

Noam Chomsky Lectures at SBU

By MARC NEWMAN
Statesman Editor

Heralded as "one of the greatest minds of the twentieth century," by *The New Yorker*, renowned linguist and political activist Noam Chomsky packed the Student Activities Center last Tuesday evening.

Chomsky began his lecture explaining the 'internal' state of language. In the 1950s, Chomsky's dissertation *Transformational Analysis* was at the forefront of what he called a "cognitive revolution," which established an important link between innate biological activities and language. The biolinguistic approach to understanding language in the brain has been similar to, and just as important as, understanding digestion in the stomach, said Chomsky.

Chomsky walked through the philosophies of past generations that have led up to his current research on language. Throughout the 17th century, Chomsky said, Newton, along with following scientists such as John Locke and David Hume, disproved the Descartes and Galileo 'mechanical model' of understanding language that attempted to separate mind and body.

"Newton destroyed materialism," Chomsky said. "He revealed 'mysteries of nature' which today we know as biological structures of understanding that are beyond our observational reach."



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Noam Chomsky speaks on language and politics in the SAC last Tuesday.

Chomsky's understanding of philosophy caught one student off guard.

"I had thought Newtonian physics reinforced materialism," said graduate student Joe Audie. "The way Chomsky explained that it broke down the materialism really surprised me."

Chomsky's message throughout the first half of his lecture, which focused on language, emphasized the importance of understanding problems in a new way, akin to the anti-materialistic philosophy of Newton. He

discussed the 'Helmholt problem' in which a non-moving eye can focus on multiple objects, a characteristic that, ever since the 1850s, scientists have been unable to explain. Chomsky contends that although the cognitive revolution of the 1950s has been an important one, the Helmholt question leads to theories of 'action' that are not being approached scientifically today.

"We have to move away from scientific

Continued on Page 3

SBU Students 'Take Back the Night'

Activists raise community awareness about sexual assault in annual march

By MIRA KINARIWALA
Statesman Contributor

"Two, four, six, eight... Real men don't rape!" cried students participating in "Take Back the Night," an organized march and candlelight vigil protesting violence towards women. Coordinated by the Center for Womyn's Concerns, this annual event encourages both men and women to speak out against the sexual assault and abuse.

"The march is a way for victims to break the silence," said senior Jennifer Skirkanich, one of the organizers of the event. "We're taking back not only the right to walk at night without being afraid, but the last strand of power the attacker has over the victim by remaining silent."

The rally began in the Student Union at

7:30 pm on April 22. As the protesters marched across campus, they shouted, whistled and chanted slogans like "People Unite, Take Back the Night."

"I think it's important for the Stony Brook community to realize the amount of people who are affected by rape, sexual abuse and incest every year," said freshman Cheryl Lynch. "Rape and sexual assault is a silent epidemic, and we refuse to remain silent anymore."

Protestors at the event shared sexual assault statistics, several of which were printed on the back of free t-shirts given out. The U.S. Department of Justice reports that a female is sexually assaulted every two minutes, and one-third of college men said they would have sex with an unwilling partner if they thought they could get away with it. In addition, 70 to 80 percent of all cases of sexual assault go unreported.

"That's why take back the night is so important," Skirkanich said. "It offers a chance to yell out at the top of your lungs, 'I



Statesman/Mira Kinariwala

Participants rally to encourage men and women to speak out against sexual abuse.

won't take it anymore"

"Rape is a concept that is too often joked about by guys until it actually hits home when a close friend or loved one becomes the victim," said sophomore Brad Jerson. "It's nice to see that more and more guys are taking the proactive stance to tell women that we support their right to feel safe."

Take Back the Night originated in

Continued on Page 10

Journalist Allan Wolper Talks About Ethics

By REGINA GLICK
Statesman Staff

Ethics in the media is not based on morality but on legality and fairness, said journalist Allan Wolper. He spoke at a seminar hosted by the Campus Community Initiative on Tuesday night in the Student Activities Center.

Junior Christina Geraci, co-chair of the committee that organized the event, said that in light of current debates in the media about coverage of the war, a seminar on media ethics was a salient topic that would interest students on campus.

"I don't believe that there is such a thing as an ethical journalist," said Wolper, a professor of journalism at Rutgers University and ethics columnist at *Editor & Publisher Magazine*. "There are careful journalists."

Careful journalists, he said, are the ones who double-check everything, call sources dozens of times until they know everything and never, ever do interviews over the Internet because it's impossible to know who's really on the other end of the computer.

"I don't want to speak to some publicist," he said

With a slight touch of humor, he added that a good way to get on the phone with someone who is hard to reach is to call when his or her secretary takes lunch.

He said it is unethical for a journalist to ever print that a source "could not be reached for comment."

Continued on Page 2

Index

Chomsky Lecture.....	1,3
Take Back the Night.....	1,10
Media Ethics.....	1,2
Recycling.....	3
Environmental Center.....	3
College News.....	5
Commentary.....	6, 11
Entertainment.....	13
Spirit Night.....	16
Roth Regatta.....	20

Professor Discusses Media Ethics

Continued from Page 1

If all else fails, Wolper said, "They have to live somewhere."

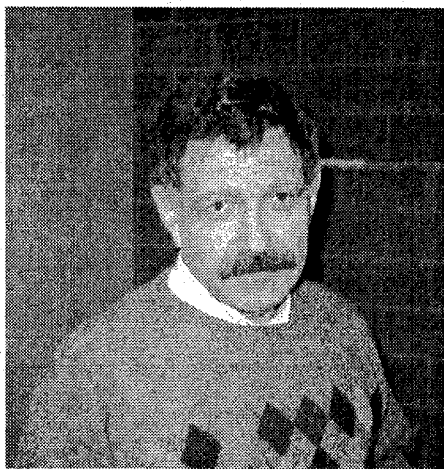
People will also criticize journalistic work, and an ethical journalist must learn to accept such criticism, while limiting their own responses, Wolper said. "If I respond to what [someone] says about me, then I become part of the story," he said.

Run corrections when legitimate errors are pointed out, he advised, but otherwise don't respond to criticism. "It's really best to let your stories speak for themselves," he said. "That's a form of ethics."

Wolper then addressed issues raised by members of college campus media. One newspaper editor said his paper developed a new policy after a student complained they printed her room address in the weekly police blotter. Wolper was critical of the policy change.

"There are times when you hold things back because you're trying to be sensitive," he said in a phone interview after the seminar. "But the question becomes, when does it become a matter of public interest?"

Wolper said during the seminar that journalists have a responsibility to print as much as the law allows them to. He said ethics in the media means a journalist must be fair and thorough so he can back



Statesman/Mansoor Khan

Allan Wolper emphasizes journalistic accuracy and fairness.

up anything he prints if it should ever be called into question. This means collecting more information than could ever possibly fit into a single story.

Wolper also gave a few interviewing tips. He recommended asking open-ended questions and mastering the art of creating a 10-second, awkward silence. Sources tend to chatter when they feel slightly uncomfortable, he noted.

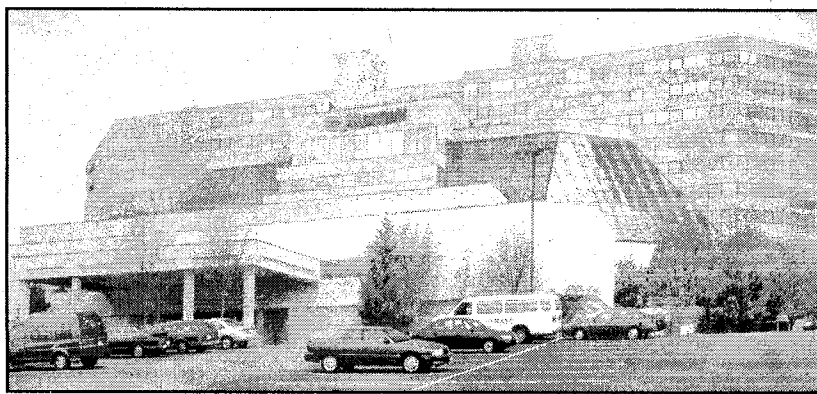
The more accurate information a journalist obtains, the more ethical that journalist is and the safer that journalist is under the law, he said.

