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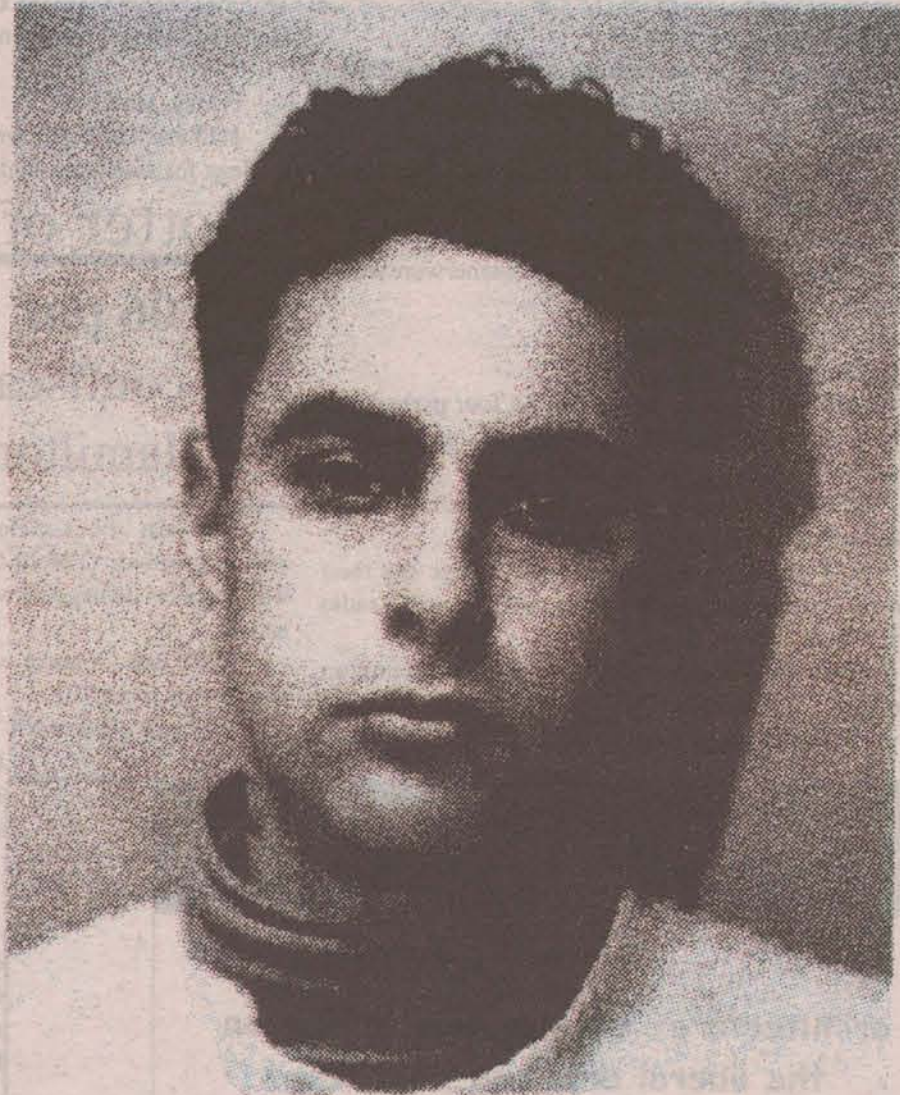
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VOLUME XLIV, NUMBER 17

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2000

PUBLISHED TWICE

Busted



William J. Kruger (left) and Harold Davidoff were arrested for the robbery.

Police Arrest Two Men Accused of Car Robbery at University

Office Space

IFSC Opens First Ever Office in Basement of Union

By TINA CHADHA
Statesman Editor

The Inter Fraternity Sorority Council opened the doors on its first-ever Stony Brook office on March 1. The grand opening drew a crowd, including Fred Preston, director of student affairs and Carmen Vasquez, dean of students.

IFSC is the governing body for all fraternities and sororities on campus. For a Greek organization to be recognized on campus, they must be a member of the IFSC. Members meet once a week to discuss interaction with different student groups, as well as the guidelines they must follow in dealing with pledging and other events they hold. IFSC members have visited and performed for children at homeless shelters around

Long Island. They have also participated in the Toys for Tots program where each fraternity and sorority has donated gifts and spent time with needy kids. "We want to help build a community of effective student leaders," said Jacobson Bathlemy, president of IFSC.

The new IFSC office is located in the basement of the Stony Brook Union where Basix used to be. It is now decorated with t-shirts adorned with various Greek letters as well as pictures donated from all 26 fraternities and sororities on campus. The cheerful décor, along with music and sofas provide for a fun and relaxed atmosphere. "This office is different from other



Courtesy of the IFSC

The editorial board and Carmen Vasquez of the IFSC at the grand opening of the office.

Continued on page 18

Police Blotter

Compiled by Julie Mingione, Statesman Editor

Wednesday, March 15

2:45 am A car stereo was stolen from the Tabler parking lot. The vehicle's driver side rear window was found broken.

3:27 am A car was found in the North P-Lot with both the driver and passenger side windows broken, along with a smashed windshield.

9:00 pm A pocketbook and its contents were stolen from the Kelly Quad cafeteria.

Thursday, March 16

1:20 am An unknown driver hit four parked cars and fled the scene. All campus parking lots were searched, but the driver was not found.

6:35 pm Broken eggs were found splattered across a car outside of Hand College.

6:44 pm A student in O'Neill College had their car broken into through the moon roof. The car's radio was taken.

10:06 pm A bong was confiscated from Hamilton College.

10:10 pm A window was discovered broken in

Hendrix College, cause unknown.

Friday, March 17

1:13 am The police were called by the RA in Irving College for assistance in dispersing a party.

Blotter of the Week

10:06 pm A bong was confiscated from Hamilton College.

2:43 am Four males were spotted by an RA standing outside O'Neill College shooting a BB gun. The suspects damaged a window and were gone upon arrival.

12:22 pm A purse with credit cards was stolen from Javits room 101.

5:43 pm Unknown individuals threw a smoke bomb into the Greeley College lounge causing damage to the carpet.

Saturday, March 18

5:57 pm A student who did not evict Langmuir College for spring break was discovered and told to leave by the RHD.

7:15 pm Another straggler was forced to leave Dewey College for spring break after they were seen in the dorm.

Sunday, March 19

8:46 pm A suspicious person was seen milling around Baruch College. He was not found.

Monday, March 20

6:25 am Lockers were broken into and walls/floors were vandalized with paint in the Staller Center.

11:23 pm A suspicious person was seen wandering through the Schomberg apartments area.

Tuesday, March 21

10:19 am A sign fell on a child in the Administration parking garage. The child's parent refused medical treatment.

11:39 am A man suspected of sexual harassment was arrested in the Schomberg laundry room.

4:43 pm A female fell off her bicycle and hit her head on the pavement, knocking out three teeth.

Wednesday, March 22

6:24 pm Three skateboarders were detained and one arrested for skating on the academic mall.

Saturday, March 25

9:58 pm A desk was stolen from the Sanger College lobby.

Sunday, March 26

1:35 am An intoxicated male was bleeding from the head in Irving College. He was taken to the University Hospital Emergency Room.

6:23 am Six to seven males were reported by an Irving College RA to have entered the college, despite the fact that it didn't re-open for another 12 hours.

7:31 pm A computer and television were stolen from Keller College.

