

Reggae Marathon
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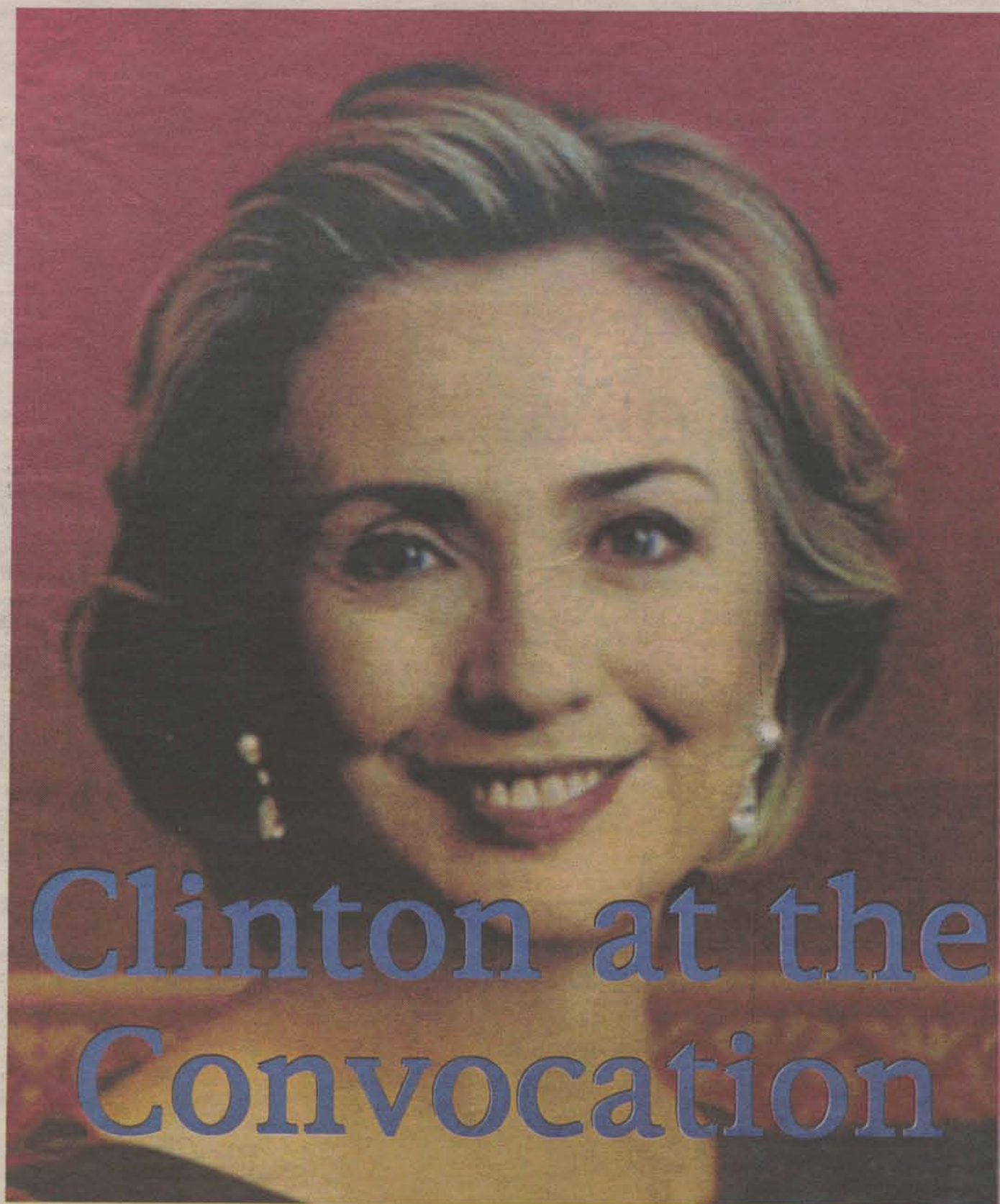
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Clinton at the Convocation

Page 3

Student Wins Law Award

By ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

While most students were hitting the beaches during last semester's spring break, Oluwaseun Ajayi was hitting the books. Although it took him until this summer to see it, his pay off will last much longer than the average tan.

