

Stony Brook

en

ACCIÓN

March 1, 1995

The Latino Student Feature Magazine of USB

Vol. III, No. 3

**Separating fact
from fiction
Is dismantling
financial aid/EOP an
attack on minorities
or the poor (or both)?**

**S.H.E.'s opening
doors for Latinos**

**Society of Hispanic
Engineers prepares
Latinos to enter the
workforce**

**A misguided
Congress takes
control**

**Removing representation
and immigrant bashing is
already the legacy of the
104th Congress.**



Students protest on Stony Brook and again at Albany against Gov. Pataki's proposed cuts. Students make an attempt to appeal to the state legislature.

Higher ed. vs. budget cuts

**Which is more important to the
future prosperity of New York.
Students debate with state
officials at Albany.**

Editor's Note

Welcome back everyone! Even if the semester is already a month old it feels like it started yesterday. And although its good to be back, the vacation could have been a little longer.

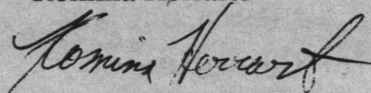
Unfortunately, some of us have come back uncertain as to our future because of Gov. Pataki's proposed budget cuts. It seems that the suggested cuts are being geared so that only a select few can get an education. He wants to go back in time to when it was thought education was a privilege, not a right. Considering the groups that will be affected by the budget, it appears that Gov. Pataki wants to make it harder for minorities and the lower class to get an education.

One of the programs scheduled to be cut is EOP (Educational Opportunity Program). It is incredulous that individuals on this campus would support this move because they feel the students in the program are "academically lacking" and "otherwise could not get into a quality university, at the expense of good students who need the aid equally or more." Who is to judge whether someone deserves financial aid or not.

Furthermore, it has been my experience that the students in EOP take advantage of the opportunity given to them. There are several students currently on EOP who are excelling in their academic careers while working and being involved in the campus community. Two examples of such students are Charlie Gomez Castro and Norvis Huezo. They both have GPA's that would put other students who are not in the EOP program to shame. Both Charlie and Norvis, are active members of the Stony Brook community and have received many academic awards acknowledging their achievements. They both concede that if it weren't for EOP, they would not have had the opportunity to go to college. Gov. Pataki's plans for SUNY and financial aid in general would eliminate this opportunity for future generations.

The rally held on February 8th is a ray of hope for those of us who want to continue our studies. It shows that we are willing to fight for our right to an education without losing our souls in the process. Something must be done to make the politicians listen to us. They tend to forget that we make up a large percentage of the voting population AND pay taxes. (I for one, have been filling out tax forms for at least five years.) Not only do we pay taxes but also tuition. Where our tuition money goes is a mystery because every year classes get harder to get into because there are less sections available. Its a case of the incredible shrinking classes. And although there has been a return of our tuition money in the constuction of a new student union, it is also at risk of not being completed because of the budget cuts.

Romina Herrarte



Editor-in-Chief, '94-'95

Stony Brook en ACCIÓN

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The staff of Stony Brook en ACCIÓN can be contacted in the Stony Brook Student Union, rm 246.

Stony Brook

en ACCIÓN

Features/Artículos

Cover story

Higher ed. vs 5 budget cuts.

Students' protest on February 8th in Stony Brook (right) and again in Albany a message to Gov. Pataki: no more cuts to education. But is he and the rest of the state legislature even listening?



Cover photo: R Herrarte. Inside photo: K. Jaimes

Hard(er) times ahead for students ... 6

Financial aid programs and EOP are likely to be axed from Pataki despite a growing need. EOP department prints out fact sheet after some students denounce its function and role.

S.H.E.'s facing challenges 5 and creating opportunities

Society of Hispanic Engineers introduces Latinos to the job market and helps them to stay in school through its programming and participation in internships and scholarship programs.

Contract on Hispanic America 7

The 104th Congress targets the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and immigrants from Latin America and Asia as part of its "Contract with America" campaign. What does this mean for the future of Hispanic representation in this country?

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5	Top 100 companies providing opportunities for Hispanics
12	The Onda Nueva Music Review

Letters / Opinions

The Colombians are Coming...

What must Stony Brook students do when they need a few bucks? Well, the obvious of course; get a job! If a job on campus is not an option the next stop is the mall.

Well that is exactly what I did. I must have gone to five different stores before I arrived at store "X". I would rather not name the store for my purpose of making people aware that these are not isolated incidents. When I walked into the store I approached the counter and asked for an application. The girl taking the application was very kind and friendly. To my surprise she set up an interview for Monday January 30th. Her pleasant manner and conversation made it seem that she really liked me. Monday came and I was ready to go, since I had a lot of experience for the job I felt very confident.

When I arrived I was accompanied by the girl who set up the interview along with the manager. While they went through basic questions concerning my experience in my previous job and my future plans, the girl took notes on how I responded. When asked what my future plans were, I mentioned that I was planning to go back to my native country, Colombia. I have never denied my place of birth and I thought it would be an appropriate answer to the question.

Throughout the interview I noticed that they were pleased and impressed by my responses. After

the interview the girl began telling me about the store, its policies, and their "sister stores". Then they proceeded to tell me about the security policies. The girl asked me if I had ever heard of The Colombian..., well the name escapes me since I thought at that moment that it was some sort of security tactic. The name was not obvious so that I could have picked up its meaning. The girl informed me that from "the story" she heard, it was a group of people who might have been of Colombian descent. They walk in pairs or threes, enter the store and while one distracts the salesperson the others steal. She further commented that when they see someone suspicious, they call their "sister stores" and use the code "The Colombians are here!"

I was in shock and disbelief that a chain of such well known clothing stores could use such ignorant terminology to announce possible thieves in the store. Furthermore, she added that it was not that all Colombians were thieves but that it was a "code word" they used which all store employees were aware of. I asked them if they used the phrase in the store itself, and she responded that it was used only when there was a suspected shoplifter. I stated that it was very demeaning. Their jaws dropped open and said that it was not against Colombians alone, it was for anyone they suspected of shoplifting.