Monday, March 27

12:28 pm A wallet was found in Mendlesohn Quad and returned to its owner.

5:23 pm A CD player and CD's were stolen from O'Neill College.

8:04 pm Sneakers, boots, and shirts were stolen from Stimson College.

10:24 pm A Mount College RA was hit in the face by an unknown assailant.

Wednesday, March 29

12:14 am A motorist was stuck inside the Administration Building garage.

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 30, 2000

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Caught

Police Arrest Suspects Accused of Car Robbery at USB

By JENNIFER KESTER
Statesman Editor

Police recovered the stolen car of a Stony Brook senior who was robbed in broad daylight by two men in the parking lot behind the Infirmary last month.

Huntington Police found the stolen car with the robbers in it, as well as 57 tiny packets of heroin in it, police officials said.

Harold Davidoff, 28, of East Setauket and William J. Kruger, 22, of Selden, were arrested on Mar. 17 at 9:40 a.m. at Route 110 and E. Carver Street in Huntington on robbery and drug charges.

Both allegedly approached the senior in the Stadium Lot behind the Infirmary on Feb. 28 and told



The robbery occurred in the Stadium Parking Lot (above) behind the Infirmary. Harold Davidoff (left) and William J. Kruger (right) were arrested for the robbery.

jeans during the time of the robbery.

Although neither are students at Stony Brook, both admitted to police that they frequented events at the University, said Doug Little, deputy chief of University Police.

Huntington Police, after being warned of the incident by University Police, pulled the vehicle over for a



“With all things we are concerned about in our daily lives, whether it be work, school, or play, we have to be aware of our surroundings,” Little said.

her to hand over her wallet and keys. Although there were people just two or three rows from her car, the victim feared for her life, she said, and gave them her keys and wallet. The two sped off with her 1990 Nissan Sentra.

The two perpetrators were unarmed and wore identical gray hooded sweatshirts and blue baggy

traffic violation. When the officer checked the plates, the officer found that they did not match the vehicle and saw that the car was stolen.

“This was excellent work by Suffolk County Police and University Police,” Little said. “It was the communication between the two law enforcement agencies that got them arrested.” The University

Police put out an alert to all Suffolk County police after the incident occurred, warning officers to be on the lookout for the vehicle and perpetrators fitting the description provided by witnesses.

The packets of heroin found in the car were labeled. Two said “judgement day,” and the other 55 said “undertaker,” said Sonny Di Stefano, police officer with Public Information.

Davidoff and Kruger were not able to be reached for comment.

“These are not nice fellows,” Little said. “Robbery is a violent crime, even if no weapon was involved.”

Davidoff faces first degree robbery charges, which carries a sentence of 6 to 25 years in jail, and criminal possession of a controlled

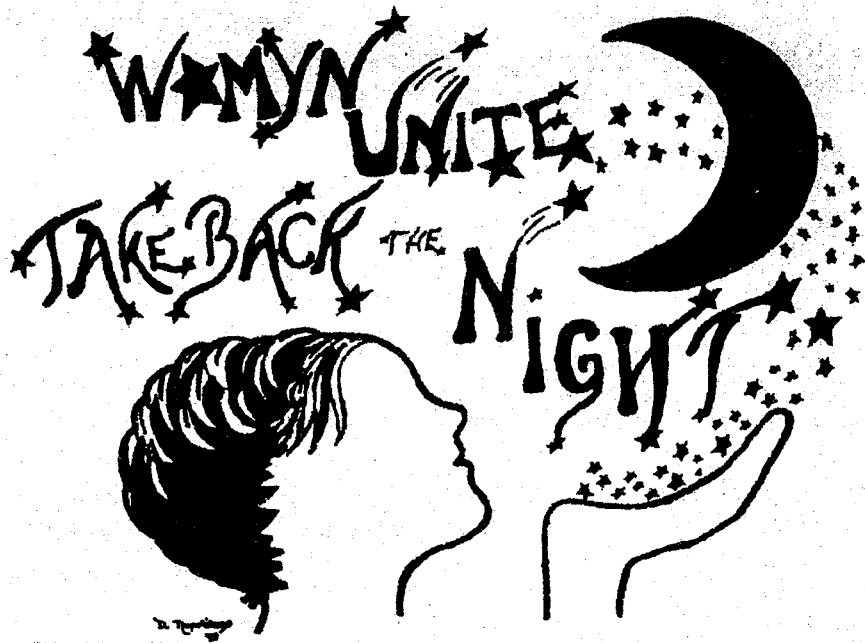
substance in the seventh degree, a misdemeanor with jail time up to one year. Kruger also faces first degree robbery charges, in addition to charges for possession of a hypodermic instrument, a misdemeanor that carries up to a one year sentence. They were arraigned on Mar. 18, and their court dates are pending.

Davidoff has a prior criminal history of non-violent petty larcenies, these are Kruger’s first offenses, Little said.

“With all things we are concerned about in our daily lives, whether it be work, school, or play, we have to be aware of our surroundings,” Little said. “It is rare but these types of crimes can happen anywhere it is very important to have awareness and take precautions.”

The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 30, 2000

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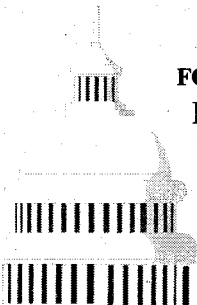
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Against Southworth

Supreme Court Delivers Unanimous Ruling for Mandatory Activity Fee

BY ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

Mar. 22 saw a victory for the state of student activities when the Supreme Court announced its unanimous decision in the case of the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System vs. Scott Southworth et al. The court ruled that mandatory student activity fees collected by public colleges and universities could be used to finance all student groups, whether or not some students found certain groups objectionable.

In 1995, Scott Southworth, a student at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, filed an action claiming that portions of his \$167.75 mandatory student activity fee was being used to fund eighteen organizations that he did not approve of. While the University contended that the mandatory fee and the speech it supported were appropriate to further its educational mission, Southworth claimed that his first amendment rights to free speech and free association were being violated, as he was forced to engage in "compelled speech" by funding groups he was ideologically opposed to. Some of the organizations Southworth was looking to defund included the campus women's center, an AIDS support group, the Wisconsin Public Interest Research Group and the campus socialist organization.

The High Court's decision overturned the 1998 decisions made by the federal district court and the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals, both of whom agreed with Southworth. The Supreme Court struck down their rulings, questioning how a student can determine whether or not they agreed on views of an organization that was stopped by previous students.

Justice Anthony Kennedy called speech at a University "unexplored bounds." He maintained that it was not up to the Court to decide what was important to the ideas pursued in an institution of higher learning. Kennedy maintained that Wisconsin's system for collecting and allocating its student fees met the standards of the First Amendment. "The First Amendment permits a public university to charge its students an activity fee to fund programs to facilitate extracurricular speech if the program is 'viewpoint neutral.'"

Had the Supreme Court ruled in Southworth's favor, universities would have to overhaul their

mandatory fee policies. Payments to "controversial" groups would have to be halted and in some cases, partial refunds would have to be paid out to students who have already financially supported groups they oppose.

Joseph Flynn, president of the

SUNY Faculty Senate, welcomed the vote and said that it will allow for student citizens to grow in a democratic society. "The vote underscores the essential truth that important learning occurs in campus activities and community service projects as well as in the classroom."

