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Hats Off

USB Says Farewell to the Class of 2000

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New Safety Phones Installed on Campus

By RENE ATTIAS
Statesman Contributor

As students departed from campus for the summer, new security phones were installed as part of a plan to increase campus safety. The plan, implemented two years ago by President Kenny, calls on students to be proactive in enhancing their own safety, but also seeks new ways to increase public safety on campus in general. The new phones are part of this effort.

Since the plan was put into effect, forty phones have been put in place with an additional twenty installed within the last few weeks, replacing old phones. When a female student was allegedly raped two years ago, campus safety was criticized as being inadequate. In addition to accusations that the campus is poorly lit at night, there were accusations that the security phones, known as blue light phones, were continually out of service. In response to campus outcry over the rape, Kenny promised to fix all broken phones while adding new ones.

These new red phones, mounted on walls and poles topped with blue security lights, have popped up across campus, including on the bicycle trail, behind H Quad, near Tabler, and behind the Infirmary, which was the site of a carjacking last semester.

Directly linked to the University

Police department, pressing a button and speaking into the phone puts a caller into direct contact with the police and can be used in any number of urgent situations. Doug Little, deputy chief of police on campus said the phones are another effective way to enhance safety on campus. "The police department is on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week," Little said. "Their main job on this campus is to provide the students as well as the staff with service."

There are other components that make up the University's public safety agenda, including the Resident Safety Program which provides a walk service from 11 pm until 3 am. There is also the little known ride service, provided by University Police and the Rape Aggression Defense program, also provided by University Police, which is a series of classes that teaches women how to defend themselves against rape. According to Patrick Calabria, director of media relations on campus, these programs help to protect people and enhance community security over all. "One incident is one too many," Calabria said.

Viannie De Rama, a sophomore at Stony Brook, was thrilled to hear of the University's public safety measures. "On such a large campus you never know what to expect," she said. "It is good to know that safety is not being neglected."



Erin Rosenking/Statesman Editor

One of the safety phones is located behind the infirmary.

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Saluting the Class of 2000

By KAT FULGIERI
Statesman Editor

Members of the USB class of 2000 woke up to cloudy skies and pouring rain on the morning of May 19. The weather didn't stop the soon-to-be graduates from flocking to campus to participate in the largest Commencement on Long Island.

Degree candidates, clad in traditional caps and gowns, could be observed dashing all over campus, seemingly oblivious to the wind and rain. Across from the Sports Complex, the remains of what should have been a festival for photo opportunities (carousel horses, balloons, and the like) sat unattended.

Inside the sports complex, thousands of students milled about, waiting for the exercises to begin. Administrators had chosen to forgo the traditional procession into the complex due to the inclement weather. The chords of "Pomp and Circumstance" were barely audible over the excited chattering of the crowd.

The crowd finally quieted down, and Christian Van Horn, a student from the music department, sang the national anthem accompanied by the Long Island Brass Guild. Soon after, President Shirley Strum Kenny stood up to address those assembled. "We are so proud of you," she told the graduates, as an audience of over 5,000 looked on. "We will always honor you, and we will always be here for you." Kenny talked to the graduates about the history of the University, and congratulated the class of 2000 on joining the ranks of an esteemed history of alumni. Kenny also wished the graduating class luck in future ventures, asserting that "the world is changing at a dizzying rate, and it will be you who decide the way it spins."

After Kenny's opening remarks, the University Medal was presented to James D. Watson, president of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory. Watson is most famous for his research and discoveries in genetics. Watson, along with fellow researcher Francis Crick, was responsible for the DNA double-helix model that provided the basic of all subsequent molecular genetics research. He was awarded a Nobel Prize for Physiology and Medicine in 1962.

After Watson was recognized, Kenny took the podium again, this time to present and confer honorary degrees to several individuals. She was joined by Robert McGrath, acting provost and vice president for Brookhaven affairs, and Nelson



Statesman/Kat Fulgieri

President Kenny and Richard Nasti presented James Watson (center) with the University Medal.

