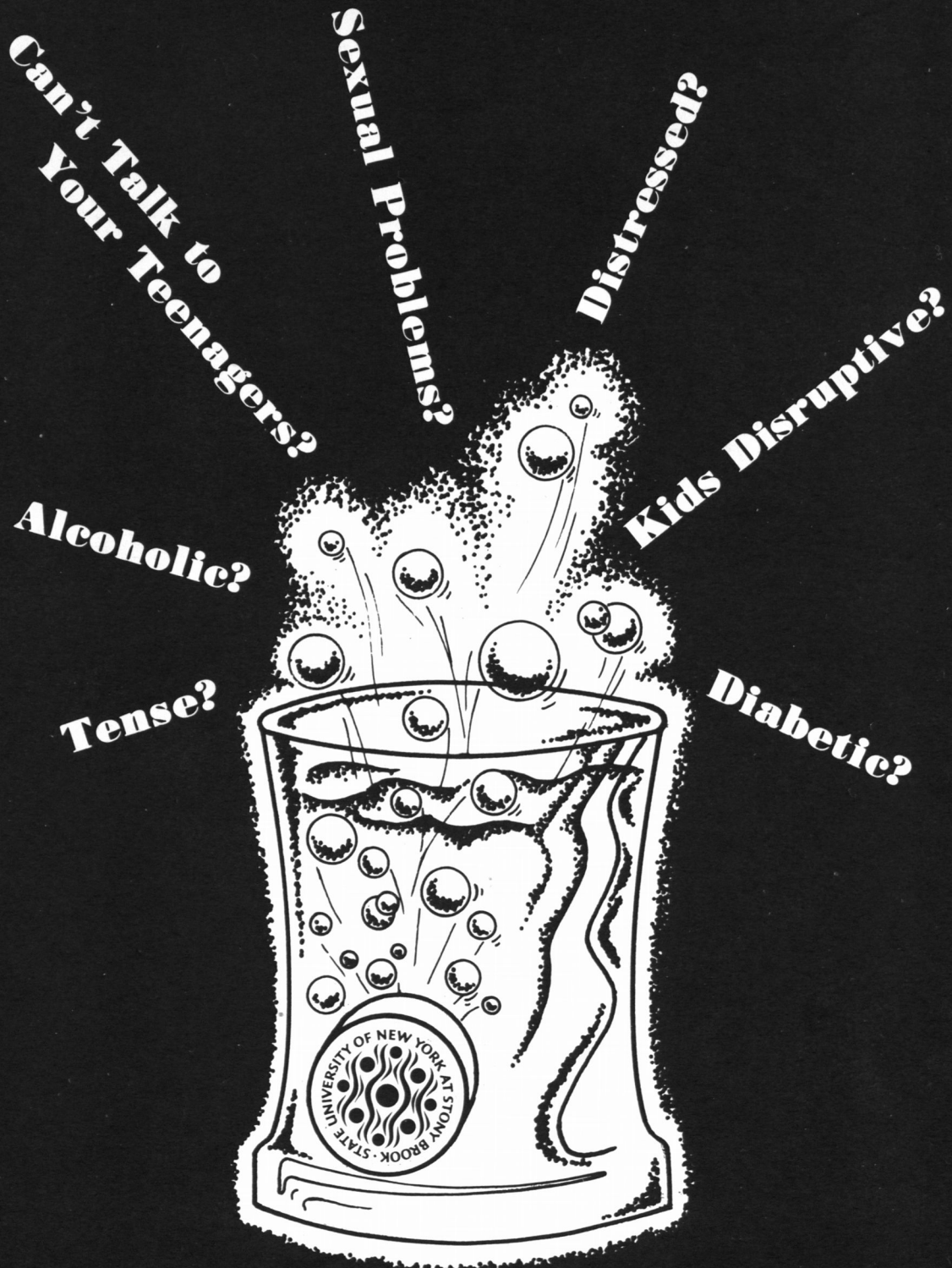


# Stony Brook

REVIEW

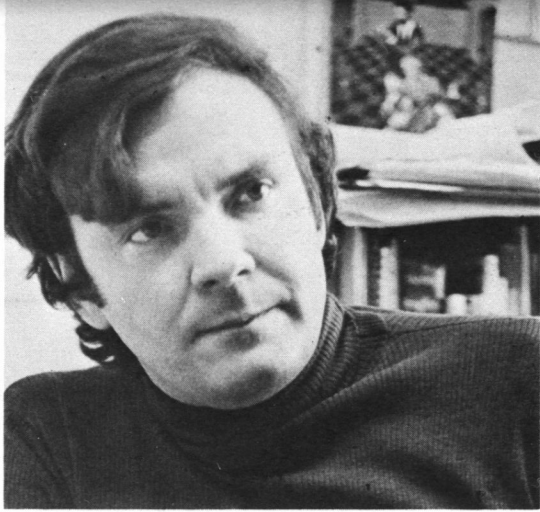
VOL. 9, NO. 4

SUMMER 1976



**Try Stony Brook!**

(see story inside)



## Why Land on Mars ?

by Dr. Tobias Owen  
Professor of Astronomy

*Dr. Owen is a member of the research team that designed one of the life-seeking experiments for the Viking mission due to land on Mars this summer. These words are excerpted from an article titled "Is There Life on Mars?"*

The pace of planetary exploration has quickened dramatically in the last decade. Centuries of speculation about the nature of our nearest celestial neighbors have been supplanted by a few years of intensive investigations with Earth-based telescopes and by observations made from deep space probes. We have landed and walked on the moon. The U.S.S.R. has successfully sent unmanned probes to the surface of Venus. These environments have been found to be extremely hostile to that extraordinary collection of physical and chemical processes we have come to call "life as we know it." The surface of Venus is intensely hot — above the melting point of lead. Its atmosphere seems to be mainly carbon dioxide and exerts a pressure at the planet's surface 90 times greater than sea-level air pressure on Earth. Clouds of sulfuric acid droplets have been identified in the upper atmosphere of Venus, and lower layers of clouds composed of mercury compounds have been postulated. Clearly a poor place for a summer vacation! The hostile environment of the moon has become sufficiently familiar to require little description. Suffice it to say that the soil and rocks brought back to Earth by our astronauts proved to be sterile and nearly devoid of any traces of organic matter.

Compared with these two bodies, Mars has a much more benign environment. What do we know about Mars that makes it worthwhile to spend all the time, money and effort required to transport two enormously sophisticated machines to its surface? What we know is that, of all the planets in our solar system, Mars offers a surface environment that is most similar to our own.