Todd Stebbins, coordinator of the Stony Brook chapter of NYPIRG was pleased with the vote. "We couldn't ask for more than a unanimous decision," he said. "Students can rest assured that the marketplace of ideas and opportunities of all different kinds will remain available for years to come."

Students on the Right Track, the Research Track

BY ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

"Aesthetic Intersections" crisscrossed through Harriman Hall for three days this past week as undergraduates in the Research Track in Philosophy and Literature program presented the culmination of their three years of work.

The program, presented by the Undergraduate Philosophy Society, hosted a series of events where students involved presented their works, running the gamut of philosophical discourses. Titles included "Phalluses and Fallacies: The Limits of Desire" and "Skin Flicks and Fat Chicks: A Corporeal Aesthetics."

Hugh Silverman, professor in the philosophy and comparative literature departments, is also the director of the Research Track. He

explained that the program is geared towards preparing undergraduates for graduate level work. "It teaches them how to present a paper in a conference and how to do research for graduate level work."

The program invited Michael Naas, associate professor of philosophy at DePaul University, to participate. After presentation of the paper, both Naas and Silverman would evaluate them. "That is what constitutes their grade for enrollment in the track," Silverman said.

In the midst of the presentation, the Undergraduate Philosophy Society interviewed Naas, who is a Stony Brook alumnus and who has translated a number of philosophical texts from French, including works by Lyotard and Derrida. The interview will later be published in the Society's journal, called "Echoes."

Sean Kieninger presented his work, titled "Painting Meaning Expression,"

which dealt with abstract expressionism and phenomenology. He analyzed paintings by Mark Rothko and Jackson Pollack. "I wanted to discuss where meaning lies in painting and expression."

Dorota Gonera's work dealt with feminism. "I tried to illustrate the female experience and aesthetic to show the instability of identity." To do this she used images from lesbian erotica and photography from Cindy Sherman. "I hope I delivered message about women as striving towards emotion and becoming."

Philosophy professor Edward Casey called this year's research track "truly impressive." He singled out the efforts of Silverman in making the program a success and he also congratulated the students. "This has been by far the most successful year."

The Census Comes to USB

BY HEATHER BRENT
Statesman Staff

The U.S. census is making its way to Stony Brook dormitories in mid-April, as part of an effort to conduct a complete count of all U.S. citizens, said Bill Harfmann, area manager for the census in Suffolk and Nassau counties.

"We work with each and every group to make sure we count every person," he said. The census is like your vote in the community, Harfmann said. "When you vote, that's your voice."

Federal funding depends on census statistics, said Christine Palmer, special place operations supervisor for the census 2000. The census is the country's way of dishing out over \$200 billion in funds and appointing representatives to Congress, she said. "It's beneficial to everyone in the United States."

According to a memorandum from Executive Vice Chancellor Donald Dunn, a

combination of rapid growth in other areas of the country and an incomplete census count in 1990 caused a loss of federal funds for public services.

Some services that suffered included programs for the disadvantaged, community economic development, workforce training and transitional employment and transportation projects. The inadequate funding resulted from formulas based on census data.

As part of the census effort, information packets are sent out the community so they know the questionnaire is coming, said Harfmann.

The timeline begins on March 13, when people should have received the form. Then on March 22, a thank you letter is mailed if the form is sent back, and if not, the census workers send a reminder that it's due, he said.

According to a Miami Herald article, the census costs about \$7 billion, which is about \$25 a person, and comes in different languages if requested. The form asks

questions such as name, race, sex and place of birth.

The purpose of these questions is to ensure that equal voting rights and equal opportunity laws are enforced, and also to provide money for school aid, building hospitals, Medicare, Social Security and housing aid. The article also says that no questions associated with religion are included, due to the separation of church and state.

The information you provide is completely private, said Harfmann. "No one has access to the information," he said. "We all take oaths of confidentiality."

The public can access this information only after 72 years, said Palmer, and usually they do so to trace their family's genealogy. If people don't complete the census, she said, their future relatives won't know who they were.

The census is "a picture of America in this year," she said. "It's how we know who America is."

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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 30, 2000

Editorials

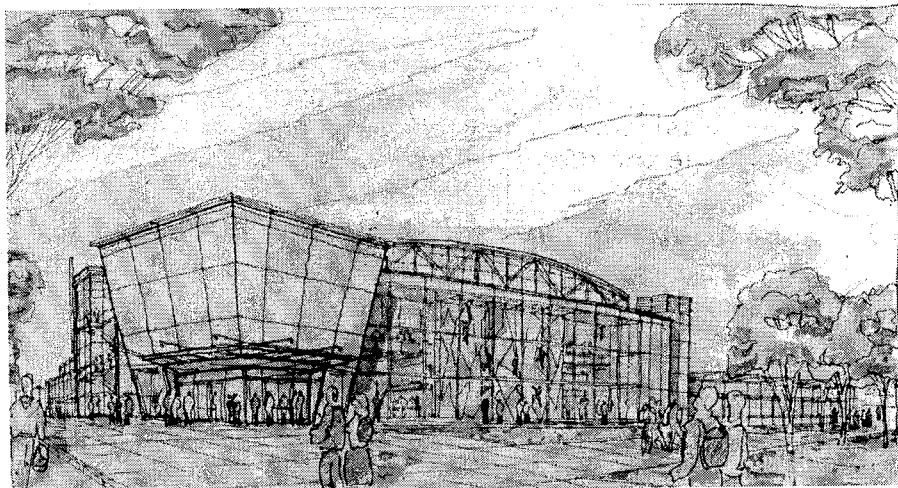
"Cautionary Support"

New Rec Center Sounds Good But Could Cause Problems

At first it sounds like a horrible idea. An extra fifty dollars being tacked onto that tuition bill every semester? Many have a hard time paying the bills as it is. But what if you looked at it as an investment? Would you be more willing to shell out another hundred a year?

That is the angle that Fred Preston is taking regarding the new recreation center. If students give it the go ahead with April's referendum vote, the \$17 million dollar center will be sprouting up within the next few years on the grounds in between the Pritchard Gym and the Student Union. Preston said that he has visited a number of campuses around the country and the that the rec centers on these campuses have done wonders for the quality of life of the campuses. He went so far as to say that they "invigorated" some schools.

To counter claims from students who will resent paying for something they will not get to enjoy, Preston, director of student



A conceptual sketch of the recreation center.

affairs, emphasized that there are things that you will invest in in life that you may not get to see the benefit of. At a recent meeting, he pointed out that if it wasn't for the investment of other students in years before these, we would not be enjoying the pleasures of places like the SAC and the Sports Complex. But sometimes it is hard to be so altruistic.

But to soften the blow of being long gone before the project even begins, administration is offering a pretty fair deal: if you pay for the construction you will

receive a free pass that entitles you to use of it for the amount of time you paid for it. In other words, if you are a junior when those fees are added on, you will get a pass for use of the facilities for the two years you were paying.

This, of course, is not without some issues. They seem to have forgotten that for those students that live far from campus, traveling back here to use the facilities may not be worth the effort. Especially if some one or two years have gone by. But

Continued on page 7



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An Idea That's Not Wrecked Yet

Continued from page 6

speaking of effort, we have to applaud when one is put forth. Preston should be commended for at least attempting to make concessions for a tuition increase.