Last month, the Stony Brook student became the latest recipient of the Benjamin and David Scharps prize, awarded during a ceremony hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Affairs. The award is given to a SUNY prelaw junior who pens the best essay on a legal subject. This year's topic was "Sexual Harrassment: Balancing Personal Rights and Duties in a University Community." It was up to Ajayi to write the paper from the perspective of a member of a federal appeals court panel who is considering the appeal from a lower court's ruling. Ajayi's winning version of the court's opinion was written in typical court decision style using the same format and citation system. For his efforts, the political science major and international studies minor received a plaque, money and his own law book.

Although he claims to have never expected less than first place for himself, the three year veteran Seawolves soccer player said he was awed by the outcome.

"I worked under a severe time constraint," Ajayi said. "Time became a big factor because I learned of the competition a day before spring break." With hopes for some rest and relaxation put on the back burner, Ajayi came back to school during the vacation to research for and write the paper. But the Nigerian native has no regrets. "It is indeed gratifying that I won," he said. However, he mentioned the support he received from faculty including professors Molette-Ogden, Van Winkle, Segal and Doyle, as well as from Rosemary Effiom from the Undergraduate Academic Affairs office.

Calling his major "immensely enjoyable," it's Ajayi's passion for his studies that also spurred his win. "I am thoroughly intrigued by the intelligent discourse that is the discipline of political science," he said. This passion has led him to work in his department at the Survey Research Center as well as in the Intensive English Center, where he worked as a student life coordinator. He said that he loves taking on challenges, "especially those that have a bearing on my future profession," he said.

But succeeding at these challenges is nothing new to Ajayi, who has hopes of eventually becoming a lawyer. The



Courtesy of the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Ajayi received his award from Provost Bob McGrath and prelaw advisor James Doyle.

Scharps award is the latest addition to an extensive list of past accomplishments including the Earnest McNealy Living and Learning Center award, the Richard B. Moore award and the Debbie Whittemore Memorial Scholarship. He was also nominated for the Division of Campus Residences Award for Service to the Community. This summer, he is an intern at the Foreign Policy Association, a non partisan organization described by Ajayi as a place that looks to engage the American public in a debate

on it's foreign policy.

With many accomplishments under his belt, Ajayi wants to encourage his fellow students by offering them some words of advice. "Don't avoid those classes that demand a lot of writing," he said. "I hope to motivate students to reach not for the stars, but farther, beyond the skies."

Statesman staff member Renee Attias contributed to this article.

Puny Police Paychecks

University Officers Get Less Pay, Benefits

By NICK IYER
Statesman Contributor

In a department where officers have the responsibilities of a police officer without the benefits of other law enforcement agents, many Stony Brook police officers leave their positions after working a short time to join other agencies where pay and benefits are superior, according to Deputy Chief of University Police Doug Little.

This creates a problem for police, who now find it "economically unfeasible to keep sending members to the academy when they keep leaving," said Lieutenant Robert Sweeney, a 23-year veteran of University Police. The campus department is left with no other choice but to recruit older officers who have proven less inclined

to seek higher paying police jobs.

Little said that during his 23 years with University Police, he has seen more than 400 officers leave his department. The reasons for departure, according to several officers on the force include pay, better retirement and the fact that there is little room for promotion on campus.

Although New York State recently granted university police officers the status of regular police officers, Little said that campus police are still the lowest paid officers in the whole state. Officer Frank Rustelli said that this has done little to lift the officers' spirits. "Morale has gone down because we haven't been moving forward," he said.

However, Little was more optimistic. "Things are getting better, but the money is still horrible," he said, noting that Suffolk County officers make approximately \$80,000 annually with a pension plan that offers half pay after 20 years. In comparison, University officers only make about \$38,000 and are not eligible for a pension until the age of 55.

But this problem is not confined to the Stony Brook campus. Chief Marvin J. Fischer of the SUNY Farmingdale police said they are having similar troubles. "We have older officers and a constant turnover," he said, adding that Farmingdale police are required to work 240 days per year compared to the 180 days required of Suffolk officers.

But while the benefits of a county officer are far less than those of a county officer, the standards for becoming a University officer remain higher than those necessary to become a Suffolk officer, according to Stony Brook's force. In addition to passing a statewide civil service test, University officers must have at least 60 college credits, and pass a physical and a written test.