Similar would be an overstatement out of this context: the surface of Mars is plagued by ferocious dust storms, it is exceedingly dry, the atmospheric pressure is only 1/200th of the sea-level value on Earth and this atmosphere is composed primarily of carbon dioxide, perhaps as much as 95%. Its intriguing polar caps are mainly frozen CO<sub>2</sub> — dry ice, not water ice. Liquid water cannot exist on Mars in any substantial amount; it would

immediately boil owing to the low atmospheric pressure. Temperature extremes at the Martian equator range from a pleasant 65°F at noon to a rather chilly — 135°F just before dawn. And yet, there are microorganisms on Earth that can survive in such an environment. Might there not be similar creatures on Mars?

Let us consider a moment the implications of such a possibility. In our attempts to discover the nature of the origin of life on Earth, we have gradually been led back to the concept of spontaneous generation — not maggots arising from spoiled meat, but primitive organisms emerging as the last step in an intricate chemical process beginning with a mixture of gases in the primitive atmosphere of the Earth. The first steps in this process have been duplicated many times in our laboratories — the formation of amino acids from mixtures of methane, ammonia and water. We have even found amino acids in some meteorites — a clear indication that nature can indeed construct these fundamental components of the proteins of which living organisms are made, starting with a mixture of gases exposed to a suitable energy source. But it is a very large step from an inert chemical to a living organism. How probable is this step? How likely that it might have occurred twice within the same solar system? Or is it so improbable that it has occurred only once in our entire galaxy?