And if that doesn't convince you, maybe this will. Imagine having something to actually do here on campus on the weekends! One of the biggest gripes that plague the life of the average resident is that there is nothing to do here. Would you like to climb a rock wall? How about learn some martial arts and then use a sauna afterwards? If that doesn't convince you, maybe a massage will.

Preston also noted that the facilities will include things like ball courts and workout equipment. He said that the price students will pay for use of these facilities will be far cheaper than what is charged at area gyms.

We never thought we would actually be somewhat gung ho about a administration-sponsored idea but this one doesn't sound too bad. Mind you, this is a cautionary support...but it does sound like a good idea.

A Phone Bill Mix Up

To the Editor:

This is in response to the recent article "Grievances with the Phone Company," claiming that Student Telephone Services (STS) is "raking in" a lot of money because of "corrupt business practice" by billing for calls that rang twice but were not completed.

The University provides STS with files that contain outbound call records placed by campus residents using their Personal Authorization Code (PAC). Stony Brook's state-of-the-art trunking and telephone system make it impossible for a student to be charged for a call that was not connected. All of the University's trunks have answer supervision from local and long distance carriers, meaning that a call record is produced only if the system receives signaling that the call was connected. The duration of the call is rounded up, generally to the whole minute, to match the practices of the carriers that bill the University for residents' calls.

Unfortunately, the short duration calls were not available to the STS billing office at the beginning of the semester and were not processed with the first few student telephone bills. In January these calls were reflected in the December/January telephone bill. If a student did not keep copies of their previous telephone bills, the STS on-site office can provide the history of the student's telephone account to verify that these calls are not duplicates.

Carol Cooke
Director of Telecommunications



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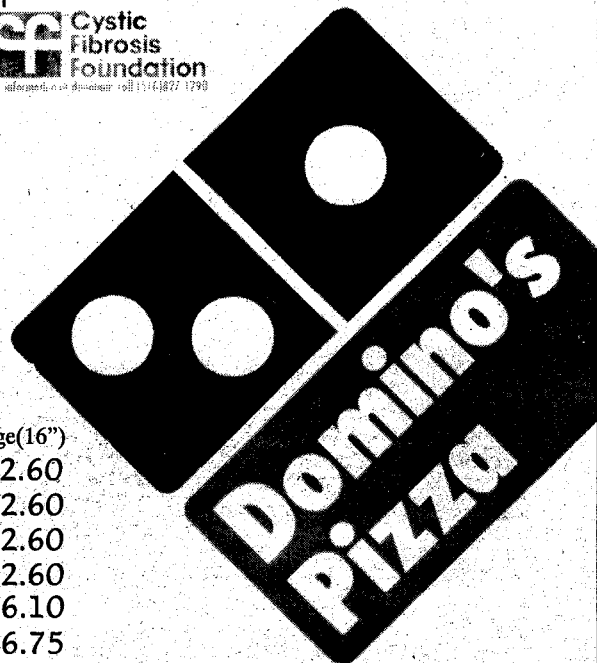
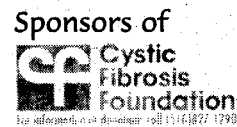
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The Stony Brook Statesman Thursday, March 30, 2000

Student Dies In Hazing Drinking Game

A Ferris State University freshman participated in a hazing drinking game at an unofficial fraternity party the night before he died, according to court papers.

The documents filed in Mecosta County District Court describe how Stephen Petz, 19, died while trying to join the Knights of College Leadership, the Grand Rapids Press reported Tuesday.

Six members of the group, which is also known as the Knights of College Lore, have been named in arrest warrants related to Petz's March 15 death. They are expected to be arraigned on Friday.

According to the warrants, five of the six face felony charges. Christopher Tabachki, 23, and Robert Tahir Markja, 20, are charged with involuntary manslaughter, which carries up to 15 years in prison on conviction. Fraternity President Erik Scott Bannister, 22, a senior from Metamora, Barry Michael Bradley, 19, a freshman from Flushing, and Joshua James Gardner, a 22-year-old junior from Suttons Bay, are charged with causing death by

furnishing alcohol to a minor, a 10-year felony. A 20-year-old sophomore, who the newspaper did

Rapids director of public safety. "To say that pledges' participation is totally voluntary once you are in

died several hours later.

An autopsy showed his blood-alcohol level was measured at 0.42 percent, more than four times the level defined as drunk by state motor vehicle law.

Police said they recovered two quarter-barrels of draft beer from the back of a pickup truck belonging to Bannister. Authorities also allege they found grocery receipts for hard liquor consumed at the party.

Ferris State University spokesman Ted Halm said Monday that all those allegedly involved in the incident remain at the school. "Right now, they are all still innocent under the law," Halm said. "They are entitled to due process, so we will be making another determination about their status later."

Petz's aunt, Virginia Soddy, isn't placing blame for her nephew's death. "Look, alcohol has been a problem in our society - all levels of our society - for many, many years," Soddy said Monday from her home near Bozeman, Mont. "All I can say is that this is tragic," Soddy said. "His death makes no sense. He was a young man with his whole life ahead of him." AP

"To say that pledges' participation is totally voluntary once you are in there taking part in an initiation is more than naive. This was hazing."

- Kevin Courtney, Big Rapids director of public safety.

not identify by name, is charged with a misdemeanor of providing alcohol to another under-age pledge.

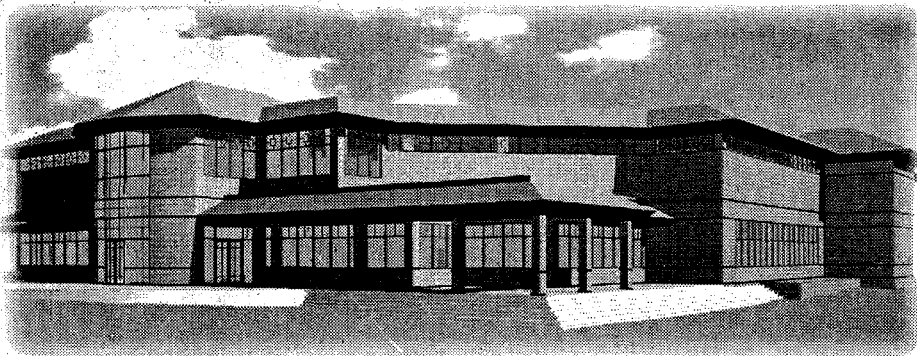
Pledges and members of the fraternity told investigators that the initiation drinking game was played with a roulette-like wheel that determined how much players had to drink.

"These people were forced to drink," said Kevin Courtney, Big

there taking part in an initiation is more than naive. This was hazing."

Members of the fraternity have told police Petz drank until he vomited and had to be carried from the basement to a bedroom on the home's second floor.

The next morning, Petz was found blue and cold and taking shallow breaths, the newspaper reported. Fraternity members took Petz to the hospital where he



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Heston Speech at Brandeis Attracts Hundreds of Demonstrators

National Rifle Association President Charlton Heston attracted hundreds of demonstrators on both sides of the gun control issue during an appearance Tuesday night at Brandeis University.

"Political correctness is tyranny with manners," Heston told the crowd of about 700 students, administrators and members of the community in a speech at the university's student center. He told the crowd to "question authority" when it comes to gun control laws.

Before Heston's address, protesters - most of them students - chanted anti-gun slogans and waved signs outside during a rally sponsored by the American Jewish Congress.

