

Stony Brook

en

ACCIÓN

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The Latino Student Feature Magazine of USB

Vol. III, No. 4

A legend in the making cut short
A look at the life of Selena Quintanilla and the music that still brings her fame

The origins of the "Young Lords", Part 1

One of the most public Hispanic movements that addressed Puerto Rican independence and Hispanic rights in the U.S.

When a slip is not a slip

NYS politicians continue to associate issues with race: what we CAN do about it.



No, this is not the entrance to the United Nations. Fuerza Latina of Albany hosted the Fifth Annual Northeastern Latino Collegiate Conference in early March. Above: The entrance to the student union at Albany.

"I rise-the progress of a people"

The Fifth Annual Northeastern Latino Collegiate Conference in Albany, hosted by Fuerza Latina draws many Hispanic students and faculty to discuss the future of Hispanics

Editor's Note

As we are approaching the end of Spring semester 1995, we begin to see signs of nature and pleasant weather. Most will agree that they cannot wait until they can fully enjoy some leisure time and for the semester to end. In the meantime, we will have to focus on the present, and sort out the new set of worries and tie any loose strings that will undoubtedly fall upon each of us.

No sooner are we over midterms, but turn around and have finals to think about. Shall I mention the added graduation anxieties for the seniors? Well, you'll be spared the details, but what we can definitely count on is inevitable change that will affect all of us; whether we continue as students here at Stony Brook or move on to the "real world".

The Stony Brook campus itself, is evolving before our eyes. All around us we are witnessing the alterations of the campus' appearance. Stony Brook will certainly be a nicer looking place, and just as academically competent, but will it continue to serve a richly diverse student body? No matter how many small battles some will be fooled into thinking they have won, there will always be wars to be fought in order to let them (Republicans) know that we (the students) are very much alive and ready to resoundingly claim our rights.

While we are fighting the big wars and barely noted for the small battles won, we should all remember that this all takes a cooperative effort from all sides. It can begin wherever we choose, but the best place to begin should be through writing. Just simply stating your own views on paper and sending it to any responsive paper is an effort to make an intent of voicing our thoughts. To start the ball rolling, what would be some views on EN ACCIÓN? Has it been a positive influence on the Latino students and all other students? What should be changed, and/or improved upon? In order for any organization or club to succeed its needs to know if they are reaching their intended audience.

In the past, we have received feedback that has been perceived as being positive, but our overall staying power has lagged mainly because we have lacked full participation from every source. EN ACCIÓN needs not only the continued collaboration of creative work from its valued contributors, but also the help of the notable Latin organizations on campus. It should go without saying that it would be a shame to see EN ACCIÓN's demise before it reached its full potential.

In this particular issue, articles will feature coverage on "La Fuerza Latina Conference," which has gradually achieved a greater turnout each year. EN ACCIÓN considers it an ideal model taking on a similar mission to be the voice of those who have somehow been overlooked or have not had the resources to express themselves fully.

This issue will also feature a special article on the recently departed singer, Selena, who would have turned twenty-four years of age two weeks after her murder. On a recent Howard Stern show, Stern made slanderous remarks on the tragic death of Selena. He achieved no less than to insult the Mexican-American community and the Latino community in general. Even after an outpour of protests and complaints, Stern made a public apology only after having major companies pulling their advertisements from his show. This has served to no avail in the state of Texas because a warrant for his arrest has been issued for disorderly conduct.

Looking ahead to the next semester, we ask ourselves how we can improve as individuals and probably come up with En Accion as an outlet of choice for creativity and growth for all students alike. If a view or opinion needed to be expressed it would be more than welcomed. We feel that our main goal is to serve the Stony Brook Latino/Hispanic community. En Accion came about because there was a need for our community to become informed as to the goings on in, around, and outside the campus.

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Managing Editor, '94 - '95

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The staff of Stony Brook en ACCIÓN can be contacted in the Stony Brook Student Union, rm 246 or at 632-3233.

Stony Brook

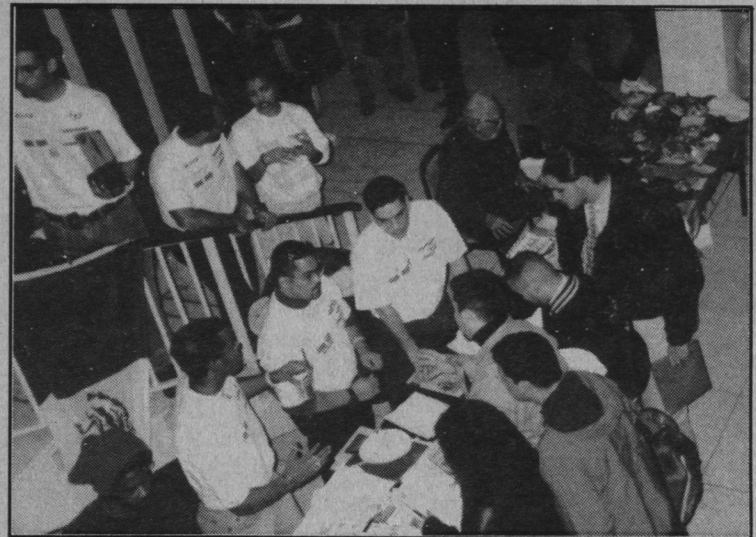
en ACCIÓN

Features/Artículos

Cover story

Moviendo adelante 4 y para arriba

“Moving forward and upward” at the fifth annual Fuerza Latino conference in Albany. Students and faculty from across N.Y. and the country converge upstate to ask and hopefully answer the many questions about the future of Hispanics in the United States.



