

USB B-ball L loses to
Cleveland Page 14

Earning Money on
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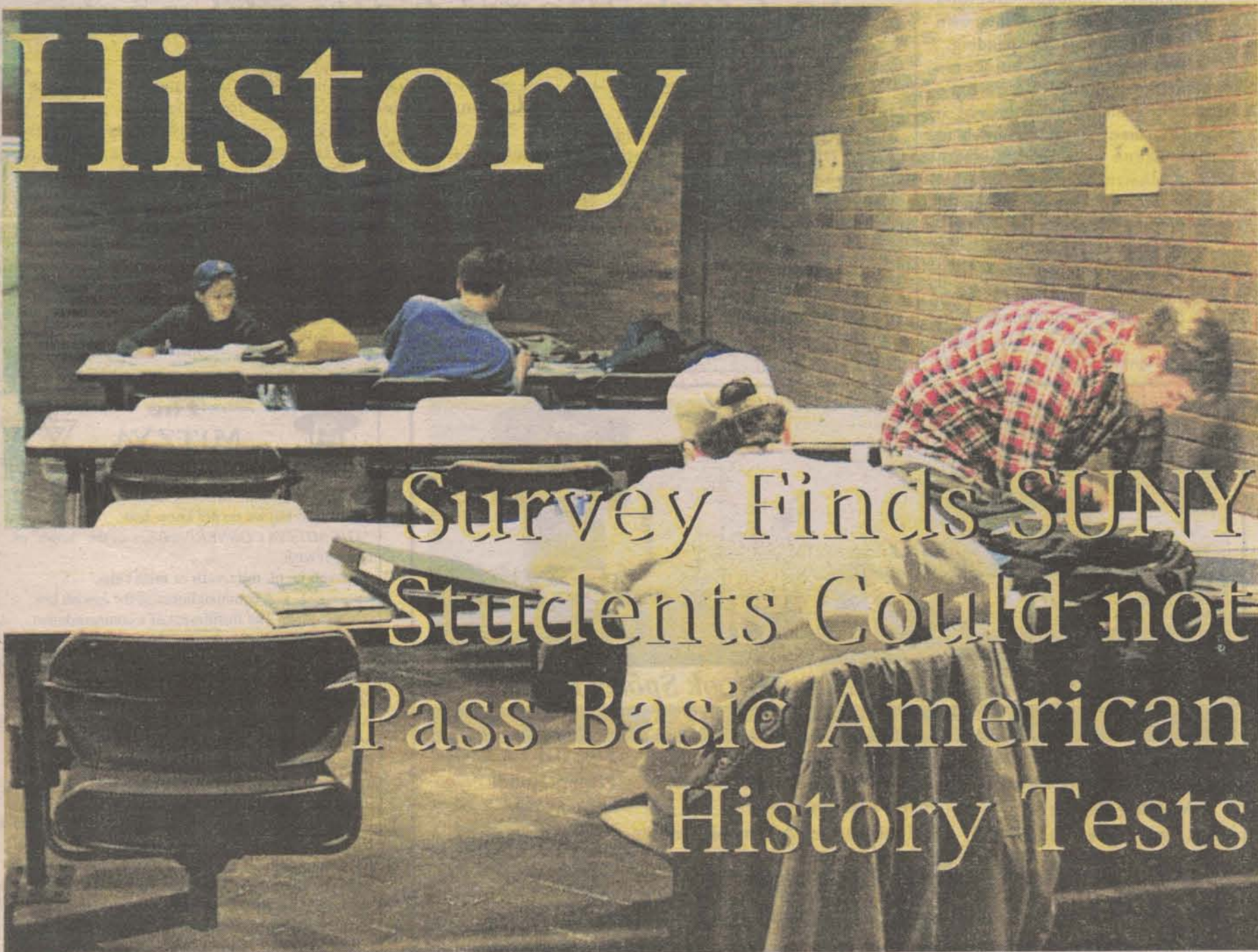
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Flunking

History



Survey Finds SUNY
Students Could not
Pass Basic American
History Tests

Senate Republicans Want More TAP

A state Senate proposal would almost double Tuition Assistance Program grants, make more families eligible for the college aid, and make tuition tax deductible.

Senate Republicans proposed Tuesday to make the TAP available in households with income up to \$80,000 a year, up from \$50,500 after deductions. Tuition would be tax deductible and the amount the state provides for each tuition grant would be increased - the current minimum of \$275 would be changed to \$500 after two years - under the plan.

"We feel this doesn't represent spending, this is an investment," Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno said during a press conference when asked how he could justify the \$65 million his plan would cost the state in the first year and the \$365 million it would cost over four years.

Gov. George Pataki had a lukewarm response to the proposal, saying he would look at it. His budget office said New York State's Tuition Assistance Program is already far more generous than programs in all other states.

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver's camp said they have their own plans for higher education spending.

Bruno said the income requirements should be relaxed because the economy has improved so much that many earn too much to qualify. Bruno gave Sen. Kenneth LaValle, chairman of the Senate's Higher Education Committee, credit for developing the plan.

Details of the plan include:

- Changes over four years in both tuition assistance and tax deductions. In the first year, the minimum grant award would be \$400 for all classes and the maximum would go to \$5,000

New Proposal to Double Tuition Assistance

for freshman. After four years, the maximum award would be \$5,000.

- Tax savings according to income levels. For a two-parent family that earns \$20,000 annually and has one of two children attending a private college, the savings would be \$200. For the same-sized family with an income of \$75,000, the tax savings would be \$1,130. The tax deductions would be implemented gradually over a four-year period - 25 percent of tuition expenses in the first year, 50 percent in the second year, and so on up to 100 percent.

- Tuition awards of \$170 for juniors and seniors who maintain a 3.5 grade point average. That's in addition to a proposed \$170 award for students who perform community service.

- The plan offers lesser savings for families with students who attend the State University of New York and City University of New York because tuition at these schools costs less on average than private colleges. A two-income family with an annual income of \$75,000 with one child attending either of the public colleges would be eligible for a grant of \$840 and \$199 in tax savings. The grant amounts are greater for those with lesser incomes and the tax savings amounts are less for those with lesser incomes. Families could only deduct their out-of-pocket expenses, not the amounts that come from TAP grants.

Bruno denied that the election-year proposal was an attempted affront to Pataki, who was counting on saving

money on the Tuition Assistance Program because less people will be eligible this year. Pataki last year tried to cut the program.

Pataki and Bruno have lately disagreed over health insurance spending and other issues, which may have led to the firing of some Bruno-backed state employees. The two appeared together on Valentine's Day and suggested they were getting along fine.

"It's especially easy and a pleasure to follow the governor, most of the time," Bruno said as he followed the governor to the podium at an event at the state University at Albany.

Pataki, asked by reporters after the event about his relationship with Bruno, appeared perturbed at the continuing interest in the subject.

"That's yesterday's question. Play back your tapes from yesterday," the governor said. AP

Senator Critical of NCAA Efforts to Curb Illegal College Sports

The NCAA has been a "dismal failure" in protecting amateur athletes from illegal gambling and the Justice Department should pursue the problem, Sen. Harry Reid said Thursday.

