

"Let Each
Become Aware"

Statesman

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Serving the State University of New York at Stony Brook and its Surrounding Communities

Stony Brook Officials Address AIDS Testing

By Marianne Corrigan

The AIDS threat, carried on a wave of media attention and social paranoia, has created a need not only for a cure for the disease, but also for better and cost-effective ways to detect the virus. Health officials at Stony Brook and worldwide are studying and utilizing ways to detect the virus in blood.

AIDS

Testing

Last of Three Parts

The current blood screening methods used protect the blood supply, said Rachel Bergeson, MD, acting director of University Health Service and New York State's AIDS facilitator on campus. Voluntary AIDS testing sites perform the same tests to identify AIDS in blood.

The enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) test looks for AIDS antibodies rather than the virus itself, Bergeson said. The average time it takes for people to develop AIDS antibodies is six weeks. "Over 99 percent [of people infected with AIDS] develop antibodies by six months. Less than one percent take up to 13 months to turn positive," she said.

According to Richard Everoski, lab supervisor of Long Island Blood Services, the ELISA test is 98-99 percent effective in identifying AIDS antibodies in blood. "About 1.5 percent out of every 3000 test positive [for AIDS] with ELISA," he said. But a positive result on an ELISA test does not confirm that a person has AIDS, Everoski said.

The ELISA test picks up many things in the blood besides AIDS antibodies, Bergeson said. "50 percent of the time it [ELISA] can be wrong," she said. The sensitive nature of the ELISA test causes many false-positive results.

A lab technician of Stony Brook Blood Bank, Diane Starbuck, said "There are a lot of false-positives because it's [ELISA] is so sensitive. It picks up everything." If blood tests positive for AIDS using ELISA, the blood gets retested with the Western Blot, which is more specifically detects AIDS,

according to Starbuck.

Bergeson said the Western Blot is a more expensive and time consuming blood test than ELISA. Using ELISA "keeps the cost down," she said.

Everoski said "The Western Blot is used only if an ELISA test is positive." The blood tested positive using ELISA gets sent to Manhattan for the Western Blot. Even if the Western Blot proves the blood does not contain AIDS antibodies, "we still don't want to take any chances or get any law suits," he said.

To eliminate discrimination against people who test positive for AIDS, voluntary testing sites give numbers to people who come in to get tested. Judith Laserson of the AIDS information hotline said. Testing is confidential since names are not used, she said.

The infirmary does not test anyone for AIDS, according to Bergeson. "We refer everybody out to the Long Island AIDS Association," an anonymous test site, she said. New York State provides free testing and counseling at voluntary test sites as a public health service according to Bergeson.

When people go into voluntary testing sites they receive counseling before and after getting the blood test, Bergeson said. "It takes three to four weeks to get the results of the test," she said. Laserson said the people who are tested have to call up for their results.

Labs test the blood from voluntary test sites twice with ELISA and any blood that comes back positive is sent in to get the Western Blot, Bergeson said.

Glenn Magpantay, freshman majoring in the theater and engineering, said "Everyone who is sexually active, without exception, should be tested for AIDS. If you're scared, that's all the more reason you should go down to get tested. It's not right to spread the disease." Magpantay said "Testing should be mandatory, but absolutely confidential."

Dallas Baumann, assistant vice president of Residence Life and member of the AIDS task force said. "If you're healthy and practicing safe sex, what do you need to be tested for?" People should assume they are carrying the



Statesman/Daniel Smith
Dr. Rachel Bergeson

disease and behave accordingly by practicing safer sex, he said.

"If it takes a test to make people change their behavior, or if people are immobilized because they don't know if they have AIDS, they should get tested," Baumann said. "Money could be much better spent on education than on testing. Nothing about a test prevents people from getting or passing the disease," he said. Mandatory testing would be useless. "You can test negative and then go out, practice unsafe sex and get AIDS. Testing would have to be continuous, the prices phenomenal," he said.

AIDS Testing Testimony

I am a sexually active male in a time when being sexually active means taking chances. I have never used intravenous drugs, never had a blood transfusion, never had a homosexual experience. In early April I decided to be tested for AIDS.

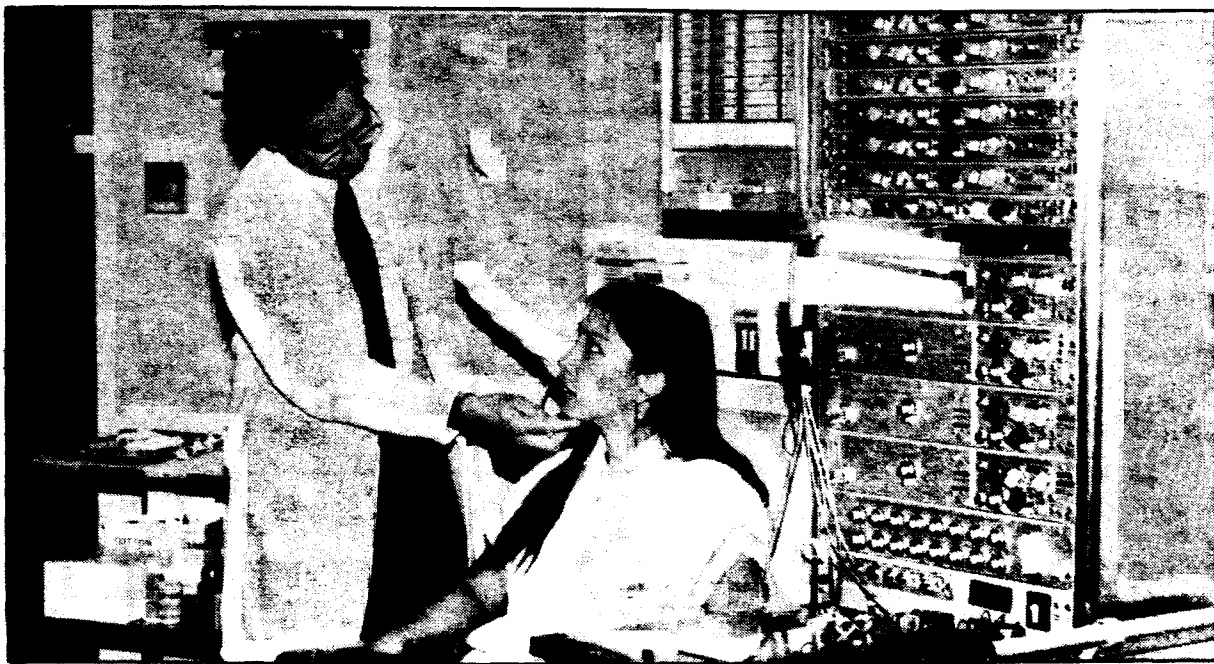
Since the time I became sexually active, I had been in a sexually exclusive relationship and had remained unconcerned about AIDS. But that relationship ended in the spring, and with its demise began my fears of contracting AIDS. I had only used condoms when no other form of birth control is feasible.

Cases of males contracting AIDS from female sex partners are rare, because men usually do not bleed during sex, a worker at an AIDS hotline reassured me. Each time I called the hotline for information, I answered the same questions regarding my sexual and drug-use history. After learning that I had taken none of the risks associated with AIDS, one hotline worker asked me, "Why do you want to be tested?"

I wanted to know that I did not have AIDS. Despite my almost risk-free history, the only way to be sure was to be tested. So I scheduled an appointment at a Suffolk County Health Clinic to have my blood tested. Due to a long waiting list, the earliest they could take me was more than a month away, in May.