At the present time we have no rational way of responding to these questions, but the discovery of even the most primitive microorganisms on Mars would give us the answer. That discovery would in turn provide strong support for the view that we are not the only sentient beings who inhabit the universe, since a reasonably high probability for the origin of life carries with it the promise of the evolution of intelligence.

The Mars we see now is clearly a forbidding place, but less so than the moon; there seems to be a very real possibility that its surface environment has sometimes been directly comparable with desert regions on the Earth, and may become so again. Anyone who has observed the remarkable transformation of a desert after its wet season will appreciate the significance of this analogy. Using the fragments of knowledge about Mars that we have accumulated so far, it does not seem unreasonable to suggest that somewhat similar transformations could occur at certain regions in certain seasons on the surface of that enigmatic planet.

The exploration of Mars is not just a search for life, although that quest seems to capture our imaginations most easily. It is embarking for the first time for a landing on a new world, with all the drama and sense of confrontation with the unknown that such an adventure implies. Fascinating as it is, our moon remains an airless satellite, essentially changeless under our detailed scrutiny. Mars by contrast is a dynamic object, independently orbiting the sun as we do, exhibiting a level of complexity in the interactions between surface and atmosphere that begins to approach conditions on the Earth. Detailed study of this planetary neighbor is bound to increase our understanding of our own world. The absence of life on Mars, if there is none, must also be understood in the context of the history of that planet and may force us to revise some of our own ideas about the origin of life on the Earth. ▼

# The Way It Was

**THREE CULTURAL FESTIVALS** Three cultural festivals were held during the spring semester — honoring Jewish heritage, William Butler Yeats and Leonardo da Vinci.

The first Long Island Jewish Arts Festival was held on campus April 4–10 and included art, film, music, craft, dance and lecture presentations.

Appearances by playwright Isaac Bashevis Singer, author Elie Wiesel, Stony Brook Pulitzer Prize poet Louis Simpson, painter Chaim Gross and ethnomusicologist Ruth Rabin highlighted the week.

The Yeats Festival was held May 1 to commemorate the establishment of the William Butler Yeats Archives at the University's Center for Contemporary Arts and Letters. The Irish poet was saluted in plays, lectures, poetry readings, a critical forum and an informal exhibit. In attendance were the late poet's son, Michael Butler Yeats; the consul general of Ireland, Gearoid O'Clérigh; and the director of the National Library of Ireland, Dr. Patrick Henchy. It is anticipated that the archives, consisting of both microfilm and bound copies of original manuscripts will be computer-indexed and available to scholars in the near future, and that this year's festival will be a forerunner of other festivals, performances and scholarly events featuring particular aspects of Yeats' life and work.

"Leonardo and Philosophy" was the subject of a weekend of lectures, slide presentations and a panel discussion sponsored by the Philosophy Department in March.

## RUSSIANS ORBIT STONY BROOK

**CARROTS** A carrot-cell experiment designed by Dr. Abraham D. Krikorian, associate professor of biological sciences, and Dr. Frederick C. Steward, adjunct professor of biological sciences, was launched into orbit on an unmanned Soviet Vostok satellite this winter as part of the joint U.S.-U.S.S.R. Biological Satellite Program. The principal mission of the experiment was to test whether cells of a higher plant, such as the carrot, can develop under conditions of weightlessness in space and emulate their known ability on earth to multiply and develop, forming organs, embryos and normal plantlets. As man moves increasingly into space, the experiment may have implications for an ultimate "space agriculture" using crop plants.

**HEALTH HELP FOR SHINNECOCKS** Students from the School of Nursing this year formed a Health Advisory Committee for the Shinnecock Indians living at the Reservation in Southampton in Eastern Suffolk. They provided on-going health assessment and care for the Indians, and arranged the first Health Fair to be held on the reservation.

**VISIT TO CHINA** Dr. C.N. Yang, Nobel Prize winning professor of physics, was believed to be the first foreigner to meet China's new premier, Hua Kuo-feng, during a three-week spring visit to mainland China. Dr. Yang related his experiences to the campus and general public at a lecture-discussion session in May.