It is surprising to me how a business that is owned by a big corporation can use such degrading racist terms when people of all races shop in these places. Although she clarified that it was directed toward any suspicious person the phrase "the Colombians

are coming" sounds like a direct attack on minorities, especially Colombians. She then added that I should not think that it meant only Colombians but that it could be a white, little old lady. Since I had been in retail for so long she was surprised that I had not previously heard this phrase.

What does she think, that everyone is as ignorant as they are? It is unfair how they can label us yet take our hard earned money. Who knows, when we are shopping in these particular stores, they might be whispering "The Colombians are Coming". Even if they are saying this don't we work, earn money and most of all have MORALS!"

Elena Restripo

Vilifying Affirmative Action/EOP as an excuse to bash civil rights

How is it that the meaning of two simple words has changed from being a positive message for minorities to a weapon now used to denigrate us. There are those who use these words to tear down institutions and programs that generations before us gave up their very lives to give to us. And what do we do, we sit back and try to reap as much of the benefits as we can without regard to those that will follow in our footsteps.

Affirmative Action is a legal tool, despite what conservative dogma states. It is used not only to correct past and present discriminatory practices, but also as a means to prevent future ones

as well. Proponents for dismantling Affirmative Action programs have deceived the public when they state that such programs are no longer needed. Bigotry and racism is still very much a part of American culture and those who tell you otherwise have something to gain personally, whether it be in the political or economical arena.

Lawrence Miller, a resident of Wheatley Heights, in his letter to Newsday (Feb. 9) described Affirmative Action programs best when he states that, "Affirmative Action is about inclusion by many segments of our society, who have through no other reason than discrimination and bigotry been left out of the mainstream."

Mr. Resnick's attempt to link EOP with "Affirmative Action for the poor" further demonstrates the powerful hold that ignorance has over America. He goes on to state that EOP "legitimizes poverty as an excuse for not doing well in high school." Poverty is not the reason why so many do not succeed in high school, for many have risen from the depths of poverty to become successful. Rather, EOP and other similar programs address and seek solutions for the failings of society. A society that, for no other reason than a total disregard for the poor, have been denied a proper education.

America, unfortunately, has gone back in time by at least 40 years in regards to its views of minority inclusion and advancement. If that is the case, than let us also go back, to a time when we were aware of our situations and surroundings and protect what those before us fought hard to give us.

Fernando P. Tirado

If you would like to express your opinions or comments in En ACCIÓN, please address your correspondence to:

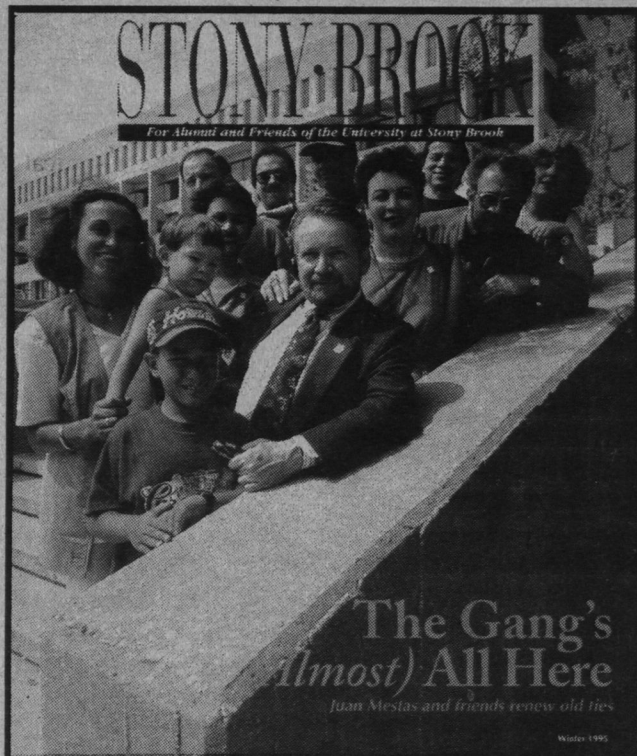
Letters, En ACCIÓN

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All letters must be typed and double-spaced, and must be accompanied with your name, address and phone number in order to verify identity and content. The staff of En ACCIÓN reserves the right to edit the content of all correspondence as necessary. Views expressed in the letters are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of En ACCIÓN, its editorial board or staff members.

ACCIÓN Briefs

Stony Brook magazine features prominent Hispanic alumni



Stony Brook's Alumni Association magazine featured in its latest issue, Dr. Juan E. Mestas and other Hispanic alumni of Stony Brook from the 70's. They came back to their alma mater in August to renew old ties and to strengthen the bonds of friendship that began more than 20 years ago. The now lawyers, professors, artists, and administrators bonded once again with each other and the experiences they once shared as graduates and undergraduates. In their own words, they attributed their continued friendship to the one cause that brought them together 20 years ago, cultural unity.

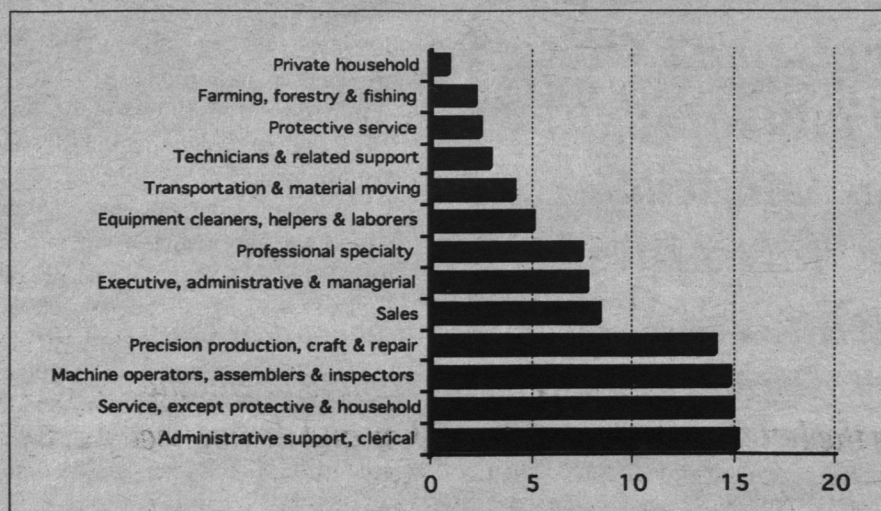
Dr. Mestas, who is Deputy chief of the National Endowment for the Humanities, earned his B.A. in Hispanic studies and linguistics from the Universidad de Puerto Rico. He received an invitation from Stony Brook to participate in the new graduate program in Hispanic Languages and Literature, where he earned his master's in 1974 and his doctorate in 1985.