I chose to be tested by the county health services after learning that the campus infirmary cannot do testing, and any other testing route would hold no guarantee of anonymity. I was told that a private doctor would charge for the exam and would probably want to record it on my file.

With the appointment marked discreetly on my
(continued on page 3)



HSC Photography Service

Sleep Lab Studies Insomnia

Dr. Wallace Mendelson, director of the Sleep Disorders Program and the Sleep Wake Lab at University Hospital, demonstrates polysomnography equipment on Elaine Thein, technical assistant in the Psychology department. The equipment monitors brain waves, eye movements, and respiration to help physicians diagnose sleep disorders.

Mendelson is currently leading a study testing the effect of a drug on subjects with insomnia. The study, sponsored in part by a pharmaceutical company, will study the effect of the drug on individuals over a 14-week period. Mendelson hopes to determine if the new drug—part of the same drug family as the widely used sleeping pill ingredient triazolam—will work over a longer time period without affecting the wakeful periods of users.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1 Last day for advance registration for spring semester graduate courses.

Town Meeting

To be held in the Union Ballroom from 6-8 p.m.

"What Has Happened to Women scientists Since 1940?"

Margaret Rossiter, visiting from the Program on History and Philosophy of Science of Cornell University, will speak at 8 p.m. in Javits room 101. For more information call 632-7498.

"Heat and Dust"

Movie in the Stony Brook Union Auditorium at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$.50 w/ SUSB ID \$1 w/out.

Blood Drive

Students and faculty are urged to donate blood from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Gymnasium. For more information and appointments call 632-6167.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

An Evening of Solidarity with the People of El Salvador

The featured speaker will be SB Professor Brooke Larson at this event in the Union Fireside Lounge at 7:30 sponsored by HOLA and the Third World Resource Center.

Chamber Music

The Mendelssohn String Quartet will perform at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center Main Stage Auditorium. For ticket information call 632-7230.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

"Trampled Woman: New York City Public Sculpture in Historical Context"

Professor Michele Bogart will speak at 12 noon in the Fine Arts Center Art Gallery.

Pre-Nursing Society Meeting

Meeting at 6 p.m., Nursing School, HSC Level 2.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

Art Lecture

Amy Bakerr Sandback, President of *Artform Magazine* for the Visiting Artist Seminar Series at 1 p.m. in the Art Department Conference Room of the Fine Arts Center.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

Bodcat Goldthwait

This comedian will perform at 8 p.m. in the gym. Tickets are on sale in the Union box office at \$8.50 w/ SUSB ID \$9.50 w/out.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

The Alarm

Concert will take place in the gymnasium at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale in the Union box office \$9.50 w/ SUSB ID, \$11.50 w/out.

"Angel Heart"

COCA will present this movie in the Stony Brook Union Auditorium one night only at 6, 8 and 10 p.m. Admission is \$1 w/ SUSB ID \$1.50 w/out.

ACROSS THE NATION

AIDS May Be Changing Student Sex Habits

Students just aren't pursuing the opposite sex the way they used to, University of Wisconsin journalism students have found.

In response to a journalism department survey, a majority of Wisconsin-Madison students said fear of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) had convinced them to change their sexual habits.

Fifty-six percent of the students said they used condoms more than they used to, and two-thirds of the students who said they'd had multiple sexual partners during the last year said they'd decrease the number. Professor Sharon Dunwoody, who supervised the survey of 438 undergrads, reported.

Frat Banned As Racial Confrontations Continue

Farleigh Dickinson University suspended an all-white fraternity last week for engaging in a stick-wielding brawl between white and black students in front of its house October 17.

On November 11, FDU spokeswoman Alice Olick said Sigma Omicron Beta — which isn't affiliated with any national fraternity — would be banned from campus until 1991 for engaging in the brawl, and to punish it for recent violations of other campus rules.

FDU fraternities weren't the only ones to be slapped officially. A week earlier, the city of Fullerton, California, had warned greek houses at the University of California at Fullerton to stop their members from violating noise and other ordinances and to clean up "eyesore" buildings by January 2, 1988, or face eviction.

The October Farleigh Dickinson brawl, moreover, was one of a series of racial confrontations that have plagued the universities of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana, as well as Tompkins-Cortland Community College in New York, this fall. And at the University of Maryland last week, Middle Eastern students submitted a petition complaining about a "racist flyer" circulating around the campus.

The Organization of Arab Students displayed the flier — advertising a fake product called "Arab Extra Dry" that said "You don't have to be an Arab to smell like one" — and asked administrators to "condemn any form of racist humor aimed at any ethnic group on campus."

Meanwhile, the Campus Friends of Israel at the University of Texas at Austin charged October 30 that a campus anti-apartheid group — The Steve Biko Committee — helped spread anti-Semitism by inviting speaker Kwame Ture to campus. In his speech at Texas — as well as at various other campuses — Ture said, "I'll say it again: the only good Zionist is a dead Zionist."

The Biko Committee responded by inviting Jewish students to a meeting, at which member Trina Reed asserted their reading of what constituted anti-Semitism was wrong.

Many Dropouts Leave Campuses Because of Money Woes

About a third of the student who drop out of college leave for money reasons, a five-year examination of dropout patterns by the University of Maryland concluded last week.

Some of the dropouts might have graduated "if they had received the benefits of existing programs or services," student affairs vice chancellor Richard Stimson said.

Trying to discover why students left college before graduating, Maryland's

Student Affairs Office stated following the progress of some 1980 freshmen, divided into a "representative group" of students from varied backgrounds and a "minority group" of black students. In all, almost 18 percent of the "representative group" and 21 percent of the "minority group" eventually left college.

Thirty-two percent of the "representative" and 44 percent of the minority dropouts said they left for financial reasons.

"That's a problem that higher education is facing right now," conceded Maryland Chancellor John Slaughter. "This campus must (provide more financial aid), but this campus shares that problem with the rest of the nation."

The Maryland study also showed that few of the dropouts used the counseling and advising resources available on the campus to help them solve money problems.

Have an event for the calendar? Send information to: Calendar, P.O. Box AE, Stony Brook, NY 11790 or bring it down to the Statesman offices, room 075 of the Stony Brook Union.

ACROSS

- 1 Church bench
- 4 Talk
- 9 Viper
- 12 A state: abbr
- 13 Girl's name
- 14 Baker's product
- 15 Calling
- 17 Sandy waste
- 19 Have on one's person
- 21 Liquid measure: abbr.
- 22 Exact
- 25 Chart
- 27 Ceremony
- 31 Decay
- 32 Rules
- 34 Near
- 35 Old French coin
- 36 At present
- 37 Ancient Roman weight
- 38 Praised

- 41 Peer Gynt's mother
- 42 Woody plant
- 43 Pekoe, e.g.
- 44 Matured
- 45 Indian mulberry
- 47 Heroic event
- 49 Pen for cattle
- 53 Comely
- 57 Tint
- 58 Pretentious rural residence
- 60 Be in debt
- 61 Anger
- 62 Foreign
- 63 Vessel

DOWN

- 1 Moccasin
- 2 Guido's high note
- 3 Armed conflict
- 4 Pintail duck
- 5 Pre-eminent
- 6 Teutonic deity
- 7 Succor
- 8 Retain
- 9 Simian
- 10 Title of respect
- 11 Fondle

- 16 Female sheep
- 18 Stalk of grain
- 20 Male sheep
- 22 Pamphlet
- 23 Moving part of motor
- 24 Guido's low note
- 26 Fruit
- 28 Italy abbr
- 29 Plague
- 30 Ancient chariot
- 32 Female deer
- 33 Bow
- 35 Besmirch
- 39 First person
- 40 River in Scotland
- 41 Symbol for silver
- 44 High card
- 46 Volcanic emanation
- 48 Country of Asia
- 49 Greek letter
- 50 Possessive pronoun
- 51 Female ruff
- 52 Girl's nickname
- 54 Cover
- 55 Couple
- 56 Still
- 59 Roman 51

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Solution on Page 5

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An Account — Getting Tested

(continued from page 1)

calendar. I turned my thoughts back to everyday life. But the approaching blood test made me worry even more. I began to see increased risk in my life: I invented links between my body and the disease which could end my life. And I thought of chickening out.