*Dr. Bentley Glass unveils a bust of himself at Life Sciences Open House.*

**LIFE SCIENCES OPEN HOUSE** The establishment of the H. Bentley Glass Collection of Biological Literature highlighted festivities marking the formal opening of the new Life Sciences Building May 22. The \$21 million complex was the setting for a free community open house featuring tours, exhibits, slide shows and demonstrations. Dr. Glass, internationally known geneticist who became Distinguished Professor Emeritus this spring, donated his lifetime library of thousands of texts, journals, periodicals and professional papers.

**DISTINGUISHED VISITORS** Distinguished speakers and entertainers during the academic year have included: Robert Penn Warren, writer; Ralph Nader, consumer advocate; Eleanor Steber, soprano; William Burroughs, author; Robert Moog, electronic music pioneer; Ramsey Clark, former U.S. attorney general; Richard Salant, president of CBS News; Jimmy Breslin, journalist; Isaac Bashevis Singer, playwright; Otis Pike, U.S. Congressman; Mary Calderone, sex educator; and W. Averell Harriman, statesman.

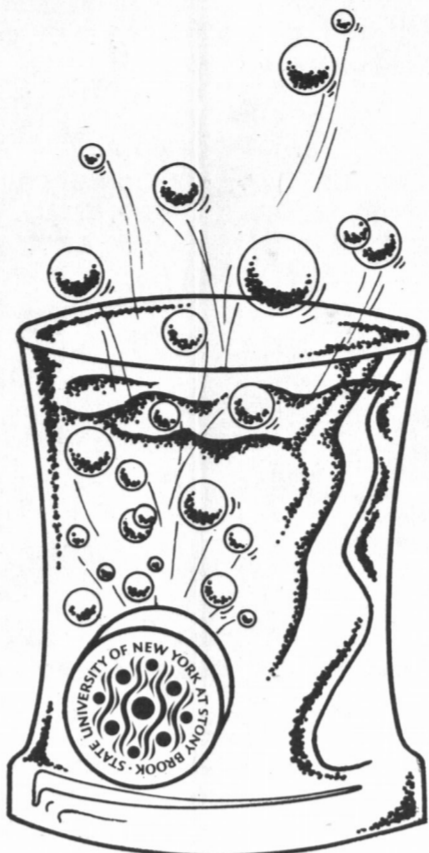
**GATES ACROSS L.I. SOUND** A plan involving the building of tidal gates in the form of shipping locks across the far western section of Long Island Sound was proposed at the Third International Estuarine Research Foundation Conference last fall. The plan, devised by Dr. Malcolm J. Bowman, assistant professor of physical oceanography at the University's Marine Sciences Research Center, would allow Sound water to flow into the East River and New York Harbor, but would prevent the reverse from occurring. This would sharply curtail the pollution of the Sound, while helping to flush out sewage in New York Harbor, Dr. Bowman believes.

**STONY BROOK BEER CAN WINS** Stony Brook's entry, a Miller beer can equipped with a soldered flywheel and a lead clutch, won the "first annual aluminum beer and soda can grand prix," run at Polytechnic Institute of New York in April at the annual American Society of Mechanical Engineers Student Conference.

**FAMILY AFFAIR** About 250 adults and children attended "It's a Family Affair," a winter weekend at the University sponsored by the Suffolk County Girl Scout Council. The weekend featured various crafts and athletic events, songs, dancing, games and seminars.



# What Ails You?



*Dozens of programs, clinics, lectures, testing and therapy sessions, and counseling and referral services aimed at helping people afflicted with a wide variety of emotional and physical problems are run at different times throughout the year at the University. The services are offered by various schools and departments of the Health Sciences Center, as well as by the Infirmary, Psychology Department, Center for Continuing Education, Physical Education, Chemistry Depart-*

ment and by student and faculty volunteers.

*ment and by student and faculty volunteers.*

*In addition to the many programs and services listed below, the Department of Psychology has, in past years, organized periodical programs to help parents of preschool children cope with temper tantrums, help preschoolers prepare for reading, help smokers cut back their intake, and help adults alleviate social anxiety, relieve speech nervousness and reduce uncontrollable and irrational fears.*

tion of most dental prostheses required for the patient.

- Thousands of elementary school children in the Three Village School District are participating in a voluntary program to reduce tooth decay, directed by the staff of the Department of Children's Dentistry.