To obtain a copy of the magazine, please contact the office of Public Relations and Creative services at 632-9116 or En ACCIÓN for more information.

By F. Tirado

¿Adonde trabajamos?

Detailed Listing of the Hispanic Civilian Labor Force*



*Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990 EEO File, N. Y. and Center for Health Policy & Management, Stony Brook..

Top 100 Companies Providing Opportunities for Hispanics

The January issue of HISPANIC magazine has once again published the top U.S. businesses providing the best opportunities for Hispanics. This annual report judges companies on a set of criteria to determine how receptive they are to the Hispanic market. They include the following: recruitment and hiring practices; educational opportunities; minority vendor programs; and support for Hispanic organizations.

"Many of these corporations," according to HISPANIC magazine, "have made it a top priority to reach out to the Hispanic community, whose efforts have gained momentum over the years."

AT&T's 25 year old minority supplier program, Ford's Salute to Education program and Philip Morris' support of Hispanic organizations have brought about many positive changes in the lives of Hispanics across the country.

"It makes sense to support your customers... [t]he point of corporate responsibility is that a company which derives profit from a community should strive to give something back." The Hispanic population's rapid growth will soon make them the nation's largest minority group, a group that currently wields more

than \$200 billion dollars in purchasing power. There will be few companies that will be able to compete without adapting to the Hispanic presence.

The research team that compiled the database reported that the same companies are featured year after year for their continued support. They are also aware that many other companies do NOT appear year after year because of their lack of support. HISPANIC magazine stated that it would be unfair to say these companies haven't tried, but that it is important for them to reach out and acknowledge the Hispanic market.

What does this report mean to the Hispanic community, especially at Stony Brook and other colleges? "It is a valuable tool for prospective employees, community organizations, small businesses and others trying to reach corporate America."

HISPANIC magazine published, along with their names, the addresses and telephone numbers of these companies for those interested in knowing more about them. They also gave brief statements about the companies, their contributions to the Hispanic community and a few of the Hispanic success stories in their corporations.



To review this issue of HISPANIC magazine, please contact directly at 1-800-251-2688 for subscription info or contact the editor of En ACCIÓN for details.

Campus Spotlight

Norvis Huezo, proof the program works when you put the effort

With all the recent uproar about the budget cuts and the elimination of EOP, it is appropriate to spotlight an EOP student. Norvis Huezo is a 21 year old senior with a double major in English and Political Science. He is a dedicated student who can usually be found in the library or on his way to class.

The youngest of three brothers, Norvis was raised in a close knit family in Conception-Batres, El Salvador. For four years of his childhood he was exposed to the fighting of a civil war. At times he would be outside playing when gunfire would erupt. Once, he recalls, a helicopter came and started firing for no apparent reason. The skirmishes would sometimes be right outside his home and last for hours at a time. In 1983 the economic conditions, precipitated by the war, made it necessary for his family to move to the United States, specifically Great Neck, NY.

With only seven minority students in a class of 206, Norvis found it difficult to adjust in Great Neck North High School. The only extracurricular activities he was involved in were soccer and lacrosse. And although his grades were good they were not impressive. He was able to come to Stony Brook through the Educational

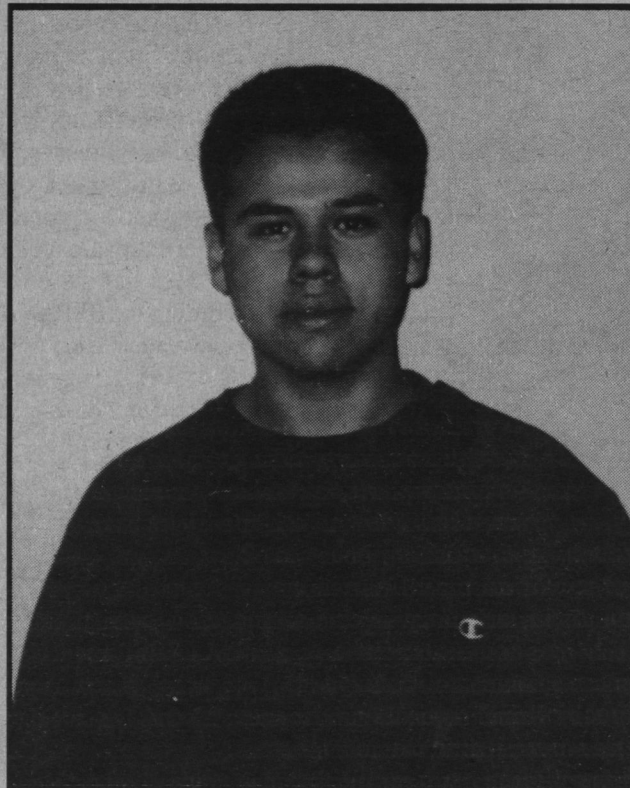


Photo: R. Herrarte

waiting to hear from the admissions boards of Buffalo, Fordham, Boston College, and Tulane. With his strive to succeed, impressive academic and achievement records, and a G.P.A. of 3.4 he should have little difficulty being accepted by one of his chosen schools.

Opportunity Program (EOP) and now has an academic record that reflects his work and effort.

As a member of several honor societies including the Golden Key National Honor Society and Sigma Beta Honor Society, Norvis is representative of how EOP helps students who would otherwise not be able to go to college. He feels that the program has helped him excel and its demise would be tragic to say the least.

As an active member of the Stony Brook community he participates in several organizations such as Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Fraternity, Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, and is a student ambassador. He has been awarded with the *Undergraduate Award of Excellence for Student Leadership and Community Service*, as well as been the recipient of four Dean's List Certificates.