One of the many information and merchant's tables present at the Fifth Annual Fuerza Latina Conference in Albany.

Cover and inside photo: E. Ramos

A legend in the making cut short 7

A look at the rise of a Latina superstar whose music continues to make a difference after her death. Also, the nationwide reaction by Hispanics of “shock jock” Howard Stern and his comments regarding Latino music and culture.

The “Young Lords” and its 8 origins: the beginning of the movement

Part one of a two part series. One of the earliest Hispanic movements in the U.S. that began to pave the way for Hispanics today as well as the first vocalization of the Puerto Rican independence movement in the U.S. A look at the history of the organization before media and political influences rewrote it.

When a slip is not a slip 8

State Senator Joseph Bruno links welfare with blacks and Hispanics in an interview with Newsday and later gives a half-hearted apology for his comments. By dragging race into the budget talks, politicians falsely link the problems of the state with minorities.

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¡Moviendo adelante

SUNY Albany hosts fifth annual Fuerza Latina

By Yahira Acosta and Erica Ramos

Fuerza Latina, the Latin American student organization of S.U.N.Y. at Albany, held its Fifth Annual Northeastern Collegiate Conference on March 3rd through the 5th of this year. The organization was founded to enhance cultural, political and social awareness amongst Latinos and their community. The theme for this year was "I Rise - The Progress of the People." The conference serves undergraduates, graduates, and community members through educational workshops, inspirational keynote speakers, training sessions, and social activities. Many of the Latino Greek organizations also participated in this year's event, including Lambda Upsilon Lambda, Omega Phi Beta, Phi Iota Alpha, Lambda Pi Chi and Sigma Iota Alpha.

The opening assembly was headed by Monica Lee Miranda, current president of Fuerza Latina. This was followed by guest speaker Celia Gonzalez, who is a professor of the Women's Studies Department at SUNY Albany. There were also several student roundtable discussions and workshops that tackled many different issues, all focusing on different aspects of the Latino community.

The highlight of the event were the impactful words of Dr. Samuel Betances, a professor of Sociology at Northeastern Illinois University. He chose to begin his speech by encouraging everyone to give each other a hug. "Abrazo" he would cheer, as everyone rose out of their seats, responding eagerly to his requests.

Betances advised students about the importance of education. Although he admitted he quit school when he was younger, he soon returned and excelled in his studies, eventually earning his Masters and Doctorate from Harvard University.

He went on to discuss how wonderful differences among all people are and encouraged us to embrace and appreciate these differences, not to shun or ridicule them.

The members of Fuerza Latina suggested that the workshop facilitators and guest speakers should not be

seen as role models, but as guides. We must use their experiences as a light and a source of inspiration to reach the higher levels in our lives for the future of our people.

The student roundtables and workshops were broken up into two sessions. These were led by Latino professionals who shared with students the experiences they faced when they were growing up, especially those from the inner city communities of New York. These professionals are graduates of colleges and universities and have reached a higher educational level like many of us are currently trying to attain.

The first workshop was the *Concrete Jungle - The struggle to escape urban chaos* by Juan Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez was born in Puerto Rico and raised in East Harlem and East NY. He graduated from Columbia University in New York City. He was one of the founders of the Young Lords Party in 1969 and the National Congress of Puerto Rican Rights. For the past seventeen years he has been a columnist for the Daily News.

The second workshop *Second Class Citizens - Increased population = increased influence*, was presented by Eddie Siverio. The son of two Dominican immigrants, Siverio was born in



Above: Students registering for many of the workshops at the Fifth Annual Northeastern Latino Collegiate Conference. Right: Keynote speakers Celia M. Gonzalez, adjunct professor of the Women's Studies Department at the University at Albany and Dr. Samuel Betances, professor of Sociology at Northeastern Illinois University.



