

Statesman

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Housing Overflow Abated, But For How Long?

BY SUSAN THOMAS
Statesman Staff

It was the start of a new semester. Students were returning to the familiar routine of classes, schoolwork and lack of sleep after a long winter recess, while newcomers were entering the doors of Stony Brook with anticipation and excitement.

But for some, their new Stony Brook home was a little more crowded than expected, and the parking lots were a little fuller. Soon, many



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Dallas Bauman, Ph.D. is the Assistant Vice President of Campus Residences.

realized that their lounges had been converted into rooms that housed between two to four people.

"The extra residents on my floor did not really increase the amount of work I had to do, in terms of checking in residents by much at all," resident assistant Jasleen Kaur said. Kaur works in Langmuir College, one of the residence halls with converted lounge rooms.

Assistant Vice President of Campus Residences Dallas Bauman said that there were very few complaints from students and parents, and that all lounge residents were extremely cooperative with Campus Residences.

None of the former residents of the converted lounges could be reached for comment. But some residents who lived in traditional housing in overflow buildings said they felt robbed of their lounge space, which is often used by students for study or recreation.

"I needed the lounge to concentrate when my roommate is on the phone, watching television and typing away on the computer," said freshman Klara Kosovsky.

Some may wonder why Campus Residences personnel failed to halt room assignments once they saw that overcrowding was occurring. The situation is not that simple, said

administrators, because the University guarantees housing to all new students.

Assistant Director for Housing Administration Alan Devries explained that there were lounges set up for 164 residents, but 123 of these spaces were actually used. These residents were charged a lower rate than regular residents while living in the lounges, Devries said, and all lounge residents had been reassigned as of Feb. 3.

Students living in lounges without phones were moved first. This first wave of reassignment was conducted the first Friday after classes had begun, and the following waves of reassignment occurred based on the density of lounge residents in each building and the availability of new beds.

Bauman said that the housing overflow problem has increased the urgency of constructing the new undergraduate apartments, which are scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2004. These apartments will add 697 new beds, but Bauman said that it is uncertain if this will significantly alleviate future housing problems.

"We have a higher percentage of freshman, transfers, and continuing students all requesting to live on campus, even if the enrollment remains stable," he said.



Statesman/Kelly Brown

The Undergraduate Apartments, which opened in Fall 2001, were not able to completely alleviate the housing shortage.

No one can predict if in the upcoming semesters there will be a greater number of lounge residents and triples. Devries said his focus is more immediate. "We want to get [housing for] the rest of the students on the waiting list in the next couple of weeks and then we'll be okay for the rest of the semester."

Those interested in further information about housing assignment issue can e-mail Campus Residences at reside@sunysb.edu. For those interested in viewing waitlist status, visit <http://www.sunysb.edu/stuaff/residence/>.

Suffolk Legislature to Vote on Supplement Ban

BY MAURY HIRSCHKORN
Statesman Staff

Legislator Jon Cooper (D-Huntington) introduced a bill last year to ban the sale and purchase of all dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids or ephedra in Suffolk County. The bill went through public hearings in August of 2002 and was voted in by the Health, Education and Youth Committee in December. The full legislature will vote on it on Feb. 11. If the bill passes and County Executive Robert Gaffney signs it, it will become law.

Ephedra is found in supplements used for weight loss, increased energy and body building. The FDA does not restrict their use. However, it does require a warning label to be put on such products. The label states that taking more than the



Courtesy of www.google.com

All dietary supplements containing ephedra may soon be banned by the Suffolk County Legislature.

recommended amount of ephedra can lead to adverse health effects including heart attack, stroke, seizures and death.

Cooper said that labeling products containing ephedra isn't sufficient to protect consumers' health.

"Following intense lobbying by the \$17 billion dietary supplement industry, Congress passed the

Dietary Supplements Health and Education Act in 1994," he said. "This law exempted dietary supplements like ephedra from any requirement for pre-market testing. It also exempted supplement manufacturers from having to report consumer complaints... to the FDA."

The US Department of Health and Human Services stated that it received and investigated more than 800 reports of adverse events associated with ephedra since 1994.

