

H A P P E N I N G S

News for and about the University at Stony Brook

Vol 2 No.9 • February 7, 1996



Maxine Hicks photo

UP AND OVER: Groundsman, Raphael Ottenwalder (foreground), shovels snow from the steps of Tabler Quad after the Blizzard of '96 blocked roads, parking lots and walkways across campus.

NEW LESSONS FROM A BLIZZARD

Snow Lines Log Over 13,000 Calls

The Blizzard of '96 has come and gone, but the lessons learned from the extraordinary winter storm are bringing changes in the way the University copes with a snow emergency.

"Fortunately, the storm came during intersession when we had fewer people on campus. With fast falling and drifting snow and high winds, we

had a hard time keeping up with the storm. But we learned a few lessons from it," says Gary Matthews, interim vice president for Campus Services. "One lesson was that in a storm of such magnitude, ordinary cleanup procedures go out the window."

The University's response to the storm is

being explored by a special task force that was to meet last week to evaluate snow emergency procedures. Some system changes, particularly to the University's emergency weather information lines (632-SNOW and 444-SNOW), have already been put in place.

The Blizzard of '96 was the worst to hit the

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From the Provost

PERCEPTION

I had come reluctantly, not expecting to learn anything. **AND REALITY**

It was a twice-yearly gathering of campus and central system administrators. After two professor-bashing talks by a state politician and an administrator, the question and answer session finally came. I was itching to defend my colleagues. I knew many of them worked hard and long hours and cared greatly for the community of scholars and learners of which they were a part. I spoke about the unfairness of the perceptions of my profession and the narrowness of the politicians who sought to look tough by beating up on professors who had little chance of fighting back. I was watching the Chancellor, who I now recognize as a master politician and, perhaps, someone who does care about education. The color rose in his face as I finished my strong plea, and he was on his feet before I finished.

"Dean Richmond," he said, "Much of what you say is true, but what you fail to understand is that perception is reality. If you don't understand that, you will fail in your efforts to bring education to the students you profess to care about."

I was angry. My profession was being attacked and my Chancellor didn't understand the issue. I've since come to realize that the Chancellor understood it all too well.

One of the faculty perceptions at Stony Brook is that the students are not as good as they used to be. This perception and, thus, the reality it engenders has been gnawing at me. Is there any truth to the perception? If so, what should we do about it? I finally asked our Office of Institutional Studies to give me the data on the SAT scores of first-year students at Stony Brook. We have SAT data from 1974 forward, and they are plotted in the figure.

There can be little question that the average SAT scores of our students during the earlier years of Stony Brook were higher than they are now, but the predominant impression given by this data is that, at least since 1980, this has been little significant change in the quality of our students. There are many ways of interpreting this data, but the basic point is clear. However, the myth

that our students are just not up to the quality we offer them persists. Why?

Because there appears to be some truth in it. In the first few years of Stony Brook, we were perhaps more selective or the students self-selected themselves. However, the differences between students now and then are not so different, at least in their academic abilities. It is always easier to blame someone else for one's failures rather than to ask how can I change. It may be easier for professors to suppose that the quality of their teaching is high rather than to think creatively about how to be a better teacher, how to reach students whose cultural backgrounds and native languages may be different from our own. Even if the myth was the truth, would we want to act on it by blaming students for our frustrations in the classroom rather than finding ways of reaching the lives that intersect our own?

One of the most rewarding experiences of my career as a teacher came as a consequence of my frustration in dealing with a student who had been misadvised to take a course in genetics that I was teaching. The course was really meant for juniors and seniors; the student was a first-year and had none of the prerequisites. I encouraged the student to drop after the first exam because she clearly was flunking. But it was already past the drop-add date. (Why did I design an exam schedule such that the first exam was after the drop date?)



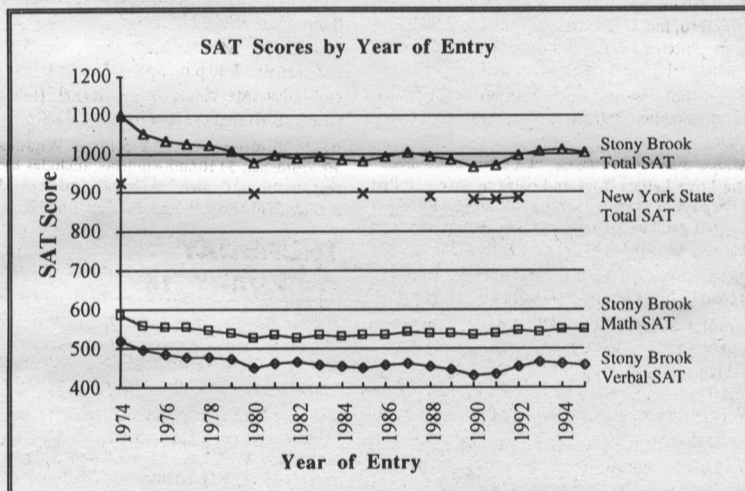
Rollin C. Richmond

We decided to struggle through that course together, my student and me. The student got a C, and I was prouder of her than of any of the other students who got better grades. This was about a dozen years ago and this student still writes and calls me. I wouldn't trade this experience for anything else that has happened to me as a teacher, but I would like to have a lot of my courses back so I could do a better job of reaching students with different kinds of abilities than mine.

I'm reading a wonderful and heartening book about primary and secondary education in America by Mike Rose called, *Possible Lives* (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1995). It has much to say about perceptions, realities and teachers' abilities to save academic lives through their teaching. Rose writes of the power of teachers' perceptions of the abilities of Mexican-American kids in the 1950s. He shows that those perceptions can be wonderfully wrong. I end with a quote from page 90 of Rose's book that should speak to us all about our power as teachers over the outcome of our students' academic lives.

If you believe so firmly in the potential of all your students, you have few ready explanations for their failure. The first line of scrutiny is oneself.

— ROLLIN C. RICHMOND



Presidential Grants for Undergraduate Teaching, Diversity

Think you have a better way to teach undergraduates? Aching to do more to diversify the campus?

Read on.