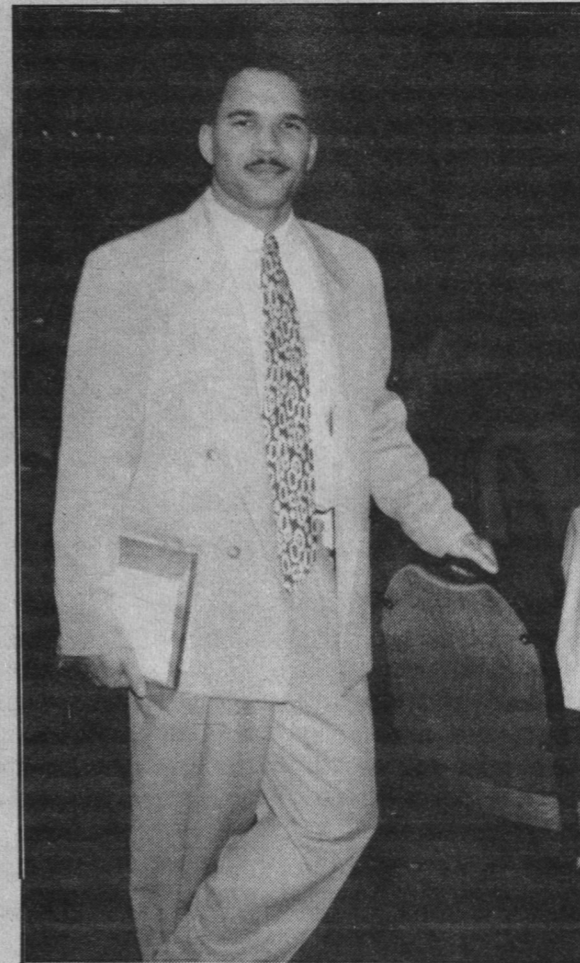
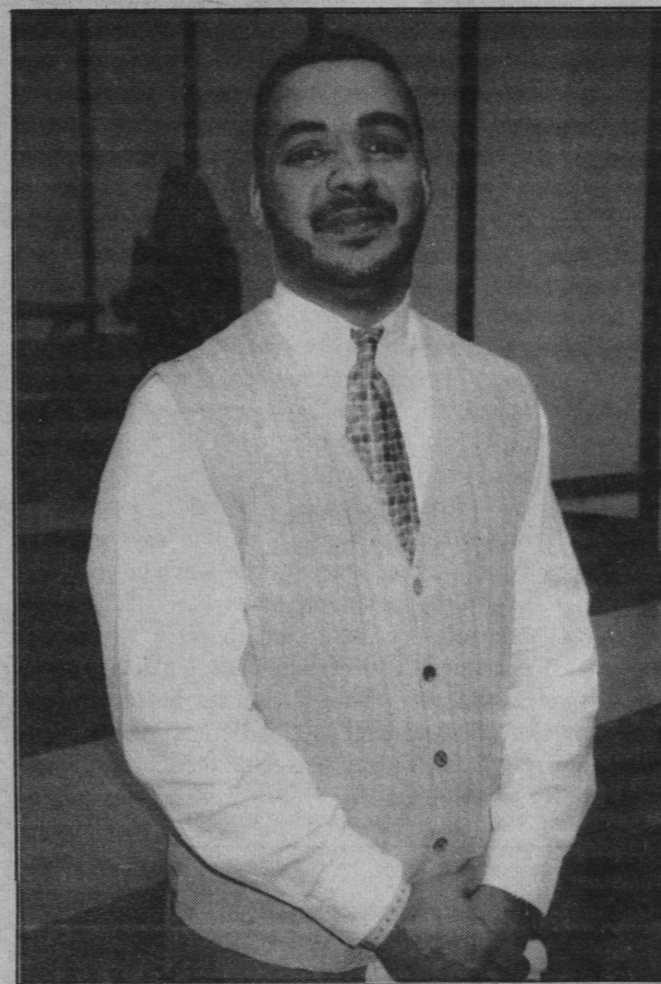
Harlem in 1969 and now is an employee of Alianza Dominicana, and has also organized the only Youth Conference in Washington Heights for the last five years.

The third workshop entitled *Ex-*

pand Your Horizons - Limitless career opportunities through education, was presented by Dr. Jeanette Altrriba. Dr. Altrriba is of Cuban parentage, and was raised in a bicultural and bilingual environment in Hialeah, Florida. Dr.

y para arriba!

Conference — "I Rise: The Progress of a People"



Top left: Sandino Sanchez, program co-director for Alianza Dominicana, one of four workshop facilitators at the NELCC.

Top right: Jose "Gato" Maymi, founder of Fuerza Latina and the NELCC, with an award presented to him for his service to the Latino community.

Left: Dinner Banquet held at the closing of the event where students and faculty had one of the many opportunities to meet with each other informally

Altrriba received her Ph.D. in Psychology at Vanderbilt University and is currently Assistant Professor of Psychology at the State University at Albany. She has written several articles on ethnic minority issues including bi-

lingualism and counseling, ethnic identity development, and Cuban Americans. Her workshop focused on the importance of educational planning and development for Hispanic Americans, an exploration of the opportunities and

limitations facing Hispanics in higher education.

The fourth workshop titled *United We Fall - Haiti, Cuba, Brazil? Isolated problems + US = deadly unity*, was presented by Joseph Cordero. Mr.

Cordero was raised in the Tremont section of the Bronx. He received his Bachelors of Arts and Masters of Arts from S.U.N.Y. Binghamton in Sociology and the Social Sciences. His leadership positions have included President of the National Pan Hellenic Council, Latin Representative of the Student Association for State Universities, Chairman of the Inter Greek Judicial Board and Alumni Advisor of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. He presently teaches at Alfred E. Smith High School in the Bronx and tutors in his spare time.

Last but not least, the workshop titled *Armageddon - The conflicts and resolutions between African-Americans and Latinos* presented by Sandino Sanchez. Mr. Sanchez who prefers to be called Sandino is the younger of two children, his sibling being a girl. His parents are immigrants of the Dominican Republic, and although he was born in the United States, he considers himself to be Dominican (not Hispanic - American).

