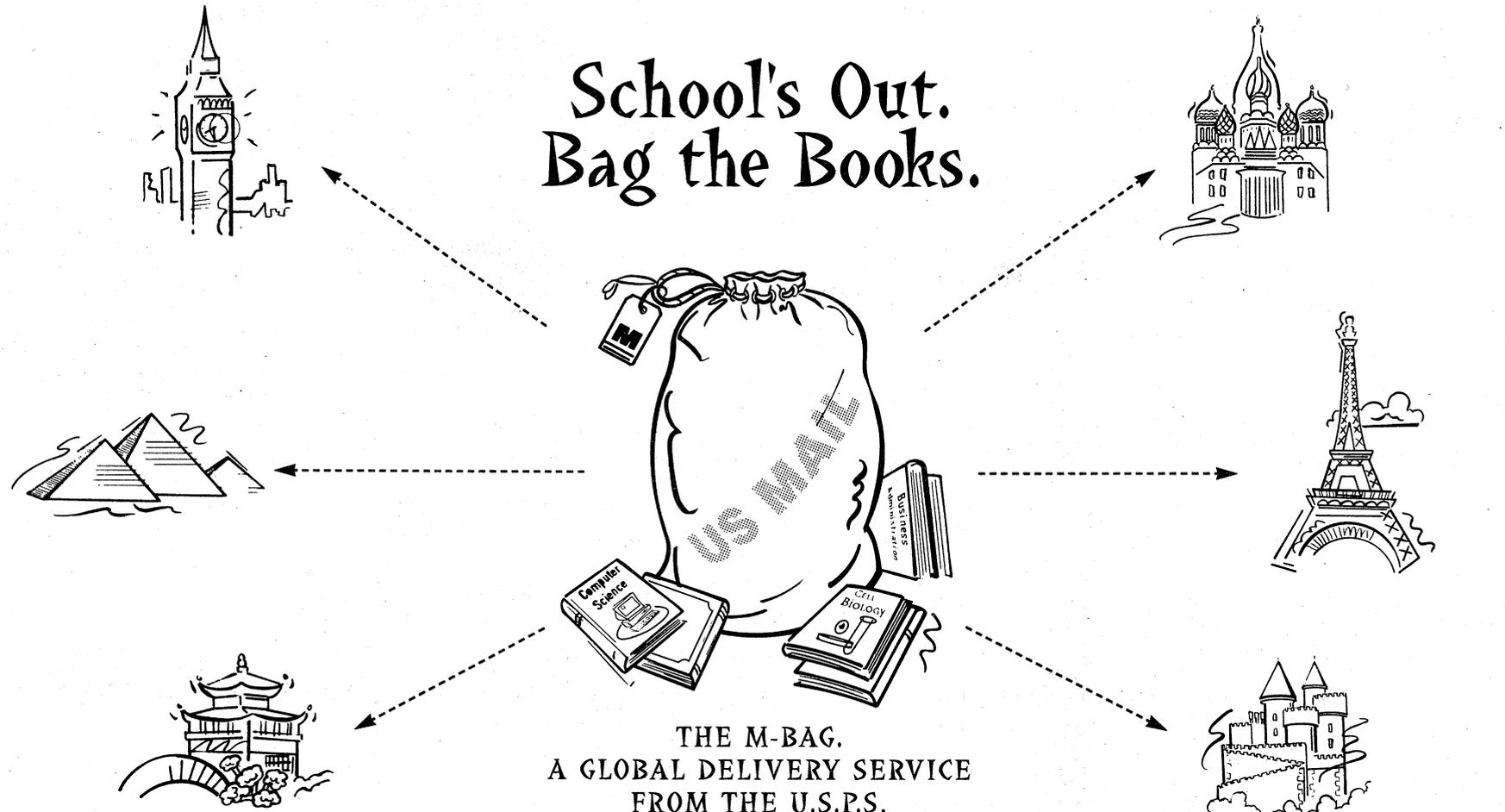
not like to go varsity because it would be to much of a dedication."

Title Nine does not require that the University leap to complete gender parity in a single bound. If there is adequate interest and skill among the members of the underrepresented group, an institution necessarily fails that prong of the test. Laskowski stressed the need for the school to upgrade despite the financial difficulty. He said that there has to be a way, even if the money is not there. Fund-raising by individual teams is an option, but not one he likes to emphasize as a strong possibility.

Stony Brook has hired a professional consultant to come this month and evaluate the athletic department's gender-equity status.

"Based on the findings of this consultant we will decide on what to do with the program for the future," Laskowski said. From the preliminary report I suspect that it will be recommended that we add at least three women's sports."

Once the program has been evaluated, the athletic department at the University will have more focus, and direction. It will have a more specific idea of what it needs to do for the future. Laskowski and the athletic department will steer the student-athletes into a more equal future. As long as the University strives to fulfill the three prongs, it is headed in the right direction. □



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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, May 1, 1997

# Bob Buchmann Visits Stony Brook

By KENYON HOPKIN  
Special to the *Statesman*

Bob Buchmann, vice president of programming and DJ at WBAB 102.3 FM, spoke to the class of THR 270 on Tuesday about the changing state of commercial radio, how it interacts with society and how students can pursue a career in the field.