A. Rockefeller, Jr, of the SUNY Board of Trustees. The honorary degree recipients stood as each heard their life's accomplishments listed for the audience.

Albert Murray was awarded an honorary Doctor of Letters, in recognition of the work he has published since 1970. His interpretations of European and American culture, often applied to the musical discipline, have helped to foster cultural understanding between races. He currently serves as mentor of the Jazz Program at Lincoln Center.

George Williams was honored with a Doctor of Science degree for his contributions in the field of evolution. He conducted research in topics including natural selection, the nature of human ethics, and the nature of sexual reproduction. Williams has published many texts, and he is thought of as the founder of "Darwinian Medicine."

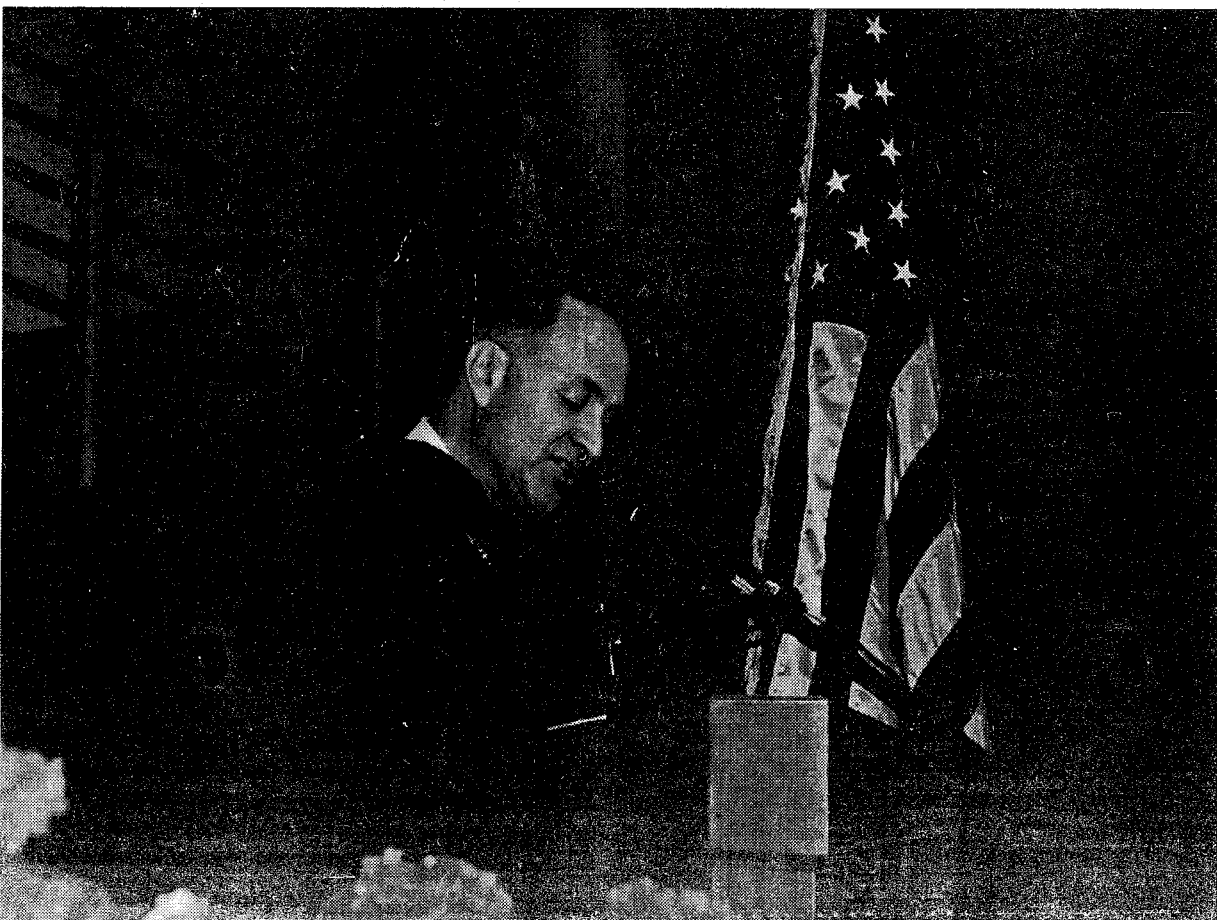
Architect John Belle was honored with a Doctor of Fine Arts. After moving to the United States from London, he helped to establish the architectural firm Beyer Blinder Belle which designed USB's academic mall, humanities building and did the preliminary sketches for the recreation center that was voted down last semester. His primary work has been in the field of restoration and preservation of historic sites for government and private ends. After receiving his degree, he smiled at the graduating class. "I was born in Wales, where it rains every day," he said. "The University went overboard with its hospitality. The fountain would have been just fine."