Living in the South Bronx and coming from one of the few Dominican and Latino families living there, set an example for him at a very early age of how non-Spanish speaking people were going to treat him in the future. During his workshop he had stated that he can remember being discriminated against and abused because of his nationality and language at age eight. He currently works for Alianza Dominicana as the program co-director. He is also a service provider and is very involved in many grassroots efforts ranging from sitting in working communities to political involvement. His workshop began in one direction and then veered to another, but it was "All Good."

First he started out by defining Latino, Spanish speaking, European and African Heritage and then he went on to define "Black" as a person of African descent. He spoke on how organizations like, Fraternities and Sororities, Latin Kings, Familia, Nietas, Youth organizations, Zulu, D.P. are all going through the same thing for the same reason, UNITY - but just chose different ways of reaching that goal of UNITY.

Whether it be through violence, community service or any other means they deem necessary they all want to

Fuerza continued on page 6

Campus Spotlight

By Elena Restrepo

Charlie Gómez Castro can be considered one of the most outstanding students and successful undergraduates at Stony Brook University. He was born in Santurce, Puerto Rico in 1973. At fifteen years of age Charlie and his family came to the United States. He attended John Bowne High School in Queens where he participated in several intramural sports like volleyball and basketball. He was also a representative of his high school oratory where he competed with other high schools in a New York State contest and won. While in high school, Charlie also won various literary contests for poetry, theatre and essays.

Charlie feels that if it was not for AIM, he would not have been able to attend college. Having the opportunity to further succeed academically has encouraged him to give back to Stony Brook.

As a Spanish major, Charlie has become a successful poet with many awards to prove it. Among these well deserved awards are the Undergraduate Excellence Award in 1994 and 1995. He has also received the Creative Endeavour Award for poetry in the Spanish department in 1994, the URECA Research Award in 1994 for publishing the Brookspring Magazine, which comprises of poetry in different languages and has already published poetry in the United States and Canada.



Photo: E. Restrepo

Aside from these impressive accomplishments, Charlie is the founder of the Latin American Poet Society (LAPS), which he began in 1994. Although the organization no longer exists, the members continue to

write. Among his biggest influences are Elizabeth Monasterios and Pedro Lastro professors of the Spanish department here at Stony Brook.

With such a busy schedule, Charlie manages to keep a grade point average of 3.4 and is currently writing a book of poetry which he hopes will get published next year. As for his future plans, Charlie will be graduating in May and starting graduate school, here at Stony Brook for his Masters and Ph.D. in Latin American Literature.

His outstanding accomplishments have earned him a full scholarship here at Stony Brook and acceptances in other universities such as Columbia University. Charlie feels that "the future is a myth", but that he will always write no matter where he is or what he does. His poetry deals with the relationship of the poet with his poetry and poetry itself.

Attending college has given Charlie the opportunity to express himself in ways he would not have been able to if he was not given the opportunity; therefore he advises college hopefuls to work extra hard to get a worthwhile education. Also, because of the budget cuts, they should not depend on outside sources, but rely on their own effort. Furthermore, Charlie adds that there is always "room for improvement" therefore we must never give up!

Fuerza continued from page 5

promote UNITY. He talked about slang terms used by both ethnic groups to refer towards one another, some examples were how Dominicans called Blacks "Cocolo", it may sound derogatory but in all actuality this was a word used for Africans who became free and came to the Caribbean. Now, it is used in a derogatory way and only toward "dark skinned" Blacks. Back then it was used towards all African - Americans, whether they were a dark shade or light shade of brown.

Now, the African-Americans refer to Latinos as

"spiks" this word evolved from the only phrase that all Spanish speaking immigrants knew "No *espik* e ingles" (no speak English), or "Mira, Mira" usually associated with Puerto Ricans in the 60's and 70's, back then all Latino - American were thought of as being Puerto Ricans - go figure!

Then we discussed the similarities between African-Americans and Latinos: They were both colonized, robbed and stripped of their culture. The Spanish speaking Caribbean cultures do not know their native history due to the fact that the indigenous population was killed, unlike in South America. They are both a minority here

in the US and both share the "Fight".

Music, such as Salsa, and Merengue, has African origins. (drums). The youth culture of most of the Latino and African American population is located in the inner cities, and children born out of wed lock are an example.

Sandino Sanchez's message is quite clear, we must all come together and become united and the "only way to learn history by reading." "Latino is a race, we must have unity amongst ourselves then onto others. I love being Latino and will always defend and protect everything that is associated with it." And so should we because we are all Latinos.

"Latinos, whether you are from Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico, La Republica Dominicana, Puerto Rico, Honduras, Panama, or any Latino country; male female, **REMEMBER**, that whatever you accomplish today is not only an accomplishment for yourself, but a step forward for all **LATINOS!** Keep this in mind when you submit yourself to anything that endangers yourself or your culture. Because although light shines on our success, shadows form from our failures. Use the time that you have now to increase your knowledge and to decrease the hostility. Because it is no longer a question of us being held back by others, it is a question of us holding ourselves back. Now that we have the opportunity to enrich ourselves, use it to overcome our laziness, and ignorance. Rather than holding each other down, it is now time for us to bring all our brothers and sisters **UP!**

**** Continua luchando para siempre, y ten confianza en Dios**i**

FROM LA VOZ DE LA L.U.C.H.A.- Syracuse University, Nov/Jan 1994-5

A legend in the making cut short

A look at the life of slain Latina singer, Selena

By Erica D. Ramos

Her grace, beauty, and music captured the heart of many earning her the title of "Reina de la musica texana." Fans throughout the nation said their final good-byes to the Grammy winner Selena Quintanilla, who was shot to death last week by the ex-president of her fan club, Yolanda Zaldívar, in a Days Inn Hotel.