Reid issued the critique in discussing a bill he introduced which calls on the U.S. Attorney General's office to investigate illegal gambling on college sports events on campuses nationwide.

"The NCAA is a dismal failure in protecting amateur athletes," said Reid, D-Nev. "They've received billions of dollars from television revenues and I think they should spend some of these resources on the problem of gambling on college campuses."

The NCAA is backing a bill introduced in the U.S. Senate that would ban betting on college sports at Nevada-sports books - the only

state in the nation where such bets are legal.

"We have looked at his bill," said Doris Dixon, director of federal relations for the NCAA in Washington, D.C. "If they want to investigate illegal gambling, we say go for it. We are very much interested in learning more about illegal gambling."

Reid said the NCAA is "doing

Continued on page 13



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2. A worthy deed.
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No History Buffs Here

Study Says SUNY Students Would Fail Basic Social Studies Test

By ERIN ROSEKING
Statesman Editor

Pop quiz: Which came first, the dismantling of the Berlin Wall or the Cuban Missile Crisis?

While history majors and other educated people might be able to answer this off the tops of their heads, the results of a survey released by the Center for Excellence in Higher Education reported that 56 percent of SUNY students would be stumped.

The survey asked students 30 questions taken from New York's regents high school exam and the United States citizenship test. Based on their answers, the Albany based organization announced earlier this month that close to 45 percent of all SUNY students would fail to gain citizenship. This is due to their failure to correctly answer seven out of 10 questions about American history, the same questions given to immigrants seeking U.S. citizenship. Out of the 370,000 students enrolled in SUNY, the largest public university system in the country, almost 165,000 would be denied.

Some of the more telling results of the survey would make most history teachers cringe. While 94 percent of all SUNY students could name Leonardo DiCaprio as the Hollywood hunk in *Titanic*, only 9.9 percent knew that former president James Madison is the father of the United States Constitution.

The Center also found that 56 percent were unable to put the European invasion of Normandy, the Korean war, the Cuban Missile Crisis and the dismantling of the Berlin Wall in chronological order.

They did not know wars either. More than 44 percent did not know that Germany, Japan and Italy were the three enemies of the United States during World War II, and 65 percent had no idea that the Truman Doctrine, the Marshall Plan and the Berlin Airlift were policies enacted right after WWII to put a limit on Russia's expansion.

But students studying in the City University of New York system knew even less. According to a poll conducted by the Zogby America, a survey center, 60 percent of CUNY students would be denied citizenship due to their lack of American historical information, compared to the 45 percent in SUNY. Out of 800 CUNY students surveyed, two thirds did not know that the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, and more than half did not know that the federal government contains the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

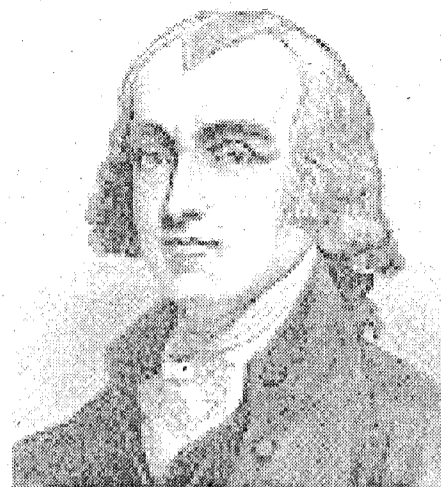
Michael Barnhart, a professor in USB's history department, reported that he has not noticed a decline in interest among the students who take his courses, which usually deal with the United States' political and diplomatic history. "All of my lecture courses enroll 100 plus, no real change from 10 or even 20 years ago," said Barnhart, "and my seminars continue to be wait-listed."

However, Barnhart did concede that the students who do enroll in his classes already have an interest in both history and the government. "I suspect they would do pretty well on a basic examination at the start of any of my courses, let alone the end of them," he said.

But history major Kurt Roth is not



Courtesy of the Official Leonardo DiCaprio Fan and the James Madison University's Elio Page.



The Center for Excellence in Higher Education reports that 94 percent of students identified Leonardo DiCaprio as the star of the movie "Titanic," while only 9.9 percent identified James Madison as the father of the Constitution.



History professor Michael Barnhart

Courtesy of USB

surprised by the Center's findings. "I believe it totally," he said. He claimed that he believed he would score high on an exam testing his basic American history knowledge but no thanks to high

school history teachers. "They let everybody slide right through without ever really learning anything," Roth said.

While Barnhart feels fairly confident that knowledge remains very high among the group of SUNY students who have been interested in American history traditionally, he is not so sure about the general student population. He said he partially blames the media for this phenomenon, which plays a large part in dictating what viewers see as important. "The media at large increasingly regards such fundamental knowledge as irrelevant and uninteresting," he said, adding that news programs continue to give less coverage to political and global news. He went on to comment on the fact that viewership of evening news programs is low, as is political activism on campus.

Barnhart said that he thinks knowledge is still high among history students who enter SUNY. "That group is not shrinking in size," Barnhart said, "but knowledge among the general SUNY student population is lower than ever."

Test Your Own American History IQ

This is a sample exam taken from the Immigration and Naturalization Service website, which is provided to help potential citizens prepare for the exam. According to the Center for Excellence in Higher Education, 45 percent of SUNY students would be denied citizenship.

1. What is the judiciary branch of our government?
 - a. The Constitution
 - b. The Supreme Court
 - c. Congress
 - d. The President

2. What are the duties of the Supreme Court?
 - a. To serve the President as Cabinet members
 - b. To write laws
 - c. To interpret laws
 - d. To execute laws

3. What is the supreme land of the United States?
 - a. The Declaration of Independence
 - b. The Bill of Rights
 - c. The Magna Carta
 - d. The Constitution

4. What holiday was celebrated for the first time by the American Colonists?
 - a. Independence Day
 - b. Columbus Day
 - c. Memorial Day
 - d. Thanksgiving

5. How many terms is the president of the United States allowed to serve?
 - a. Two terms
 - b. Four terms
 - c. Six terms
 - d. Unlimited terms

ANSWERS: 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-d, 5-d

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Getting Paid To Surf

Websites Target College Students

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

Sophomore resident Paul Hagen is the first to admit that he needs his computer. "I leave it on all the time, and I am constantly checking my email," he explains. "It's my connection to the outside world." Hagen is far from the only college student to express computer dependency. The cyber world is growing every day. And as the number of internet users continues to grow, so does the variety and innovation of websites that are designed to capture the attention of any given demographic.

A recent study conducted by headcount.com, a website dedicated to providing the public with statistics about internet users, found in June of 1999 that there are over 92 million internet users over age sixteen residing in the United States.

Such huge numbers mean a huge rush on the part of e-businesses to grab a piece of the action. Recently, many websites have realized that college students, with their 24 hour a day ethernet access and tendency to be easily distracted, are prime targets for new types of commerce.