Some lay on the ground covered with fake blood, posing as gun victims. At the rally, AJC President Sumner Kaplan railed against the NRA's resistance to stricter gun control measures. "The blood of innocents - children or adults - by the illegal, inadvertent and improper use of guns ... it's cause for revulsion," he said.

"The Second Amendment was never meant to condone lawlessness." Pro-NRA demonstrators were also on hand to air their views. Tim Labbe, 31, of Waltham, stood outside the student center with a sign bearing the slogan "Keep your liberal hands off my Constitution."

"I'm here to stand up for the rights of citizens to keep the Second Amendment," said Labbe.

Heston, a Hollywood actor turned political activist, was invited to speak at Brandeis by several student groups there. The visit sparked controversy recently when a student organizer complained that Heston required expensive and excessive security measures. School administrators said the student was exaggerating, and that the school was picking up most of the cost for Heston's visit. AP



Shabbat Across Stony Brook

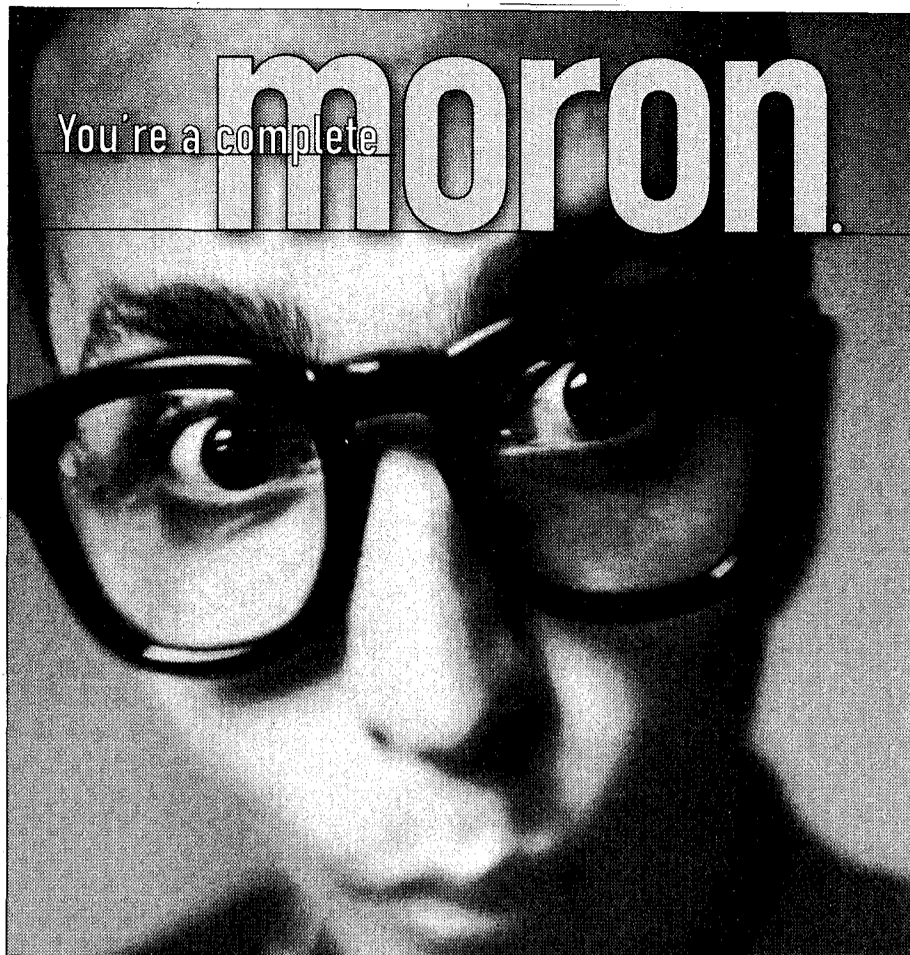
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How to Apply: Submit resume and cover letter to James Alessio, Chair – Internal Audit Search, Administration 488, Stony Brook, NY 11794-1308. Any questions, contact Mr. Alessio at 631-632-6080 or jalessio@notes.cc.sunysb.edu.

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Tell Me About It

Advice for the College-Age Crowd

By Carolyn Hax

Dear Carolyn:

I am a sophomore in college, and last year I dated this girl, Sandi, who was still in high school. We broke up, more her idea than mine. Since then it has been a struggle being friends with her. She told me she likes to be mean to one person in the world and that is me.

Recently, one year after we broke up, she met my best friend here at college. They have gotten romantically involved. It doesn't bother me, except that she won't be around us at the same time. She doesn't mind coming here to see him, but walks right by my door. All I want is for her to be civil. What am I supposed to do?

—Andy

Let's review: Young Sandi dumped Andy ... but you want to stay "friends" ... and so does she (I assume—or else she wouldn't still be around) ... so she can go out of her way to be mean to you ... and rub your face in this new relationship with your best friend ... which she's now using to keep you away from him.

Andy, Andy, Andy. To be called "immature," Sandi would have to outgrow "infantile." She wants attention, and she's figured out that she can get it by treating you like dirt. You, meanwhile, are so willing to be the dirt that she's getting exactly what she wants without even having to work for it.

When someone says she likes to mistreat you, that's your cue to say, "Thanks, I'd rather stay home and give myself paper cuts." When she walks right by your door? Consider yourself blessed.

Fortunately, the Sandis of the world are self-correcting: Ignore them and they go away. It's a strategy known as "pride."

Now I have a question. Why why why this compulsion to prolong failed relationships? It's not just you—there's a full-on "trying to be friends" epidemic out there.

When a platonic bond occurs naturally, that's great. When a platonic bond fails to occur after 15 protracted negotiating sessions or anything else that can be described as "a struggle," that's a hint.

Carolyn:

I ran into a past acquaintance in whom I had always had an interest, and who suggested we go out. I was very happy to find out that we share many common interests and goals. After spending a "good" weekend together, he started telling me about

SHE RIPPED MY HEART OUT AND STEPPED ON IT, BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS, WE'RE STILL FRIENDS.



how his ex-girlfriend thinks he should go to counseling.

My concern is, why is he worried about what his ex thinks? Should I even pursue this relationship any further?

—Not Looking to Be Lost in Love

Dear Not Looking to Be Lost in Love:

My concern is that irony-free miniseries you call a signifier. Breaking up ends a relationship, it doesn't expunge every opinion expressed during it.

Certainly he can let go of someone and still care what she thinks, right? In fact, you could even interpret this as a good sign. The people who scare me are the ones who can't revisit the past without a blowtorch, the she-dumped-me-so-what-the-expetive-does-she-know types.

That said, there might still be room for alarm here. If a lot more of his sentences start with "My ex-girlfriend

thinks ...," if counseling is the conversation topic after every "good" weekend, if you start to agree that this guy needs help, then maybe you should reconsider. For now, though, I'd wait long enough to find out why she suggested counseling and why he's considering it—or to find out something real before you decide to bail.