"Maybe I don't want to know if I have AIDS," I thought. If my test registered positive, it would only mean I had been exposed to the virus; I would be sentenced to, at best, years of wondering whether the disease would attack my system or, at worst, painful death before age 25. But I knew that even if I didn't want to know, the women I might endanger would have a right to know.

I went for the blood test on a weekday morning in late May. The health center waiting room is not a pleasant place: no one is happy to be there. A woman behind a counter in the waiting room quietly instructed me to sign my first name on a cryptically labelled sheet on the door of the Family Planning office. There were several names on the sheet from earlier in the morning.

After a short wait, a doctor lead me to a small office at the end of the corridor. I sat down, and he began the list of questions I had already heard several times. I responded with the standard list of answers, and he gave me a puzzled look. I explained why I wanted to get tested, and he agreed that it would be the only way to know for sure. He says that if my answers to his questions were true (which they were), he calculated my risk of having AIDS at less than one in one hundred.

These odds comforted me a little, but when you're betting on death, even one in one hundred doesn't sound good. The doctor explained the testing process. They assigned me a number (they didn't even ask for my name) which served as my identification for the test. He handed me a card upon which he had written my number and the date of my return visit, when they would tell me the results.

He directed me to another office, where a woman silently put on a pair of rubber gloves and took what looked like several ounces of my blood from my arm. I watched her face and wondered what she thought of me. I wanted to introduce myself, tell her that I don't have AIDS, tell her she doesn't have to worry or wear the gloves. Instead I quipped about the vein in my arm; she just smiles.

The date on the card was three weeks after my initial visit. I had not counted on waiting that long. As the days in between passed, thoughts of the test slipped in and out of my mind. I thought about it at least once a day, when reminded of the disease by any of the numerous articles, television and radio reports, and comments which bombard our lives with AIDS statistics, advice, and paranoia.

Occasionally I would wonder what stage my blood had reached in the testing process. Had they even gotten to my blood yet? Perhaps some researcher in Manhattan was at that very moment shaking his head sadly as he checked off "positive" on my questionnaire sheet, returned it to my file, and turned his attention to the next test subject.

I often debated whether I would go to get the results at all. I imagined how I would change my life if my test showed positive. I imagined facing a woman I love and telling her I may have destroyed her life by making love to her.

I never had to do that. One weekday morning in mid-June I sat in the same small office at the end of the corridor and stared blankly while the same doctor looked for my file, which had been misplaced. The added seconds of waiting were, of course, the worst. After the doctor told me that my tests showed negative, I got up from the chair and thanked him, feeling ashamed of my joy — ashamed because he does not give good news to everyone.

As I walked out, he told me to use condoms. I turned and nodded, knowing that I would make mistakes, and hoping that those mistakes would cost me only my peace of mind, and not my life.

(The writer is an undergraduate at Stony Brook.)

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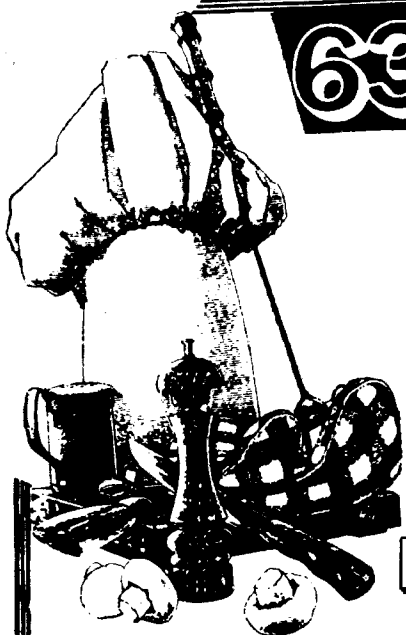
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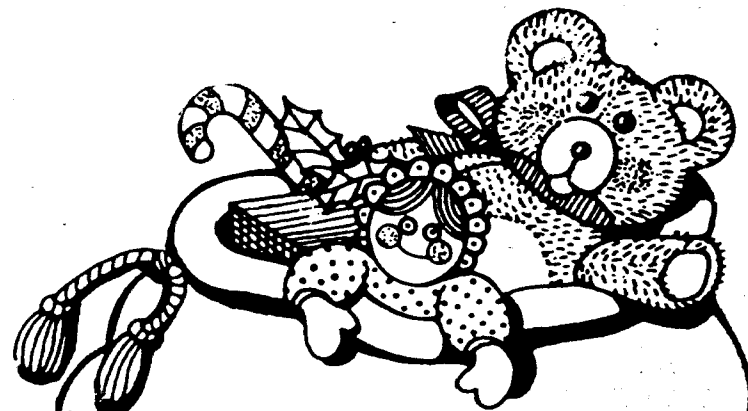
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College Investors Count Their Losses After Crash

By the College Press Service

College money managers say they're still trying to dig out from under the debris of the precipitous "Black Monday" stock market crash of October 19, but some students seemed to have done pretty well, at least on paper.

In an investment game designed to teach students how to manage stock holdings, for example, Babson College (in Massachusetts) students' "portfolio" dropped 5.7 percent in October while the real stock market plunged nearly 30 percent, Professor Bob Kleiman reports.

Business departments often let their students manage real or imagined stock portfolios, learning to "buy" or "sell" stocks to maximize "profits."

Inevitably, some of the student investment clubs did worse than others in the crash — during which The Dow Jones Industrial Average fell a record 508 points in one day — and in the wild swings of the market in subsequent weeks.

At the University of Nebraska, for instance, business students lost a real \$43,000 from a portfolio worth \$300,000 before Black Monday. Yale's student investment club lost about \$100,000 in the crash, and campus business managers didn't do any better.

Many colleges own portfolios that include stock holdings, and use the profits to pay for capital improvements and to provide for student financial aid.

Most campus portfolio managers, however, noted colleges typically are conservative investors, and that the crash consequently may not hurt them in the long run.

The University of Pennsylvania lost \$40-50 million during the crash, a 15 percent drop. The loss could have been worse, but the university — sensing the stock market would go through a "correctional phase" — had sold a significant percentage of its stock holdings prior to Black Monday.

Penn State lost less than 10 percent of its \$130 million endowment, and officials there also say the pinch should not affect daily operations. "We will still be able to fund all programs," said Steve Garban, senior vice president for financial operations.

The University of Southern California's \$160 million stock holdings dropped 13 percent, or \$20.8 million, on Black Monday.

Duke postponed issuing tax-exempt bonds that would help finance several capital improvement programs, figuring

the bonds would be hard to sell now. "The volatile stock market could scare bond investors," said Mark Reeder, an E.F. Hutton broker in Durham.