Once a week, the children take five minutes from their classroom routine to rinse their teeth with a neutral dilute sodium fluoride solution — a technique proven to be a safe and effective way of preventing cavities — under the supervision of their teachers and monitors from the University.

The program is one of 16 being carried on throughout the country by the dental research component of the National Institute of Health specifically for the purpose of demonstrating the cost and effectiveness of a supervised fluoride rinsing program for school children. "Research has shown that a supervised program of weekly rinsing may reduce the incidence of cavities by 30 to 40%," said Dr. Louis Ripa, Chairman of the Department of Children's Dentistry.

## RHEUMATISM?

- The Department of Pathology of the School of Basic Health Sciences has established a special diagnostic laboratory for rheumatic and allied diseases. Dr. Leonard Meiselas, project director, has set up the Rheumatic Disease Reference Laboratory, supported by a grant from the New York Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, to provide diagnostic service to the community through the community hospital laboratories which submit their specimens for the performance of tests heretofore not available in this area.

## SUDDEN INFANT DEATH?

- A Center for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, a community service, education and research project under the direction of the School of Medicine, was recently initiated. Faculty and community volunteers are developing and providing a broad range of counselling services to families in the Nassau-Suffolk area who have lost a child to sudden infant death syndrome. The educational part of the project provides for the development of training programs designed to prepare physicians, nurses, emergency medical personnel and police to better handle the instances of sudden infant death syndrome. The project is currently funded through direct support from the National Foundation for Sudden Infant Death. For more information, call 444-2582.

## DISTRESSED?

- A service was begun this spring aimed at adults who are anxious or depressed due to marital discord, job dissatisfaction, financial difficulties or other situations. The free assessment and referral service, offered by members of the Psychology Department, diagnoses problems and points out where appropriate help can be found.

The service, conducted by clinical psychology intern Steven Greer, is aimed at "persons who know they're hurting but don't know what to do about it."

"Very often," Mr. Greer said, "emotionally distressed persons delay seeking help because their spouses are unsupportive, they feel it may be too expensive or they feel there is a stigma attached to the need for psychological counseling. We have been successful in helping clients overcome that initial fear and reluctance, and directing them to persons who can help them cope with anxiety-causing situations."

Mr. Greer said the Stony Brook service can be offered at no cost because the clients contribute, by their participation, to an ongoing academic study on verbal problem-solving in distressed persons.

Persons may obtain further information or make appointments for assessment and referral by calling Steven Greer, 246-5970, weekdays from 11:00 a.m. — 8:00 p.m.

- The Psychological Clinic, a community-oriented facility which offers psychological services, including individual and group psychotherapy and special programs, such as clinics dealing with obesity and smoking addiction, is run by the Psychology Department. The clinic is a training facility for the department's clinical psychology program. Graduate students, under the supervision of faculty members, gain experience dealing with a variety of personal and social problems of the community. The clinic is open to adults at a sliding charge of from \$5—25 per hour, depending on income. According to Dr. David M. Pomeranz, clinic director, the clinic will also be offering consultation services to Long Island agencies, health facilities and community groups, beginning this fall. For clinic information, call 246-6719.

## TENSE?

- A two-day clinic was held May 4—5 at the campus Dental Care Center to test for hypertension and oral cancer. The screenings, free and open to the public, were sponsored by the School of Dentistry in conjunction with the American Cancer Society.

- Hypertension screening was one of several services offered at a health fair held at Smith Haven Mall in late March. The American Cancer Society, Suffolk Heart Association, American Lung Association and American Red Cross participated in the affair which was organized by the Health Sciences Center Student Association.

## TOO SHY?

- If the waitress brings you steak well-done when you ordered it medium, do you tell her? If talkative people sitting in front of you in a theater are disturbing, do you ask them to be quiet? Do you complain when you receive poor service in a department store? Have you ever purchased an item you did not want because you could not say no to the salesperson? Are you always agreeing to do things for people, regardless of how unreasonable the request?

People who cannot stand up for their rights, voice their opinions, or feel they are always being taken advantage of because they are too polite to protest can now do something about it through a therapy program in assertive training at the University.