The well-received commencement address was delivered by Sen. Charles E. Schumer, who told the graduates that they had earned their degrees from "one of the finest universities in the nation." Schumer opened with traditional graduation sentiment, reminding students of late night snacks at Cosmo's and beer at the Park Bench, college memories that will remain with the graduating class for the rest of their lives. He then talked about his personal experiences following his college graduation, all the while focusing on the dual importance of education and willingness to take risks.

Schumer spent a great deal of time talking about reforms that would benefit the education system. "We have one major storm cloud that threatens America's future. Our schools are simply not good enough." Many of the USB faculty members seated in the first few rows applauded his plans to help make teaching a financially rewarding profession, one that would draw the best and the brightest of academia. Parents seated in the audience cheered at his assertion that "it is simply wrong that parents have to pour their life savings into college costs."

Mary Flanagan of the department of English was the student speaker at the ceremony. Margarita Kamenetsky of Old Bridge, N.J., a biology major with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average, was presented with the Ward Melville Valedictorian Award. The H. Lee Dennison Valedictorian Award, reserved for the transfer student with the highest cumulative G.P.A. was awarded to Ushbir S. Gadh, Nelson Chu, and Mary B. Allison. All three students had a perfect 4.0 G.P.A.

At ceremony's end, the newly conferred graduates and their families filed back into the stormy weather to attend various department ceremonies. One traditionally dressed graduate was observed throwing his cap high into the air outside the Sports Complex, and repeating a phrase that summed up the ceremony -- "We're out!"



Statesman/Kat Fulgieri

Senator Charles Schumer delivered the Commencement Address to an audience of over 5,000.

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There are a number of interruptions that face the average studier. For those who study at home, hitting the books may mean contending with an annoying sibling that mysteriously decides to blast the music the very moment you open the book. Then there is mom who is so happy to see you at home for a change that she knocks on your door every five minutes to see how the studying is coming along. But don't think you will find the peace you seek at the library.

No matter where you sit down it will be just your luck to be next to the only two people in the library who want to talk about babes instead of hitting the books. But did you ever think that University security personnel would be yet another thorn in your studying side? They were. Just ask the people who were studying on the third floor of the library last month during finals week.

It is a small minority of people to be sure, but on any given night of the week after the library lights go

out at 11:45 p.m., small groups of people simply walk down the hall on the third floor to the Hispanic languages department. There they find a number of empty classrooms and a lounge, all perfect for studying. During the course of the regular semester you will see these diligent people studying till the wee hours of the morning with no one and nothing to interrupt them save for a quick trip to the bathroom or the vending machine. But jump ahead to finals week and these same students were kicked out of the very place they had studied without problems all semester long. Imagine the extra stress: settling in for an all nighter only to be robbed with no place to study during the most stressful moments of the semester.

Students faced the same problem last semester amid rumors that the cause for the kick out had something to do with equipment that was allegedly damaged after hours on the fifth floor.