"Ethics is something we make up so we have something to teach," he said. "Learn the law."

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Beyond Bottles: Paper-Recycling in Res. Hall

By VICTORIA RUSSO
Statesman Contributor

When Surani Jayaratna and Kathleen Ashwill realized there were no paper-recycling facilities in their residence hall, they decided to make a difference. The two students now go door to door once in Cardozo College collecting old note pages and discarded fliers.

"There is a very big emphasis on recycling in California," Jayaratna said. When she arrived at Stony Brook University, she was especially surprised to find recycling bins for only bottles and cans, as was Ashwill.

"Recycling was a pretty regular thing in my house," Ashwill said. "Now, I'm very gung-ho about it. I find myself picking up bottles off the ground."

Jayaratna and Ashwill decided that paper-recycling bins were necessary in a college environment because of the amount of paper students generate. Neither of them had conducted such a project before.

After the women petitioned the



Statesman/Kelly Brown

Paper recycling bins, like the one above in the Student Union, are available in most academic buildings, but residence halls only have bins for glass and plastic.

Cardozo student legislature, their project was approved. At the beginning of the 2002 fall semester, they began collecting paper. The students publicized their campaign by knocking on the door of

every suite in the building, asking if the occupants would be willing to participate.

Jayaratna and Ashwill received an overwhelming response from their fellow residents. Most were very willing to save up their paper garbage for weekly collection, said Jayaratna. When the two resumed collecting paper a few weeks into the spring semester, they were happy to find that people had actually saved their paper garbage that had accumulated since the last collection.

"The program is a good service to the university community," said Cardozo resident Adam Litroff. "While most of that paper would usually end up either in the trash or on our streets, it's instead being diverted to a much more worthwhile cause."

When they started their project, Jayaratna and Ashwill lugged the paper to the Computer Science building, the

Continued on Page 9

BNL and SBU Open New Environmental Center

By EMY KURIAKOSE
Statesman Editor

Stony Brook University and Brookhaven National Laboratory have collaborated to build The Center for Environmental Molecular Science, a new initiative aimed at investigating contaminants and their effects on the environment. The project runs in collaboration with Penn State University, the U.S. Department of Energy, National Science Foundation and Temple University.

"We created this center to bring together scientists from a variety of disciplines so that we can be better prepared to tackle major issues, such as cleanup efforts at nuclear waste sites and the behavior of contaminants in water," said center director and Stony Brook professor Richard Reeder. "Until now, most environmental research has been

done by scientists working within their own disciplines, but there is a limit to what can be accomplished this way.

The new center promises to be one that integrates students into its research curricula. Scientists will open their labs to assistants, potential graduate students, and undergraduates seeking experience.

"We would like to involve students in environmental research," said A.J. Francis, one of the center's associate directors.

Scientists in a variety of fields, including physics, chemistry, geosciences, microbiology, materials science, marine science, and waste technology, will share the use of facilities at Brookhaven and Stony Brook.

Procedures such as those used to study the chemical composition of soil contaminants are being improved upon, and BNL expects to add even more precise instruments to their facilities. Funding from the Department of Energy's Office

of Basic Energy Sciences and Office of Biological and Environmental Research has helped the laboratory expand to accommodate its goals in research.

The center will give students a new outlet to explore environmental research. "It's a good way to get students excited about pursuing a career in science," Reeder said.

Students had mixed reactions about the new center. "I'd be interested to see how [the center] turns out considering past controversy with Brookhaven and environmental safety," sophomore Naomi Edlin said.

In fact, BNL was faced with considerable protests from Long Island residents and the Environmental Protection Agency when environmental concerns arose after water testing revealed contaminants in the late 90s. EPA claimed that BNL was "located in one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of the

country," citing its proximity to a sole source aquifer for Long Island residents. The new center may address these concerns as it expands upon ongoing research into contamination.

Other students see the center as an opportunity for Stony Brook students to gain experience. "It's a good way to help protect the environment while giving students a chance to put our two cents in," junior Dhruva Patel said. "I'm sure it will be a great experience."

BNL builds and operates major facilities available to university, industrial and government scientists. Their research in the physical, biomedical and environmental sciences, and in energy technologies is managed by Brookhaven Science Associates. BSA is a limited liability company founded by Stony Brook University and Battelle, a nonprofit applied science and technology organization.

Noted Intellectual Chomsky Visits Campus

Continued from Page 1

research that focuses on the classic problems...we have to develop theories of learning which depart from simply understanding an organism," Chomsky said. "Problems of freedom, how biology influences the actions we take are the important questions. Why does a cockroach turn left?"

Chomsky argued that while many of these issues were raised in the 1990s, the 'decade of the brain' ended as scientists turned their attention away from the "fundamental questions of the theory of mind."

Chomsky was ultimately concerned that "folk science," which claims that only the experiences of an organism can be studied, was at the forefront of current research. He hoped that a return to more fundamental questions would take place.

He likened the situation to the relationship between chemistry and physics, which he said were once thought to be "sharply different scientific studies" but were later shown to be quite similar.

"Once scientists understood that complex molecules were just a way to simply manage classical bodies, it became clear that physics and chemistry were separated only as a matter of convenience, not scientific fact," Chomsky said. "I would imagine that kind of separation can be demonstrated between psychology and physiological differences soon."

"This was the bread and butter of linguistics," said Andrew Bouchu, a senior linguistics major.

As his talk went on, Chomsky turned to politics.

"Regime change' was a phrase

people threw around in the 1960s," he said. Chomsky said that *Washington Post* and *Boston Globe* articles, written near the 40th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis, have demonstrated "without debate" that the United States, through its "coercive intervention," was one nuclear submarine commander's order away from a nuclear conflict.

"I am not arguing that sovereignty, in the case of Cuba and other nations, generates freedom," Chomsky said. "But as a pre-condition to freedom, coercive intervention is just irresponsible."

Referring to the anti-sovereign attitudes of the United States during the Cold War, and today during the Iraq War, Chomsky asked, "Is the statement 'what the United States does is good' true by definition?"

Waging a war against Iraq despite

international disapproval and using coercive tactics against Cuba are both indications that many would answer 'yes' to his question, Chomsky said.

During a question and answer period, much of the discussion hinged on Chomsky's political theories about present-day media. He noted that "privatization erodes democracy." He said that since the elimination of labor news and the increase in advertisement, huge corporations such as Time Warner, Disney and General Electric distort the news.

The Chomsky lecture ran for about 3 hours, and although people drifted in and out of the room as he spoke, most student reactions were positive.

"I thought that Chomsky did a good job answering questions from a more scientific perspective, rather than merely offering political spin," said senior Kith Pradhan.

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, April 28, 2003

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SARS Fears Affecting Higher Education

By JEN LIN-LIU
Chronicle of Higher Education

Worries about the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome have prompted administrators at some Chinese universities to cancel more classes. Meanwhile, foreign students in exchange programs with American universities continue their exodus from China.

The Hopkins-Nanjing Center, run jointly by the Johns Hopkins University and Nanjing University, decided on Tuesday to end its spring semester more than a month early, affecting about 50 American and 50 Chinese students.

The Inter-University Program at Tsinghua University, run by the University of California at Berkeley, is one of the few American university exchange programs in China that is still in operation. But it has seen a third of its students return home voluntarily, and classes there have been cancelled until at least May 5.



Courtesy of www.google.com
Scientists are working to cure SARS, which has caused more than 300 deaths.

"We're in suspended animation," said John Thomson, the director of the Inter-University Program in America. "Students are cautious and concerned but not panicked."