The news of Selena's death had a great impact on the Latin American population. All that admired and loved her music were pained and stunned by this sudden tragedy. She was taken from her friends, family, and fans at the age of 23, two weeks before her 24th birthday, before her life and career really began.

Selena was born on April 16, 1971, to a musically talented family. At the age of nine she formed a musical group with two of her siblings and her future husband. Soon her career flourished and in 1987, Selena was named *Texana Artist of the Year*. She later received other awards and recognition, and made appearances on shows such as *Sabado Gigante* and *El Show de Paul Rodriguez*.

An intense love for her culture was something Selena definitely made visible, not only in her performance, but in her personal life as well. Although admitting she did not speak Spanish very well due to the fact she was raised in Texas, mainly around En-

glish speaking people, Selena always tried her best to express the pride she felt of being Mexicana



Selena Quintanilla, the Tejana superstar who was gunned down by a crazed fan earlier this month.

and Latina. She vowed to perfect her native language, "el idioma de sus queridos padres y abuelos."

Those who had the pleasure of knowing her personally characterized Selena as a beautiful woman, both inside and out. She was considered to have a natural talent having the ability to entice an audience. Her sincere determination and well deserved successes, made Selena an idol to all.

She participated and contributed to a variety of projects that worked to-

wards the progress of Latino communities. Education was an issue Selena stressed to the fullest, feeling it was essential in achieving future goals.

A bright future is something Selena was definitely headed for. She had just won her first Grammy in 1994 for best Mexican American Album, *Selena en Vivo*. She was once again nominated this year for her most recent album *Amor Prohibido*, which sold over 400,000 copies in the United States. After her death her album sales increased a great deal.

Selena had just been contracted to appear in various radio and television commercials for Coca-Cola. An album in English was another project Selena was unable to complete. She was hoping to be recognized as the next cross-over artist following in the footsteps of Gloria

Estefan and Jon Secada. Due to be released this upcoming June, Selena had just four songs left to complete before finishing her new album.

Selena Quintanilla, "Reina de la musica texana", is one individual who will always be recognized and remembered for her talent, intelligence, beauty, and pride for her culture. The pain we feel from her loss is a mere reminder of the deep mark she has left in the hearts of many. May she rest in peace with God's blessings.

Howard Stern's remarks raise bad vibes for Hispanics in N.Y. & Texas

If the Lone Star State happens to be in Howard Stern's travel plans, he'd better come with counsel. And his home base is getting any friendlier, either.

A judge in south Texas has issued a warrant charging the "shock jock" with disorderly conduct for deriding the devo-



Howard Stern

tees of slain Tejano singing star Selena on his nationally syndicated radio show, which originates on WXRK-FM/92.3 in New York.

Meanwhile, the New York City Council, on April 12th, unanimously condemned Stern's ridicule of Selena and her music. Councilman Guillermo Linares said Latinos "are united against anyone who attacks our dignity and we will respond."

In Harlington Texas, Justice of the Peace Eloy Cano issued his warrant on April 7th on behalf of fans of Tejano music. The warrant means Stern could be arrested next time he sets foot in Texas. If convicted of disorderly conduct, he would face a fine of up to \$500.

Stern's agent, Don Buchwald, and WXRK general manager Tom Chiusano did not return calls for comment.

Excerpts borrowed from Newsday, Thursday, April 13th.

Stony Brook

en **ACCIÓN**

Will be holding nominations for all positions on next year's editorial board.

Monday, May 1st at 6 PM in Room 216 of the Student Union Bldg.

For more information, please contact Romina Herrarte, Editor-in-Chief at 632-3233

A message from the staff of En ACCIÓN...

As we come towards the end of the spring '95 semester, I look back at the accomplishments that ACCIÓN has made over the last three years. Evolving from the single column in BLACKWORLD newspaper to becoming a separate entity is a great accomplishment indeed. With the assistance of a few dedicated individuals, we continue to persist as the "outlet" in which the Latino community of Stony Brook can express itself.

However, that existence currently hangs precariously over the edge of extinction at the end of this semester, as many of the members of En ACCIÓN will be moving on. And despite our growing numbers, there is the possibility that this magazine will cease to exist.

ACCIÓN is more than just an organization, it is a voice, one that has expressed concerns, desires, emotions and ideas. The members of the Latino community, both students and faculty, must realize that without ACCIÓN, they will once again become mute and lost in silence as the world around them continues to change, for better or worse, for Latinos everywhere.

ACCIÓN implores you to get involved and make a difference. While we currently have one more issue to go, it would be a shame and a great loss to let die what many have fought for in the past, which we take for granted in the present, which will need to be redressed in the future.

The Origins of the Young Lords

Part I the Young Lords in Chicago

By Charlie Gómez Castro

In 1967 the Young Lords Organization, a Puerto Rican street gang that turned into a political movement, became the most important revolutionary organization of Puerto Rican youth in the United States. They started by negotiating peace pacts among most of Chicago's White and Latin gangs, convincing them to fight, not against each other, but against the system that was oppressing them. It was very obvious that the early affiliation with the Black Panthers was fundamental to their political development.