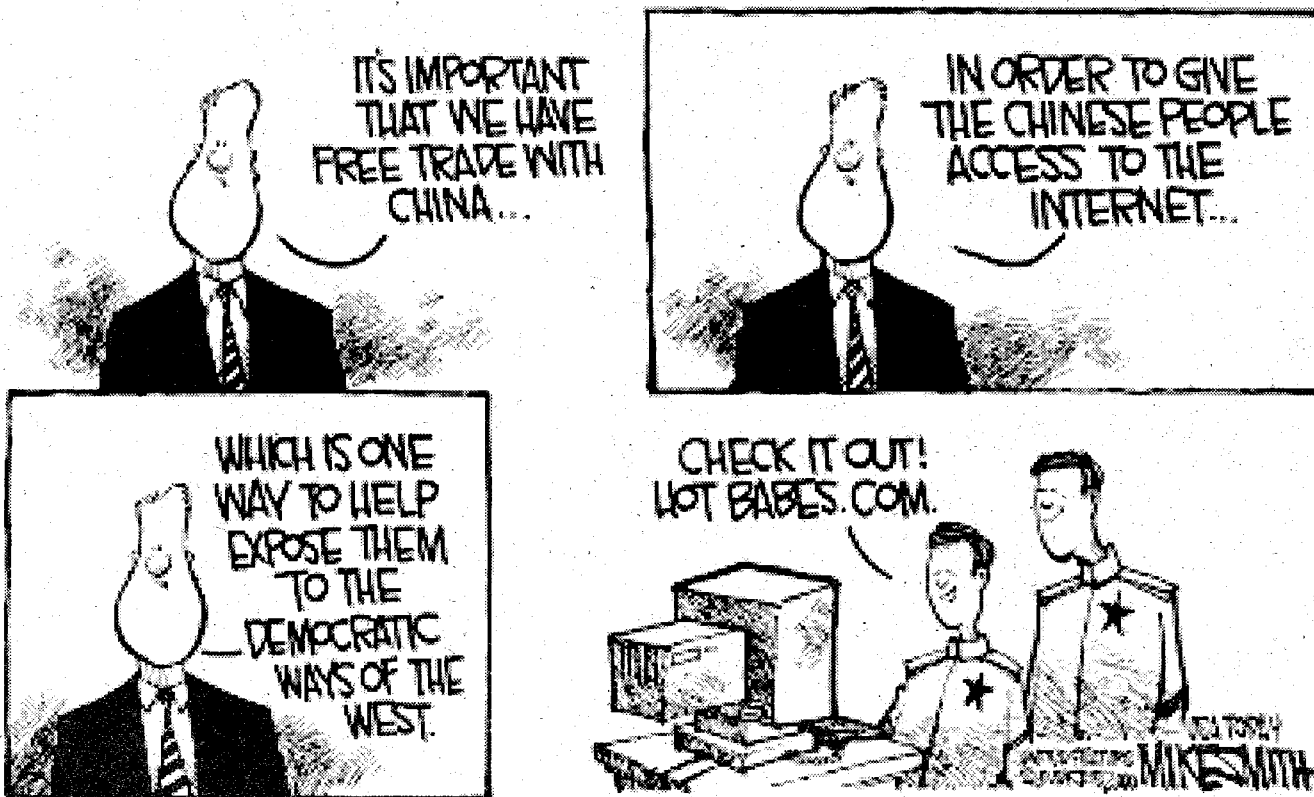
But according to Doug Little, deputy chief of university police, while preventing damage to property is a main concern, student safety is what takes precedence. "Someone could

fall down a flight of stairs and stay there for hours," Little warned. He also stressed that no one other than "authorized" people were supposed to be in any campus building after hours anyway. These authorized people include some graduate students, faculty and staff who have special permission to do whatever they do during the midnight hour.

But while no student could argue with people who claim to have a sincere concern for their safety, they can argue with this concern being apparent only during finals week. Are they not concerned with students who study for tests other than finals? The lack of security presence during the semester leaves you with little else to say but no, they are not.

We won't condone disobeying posted building hours. However, when the rules are bent all semester long without a problem, students cannot be blamed for looking to do so at the end of the semester.