Faculty members nearing retirement will bear the brunt of the stock market's volatility, and critics of higher education's largest pension companies said the pension managers are too rigid in their planning. The Teachers Insurance Annuity Association and College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF) delayed establishing other investments for faculty members, denying them a port in the stock market storm.

CREF funds lost 18 percent of their value during October as the company explored new and more flexible investment vehicles.

College fundraisers say the market's violent swings have diminished prospects for year-end giving and capital improvement campaigns. The University of Arizona, for example, has delayed construction of football stadium skyboxes because the shaky market has raised concerns about financing the project.

Students interested in working as brokers will face stiff competition for jobs and may have to work in related fields until the stock market stabilizes, a University of Iowa job placement officer said. "Until the stock market recoups, the hiring that investment firms do will be limited and highly selective," Nancy Noth said. "It should make students take a strong look at what they're doing right now."

Babson students, though, are happy about "The Wall Street Game," the investment game they've been playing since September.

"The product is quite good, particularly for intro courses. It's realistic," Kleiman said.

The game, marketed and developed by Babson alumnus and former stockbroker Tim DeMello, allows students to buy, sell and trade stocks in the American, OTC and New York stock exchanges. Although no real money changes hands, the students are given mock \$100,000 accounts to "invest."

Students call a toll-free telephone number at DeMello's office to arrange deals with "brokers" who, through satellite and computer hook-ups, have immediate access to the New York-based exchanges. "It's a direct duplication of what brokers do," said DeMello.

"The students get to manage portfolios and the universities can provide hands-on education without incurring liabilities," DeMello explained.

Other schools use closing prices from The Wall Street Journal to determine how well a student manages a portfolio, but closing prices don't indicate the value of a stock when it is purchased or sold, he added.

"They can do anything that's done on Wall Street," DeMello said of Babson students.

Although Babson is the only college in the nation currently using "The Wall Street Game," DeMello said several other schools have signed up for the spring semester and more will use the game next fall.

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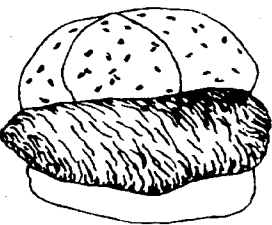
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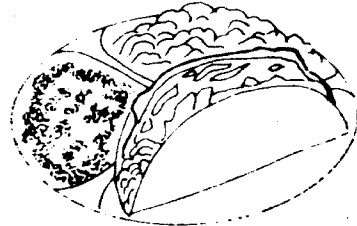
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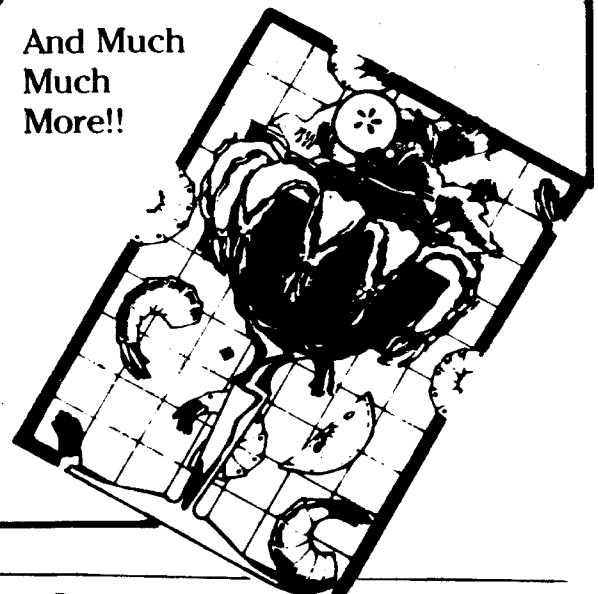


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And Much Much More!!



Paul Simon: Fifty Ways to Be Front-Runner

As tired and stifling as our narrow party system gets, there's something fun going on in the Democratic camp. The rise of Paul Simon, the bookish, bespectacled one-term senator from Illinois, is shocking the hell out of everyone.

When Simon entered the race last spring the only responses he got were jokes about his pop-star name and funny looks. Now he's climbing ahead of the designated front-runner, Michael Dukakis, and the real front runner, Jesse Jackson, in Iowa polls. Strategists are wondering whether Simon — with his endless anecdotes and folksy charm — will be the next Ronald Reagan or if he will be trampled by more "sophisticated" candidates once the campaign really gets rolling.

There's a strong indication that Simon is a powerhouse of political savvy. Rather than keeping quiet about the possibility of a Mario Cuomo candidacy, he told a New York audience recently that he believed Cuomo was truthful about not running and had the governor as the Democratic Party's best spokesman. Winning a Cuomo endorsement is something that would make any candidate's mouth water. Simon is playing his hand well.

Simon ran a brutal senatorial campaign in 1984 against incumbent Charles Percy. He assailed Percy in debates and high-tech commercials for taking flip-flops on major issues.

Simon recently showed his knack for media use by staging the best and most-widely circulated publicity photos of the presidential campaign.

Simon bowling in New Hampshire, complete with a loosened bow tie, rolled up sleeves and a red bowling shirt with "Paul" monogrammed on it.

While Simon never graduated college he founded a chain of populist weekly newspapers in Illinois, served five terms in congress and has authored eleven books — on topics ranging from arms control to advice on how to work out mixed marriages.

Aside from his plusses, there's the other candidate's minuses. Dukakis, Richard Gephardt, Albert Gore and Bruce Babbitt are as boring as sin to the public right now. In debates, these four seem unable to articulate any economic policy and have yet to come up with innovative ideas in foreign affairs and arms control.

Only Jesse Jackson and Simon have made real policy statements. Both are for large cuts in the military budget, organizing an international mideast peace conference, government-sponsored job programs and consistent summits with the Soviet Union. But news organizations and party officials are only too quick to cut the pair down.

New York magazine — in an absurdly premature manner — slapped Dukakis on its cover in August and asked, "Are you ready for the Duke?" Newsweek used a full-page piece to join in on declaring Dukakis the frontrunner, proclaiming "America we have a frontrunner." New York magazine this week ran a written five-page article on all the bad things people have to say about Paul Simon. U.S. News and World Report featured on its cover this month an outright character assassination of Jesse Jackson. The piece, "The Man Who Would Be King" — referring to Rev. Martin Luther King, was a merciless account painting Jackson as an opportunist who leached onto the Rev. King in order to steal his crown. It quoted such figures as Dr. Ralph

Apernathy — who is currently on the payroll of the Moonie Unification Church.

What's most interesting about Simon's campaign is that he's building his popularity on issues that Reagan assured the country didn't exist: Unemployment and poverty. Simon has testified that unemployment is the single most oppressive, crippling circumstance a person can find himself in. Simon is pushing New Deal (read: neo-socialist) job programs whereby localities will be provided with federal money to program 30-hour-a-week jobs (with an extra day off for workers to look for jobs on their own). Where will the money come from? A \$20 billion but in defense and, Simon claims, the government will save some money by removing people from the unemployment roles and welfare programs.

Simon also has some offbeat plans, like ensuring every poor household a telephone. Phones, he maintains, will add a social and psychological boost to the lives of the alienated poor. It will lessen their feelings of isolation and rejection, he says.

Simon talks and plans as if people really mattered. It's hard to remember the last time a federal policy was suggested because it would help soothe someone's feeling of rejection.

Simon could emerge as the Reagan of the Democrats. He lacks the glamour of our actor-in-residence, but he makes people feel good about government and about themselves. People want to feel moral and charitable and when Simon talks of a government that will lift up the homeless and poor a large part of the country is fascinated. He makes people feel that by just casting a vote for him they are doing something for the poor. Judging from his books and platform, they could be right. Do we have a front runner?