The Young Lords' main purpose was to fight against the social institutions in order to improve the welfare and the standard of living of Chicago's Puerto Rican communities. They managed to create day-care centers, breakfast programs and free health clinics, initiating the first attack on the health problems of the entire community. They became the worst enemy of Chicago's Urban Renewal and presented their own plans for poor people's housing.

In 1968 they occupied the Armitage Street Methodist Church, which later became the People's Church, to found their headquarters and begin a day-care program. For six months they had asked for

permission to use the basement as a day-care center and when 15 percent of the primarily middle-class membership left the congregation, the People's Church was transformed into a center for dialogue on the theology of liberation.

In the spring of 1969 they had led hundreds of their Puerto Rican brothers down the street to an empty lot which was

effort trying to portray the Young Lords as a bunch of vandals.

The health clinic offered free medical service to the community and it was run by the people it was designed to serve. This was the most successful way of reaching out to the people in need and helped erase their traditional gang image. Through this clinic they were able to

them to be played each morning at the breakfast program.

The Young Lords considered themselves revolutionary nationalist and maintained many ties with revolutionary leaders on the island. They were committed to the liberation of Puerto Rico and wanted the Americans to realize that the U.S. Government had its own resort colony just like the 19th century European empires. The Lords felt that for Puerto Ricans living in Chicago who were forced to come to the United States as a cheap laborer, the nationalistic feeling for their homeland gave them a sense of pride and identity. They were brought here because of the systematic destruction of the Puerto Rican economy.

It was only after Manuel Ramos, a member of the Young Lords Organization was shot to death by an off-duty Chicago cop, that they realize the war they had gotten into. Nevertheless, they decided to educate their people before thinking about guns. The Chicago Young Lords Organization inspired the formation of similar groups in Puerto Rican communities in other cities. The most significant of these was the New York City Young Lords, who later became the Young Lords Party.

The Young Lords were committed to the liberation of Puerto Rico and wanted the Americans to realize that the U.S. Government had its own resort colony, just like the 19th century European empires.

to be made into \$100 a membership private tennis courts and transformed it into a children's park.

The Young Lords Organization realized that their old image as a street gang helped them to identify with other people in the street but at the same time it produced some fear in the older people of the community. The media made a great

strengthen their bond with the community and stimulate some political awareness of how the social service institutions should work. Local shop owners and businessmen started to support the Young Lords programs and one record store owner, a supporter of the Puerto Rican Independence Movement, gave them records of the Puerto Rican national an-

Sen. Bruno's slip of the tongue not a slip at all

State Senator's comment needs a Hispanic response

By F. Tirado

Anyone who says that discrimination is nonexistent need to look no further than our state government to find that it is still very much alive. On April 6, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno (R-Brunswick) commented the following in a conversation about budget negotiations and Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver's (D-Manhattan) support base: "It's the blacks, the Hispanics, and I only say that because look at their numbers...ninety percent of those people support him...Why? Because they are the people that got their hands out. They are the ones fighting for welfare."

Despite the fact that the most recent U.S. Census reported that more than half of the families receiving public assistance in New York State are white, Sen. Bruno chose to drag the politics of race into the budget talks. Insisting that his comments were taken out of context, he issued an apology on April 8, stating,

"If people misconstrued my statement...that's unfortunate, and I would apologize to those people that feel offended, but I in no way apologize for the message that I was delivering."

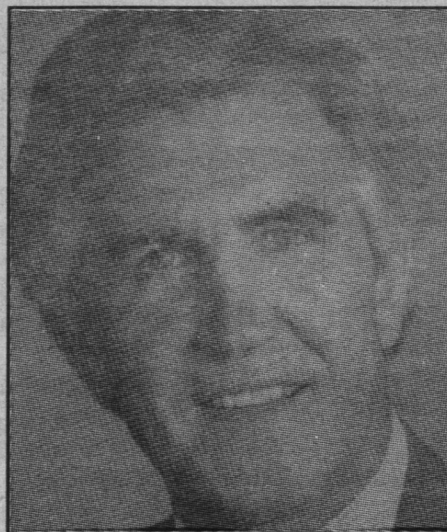
It is apparent from the way that Bruno's apology is stated that it is a desperate attempt to ward off attacks from the Legislature's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus and outside minority rights organizations. It was the deliverance of his message that has inflamed citizens of this state and what he should be apologetic for. Bruno has cat-

egorized welfare in racial terms, inferring that not only do blacks and Hispanics make up the majority of the welfare rolls (which they do not), but that the rest of us who are not on welfare support politicians that favor the current levels of public assistance.

This gross misrepresentation of minorities is an insult to those who have achieved success despite their humble beginnings as well as those who continue to strive for a better way of life, namely college students. The comments that spewed from the

mouth of Sen. Bruno are not his alone, but the voice of his constituents and those that feel the need to drop the (budget) ax on the poor. Sen. Bruno seeks to justify cutting public assistance programs by associating it with a segment of the population (minorities) so as to draw support from the white lower and middle classes.