As part of President Shirley Strum Kenny's commitments to improving students' classroom experience and furthering diversity at Stony Brook, the President's Office has created two new Presidential Mini-Grant programs. Both programs focus on improving teaching and learning at the University by providing funding and recognition to those departments and individuals who undertake projects designed to advance this aspect of the University's mission. Up to \$4,000 will be awarded each semester to individuals and departments to

research, create or carry out innovative ideas. Non-state purpose funds will be used for the awards. Here's more information:

Innovative Teaching Projects. Designed to foster excellence in the classroom, the mini-grant can be used in a variety of ways, such as:

- exploring new ways of teaching undergraduates.
- translating teaching methods that have been successful in other disciplines.
- reconfiguring classroom, grading methods or technical manuals.

Departmental Diversity Initiatives. This award is designed as a catalyst for departmental projects fostering greater understanding of

diversity issues in specific academic fields. Applicants are encouraged to range as freely and as imaginatively as possible in choosing their focus. Sample projects might include faculty seminars on teaching methods, student/faculty forums or research into diversity activities of other institutions.

Faculty committees appointed by President Kenny will select the grant recipients. Deadline for applying for the mini-grants is Friday, March 22. The selection committees will meet in April with their selections announced in late spring. For an application and more information, call Priscilla Smith at 632-6272 in the President's Office.

NEWSMAKERS

Janice Coughlin, Director, Governmental Relations, has been elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of Governmental Affairs, National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges...Richard Kramer, Dean, Humanities and Fine Arts, has been presented with the Kinkeldey Award from the American Musicological Society for his book, *Distant Cycles: Schubert and the Conceiving of Song* published by the University of Chicago Press. The book has also received the 1995 Deems Taylor Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers...Leo DeBoges, Director, Environmental Health &

Safety, made presentations on "Emergency Management" and "Professional Safety Certifications" at the State University of New York's annual Environmental Health and Safety Association Conference held recently in Lake Placid...Several members of the Environmental Health & Safety Department are now carrying the rank of captain in area fire departments: Safety Training Specialist Jim Grimaldi is serving as captain, Setauket Fire Department's Engine Company 9. EH&S Director Leo DeBoges has advanced to captain of Setauket's Hook & Ladder Company 1 and fire marshal Chris Mehrman is wearing the captain's hat for Stony Brook's Engine

Company 1...A book by Christina Bethin, chair, Department of Germanic & Slavic languages, has won top honors for linguistics scholarship from the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and East European Languages. The Association said the way Bethin applied linguistic theory made her book, *Polish Syllables: The Role of Prosody in Phonology and Morphology*, accessible to both Slavists and general linguists...Ruth Brandwein, professor and former dean, School of Social Welfare, will be spending the next few months at the University of Utah School of Social Work where she will serve as a Belle Spafford Endowed Chair visiting professor. She will be in residence at the

school's Salt Lake City campus for the winter and spring quarters, through June 1996...Professor John Russell, Department of Germanic and Slavic Languages and Literature Department has been honored by a festschrift, *Thirty Years of Computer Assisted Language Instruction*, edited by Ruth Sanders, published simultaneously as Volume 3 of the Calico Monograph Series and as a special issue of the *CALICO Journal*. Russell, together with a colleague, Ferd Ruplin, began working with IBM in 1965 to develop computer-assisted instruction materials for German. Today, all major German language textbooks include a computer-assisted instruction component.

Many Pitch in to Thwart Mother Nature

continued from front page

area in 49 years. The storm — which began here the morning of Sunday, January 7, and didn't end until late Monday afternoon, January 8 — dumped more than two feet of snow on the metropolitan area in a 24-hour period. Drifts at Stony Brook were more than three feet high.

At its height, poor visibility and drifting and blowing snow made many highways and most local roads impassable. Long Island Rail Road service was at a minimum and all area airports were closed. Campus crews worked hard to keep main University roads passable because of the Medical Center. "Emergency vehicles have to be able to reach the hospital. It's the number one priority in any snow storm," Matthews points out. "The job was especially tough this time around because the wind-driven snow kept filling in what had just been cleared."

By Monday morning, Governor George Pataki had declared a snow emergency for the downstate area, making it illegal for all but emergency vehicles and those equipped with four-wheel drives or tire chains to be out on the road. At the same time, Pataki did not close state offices but said workers could leave at 3 p.m. As a result, Stony Brook and other state facilities technically remained open; a decision that required employees who stayed home to charge their absence as a vacation or sick day. As *Happenings* went to press, the Governor was weighing a petition to pay workers for the lost time.

Better Systems Ahead

"We had a tough time getting crews in to clean and plow the campus. Many people were stuck at home. Those who were on duty and had come in early wound up working extended hours, just to keep up with the storm," Matthews said. The campus has six people on its grounds crew. In a snow storm, employees from other trades normally pitch in to do the job. "It's a team thing, but these circumstances were unusual."

In the future, Matthews said, the campus will more closely monitor snow removal activities in the parking garages. "The garages, which are operated by the State Dormitory Authority, use a private contractor for snow removal. The equipment the company used was too big to get up the garage ramps." The day after the storm ended, snow still blocked many of the garage spaces, frustrating employees and visitors to the campus who needed a place to park. "The State Dormitory Authority contractor needed a much smaller plow to clean out the garages. We were pretty unhappy with the results and won't accept that situation in the future."

Matthews also hopes to beef up the reporting system so that information about parking lot and road clearings can be rapidly moved onto the University's emergency weather information telephone lines. He also hopes to have a system in place that would direct motorists to available parking areas so that plows can more easily clean lots without having to divert around individual vehicles. "It's hard to stop a plow and it's more difficult to clean an area if there's a car in the way," he says.

The storm took a big bite out of the University's stock pile of sand and salt and ate away its snow clearing budget. Stony Brook has joined other agencies in seeking some financial relief through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). "We have no idea of how much, if any, will come back to us, or when," says Matthews. "In the meantime, we just have to hope that we don't get another storm of that ilk."

Snow Lines Heavily Used

Stony Brook's two emergency weather information lines, 632-SNOW and 444-SNOW, were updated throughout the storm. The lines handled over 13,000 calls during the storm and immediately thereafter.