Statesman

Fall 1987

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Objective Tests Leave No Room for Expression

By Thomas Costello

Among overburdened college professors, the favorite method of testing students is the computer graded, multiple choice test. It provides for the easiest and quickest way to find out what students know. This test is fine for the more "physical," or quantitative sciences like math, physics, chemistry, and others. But in the social sciences and humanities, most questions have neither right nor wrong answers. However, in many courses, the same multiple choice, true-false exams are given. Multiple choice exams don't usually tell you or the professor what you know, but how much you remember of what the professor knows or what your book says. There is no room for analysis, alternative ideas, or forgiveness for missing that unimportant little word tucked away in that insignificant paragraph in small print on the bottom of the last page of the 700 page book. The "Scantron" computer has no mercy.

While many dread "blue book" essay tests and hate term papers, these are the only means by which a student can express him/herself as fully as possible in the class setting. Class participation doesn't really affect your grade when you are competing for the instructor's attention with 200 people who are crowded in the same room with you. Students may actually have to *learn the material*, but isn't that the reason we are here in the first place? Those students who rely on a curve to get them

through almost any 100-level course outside of English or even Constitutional Law should re-evaluate their choice of courses, and maybe even their major.

If you think the professors are totally at fault, think again. At the heart of the problem lies an administration that assigns sixty students to a professor who's class is supposed to consist of thirty. The professor is forced to cut back on the amount of time devoted to fairly evaluating each student. Many professors are also pressured to publish work on top of their class responsibilities. It may be surprising to some students to learn that they aren't the only people with a tight schedule or deadlines to meet (Ever wonder why professors sometimes try to dissuade students from taking their classes?). It is also no secret that professors aren't the highest paid educators in the country. It seems the administration is more concerned with grabbing the tuition money of as many undergraduate students as possible, while at the same time not increasing the number of teaching professors or graduate TAs in the social sciences and humanities. More graduate student teachers would be a boon, but Stony Brook has a terrible reputation among those who are interested in becoming graduate TAs, a reputation that, unfortunately, has been earned through the well documented heavy-handed and deceitful actions of the administration in their treatment of the graduate students.

Well, I'm not going to convince the administration to change its views, so I'll try to persuade some students to see things differently. Some may say "If you want to express yourself, become an English major." This is fine, for people who actually *want* English to be their major. What about those people who are interested in political science, sociology, psychology, anthropology, just to name a few? Every one of these areas of study has at least one class where tests are multiple-choice (including many "upper-level" courses). Surely there are more people who are interested in saying something who have interests outside of English. Decisions in "real life" are hardly ever as clear as picking the best solution out of four or five. The problems of the world can almost never be solved by a multiple choice, true-false test.

However, a lot of students aren't concerned with the world "out there." They want to know how to get through a class with a decent grade, while some might even want to convey some thoughts. The best way to make your voice heard is to go to your professor's office hours. Try to get to know your professor and find out what he/she expects of you *before* you take an exam.

I'm sure that I am not the first person to complain about this, and I'm equally sure that nothing will ever be done — many people don't even think this is a problem. I do, and I appreciate the chance to say so.

(The writer is a senior in political science.)

Treaty With Soviets A Bad Deal President Reagan Shouldn't Trust the Russians

By Michael Lutas

Today we stand on the threshold of an important treaty with the Soviet Union. This time it addresses the vital subject of nuclear arms. Unfortunately, this administration has given up principle as well as good sense while it pursues a paper peace. It's willing to accept a bad treaty for the false high on an entry in the history books entitled Reagan the peacemaker.

There are two things to avoid when signing a treaty with another country. The first is that we're giving up more than we're getting. That's what was behind the opposition to the SALT II (still unratified). The argument was simple, we cut a bad deal so don't go through with it. The second thing we shouldn't do is negotiate a treaty with another country that might look good on paper, but will not be enforced by the other side. The treaty is at best worthless and can be a potential disaster if we keep to our side of the bargain while they are breaking theirs. In the case of the INF talks going on now we're going to have to wait for the Senate ratification proceedings to see whether we cut a bad deal or not. We can already look at the past treaties the Soviet Union has signed to see whether we should have faith that they will keep their bargains. Looking back over the history of the Soviet Union, it's easy to find examples both old and new that it's foolish to make a treaty with them.

Before WWII when the Soviet Union had to choose between Hitler and Churchill as an ally the first choice was Hitler. The Molotov-Ribbentrop pact that they signed to seal their friendship divided up Poland which both countries invaded as well as giving the Soviets other territories that were once colonial parts of the tsarist empire and then became independent. Nazi Germany would still be the Soviets ally except that Hitler was not only crazy but also stupid. He went against the military advice of his generals and struck out against the Soviets thus destroying his dreams of a thousand year Reich. After the war there was the Yalta agreement, where all of Europe was supposed to be guaranteed free and independently held elections. What it actually meant was that once again Central

Europe had the shackles of colonial expansion put on it. Another violation of treaty and human rights occurred when Berlin wall went up and denied the previously guaranteed free access of East Berliners to West Berlin. Today there are still families that are separated because of that monstrosity. More recently they have given us another example by putting two amphibious assault brigades in Cuba during the Carter administration. Even while the INF negotiations are proceeding the Soviets are building duplicates of the one ABM radar that they are allowed under the ABM treaty and call them satellite tracking radars. Let's not forget the many friendship pacts and treaties signed between the Soviet Union and Hungary (invaded 1965), Czechoslovakia (invaded 1968), and Afghanistan (invaded 1979) as well as others.

Looking at the evidence of past Soviet violations, it's obvious that we can't afford to letting them get away with it by rewarding them with a new treaty that we will keep but they will not.

What's so unfortunate is that this current administration is one that's taken a strong stance on Soviet treaty violations, up until now. Now though, there is a strong movement inside the Congress and the Administration to turn the last major foreign policy act of this Presidency into an exercise of self-deluding hypocrisy and Reagan is helping to push this horror show along.

When the time comes that the Soviets are enforcing the existing treaties that they have with us and other countries, we should sit down immediately and negotiate away not only the Intermediate Nuclear Forces but our strategic ones as well. Nuclear weapons are too dangerous to keep if we can avoid it. If we could trust the Soviets to keep their word I would have them abolished immediately. Looking at it objectively, we can't trust them and under those circumstances, Reagan or any other president who expects them to honor a new treaty while they consistently break old ones is living in a dreamworld. If a bad treaty is passed that dreamworld is going to be a nightmare that we all will have to live with.

(The writer is a member of the College Republicans.)

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**Another Viewpoint,
Page 12**

LETTERS

Air Scare

To the Editor:

This is a plea for help. The Stony Brook School of Social Welfare is a community uprooted, forced by a serious environmental health hazard out of our classroom, office and meeting space on the second level of the Health Science Center. Suddenly we have found ourselves scattered throughout the second, third and fourth levels. Our school communication system has become nonexistent. Our fears about the immediate and longterm consequences of the air problem increase. Our education has been seriously disrupted.

The University has a responsibility to provide a safe educational setting for the School of Social Welfare community. Students have asked that they, together with faculty and staff, be located in safe, educationally appropriate facilities until their quality problems are isolated and corrected. A priority for students is that the school should be relocated as a total community and not divided here and there. The current temporary arrangements are not acceptable. The situation continues to be a crisis for us, three weeks after the October 22 incidents of serious illness forced this longterm problem to the forefront.