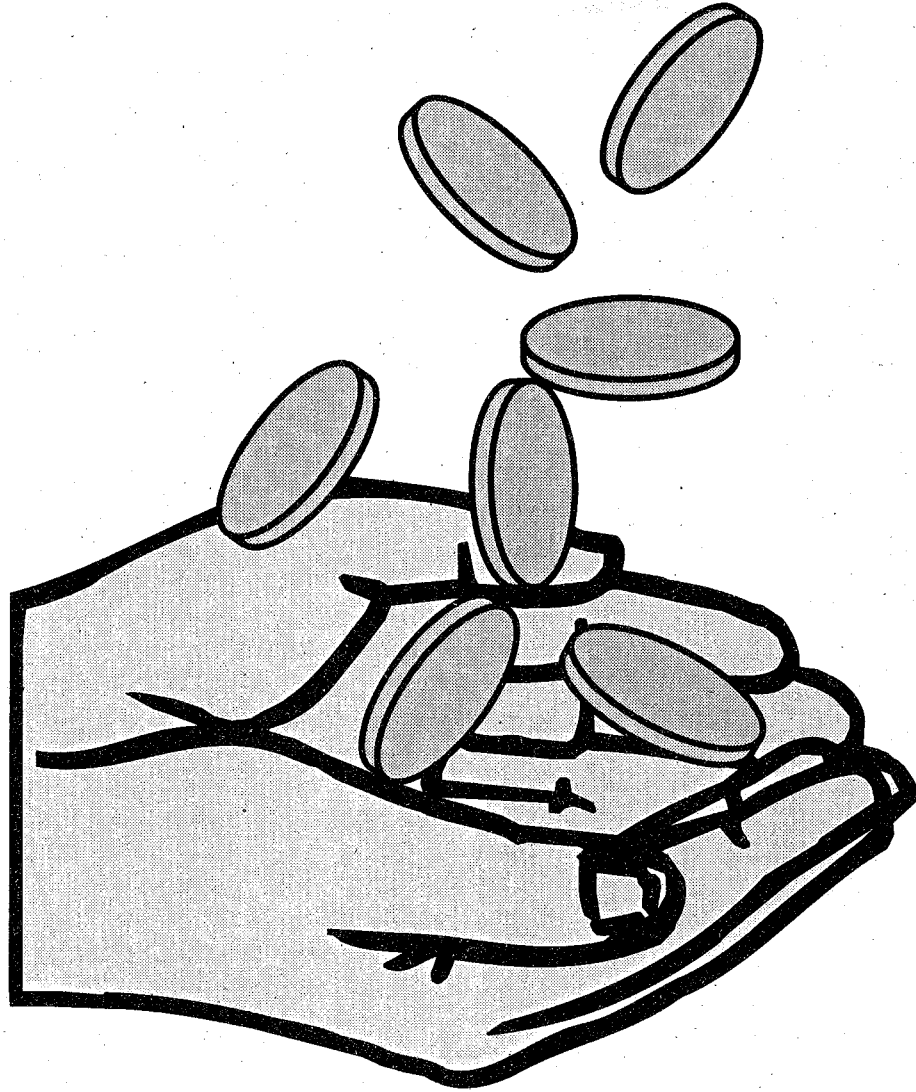
Websites that reward members with cash and other prizes just for surfing are popping up all over the net, and in these early stages of site development, college students are being sought out for feedback and test marketing.

Memolink.com is a site that rewards points to members for visiting specific websites. Members are also given the opportunity to earn points by completing surveys, and making purchases online through sites that memolink.com recommends. Finally, memolink.com users can earn many points by referring their friends to the site.

"Are you a college student? Click here!" screams an advertisement for the site. Indeed, the spokespeople for memolink.com admit that they are seeking the attention of the 19 - 23 year old demographic, having, "surveyed over 1,000 students to create their prize list. The prize list includes gift certificates to Tower Records, Blockbuster Video, Barnes & Noble, Pizza Hut, The Olive Garden, CD Now, and The Sharper Image; all available in different denominations.

If a person isn't into surfing for prizes, they can easily surf for some cold, hard cash. Websites that promise money in exchange for logging surfing hours have been around for awhile, but it is only recently that they are beginning to pick up.

One such site, alladvantage.com, prompts the user to download a program that counts the amount of times the user spends surfing the web. Each member is paid \$.50 an hour to surf the web, and checks are sent to the users homes every month, distinguish a valid offer from a scam. When surfing the web, it is important to keep a few things in mind when subscribing to services. Be wary of any service that claims it is free and then prompts you for your credit card number. If necessary, contact the Better Business Bureau to see if a company has any complaints against it. Create an alternate email account on a free



service, like hotmail.com or excite.com, and use this address when you sign up for offers. Oftentimes, your email address can end u their email client. Members are then given a percentage of the earnings that their referrals earn, and then they are given a percentage of the earnings that the referrals of their referrals make.

A group of people at twistedhumor.com decided to make sure that the alladvantage.com offer was true. After sending out thousands of notices to a daily mailing list, the staff at twistedhumor.com was mailed a check for \$1,000. Their report also noted that alladvantage.com was the only site of its kind to come through with a check after signup.

There are other sites that offer similar benefits, including surf4cash.com and paypal.com. Another website, X.com, sends members a Visa debit card that members can use at any ATM to withdraw money from their member account. Viewdot.com, much like alladvantage.com, has their members download an ad bar, which sits at the bottom of a computer screen and pops up advertisements based on the interests of the member that signs up for the service. Users are paid by the hour. Finally, processtree.com uses the computers of their members to process tasks while their computer is on idle, and pays members for allowing it.

It is not just cash that you can get on the

internet. A search on the word "freebies" at yahoo.com pops up hundreds of websites promising everything from free magazines, to stickers to free CDs if surfers will check out their site.

Many have wondered if all these offers are too good to be true. The sheer variety of websites with similar offers make it difficult to distinguish a valid offer from a scam. When surfing the web, it is important to keep a few things in mind when subscribing to services. Be wary of any service that claims it is free and then prompts you for your credit card number. If necessary, contact the Better Business Bureau to see if a company has any complaints against it. Create an alternate email account on a free service, like hotmail.com or excite.com, and use this address when you sign up for offers. Oftentimes, your email address can end up on junk mailing lists, and no one likes finding their primary email account filled up with pornography advertisements and fake free trips to Las Vegas. Finally, use a virus checker to make sure that downloaded software is safe for your computer.

Following these guidelines minimizes your chances of being taken. There is definitely money to be made on the internet for everyday consumers. Those who attain a balance between caution and enthusiasm will be able to benefit from the mad rush to dominate internet commerce.

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Defining History

A disturbing report has recently been released by the Center for Excellence in Higher Education, a think tank organization based in Albany. The title of the report is grim, telling the readers that "*SUNY Students Flunk American History*," with a sub-head claiming that half of us would be denied citizenship into our very own country because of our lack of American history knowledge. Ouch, pretty embarrassing, huh?