"Ironically, after the brief snow storm we had the week before Christmas, we moved 632-SNOW and 444-SNOW out of phone-mail, where callers might face a busy signal, and into a new system in which all calls would go through. Because we were now on intercession, there was no way to tell people that they could now get through to either line by letting it ring," says Telecommunications

Manager James Hart.

In some cases, if the demand was heavy, callers heard as many as 20 rings before being connected to the message. "In most cases, the line picked up after four or five rings," says Doug Little, Campus Police Community Relations Director who, with News Services Director Vicky Penner Katz, was programming the west campus snow line throughout the storm. "But when lots of people were calling, they experienced a longer ringing period." The east campus snow line is updated by Ellen Barohn, Medical Center news director.

up here and were able to get the message out to those who had planned to attend. What really hurt was having spent the money for a half-page ad in *Newsday*. We couldn't afford to run a second announcement," says Assistant Dean Marvin Glockner. "Thankfully, the electronic media was really helpful in getting the word out."

WUSB Goes Remote

Despite the fact that the nearly dozen volunteers who run the station couldn't reach the studios, campus radio station WUSB-FM broadcast continuously throughout the blizzard.

"Our studios were inaccessible, so we set up a 'remote' operation from the Port Jefferson home of chief engineer Frank Burgert and his wife, Geri, a Stony Brook alum and station volunteer," says station manager Norm Prusslin, who kept in contact with his staff by telephone and FAX.

The Burgerts, who have professional broadcast facilities at home, sent the station's signal out via microwave to WUSB's Farmingville transmitter location, bypassing the campus altogether, airing continuous information and music from 8 p.m. on Sunday through 7 a.m. on Tuesday.

Another station volunteer and alumnus, Charles Backfish, a teacher at Smithtown High School, fed the couple information about Long Island school closings, rail delays and other data via FAX. Student Program Director Michael DiLaurenzio, worked the lines from his Selden home, coordinating operations by telephone until the blizzard was over.

Community Helps

Charles Robbins, Director of Social Work at University Hospital, was the week's Administrator on Duty when the flakes began to fall. The AOD is responsible for assessing the needs of the institution and ensuring that patients get the care they need, regardless of any emergencies. And that meant that Robbins came to work on Sunday, January 7, at 11 a.m. and didn't get home until 6 p.m., January 8.

In between were countless telephone calls, transportation arrangements, staff problems, conversations with concerned patients and their families. Looking back on the blizzard,

Robbins says, "Between our staff, our hospital leadership and the real generous community volunteers — who spent hours driving people to and from the hospital in their four-wheel drive vehicles — we came through with flying colors. It didn't always go so smoothly but it got done and done well."

It was almost business as usual for Kathy Gallo, Nurse Manager for the Emergency Department. During the blizzard, emergency room operations went smoothly because everyone was prepared for the storm, she says. The staff had been instructed to bring extra clothes in case relief personnel didn't make it to work. "There was always a fresh group coming in for each shift. Essentially, everything flowed smoothly because we all did what we were supposed to do. This was good because the ER was pretty busy that day."

Gallo arrived at 7 a.m., Monday morning, thanks to her two teenage sons who shoveled out her truck. She also picked up and brought home staff members because she had a four-wheel drive vehicle.



Al Clark, a Campus Services construction equipment operator, moved tons of snow off parking lots, roads and walkways. Crews worked long shifts to keep roads clear and to clean up the campus after the storm.

Campus police officer, Todd Stumpf, places a traffic cone on Loop Road to alert motorists to icy patches. Police worked throughout the storm to make sure vehicles wouldn't get stuck in the drifting snow.



Late last month, campus telecommunications put new equipment on line that will answer any calls to the weather information lines on the third or fourth ring. The system will operate in much the same fashion as those used by airlines and banks. Callers will be told to stay on the line until the message becomes available. "Again, there may be a brief wait, but everyone who calls will be able to hear the message," says James Hart, Telecommunications Manager.

As the campus returned to normal by mid-Tuesday and Wednesday, small groups of volunteers, including faculty and staff, helped shovel fire hydrants and walkways. Employees traded tales of blocked driveways, stalled vehicles and plans thwarted by Mother Nature.

Because it was intercession, only a handful of events were affected by the Blizzard of '96. The School of Professional Development's widely advertised Open House that had been scheduled for January 8 was rescheduled to January 16.

"Besides the announcement of the postponement on the snow line, we had a telephone line set

NEW SCIENCE NEWSPAPER

Focuses on Campus News

If senior biochemistry major Matthew Seidner gets his way, the University will get a new campus newspaper this spring, one devoted exclusively to science.

And if it's as successful an enterprise as Seidner thinks it will be, look for versions of the paper on campuses across the nation.

"I'm already talking with other institutions," says Seidner, whose idea for the science monthly evolved over a two-year period and was formalized last semester with the establishment of the Pearl-Diamond Publishing Company in Lake Grove. The firm is handling the advertising, promotion and management of the prototype publication that will be staffed and written by Stony Brook undergraduates and graduate students.

The name of the publication is straightforward: *Campus Science Newspaper*, much like its 22-year-old founder, who says that he wants the scientific research being conducted at Stony Brook "to be as easily accessible and understandable as the sports scores."

The *Campus Science Newspaper* will include references and summaries of scientific research by faculty, staff and students that have been recently published in peer review journals; summaries of unpublished research by undergraduates and graduates; general science news; a calendar of science-related events; scholarship and internship information; and news about people in science. The publication will be distributed free to science students, faculty and staff and will be available in science buildings.

Advertising will pay for the production, printing and circulation, says Seidner. "We've already invested \$60,000 in this," explains Seidner who, despite his youth, already has a successful track-record in the publishing business.

For three years, Seidner served as advertising director and managing editor of *The Emergency Medical Services ALERT*, a bimonthly emergency medical services newspaper that he says evolved

into the largest of its kind in the Northeast. "I wanted to combine my ideas with my practical business experience. I felt that I could, with the school's support, create a science newspaper at Stony Brook that could do this and more."