Neither Suffolk nor Nassau's departments require a college education, although the New York City police department does require 60 college credits.

Despite its problems, Stony Brook's police force has made some progress. In addition to their upgrade in status, courtesy of Governor George Pataki, they have recently been issued new, more professional looking uniforms that have brought added respect. He remains optimistic but according to Little, the officers need more. "We're still a long way off from where we should be," he said, "but we are moving forward."



Statesman Archives

University Police get paid about \$38,000 per year while Suffolk County officers make close to \$80,000.

First Lady Speaks At Staller

Clinton Continues Campaign While Congratulating Graduates

By TINA CHADHA
Statesman Editor

As the audience members packed into the auditorium stirred excitedly in their seats, trying to spot their sons, daughters and grandchildren standing proud in matching caps and gowns, a second sight was equally as exciting to those assembled. Seated on stage beside President Shirley Strum Kenny was first lady and senate candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Taking a detour off of her campaign trail, Clinton addressed the anxious audience of parents, relatives, faculty members and graduates at this year's School of Health Technology and Management's twenty-ninth convocation on June 30th.

Speaking first was USB's own first lady, Kenny, who received loud applause from the audience after exclaiming, "Congratulations you did it!" She went on to discuss the importance of these graduates in their potential to improve health care for all Americans. "We need your leadership, your commitment, and your determination to make health care in the United States better for everybody just as we need

your professional abilities and continuing determination to help people live healthier and thereby happier lives." Kenny then introduced the next two speakers.

First came the annual Alumni address, given by Yi Na Chan, of the class of 1999. Chan, like President Kenny energized the crowd, saying, "no more papers and projects after today." She then discussed what she had learned in her first year working in cytotechnology, advising the graduates on what they should expect.

Kenny, prior to introducing Clinton, offered some background information on her involvement in health care. "Mrs. Clinton is one of the nation's leading advocates on behalf of children and families; for three decades she has fought for better health care, expanded educational opportunities, improvements in childcare, and economic security for all Americans," said Kenny. "She has also advocated greater funding for research and treatment of cancer, osteoporosis, and juvenile diabetes."

Clinton thanked Kenny, and began her speech by noting that Chan summed up the job of health care professionals wonderfully with



Courtesy of Hillary Clinton's Web Site

Clinton spoke of the need to make health care in the U.S. "better for everybody."

the words "caring and curing." She went on to say that she was "particularly pleased to be in a place with a well deserved reputation as Stony Brook University and the first graduating class of this century." The audience again broke into loud applause. Clinton waited for them to silence before mentioning the one graduate who could not be here. This student was diagnosed with breast cancer and is battling the disease. Her dream is to be a pediatrician, as she loves working with kids. Her husband is self employed and has to work hard for medical care. "He wanted us to work hard to continue to get funding for breast cancer," said Clinton. "I don't think any of us should rest until we take every step to prevent and cure it."

Along with the fight against breast cancer, Clinton talked about the new breakthrough in human genome research. "Today human genome contains three billion letters

of gene code and has been decoded and you will be among the first generation to have the tools to beat these diseases. Whether we use these discoveries to help our health care system depends on us."

Clinton went on to discuss the needs of elderly people in this country. "Two-thirds of elderly people are without medical coverage and this is a cause of concern, as the older you get you need more medical care." The cost of medical care is also a major issue at this time "as we are paying taxes that the FDA uses to test drugs, and then we pay a higher cost for the drugs we already paid for." The same drug from the same manufacturer with the same FDA approval costs \$50 in Canada and \$390 in the United States.

Finally, Clinton closed by insisting that access to quality health care should not be dependent upon race, creed, or status. "We are all 99.9% the same, every shade of skin color, eye color or height difference is only superficial."



Courtesy of Hillary Clinton's Web Site

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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, July 10, 2000

Editorials

Fun in the Summer (But Not During the Semester)

Attention all Stony Brook students who moan and groan that there is nothing to do during the course of the semester, we know what you need to do to have fun on campus: come to school during the vacations.

It might be summer but there are actually a few fun things worth mention going on that could quite possibly be of interest to the average bored student. The only problem is that there are hardly any here to enjoy them, which begs an obvious question. Why don't they reserve some of these events for the fall and spring semesters when students head for the nearest railroad car and highway to leave a campus they have dubbed dead during the weekends?