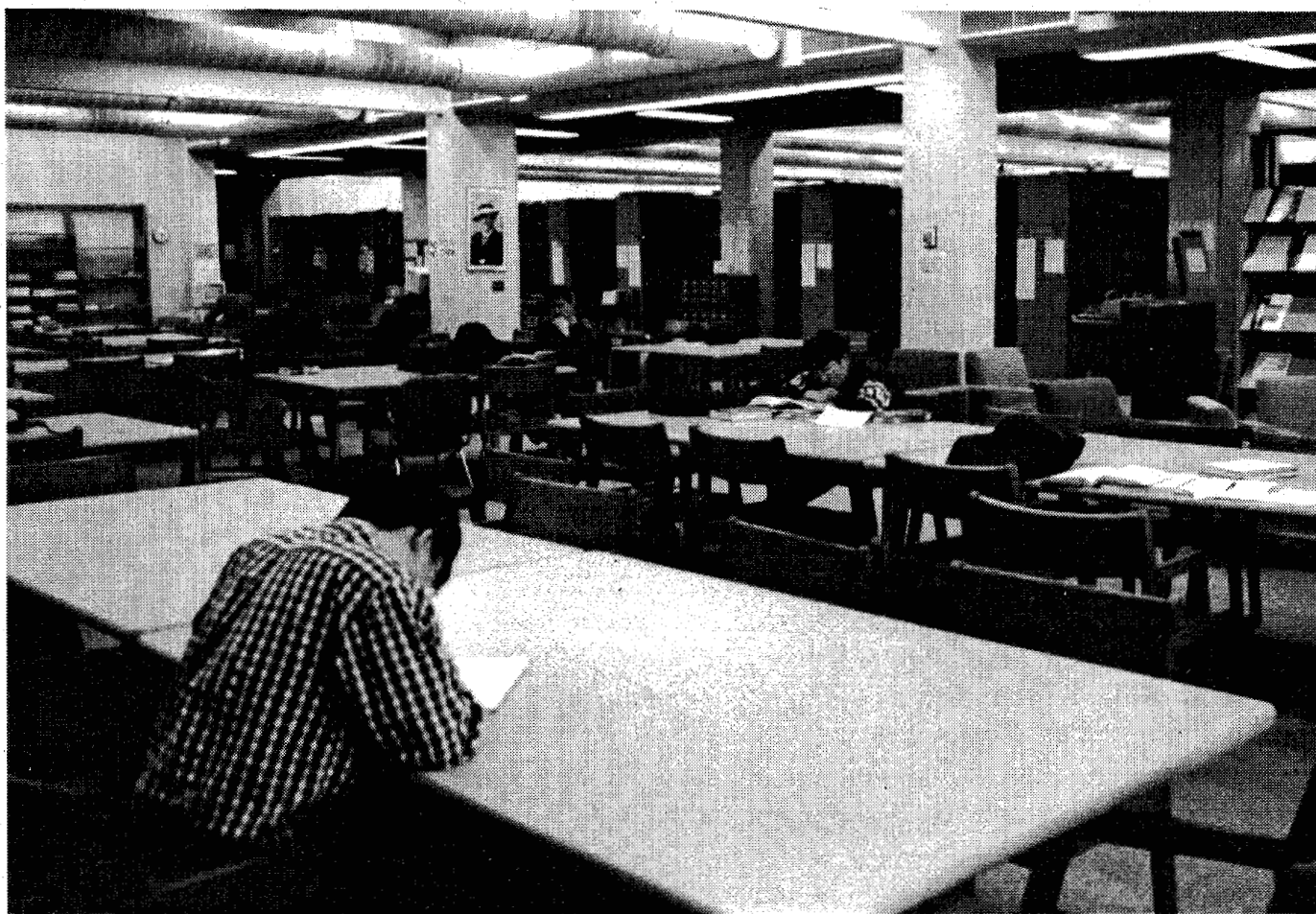
University security needs to know that the key to credibility is consistency. If they study there during the semester, they should be able to do it at the end of it.



Restricted Studying

Library Hallway Does Not Extend Hours During Finals Week

By TINA CHADHA
Statesman Editor



Statesman Archives

After the library stacks lights went out at 11:45, the hallway closed down at 2 a.m. during finals week.