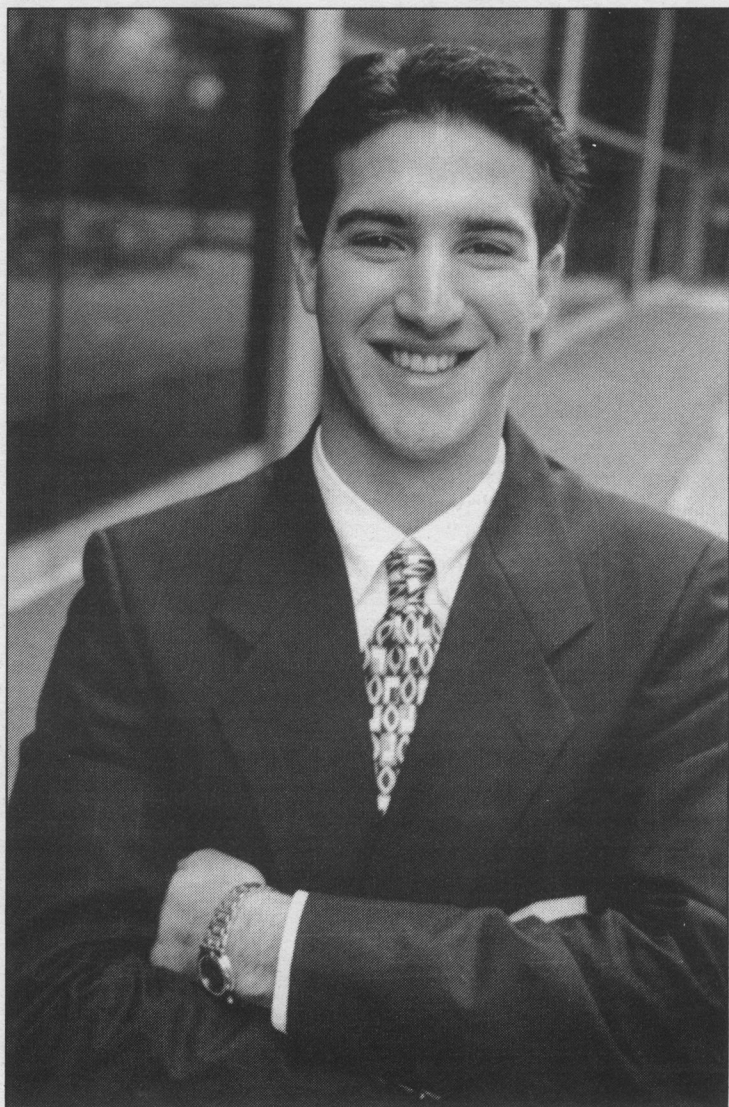
Seidner has a silent partner/and investor in the venture. Two other friends, Tanya Tohill and Peter Bernstein, are playing key roles in the operation; Tohill as managing director and Bernstein as technological consultant. Both are graduates of Stony Brook; Bernstein in 1992, Tohill in 1995.

"Without the three of them, the paper wouldn't exist," he says. Capitalization allowed the firm to set up corporate offices in Lake Grove, do market research, produce and distribute promotional material and sell advertising for the new publication. "Our research shows that there is a need at colleges and universities for the type of publication we are proposing. We wanted to make certain that we would be offering a valuable academic tool for all involved."

Seidner expects the *Campus Science Newspaper* will be self-supporting and profit making in rapid fashion, and that within five years, he will be chief executive officer of a successful company packaging monthly campus science publications in print, and on CD Rom and internet versions. His firm has already joined the "Incubator Without Walls" program at the Long Island High Technology Incubator at Stony Brook and will be devoting space in the new publication to the cutting-edge research underway at that facility.

A native of Merrick, Long Island and now a resident of Baiting Hollow, Seidner attended SUNY Old Westbury and Yale before transferring

to Stony Brook in 1993 where he immersed himself in campus and academic life. Seidner served on the "Five Year Plan" Task Force on Campus Life, has been a biology teaching assistant, volunteer tutor and peer academic advisor and is a member of the Sigma Beta Honor Society. Listed in the 1995-96 Silver Anniversary Edition of *Who's Who in the East*, he is the recipient of a scholarship from the Workmen's Benefit Fund of the U.S.A. for outstanding volunteer and community service. A certified Emergency Medical Technician, he has worked in hospital and research labs in Nassau and Suffolk counties and has written three scientific papers.



Maxine Hicks

PRIMED FOR PUBLISHING: Stony Brook senior Matt Seidner plans to produce a newspaper this spring that will focus on science at Stony Brook. The paper will be a prototype for what Seidner sees as a national market.

The scientific research being conducted at Stony Brook should be as easily accessible and understandable as the sports scores.

— Matthew Seidner

American Cancer Society Awards Malbon \$100,000

The American Cancer Society has awarded a \$100,000 grant for cancer research to Professor Craig C. Malbon, vice president for research. The funds will support Malbon's research into the roles of G-proteins in the growth and development of cancer.

The ACS grant to Malbon, a leading professor of pharmacology at Stony Brook, will allow him to apply the powerful tools of molecular biology to understand how G-proteins are linked to cancer and to exploit that information for new therapies.

Cancer primarily is a problem of loss-of-control, in which signaling mechanisms designed for

orderly, patterned growth are defective, Malbon explains. "Cells communicate with each other and control growth through a complex network of signaling that integrates information from the outside of the cell to the cell nucleus. Disruption of the signaling impairs normal growth and the safeguards that protect us from uncontrolled, unpatterned growth, such as a malignancy."

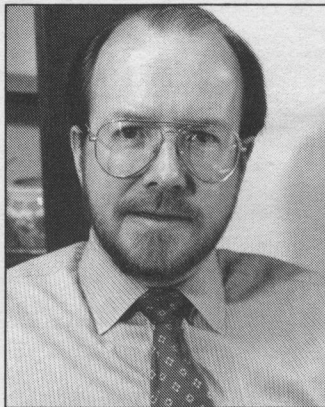
Critical in the operation of the sig-

nal network, he says, is a small family of proteins, termed G-proteins, that act as molecular "switches" capable of turning "on" complex cascades that regulate normal growth and development. Mutations in certain G-proteins yield endocrine cancers in humans. "To explore how G-proteins function, we use molecular biology to eliminate or to activate specific G-proteins and establish the biologi-

cal consequences."