Some of the statistics from the study are pathetic at best, saying that Leonardo DiCaprio is much more recognizable to the average SUNY student than people like James Madison. (He was the fourth president and the father of the Constitution, for those that didn't know, and apparently there are a lot of you.)

Speaking of the Constitution, 61 percent of SUNY students also did not know that "The Federalist Papers" encouraged the ratification of it.

The report goes on and on with various other facts,

"If an African American student can relate to you some of the individual stories of the slaves that crossed the Middle Passage to work on cotton plantations in the South, does he not know American history?"

figures and percentages letting SUNY students know that maybe they ought to go back to junior high school social studies and stay for extra help.

But is this survey a fair one? Can we put an accurate label on American history? Is knowing the details of World War II and naming the presidents an adequate judgement of knowing it?

If an African American student can relate to you some of the individual stories of the slaves that crossed the Middle Passage to work on cotton

plantations in the South, does he not know American history?

If an Irish American can tell you how his great-grandparents were forced to emigrate to the United States during Ireland's potato famine, can she be accused of not knowing American history?

If a Japanese American student can explain what is going on in pictures of his relatives who were interned in camps on the west coast during World War II, is he not knowledgeable about American history?

When immigrants come here with the intent of becoming citizens of our country, should we limit them to being responsible for such a narrow portion of history? Shouldn't we encourage them to keep their own histories, as well as languages and cultures, because they are as legitimately American as anything they will learn in school?

There may seem to be little of it left these days, but part of the beauty of America and its vast history, is its diversity. They need to clarify when they say that we have no knowledge of history. That is, white European male American history. But any of student can tell you that there is so much more to America's past than that.

The pity is that they don't teach you about slavery, famines and internment in junior and high school, not to mention the Holocaust, the conquest of Mexico and China's cultural revolution, all major historical events that are as responsible for making this country what it is as events that took place in the United States.

Most of us can think back and vaguely remember to seventh and eighth grade learning about the judicial process and the terms of senators and all of that various information that rarely sticks.

This is all important facts, things that all Americans should know, not just students.

But it is wrong to suggest that the history of America amounts to little more than knowing about term limits and wars.

Letter to the Editor:

Clearing Up the Midnight Breakfast

To the Editor:

I would like to clarify a discrepancy that appeared in the 1/24/00 editorial entitled "Hungry for More." Apparently some students are under the impression that they were charged 1 cent for attending the free Midnight Breakfast in December.

Campus Dining Services placed one free meal (similar to the traditional meals-style plan offered on other campus') on every student's meal card a few days prior to the event.

Then the cash registers were programmed to remove that free meal once the id card was swiped through that evening. This assisted us in keeping track of the number of attendees during the event, which was necessary for food production purposes.

When the card was swiped through, an 01 appeared on the register. This was the one mela being taken off the card. Attendees may have thought that this meant they were being charged 1 cent.

Donna Krumm
Marketing Director
Campus Dining Services

A Message of Hope

Play Examines Faith in the Lives of AIDS Patients

By JULIE MINGIONE
Statesman Editor

With New York City designated as the epicenter of the AIDS epidemic, Bernetta R. Vaughn decided to write a play chronicling the struggle against the deadly illness and importance of hope in surviving.

"Let the Healing Begin," an autobiographical AIDS awareness play, was performed on Thursday night in the Union auditorium before a packed house.

Many of the actors in the play are HIV positive, according to Helen Lemay, who introduced the show. Lemay is a professor in the history department and the Federated Learning Communities (FLC). The FLC is a group of clustered courses centered around a theme, this year's being, "Issues in Health and Society." Lemay teaches a course titled AIDS and Social History, which traces society's concepts of the disease.

After Lemay's introduction, Al Jordan, president of the Black Faculty-Staff Association and chair of the Black History Month Planning Committee, expressed his feelings about the evening.

"This play provides a tremendous opportunity to be entertained and to learn about this disease. We are very fortunate and happy that we could bring this play here."

AIDS is a disease that is now nearly 20 years old. When the virus was first observed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in 1981, the number of persons infected was small and little information was known about it. In the past two decades, between 750,000 and 950,000 Americans have become infected with HIV, which is approximately one out of every 300 people in the nation. One hundred and forty people in the United States become infected every day, roughly meaning that one person is contaminated with the virus every 10 minutes.

The production, the theme of religious faith prominent, opened with two selections by the Stony Brook Gospel Choir. As the play got underway, the audience met Hope, a young woman who finds out she has HIV. The play details her subsequent illness and renewed faith in God. According to Lemay, "The play...gives a strong message of how the Black church can be a source of strength and comfort to those who are affected by the disease."

Sandra Smith, the play's assistant producer, said that the playwright,



The Stony Brook Gospel Choir opened the play.

Bernetta Vaughn, wished to portray the, "ability of the human spirit to overcome adversity and to emphasize the ability of all of us to rise above our situations." Smith went on to remind audience members that, "God can heal you."

"Let the Healing Begin," is a play performed all across Long Island, and was brought to Stony Brook by the FLC and the Black History Month Committee. The Department of Africana Studies, the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action, and the Black Faculty-Staff Association were all sponsors of the event, with a Diversity Grant given by the Office of Student Activities.

Some predictions for the future regarding the AIDS virus have been put forth by epidemiologists and scientists. According to the Essential AIDS Fact Book, the World Health Organization has projected that 42 million people will be HIV infected in the year 2000 and that a total of 7 million people in the United States will be infected by 2009.

College aged people should be particularly cautious about contracting the virus, according to the Fact Book, as during adolescence "...sexual and drug experimentation may occur. When these activities are combined with feelings of invulnerability, the risk

"Let The Healing Begin"

By Bernetta R. Vaughn



for infection...increases." Unprotected vaginal, anal and oral intercourse and the sharing of needles are all high-risk behaviors. When a person who is a carrier of HIV gets their bodily fluids into an uninfected person, there is potential risk for infection.

An alarming statistic, said Smith, is that, "Two young people in America are infected every hour of every day."

"Let the Healing Begin," is a play as well as an organization intended to spread a message of hope to people, whether HIV positive or not.. According to Vaughn, "The church can play a significant role in the lives of people with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other illnesses, for they suffer and die alone; the greatest challenge is to heal the mind, and the body will follow."

Tell Me About It

Advice for the College-Age Crowd

By Carolyn Hax

Dear Carolyn:

I'm a senior in college and my friends and I enjoy going out to bars occasionally. I always make sure we use a designated driver. Usually this is not a problem because we take turns or have a friend who doesn't drink agree to drive, but I have one friend who absolutely refuses to ever serve as the DD. She is too selfish to give up one night of drinking in order to fulfill her duty as a responsible friend.

To make it even worse, I know she has driven drunk on more than one occasion. As a result, I often wind up as the DD even though I'd rather not do it every time. Any suggestions on how to convince her that it's only fair that we all share in the responsibility?
--The Sober One

Say, "It's only fair that we all share the responsibility." Oh, wait--that works only with decent people or people who are not alcoholics.