For many students, finals week was a time of pulling all-nighters with fellow classmates, sharing notes and old tests, quizzing each other and making coffee runs to Dunkin Donuts. One haven for these support or study groups has been the large hallway in the Melville Library, but as of last year, the hallway is no longer open all night during finals week.

A new strict schedule has been implemented where students are no longer allowed to stay in any part of the library past 2 a.m. At that time a public safety officer patrols the library, even the upstairs rooms, making sure students leave the building.

According to Lt. Robert Swan, public safety is not involved when the building should close. The instructions are from the building managers. "We don't control the hours of operations for buildings on this campus," Swan said. "They tell us the hours to open and close and we go according to their schedules."

Deputy Chief of University Police Doug Little also added, "The reason we are there is to ensure students' safety. We didn't make the hours."

This new finals-week schedule is based on the library's budget. "The director changed and now they are putting money towards hiring more graduate students," said Scott Law, director of the Student Union and Activities.

Student Union and Activities

staff were hired to manage the library last year, but did not receive the job offer this year. "They realigned their resources and decided having more GA's during the year is more important than hiring staff for finals," Law said.

David Weiner, head of Circulation Services, also attributed the lack of available library hours to a change in directors and budgeting.

time," said Maryann Joseph, a senior. "Finals week is a stressful time, they should be catering to our needs. It's not fair to people who work in the day and meet up at night."

Studying for exams at night is popular among many students and it is easier to do in the library. Many students study in the stacks area until the lights go out at 11:45 but

Besides being a central meeting point, the library provides students with a distraction-free, yet well-populated and safe environment in which to study. "I come to the library because I cannot study in my room," said Benny DeLaCruz, a senior. "There are too many distractions and it's hard for me to stay awake in my room."

Another reason students favor studying in the library is that resident halls do not have enough room to hold everyone. "One of the main reasons I come to the library is because the study area in my building fills up quick," said Wayne Sherman, a junior.

Students at Stony Brook should not feel alone in their need to stay awake and study all night in the library. "Other schools like Binghamton, Albany and Boston University keep their libraries open all night," said Jennifer Chiu, a junior. "Students even bring their sleeping bags to the library."

Sleepovers in the library are ruled out for Stony Brook students this semester, and many are resentful. "They are making an interruption of the whole academic system," said Rajan Vohra, a senior. "On the hand they encourage us to study and they want to stay ranked within the top five SUNY schools, but at the same time when students make an attempt to study, they take away the largest and most helpful resource we have."

"One of the main reasons I come to the library is because the study area in my building fills up quick," said Wayne Sherman, a junior.

Charles Simpson, acting director and dean of libraries, said, "I can't remember exactly why they stopped it. It could have well been a lack of staffing, or evidence of low use after 2 a.m."

Regardless of the reasons, the library is no longer open all night and students are upset. "They are forcing us to study during their

they then seek other spots to study in. "It's easier to stay up or study when you are in a group of people," said Mumta Parikh, a junior. "Especially in a central location, but when they close the library, they force us to go further, less-lit locations like HSC, Health Sciences Center, thus making it dangerous for us."

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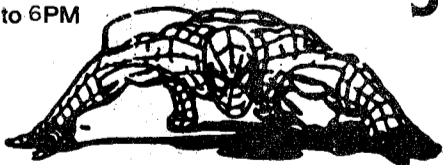
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New Swimwear for the Summer

By Jennifer Kester, Statesman Staff

The all-revealing itsy-bitsy teeny-weeny bikini and thong are out this year as the must-have swimwear, because less skin is in.

Halter tops and short-like bottoms, which were introduced only a couple of summers ago, are the trend on the beaches for the summer season. The new and increasingly popular addition to the covered-up look is the tankini, a bathing suit top that looks like a spandex tank top shirt.