Take for example the annual Staller Center film festival. It has become a staple of summer life here on campus, drawing in crowds from the surrounding community and beyond. This year, the festival will feature 47 diverse films, from fun kid stuff like a movie about

Thomas the Tank Engine to more serious flicks like The Cider House Rules. They will even be showing the winner of the Golden Globe award for best foreign film, All About My Mother. Passes for the film fest sold like hot cakes at \$30 a piece. A ticket entitles the bearer to see all 47 movies in addition to the bonus of meeting a director and a film critic here and there. Sounds like a lot of fun, doesn't it?

Not to a student who would flunk a bio test for the chance to attend the festival during September, January or any other month that they were on campus. It's great that the movies are a hit to the community but shouldn't we be looking to entertain our own before looking outward for an audience?

The reggae marathon put on by Stony Brook's own radio station is another event that would benefit more students if only it were held while they were here. The marathon heated up the campus during winter vacation last year, drawing a live band to The Spot, phone calls from famous

reggae artists and live links between New York and Jamaica. It was so good in fact that people were listening overseas in Europe and Africa. It is nice to hear that people in Italy have heard of WUSB, but how many students at Stony Brook have? It must have been something to hear Bob Marley blasting out of the speakers courtesy of 90.1 from the U.S. to the Caribbean but wouldn't it have been even better to hear it blasting from Tabler to Mendohlson?

The marathon returned for the first time this summer putting an island beat on our own island. It created a positive party vibe that would have created an exciting and fun atmosphere for listening students. But who is at school in the dead of the summer?

It is great that the University makes a name for itself with its events and happenings, and surely each student would be proud to know that people from all around come to join in on the fun. But how about making it fun for the students too? Save some of the good stuff for us!



Courtesy of Slate Professional Cartoons

Everything But the Palm Trees

WUSB Holds First Ever Summer Reggae Marathon

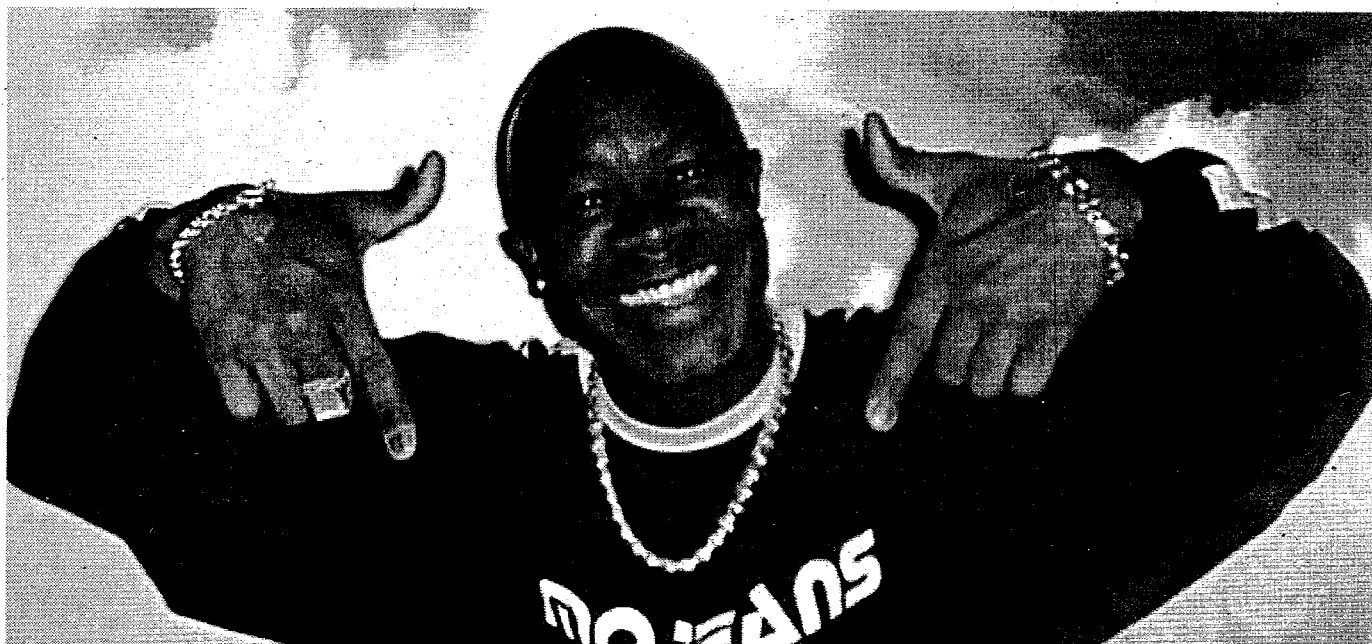
BY ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