Norvis feels minorities are under represented in his chosen field of law. He plans to be a Public Service attorney specializing in immigration. And feels an obligation to pursue this field to help his fellow people. He is currently learning a facet of his trade working part-time as a law clerk for a Great Neck based law firm.

With graduation on the horizon, Norvis has been busy applying to law schools. He is currently

By Romina Herrarte

Hard(er) times ahead for students

EOP and other financial aid programs likely to get axed despite need.

By Kyria Jaimes

It is now a well known fact that many people in the SUNY system will suffer from Pataki's proposed tax cuts. It can also be said that if and when these cuts do go through, the future of our children will be uncertain.

In light of New York State's present economic status, it is unfortunate that our newly elected governor chooses to detract from our educational funds. New York State may obviously need to do some revamping of its budget, but when looking at the big picture, Pataki overlooks the sum of its parts. Along with the raising of tuition to \$1800 and the reduction in the Tuition Assistance Program, there is also the elimination of the Educational Opportunity Program/AIM and other similar programs.

What Pataki may not be taking into consideration is that EOP has and continues to make great contributions. It is not only financial aid

Since its establishment in 1968, EOP has fulfilled New York State's commitment in offering and providing access to economically disadvantaged

them to pursue higher education. At the present moment, due to increasing hardships faced by many low-income families the number of applicants to EOP is increasing. Applicants throughout the state for the 1995-96 school year are up 40% over 1993-94, while regular SUNY applications only increased 14%. The applications for 1995-96 consist of 2,229 European-American, 2,208 African American, 1,679 Latino-American, 1,113 Asian-American, and 40 Native American applicants. Currently enrolled in SUNY are nearly 14,000 EOP students with an estimated 4,500 to be accepted in 1995.

With Stony Brook's EOP typically enrolling 600-650 students annually, an average of 180 new EOP students are admitted each year. The graduation

"...even though some EOP students do not pull through, there is still a significant percentage that have proven their potential."

but an institutional aid program successfully turning out graduates who have and continue to give back to New York State.

students. These are also the ones who have the potential to succeed in college, but whose academic preparation in high school has not fully prepared

EOP continued on pg. 9

S.H.E's Facing Challenges, Creating Opportunities

By Rolando Glogowiec and Luis Zarate

The Society of Hispanic Engineers (SHE) is an organization comprised of diverse students pursuing a career in engineering and sciences who share a commitment to return to our communities the support we were provided. In particular, SHE strives to support our academic and growth, the development of social responsibilities, and the long-term achievements of Hispanic self-determination and self-actualization.

At Stony Brook, the Society of Hispanic Engineers consists of twenty-five members including the executive board:

Pres.	Vicente Suares
V.Pres.	Jose Grullon, Jr
Tres.	Anita Rostrusi
Sec.	Rosa Genao

One of our aims is to help each other, both academically and socially.

We are connected in a system of networking, where useful information concerning internships, scholarships and important news letters are received on a weekly basis.

Our society is committed to increasing the number of Hispanic engineering students on campus, and most importantly, to help them stay in school through personal guidance and support. A file of previous exams has been developed as well as the availability of tutors for lower level engineering courses to aid students in their studies.

One of the most exciting and perhaps most productive benefits of being a member of SHE is that we can establish our futures by attending conferences. Stony Brook members have

attended several national and regional conferences including the latest, the Fifth Annual Eastern SHPE Conference held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in New York City. The cost

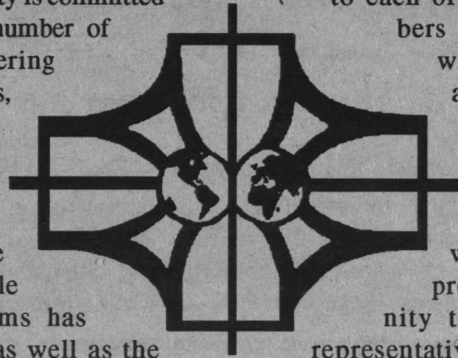
to each of the fifteen members from the chapter who attended was about \$50 for three days and two nights. These conferences offer educational workshops and provide the opportunity to meet company representatives. They also offer a career day where S.H.E. members seek internships or jobs which help us take a step ahead as we strive to reach our goals.

This semester we will be bringing speakers from well known companies such as AT&T, Stone & Webster, and successful alumni

chapter members. This offers us a valuable opportunity to make contacts with potential employers.

In order to help in the pursuit of our goals, SHE and SHPE also provides funds and scholarships to those members who qualify, such as The National Hispanic Scholarship Fund (NHSF), Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers Foundation, and the David Ferguson Award.

In summary, this semester offers our members the availability of many internship programs and scholarships which is a topic of discussion of every meeting. Another topic of discussion will be our participation in the Annual Roth Quad Regatta to be organized in cooperation with the Latin American Student Organization (LASO). Our next meeting is scheduled for March 1st in the Light Engineering building in room 102. Meetings are usually held every Wednesday from 12:40 to 2:00.



Stony Brook

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General body meetings
Mondays at 6:00 PM
Room 216, Student Union Bldg.

Stony Brook en **ACCIÓN** is looking for people with experience or interests in the following areas:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • Writing/Reporting | • Photography |
| • Proofreading | • Art design |
| • Layout design | • Editorial positions |

Educational and pre-professional opportunities available for those who are interested in a career in media/journalism.