Carolyn:

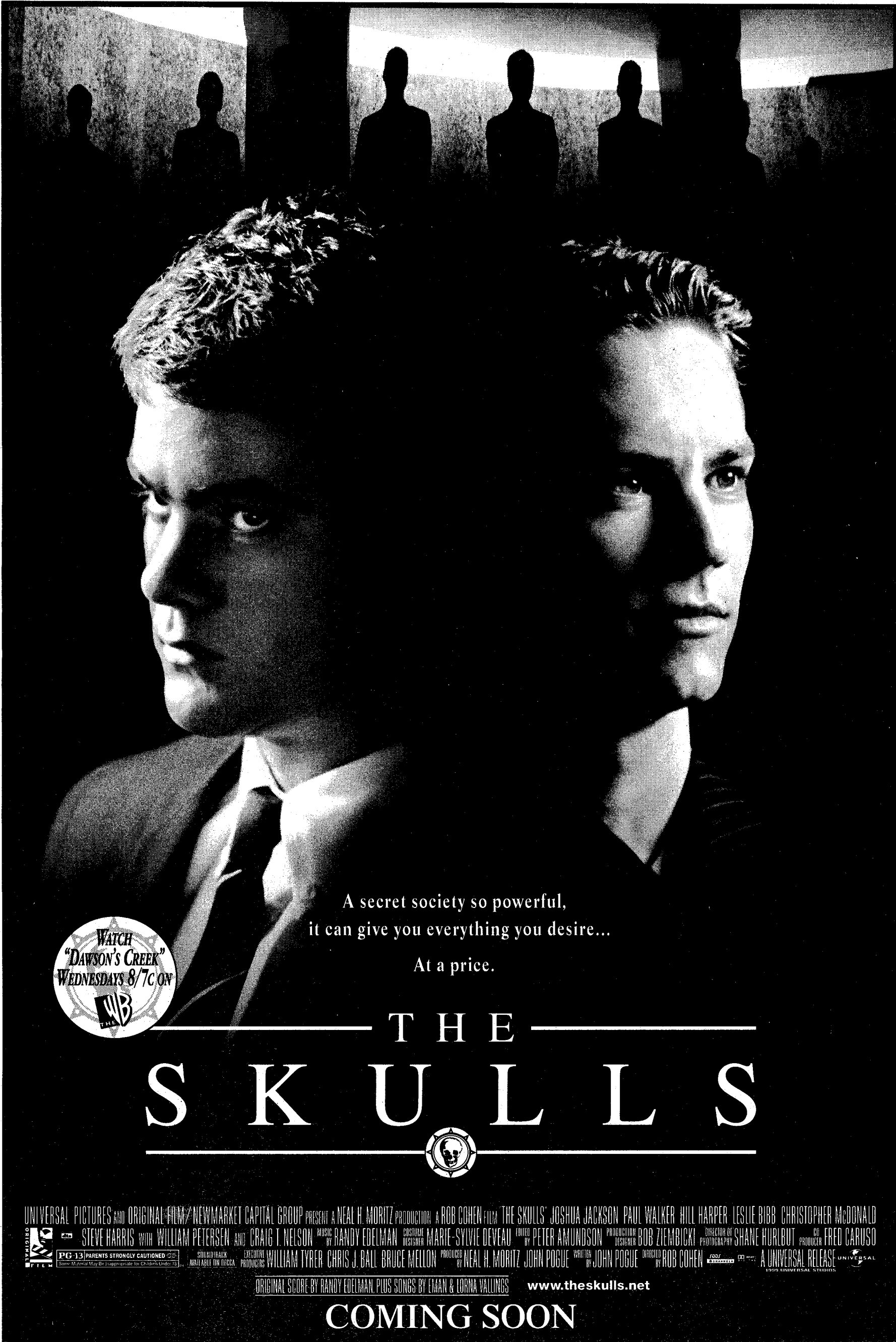
I recently got out of a two-year relationship. My boyfriend was very abusive, both emotionally and sexually. Since the breakup I've been suffering from flashbacks and other problems. My friends have all noticed a self-destructive streak in me during the past few months.

I took their advice and I'm going to counseling but it doesn't seem to be helping. I'm going downhill fast but I can't figure out a way to stop it. Do you have any suggestions?

—L

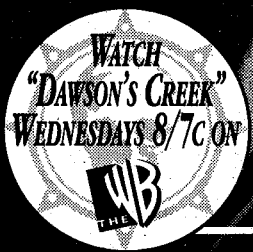
The "self-destructive streak" isn't from the past few months. It's been there for the past two years at least and probably since you were young, lurking in the back of your mind, whispering to you to hook up with and then stay with an abusive guy. That's self-destruction.

In the past few months, on the other hand, you've stopped the abuse and started counseling. I'd call that self-preservation. Stick with it, please. Call your therapist, report the downhill slide and see if she's able to help. If she can't, get a new therapist. Call the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 800-799-SAFE, and ask for the names of counselors in your area who have experience handling abuse. You so obviously want to get better that I believe you will, but you've got to give it time.



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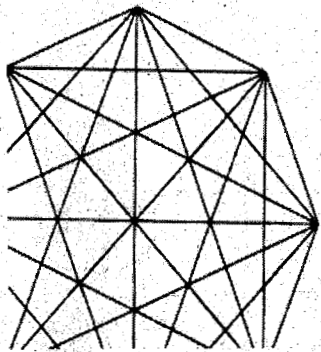
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Stony Brook Gets Weird

Campus Prepares for the I-CON 19 Invasion

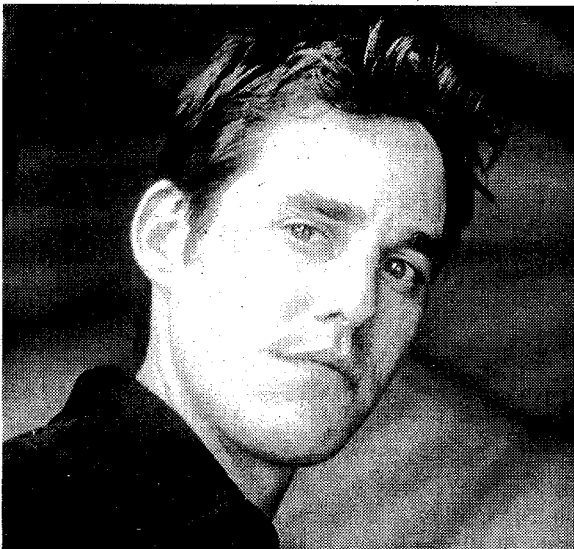
By JULIE MINGIONE
Statesman Editor

For most people, the advent of spring means refreshing rains, budding flowers, and warm temperatures. If, however, you are a science fiction fan, spring signifies the arrival of I-CON, the annual convention celebrating all things sci-fi, from March 31 to April 2.

The first I-CON of the millennium, I-CON 19 (short for Island Convention) is the yearly gathering of science fiction fans held at USB. Its organizers at the Stony Brook student chapter promise all eager students, "One of the best I-CONs ever," according to The Con-Link, I-CON's bi-annual publication.

Special guests include television personalities Nicholas Brendon (Xander) of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, Jason Carter (Marcus Cole) of *Babylon 5*, and Robert Leeshock (Liam Kincaid) of *Earth: Final Conflict*. Also attending the convention will be the usual crew of sci-fi enthusiasts wearing Star Trek costumes, clothes inspired by Xena Warrior Princess, and dressed as video game characters.

This year's I-CON will host their sixth annual Amateur Film Festival, featuring short films of the science fiction/horror genre. All forms of media will be represented at I-CON, including an art show with special guest Donato Giancola, an artist known for "hyper realistic portrayals of fantastic people and landscape," according to The



Courtesy of Xanderland.com

Buffy's Nicholas Brendon will be on hand for I-CON 19

Con Link. The Guest Author of Honor is Joe Lansdale and the Sci-Tech Guest of Honor will be Geoffrey A. Landis.