Malbon, a native of Providence, Rhode Island, has been at Stony Brook since 1978. He holds the Ph.D. in biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University and did postgraduate training at Brown University.

His professional activities include serving on several learned societies aimed at enhancing Sino-American relationships in biomedical sciences, associate editorship of the *American Journal of Physiology* and director of a National Institutes of Health National Research Service Award program. He is an experienced traveler, horseman and sports-fisherman.



Professor Craig Malbon

SCIENCE NOTEBOOK

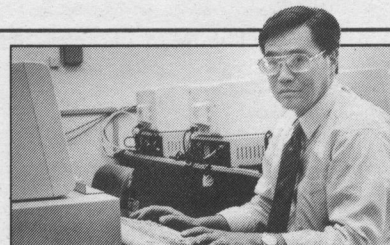
Thomas Liao, chair, Department of Technology and Society, College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, has been named to the **National Commission for Technology Education, International Technology**

Education Association. Liao directs the Laboratory for Personal Computers in Education, the Science and Technology Entry Program and the Principles of Engineering Project.

A member of the Advisory

Committee for NATO's program on Advanced Educational Technology, he also serves as coeditor of the *Journal for Education Technology Systems.*

Thomas Liao



UNDERGRADUATES DEVELOP BETTER BASIX SOLUTIONS

Quick, I need a Course Pack

By Carole Volkman

Holly McNally was in a bind.

State-of-the-art digital printing equipment was about to be installed at Basix Solutions, the new Faculty Student Association custom print shop she manages on the lower level of the Melville Library.

The equipment would be able to churn out class course packs within a matter of hours, but experience told her that the time-consuming work involved in getting publishers' copyright permission could instantly defeat the benefits of the new technology.

Over the years, the bulk of the Basix print shop business has come from faculty seeking to copy materials from books, newspapers, journals and other copyrighted sources to supplement or replace traditional textbooks. But in order to reproduce a copyrighted work, you need permission—a labor and paperwork-intensive step.

"It became a nightmare," says McNally who asked FSA Manager Warren Wartell to find someone to design a computer program that would simplify the work. Wartell turned to the FSA's first line of expertise: undergraduates.

Enter Computer Science senior, Chester Howell. Working with a fellow computer science major, senior Dippen Mara, a senior support assistant at FSA, the two designed a computer tracking system so refined that plans are in the works to have it copyrighted and distributed nationally by the new print-on-demand team of Eastman Kodak and Gammagraphx.

Gammagraphx, based in Waltham, Mass., developed the applications software and Eastman Kodak manufactures the digitized imaging production systems used in Basix Solution's customized publishing service which debuted at Stony Brook last month. Coined "on demand" for its ability to produce printed materials without extensive prep

time, the technology provides the capability to print just what is needed—including all revisions—when it is needed, in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Optical disk document storage provides clean copy along with data-base management control, including exact printing specifications.

But it's Howell's and Mara's software that's turning the new service into a state-of-the-art facility. Their project management software package now automates McNally's time-consuming nightmare of researching, requesting, tracking and administering payments for copyright clearances.

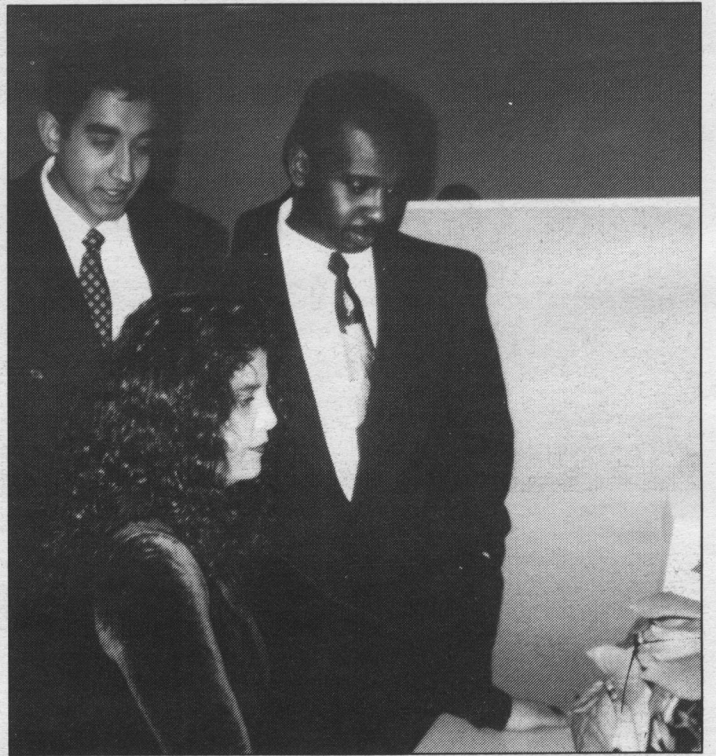
This is how it works:

- A professor calls, e-mails or brings in his order for a course pack on hard copy or disk. The information is entered on the first screen of the program, along with such notations as the date needed and the number of students in the class; an error message appears if any information is left out.

- On the next screen is a list of printing instructions, including cover title, size of paper, type of binding, and other special instructions.

- The following screen lists the articles or book chapters, including volume, author and year of publication. So far, Howell and Mara have listed a selection of 2,000 publishers; they plan to add 8,000 more. When all information is entered, the copyright requests are faxed, via computer, to the publishing houses.

Left on the in-house screen is a system that can inventory the facility's workload, produce weekly reports, allow changes to the professor's



ENTERPRISING STUDENTS. Department of Computer Science seniors, Dippen Mara (left) and Chester Howell, look on as Basix administrative assistant Rachel Youdelezich operates the office's newly developed software. The software, designed by Mara and Howell, tracks course pack publication requirements and will be marketed by Kodak and Gammagraphx, manufacturers of the printing and graphics equipment at Basix Solutions.

original order and track the work as it proceeds through the publishing process, a task that McNally says used to take rummaging through hundreds of orders.