Onda Nueva

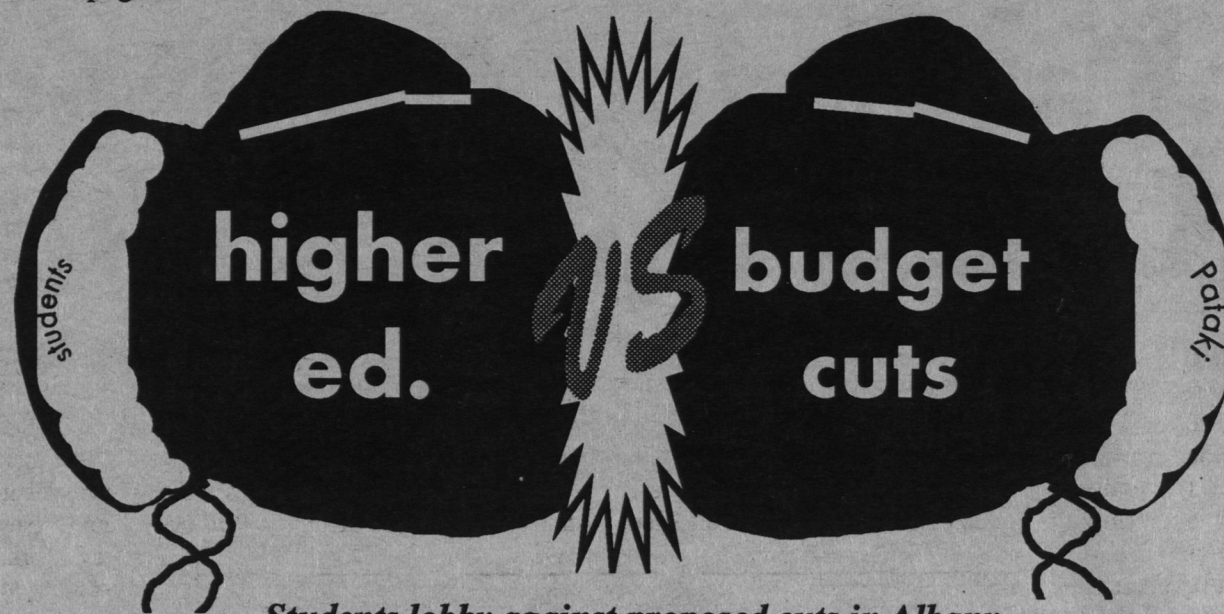
WUSB 90.1 FM

*Sizzling up
your Saturday
afternoon's with the
best in Latin Jazz and
Salsa!*

Saturday's from 3 - 5:30 PM

Don't miss the return of the
Onda Nueva All-Stars, Live!

For the 7th Annual Onda Nueva
Radio-thon on Saturday, March 11th.



Students lobby against proposed cuts in Albany

By Jennifer Rolnick

New York State Governor Pataki proposed his budget to the state assembly. In this budget he proposed many drastic cuts, one of which is a lump sum reduction of \$73.5 million to SUNY. He suggests the elimination of the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), a reduction of the maximum TAP award to \$3,575 which is 90% of tuition, the elimination of graduate TAP, and aid to part-time students. A proposed increase in tuition of \$1000 for all SUNY schools plus an additional \$800 for the four university centers at Albany, Binghamton, Buffalo, and Stony Brook, a cut in NYS tax dollars for SUNY of \$289,567,300,

Many students and administrators are unhappy with the proposed budget. In order to make the state senators and assemblymen aware of the students opinion of the state budget the Student Association of State Universities (SASU) had a lobby day in Albany on Monday, February 13th. Approximately 1,000 students from across the state went to speak to their representatives, including many from Stony Brook.

Polity sponsored three buses for students who wanted to go to Albany. The buses dropped the students off at the State Assembly where they were greeted by SASU representatives. Everyone was registered and then taken to a briefing. The briefing was to inform the students on which points to emphasize when speaking to the state senators and assemblymen.

The messages SASU wanted to get across: no tuition increase, increased funding for SUNY to restore budget cuts, increased funding for financial aid to the 1990-91 levels, and to maintain EOP and graduate TAP.

The students were divided into groups to meet with their representa-

tives. The groups received varied reactions from them. Many representatives were supportive of SASU while others, such as Senator Lack, were very hostile towards the students. He suggested

an increase in TAP or sliding scale tuition assistance.

Many representatives were unable to meet with the students and sent their aides in their place. Some of the aides

get. He feels that it is up to SUNY to decide how to deal with the cuts. That the Board of Trustees was given the power to run SUNY and it should be responsible for cutting back.

Mr Shaw believes that the Board of Trustees should provide the best services with the resources that are available to them. He suggests that schools should not have overlapping programs. For example, if one school has archeology as a major it should not be offered at other schools. When asked about financial aid and EOP, Mr. Shaw stated that the senator has in the past supported enhancements in TAP and helped establish the Step and C-Step programs. However, he was unsure of his current position and the senator would have to look at the resources available before commenting.

Stony Brook Assemblyman Steve Englebright, a SUNY graduate, supports the students completely. He stated, "I will not support this budget if it assaults higher education." He suggests that the proposed budget seems to signal to New York State that the Governor doesn't care about the future generations. He feels that ultimately, the budget cuts affecting Stony Brook University would have drastic effects on the local community, since Stony Brook is the largest single employer on Long Island. Assemblyman Englebright also said, "(one) can't cut SUNY's budget as a way to revitalize New York...you can't simultaneously reinvest and de-invest in New York".

SASU considered their lobby day as very successful. More students came than expected and the representatives were shown that students care what happens to the SUNY budget.

If you are interested in continuing to rally against the SUNY cuts, SASU is planning a rally for March 27th. Contact the SASU representative, in the Polity suite on the second floor -

of the union for information.



Top: Assemblyman Steven Englebright conversing with Student Polity President Crystal Plati and other students in regards to Pataki's proposed cuts. Bottom: SASU briefing of student representatives prior to meeting officials in the state capital in Albany. Photos by J. Rolnick.



that it is naive to assume the SUNY budget will not be cut. Senator Lack, "supports the mission and goals of SUNY" and "the Governor's cuts seem extraordinarily harsh". However, he also stated that he was, "not opposed to an increase." and believes that the SUNY tuition is too low. He proposed

did not know the position that the representatives held on the SUNY issues. One aide, Bob Shaw, spoke with students on behalf of Senator Kenneth LaValle, the Chair of the Higher Education Committee. Mr. Shaw said that Governor Pataki was living up to his campaign promises of cutting the bud-

Pataki fails higher education

NYS's greatest resource threatened by budget cuts

By Vanessa Nufiez

Since the beginning of the semester every Stony Brook student must somehow have been informed of Governor Pataki's proposed budget cuts, either through the media, active polity members speaking out or fellow Stony Brook students. No matter how students have heard about it, the same thing keeps being said. Next year Stony Brook tuition will increase by \$1800 if Pataki's current proposed plan is approved.