The trendy catalogue-based Delias, which has a store in the Riverhead outlet center, is featuring the less is more swimwear on its web-site www.delias.com. One hot item on the site is the Skylar set. The Skylar tankini, a blue tank top with turquoise and hot pink trim, costs \$34.00 and its matching bikini bottom of the same colors is sold separately at \$29.00. Delias also features the Amaya set on its web-site. The Amaya halter top is in a colorful Hawaiian print and costs \$26.00. The halter tops do not give as much coverage as the tankinis but are great for those who need more support on top and for those a tad bit self-conscious. The Amaya bottoms, \$26, are drawstring bathing shorts in the same Hawaiian print and provide full back coverage, which is a great and fashionable option for those who despise thong bikini bottoms.



Courtesy of JCPenney Web-site

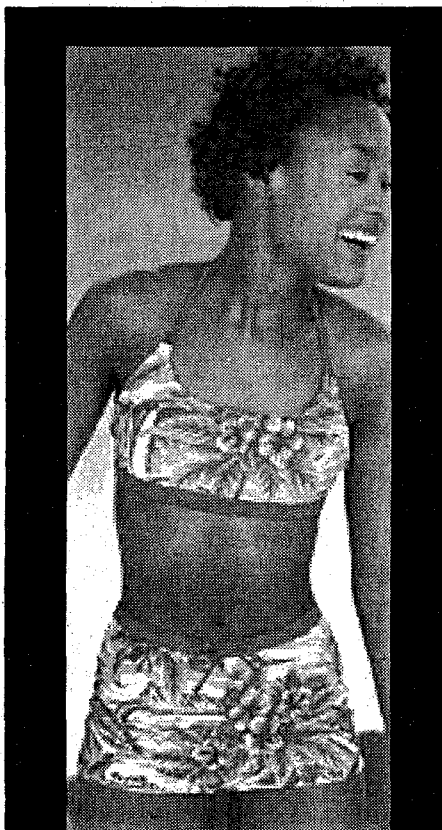
This tankini set, made by Hot Coles, is \$46 at JCPenney.

You don't have to go to Riverhead, however, to find these new beach trends. The department store JCPenney, located in the nearby Smith Haven Mall, is offering a line of trendy tankinis made by Hot Coles. One of the featured tankini sets only costs \$46.00 for both pieces. The tankini top is in hot pink and has tiny rosettes climbing on one side with embroidered stems and the bottom is a hot pink scoop design.

The best place to go to get your hands on this hot swimwear is Old Navy. The store is offering the best of the swimwear at bargain prices: \$9.50 per piece. Two designs in particular that are sure to be hits on the beach are the floral tankini tops and the contrast-trim tankinis. Matching scoop bottoms are also sold for both designs. Both designs come in different colors, depending on the store, and are cute. And for \$9.50 a piece, you can't go wrong. The closest branch to the University is located in Selden and Old Navy also sells its clothes online at www.oldnavy.com.

The new beach sensations are stylish and different, and are a good in between for those who do not want to wear bikinis that bare it all, but also do not want to wear the boring one-piece suit.

Another big plus is that they are more secure than the flimsy spaghetti straps on your bikini top. The tankini and halter tops are recommended for anyone who wants to hit the waves but not lose their top in the process.

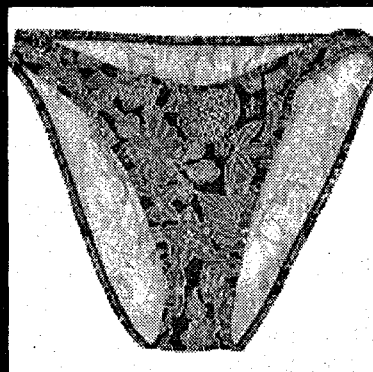


Courtesy of Delias Web-site

This halter top and shorts-like bottom, both \$26, are sold at Delias.



Courtesy of Old Navy Web-site



Old Navy sells tankinis, such as the red floral one above and the electric blue with hot pink and navy trim on right, for \$9.50 a piece.