Recently, the multi-million dollar industry has seen significant changes in its types of programming. "Commercial radio has fragmented so that stations are no longer just 'rock' or 'jazz' stations," said Buchmann, who has been with

WBAB for 19 years. Because of the many genres of music like classic and alternative rock or dixieland and smooth jazz, radio has become more refined and specific.

The industry has also become very competitive for air space. Because every station is bought with a loan, a station must do whatever it can to increase their audience and bring in mass advertising. Then it will be able to pay back the money borrowed from the bank.

The most productive way to increase an audience is through physical interaction with the public. WBAB was one of the first stations

to present this appearance in addition to soundwaves, 20 years ago. Using a van filled with merchandise to give away is a prime example of this promotion and propaganda.

In many cases, stations have set up a second transmitter in another area to increase the number of listeners. In the future, the internet may play a part in expanding a signal as well. Audio can be transmitted through a web site, covering an infinite amount of territory.

Because of its location, Long Island receives more radio signals than any other area in the nation. This includes stations in New York City,

New Jersey and Connecticut, as well as Long Island.

The job market in radio, according to Buchmann, is competitive, but "there's always a break for someone who really wants to get in. A break is about luck, timing, talent, and hunger. Hunger is the number one component, because you can break through any barrier with a hunger for the business."

The best way to become involved is to get hands-on experience. WUSB 90.1 FM, the University's non-commercial station is a good place to start for testing one's interest in radio. From there,

internships are available and eventually a career.

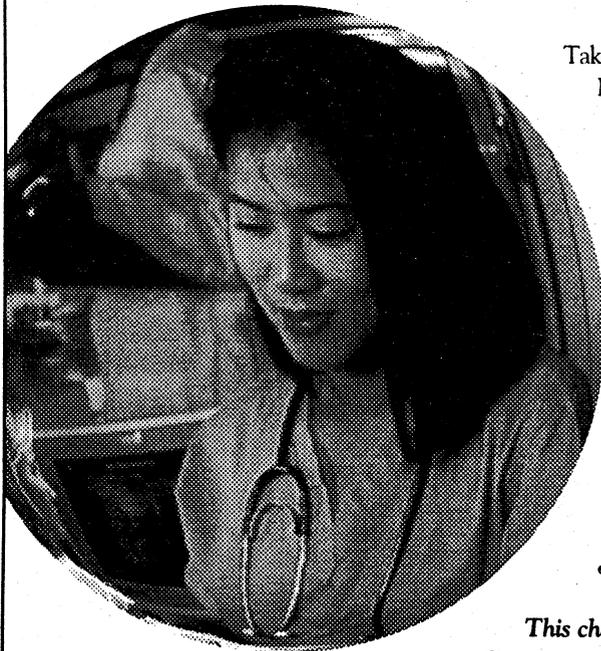
"I now have a better concept of how commercial stations look at their market," said a student, identified as "Ed".

Michael Frederick, who also attended, said it gave him "an idea of what the commercial industry is like."

"Radio is great because you can use the theater of your own mind to imagine what's really happening in that song or in a DJ's story," Buchmann speculated, "You conjure up your own visuals." □

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# STATESMAN SPORTS

THURSDAY, MAY 1, 1997

## SEAWOLVES FINISH 9-4, AFTER LOSING TO YALE. 1997 SEASON WAS ONE FOR THE BOOKS

By MIKE CHAMOFF  
Statesman Editor

For the 1997 Stony Brook Seawolves lacrosse squad, their season ended on a disappointing note at Seawolves Field yesterday afternoon. The Yale Bulldogs defeated the Wolves 18-13 in the season finale. On a sunny, comfortable spring day at Seawolves Field, two men also saw their impressive collegiate lacrosse careers come to a conclusion. Courtney Wilson and Chris Kollmer played their last games in a Stony Brook Seawolves uniform.

In what hoped to be a great close to an outstanding season, Yale took advantage of a slow Stony Brook start to jump all over the Seawolves, scoring 14 goals in the first half, the most ever scored against Stony Brook by an opponent in one half. The Seawolves rallied in the second half though, however were not fortunate enough. USB could not get within four goals of the Bulldogs throughout the entire game. With 6:00 left to play in the game, the Bulldogs led Stony Brook 16-12 and were still showing no signs of letting Stony Brook within striking distance. With :45 seconds left on the clock, a win over Yale was nothing but a memory as they led 18-13, en route to victory. However, despite the agony of defeat in the season's finale, the Seawolves played nothing short of excellent lacrosse as they finish with a 9-4 record, the best finish Stony Brook lacrosse has had since 1990.

Midfielder Courtney Wilson, who along with Chris Kollmer made up the

Seawolves best scoring duo in the schools history. Wilson had 2 goals and 2 assists in the loss. The four points gave Wilson 155 for his career, placing him second on the school's all time scoring list.