On Wednesday, China's government ordered that primary

and secondary schools be shut down for at least two weeks, but universities are being allowed to operate at their own discretion, said an official at the ministry of education.

The television network Channel News Asia reported that Beijing's Central University of Finance and Economics had suspended classes and put eight employees under observation after a retired professor who lived on the campus died of the virus.

The network also reported that Northern Jiaotong University, also in Beijing, has suspended classes and placed 118 people under observation for SARS, although no cases have been confirmed.

The People's Hospital of Peking University closed Thursday because of a SARS outbreak in the building, and more than 2,000 employees were under observation for the disease, the Associated Press reported.

Peking University, which

suspended classes in its economics department last week, has canceled all activities and additional classes. But university administrators are allowing each department to decide whether to continue to operate normally, said an official who declined to give his name.

The official said that the university is urging students to remain on the campus rather than return home for the upcoming May Day holiday, which has been shortened by the government to curtail travel.

"The university is still safe," he said. "Staying at school is better."

This week, the World Health Organization added Beijing and Shanxi province, in central China, to a list of areas that travelers should avoid, along with Toronto. Globally, more than 5,200 people have contracted SARS, and more than 300 have died from it.

Lethal Germs Could Make a Home at Universities

By JEFFREY BRAINARD
Chronicle of Higher Education

At the western edge of the University of California at Davis campus on a vacant plot of farmland, officials are proposing to build a new laboratory whose internal operations and outside appearance would be like none other at a university.

Inside, some employees would wear spacesuit-like protective gear to work with the world's most dangerous microbes, like the Ebola virus. Outside, the building would resemble a fortress protecting it against any harmful threats.

To the university, it is a chance to aid the country's efforts to combat terrorism. To worried citizens, it is a risky, unnecessary endeavor that doesn't belong in a college town.

The university is one of a handful that have applied to the National Institutes of Health for a grant to build a high-security "biosafety" laboratory designed to safely contain dangerous microbes that cause diseases for which

there are no known treatments.

The NIH plans to award one or two such grants of up to \$150-million each by October, and UC-Davis and at least five other universities around the country are vying for the prizes. In cities like Galveston, Texas and Chicago, several institutions' proposals for the labs have attracted little attention or debate so far.

But in Davis, where 'town-gown' tensions have been growing for some years, reaction has been passionate. Citizens and some faculty members have denounced the lab as a possible threat to public health. The Davis City Council unanimously voted to oppose the project.

The elaborate security precautions strike some people as inconsistent with a college environment. Critics say the university consulted far too little with the public about the risks.

"There isn't certainty in the methods of science or the people who

implement them," said Miriam J. Wells, a professor of anthropology who opposes the lab. "Accidents happen."

In addition, some outside observers question the need to build the most-secure version of laboratories for bioterrorism research on any college campus and say they belong at secure government facilities instead. Some experts say that other colleges could run into similar public opposition as the federal government pours millions of dollars into bioterrorism research at campuses across the country.

The government's proposal to build more of the most-secure laboratories, designated "Biosafety Level 4," grew out of the anthrax attacks of 2001. Currently, only two laboratories in the United States have significant amounts of Level 4 space: the U.S. Army's Fort Detrick in Frederick, Md., and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

NIH officials say the nation needs

more lab space at this highest level of containment. More Level 4 laboratories will accommodate a rapid expansion of research into ways to prevent and treat diseases caused by anthrax and other dangerous microbes that might be used by terrorists.

Besides extensive physical security, the new Level 4 laboratories would have special ventilation systems to protect lab workers from infection, and containment doors to prevent the escape of microbes into the environment. Scientists working with the most-hazardous microbes would wear body suits with their own air supplies, as depicted in movies like *Outbreak*.

The construction grants will be by far the largest single awards ever given by the NIH, which usually gives limited dollars to colleges to erect buildings. Applications for the awards were due in February. NIH officials say that the identities of the applicants are confidential.

University Provosts Getting More Power

By JULIANNE BASINGER
Chronicle of Higher Education

On a spring morning at the University of Arizona, the weekly cabinet meeting is under way in a dark-paneled room. George H. Davis, the senior vice president and provost, sits at the head of the table, along with Peter Likins, the president.

Davis and Likins trade off in leading the conversation and calling on the other administrators for their ideas. The two men work in tandem: When Likins says that some protesters will want to get arrested, Davis completes the thought by flagging the challenge of deciding when dissent becomes illegal disruption.

Judging from the way the two men interact and how the other administrators respond to them, there's a clear sharing



Courtesy of www.chronicle.com
George H. Davis is one many provosts gaining authority at universities.

of authority. That dynamic carries over into the rest of their working relationship. Likins divides many of his executive duties with the provost, including oversight of campus finances.

An increase in such arrangements has led to provosts sharing presidential responsibilities more than ever before. Provosts have always been powerful figures, especially in academic issues, and that has increased as fundraising responsibilities have demanded so much presidential time.

But in the last few years, Davis and other provosts have been taking on significant roles that used to belong to the president exclusively, and boards of trustees are starting to codify such arrangements. The new responsibilities vary, and they depend on individual skills and strengths, but provosts are making the final call on more budget decisions, doing fundraising or lobbying work, and supervising nonacademic divisions that typically have reported either to the president or to a

senior vice president for finance and administration.

"There's no question that almost every provost in the country now has more inside influence than they ever had before," said David Ward, president of the American Council on Education.

"There are gathering pressures, gathering demands that we all feel as university presidents," he says. "But I'm simply not willing to spend my life as a fundraiser or as a politician."

He knew that he wanted to hire a provost with whom he could share some of his presidential responsibilities. He found one in Davis, who had been a respected professor of structural geology at Arizona for nearly 30 years.

The president "was just an open book about the kind of partnership he wanted to try to achieve," the provost recalled.

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Editorials

Long Island 'Landscaping'

By MICHAEL ZANNETTIS
Statesman Staff

Stony Brook University's bi-annual Pride Patrol is an event designed to involve the community members in campus landscaping. Volunteers from every facet of university life — student, staff, and faculty — take up tasks to beautify the campus by planting tulips, raking leaves, and related landscaping work. This past Tuesday, a team of Pride Patrol volunteers was sent to the university

colonial contact) while the American flag represents the man accepting the fate his conquerors generously handed down to him. By the time the Melville family acquired the property they eventually donated to Stony Brook University, the people that had named all of Long Island were no longer welcome here; they had been driven away by the end of a gun.

Outside of the mini-mansion, there is a stairway that leads to a garden that has another pathway that leads to a reflecting pool. My small group of volunteers was assigned to clear the path of fallen

The recipe for success is simple: take nature, curb it with tools, and stuff it into black, plastic, garbage bags.

property of Sunwood, where a small mansion was built recently to serve as both the President's residence and as a conference center. I was one of those volunteers.

Immediately to the left of the main entrance of the mini-mansion is a painting of a middle-aged Native American male, juxtaposed by the feather sticking out of his head and the Stars and Stripes he has draped over his shoulders. (Where's his Pride?) Presumably, the male represents the original inhabitant of the Sunwood property (pre-

leaves and other debris. We rake, we shovel, we sweep. Our mission is clear: the property looks ugly, so make it pretty. In an hour and a half, we are able to complete the job. The pathway went from vulgar leaves to glorious neatness in 90 minutes. The recipe for success is simple: take nature, curb it with tools, and stuff it into black, plastic, garbage bags — from life to death in three easy steps.

Now think of the people who used to live here.

Continued on Page 17

Affirmative Action: Equality or Reverse Discrimination?

By OLEG BERSHADSKY
Statesman Staff

What is affirmative action? A dictionary definition of affirmative action states that it is "a policy or a program that seeks to redress past discrimination through active measures to ensure equal opportunity, as in education and employment." The practice of affirmative action in Universities was first challenged in the *Bakke* case in 1978. This case resulted in Bakke's admission to University of California Medical School. However, it also resulted in the upholding of affirmative action. Four Supreme Court justices in this case held that Bakke was a victim of reverse discrimination, four held that the admission policies of the medical school were constitutional, and justice Lewis Powell sided with both viewpoints. This split decision is indicative of the split in public opinion on affirmative action. Is it a policy that promotes equality or does it promote reverse discrimination?