Courtesy of Delias Web-site

This tankini, \$34, and scoop bottom, \$29, are the Skylar set also



Features

Graduating Art

USB Seniors Featured at University Art Gallery Show

By ERIN ROSENKING
Statesman Editor

Between the black and white photos, wooden sculptures, plaster constructions, colorful paintings and multimedia creations, the end of the spring semester set the University Art Gallery on fire with talent. From May 2 through May 17, the Gallery, located in the Staller Center for the Arts, housed the Senior Show which exhibited some of the best works of art done by the class of 2000, selected by members of the Art department's faculty.

The show attested to a four years well spent by each of the twenty one artists. Gallery director Rhonda Cooper called the exhibition beautiful.

In addition to its beauty, some of the pieces were created with a social conscience, particularly Krys Lipinski's mixed media work called Crimes Against Children. Done with bright colors and using scratchy, frantic lines and bordered with bright orange frames, Lipinski's selected crimes including Abortion, Vaccination, Corporate Promise, Advertisements, and Female and Male Circumcision. The more notable crimes included Bottle Feeding which showed a woman cradling a baby sucking on a bottle in one arm while her other arm coiled around the neck of a grotesque looking man who eyed her breasts as though he were the hungry baby. Junk Food, a crime too many Americans are guilty of, showed an overweight mother and her chubby son in a supermarket. The little boy grinned widely as his mother bent down to hand him a unidentifiable but edible black blob.

A bit of the rainforest appeared in the exhibit with Andrea Montalvo's Amazon Parrots. Done with water color pencils, four different parrots

were framed and illuminated by a light set behind each frame. From each of the frames, a vine-like creation hung down and met at the outlet where it was plugged in. Visitors to the Research and Creative Activities office in the library saw Parrots decorating their wall most of the semester.

Continuing with the idea of the hot tropics was Sun Series by Allyson Scelfo. This series, done in ceramic fired in a low reduction, had a melting sun covered with an opalesque sheen, on a platform. On the wall above was a mosaic of another sun which appeared broken into large pieces. With its blue and tan colors, the mosaic looked as though they could have adorned the walls of a Roman bath.

The memory of the viewer was tested in the Senior Show. Michelle Nigro's lithograph Cleopatra showed an image of a half woman, half chicken as part of a circus show. If the image looks familiar, it is the fate that greets the beautiful acrobat at the end of the 1920's cult movie "Freaks." Besides movies, memories of childhood were invoked with the black and white photos by Catherine Hui, called That Lot in Your Neighborhood. The first photograph showed an old barrel half buried at a haphazard angle surrounded by random twigs and shadows. The second showed a wheelless burned out shell of what used to be a car. Looking from the first picture to the next, the viewer is reminded of that very lot in their neighborhood where young children played hide and seek in elementary school and then hung out with beer as teens.

But there was one piece that demanded attention no matter where in the gallery you stood. The faint sound of Latin music echoed throughout the gallery and upon closer inspection it was clear that the



Statesman/Erin Rosenking

"My Little Colombia" featured a Latin music and a strobe light and a Colombian newspaper.

thumping beat came from Kevin Garcia's My Little Colombia. Made of wood, ceramic tiles, and both house and oil paint, Garcia's show stealer showed the many sides of his country. Looking like a little house on one side, a note invited the viewer to open a door which allowed small rays of a strobe light to peek through. When the door was opened, the music and the strobe light were fully exposed. Inside was a little chair and table with the Colombian newspaper El Colombiano on it with a headline that read "Drama en luvia." Red paint splattered the inside walls, perhaps an allusion to the violence that plagues the country. Back on the outside, the piece took the identity of a number of aspects of the artist's Colombia. It looked like a church from one angle with a cross on

top, a bus from another with burlap sacks tossed on top and with the nose of the bus poking out. It was a cantina from yet another angle, advertising Colombian cerveza, hard liquor and candy. With its wooden palm leaves, African and Indian imagery and mock aluminum roof, the feel of Colombia was captured. According to Cooper, the piece, which is of a substantial size, is currently homeless but the search for a home on campus is on, with the possibility that it will end up in the Hispanic Languages department.

Cooper called the show a great success and she applauded the artists, saying that the quality of the work was especially high this year. "It made all of us in the Art department proud," she said. "We were sorry to see it end!"