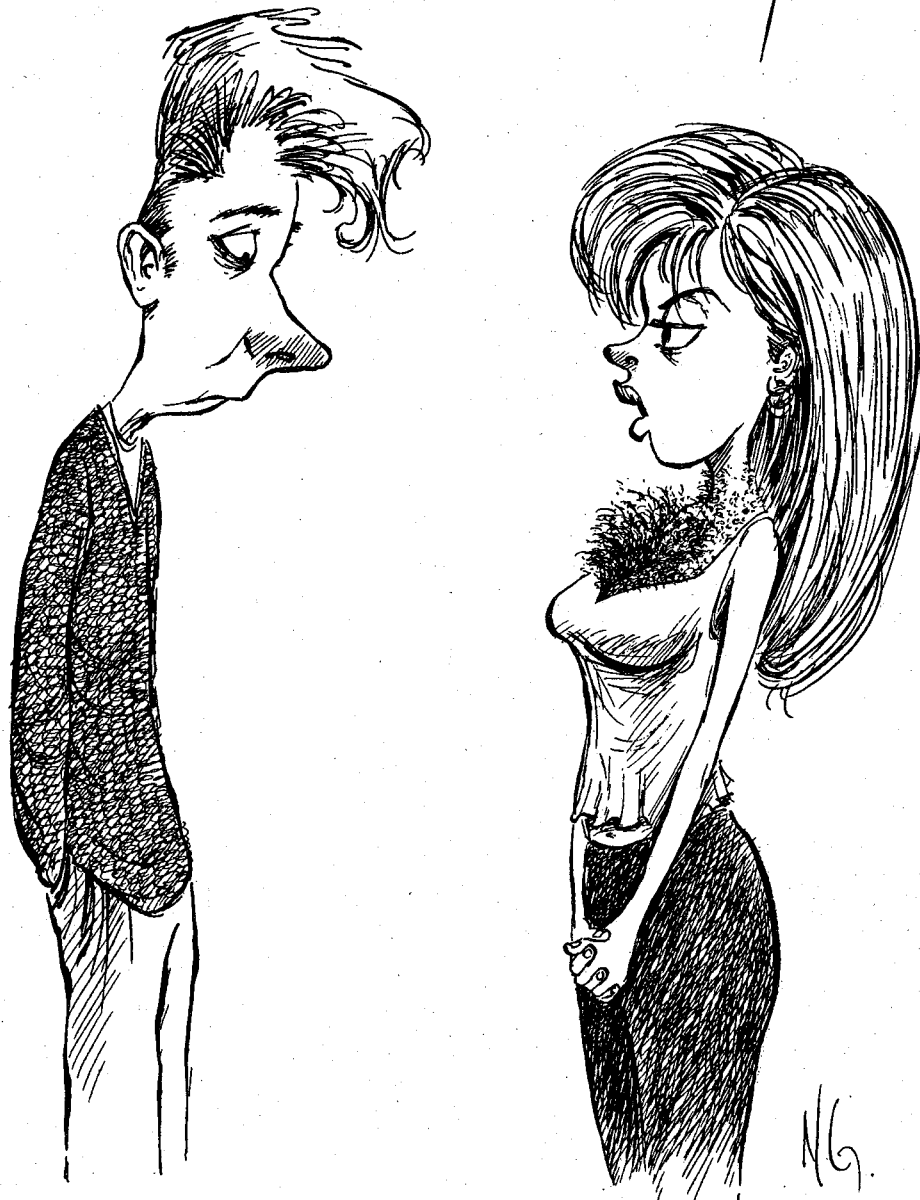
Three pieces of advice. First, if your getting stuck as the designated driver is the worst-case scenario here, enjoy it. At least everybody's still breathing. Second, if this woman ever does agree to be designated driver, the correct response is, "Thank you, but I'd rather wheel myself home in a shopping cart." She's made her priorities pretty clear, and they are: 1. alcohol 2. herself full of alcohol 3. You don't want her driving. Pearl No. 3, reconsider the "friend." You are all in college, and some alcohol-related immaturity is to be expected--but hers is over the line. You're either enabling an alcoholic, or wasting your time on a lout.

Dear Carolyn:

My serious girlfriend lives in New York. We were friends for several years before dating, including a year living in the same city. We spend most weekends together now. Do you think it imperative that we live in the same city while dating for a time before we get into engagement-marriage plans?
--Washington

"Imperative" is the eye test for a driver's license. If you want romantic accreditation, I'm afraid you're stuck with judgment. Clearly your judgment becomes more accurate the more time you spend together--but guide your life by that truth alone, and you'll be gumming your wedding cake. At some point a guy's got to say, I know what I need to know.

So, do you? You wanted me to



answer that, and believe me, I wish I could; "How should I know?" is the advice columnist's Kryptonite. But this one's up to you.

You do have marriage on the brain, in which case engagement would be a much more appealing excuse to relocate than "I need to inspect you up close." Just don't plan the wedding long-distance; that's a guerrilla get-to-know-you exercise no one could possibly need.

Dear Carolyn:

I am 32, my wife is 24. She has left for her parents' home in Texas. She has a new job, she talks of meeting new friends and going out.

She had been there less than two weeks when she decided she would like a divorce after almost three years. I did the typical things, house in D.C. suburbs, dog, changing my career and going to school--and neglected to spend time with her. She became depressed about not finding a job she liked and not going out. She did not talk about our

problems before leaving, only hinted that we were in trouble. I am sorry I didn't take those hints to heart. I plan to admit my failures and ask for another chance. Am I doing the right thing?

-- S.

Pardon me for piling on, but no, not if your admission of failure includes another failure.

Obviously your intentions are good, but if you apologize for the wrong thing, you may end up proving her case that you don't pay attention to her--intentions be damned.

You're right that you should have spent more time with her. You're right that you should have picked up on her hints. (Which, by the way, were her own honking failure--she should have just told you straight.)

But while all of these were mistakes, they weren't The Mistake. That was planting your very young wife, in

your suburbs in your house with your dog while you pursued your career and your classes, and expecting to grow June Cleaver. Reread the instructions, and you'll see you followed every step to the letter for growing a stunted and angry ex-wife.

Clearly, and unfortunately, your wife didn't articulate her life vision--again, her fault. She could have suggested moving, she could have asked for more time with you, she could have branched out on her own.

But at 21, she was probably still working that stuff out (sounds like she still is). Instead of working on it with her, you simply installed your "typical things," and then you called it a day.

Assuming it makes sense to you, take that admission to Texas--then ask for your second chance.