Now the policy of affirmative action has been seriously challenged once again. This time it's the University of Michigan that's defending its affirmative action admissions policy, which is based on a point system. Out of 150 possible points,

110 are given for academic factors and only 12 points are given for a perfect SAT score. Twenty are given for race and 20 for socioeconomic status. However, no more than 20 can be given for both. Generally, an admissions candidate who is able to accumulate 100 points is accepted.

The opponents of this system argue that a 20 point boost that entirely depends on your race gives an unfair advantage to minorities in the admission process. The political question asked here is whether it is fair to deny a perfectly eligible student admission because that person is of the "wrong" race? There's no simple yes or no answer to this question because there are other crucial factors involved. For example, shouldn't minorities who were historically disadvantaged because of their race be given an opportunity to make up for past discrimination? Both groups have valid arguments and it's difficult to say which group is completely in the right.

Currently, there are two cases in progress concerning the practice of affirmative action of University of Michigan. The *Grutter v. Bollinger* case challenges the university's law school admissions policies and the *Gratz v. Bollinger* case challenges the constitutionality of Michigan's

Continued on Page 17

Statesman Staff Writers

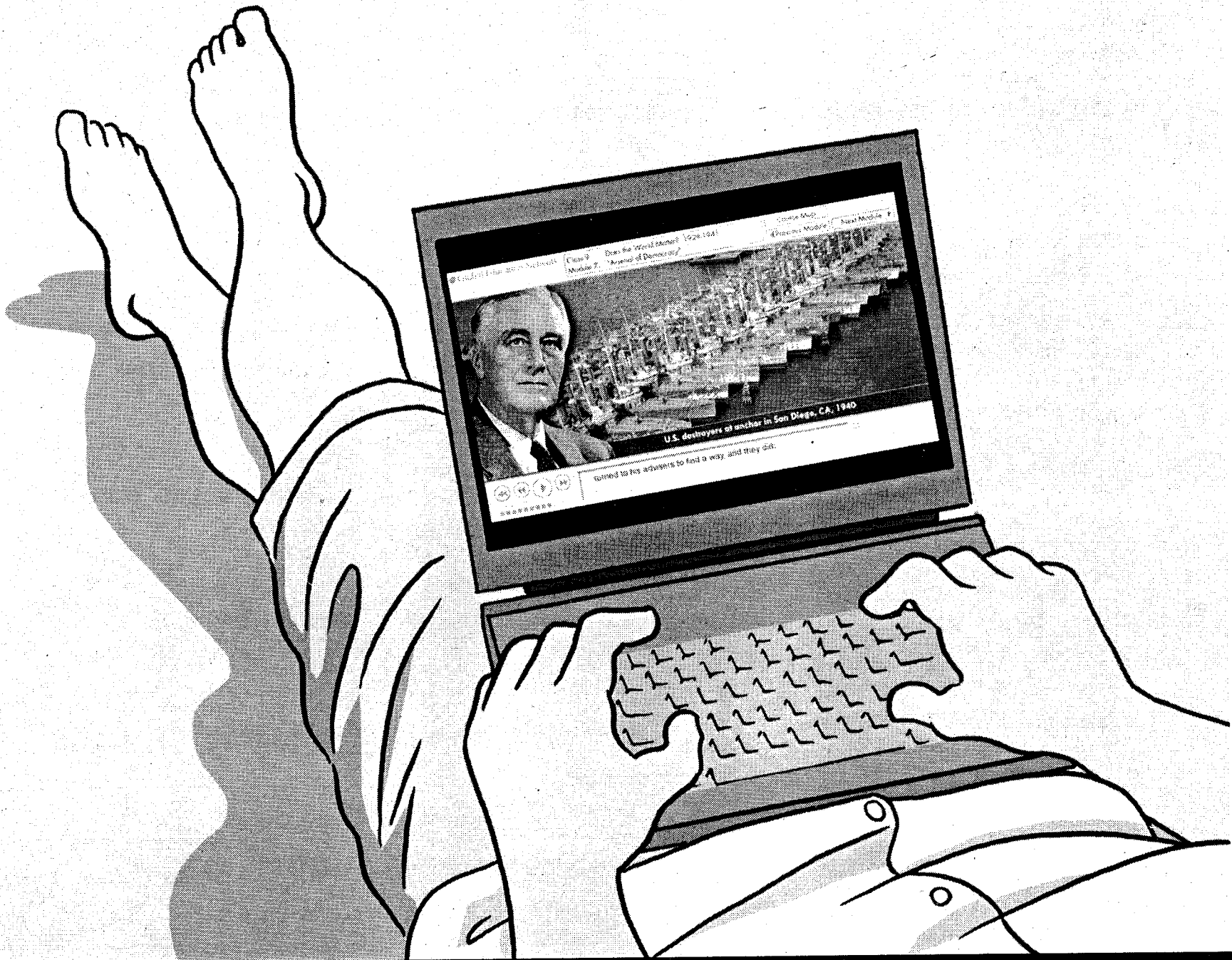
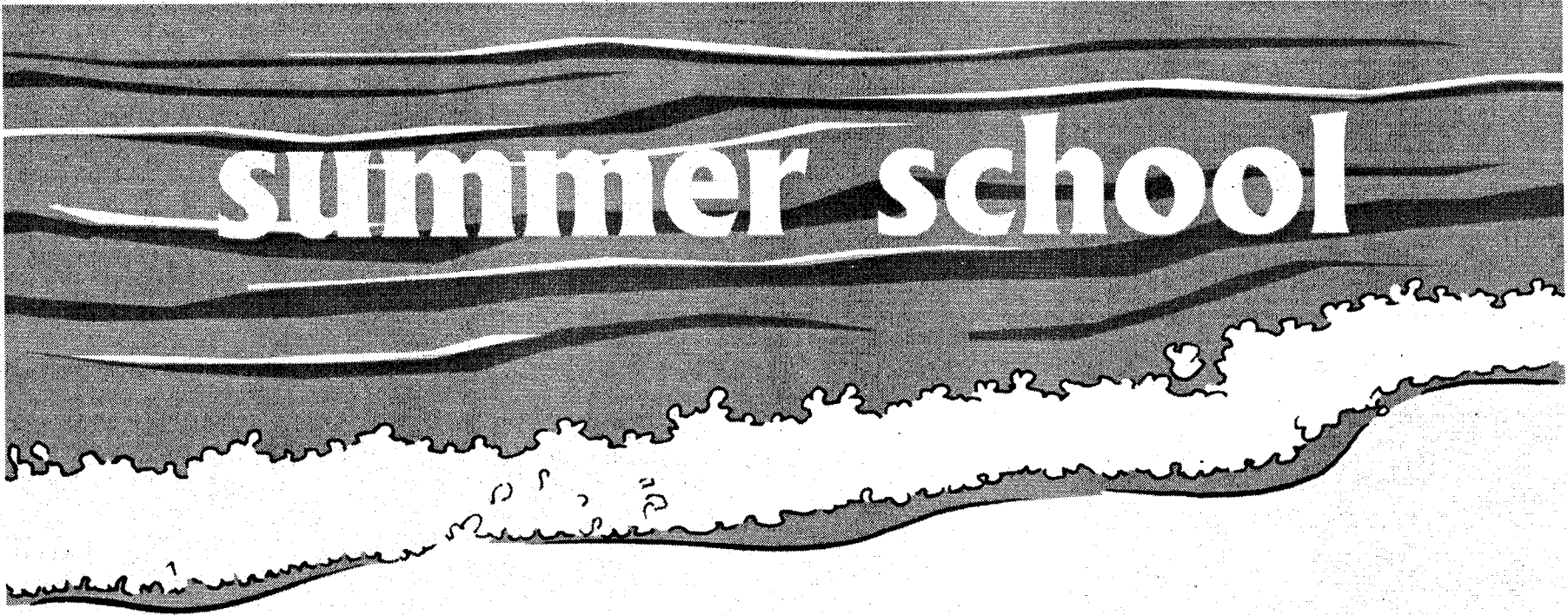
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Undergraduate Student Governance Task Group

Memorandum

To: Student Body

From: Undergraduate Student Governance Task Group

Date: April 16, 2003

Subject: Rectifying A Constitutional Error

There is a technical error in the Constitution under Article III, Section 1.B, Paragraphs 1 and 2 that resulted from the insertion of the phrase "before placement on the ballot" and not changing the class standing to account for that. Should the qualifications stand as is, only students who will become seniors can run for the positions of President, Executive Vice President and Treasurer and a sophomore would not be able to represent his/her class because only a future junior would be able to do so.