Blacks and Hispanics have been used as scapegoats many times in the past as being the principle recipients of welfare and other public assistance programs. As demonstrated by Bruno's ignorance, blacks and Hispanics have a long way to go before this notion can be reversed from current state politics. If action is not taken against people like Sen. Bruno, than people like him will continue to disseminate lies that will further the growing callousness towards the poor as well as chip away at minority initiatives. These initiatives which have



N.Y. State Senator Joseph Bruno

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Bruno cont. from page 8

helped many blacks and Hispanics improve their economic condition and increase their representation in government.

There are a number of actions that we must take to breakdown the obstacles ahead of us and future generations, all which will require a huge effort from those who wish to succeed. The simplest of these is staying in school and graduating, which unfortunately, Hispanics have one of the lowest rates of completion. Oddly enough, one of the most effective actions we can take is the hardest to accomplish, getting minorities, especially Hispanics, to register and vote. There are many changes in policy in both the state and the country that will effect Hispanics greatly, including immigration, welfare reform, health services and education.

While it is hard to alter the national policies enacted, it is much easier to affect local and statewide politics, where we feel the greatest impact in any changes in government. In Puerto Rico and other Latin American nations, voter turnout for many local elections exceeds 85% of the voting age population. In New York State, only 40% of those eligible to vote actually did, and the percentage is even lower for local elections. By increasing the number of minorities registering to vote and encouraging them to participate in local elections, the more likely we will elect someone who can address all of our concerns instead of the right-wing radicals that we have in Albany today.

There are several programs in the works, statewide and on campus as well, to get blacks and Hispanics to register and explain the importance of voting. The efforts of these individuals and organizations will be fruitful only if we choose to listen and act. If we do, than we can prevent mistakes like the ones that enabled people such as Gov. Pataki and Sen. Bruno to be elected in the first place.

THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDENTS ORGANIZATION PRESENTS ITS ANNUAL...

Semi-formal

extravaganza

SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1995
IN THE STONY BROOK UNION BALLROOM

COMBO **6:00 PM to 9:00 PM Dinner & Awards Ceremony**
 TICKETS: **9:30 PM to 1:00 AM Dance & Live Band**

SINGLE **\$ 10 for Dinner & Dance for students and faculty**
 EVENT: **\$ 15 for off-campus guests**

\$ 8 for either event separately for all!

All tickets must be purchased in advance at the Stony Brook Box Office for more information, please call Orlando Rodriguez at 632-1725.

WITH A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY...

RAVELLA

LACS solicits community help.

Dear Editor:

Norma Porras, Director of the Latin American Caribbean Center is looking for students and faculty to help out for one day in the reconstruction of the "library" next to her office. There have been many generous contributions of Latin American and Caribbean books. These books need be labeled with the "Dewey Decimal" system and the room in which they are shelved, turned into a welcoming and academically pleasant environment. Students would be able to use this library by taking out and returning them according to the check out system.

If you can dedicate one or two hours of your time, or one full day, I know we can create another resource for students to use.

Please call Norma at 632-7517, or myself, at 632-2972. We can discuss a realistic schedule for creating a "mini" Latin American and Caribbean Center Library.

You will receive a letter of recognition for your effort and will most definitely receive a feeling that you did something good.

Sincerely,
 Charles Hennebeul

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

Letters, En ACCIÓN
 Stony Brook Union rm 246

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.

Poetry | Poesía

Courtesy of the Latin American Poetry Society (LAPS)

**QUIERO SER TU SOMBRA
SEGUIR TUS PASOS
PERDREME EN TU ALIENTO
CORAZON MIO
NO ME OYES
SIGO TUS PASOS
TE ME PIERDES
NO ME ENTIENDES
QUIERO SER TU SOMBRA.**

**I WANT TO BE YOUR SHADOW
TO FOLLOW YOUR STEPS
TO GET LOST IN YOUR SWEET BREATH
SWEET HEART OF MINE
YOU DON'T HERE ME
I LOSE YOU
YOU DO NOT UNDERSTAND
I WANT TO BE YOUR SHADOW.**

ERIBERTO CRUZ

**Afirmo que vivo en un mundo
con y sin limites,
es un mundo donde la vida es
arte; "Todo lo que el hombre
crea asi mismo lo destruye".**

**Expreso un arte individual
sonidos immaculados despiertan
subitas descargas de placeres sexuales;
es un concepto magico y natural.**

**El climax de una fantasia
desnudar ideas, la imaginacion es atre
una forma potencial
afirmo que vivo en un mundo con y sin limites.**

Eriberto Cruz

**I affirm that I live in a world
with and without limits,
it is a world where life is
art; "Man destroys
the same way he creates".**

**I express an individual art
immaculate sounds that awaken
the sudden unloading of sexual pleasures;
it is a natural and magical concept.**

**The climax of a fantasy
undressing ideas, the imagination is art
a potential form
I affirm that I live in a world with and without limits.**

Translated by Charlie Gomes Castro

*El mundo esta an las manos
y en la sombra de las manos.
Tambien esta en las unas
que rayan el aire
manchado de silencio.
Una mano
un verso
solo uno
soloun verso salva el cielo.*

*The world is in the hands
and in the shadow of the hands.
Also in the fingernails
that scratch the air
stained with silence.
One hand
one verse
only one
only one verse saves the heav-
ens.*