Long Island's summer got a little bit hotter last week as the first ever summer reggae marathon hit the airwaves from Stony Brook's own radio station, 90.1 WUSB, playing nothing but reggae music 24 hours a day for four days straight.

The non-stop reggae, which was heard from July 1 until July 5, was a spin-off of the eight days that have brought the Caribbean to Stony Brook for a few years now. Since 1998, reggae lovers on campus and around the world have been tuning in during the cold winter months to warm up to the hot reggae vibes, courtesy of WUSB.

The last winter marathon, held in January, was a huge success. The band Haile Unlikely played at The Spot, listeners called in from around the globe, including from Australia and Ethiopia and the station received phone calls to the studio from famous reggae artists such as Shabba Ranks and Buju Banton.

In addition, the station made radio history by creating a live link between the WUSB studio, a Jamaican radio station and WRTN, a station based in New Rochelle, which features Caribbean programs including "Irie Jam" and "Link Up."



Courtesy of Angella at Fig Tree Studios

Conrod Smiles said that the marathon is the only one like it in the world, outside of Jamaica.

"In addition, the station made radio history by creating a live link between the WUSB studio, a Jamaican radio station and WRTN, a station based in New Rochelle, which features Caribbean programs including "Irie Jam" and "Link Up."

There is also Rockin' Iration on Friday and Stir It Up on Sundays.

This special reggae treat featured CD and ticket giveaways distributed to lucky listeners, and those that were far away from a radio could access the marathon from the internet through a variety of links, including www.reggae24.com and the station's Clappers site, accessed at www.wusb.org. According to Norm Prusslin, the advisor for campus media groups including the station, on Sunday the marathon featured a tribute to late reggae great Dennis Brown, where listeners could call and request their favorite songs by the artist.

And if listening wasn't enough, reggae lovers could dance to the marathon's beat at the various clubs in the area. A kickoff party was held Saturday night at a VFW hall in Huntington and Painters in Brookhaven hosted a party on Tuesday. Latin club Bailar, also in Huntington, turned strictly Caribbean for the night they hosted a party.

But for all the fun the dancehall, rock steady and roots and culture beats the marathon generated, some people did take time out to point out the serious side of the music. One listener called the station to express her delight in the marathon and she pointed out how the genre is a huge part of Jamaican culture. "Reggae is part of Jamaica's future," she said, "and Stony Brook is pushing it forward."

According to Conrod Smiles, host of Thursday's No Sound Test program, the marathon is the only one like it in the world outside of Jamaica. The three way trimulcast was done again this time when WUSB kicked off the four days linking again with WRTN and Hot 102, a station in Jamaica.

Besides the intent to create positive vibrations around campus and beyond, the purpose of this latest marathon was to notify listeners to the fourteen hours of reggae music that can be heard every single week on WUSB, marathon or no marathon. Smiles' show, which he hosts with Kibret Neguse, plays dancehall reggae from 10 pm until midnight every Thursday night. Saturday afternoons feature the long-running Saturday's a Party show, hosted by Lister Hewan-Lowe, one of the people credited with getting the marathon started.



Kibret Neguse can be heard every Thursday on No Sound Test.

Courtesy of Angella at Fig Tree Studios

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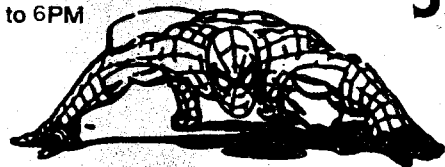
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The Eighties Are Not Over Yet

By Ferron French, Statesman Contributor

We came into the new millennium expecting all types of explosions in the fashion industry but we were accepting when we realized that moving forward in fashion has actually moved us backwards.

What has come and gone has returned in full force. The anticipated advances of the 20th century are what? A revival of the almost forgotten 80's. But are we ready to dig out those jelly shoes, legwarmers and blue eyeshadow?