A two hour cabaret is planned for the night of April Fools Day. Intended to be a cross between *Saturday Night Live* and the *Muppet Show*, the event will encompass many aspects of fact, fantasy and pure science fiction. Students will be able to show off their performance abilities, and will be joined on stage by special guest Dr. Demento of National Public Radio.

The Dealers Room, held in the Sports Complex, is a

place for people to check out a wide variety of sci-fi memorabilia. Hundreds of dealers, such as Anime Palace, Leather Luxuries, Foto Fantasies, Off World Designs, and Grasshopper's Comics have all signed on to show off and sell their wares.

Gaming is also a big attraction of I-CON 19. Role playing, wargaming, computer gaming, and collectible card games are all in the works. Live Action Role Playing (LARP) will be back at this year's I-CON as well, with several guests from I-CON 18 reprising their roles, along with many new guests.

For those interested in traveling back to medieval times, the Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) will repeat their "popular outdoor demonstrations of real, unchoreographed medieval hand-to-hand armored combat and fencing of the Renaissance," according to The Con-Link.

I-CON 19 will run this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The Dealer's Room hours are Friday, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Convention hours run on Friday from 6 p.m. to midnight, Saturday, 10 a.m. to midnight, and Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Films, videos, and select activities will run until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday evenings.

I-CON 19 promises to deliver plenty of the weird and wacky stunts exhibited last year. With over 100 guests and activities planned, discerning fact from fiction will be the real challenge. For more information, contact I-CON at 632-6045.

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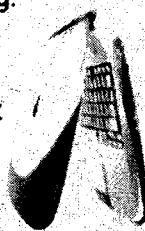
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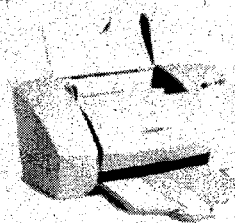
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Why Students Go to College

By Jennifer L.M. Gunn
Statesman Staff

On her first day of college, Beth Manes was given an ivy plant in a small pot. She kept her ivy, which was given to all first-year students to nurture for their four years in school, in the tiny window of her large, cream-colored dorm room.

"I remember just looking at it," Manes said. "That was the one living thing in the room. I just wondered if it would grow. It was to be symbolic of my four years."

The ivy plant did not survive.

Manes, now 20 and a sophomore, started school at Smith College in Northampton, Mass., and she is now considering Stony Brook to finish her education. She realizes now that her unrealistic expectations of college and even her reasons for attending school were what ultimately forced her to leave the scholastic environment.

A survey by the American Council on Education in 1998 said that 77% of college freshman were attending college in order to get a better job, while 62% said they were going in order to gain knowledge. For students challenged and let down by the college experience, the combination of false expectation and dedication could prove to be the reason behind their disappointment.

Manes had no doubt she would attend college. Her decision to attend college was based on a desire for knowledge, and independence, she said. Throughout high school she achieved high grades, participated in theater and music-related activities, and was proficient in foreign languages.

expected to know exactly what they want to do.

"When I meet a student, a 17-year-old or an 18-year-old who is still in high school who says, 'I'm going to be a brain surgeon,' it scares me a little bit," he says.

Working at orientation programs, McConnell sees such students frequently,

"When I meet a student, a 17-year-old or an 18-year-old who is still in high school who says 'I'm going to be a brain surgeon,' it scares me a little bit."

"I was really into learning," she said. "I thought things would just happen but you have to make them happen. You have to put a lot into it."

Like many students, Manes hoped college would instill a greater sense of confidence, and that her environment would provide a breeding ground for the acquisition of knowledge, and perhaps direction.

Assistant Director of Stony Brook's Academic Advising Center, Brian McConnell sees a lot of incoming students with high hopes and sometimes, rigid expectations. He argues, though, that students entering college aren't

and believes that picking a major is an important decision requiring thought and exploration. Many students, according to McConnell, are pressured by their parents to pursue a certain major because that's where the money is. Majors such as computer science, biology and the health sciences tend to have a promise of big salaries and therefore attract students who may be better suited elsewhere.

While some simply pick the wrong majors, some don't choose at all, he says. "The longer you wait, the longer it's going to keep you here."

Manes considered majoring in

government, neuroscience, biology, and music before she withdrew from Smith College in January of 1999 after continuous struggle. Her confidence had dropped as she was unable to stay motivated or find classes that sparked her interest.

"I could not even read anything. Nothing was going through," she said. "I wasn't going to classes or anything."

The decision to withdraw was not an easy one and she was plagued with doubt, but her scholastic performance had deteriorated so much that staying in school seemed silly. "I was just going through the motions, and it meant nothing to me."

McConnell, of Academic Advising, believes that confidence can have a significant impact on student's performance. "I've worked with students who've started out and in their first or second year and sometimes going into their third year, they're just barely making it," he said. "I think for some students, it takes a long time until they get that confidence, but once they get it, it's amazing."

Stony Brook has a strict new academic-standing policy requiring that students maintain a G.P.A. of 2.0 or higher or face academic probation, suspension or eventual dismissal from

continued on page 18

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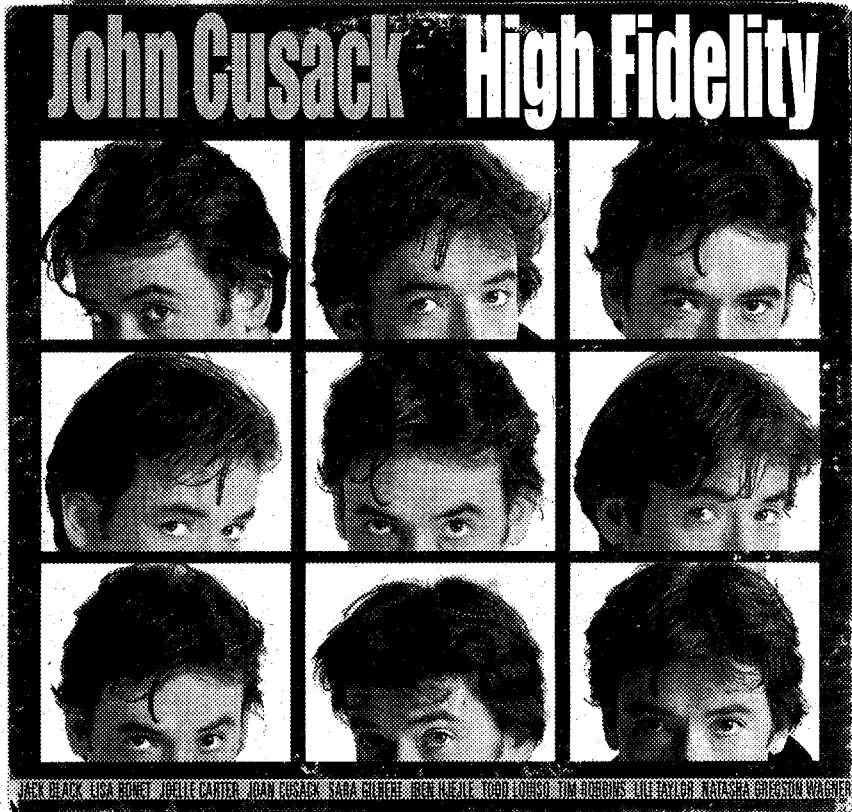
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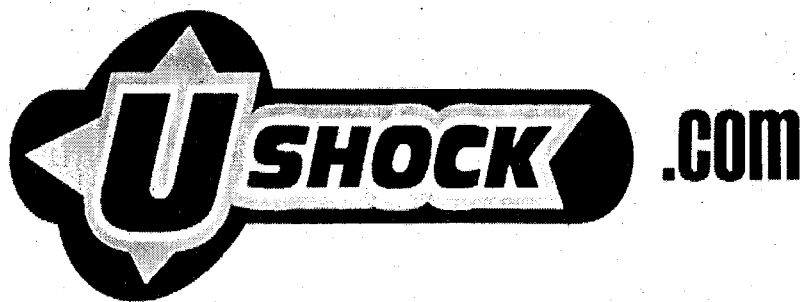
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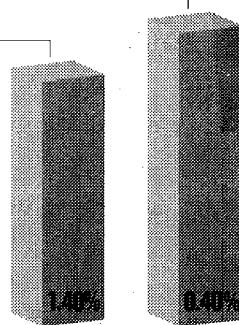
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College Choices

continued from page 13

the University.