We need help. We need the active involvement of the University President, the Health Science Center administration, and the administration and faculty of the School of Social Welfare to (1) quickly determine the exact nature of the environmental problems that we know have affected people in the School of Social Welfare and that we believe are affecting people in the School of Allied Health and the School of Nursing as well as others in the Health Science Center and to (2) provide safe, educationally appropriate space for all affected.

Larry Bassett
Member of the Student Action Group
Stony Brook School of Social Welfare

Mayflower Power

To the Editor:

I was dismayed to read that Renaldo Hylton was shocked and angered at the appearance of the Mayflower Madam in the Fine Arts Center on November 13 (*Statesman* Letters, November 23). It was for people like Mr. Hylton that I made the decision to bring her here when I was working as the SAB activities chair in July.

Mr. Hylton has us believe that bringing the Mayflower Madam here promoted promiscuity, damaged the image of women, was non-educational, advocated the destruction of families and communities, and worsened "the world in which we live." Mr. Hylton goes on to imply that as a programmer, I should have protected the welfare of the students by not bringing her here. With arguments like these, it is clear that Mr. Hylton is compounding his own ignorance by refusing to subject himself to education in the matter.

Had Mr. Hylton attended the lecture, he would have gained an understanding of the social implications of prostitution in the 1980's from a most articulate source. By not attending, Mr. Hylton denied himself the privilege of sitting in on a question and answer session where he might have challenged Miss Barrows personally. Does Mr. Hylton really believe that by not attending this lecture he, and others, "protected" themselves?

Mr. Hylton protected himself in the same way a mother never tells her daughter about birth control. The bliss of ignorance that Mr. Hylton advocates for society is not "protection," but just plain ignorance. For Mr. Hylton's sake, and for others like him who would have banned the Mayflower Madam from this campus, I almost feel obligated to spend another \$2,700 to bring her back for another lecture.

If I did, it would be a small price to pay for a little bit of understanding.

Frank Vaccaro

Choral Moral

To the Editor:

In reference to Lynn Metviner's article "Choral Concert in Question" I am pleased to announce that the annual Holiday concert will take place in the Fine Arts Center on December 15th. Due to the enthusiastic audience turn out at recent choral concerts the Long Island Brass Guild will be featured guest artists, as planned. Stephen Barton will also conduct the Stony Brook choirs in Rutter's immensely popular *Gloria* and Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, both with orchestra. Since Polity has refused to continue supporting our active choral program (over 15 performances this year!) we urge your readers to attend this traditional Stony Brook concert. Note: we are hiring an organist for \$150, not \$1,000 as printing in the *Statesman*.

Timothy Mount
Director of Choral Music

Mad at Madam

To the Editor:

Ever wonder why the notion of "cultural life" at Stony Brook evokes a smirk most of the time? Ask Rob Schachter, high priest of that pandering, self-serving organization known as SAB. Who better than SAB to invite the high priestess of sleaze, Sydney Biddle Barrows, to speak at Stony Brook. Is Barrows here to caution women and men against the dangers of sexist oppression, disease, law-breaking of exploitation? No, she's here so "People can see she's a real person." Now who gives a damn about her person, real or otherwise? I've seen this woman on TV. She is nothing if not self-serving. She titillates in the name of information. She is an adorable, soft, high-bred ambassador of good will for prostitution and nothing more, and SAB has obviously asked her here for the publicity it generates. The woman has nothing to say to young people; she is a professional tease exploiting her own upbringing and raking in the fees all the while she complains about

the media and the invasion of her privacy. What a laugh. I can well believe SAB is licking its chops over this coup while the Town of Hempstead is fighting prostitution, while Stony Brook itself is mounting a national AIDS education effort, while women's groups all over the country are fighting to be taken seriously. Shame on SAB, on our campus, and on the Fine Arts Center, which, incredibly, has expressed "satisfaction" with the event. Satisfaction indeed. Fine arts, sure. All praise to alma mater.

Paul B. Wiener
Film Librarian

"Madam-Was-Swell"

To the Editor:

This is in response to Renaldo Hylton's letter in the November 23 issue of *Statesman* entitled "Mayflower Deflowered." Although no one can question his abhorrence of the performers' topic of prostitution as a community service, I must disagree with his criticism of Polity/SAB for programming the event.

He says that as a Resident Assistant, he is quite knowledgeable on selecting "good programming for residents — programs that are educational and will help our students to grow in a collegiate atmosphere."

Do the phrases "good programming" and "educational" imply that only the popular viewpoints of society are educational or good?

True education can only be achieved when a person is allowed to see all points of view and draw his own conclusions. It is the job of a "good programmer" to bring as many points of view to a campus as possible, and allow the individual to judge fairly from what he has seen and heard.

Although I personally do not condone prostitution, I think that by not allowing a student to hear a different viewpoint, you are hindering the education of that student. "The welfare of a student" is only ensured when his perspective of the issues is as wide as possible.

The value of her appearance at Stony Brook can be seen by the mere fact that it moved Renaldo enough to write a letter on the issue. It caused him to re-evaluate his feelings on the matter and strengthen his beliefs.

The real danger in our society exists when the opinions of others are not allowed to be heard by everyone who wishes to hear them.

Peter Kang

Satire Ire

To the Editor:

The so-called satirical article in *Statesman* saying that the new black Polity president "might be selling drugs in front of a school" is not only just in bad taste, it is indicative of the recism crawling around Stony Brook today.

Amiri Baraka
Director
Africana Studies Program

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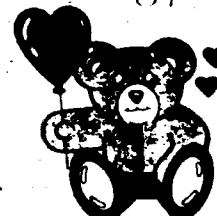
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MAKE YOUR OPINION KNOWN

Students Should Not Forget About El Salvador

By Tomas Padilla

Over the course of the past few semesters at Stony Brook, there has been a substantial amount of discussion concerning the political conflict in Nicaragua, while the war in El Salvador has gone virtually unnoticed. In an attempt to rectify this oversight, HOLA and the 3rd World Resource Center have organized an educational and cultural evening specifically focusing on the conflict in El Salvador. This activity, entitled "An evening in Solidarity with the people of El Salvador," will feature Professor Brooke Larson, music of El Salvador by Grupo Maquilizhuat, a slideshow on the Mesa Grande Going Home Project by a representative from the Long Island based Central American Refugee Committee (CRECEN) as well as music by Tent City. Topics of discussion will include the vast violations of human rights by the government of El Salvador, U.S. involvement in the war in El Salvador, the repatriation of 4500 Salvadoran Refugees from the Mesa Grande refugee camp in Honduras to their places of origin in El Salvador, as well as what we as American Citizens can do to promote a more just and humane society for the people of El Salvador.

There has been a civil war in El Salvador since 1979 between Government Armed Forces and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) that has claimed the lives of 62,000 citizens. The overwhelming majority of the 62,000 dead have been civilian non-combatants who have died at the hands of right-wing death squads and government bombing raids of villages in the countryside of El Salvador. The main targets of the death squads and the government bombings are the peasant population, union members and leaders, students, human rights workers and church workers seeking social justice in El Salvador. How could it be that the enemy of the Salvadoran Government is its own population? What is the cause of the civil war?