Consequently, in light of the "framers' intent" and the unintended consequences which would be detrimental to the student body, instead of using the following erroneous language in the Constitution:

1. President, Executive Vice President and Treasurer having to have **junior or higher standing** before placement on the ballot and
2. All other Executive Council positions having to have **sophomore or higher standing** before placement on the ballot

The current election will take place with the actual "framers' intent", which is:

1. Those students who wish to run for the positions of President, Executive Vice President and Treasurer must have **sophomore or higher standing** before placement on the ballot and
2. Those students who wish to run for all other Executive Council positions will have **no class standing requirements** since all undergraduate students would be qualified to do so.

All the other requirements for these positions will still apply.

The required formal technical revision of the Constitution to change the language for future elections will be submitted for a vote to the student body in the Fall semester.

Residents Recycle Paper

Continued from Page 3

nearest academic building with a paper-recycling bin. They soon received so much paper every week that LEG allocated money for the purchase of a hand truck.

"Getting the hand truck from LEG made us feel like people were taking us seriously," Jayaratna said.

The weekly collection usually takes about 45 minutes, and the women generally collect a stack of paper taller than them, said Ashwill. They pack the refuse into cardboard boxes and walk them to

their final destination in two 15-minute trips.

The paper load became too much for the custodians who work in the Computer Science building to handle, so Jayaratna and Ashwill now take Cardozo's paper to a loading dock by the Computer Science building where it can be picked up for processing more easily.

Although scouring the approximately 40 suites in the building is time-consuming, Jayaratna and Ashwill both enjoy doing their part to help the environment.

"[Recycling paper] kind of makes us feel like we are doing something important," Jayaratna said.

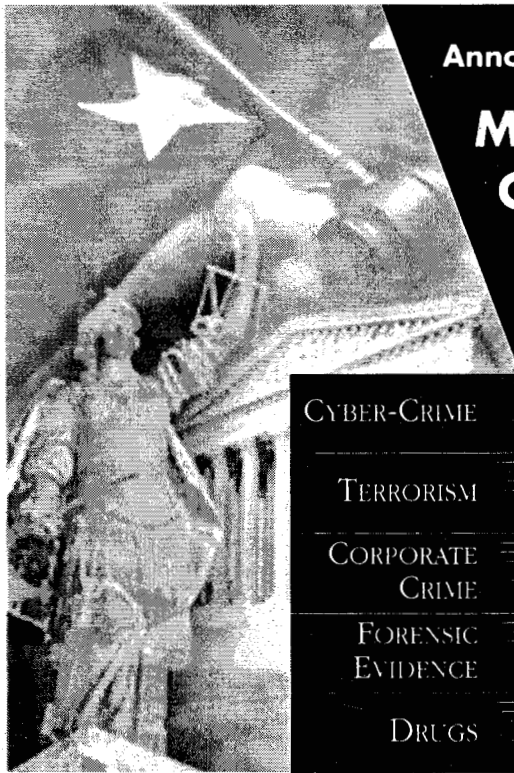
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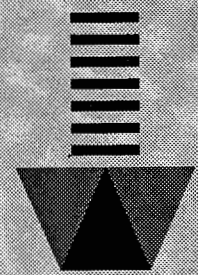
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WANG CENTER EVENTS

Spring 2003

All events are FREE and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Living Asian in Stony Brook

Wednesday, April 30
12:45 p.m., Lecture Hall 1

Dr. Shibani Ray-Mazumber, University Hospital, and Karina Kim, University Counseling Center, discuss the mental health and well-being of Asians and Asian Americans in Stony Brook. Students Tae Hyun Kim and Jasmine Thomaskutty share their views as well.

Asian American Film Series presents Game of Death

Thursday, May 1
7:00 p.m., Wang Center, Theater

Bruce Lee's final film: A young kung-fu movie star refuses to sign with the syndicate. Closing reception and panel discussion with special guest Robert Chi, Assistant Professor of Comparative Studies.

Allstate/OCA Hate Crimes Workshop

In collaboration with the Organization of Chinese Americans and Asian American Bridge

Monday, May 5
5:00 p.m., Lecture Hall 2

Learn how to effectively prevent and manage hate crimes. Facilitated by: Eleanor Lee, OCA, Washington, D.C.; student Jenny Cho; Doug Little, Deputy Chief of Police at Stony Brook; and a representative from the Suffolk County Police Bias Crimes Unit.

Iraq: People and Place

Tuesday, May 6
6:30 p.m., Lecture Hall 1

Iraq's cultural and political importance are discussed. Speakers: Said Arjomand, Social and Behavioral Sciences, and Jacob Levich, contributing editor of *Behind the Invasion of Iraq* (Monthly Review Press, 2003).

**100 Years in America:
The Japanese Americans**

In collaboration with the Center for Japanese Studies
Wednesday, May 7

12:45 p.m., Lecture Hall 1
Third-generation Japanese American Joan Miyazaki will draw upon stories from family and friends. Includes video excerpts from P.J. Hirabayashi's compelling dance piece *Ei Ja Nai Ka? (Isn't it Good?)*.

Asian American Film Series presented by the Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library. For a disability-related accommodation, please call (631) 632-6353.

For more information, contact Wang Center Director Sunita S. Mukhi at Sunita.Mukhi@stonybrook.edu or call (631) 632-6353.

www.stonybrook.edu/sb/wang/events

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, April 28, 2003

RESCHEDULED EVENT
DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Monday, May 5, 2003
 Student Activities Center
 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 Free for students who pre-register.
 Breakfast and lunch included.

The Challenge of Diversity on Long Island in Turbulent Times: Realities, Communities, and Transformations

Speakers: **George Herrera**, President and Chief Executive Officer of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
Dr. Calvin O. Butts III, President of SUNY College at Old Westbury and Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City.

For registration information, look on the Web site at stonybrook.edu/sb/diversity2003 or call 632-6320.

Presented by: The Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action and the President's Multicultural Advisory Council
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AA/EOE

Take Back the Night

Continued from Page 1

England in the 1870s as a way for women to claim their right to walk without fear at night.

During the protest, expletives were shouted by some students from their residence hall room windows.

"It's ironic that after all these years we're still not able to walk at night without being afraid," Skirkanich said. "The insensitivity of people is the very thing we're trying to protest."

The march was followed by a candlelight vigil in the Gray College Lounge in Mendelson Quad, during which individuals

shared stories and spoke out openly.

"The vigil offers a chance to restore the power the attacker has through the victim's silence. We want victims to become survivors," Skirkanich said. Counselors and therapists were available from the WoMen's Center to help during and after the talk.

"The WoMen's Center protests violence against women tonight and every day through programming and counseling," said Laura Williams, Ph.D., director of the center.

To learn more about rape counseling, contact either the Center for Womyn's Concerns: sb_cwc@hotmail.com or the WoMen's Center: 631-632-9666.

BNL Earth Day Run

By MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS
 Statesman Editor

The race was sponsored by Keyspan Energy.