Legislator Allan Binder (R-Huntington) introduced a bill prohibiting the sale and purchase of ephedra to minors. This bill was signed into law in December 2003. Legislator Joe Caracappa (R-Riverhead) co-sponsored that bill and said he believes that a total ban of ephedra is unnecessary.

"It's not the county's job to ban products. That's the job of the FDA. Also, people have to be responsible for their own health," he said. "There's another problem. There are supplement companies on Long Island, like TwinLabs [located in Bohemia], that manufacture that product. Banning it will put

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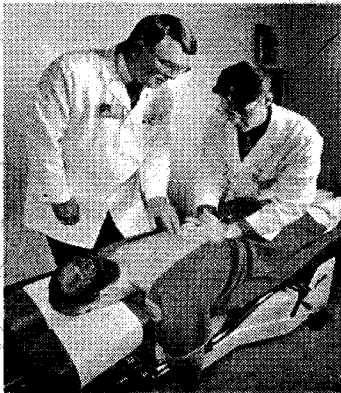
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Dancing With Song, Sweat and Sensuality at SBU

By Emy Kuriakose
Statesman Editor

Students and faculty members returned to their homes exhausted and worn out after dancing to the rhythms of Mozambique this past Tuesday at Nassau Hall and the SAC Auditorium. In workshops taught by the Urban Bush Women (UBW) and accompanied by live music, they learned cultural dances of Mozambique that express happiness, attraction, and sensuality.

"I enjoyed it a lot. I was sore then, and I felt it for more than two days," graduate student Anika Jobson said. "But it was definitely worth it."



Artists from Mozambique conducted the workshop with their native instruments and African sounds.

UBW, a professional dance group working in collaboration with the National Song and Dance Company of Mozambique, will perform at the Staller Center on Feb. 15 in *Shadow's Child*. Co-choreographed by both companies, the show was created with contributions from both traditional and modern dance. The workshops are a part of a cultural outreach program they hold to impart the elements of African culture and life to the community.

"In our residency at Stony Brook, we are teaching students and teaching the community," said Sita Frederick, a dancer with UBW. "Being a performer means being a part of the whole vision, the idea that we have about being a part of the community and engaging the people we visit."

Julie Greene, Coordinator of Marketing and Public Relations for the Staller Center, helped book the Urban Bush Women to provide a cultural experience for students and faculty.

"We wanted to

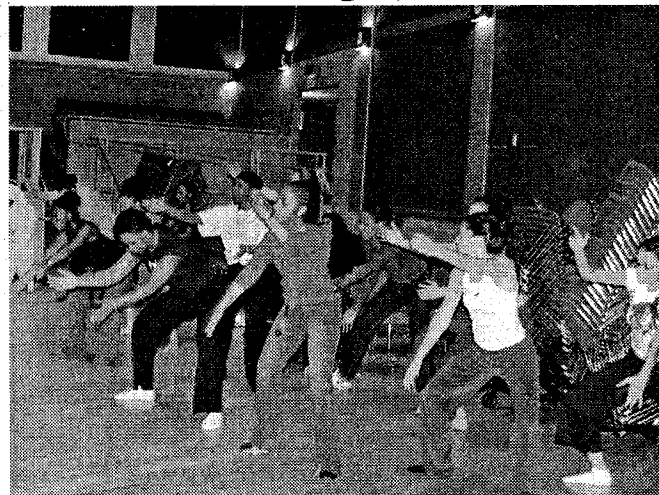
create a program open to both dancers and non-dancers," she said. "The sessions are open to everyone and we want students to enjoy their experience."

Three artists from Mozambique conducted the workshop, and contributed to the dance group with the traditional dances and native instruments. The Dance Company of Mozambique has sponsored their stay in the United States since last May, allowing the women to work on *Shadow's Child* with UBW.

"We know these dances are authentic and real because they are from their homeland," Frederick said.

UBW has been on tour performing *Shadow's Child* since last July, when it debuted at Lincoln Center. Over the past six months, the group has visited cities around the country, including Iowa City and Baton Rouge. With each new performance, the dances have been perfected and remade, said Frederick, who has a principle role in the show.