According to Jeremy A. Hoffman, the Field Director for the Student Association of the State University of New York (SASU), the actual cut in state spending towards SUNY's would only increase tuition by a \$1000, but for University centers like Stony Brook, the decrease in funding is so big that the Universities have to add another \$800 to that \$1000 universal increase to break even in the 1995-1996 academic year. This \$1800 increase is just the tip of the iceberg for Pataki. There are other important facts about Pataki's plan that students may not be aware of.

First of all Pataki's budget cut comes out to a 31.5% reduction in the present SUNY Operating Budget. Also those students who receive TAP (Tuition Assistance Program) funding will see a huge decrease in their financial award for the 1995-96 academic year. Right now the maximum TAP award that a Stony Brook undergraduate can receive is \$2600 for the year. The maximum amount of TAP that can be awarded, comes out to be 100% of a

schools tuition for the year (if a student is eligible to receive full TAP). If Pataki's plan goes into effect, those students receiving a full TAP award, will only receive 90% towards their tuition costs instead of the full 100%. Unfortunately it does not end there. Graduate students will also be affected,

to succeed in college. Despite what many may assume, the EOP program is not a people of color program. Those who support the elimination of these programs have made it clear that they feel these programs are only designed for people of color which gives them more of a reason to defund it. Without

lives not to mention the laying off of many faculty and staff members.

All of these budget cuts will eventually add up to a big mistake orchestrated by Governor Pataki. In my opinion Pataki is not looking at the whole picture. Investment in the higher education system of New York is an investment in New York. The people these cuts are going to affect are current and future tax payers. As a politician one would think that the wheels in Pataki's head would be spinning to make students pleased that he's in office, either by leaving the SUNY Operating Budget alone or by adding funds to the existing budget. Nevertheless it would be in Pataki's best interest to support those pursuing a college degree, but through his actions Pataki has made it clear he's not too quick.

For those who want to continue on next year and the year after that or even for those who are graduating in May, please raise your voices and call Albany or better yet raise your pens and write a letter to our state representatives in Albany. If you're not sure how to go about this just call the main office of SASU at (518) 465-2406 and someone will be there to assist any student interested in stopping Pataki's plan. If a long distance phone call is not an option, a visit to the polity suite on the second floor of the union is just as affective. A polity representative is always available during regular business hours to assist anyone who might have questions or just want to make a change. Stony Brook students fight for your right to a decent education!

Investment in the higher education system of New York is an investment in New York. The people these cuts are going to affect are current and future tax payers.

because Pataki's budget calls for the complete elimination of TAP funding for Graduate students. This means for any graduating seniors who are planning to complete their Graduate degree by attending Stony Brook, or any other SUNY, better start looking for a high paying summer job. To make this picture clearer for those who are unable to grasp what this means, the difference between full TAP award and no TAP award is over \$11,000 per academic year for a Graduate student at Stony Brook.

Another program under viscous attack by Pataki is the Educational Opportunity Program also known as EOP/AIM. This program is designed to give those a chance whose high school academic records and SAT scores are not a fair and accurate representation of their ability

getting into too much detail there are many students in EOP who are not Latinos or African Americans. The truth is that the program is especially designed to assist those who show great financial need and/or lack the grades to get in under the regular admissions process. The truth of the matter is that EOP students have to prove themselves prior to their first semester at Stony Brook, by attending a rigorous six week summer program, where they have to show through their academic performance how serious they are in pursuing a college education.

These students don't have things handed to them they have to work just as hard as any other Stony Brook student and sometimes even harder. The elimination of this program will result in the destruction of many students

EOP continued from pg. 7

rate of EOP students has been consistent and ranges between 42-47%, while the University's graduation rate has ranged between 50-52%. This is an indication that EOP has been partly successful. Although EOP's graduation percentage is somewhat lower than that of the University, it shows that even though some EOP students do not pull through, there is still a significant percentage that have proven their potential. Within the last year, nine EOP students at Stony Brook were recognized as Outstanding Seniors by the State University of New York, while many other students have received recognition and honor by student organizations or departments with internships, assistantships, and scholarships.

While the prevailing misconception has been that EOP students are largely minorities, EOP's records show a significant amount of non-minority students in SUNY schools such as Brockport, Oswego, Plattsburgh, and other northern NYS schools. EOP's records further show that its first graduating student was in fact a white

female. EOP and other similar programs cater to mostly minority students because they come from neighborhoods that are lacking economically and educationally.

While accessing Long Island's own EOP students, there are 126 school districts with great disparities of income from one district to another. A vast majority of EOP students come from families of 4 or more making less than 25,000 a year. A Latino-American family usually falls into this description as the fastest growing minority group on Long Island.

When contemplating the future of these underprivileged kids, many will never have the chance at higher education. Although it may sound completely unfair to many, some will only conform and continue working hard to get where they want to be. Others, however, will not even be able to get by without these kinds of affirmative action opportunities. Some will perceive this as a deliberate set back for the underclass, while others just won't care. Maybe all of these reactions are justifiable but not everyone can afford to step back or look the other

way and ignore what is going on around them.

On February 15, 1995 the faculty of Stony Brook's EOP held an informal information session for the current EOP students on the program's impending future and their stake in its survival. The Stony Brook campus will take full participation in activities geared to make an impact on state legislatures and Governor Pataki.

Activities involve letter writing campaigns to state legislatures, petition drives, telethons, lobbying in Albany, campus rallies, EOP fact sheet distributions and other programs directly adopted by SBU's EOP staff to help reinstate EOP funding.

Relevant information has been provided by the Educational Opportunity Program fact sheet compiled by Dr. Howard J. Miller, Assistant Vice Provost/EOP Director. En ACCIÓN suggests to all Stony Brook students to inform themselves on EOP's importance to the campus and statewide. We invite anyone to join in the campaign to restore and claim what is rightfully ours...an education.

Contract On *Hispanic America*

104th Congress targets Hispanic Caucus and Immigrants

By Fernando P. Tirado

The right-wing shift in the United States has taken a turn for the worst for Hispanics, not only for immigrants but also for citizens of Hispanic descent.