Many of the region's top runners participated in the event, hoping to accumulate Grand Prix points and prize money while supporting the cause.

The was held Saturday, April 19 in the Pine Barrens near BNL.

Winners of the Earth Day run received prizes courtesy of the Super Runners Shop in Huntington. All participants were treated to a free breakfast and T-shirts, and child participants were given tree seedlings.

For many participants, though, the race was not about prizes.

"Every day should be celebrated as if it were Earth Day," said Jeanette Mauro, an SBU senior who ran in the event. "Taking a day out of our busy schedules to participate in such an event is well worth it."

Thanks to the efforts of a generation of environmentalists in the 1960s, as well as former U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson, Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, and has been celebrated on that date ever since. The advent of Earth Day has been credited with increasing environmental awareness among the general public, as well as the government.

"The puzzling challenge was to think up some dramatic event that would focus attention to the environment," Nelson said.

This year, Brookhaven National Laboratory hosted its fourth annual Earth Day Run, intended to increase awareness of environmental issues. The proceeds benefited Long Island Cares, Inc., an area food bank.

4 BIG

Events
 One Big Day

**WEDNESDAY
 APRIL 30**

Strawberry Fest
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 Academic Mall
 A Strawberry Lover's
 Dream Come True

Prime Time
 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
 SAC Ballrooms A & B
 Learn more about majors,
 minors, and career options

Diversity Day
 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
 SAC Plaza
 Dimensions of Diversity...
 Diversity is Not Divisive

**Ethics in Leadership
 with The God Squad**
 12:40 p.m.-2:10 p.m.
 Charles B. Wang Center
 See best-selling authors
 and syndicated
 TV commentators
 Monsignor Tom Hartman
 and Rabbi Marc Gellman



For a disability-related accommodation, please call 632-6320. AA/EOE

What You Need to Know: The Morning-After Pill

Q: I have heard of a pill that prevents pregnancy if taken immediately after having unprotected sex. Can you please tell me more about it, and explain why it isn't recommended for use on a regular basis?

By Joici Job
Statesman Contributor

The type of birth control you are alluding to is the popular "morning-after pill," which is a method of emergency contraception. If you choose this method, you must ingest several tablets containing progestin, or a combination of progestin and estrogen. The morning after pill is effective when taken up to 72 hours (3 days) after sexual intercourse. The high dose of hormones causes a temporary stabilization of the body's estrogen levels followed by a sudden drop-off that causes the uterus to shed its lining. The egg cannot become implanted.

Women are often overwhelmed by pages of microscopic print when seeking usage instructions and are sometimes discouraged by the tedium of timely administrations required by conventional hormonal contraceptives. They wonder whether or not the emergency contraceptive pill is an attractive form of regular contraception.

But there are many factors that need to be considered. First of all, these pills introduce a high dosage of the synthetic hormones progestin and/or estrogen into your system, causing a disruption in the body's natural balance. According to Dr. Rachel Bergeson, Director of the Stony Brook University Student Health Services and Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics/Medicine, the morning-after pill has

"potentially harmful effects" which discourage regular use. However, she adds that the on-campus clinic does not deny the pill to anyone who is "well informed of all the side effects, and persists to ask for the pill."

The side effects for women who use it infrequently include: nausea and vomiting, breast tenderness, changes in bleeding pattern, dizziness, headache, fatigue and a possibility of ectopic pregnancy. Ectopic pregnancies occur when the fertilized ovum implants on a body tissue other than the endometrial lining of the uterus.

The first few side effects are unpleasant but not life threatening. An ectopic pregnancy can, however, put a woman's life in danger. While the incidence is not high, the "Summary of Product Characteristics" for Levonelle-2, one brand of morning after pill, clearly states that, "if the woman becomes pregnant having taken this product, consideration must be given to the possibility of ectopic pregnancy."

It's easier to grasp how this might occur if one has a clear understanding of how hormonal contraceptives function. Hormonal methods delay ovulation, thicken the mucus of the cervix, alter the motility of the fallopian tubes and render the lining of the womb hostile to the newly formed embryo.

Emergency contraception is generally not as effective as regular

Continued on Page 17

Life Science Convention on LI

By MICHAEL NEVRADAKIS
Statesman Editor

On Thursday, May 8, the Long Island Life Sciences Initiative (LILSI), in conjunction with the Center for Biotechnology at Stony Brook University, will host the 2003 Long Island Life Sciences Summit at the Huntington Hilton hotel. The annual summit is the premier event for Long Island's life sciences industry, and over 200 senior industry executives are expected to congregate. Industry suppliers, venture capitalists and leaders from the academic community and other professionals will also be in attendance.

Issues of vital importance to the industry will be discussed at the summit. "The Long Island Life Sciences Initiative is gaining significant momentum," said Dr. James Hayward,

LILSI Chairman, and Chairman, President and CEO of the Collaborative Group. "The Initiative will play a critical role in helping to address such issues as the attraction of federal and state resources to the region, facilities expansion, workforce development, and the global marketing of Long Island as an epicenter for the life sciences."

Panels of reputable industry speakers will address strategic issues in areas such as financing, business development, government regulation, infrastructure, converging technologies and technology transfer. The corporations that will be represented include Unilever, Johnson and Johnson and Genecor International Inc.

More information about the summit is available at www.lilsi.org or by contacting Joseph Scaduto, Executive Director, at (631) 632-1991.

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Rabbit Proof Fence: A Lesson in the Hierarchical Nature of Social Organization

By MICHAEL ZANNETTIS
Statesman Staff

Civilization, it is said, is characterized by invasion abroad and repression at home: *Rabbit Proof Fence* is a movie about how the colonial process can take free human beings, like our three female teenage protagonists, add English, and come out with a secretary. The three girls of record escape from their schooling to begin a several hundred-mile journey through the Australian outback to return home. I rented it last Thursday while baby-sitting my spunky six-year old cousin.

At home I fought my sister over the movies I did not rent. "*Rabbit Proof Fence*? What about *Spirit* or *Treasure Island*?" she asked.

I'm not renting a movie for my cousin to teach her that her mission in life is to be a docile housemaid until Prince Charming comes along to marry her and make her happy. *Rabbit Proof Fence* is about little girls like her who are strong, independent and take their

destiny into their own hands.

"Hello!" my sister responded. "*Spirit* is about a horse whose spirit won't be broken, and the other movie is a cartoon...about treasure."

I stand corrected.

On the shelf at Blockbuster was *The Secretary*, which I briefly considered before going for the Spanish flick *Sex and Lucia*. *Secretary*, about a secretary that begins a sado-masochist affair with her boss, would have served nicely to bring characterization to the series of paper-pushing colonialists in *Fence* that periodically deliver the magistrate Mr. Neville (Kenneth Branagh) important, stamped documents, awaiting his signature; bureaucracy is the mark of civilization. The secretaries take dictation, but have no personality, much less sex appeal. They walk around like the cogs in an endless machine such that they are without the alternative, belligerent excitement of a deviant sexuality.

Conversely, the three aborigine



Courtesy of www.rottentomatos.com
Rabbit Proof Fence tells the story of three girls who overcome British oppression.

girls who escape their missionary camp possess daring, cunning, guile and creativity. Their leader, Molly, outwits trained trackers, secures food for them, and always knows when it is time to hide behind a bush.

Fence was the perfect movie for my cousin. I had taught her how to punch, do calisthenics, swim, jaywalk, and eat jalapeño peppers. Now came her lesson in the nature of hierarchical social organization. *Fence* was the first step; she rooted for the little girls as they outsmarted the pinkish, sweating (magnanimous?)

British officers. She recognized the girls' right to autonomy and, most important of all, she respected the aborigine way of life as legitimate. She is only six, but she's smart, she's tough, she's ambitious. And when she grows up, she is going to breathe fire.