And while operating more efficiently with the Stony Brook-developed software, Basix Solutions is also helping to fund education. For each course pack that sells for \$10 or more, Basix will contribute \$1 to the academic department that ordered the material, and the Kodak-Gammagraphx team will match the funds up to \$10,000 a year. "We have the potential to generate a minimum of \$20,000," says McNally of the first \$5,000 check that was presented by Kodak and Gammagraphx at Basix Solutions' recent opening ceremonies.

And for Howell and Mara, their new joint venture was also used for educational purposes: The two undergraduates have turned their software development project into a senior thesis.

Software project pays off for undergraduates.

MAKING WAVES

Works by master of fine arts degree candidates **Diamantina Gonzalez, Elena Humphreys** and **Elena Osuna** will be on display in the Staller Center for the Arts gallery from February 2 through February 24. A reception honoring the trio will be held on Saturday, February 10, at the Staller art gallery, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. The "MFA Show 1996" includes paintings, artist's books and mixed media installations. Gallery hours are Tuesdays

through Fridays, noon to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Stony Brook's Veterans Affairs Office has relocated to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Room 348, Administration Building. **Christel Colon** is the new Veterans Affairs Coordinator. She can be reached at 2-6701. The **Alumni Association's annual student awards program** isn't until Wednesday, April 10, but the dead-

line for applying for the honor is Friday, February 16. Students can nominate themselves or be nominated by a member of the faculty or staff. The Association gives out 12 undergraduate awards, all of them carrying a cash prize ranging from \$250 to \$750. Among the honors is an award from the Class of 1970 to a sophomore who has made the most significant contribution to the University during his or her freshman

year; a Commuter Student Award which cites a commuter student with a track record of academic achievement and leadership in campus life; and an award to a student, groups of students, organizations or clubs for environmental preservation. Nominees must submit a summary of their activities and accomplishments and fill out application forms available from the Alumni Office, Room 441, Administration Building.

If It's Payday, It's HAPPENINGS!

With this issue, **HAPPENINGS** is moving to a new publication schedule. The paper, which previously appeared on alternate Mondays, will be distributed every other Wednesday in concert with distribution of State payroll checks. News Services, which produces **HAPPENINGS**, welcomes your comments and suggestions. Call 2-6311 or send an e-mail to VKATZ. Calendar items should be sent to the attention of Joyce Masterson.

NUMBERS YOU NEED

a clip-and-save Guide to Special Campus News and Emergency information lines

WEATHER-RELATED INFORMATION:

632-SNOW (west campus)

444-SNOW (east campus)

PHYSICAL PLANT EMERGENCY INFORMATION: 632-INFO

TO REPORT SAFETY HAZARD: 63A-LERT

GENERAL CAMPUS INFORMATION: 632-NEWS

SPORTS INFORMATION: 632-WOLF

H A P P E N I N G S

February 7, 1996 Volume 2, Number 9

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Stony Brook Happenings is published biweekly and distributed on Wednesdays during the academic year by the Office of University News Services, 144 Administration, University at Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794-0605. Phone: 516-632-6311. Fax: 516-632-6313. Internet: vkatz@ccmail.sunysb.edu or Allin1 to vkatz. Reprint permission on request. © 1996.

The Office of University News Services also produces *Electric Currents*, a daily listing of notices and events on the SBNEWS computer bulletin board, and Stony Brook Newline, accessible by telephone at 516-632-NEWS.

The University at Stony Brook is an affirmative action/equal opportunity educator and employer. This publication is available in alternative format on request.



START-UP SALUTE

Representatives of six companies that provided legal and financial services during the start-up phase of the Long Island High Technology Incubator at Stony Brook were honored last month. Holding plaques presented by Incubator manager Pat Hession (second from right), are (from left) Elliot H. Lutzker of Snow, Becker, Krauss (Manhattan), Ronald Baron of Hoffman & Baron (Jericho), Norman Fuchs of Aberlyn Holding Company (New Jersey), Thomas Dowling of Morgan & Finnegan (Manhattan) and Richard Kalenka of Price Waterhouse (Jericho). Also cited was Eugene DeMark of KPMG Peat Marwick.

CLASSIFIED

Place Your Ad Here!

University employees can place free classified ads in **HAPPENINGS**. Please send your items by e-mail (VKATZ) or campus mail to "Happenings Classified," Room 144, Administration Building, 0605. Include a campus telephone number for verification. Your classified advertisement will run until you request that it be discontinued.

HAPPENINGS welcomes off-campus classifieds and display ads. Camera-ready display rates are \$600, full page; \$400, half-page; \$250, quarter page; \$175, one-eighth page.

Classified fees for non-campus users are \$1.50 per word (one to two insertions); \$1.40 per word (three to five insertions); \$1.30 per word, six to eight insertions). Ten word minimum.

HAPPENINGS is published every other Wednesday during the academic year. Deadline for advertising is two weeks before the publication date. Checks or money orders must accompany ads and should be made payable to the Stony Brook Foundation. For additional advertising information, call 516-632-6311.

We reserve the right to select our advertisers. We are not responsible for any item or service advertised on these pages.

WANTED

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Harp. Amateur but serious self-taught musician seeking harp with pedals on which to learn and at reasonable cost. Write Harp, Box 703, Smithtown, with specifics, asking price.

SCHOLARLY MATERIAL

Historic Materials. For a book about small businesses in New York City between 1800 and 1870, I would like to hear from people who have account books, letters and papers from businessmen, especially retailers. Contact Thomas D. Beal, Department of History, S-301 SBS Building.

Writer seeks anecdotal material for magazine article about buying a new home or resale and moving 'cross town and/or 'cross country. Have you a horror story? Good advice you'd like to share with others? Leave message or your name and phone number at 751-7131.

VOLUNTEERS/DONATIONS

University Medical Center Hospital Auxiliary needs volunteers to staff its thrift shop, the Nearly New Boutique, at 116 East Main Street in Port Jefferson. For information, please call the Auxiliary office at 444-2699.

Union Art Gallery needs volunteers to help with Gallery programs and settings, Noon to 4 p.m. Contact Marcia at 2-6822 or stop by the Student Union & Activities Office, Room 266, Stony Brook Union.

Donations of new and used clothing and decorative household items are needed for the University Medical Center thrift shop, the Nearly New Boutique, 116 East Main Street in Port Jefferson. For information, call the Auxiliary office at 444-2699.