For some students who attended



Statesman/Emy Kuriakose

Participants gathered to learn ethnic dances that emphasize happiness, attraction, and sensuality.

the sessions, the experience stirred up memories of their cultural origins.

"I was glad they had so many things going on for Black History month," Jobson said. "I've done similar dances in my homeland, Jamaica. For me, it was nice to be reminded of my past there."

When asked about her experience with the dancers of *Shadow's Child*, Frederick explained that their style was unique and specific to the people they visit.

"I really enjoy [the performers'] style of dance and their teaching methods," she said. "Their approach to social issues through art is powerful. They can really affect the way people think and see the world."

SAFPIC's First Trip to Broadway

By Kelly Baumann
Statesman Staff

On Friday, Feb. 7 at 4 p.m., a coach bus left the Student Activity Center headed for New York City. The Student Activity Fee Interim Planning Committee (SAFPIC) sponsored a trip to the popular Broadway musical "Rent". For fifteen dollars apiece, students were provided with bus transportation and show tickets.

"The tickets were sold out in three hours," said SAFPIC co-chair Kim Herrera. "We're planning another trip to a play in April."

She explained that students are only required to pay one third of the full price of any activity that the committee plans.

Favorable reactions from students have prodded the committee to organize more activities for Stony Brook students who remain on-campus over the weekend.

"I've always wanted to see 'Rent' and was surprised when the school offered it for fifteen dollars," freshman Kevin Doten said. "I would definitely attend another event, especially if they go to another play in April."

Some complained that the downfall of the trip to "Rent" was the limited amount of seats, only 49, that the school

was able to purchase. But Herrera said that SAFPIC has been a success in wisely using students' money to provide them with a richer and more culturally stimulating environment.

"We started this organization a year and a half ago and it has really progressed," she said. "Students are able to [give] input [on] how they think their money should be utilized in events that don't involve academics."

This was SAFPIC's first organized excursion to see a play, but there were previously several trips to sporting events which were also quite popular with students. The committee's motto, "Kicking up the Volume," says it all. SAFPIC hopes to offer students more choices and variety in recreational activities. There are currently plans for a Valentine's Day party, Webster Hall party, concerts, lectures, and several other special events.

For its upcoming events, Herrera said, SAFPIC is going to widely publicize to ensure that it is reaching a broad campus audience. Although many said that they were unaware of the trip to "Rent," those who were generally had positive reactions to the committee's efforts. For information about upcoming events contact Maria at 2-9392 on campus or go to the SAC room 219.

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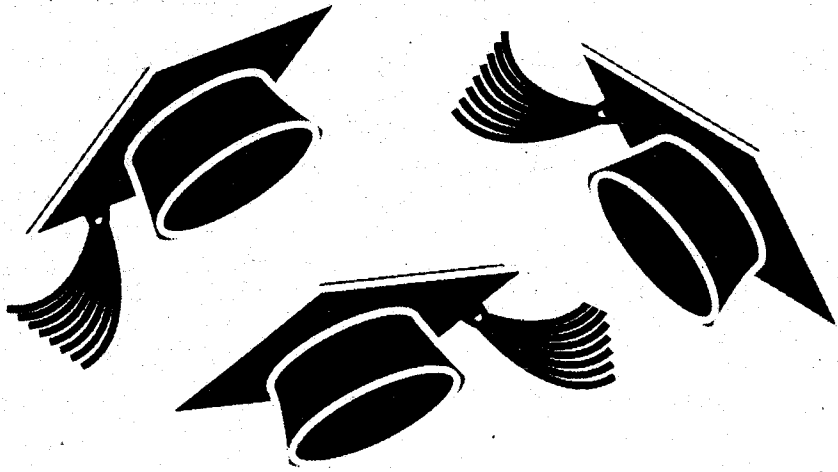
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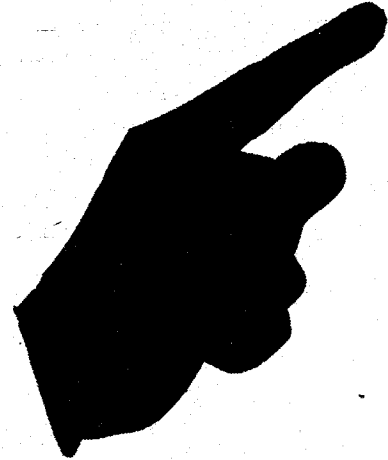
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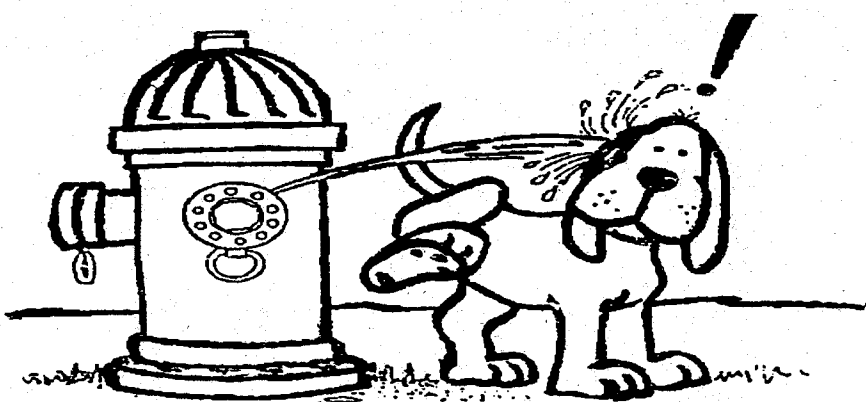
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Stony Brook Women Edge Northeastern