Mr. Neville explains his title, Chief Protector of Aborigines, in a letter he drafted to his superiors: "We face an uphill battle with these people. Especially the bush natives who have to be protected against themselves. They would understand what we are trying to do for them." And so, the progress of oppression is a narrative of benevolence. They had to enslave people to set them free.

Rabbit Proof Fence is based on a true story. I admire the perseverance of the three girls who walked hundreds of miles alone through rough terrain to get back to their homes. Their story is worth learning and worth sharing, especially with little girls like my cousin, who can do better than a fairy tale.

New Broadway Show Takes it to the Nines

By SARAH GOSHMAN
Statesman Staff

Roundabout Theatre Company's revival of the musical *Nine* has it all: beautiful women, Antonio Banderas, complex and enchanting music, beautiful women, an emotionally stirring story and a talented cast, consisting of Antonio Banderas and over a dozen beautiful women. What more could you want?

Antonio Banderas' performance as Guido Contini, a world-famous film director, is emotionally entrancing. He artfully conveys the director's struggle to reconcile his physical age of 40 with the part of him that still feels nine. The

musical, based on the classic Fellini film *8 1/2*, centers on Contini and the numerous women in his life. "One is not enough for you," he is told, and no one captures the spirit of this Italian cassanova better than Banderas.

David Leveaux's revival is classy and elegant. The show has been accused of lacking clarity, but Leveaux takes it as what it is: a complex psychological portrait of Contini, framed by mental wanderings that constantly return to the beautiful women who have bedecked his life.

As he struggles to keep his artistic life together, his personal life begins to fall apart. He is finally saved from his

fantasies, which venture as far as suicide, by his nine-year-old self, played by William Ullrich. "I'll be forty, you be nine," they agree in a particularly sentimental moment at the end.

There are no weak links in the cast. As Contini's mistress Carla, Jane Krakowski masterfully combines unbridled sensuality with a sort of innocence for a truly titillating performance. Laura Benanti is brilliantly honest as Claudia. And Mary Stuart Masterson, as Contini's wife, Luisa, hits the high note for the evening with her beautiful voice.

And then there's Chita Rivera, who,

despite being near 70, consistently overshadows everyone else on stage, with a presence only a true Broadway veteran could possess. All she has to do is say "bon soir," and the audience bursts into violent applause. And the reaction only swells when she gives a few of her trademark high kicks.

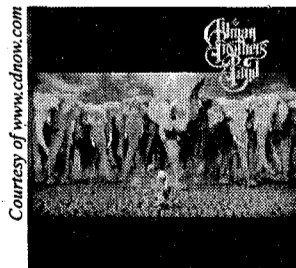
This is a fresh production of a classic show, taking theatre to the nines.

Student rush tickets can be purchased at the box office of the Eugene O'Neill Theatre, 230 West 49th St., half an hour prior to curtain on the day of the performance, for half price with a student ID. The line forms early.

Inspired Performances and Musical Magic

By IAN RICE
Statesman Staff

The Allman Brothers Band – *Hittin' The Note* (Sanctuary, 2003)



The Allman Brothers Band has always been what the music world terms a "working band." In layman's terms, ABB is a band that focuses more energy on touring and live performances than on making and releasing new records. So it's no surprise that *Hittin' The Note* comes nine years after their last release (not counting 2000's live *Peakin' At the Beacon*). The surprise, however, is just how good a release it is.

Most of the Brothers' albums throughout the 80s and 90s were spotty affairs at best; well produced but mostly

filler, with only one or two really phenomenal songs mixed in. The playing was always top notch, the sound always full on...but the songs just lacked the life and inspiration of their earlier work. In fact, the only purpose these later albums seemed to serve was that of contractual obligation.

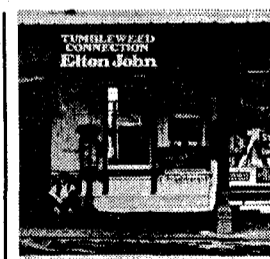
I expected much of the same from *Hittin' The Note*, but being a fan, I purchased the disc anyway. What I found was not a glossy collection of emptiness, but rather one of this year's most inspired albums. From the opening few bars of the dirty blues track "Firing Line," it's clear that the Allman Brothers have finally remembered that they're at their best when the blues reign supreme and the country honk is there for coloring.

The album's return to form can most likely be attributed to the fiery guitar duo of Warren Haynes and Derek Trucks. This is the first Allman record to feature these two together, and it's a bit of playful

dueling between them throughout. Guitar enthusiasts can rejoice – the liner notes tell you which player's licks are coming out of which side of the mix.

Now, although the music on *Hittin' The Note* draws largely from their gloriously bluesy past, the lyrics go another route and examine the present (and perhaps even the future) feelings of the band. More often than not, the lyrics speak of the wisdom found in growing older and of remembering one's roots while confidently moving forward to newer and more uncharted ground. It's this lyrical prowess that truly makes the album work. It's not just an aging band's attempt at cashing back in on their glory days.

If you're a fan of the Allman Brothers Band, blues music or both, it would be very unwise to pass up this album. I just hope that it won't be another nine years until there's something of this caliber from Greg and Co.



REWIND:
Elton John – *Tumbleweed Connection* (PG, 1970)

If you own any of the numerous greatest hits packages for Elton John, you still won't know one song off of his sophomore effort, *Tumbleweed Connection*. Why? Because these songs are at their most vibrant when presented as a whole, making them unlikely candidates for single release. A loose cowboy concept aside, these songs just have a distinct flow that is pure musical magic. The whole is definitely greater than the sum of its parts here, and although there's no instantly recognizable hit, this still manages to be Elton John's best album to date.

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Treatment of Nature Reflects Treatment of Humans

Continued from Page 6

They had been herded away with powerful, violent tools, and stuffed into whatever recess of land that was no longer desired – from life to Sunwood in three easy steps. And now us, the modern cultural and social descendants of these first vicious frontier men, complete the work. Weeds, in whatever form, don't stand a chance.

The destruction of the Native American humanity is a salient example of the interrelation between how our culture treats some people and how we treat nature. Our interaction with nature has so much to do with our interaction with people because we do not

differentiate the two in our contempt.

If it gets in the way of our vision of beauty, than plow it under, kill it, lock it up into big garbage bags, and make everyone so happy about doing it that they would do it for free.

They might even volunteer.

One day I will see the ruins of Machu Pichu where a once proud civilization expanded, collapsed, and left behind an elaborate city, now overrun by the revenge of the jungle. I imagine it like the morning at Sunwood before the leaves were taken away. I see vegetation stretching back everywhere. I see proud humans on patrol.

I see the revenge of the human condition stretching back everywhere.

Affirmative Action Policy

Continued from Page 6

admissions policies to the undergraduate program. Both plaintiffs have basically the same argument, which is that too much weight is being given to race in the admission process and that this practice violates the 14th Amendment and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

Most attention was given to the University's practice of reserving seats for minorities and the use of a different "grid system" for minority and white applicants. The university defends its policies by claiming that affirmative action is necessary to promote diversity in classrooms and that this is necessary to increase the quality of education. Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman said, "We agree that universities must continue to strive for improvements

in enrollment of African American, Native American, and Hispanic students. Where we disagree is on the means available to achieve that diversity."

Having people with different backgrounds in classrooms definitely adds to education, but what do we say to those who were denied admission because of their race? Perhaps the solution lies somewhere else and not in affirmative action. One proposed solution is to improve the quality of all schools nationwide, with all schools having the necessary books and quality teachers. By improving education in every school, beginning in kindergarten and continuing all the way up to high school, we can hit the problem at its source. Who knows, perhaps in the near future there will be no need for affirmative action.

Morning After Pill Effects

Continued from Page 11

methods. Bergeson says statistics on the effectiveness of the pill are often misleading. She points out that tests yield "the statistically high percentage of 96 to 99 percent effectiveness, careful examination of the data reveals that out of the women who are actually at risk of getting pregnant, emergency contraception is only 76 to 80 percent effective."