FOR SALE

AUTOMOBILES/TRUCKS

1987 Nissan Sentra, 4 door, light blue exterior/interior, 5 speed manual transmission, 85,000 miles. Runs well. \$2500. Call 689-5214 and leave amessage.

1985 Olds Ciera, 4-door, 114,000 miles, great running condition. Recent replacement: fuel pump, water pump, exhaust pipes, muffler, transmission, hoses, rack & pinion; new tires front (2 months), excellent rear tires. Asking \$1,700. Call Ella at 444-2468.

HOUSES/CONDOS FOR SALE

Mt. Sinai. Perfect professional location. Seven-year-old contemporary/colonial; 10 rooms, separate office with outside entrance. Basement. One acre plus. All amenities. \$300,000 value, asking \$259,990. Prudential Long Island Realty. Ask for Delores or JoAnne, 585-8500.

Nob Hill South. Condo for sale, located off exit 58, LIE. Large one bedroom lower unit with all new vinyl siding, kitchen, ceramic tiled bath and plush beige carpeting. Washer/dryer, 2AC and mirrored dining area. Must see. Owner asking \$69,500; willing to negotiate. Call 471-2780 evenings.

North Coram. Relocation-Contemporary Cape. 4BR-2BA-Loft/office 2 Car Garage-IGS-1/3 acre-fenced yard. Beautiful landscaping. Burber Carpet. New windows and doors. Good schools. Quiet street. Family neighborhood. 331-5601 \$129,000.

Stony Brook. Ranch, three bedrooms, two baths, perfect condition. Walk to campus. \$165,000. Call 751-4865.

HOUSES/CONDOS/APTS FOR RENT

Middle Island. Two-bedroom co-op at Artist Lake. Ground floor, end unit with attic space. Dishwasher, washer/dryer, central air, fireplace, fully carpeted, full bath, huge closets, garden, swimming pool and club-house. Great to share. \$850 per month. Call 289-0569.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR SALE

Americana GE electric stove, double oven, self-cleaning. \$100. Call 516-751-7371.

Sears trash compactor. Good condition. \$75. Call 516-751-7371.

Ethan Allen pine bed, single. Excellent condition, with or without mattress. Price negotiable. Call 632-9117.

Lenox china and crystal, odd pieces, for sale. Call 928-2395 after 6 p.m.

JEWELRY

Silver and marcasite jewelry for sale. Call 928-2395 after 6 p.m.

CLOTHING

Hand-knitted slippers and boot socks from Ecuador, \$10; Also, jackets from small to large, llama wool, from Ecuador, \$50. Call 751-7371.

COMPUTERS

486 DX-33Mhz Computer, math co-processor, 8MB memory, 210MB hard drive, 5.25 & 3.5 floppy disk drives, SVGA 1MB video board, 15 inch non-interlaced 28 monitor, 101 key keyboard, 200 watts power supply, DOS, Windows 3.1 software, including Word Perfect for Windows and Microsoft Publisher. \$1,175. Call 473-8249.



THE PINES AT HISTORIC STONY BROOK THREE VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Six new homes on a cul-de-sac offering a fusion of past and present. Traditional exteriors, porches, detailing and Old World craftsmanship. Light, bright flowing interiors designed for today's lifestyle. 4 bedrooms, 2-1/2 baths, full basement and many other features often considered extras.

Be part of Historic Stony Brook, walk to the famed shopping area, the harbor, the beach and the Three Village Inn.

*100 yards east of the Three Village Inn —
A very short commute to the University
and Hospital.*

Prices start at \$399,000.00

For Information Call
364-1250



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

Ensoniq VFX-SD Workstation Synthesizer, 61 note MIDI keyboard, 21 voice, 32-track sequencer, 3.5 inch disk, thousands of additional sounds on disk. Excellent condition. Call 473-8249.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Drive-Thru Dairy-Convenience Store. Local-Port Jefferson Station. Busy area-high volume. Call 516 689-7928

SERVICES

CHILD CARE

Stony Brook Child Care Services has a limited number of openings for 3, 4, and 5-year-olds. Year-round full-time care, 9 a.m. to 5:20 p.m. Sliding fee scale. For information call Nancy Walker at 632-6930.

FRIENDS OF THE STALLER CENTER: 1,000 And Growing

By Barbara Grannis

In 1980, Friends of the Staller Center consisted of one volunteer. Its first appeal letter — sent out with crossed fingers and great expectations — yielded an astonishing \$18,000.

Today, the organization has 1,000 member families and a record of over \$1 million in contributions.

The Staller Center for the Arts has multiple missions. It provides a facility for rehearsals, performances and shows presented by members of the Music, Theatre Arts and Art Departments and by community groups, while its Main Stage does duty as the University's central auditorium. Off campus, the Staller Center is best known as the regional venue for major arts performances, with offerings ranging from string quartets to jugglers, from ballet to clowns, from sublime to slapstick.

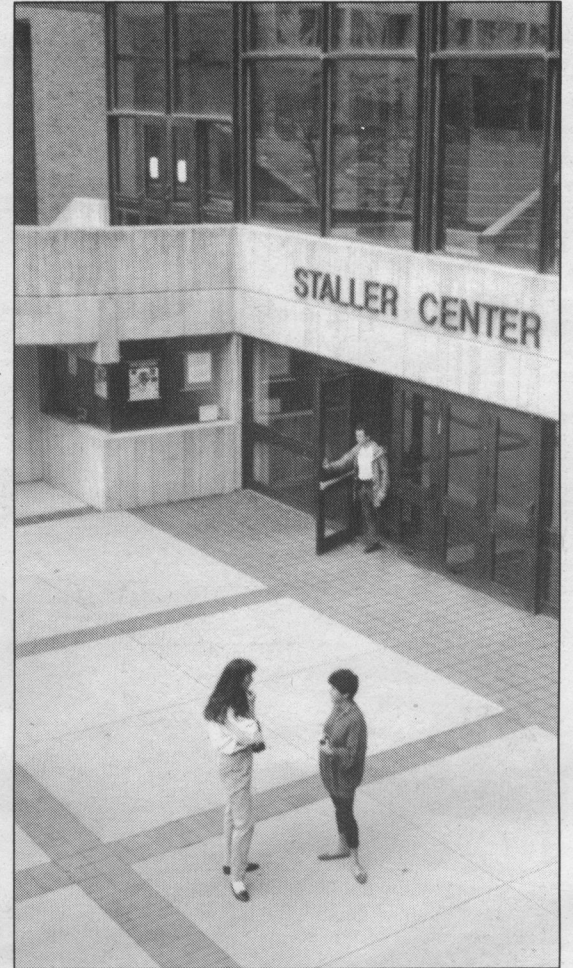
The Friends provides the private, flexible funding that fills the gap between those resources provided by university funds and ticket receipts and the expenses needed to create the ambiance conducive to developing the finest performances and the most pleasurable experiences for diverse audiences. Contributions from the Friends provide funds for advertising, publications, special equipment, presentation costs, up-front fees and hospitality for performers as well as grants for arts departments on campus and conferences on the arts.