Many were expecting a new change of pace. A new style or look is not what people received. Instead, the regeneration of the 80's is the fashion world's way of saying that nothing is ever so old that it can't be brought back to life. Things can simply be modified a bit, as the 80's have, with a few modifications from the millennium generation.

Students presently in college or graduate school have experienced the 80's firsthand and can relate to the large silver and gold hoops, stiletto heeled shoes, and beaded and fringed hand bags. They think fondly of the days when they collected those black plastic bracelets in true Madonna style, and when they extended

the eyeliner all the way to the hair line.

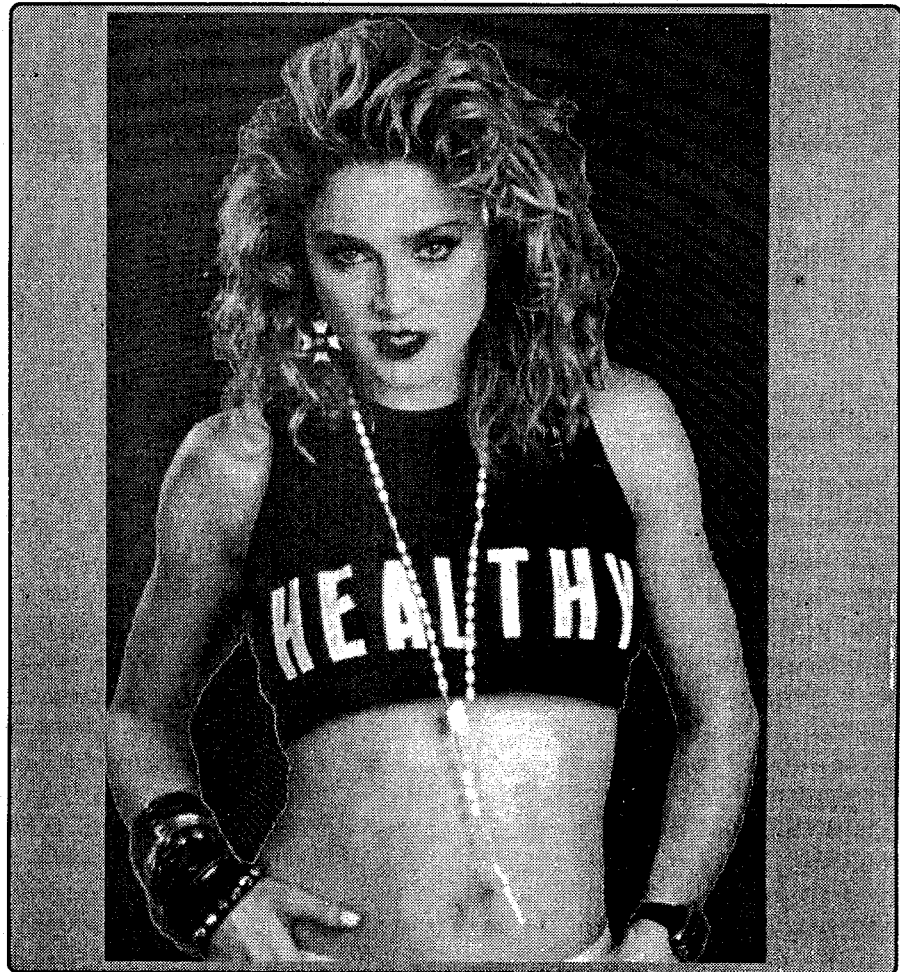
Andrea Ciccotelli, a senior at USB, said, "I think everything comes back around in fashion. Nothing's really new. I like how the 80's has come back because I enjoyed it while growing up."

The once stylish bright colors of hot pink and turquoise were a necessity, and brown, black and beige implied that one's sense of fashion was boring and dull. Volumized hair showed that nothing was too extravagant when it came to this time period.

The sudden change everyone to the realization that the 80's were a memory. The bright colors were no longer acceptable, and woe be unto anyone who attempted to emulate previously stylish hairstyles.

We gradually started putting all the gold and beaded accessories away in anticipation of the coming changes. The 90's way of incorporating style with the sleekness of a more plain nature compared to the past decades only confused us more. It is appropriate to say that you should expect the unexpected in order to not be surprised of the result in the end.