By DANA GOMI
Statesman Staff

The Stony Brook women's basketball team faced a huge challenge against the Northeastern Huskies last Wednesday, and they were fortunate to come out on top, beating the opposition 57-55. This was just their third home win of season.

The Seawolves had some problems on the offensive end in the first half, shooting only 29 percent from the field while making ten baskets during the first 20 minutes. But the Seawolves' defense, a Coach Roberts trademark, kept SBU in the game as they caused 25 Husky turnovers and registered 16 steals. When halftime rolled around, the Huskies had a 26-23 lead over the Seawolves.

With 2:50 left on the clock and the Seawolves trailing 53-50, Danyelle Ingram nailed two free throws and narrowed the point difference to one. As time was winding down, Northeastern's offense became stagnant. The Huskies shot and

missed a three-pointer and turned the ball over three times. This was just what the Seawolves needed.

Sherry Jordan was sent to the line after she was fouled by Husky Francesca Vanin. She fouled out of the game and Jordan made both foul shots to give the Seawolves the lead once more. In the final seconds, the Huskies registered another shot, closing the gap to one, 55-54.

Jordan once again came through, nailing two free throws, extending the 57-55 lead for the Seawolves. The Huskies had one final chance to win it with a last-minute three-point shot, but they couldn't get it to bounce their way. The Seawolves women walked away victorious.

The Seawolves got some good numbers from key players. Danielle DeGiorgio got a double-double, scoring 13 points and picking up 10 rebounds. Jordan pulled down nine rebounds and dished out two assists in the game. Ingram finished with 15 points, five rebounds and three assists.



Statesman/Jeffrey Javidfar

Danielle DeGiorgio posted a double-double in the win against Northeastern.

The win was a tough one for the team, especially for guard Theresa LoParrino. She returned last semester from rehabilitation on a torn ACL in her left knee, and then sat out due to multiple stress fractures, but now she is back in action.

"When I first came back my knee was shaky, but the more I play on it, it keeps

getting stronger and stronger each game," LoParrino said. "It's still weak, though."

She has been playing well in recent games, but said she felt a little rusty.

"The last two games I wasn't confident coming out. The coach said you just have to let the offense come to you, you can't really force it. I was handling the ball pretty well, but...I was forcing shots trying to get them in," LoParrino said.

LoParrino scored nine points and pulled down three rebounds during the game against Northeastern.

"I'm really a point guard, I'm not the scorer Ingram is," LoParrino said. "I got nine points and that's great for me."

The Seawolves are now playing some of the best teams in the America East Conference, including Maine and Boston.

The Seawolves lost big on the road against Vermont on Saturday. Their road trip now takes them to Boston, where they will face a tough Boston University team on Wednesday, Feb 12.