The usual procedure for prescribing the emergency pill at the Health Science Center includes an examination of general health, past medical history, an informed consent form accompanied by any necessary counseling to ensure complete understanding of side effects and a determination of fertility.

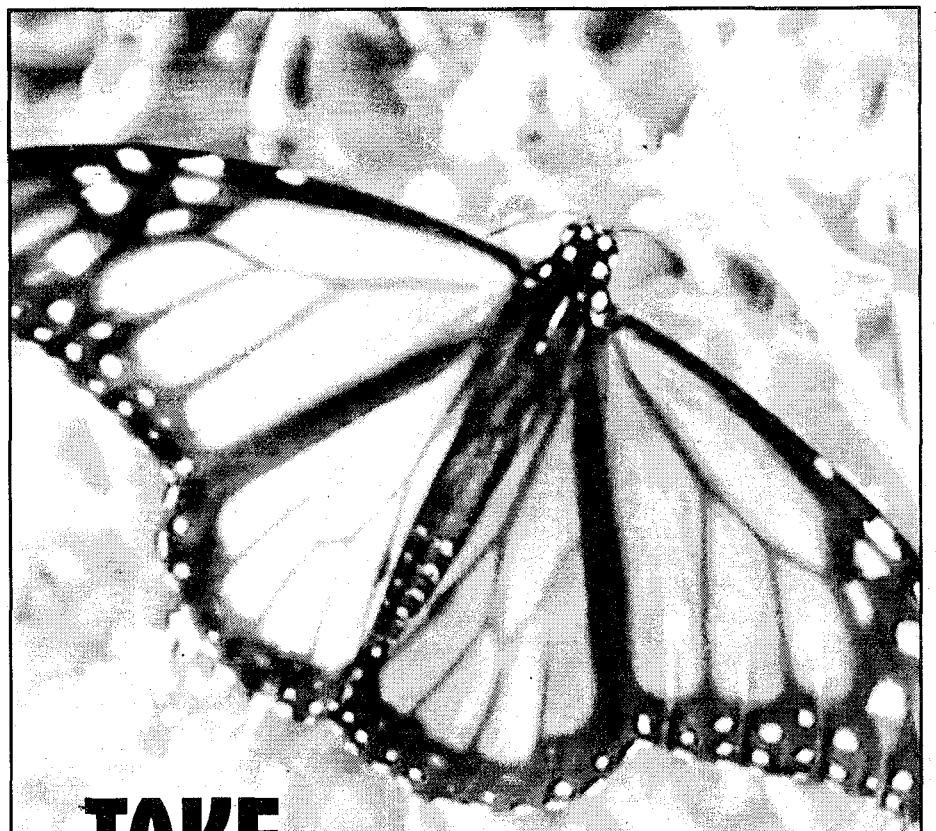
So, who is most "at risk" of getting pregnant? Women who are in "mid-cycle" or in between two periods (more accurately, 14 days before the next menstrual period) are most likely to be in the ovulating phase and are most prone to fertilization by sperm and development of an embryo. Pregnancy

is most likely if intercourse occurs anywhere from three days before ovulation to three days after ovulation. A woman's fertile time ("unsafe days," if she wants to prevent pregnancy) is about one-third of her cycle.

So the bottom line is, emergency contraception is truly to be used only in an emergency. The campus student health service carries the most frequently requested methods of contraception, including the newly introduced patch and vaginal ring.

The best method for birth control, besides abstinence, is ultimately the one you and your partner feel comfortable using. According to the 2002 condom survey, sexually active students generally prefer to use the male condom. Such barrier methods have the added benefit of preventing the epidemic of sexually transmitted diseases.

To appeal to students' preferences, the infirmary also made a recent effort to carry popular name brands such as Trojan. Take advantage of the resources offered by the Women's Center and the GYN Clinic in the infirmary.



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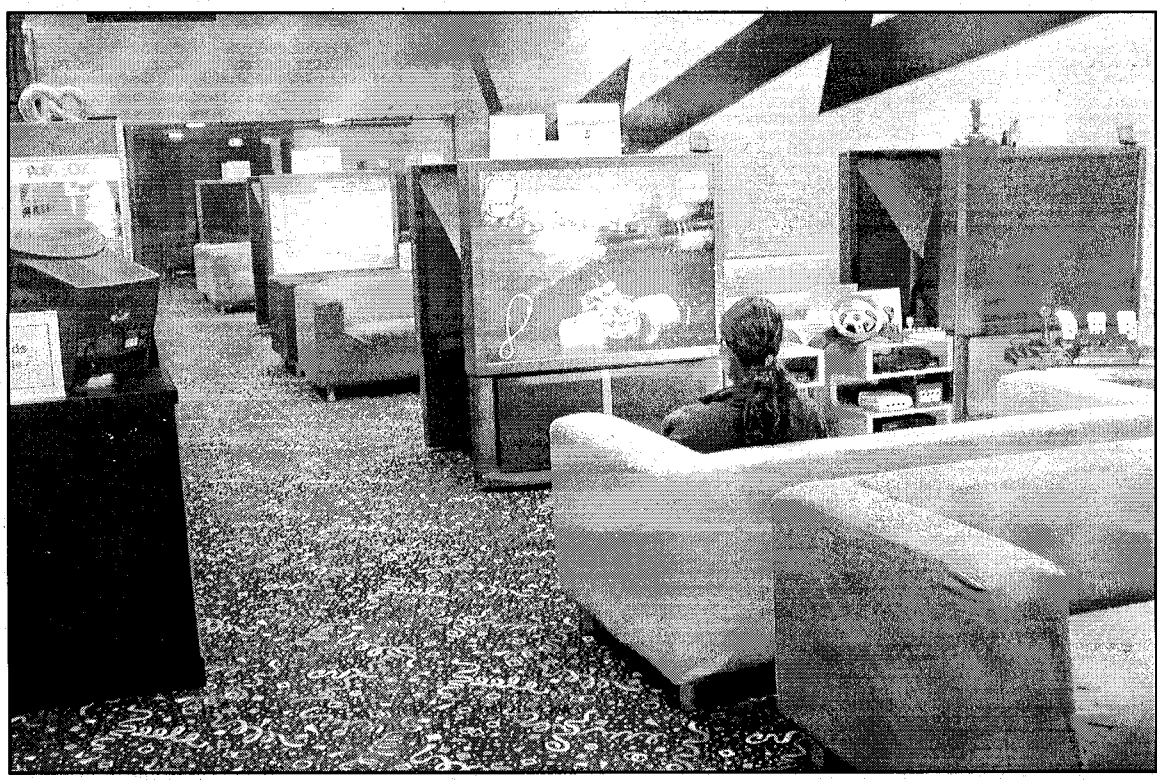


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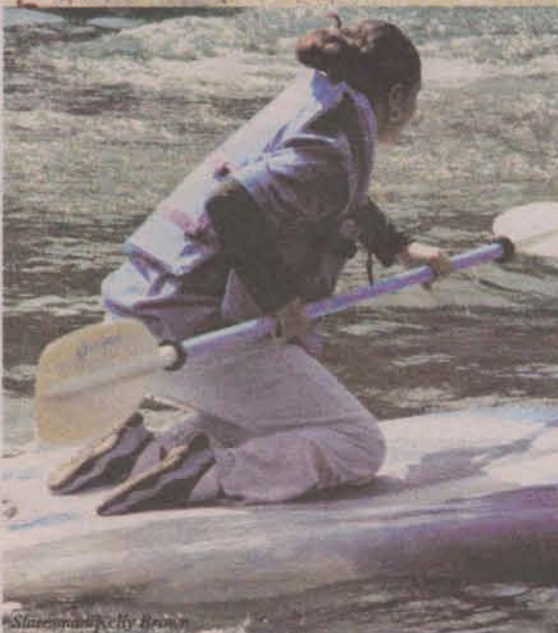
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