Under the guise of reducing government bureaucracy, the 104th Congress announced that it would be defunding all of its "legislative service organizations" or caucuses. However, Congress chose to only defund those that it determined were not "in the best interest" for the nation, which included the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus.

Mostly controlled by democrats, the Republican majority wanted a way to "silence" voting blocks of minorities and women that oppose Republican-sponsored projects. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus and the Congressional Black Caucus received only taxpayers' funding and had occupied office space on Capitol Hill. Black Caucus chairman Kweisi Mfume, in a statement in TIME

magazine, called this move an act of "Congressional ethnic and philosophical cleansing."

Business allies that escaped being cut by the Republican-controlled Congress include the Albanian Issues Caucus, the Congressional Boating Caucus, the Congressional Soybean Caucus and the Congressional Footwear Caucus to name a few.

The Congressional Hispanic Caucus is the only Congressional initiative that has fought for improving the Hispanic community's condition by addressing issues affecting them, including but not limited to health and education. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus has also offered internships and fellowships through the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, a privately-funded organization.

Another major issue that the Congressional Hispanic Caucus addressed dealt with was immigration. In the past, the CHC has served as a watchdog over the INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service) in its treatment of aliens,

particularly from Latin America and Asia. It has also served to protect the rights of legal immigrants from Latin America.

Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehinen and Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, both Hispanic Republicans from Florida, did not sign the now (in)famous Contract with America because of its interpretation in regards to how it will handle the immigration situation, which is indirectly aimed at Hispanics and Asians. This is one of the few points in the contract that Republicans did not make public knowledge because they believed it would encounter stiff resistance.

A Washington source says that the way the Contract with America tackles the immigration situation goes further than California's Proposition 187 and enacts harsher restrictions against both legal and illegal immigrants.

While illegal immigrants will be denied almost all federal, state and local assistance, legal immigrants will also be denied many of the same services which could only improve their condition while

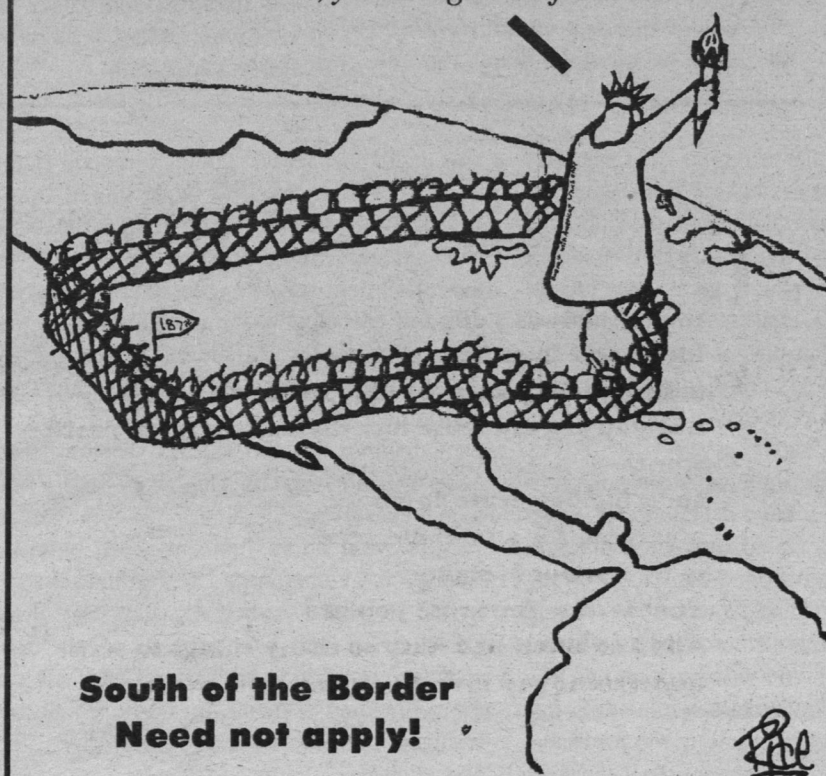
residing in the U.S. Social security, college loans and subsidized school lunches may be added to the list of services that legal immigrants will be ineligible for. Legal immigrants currently pay taxes, including social security and can serve in the military, but are ineligible for certain federal jobs and academic fellowships and are denied the right to vote.

Immigrant bashers in Congress and across the country have used legal immigrants as scapegoats by blaming them for the high consumption of welfare and social services. However, Doris Meissner, the Commissioner for the INS commented in Newsday that immigrants as a whole use government services at lower rates than U.S. citizens.

While the Congressional Hispanic Caucus may no longer exist, the members of the CHC Institute will continue to function as a cohesive unit in addressing Hispanic concerns. Prior to the diffusion of the CHC, Rep. Edward Pastor of the 2nd district of Phoenix, Arizona, was elected the chairman of CHC for 1995.

Punto de vista

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses, yearning to be free...



**South of the Border
Need not apply!**

**Cada dia se sumerge
en mi
oigo el latido de la multitud
todo es penumbra
la vision de nuestros dias juntos
y tu
Cada dia se sumerge
en mis manos
Que sera lo que respiro?
se oscurece
se olvida
mi presencia**

**Each day inmerses
in myself
I hear the heartbeat of the multitude
everything is penumbra
the vision of our days together
and you
Each day inmerses
in my hands
What is it that I breathe?
it darkens
it's forgotten
my presence**

por Eriberto Cruz
(Translated by Charlie Gomez Castro)

Poetry / Poesía

Courtesy of the Latin American Poetry Society (LAPS)

PESADILLA VIVIENTE por Arnaldo Landrau

Me desvelo.
Oigo el cantar del coqui.
El sueño se convierte en tinieblas
cuando pienso en ella.
Coqui, Coqui!
Trato de olvidarla, pero entra
en mis sueños como una gata
insaciable de amor.
Observo al coqui, cualquiera piensa
que tiene sentimientos.
Esta llena de hipocresía, escapa
de mis sueños al sentir el resplandor
del Sol que interrumpe mi nostalgia.
Coqui, Coqui, yo estoy aquí!