Ephedra Ban on County Legislature's Plate

Continued from Page 1

employees of those companies out of work."

In hearings before the legislature, representatives from supplement companies such as TwinLabs Laboratories and Wellness International Network Ltd. voiced their opposition to banning ephedra. Some of TwinLabs' products that contain ephedra are Ripped Fuel, Diet Fuel and Herba Fuel.

Greg Dabenhardt, sales

associate for Nutrition Warehouse, which sells products containing ephedra, echoed Caracappa. "Ephedrine is already labeled. They shouldn't ban it. People should be mature enough to use it."

Pawan Chandra, a 28-year-old computer science major at Stony Brook, added, "The product should be clearly labeled. Banning it is government intrusion."

Richard Lapsley, Jon Cooper's legislative aide, said

that restricting ephedra from minors isn't sufficient.

"In 1996, 20 year-old Northport High School student Peter Schlendorf died after taking ephedra. And he was taking the required amount of the supplement at the time," Lapsley said. "Last spring, students from the same school had to get attention from the nurse after taking ephedra. The people who were injured were adults, read the labels, but they still took it."


Diana Gabriel-Ventimiglia, a 22-year-old biology/biochemistry major said she approves of the new bill. "Some people will do everything for a beautiful body and not care about their health. It should be banned except when under a doctor's supervision."

If Cooper's bill becomes law, violators of the ban will be subject to a \$5,000 fine, as enforced by the Suffolk County Health Department.




Courtesy of www.co.suffolk.ny.us

County Legislator Ron Cooper sponsored the ephedra bill.



A THOUGHT FROM RABBI ADAM



Seemingly, war with Iraq looks dismal: biological warfare, fear of terrorist reprisal, world instability. However, everything is really being orchestrated from Above, and therefore, we are actually in good hands. But for this, you gotta have faith. In order to find this faith, all one has to do is to look to the 1991 Gulf War. Seemingly, many thousands of casualties were expected. Five million Israelis received gas masks and created germ-free rooms in their homes using plastic sealant. And yet, a little known ancient Rabbinical text (Midrash Yalkut Shimoni) contained a prophecy of hope. It described a future war in which "the king of Iraq will provoke the king of Arabia, and the king of Arabia will turn to the world's superpower for advice. And all the nations of the world will be frightened, [but] don't be afraid, [for this is] the hour of Moshiach's (Messiah's) coming". Connecting this text to the Gulf War, the Lubavitcher Rebbe declared that 1991 would not be a year of death and destruction, but rather, "a year of miracles". The Rebbe insisted that there was no reason for anyone to leave Israel or cancel any Israel vacation plans on account of the war. Indeed, 39 Scud missiles were launched against Israel, destroying some 15,000 properties with entire apartment buildings in collapse. And rather than thousands of deaths, miraculously, only 1 person died from a direct missile attack (12 others died from heart attacks or suffocation due to misuse of the gas masks). A Scud even managed a direct hit at Israel's main gas line running through the center of the country—potentially burning up half the country. Yet miraculously, due to a technical malfunction the week before, the line had been disconnected and was empty of gas. At the conclusion of the war, when it was clear that Saddam had not been overthrown, the Rebbe referred to a future American attempt to eradicate Saddam's evil, but that again, there would be no need to worry, for "indeed, the miracles will continue. [And] we will see [yet] even greater miracles." But for this, you just gotta have faith.

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To War? Not to War? There Should Be No Question

BY MARIE HUCTION
Statesman Staff

It's been nearly two months since my last column, and numerous events have taken place in the meantime. So many important issues and national tragedies have taken place in the past week, so it is with great difficulty that I choose today's topic.

I want to briefly pay homage to the men and women who died on Saturday in the space shuttle Columbia. The gulf of the Atlantic Ocean has allowed news to crossover, but not the kind of soul-wrenching shock and outpouring of national sympathy that is currently taking place in the states. The memorial service held today displayed the grief pervading the nation, yet also demonstrates the optimism for the future that Americans feel when they look towards the skies.