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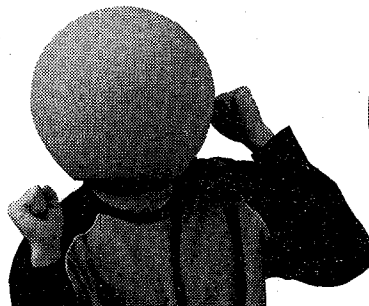
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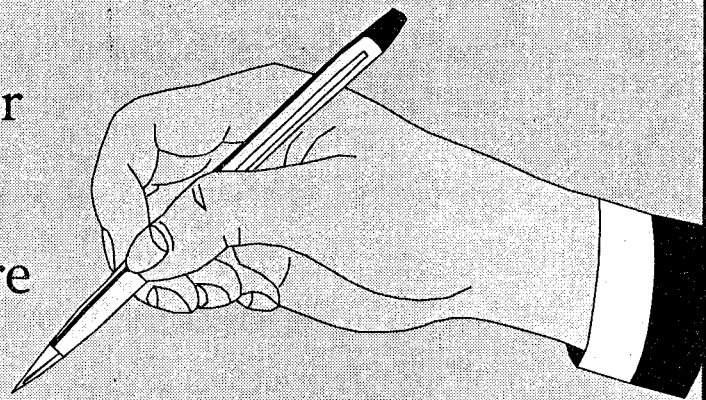
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February 21, 2000

The State Brook Statesman Monday, February 21, 2000

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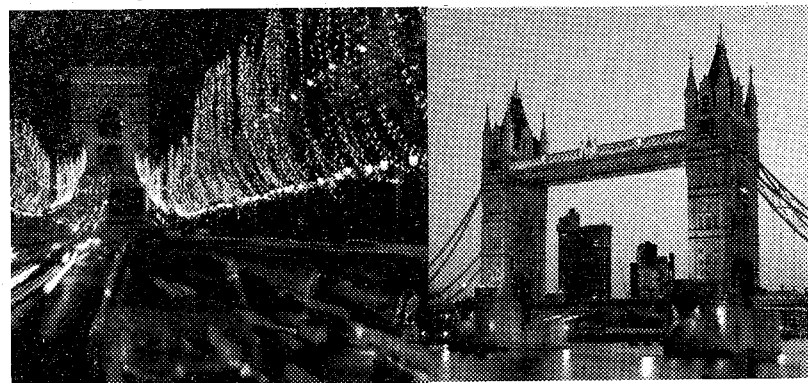
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Senator Calls to Curb College Gambling

Continued from page 2

nothing, zero, except to embarrass Nevada. That's their whole point."

He called his bill "a good foil to this very bad legislation that's being introduced."

He said the NCAA-backed bill is "ill-conceived and will only lead to more illegal betting."

The NCAA-backed bill unfairly targets a Nevada industry "which is

tightly regulated and strictly controlled," the senator said.

Reid's bill, entitled, "The Combating Illegal College and University Gambling Act," calls for a Justice Department study of illegal betting on college campuses and the current enforcement of existing laws.

The panel would be composed of local, state and federal officials.

The NCAA has said there are illegal bookies operating on every campus in America.

"While billions of dollars are being generated by college athletics, little of that money is being spent to spread the message that, with a few exceptions, it is illegal to bet on a college game," said Reid.

Reid, former chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission, said

the problem "is not the legal sports betting industry, but the backroom bookies who are breaking the law every single day."

Under Reid's bill, the Attorney General's office would have one year to come up with recommendations the NCAA, colleges and universities could implement to help fight illegal gambling on campuses.
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Cleveland State Beats USB Basketball

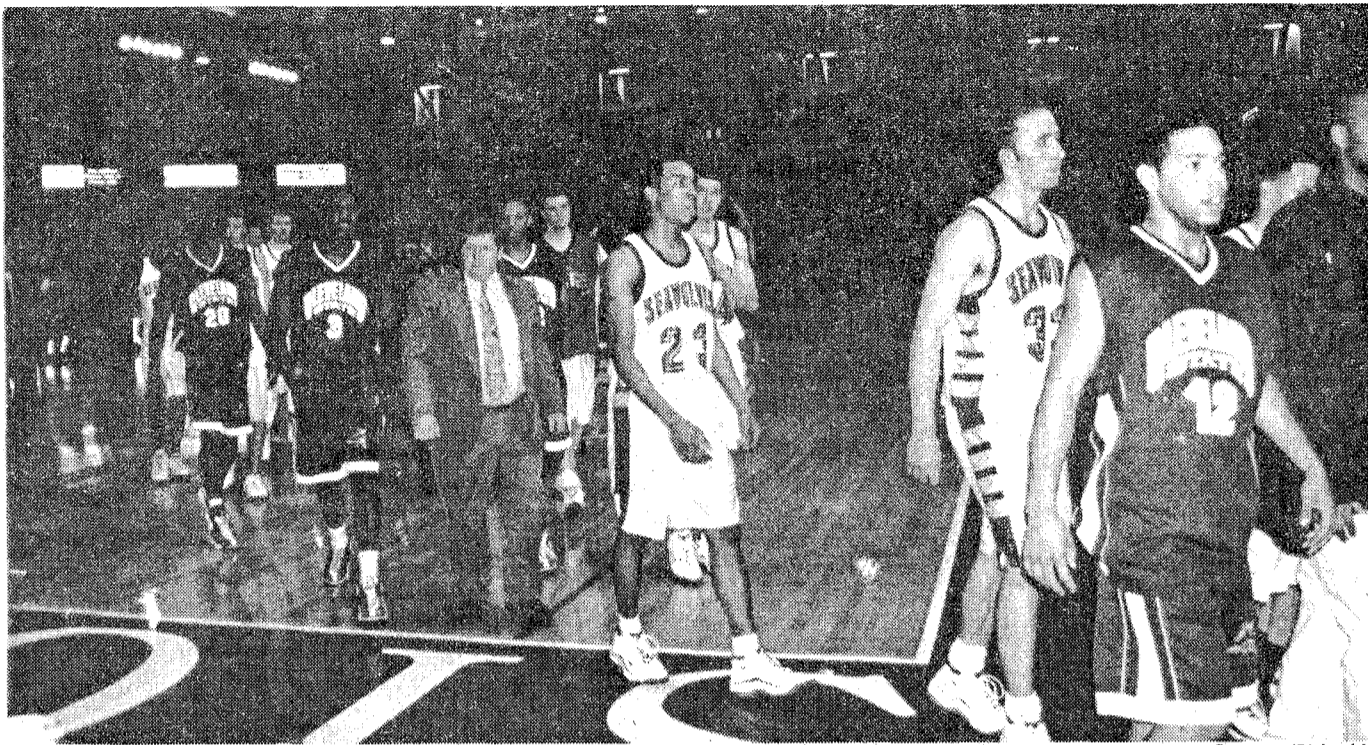
By JEFF JAVIDFAR
Statesman Staff

The last home game of Stony Brook's inaugural Division I season ended with a tough loss, as the Seawolves fell to Cleveland State 79-60. However, the game began with the intensity and confidence that has become a trademark of Coach Macarchuk's team. In the end, the score did not reflect a lack of the effort on the part of Stony Brook, but rather illustrated the disparity in the level of talent between the two programs.

The approximately 1300 fans in attendance were treated to pregame Senior Day celebrations at the Indoor Sports Complex. Point Guard Steve Pratta (#4), swingman Francois Oloa (#13), forward Pablo Porras (#44) and big men Ryan McDermott (#45) and Michael Sales (#40) were all acknowledged along with their parents. They were also thanked by the Department of Physical Education and Athletics. USB will miss the talent and size that will be departing when the class of 2000 graduates.