There's no mistake about the so called new style gone back to find out it is time to break out the things you have put away and hope they still fit.



Madonna was the epitome of 80's fashion.

Courtesy of Madonna's Web Site

Hopefully you can save yourself some money by finding the decade packed away or maybe not, since no one expected the glitz of glitter and radiant colors to come from the new century of long awaited fashion.

They Work Hard for the Money

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) —

The State University of New York is making \$12 million in performance-based payouts to 26 schools throughout the system. Awards throughout the 64-campus system will range from \$15,000 to \$2 million, according to SUNY spokesman David Henahan.

SUNY officially adopted performance-based "mission review funding" in 1998, joining more than a dozen states that award funds tied to a school's ability to meet identified goals.

The State University College at Brockport will get \$400,000 in the payout and SUNY Geneseo will receive \$96,000.

At SUNY Brockport the revised plan includes raising admission requirements,

admitting students with higher academic credentials and testing students for competency in writing, math, computer skills and critical thinking before graduation.

Barbara Dixon, provost at SUNY Geneseo, said the \$96,000 will be used to expand the school's freshman seminar.

Many schools give freshmen a class in how to study or manage their time. SUNY Geneseo's seminar has a more academic approach, bringing together a group of freshmen with a faculty member to examine and write about one subject, such as local history or the science of the moon.

Only about 20 percent of freshmen participate in this seminar. The mission review money will help the school expand the program to all students within two years.

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The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, July 10, 2000



Features

High Speed Car Chases

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

Producer Jerry Bruckheimer, known for a list of blockbusters that includes *Top Gun*, *Armageddon* and *Beverly Hills Cop*, has worked his signature magic again, which is good news for scores of summer moviegoers. In teaming up with action movie veteran Nicholas Cage of *Face Off*, *Con Air* and *Snake Eyes*, Bruckheimer laid the framework for what has turned out to be one of the most exciting movies to hit the theaters in a long time.

Gone in 60 Seconds opens at full speed and rarely slows down. The first sequence, a routine car theft that goes horribly wrong, combines all the elements necessary to make a good action movie, and then builds on them for the next hour and a half.

There are countless run-ins with cops, angry gang members, guns, explosions and car chases, all neatly stitched together by a well-moving plot and the conventional comic relief. Add that to the plethora of awe-inducing cars that are shown in almost every scene and you have a formula for a thrill ride that manages to abandon its formulaic nature and become a refreshing and exciting romp through the world of auto theft.