The Director of Academic Advising, Ellen L. Hopkins, believes that the new system could be a good thing for those students who are over confident and not performing. When dismissed, she said, such students "have to stop and reconsider themselves."

Manes returned to Smith College, in the fall of 1999, after a period of travel and work. "I was really happy to get out and to start again, but I wasn't happy," she said.

One of Manes' biggest disappointments was the regimen of the University system. The structure of school work, including essays, exams, and classes, allowed people to do simply what was necessary to pass, according to Manes. The classroom was a place where people competed for recognition, rather than enlightenment.

"I wanted to be honest and I wanted to learn, and I didn't want to pretend." Manes said. "It's all about sounding good, and I hated that."

McConnell, of Academic Advising, agrees that much of that exists in the system, as young people coming out of high school are increasingly sophisticated. "The politics of saying the right thing or writing the right thing or just molding your academics to what the professors are looking for; I'm sure that stuff exists to a degree," he said. "I see some disillusioned folks who just get overwhelmed."

Toward the end of the semester, the same confidence issue arose, and Manes, once again, withdrew.

Many times, students are unprepared for college right out of high school and benefit from life experience. Renee Pickett, 24, is a senior at Stony Brook majoring in Education and Women's Studies. For Pickett, going to college "was never a question."

After attending the University of Maryland for a year and a half, she returned home and did not go back to school for two years. Pickett needed the time to figure out what she wanted to do. When she started school at Stony Brook, she was ready for the college experience. Pickett graduates in May and will student-teach in the fall.

Hopkins, Director of Academic Advising, says that many students do come back. "I like working with people who come back, who are getting a reality check in the world," she said. "A lot of them have experienced life and realize how difficult it is to get anywhere if they don't have a degree."

Manes is now home on Long Island, trying to figure out the next step in her life. She is determined to finish college but will not return to Smith. "It makes me want to cry to think about not finishing," she said.

Manes plans to eventually study economics and music and is currently auditing classes at Stony Brook. She believes that she was unprepared to enter college and to face the decisions, and realities of the college experience. Despite her best intentions, the desire for knowledge was overshadowed by indecision and insecurity.

"I wasn't really ready to really take charge and get out there," she said. "I need to put things into perspective."

New Office for IFSC

Continued on page 2

of the new office. "We want everyone to know that this office is not only for fraternities and sororities but for all students," said Bathelmy.

The office will have a mini career placement center, where students can get information on internships and employment opportunities. In addition, if students are interested in any fraternity and sorority, the office will provide them with the history of the organization and contact numbers. Students who want to do community service but don't know where to go can get connected with charities through the office.

Although it just opened, the executive board of IFSC is proud of the progress and they are excited about its future developments. "There has been Greek life on this campus for 15 years and this is the first year we have an office and webpage," said Bathelmy. "Our webpage is by far the hottest on campus."

The idea for the office came about at the Fraternity Sorority Leadership Retreat which took place last August. At the retreat, Vasquez said that the office was a good way to connect students to all the different services and events these organizations offer on the campus. "We want the campus to know that fraternities and sororities are here and we partake in the campus," said Bathelmy.

The IFSC office will cater to all students and will also provide information regarding different non-Greek student clubs. Bathelmy stressed the importance of having the whole campus community benefit from and utilize the facilities

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Statesman

Campus Lifestyles

Entertainment, Leisure, Sports & Alternatives

Features

Bugle Boys to Play at USB

BY KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

At 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 2nd, the Canadian Brass will return to the Staller Center for the third time. The group has been a musical presence for almost three decades, and their performance at the Staller Center will encompass musical selections from a plethora of genres.

"Their style is a nice cross between classical, brass, and comedy," explained Alan Inkles, director of the Staller Center, "a lot of people will be able to enjoy this show." He specifically said that USB music students studying brass instruments would benefit and enjoy exposure to The Brass performance style.

The Canadian Brass has released over 20 albums, and have appeared in numerous videos and on television specials. They have shared the stage with highly regarded orchestras, and participated in popular and publicized festivals, including Tanglewood and Ravinia.

The group, a brass quintet that boasts of formidable musical accomplishment, is made up of five members. Jens Lindemann and Ronald Romm play the trumpet, Christopher Cooper is on the french

horn, Eugene Watts plays the trombone, and Charles Daellenbach rounds out the sounds on the tuba.

Renowned for their unconventional approach to classical music, The Brass is credited with adding new elements to the genre of brass music and performance. Its repertoire knows no formal boundaries. Performance pieces include rearranged compositions by classical composers like Vivaldi and Bach, tribute pieces to Duke Ellington, and traditional brass pieces by John Phillip Sousa. Inkles recalled watching the musicians play a piece by Mozart, making a smooth transition into a version of "When the Saints Go Marching In," and then marching across the stage in formation.

The Brass has commissioned numerous contemporary composers to write pieces for it, including Lukas Foss, Peter Schickele, and Pulitzer Prize winners William Bolcom and Michael Colgrass.

The performance at Staller will include a special tribute to John Lennon and Paul McCartney, when the audience will be treated to several Beatles pieces that have been rearranged for a brass quintet. The program for April 2nd includes works by Duke Ellington, Vivaldi,



courtesy of www.canadianbrass.com

The members of The Canadian Brass have been praised for their versatility and sense of humor.

Henry Purcell, and selections from the opera Carmen.

The Brass musicians also place great emphasis on music education, and are members of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC), a group that is credited with spreading song to eight million children in public schools with their annual "World's Largest Concert." The Canadian Brass played an integral role in the event, which was broadcast on PBS. The Canadian Brass also instituted the Fund for the Advancement of Musical Education, a fund that awards grants to musicians for continuing musical education.

The touring history of the group is varied and impressive, as the band members has performed with various

American orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, and has toured all over the world. Notable stops on previous tours have included China, Germany, England, and Wales. United States performances have included the distinguished stages of Carnegie Hall, the Orchestra Hall in Chicago, and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

The Canadian Brass typically sell out at the Staller Center, and Inkles cautioned that only a few seats are left for Sunday's performance, which was specifically booked as part of Staller's April Fool's Day weekend. "This performance spans a lot of different interests," he said, "any student that comes out will have a good time."



courtesy of www.canadianbrass.com

The Canadian Brass is celebrating 30 years of musicmaking.