### SEASON IN RETROSPECT

The Seawolves had a milestone year in their Division I history in 1997. Not only did they have the best season they've had in years, they had two players on the school's top ten goal scoring list, and one that finished second in school history in scoring. They also got the big Division I win that has been eluding them for seasons. They almost became a ranked team and got within inches of qualifying for the NCAA Division I lacrosse tournament.

The Seawolves got on the ball early in the season, crushing Colgate in the season opener at Seawolves field. The following Wednesday, Stony Brook continued their success as they won another big contest against the Radford Highlanders at Seawolves Field. Stony Brook was 2-0 and had avenged the jinx that plagued them last season when they upset the Adelphi Panthers in the season opener and then lost the next ten in a row. This year, coach Espey kept a cool head and was very reluctant to mention anything relating to the team's opening record. Following the conclusion of the Radford game, Espey was asked how he felt about the 2-0 start. Espey replied "Oh we're happy about that" and quickly changed the subject. In any case, the jinx of lacrosse past didn't hex them this time as they continued their success, with one little

roadblock first. Stony Brook traveled to Loyola College to play a neutral site game against the Lehigh Mountain Hawks. This contest they came up short in and suffered their first defeat of the season. The Seawolves would then win their next three, against Boston College, Dartmouth, and Lafayette. The Seawolves then traveled to Penn State and lost a heartbreaker. Like they did last year, the Wolves came up short against the Nittany Lions once again. On the return trip home, the Seawolves split, first was a win against Marist in which they avenged last season's bitter double-overtime loss. The Seawolves won their next game against the New Hampshire Wildcats completing a perfect homestand. By April 12, the Seawolves record stood at 7-2, their best start in the 1990's.

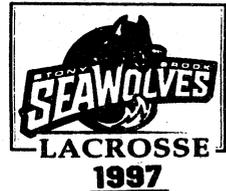
The Seawolves though, were still looking for their big Division I break. On April 16, the Seawolves traveled north to Connecticut to take on the Hartford Hawks. The Hawks were ranked 16th in the nation when the last polls came out at the end of March. Courtney Wilson and Robb Aitchison were the stars as the Wolves notched their biggest win in Division I lacrosse history, under the stars, and the lights at the University of Hartford, in overtime by a score of 10-9. The Seawolves were 8-2 and were within a gasping breath of cracking the national rankings for the first time in their Division I history.

The Seawolves came home to Seawolves Field to field a big game themselves. Their opponents, nationally-

ranked University of Maryland-Baltimore County. With a win the Seawolves were most likely guaranteed a spot in the Top 20, and a possible bid in the NCAA's. Unfortunately, the big one of the big ones eluded the Stony Brook Seawolves as they lost only 12-11. Stony Brook got another overtime thriller against the Villanova Wildcats before falling to Yale yesterday.

There is no reason to doubt the Seawolves. They completely redeemed themselves from the 2-10 disappointment last season, to come within one game of being nationally ranked for the first time ever, an honour that Stony Brook Lacrosse has been waiting long and hard for. Compared to last year, this year's team took the chemistry they had undoubtedly on paper and put it together on the field for a very successful 9-4 year. Next season is a different story with the bulk of their offense not returning, that's including Kollmer and Wilson. But Stony Brook will now have to turn to the next era, to help them achieve what was once the impossible dream. □

CONGRATULATIONS TO COURTNEY WILSON From Statesman Sports 2nd on USB All-Time Scoring List



### LACROSSE STONY BROOK STUNS DARTMOUTH, DOWN BIG GREEN 13-10

#### Dominating Offense

The Seawolves offense now has something to be proud of this year. Kollmer is ranked second in the nation in goals per game. Courtney Wilson is ranked in that department as well, pulling in at six. In total scoring offense, Stony Brook is now ranked sixth in the nation. It seems USB is just beginning to show the nation what they can do offensively.

LACROSSE USB Beats Lafayette 18-4

Season record 5-1

Player	Goals	Assists	Points
Courtney Wilson	2	2	4
Chris Kollmer	1	1	2
Robb Aitchison	1	1	2
Other players	0	0	0

### LACROSSE USB CRUSHES MARIST 17-6, Courtney gets 100!

LACROSSE VICTORIOUS! Wolves Crush Colgate 15-4

SEAWOLVES TOP HIGHLANDERS USB TAKES RADFORD 15-9, IMPROVE TO 2-0.

Courtney Wilson saves in net and notched his first victory for the Seawolves and Wilson had six goals to lead all scorers.

### LIGHTS OUT ON HARTFORD USB WINS UNDER THE LIGHTS IN OVERTIME 10-9



THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1997

THE EAGLE HAS CRASHED SEAWOLVES RALLY BEHIND CHRIS KOLLMER AND COURTNEY WILSON TO TAKE BOSTON COLLEGE

### LACROSSE LOSES HEART-BREAKER

SLIM CHANCE FOR NCAA TOURNAMENT TAKE THAT!