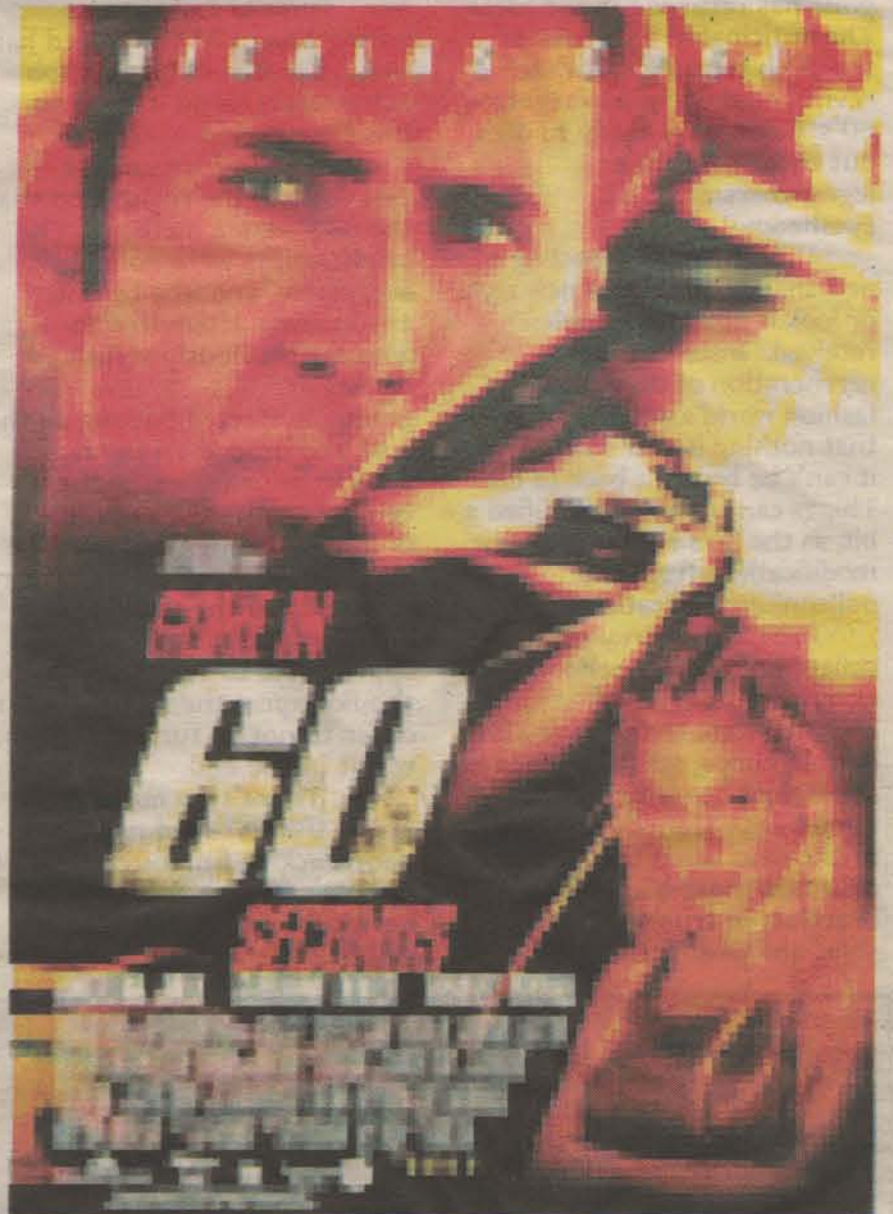
Cage portrays Randall "Memphis" Raines, a retired car thief who left behind his family and his home when he abandoned his career. When Memphis

is introduced to the audience, Cage is in his signature "soft" mode, portraying the paternal and caring small businessman who has overcome his criminal inclinations and created a new life. He is an immediately likable protagonist, and it is obvious that his new life will not last much longer.

Memphis learns that his younger brother Kip has gotten himself into the stickiest of situations by following the trail that Memphis blazed in his younger days. Giovanni Ribisi does an adequate job as Kip, a man who has been in his brother's shadow for years, torn between resentment and awe. His desire to emulate Memphis could mean his death.

Concerned, loyal, and guilt-ridden, Memphis resolves to help his brother, even though doing so will mean throwing away everything he has worked for. Memphis is also risking his status as a free man, because his old nemesis, a determined detective played by Timothy Olyphant, is right on his tail.

When he returns home, Memphis is coerced into accepting a job that will entail stealing fifty specific cars. He assembles a motley crew of professional car thieves, some of whom came out of retirement as a favor, while others are acquaintances of Kip, and are well versed in the sort of technologically astounding devices that probably do not really exist, but look really great on video.



courtesy of Touchstone Films

Gone in 60 Seconds has topped charts since its June release.



courtesy of Touchstone Films

Nicholas Cage is the ringleader of a group that faces a seemingly impossible task.

Oscar winner Angelina Jolie does not really stretch her range as the token female/love interest Sara Wayland, former flame of Memphis and car thief turned bartender. Same goes for the rest of the cast, which includes Robert Duval, Scott Caan, Vinnie Jones, and James Duval. In fact, there is little character development, but that is inconsequential because *Gone in 60 Seconds* was never intended to be an Oscar-worthy film. Instead, it's a movie that you can see on a Saturday night for the sheer reason of enjoying a film that is fraught with bells and whistles, eye candy and excitement.

Bruckheimer's *Gone in 60 Seconds* is a remake of a movie that was released

in 1974. The original film was best known for its status as a cult movie. Even today, dedicated fans pronounce their devotion to the 1974 version all over the internet. The movie plot centers around stealing cars, but many fans insist that this is a mere euphemism, that the true message of the film helps people to understand their goals and live life to the fullest.

While this is a rather extreme interpretation, it is indisputable that the film possesses a number of pulse-quickening qualities. Certain elements are stock, even predictable, but this does not detract from the fact that this movie is a lot of fun. *Gone in 60 Seconds* is now playing at area theaters.