LIVING NIGHTMARE by Arnaldo Landrau (Translated by Charlie Gomez Castro)

I stay awake.
I hear the coqui's canticle.
The dream turns to shadows
when I think of her.
Coqui, Coqui!
I try to forget her but she enters
in my dreams like an insatiable
cat of love.
I observe the coqui,
one would think he would have feelings.
She is full of hypocrisy and escapes
from my dreams when she feels the blaze
of the Sun that interrupts my nostalgia.
Coqui, Coqui, here I am.

There is a part in the plate
where the spectrum of white, black and a dying grey
does not melt anymore
Lands with flags in heat tossed around by flesh, bone
and desire
Where a conscience grows weary and transparent
oscillating between the islands of race and memory
in a hemisphere that boils and evaporates
running from myself almost a god
escaping through the flames

Charlie Gomez Castro

Fuiste tu la que quisiste
hundirte en mi aire lleno de versos
con dolor de carne y de memoria
Dispuesta a ahogarte conmigo
por lo de la maldita lealtad
que crece como ese angustia
de pomulos hinchados
Y y sin querer
te enterraba poco a poco
en el rincón estrecho
de esos pensamientos impuros
que se enredan entre papeles y puntas de carbon
Te miro en medio de una lluvia de luces
que escampa
te abandona
Te ves sola
Eres estrella de exilio
buscando espacio que te acepte
Pero eres inmensa
como la sensibilidad de las piedras con grietas
que estornudan palomas desesperadas
buscando rumbo entero
que las pierda de vista
Así de inmensa eres
Y yotán pequeño y con tantas cosas que escribir
comprendeme amor mío, no tengo para morir.

Charlie Gomez Castro

It was you who wanted to sink
in my air full of verses
with pain of flesh and memory
willing to drown with me
because of the damned loyalty
that grows like that anguish
of swollen cheekbones
And I without intent
was burying you little by little
in the narrow nook
of those impure thoughts
that entangle themselves in between papers and coal
tips
I look at you amid a rain of lights
that abandons you
like a star in exile
begging for space to be accepted
But you are immense like the sensitivity of cracked
stones
sneezing desperate doves
searching for a total direction
to be lost out of sight
That is how immense you are
And I so small and with so many things to write
understand my love, I have no time to die.

Salsified !!!!!!!
WUSB FM 90.1

ONDA NUEVA

Saturday afternoons
from 3pm to 5:30 pm

music review

By "Felipito" Palacios

The Sonero is in Love

Gilberto Santa Rosa y "De cara al viento"

Gilberto Santa Rosa has for the longest time been on the cutting edge of the movement that merges the style of afro-cuban music referred to as, "Salsa Romántica", with the more conventional style that he was so closely associated with as the lead singer of the most powerful aggregation of the late seventies and early eighties, the Willie Rosario Orchestra. Gilberto, for all intents and purposes, virtually invented 'romantic soneo', an oxymoron worthy of editorial excision prior to de facto creation of the vocal sub-genre established by the release of the work *Perspectiva*.

Before the release of the seminal work *Perspectiva*, the romantic instinct as expressed in a Salsa tune was easily differentiated from a piece that had as its purpose rhythmic exposition and lyrical frivolity. After Gilberto's tenure with the Willie Rosario Orchestra, He recorded 4 albums with COMBO records in which he experimented with the burgeoning *Letra Romántica* tendency, utilizing it on various compositions to offset his natural proclivity for the irrepressible swing of most of what was considered conventional Salsa.

Gilbertito eventually signed with CBS which was absorbed by SONY and the beginnings of the symbiosis of the freneticism of Africanized soneo with the sultry, down tempo, rhythmically tepid char-

acter of what was then known as salsa erotica. The piece "Impaciencia" from the album *Punto de Vista* begins to show the possibilities of the merging of the forms, which is then virtually perfected in his newest work, *Perspectiva*, which is generally considered to be the definitive expression of the union of the forms. The songs "Conciencia" and "Vino Tinto" are excellent examples of the primacy of a vital soneo with the

compositions the sentimental entreaties of the smitten and the occasional painful realization of the fleeting nature of amorous interaction. From the opening strains of the piece "Te Propongo", a pretty Juan Luis Guerra composition that explores the simplicity of love through the metaphor of the sharing of a slice of pizza to the utterances of the vulnerable suitor conscious and accepting of the pain of the affairs of the

heart in "Me Duele Quererte", the effort traverses the breadth of feelings and sentiment possible in the myriad liaisons of the heart to which we often fall victim. Throughout the world there are a number of other excellent themes such as the deliciously pensive "Mal Herido" and the exciting, incendiary rendition of the composition by one of the few remaining authors ensconced in the Puerto Rican negritude movement, Roberto Anglero's "En La Palma De La Mano".

Gilberto's attention to the possibilities inherent in the form and his willingness

to experiment by adding certain elements to his already successful mix establishes him as a leader in the continued development of the romantic sub genre. He is certainly among the most popular of the artists while simultaneously exuding depth, profundity and a certain cultural sophistication. He is the vanguard of the next wave of Soneros.



Left: Gilberto Santa Rosa's Latest hit "De cara al viento" by SONY Tropical Records, 1994.
Right: Felipito y Gilbertito at the Madison Square Garden Concert in November '93.



romantic themes (albeit bittersweet love) which would permeate the Salsa scene for Years to come.

Gilberto's most recent work, *De Cara Al Viento*, is another forward step in the continuing vitality of the "Salsa Romántica" form as well as a personal triumph in his long and storied musical career. The genteel sonero's usage of a robust string section renders the

The 7th Annual Onda Nueva Radio-thon...

presents **live**, the **Onda Nueva All-Stars**, with the most **DYNAMIC, exciting** salsa percussion session to be brought together in the '**Descarga**' format since the great **Barreto-Palmeri** sections of the late **80's**.

Catch it live on WUSB 90.1 FM on Saturday, March 11 from 3 pm to (well, until whenever it ends!). Many of the members of the Onda Nueva All-Stars hail from the NY area and are comprised of musicians from some of today's hottest salsa and latin jazz artists, including Ruben Blades, India, Eddie Palmeri and Ray Sepulveda's Orq. The WUSB Radio-thon is used to raise money by donations and pledged to help keep the radio station in operation.