From this message of national solidarity during tragedy, I now turn my attention to the globally divisive issue of war. The political turmoil and international jockeying shown on the news every day for the past six months has only increased in pitch over the last few weeks. To war? Not to war? To wait for the UN? To go it alone? Does Iraq have nuclear capabilities? Is George Bush warmongering? Is Saddam Hussein obstructing the weapons inspectors? Do the citizens of the United States have any power over government policy?

This rant is a response to an interview between a British MP and Hussein that was broadcast an hour ago on the BBC. This was the first time the interview was shown, and I am unsure as to whether the interview has been broadcast in the United States. Though brief and conducted by a self-proclaimed dove, this interview is

The Drums Are Getting Louder

BY NICKLAUS J. MISITI
Statesman Staff

Please help: My country is at war and I don't have a gun. Our president calls other men tyrants and dictators and "faces of evil."

Does he prepare these speeches while seated in front of a mirror? This elected messiah sits in the White House with dreams of warring for peace, killing for freedom, death for life.

In Iraq, sanctions starve people who might otherwise rise and rebel against Saddam. The terrible irony of a preemptive strike is that it only increases the likelihood of retribution and an escalation of the violence.

On September 12, 2001, the majority of the world felt great sympathy for our loss. A year and a half later this has changed. We are again arrogant Americans and the hatred that breeds terrorism is growing. Meanwhile, we are expected to cheer for a war that could cost hundreds of billions of dollars, while at the same time we are giving the rich an

unique in that for the first time Hussein is personally answering the queries of the Western world.

I do not have space to critique this interview so will offer up a brief summary instead. Hussein categorically denies any possession of weapons of mass destruction by Iraq or links to al Qaeda, thus refuting the two reasons given by the United States for wanting to go to war. As many people before him have done, Hussein links the United States' interest in the Middle East to economic interests in oil. "To control the world you need to control the oil; therefore the destruction of Iraq is a prerequisite to controlling oil."

Hussein also claims that Iraq and its people are following the UN resolutions and upholding the spirit of peace, the United States is the aggressor. He criticizes the United States, saying, "They are more motivated by war than their responsibility for peace."

He ends with an appeal to the British people to stop the warmongering. "There is no reason to justify this war". He voices his belief that the Iraqis do not wish to go to war, but states that "if war is imposed upon them, they will defend themselves, their country, their sovereignty and their security."

Whether Hussein is sincere and telling the whole truth about Iraq's nuclear capabilities is debatable, the pro-war attitude of the United States is intensely obvious. Despite this last ditch effort by a British dove, the world is grinding steadily towards armed conflict. When asked to comment on the interview a British official said, "This changes nothing" and "war is almost inevitable." Now we just have to see what Colin Powell says, what Hans Blix finds, and how the house of cards comes tumbling down. February 15 will be a day of global implications.

enormous tax break.

Like it or not, you and I are paying the bills. Our university system is raising tuition. The quality of education, which was improving, will only suffer.

Some must die, while others will give money to support it. Those who pay for a war they don't believe in are just as responsible as those who support it.

The moment is now: action or inaction, life or death, war or peace.

This is about your life. You don't have to be a hippie to attend a peace rally. You don't have to be a radical to love your country by expressing your dissatisfaction with its policies. With all of the problems in the world we must make it perfectly clear that America's priorities are not military. We are a peaceful nation.

Protest now in every way you can, on campus and off. Stop the war and preserve your right to a decent education. Every minute you wait, every second the clock ticks, war gets closer and the drums get louder.