The Reagan Administration would like us to believe that the cause of the conflict is Russian, Cuban and Nicaraguan interference — "they're exporting Revolution." This "analysis" is incorrect. The root of the conflict is the unequal distribution of wealth in El Salvador. Between 60-70 percent of the land and resources are in the hands of 2 percent of its population. Today in El Salvador, there is 60 percent unemployment. More than 50 percent of children die before the age of 5; 72 percent of infants are malnourished. Per capita caloric intake is the lowest in Latin America. Fewer than three doctors serve every 10,000 people. The average life expectancy is only 46 years. The economic injustice and suffering for the majority of Salvadoran citizens is staggering. The basic human needs of food, shelter, land, medical care and clothing are not being met. After every peaceful means of trying to change the unjust conditions in El Salvador was exhausted and met with brutal repression, the people of El Salvador decided to take up arms as the last resort to achieve social and economic justice. This is how the FMLN was formed.

The formation of the FMLN has been met with brutal repression by the government of El Salvador against anyone suspected of collaborating or wumpathizing with the guerilla forces. Gross violations of human rights have consistently occurred in El Salvador and have been well-documented by independent international human rights organizations. Church workers have been assassinated. On December 2nd, 1980, four U.S. Maryknoll nuns who were in El Salvador working with poor were raped and murdered. On March 24, 1980, Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated while giving a mass. Archbishop Romero (Salvadoran equivalent of Martin Luther King) was a well-respected peaceful man who spoke for justice for the poor of El Salvador. Perhaps the most brutal example of the savagery of the Salvadoran Armed Forces was the massacre of May 14, 1980 at the Sumpul River. On this day 600 Salvadorans were killed as they tried to cross the Sumpul River and flee to safety in Honduras. They were fleeing El Salvador because the government was bombing their villages, burning their houses, slaughtering their livestock and destroying their crops. According to eyewitnesses of the massacre, soldiers would throw babies into the air and shoot them while in midair.

While the right-wing death squads and government violations of human rights has not continued at the alarming rates of the early 1980's, it has still been quite prevalent. According to the non-governmental Human Rights Commission in El Salvador, from January to October 1986 there were 1567 assassinations, 178 disappearances, and 1083 civilians captured or kidnapped.

The American Media and Reagan Administration widely credit President Duarte for "Democratizing" El Salvador and minimizing violations of human rights by the Salvadoran Armed forces, but harassment, death threats, disappearances, kidnappings, forced imprisonment and assassinations still occur frequently of civilians legally engaged in organized protest.

It is time for us as American citizens to take a stand against our government's involvement in the war in El Salvador. It is not enough to only sympathize with the struggle of the Salvadoran people or to feel revulsion at the murders done in our names with our tax money. It is time for us to strongly speak out against our government's destruction of the people of El Salvador. Peace in Central America is not possible until the war in El Salvador ends. U.S. intervention only prolongs the region's conflicts. As long as our tax dollars buy weapons for war, there will be no peace, no justice, and no democracy in El Salvador.

An opportunity for the Stony Brook community to directly help the people of El Salvador will present itself

on Wednesday, December 2, at 7:30 in the Union Fire-side Lounge with our "Evening in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador." We will be holding a fundraiser for the Salvadoran refugees from Mesa Grande, who will be repatriating their places of origin in El Salvador. Money raised will go toward building materials, seeds, buying farm animals, agricultural tools, and equipment to help them reconstruct their communities, which were bombed and destroyed by the Salvadoran armed forces. A representative from the Central American Refugee Committee (CRECEN) will give a slideshow on the Repopulation/Going Home Project. In addition, we will be collecting winter clothing for the 60,000 - 80,000 Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees living on Long Island. Many of them are very poor and cannot afford adequate clothing.

It is time that we, as American citizens of goodwill, put our money, time, and effort into meeting the needs of those less fortunate than ourselves; this is where the beauty in life lies, making a difference and helping others. We hope to see you at the activity!
(The writer is a member of HOLA)

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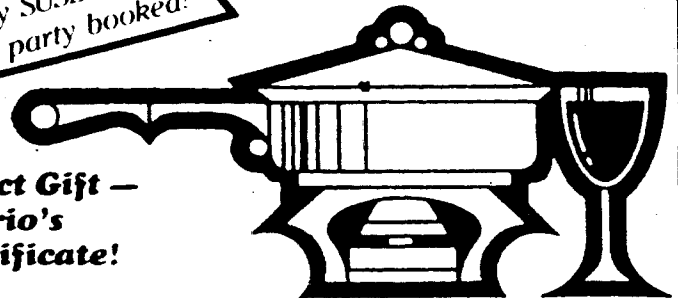
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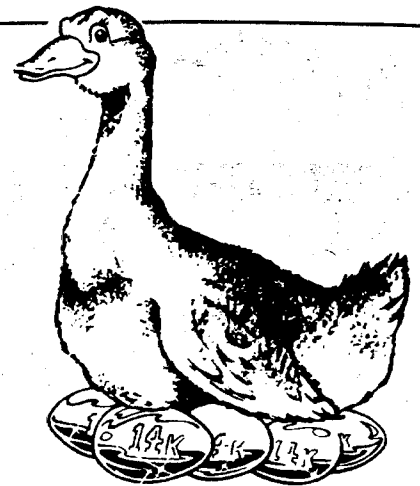
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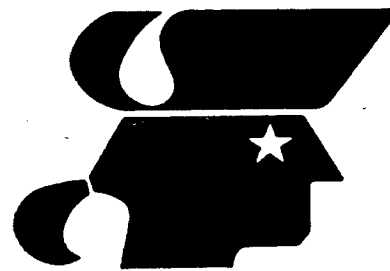
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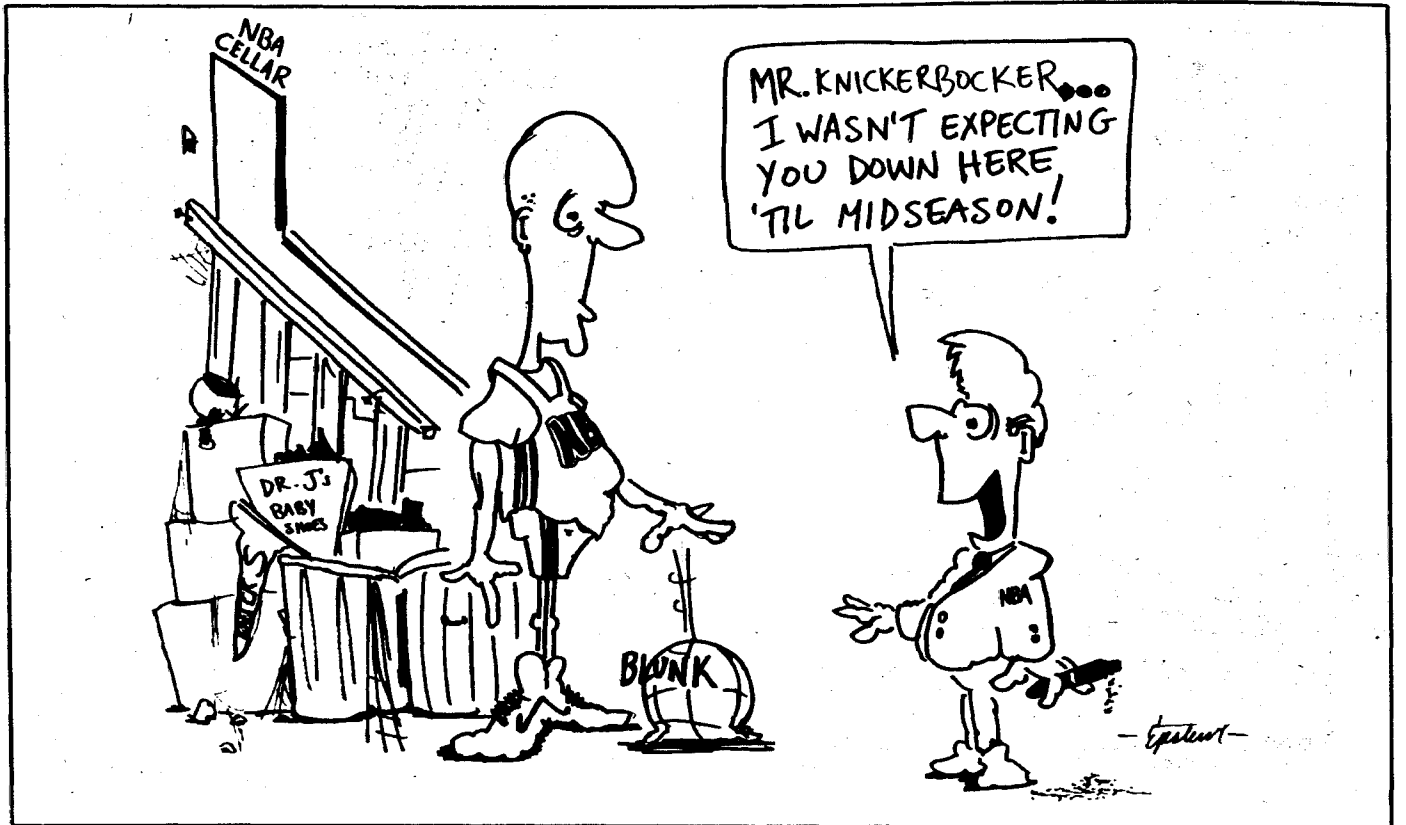
By Robert Abrams