Charlie Gomez Castro

Que el Mundo se Quede Contigo

Que el mundo se quede contigo
no pienso sufrir si no me das ocasion
no hare cola con tus otras preferidas
una de tus lindas tontitaas sin cerebro
que se mueren corriendo detras de ti

Por favor no te imagines que estare
sentadita aqui hasta que tu decidas volver
dulce, inocente y sin ganas de rechazar
tu carino

The world can have you
I don't intend to suffer if you won't
Give me an opportunity
I will not stand in line with the others
that you prefer
One of your brainless, pretty, little fools
that are dying, running after you

Please don't imagine that I will be
Seated here until you decide to return
Sweet, innocent and unwilling to reject
Your affection

Josie Arasmo

*Solo cargando el cadaver
de los dias
sobre mis hombros
o
arrastrando del cabello
a la noche
sobre la tierra y el aire
es como unico puedo amar al mundo*

*Only carrying the cadaver
of the days
on my shoulders
or draggeling the night
by the hair
over the earth and the air
is the only way that I can love the world*

Charlie Gomez Castro

Mujeres del mundo: unios

*Arriba mujeres del mundo
la buena ninna
y la nina buena para el leseo
las hermanitas de los pobres y amiguitas de los ricos
la galla chora y la mosca muerta
la galla hueca y la medio pollo
la cabra lesa y la cabra chica metida a grande
canchera la cabra
y la que volvio al redil*

*la que se echa una calta al aire
la que cayo en cana o al litro
y la catda del catre
las penelopes mata harts y juanas de arco
la que tiene las hechas y las sospechas
las que se mete a monja
o en camisa de once varas*

*la mtna loca la mtna rica
pedazo de mina
la que notenga ni perro que le ladre
y la que "tenga un bacan que la acamale"*

Arriba mujeres del mundo

*la comadre que saca los choros del canasto
los pies del plato
y las castannas con la mano del gato
las damas de blanco azul y rojo
las de morado
las damas juanas y damiselas
todas las damas y las nunca tanto*

*la ltvtana de cascos y la pesada de sangre
la tonta que se paso de viva y la tonta morales
la que se hace la tonta si le conviene
la que no sabe nada de nada
y esa que se las sabe por libro.*

*Ca madre del ano arriba
madre hay una sola
y las que se salteron de madre.*

*Arriba mujeres del mundo:
la cabra que canta pidiendo llimosna
la que como le cantan baila
y la que no canto ni en la parrilla.*

Arriba todas las que tengan

*vela en este entierro
la que pasa la lista
y la que se pasa de lista
la aparecida y la desaparecida
la que se rie en la fila
y la que rie ultimo rie mejor:*

*la natasha la carmen la pia
la paz la anamaria la lila
la angelina y la cristina
la que anda revolviendo el gallinero
la que pasa pellejerias
y la que noarriesga el pellejo
la dejada por el tren
o por la mano de Dios.*

*Que se alcen las mujeres con valor
la pierdeteuna
y la que se las ha perdido todas
la percanta que se pasa para la
punta
la que nadie lleva ni de apunte
y esas que apuntan con los
fusiles.*

Teresa Calderon

Salsified !!!!!!!
WUSB FM 90.1

ONDA NUEVA

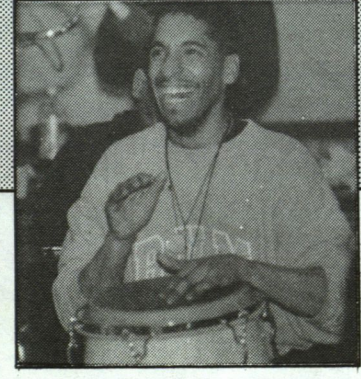
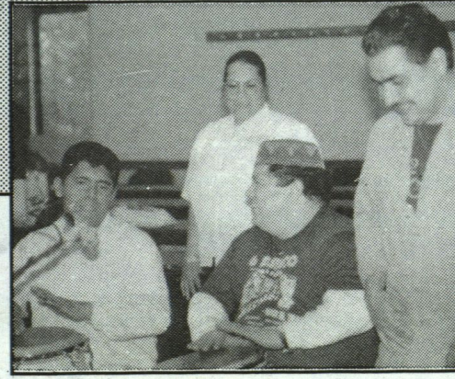
Saturday afternoons
from 3pm to 5:30 pm

music review

By "Felipito" Palacios

The Onda Nueva All-Stars

7th annual Radio-thon



While mostly everyone was away during the spring break, the Onda Nueva All-Stars were once again sizzling the air waves with its hottest production thus far. The WUSB Radio-thon generates money from donations to continue operating. Many of the band members play with many other Latino artists in the

music industry, including Ruben Blades and India. Along with the Onda Nueva All-Stars, Willie Amadeo, a well known salsa singer, made a guest appearance at this year's event. Many of the regulars of the "All-Stars" include Larry Belford "The Suburban Sonero", Ralph Irrizary, Angel Lebron, Alfredo Gonzalez, Ozzie

Cardona, Papo Pepin, Vitin Lopez and a hosts of others. As an additional fund-raiser, there is a plan in the works to sell copies of the show on audio cassette to raise more money for the radio station and other charities. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please call En ACCIÓN at 632-3233.