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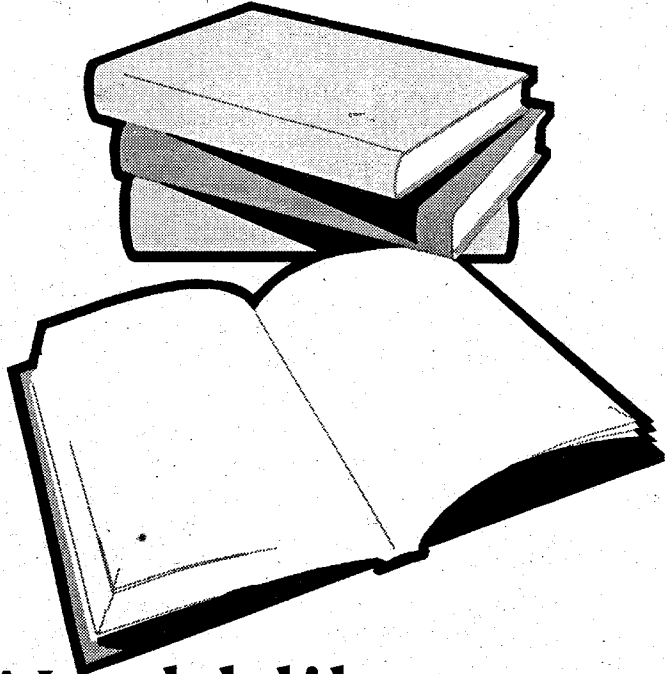
Dana Gomi
Maury Hirschkom
Marie Huchton
Brad Jerson
Debolina Kowshik

Ted Lai
Jessica Landress
Megan Langille
Kimberly Meilak
Michael Nevradakis

Arif Rafiq
Victoria Russo
Susan Thomas
Brian Tovar

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THE YEARBOOK COMMITTEE



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To join the Specula Committee, contact Natasha Elie at 632-6473 or visit the Student Polity Office in SAC 202.

ATTENTION SENIORS

Senior Portraits
for the
SPECULA YEARBOOK
will be
February 17 — 28



Sign-up sheets are in the
Student Activities Center, Suite 202.
For further information, please call 632-6464.

FREE LAWYER

Wednesday

Appointments from 4:15 pm to 7:15 pm

Student Polity Suite 202, Student Activity Center

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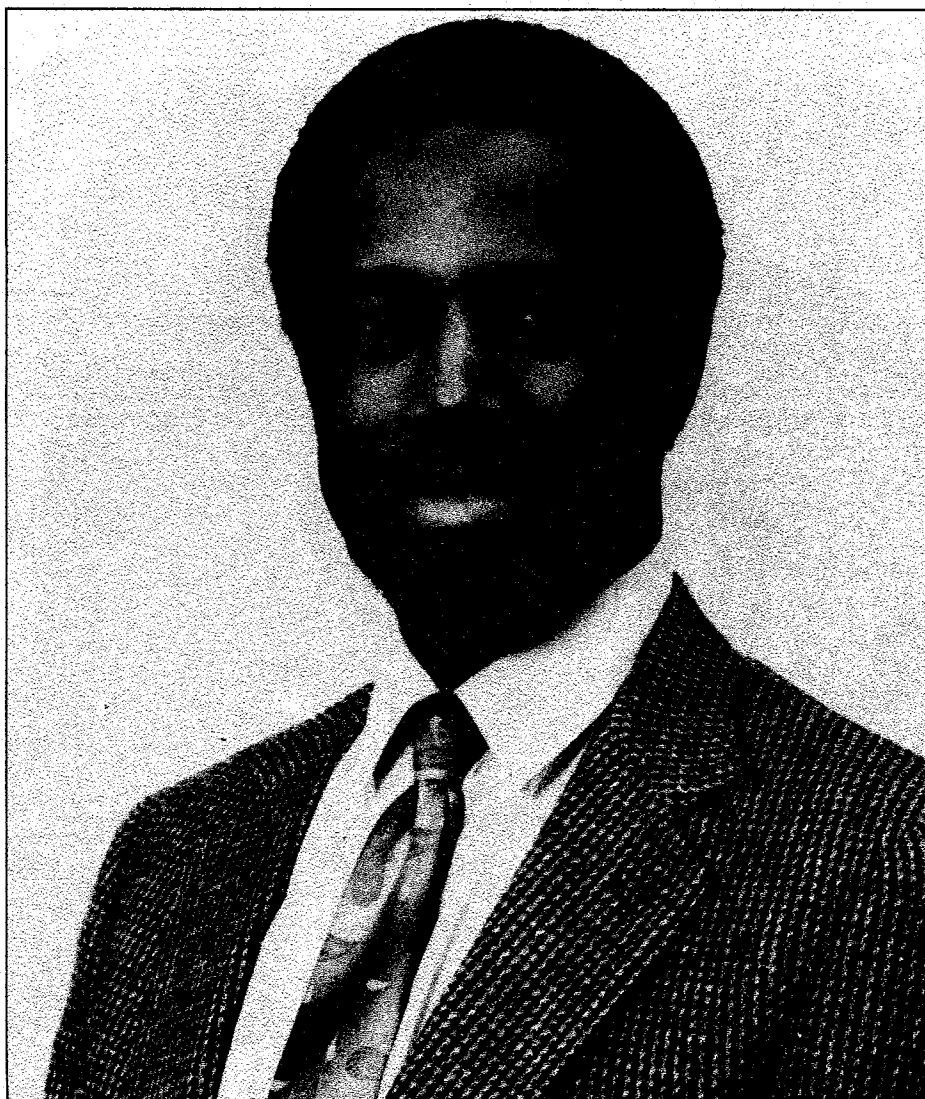
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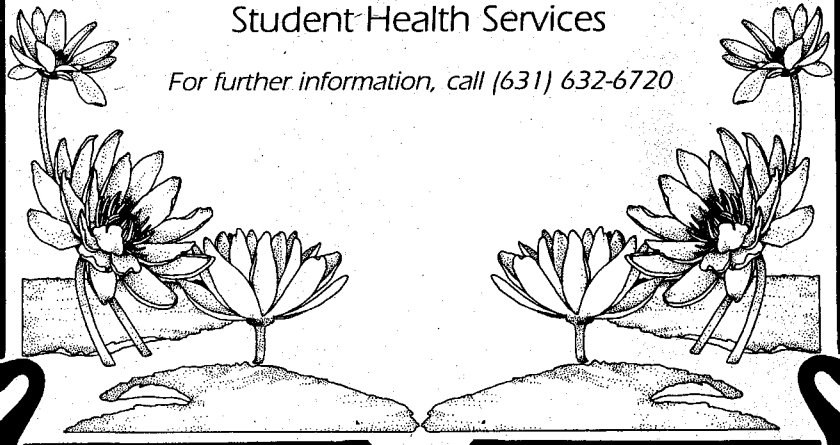
Group Times