Let's see, there's about 340 days until the 1988-89 Knicks and Nets Season. That's not such a long time, is it? Not really if you add on the past five years of play-offless basketball in New York and New Jersey. Coaches Rick Pitino of the Knicks, and Dave Wohl of the Nets, are seeing their worst nightmares come to life in front of them via their teams on the court. Errant passes, missed free throws, and uncanned jumped shots, are haunting the Knicks as usual. The Nets have played three less games (7) than the Knicks, so only time will tell if they can both duke it out, at the bottom of the Atlantic Division of the NBA.

Pitino stresses unselfishness and teamwork, but recently he ate his words. Knicks General Manager Al Bianchi dropped Gerald "I'm on another planet at crunch time" Henderson in favor of point guard intern Tony White in mid-November. Pitino, sensing an unfavorable response from Knick fans, washed his hands of the deal saying it wasn't his call. What's going on here. Even though Pitino wasn't responsible for the White move, he should support it with a positive aspect resulting from this change. Where's Pitino's teamwork now?

Now in week four of the season, the Knicks have driven their once believing fans, to ponder checking into mental institutions for ever having faith in a rookie coach, and a St. John's standout turning the Knicks into contenders. The Knicks have played each opponent the same — bad. They fall behind by 20 and they lead by one and then lose by 1. Does that sound encouraging? It would if they won one for a change.

Pitino downplays the "individual's" role on his team while emphasizing his first priority, the team's winning. His players are foreign to this philosophy. Recently, Gerald Wilkins, who had thought Pitino's style of play would compliment his game in the pre-season, was benched in favor of Trent



Tucker, who was considered trade bait. Wilkins averaged 19 points a game last year while center Patrick Ewing had 23 points on a team with a game plan designed for them. Now, Pitino isn't looking to one player to lead them to respectability. The Knicks need to mature quickly and realize teamwork will work.

The only difference between the Knicks and Nets is arenas. The Knicks play in Madison Square Garden and are ridiculed by 10,000 "fans" nightly (Those Garden fans have their hands full with the lowly Rangers already), while the Nets are lambasted verbally by 18,000 in the Brendan Byrne Arena. The only Nets' bright spot (as usual) is All-

Star Buck Williams, who recorded his 19th career 20/20 game against Boston last week (20 points, 20 boards). The Nets lost that game, 107-97. Surprised they only came up ten short? Well, remember "All-Galaxy" Larry Bird was out of the Celtics' lineup due to a sprained ankle. Rookie Dennis Hopson looks promising for the future with 16 points a game but without much help, the future looks light years away.

Wohl knows his team is less than adequate, but he isn't looking to trade to improve his situation. Can he improve it? Who can the Nets get for \$250,000 (their salary cap) with the talent of Michael Jordan, the speed of Spud Webb, and the court

presence of Magic Johnson? How about revising (improving) the dictionary's meaning of "ugly". It should be defined as "The Knicks and Nets style of play; a sight unbearable for the naked eye".

On Christmas Day forget the Chipmunks cartoons, all the laughs you need can be found when you watch the Knicks try to stay on the same court with the first-place Celtics. As the saying goes, the show must go on. So, take the Knicks' and Nets' show on the road and replace it with The Greatest Show On Earth, Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Baily Circus. Besides New York already has the biggest joke of all, Yankees' owner George Steinbrenner.



Robert Bruno, senior, has hopes of making the All-American team this year. He was named Metropolitan Champion for the last three years in a row.

High Hopes for Patriot Squash

By Nadine Palumbo

Squash season is upon us once again. For the past 25 years, Stony Brook has had a squash team. Squash has never been the most identifiable sport on campus, considering most people think it is a vegetable. Squash, a racquet sport, is played with a small-headed racquet with a long neck. It is similar to racquetball, however it entails more strength, strategy, and endurance. Like racquetball, it is played on an indoor court, and utilizes four walls. Squash is a fast game.

Stony Brook's team happens to be one of the better in the country. Two years ago it ranked with the top 10. Additionally, the team had its 200th win in their '85-'86 season, a major accomplishment in the intercollegiate squash world. Why does Stony Brook have such a solid team? The main reason might be Coach Snider.

Snider has been with Stony Brook since the first freshman class arrived in 1957. Snider is the founder, of the Stony Brook intramural program and the Stony Brook squash team. This squash team has had many problems to face: improper facilities, lack of recruiting, isolation of Long Island, to name a few. Despite all of these obstacles, Coach Snider has taken students who barely know the game and turned them into fine squash players.

A large part of the team is composed of students from gym classes. Captain of the team Ricardo Fortson said, "He [Snider] checks out all the classes and sees any guys that pick up squash and racquetball fast and goes after them."

Every freshman "recruited" is given a year to learn the game and progress, but must be at a certain level come sophomore year in order to make room for new freshmen. Many of the players, however, come to Stony Brook with knowledge of the game.

The line-up this year in order from the top is Robert Bruno, Jay Warshaw, Fortson, Jonathan Lam, Hector Torres, Noel Velasco, Dave Corsetti, Vincent Lencewski, Rudy Villamar and Jim Eastman.

Some of these players have chosen to come to Stony Brook primarily for squash, such as Warshaw and Bruno. Bruno, the Metropolitan Champion for the past three years, is attempting to make All-American status this year. The All-American team is the top twenty intercollegiate players in the country. Playing number one, Bruno has been close for the past three years, and this is his final year to make it. Bruno said, "Making All-American this year is probably more important to me than graduating in May. Beers for everyone on campus if I do."

Most of the starting line are seniors, with half graduating in May, including four of the top five. It is for this reason that Fortson is optimistic about this year's season. He said, "We have the experience with many seniors to hope for a good year...how good is still yet to be seen."

The Stony Brook Squash team plays its season opener 4:00 P.M. on Wednesday, December 2nd at home vs. Fordham.