When the celebrations were complete, the Seawolves returned to their strictly business attitude and dealt with the matter at hand, the 14-11 Vikings of Cleveland State.

Stony Brook jumped out to an early lead fueled by Pratta's steals and assists, and a layup by Sales, which gave USB a three-point lead. But to the dismay of the fans, Cleveland State used two Seawolves



USB lost to Cleveland State 79 to 60.

Statesman/Richard Joe

turnovers to go on a 9-point run and retake the lead.

However, USB would not be outdone as Oloa slashed to the basket and Porras nailed a three-pointer to stop the Vikings' spurt. Pratta then capped a 9-0 run by hitting a jumper of his own and on the next possession dishing the ball to freshman center Joakim Eriksson (#22) for an easy layup. Halfway through the first half, the Seawolves had overtaken Cleveland State and led 16-14.

A scary moment in USB's spurt came at the 11:15 mark when Porras hit the floor hard after a flagrant foul by Viking David Barrett (#35) while trying to finish a fast break. Barrett grabbed Porras' shooting hand and dragged him down to the court. He laid on the floor for several minutes while the team trainer treated him. Fortunately, Porras walked off the court under his own power and returned with a little over six minutes to go in the first half.

The story of the first half was all about runs, as both teams exchanged runs, thus alternating leads and tying the game several times. Subsequently, for most of the first twenty minutes, the game was close.

In those waning moments, Pratta stole the ball and got it over to Porras who drained a three, which cut the Cleveland State lead to one. After a Cleveland State basket, USB got the possession of the ball with less than a minute on the clock. Trailing 29-32 and with the crowd on its feet, the Seawolves brought the ball up to halfcourt, with thoughts of tying the game. Taking a little into halftime seemed quite plausible.

This was the turning point of the game, and unfortunately, like so many times before the Seawolves had mismanaged the clock, took bad shots and turned the ball over thus, showing that they were still novices to the upper echelons of Division I play.

Coach Macarchuk commented on this very matter, "Cleveland State is a good team and to be down by three with 50 seconds to go was a good position for us to be in," he said. "Unfortunately, we turned the ball over twice and they capitalized with two 3-pointers."

The second half was all Cleveland State, as they had double digit leads up to 22 points over the Seawolves. The closest Stony Brook got to the Vikings was nine points in the opening minute of the half.

Nevertheless, USB never gave up. They kept fighting for rebounds and slashing to the basket. But as the game progressed, the Cleveland State lead was stretched and it became clear that the Seawolves did not have the strength and speed to run the Vikings..

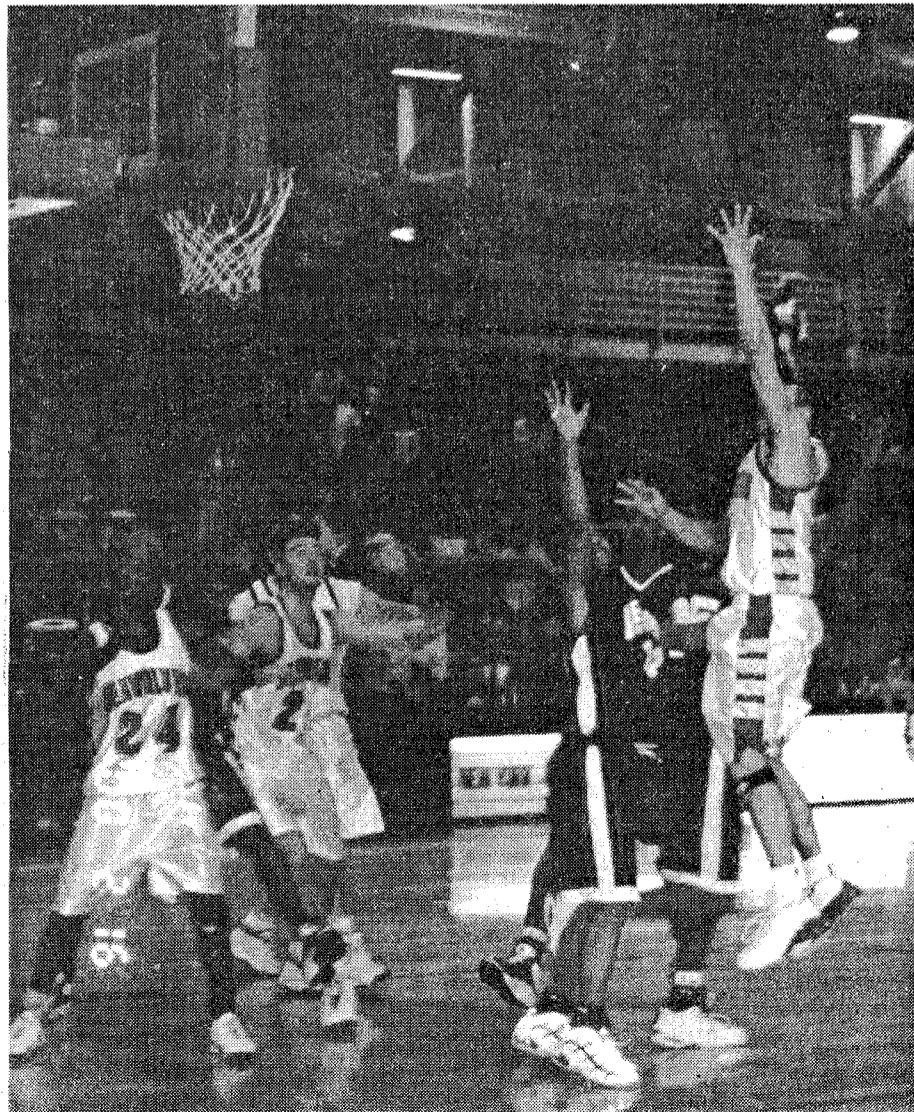
The only tense moment in the half came when USB's Rob Hartman (#24) and Cleveland State's Damon Stringer (#24) got into a scuffle while chasing after a loose ball. Stringer, the Vikings highman in assists and steals with 5 and 3 respectively, choose to hold on to Hartman's foot after the play was over. Hartman, who was perhaps already frustrated at the scoreline, momentarily lost his cool and retaliated. Both players were ejected on offsetting technicals and the fans got to bid Stringer, who had scored 17 on the Seawolves, goodbye.

Pratta turned in a marvelous game. He led the team in scoring for the second straight game with 17 and 6 assists, 0 turnovers and 3 steals. Oloa and Eriksson each had 10 points.

Cleveland State's victory boiled down to their talented players who made the Seawolves look sloppy. The Vikings had a +2 assist-to-turnover ratio, whereas USB was -11 in that category. Moreover, Cleveland State shot over 53% from the field while they kept the Seawolves to only 43%.