Most recently, contributions of \$50,000 from the Friends funded computerization of box office operations, which has increased efficiency in ticket sales, record keeping and financial accountability. Information on over 10,000 households has been entered on the box office computer so that subscription and other mailings can be focused according to audience interest, resulting in increased response and higher revenues. The box office serves both the performing arts departments as well as the Staller Center's commercial offerings.

According to Terry Netter, Executive Director of the Staller Center, the backbone of the Friends group is Bobbie Wien, the Center's Financial Director and the Friends' Executive Director. Wien moved to Stony Brook from the Five Towns in 1977 and started to attend performances at the then new Fine Arts Center. After a few months, she wrote to Netter, offering her help with the Center's booster organization and volunteering to start such a group if one did not already exist. Drawing on a lifetime of volunteer experience, and with the help of an informal advisory commit-

tee, she founded the Friends in 1980. The first gift to the Center's endowment fund came from her uncle, noted Manhattan philanthropist Lawrence Wien.

In 1988 the Center's name was changed to honor Max and Mary Staller in recognition of a gift to the University made by their son, Erwin Staller of Huntington, and his family. Their contribution to the endowment provides a steady and dependable stream of funding, over and above the Friends' contributions, to support Center pro-



FRIENDS of the Staller Center have grown over the years. Today, more than 1,000 member families belong to the organization and have contributed more than \$1 million to the facility.

grams. The Staller Family's commitment to the university continues, with Mrs. Erwin (Freddie) Staller and son, Cary, both active members of the Center's advisory board (currently chaired by Stony Brook alumnus, Dr. Joseph McDonnell, Jr.), and Erwin Staller serving on the Stony Brook Foundation's Board of Directors.

Staller Center Friends include a dozen corporate benefactors. Some, such as the Islandia Radisson Hotel, WALK Radio and WUSB, provide "gifts in kind," reduced lodging rates for Staller Center performers and free advertising. Corporate benefactors and individual members have opportunities to sponsor performances as well as earn the general benefits of membership, such as early booking, meet-the-artist receptions, newsletters and guest memberships.

"Our Friends are wonderful," says Wien. "We

simply could not do what we do without their help. The most unusual request we've ever had from a Friend," she recalls, "came from a regular contributor to the Staller Center who asked if, instead of printing his name on the program's Friends Honor Roll, we could print Fans of the Brooklyn Dodgers. A short time later, he called again and asked if he could sponsor a Friends membership in every category so that every category would include a line of acknowledgment to the Fans of the Brooklyn Dodgers. I told him that as long as he sent his check, we would print anything he wanted, within reason."

So next time you are at a Staller Center performance, scan through the Friends' names and look out for those Dodger fans. And make sure your name is there, too. It's time to start counting that second million.

DONOR DEVELOPMENTS

Evelyn Berezin, a member of the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Directors, recently transferred to the Foundation 200 shares of EIS International at \$16 per share. The gift supports the Sam and Rose Berezin Scholarship, established by Ms. Berezin in honor of her parents. The scholarship provides tuition costs each year for a student majoring in physical, biological or applied sciences, mathematics or engineering...Elisabeth and Phil Palmedo have provided a one-semester scholarship for a minority undergraduate student in the Music Department. Phil Palmedo serves on the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Directors and chairs the Foundation's Investment Committee...Professor Emeritus Martin Travis, Chairman of the Department of Political Science from 1961-1968, has made a gift of \$5,000 to the Department. Professor Travis noted that the "gift is in gratitude for having the honor to serve in the Department of Political Science at Stony Brook since 1961." While Professor Travis played a pivotal role in building the department in its early years, he is perhaps best known as a mentor, with many of his students attaining distinguished careers in the practice

of international law. In 1993, the University established the Martin B. Travis Award, which is presented annually to a political science/pre-law senior. The endowment supporting the annual award was a gift of Mrs. Martin Travis on the occasion of her husband's retirement from the department. Over the past two years, Stony Brook political science alumni have added significant contributions to the endowment in honor of Professor Travis...Alumna Krista DeMaria of Setauket has made the largest gift to the University from a recent graduate. DeMaria, who graduated in 1993 with a major in English, has made a gift of a \$25,000 life insurance policy which will become a part of the Stony Brook Foundation, Inc.'s portfolio of assets. Transferring the ownership of a life insurance policy is an effective, modestly priced and highly tax-advantaged method of supporting not-for-profit institutions. Homecoming Queen in 1992, Krista served the University as a Student Ambassador and as editor of *Statesman*. She continues to give her time to Stony Brook through service as secretary of the Alumni Association Board of Directors and as alumna representative of her sorority, Theta Phi Alpha.



WINNING WAY: Stony Brook Alumni Director Deborah Dietzler and Alumni Association First Vice President Jay Schoenfeld hold the first-place awards won by Stony Brook in the SUNY Alumni Confederation Conference held recently in Albany. The Alumni Association won first prize for Leadership Development Programs, Alumni Events and Projects and Undergraduate and Recruitment Programs. Dietzler also won a judges' citation for alumni publications. In a separate competition, the Alumni Association won first prize for alumni relations in the 1995 SUNY/CUAD Awards for Excellence competition. Dietzler, who has been at Stony Brook since 1992, will be joining Columbia University this week.