Mondays 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Tuesdays 12:00 - 12:45 pm

Location: University Counseling Center
Student Health Services

For further information, call (631) 632-6720



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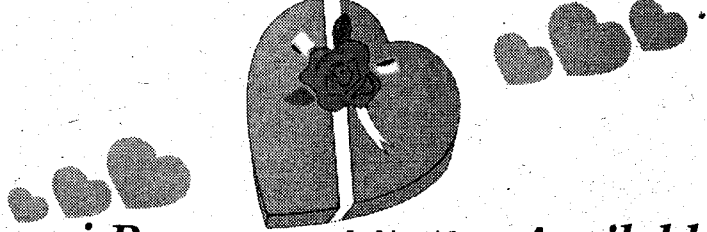
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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Lynda Geller, Ph.D.

The Cody Center for Autism, SUNY Stony Brook
"Understanding Autism and Asperger's Syndrome"

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

Michael Bérubé, Ph.D.

Professor of Literature, Penn State University
Author of *Life As We Know It: A Father, a Family, and an Exceptional Child*
"Disability and Democracy"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Robert F. Ladenson, Ph.D.

Professor of Philosophy, Center for the Study of Ethics in the
Professions, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago
"Special Education and Distributive Justice"

THURSDAY, MARCH 27

Andrew Adesman, M.D.

Director, Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics,
Schneider Children's Hospital, Long Island
"Alternative Therapy for ADHD and Related Disorders:
Hype vs. Hope"

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

Sheldon H. Horowitz, Ed.D.

Director of Professional Services, the National Center
for Learning Disabilities (NCLD)
"Rethinking Learning Disabilities"

MONDAY, APRIL 28

Deborah Rebore

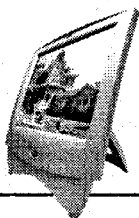
Education Attorney, Long Island
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All talks will begin at 5:45 P.M. in the Hunt Room, located in Fortunoff Hall on Dowling College's Rudolph Campus in Oakdale.

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