After the game Coach Macarchuk, reflected on this season, "I wish we could have begun the season today, because the team has improved leaps and bounds since November, and I think we could have won a lot more games," he said. "By the last 8 or 10 games they started to really understand what I wanted from them." Marachuk added that he was proud of his team. "We played against a really tough schedule this year to get our name out," he said. "I give my players all the credit for never giving up and always playing hard. This team will always have a special place in my heart."

Stony Brook will close out its season on the road against Texas A&M Corpus Christi.



Steve Pratta scored 17 points in the game.

Statesman/Richard Joe

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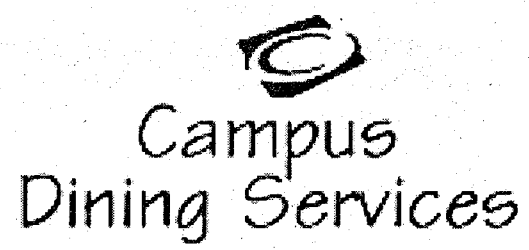


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Features

Paintings With a Purpose

By JULIE MINGIONE
Statesman Editor

Travel, music, religion, nature, and urban life are all themes represented in the paintings of Keith Morrison. His use of vibrant color, layered images and variations in perspective all meld together in an aesthetically pleasing and tasteful representation of what Morrison calls, "urban American pathology, American mythology, and landscape fantasies."

Morrison, an artist, art educator, and writer, lectured Wednesday in the SAC Auditorium. His talk, titled, "The Art of Keith Morrison: Decade of the Nineties," included a slide show and description of thirty of his most recent works, all reflecting themes relevant to modern society.

Introduced glowingly by Shirley Strum Kenny as an, "Internationally acclaimed artist," she spoke of his works on display in Chicago's Cicero Gallery and New York City's Alternative Museums.

The first painting of the lecture was an example of Morrison's early figurative painting. It featured a blue floral fish, opening its mouth and bearing its large teeth. Inside its enormous mouth was a ship with a priest-like figure dressed in yellow African garb at the mast. Morrison described the figure as, "Part of the Caribbean legacy of glorifying false priests."

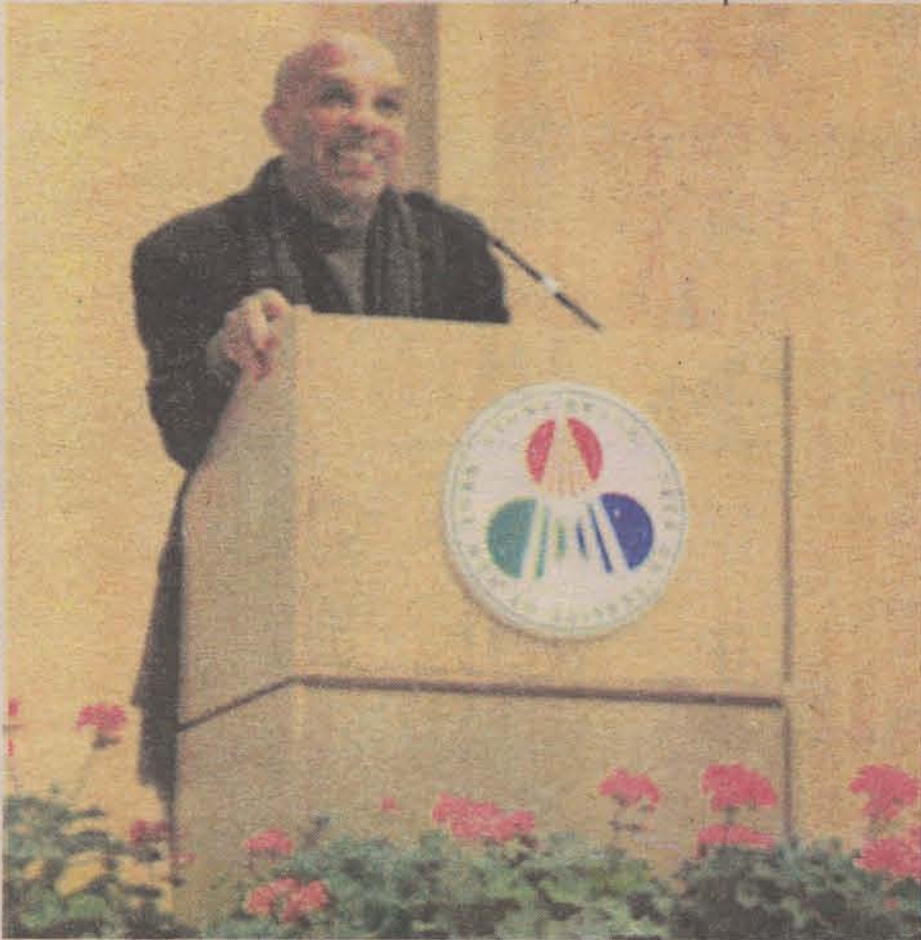
The concept of travel plays a central role in almost all of Morrison's thirty displayed paintings. Train tracks, railroads, and images of, "Crossing, distances, and places to go," crop up in many of his works.

"Spiritual," is a painting that represents, "The relationship between biblical ecstasy and sexual ecstasy." It features an African American woman writhing on a seemingly holy book surrounded by money, African toys and trinkets, with a dove poised at her feet.



Statesman/Ruth Chung

"Spiritual" is one of many works with a religious theme.



Statesman/Ruth Chung

Morrison shared anecdotes about his art.

Morrison says he draws his influences from a varied array of sources. "Walk Like an Egyptian" was inspired by the song of the same name. "I heard it on the radio one day and began to paint it soon after." The picture depicts a plate setting with scattered toothpicks and a martini glass, surrounded by dancing Egyptians adorned in gold and black headdresses, all walking sideways.

"The abstract idea often leads to what's in the painting. The subject matter evolves in tandem with that."

Morrison describes some of his paintings as, "A hodgepodge of cultural associations. They represent the misunderstanding of things." He went on to talk of the common occurrence of misunderstandings, and how they influence his artwork. "If we delve far enough into any culture, a large part of it is based on misunderstanding, or even outright lies. And sometimes those misunderstandings actually become truth."

Morrison has come under fire for some of his art work in the past. Because he deals with cultural themes, many of his paintings have been "misunderstood." The painting called,

"Tombstones," a depiction of a drug shootout in the Bronx. It portrays black youths brandishing guns and knives, fighting over jewelry and gym shoes. "I got into a lot of trouble for this painting. Some said it was an anti-white painting. I still don't understand why."

Death is another theme pervasive in Morrison's works. The painting, "Altar," features skulls, dolls, and a knife piercing Jesus, all taking place in an electric chair and, "Equates crucifixion to the electric chair." The painting called, "Magi," depicts Jesus on a cross lying on the floor in a potted plant, surrounded by cactus plants, representing a, "crown of thorns." In the background is a Byzantine castle, with animals poking their heads into the plants, peering down at Jesus. "I see a connection between the birth of Christ and death."

Morrison achieves a colorful and spontaneous effect with his art. The images appear to be impromptu and yet carefully structured. He achieves a delicate balance of impulsive representations and multi-faceted layers, combined to create meaningful, socially conscious artwork.