Dr. Marvin Goldfried, professor of psychology, is directing the program, which is part of a three-year, \$165,000 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. According to Dr. Goldfried, the program utilizes various techniques to help participants more effectively overcome submissiveness.

The program, which has been run for two years, has drawn a heavy response. Participation is free of charge with program costs paid for by the federal grant. Participants attend one-hour group sessions for about two months. For additional information, contact Dr. Goldfried in the Department of Psychology.

## DRINK AND DRIVE?

- A sixteen-hour Driver Rehabilitation Program designed for certain eligible Suffolk County motorists convicted of driving while under the influence of alcohol is being offered by the University's Center for Continuing and Developing Education (CED). The Program is an outgrowth of the Caemmerer Bill, whereby with both court and Motor Vehicle Department approval, certain convicted drivers would be eligible for a conditional license if they participate in the Driver Rehabilitation Program. In the past, these motorists would lose their regular driving licenses for a period of 60 days or six months, depending upon the conviction.

Driver Rehabilitation Programs are being established throughout New York State. Stony Brook is responsible for establishing a program for Suffolk County. According to Dr. Mortimer Kreuter, Dean of CED, 40 classes have been implemented as part of Stony Brook's program. "It is estimated," Dr. Kreuter said, "that about 2,000 Suffolk County residents will annually opt to participate in this program."

"While judges have often incorporated counseling into court sentences," said Dr. Haymes, program coordinator, "the handling of less severe cases in groups of 20 may have a wider impact on lessening recidivism and reducing alcohol-related accidents on the highways."

- In a separate program, 120 teachers and health and social welfare agency personnel have completed alcohol education programs held at Stony Brook each summer since 1972. Sponsored by the State Department of Mental Hygiene's Division of Alcoholism, the institutes bring together physicians, nurses, social workers, geriatric administrators and school personnel to learn how to prevent the spread of alcoholism.

"We are setting up teams among the participants," said Dr. Stanley Zimering, institute coordinator. "Each team is required to organize an alcohol prevention program within a school, community or agency. No one will earn credits until their programs are in operation."

The institute is offered by the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science in the School of Medicine in cooperation with the Long Island Research Institute. According to Dr. Zimering, "Graduates of the institute have been highly successful in bringing together school and community resources to develop primary alcoholism prevention programs for the benefit of children, teenagers and adult community residents in Suffolk and Nassau."

## DIABETES?

- A symposium designed to provide updated information on diabetes to health professionals and the public was held on April 28 under the sponsorship of the University and the New York Diabetes Association. Titled "Living with Diabetes," the symposium featured talks and workshops led by diabetes specialists. Subjects included the history of diabetes and the development of treatment, current status of research, chronic illness and quality of life, psychological aspects of diabetes, employment, insurance and other economic concerns, genetic counseling, managing the young diabetic, adult-

onset diabetes and special problems of the aged, nutrition and the diabetic's diet, and counseling the diabetic.

## TAY—SACHS DISEASE?

- In March, on-campus screenings for Tay-Sachs disease were held for the public and students for \$1. The tests were sponsored by Hillel Society, the Infirmary, and the National Tay-Sachs and Allied Diseases Association. The disease is characterized by the absence of a vital enzyme that results in a disorder of the nervous system. One in 25 Jews of Eastern-European origin are carriers and one in 300 of the general public are carriers of the disease.

## SICKLE CELL ANEMIA?

- In the past, student-sponsored black cultural weekends on campus have included free testing of adults and children for sickle cell anemia, a disease of the blood which afflicts many blacks.

## TOOTHACHE?

- The Dental Care Center is a clinical service of the School of Dental Medicine, offering dental services to people in the community, and provided by faculty and dental students as an essential part of clinical education. Dental care services are relatively comprehensive, within the dental students' ability to perform these services. All work done by the students is supervised by the dental faculty. Students and the full-time staff of dental assistants and dental hygienists work as a team in providing services.

The Dental Care Center is open every day, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.—5 p.m. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 444-2500. - Currently the Center has about 1000 active patients. Fees are charged according to a set schedule and are broadly comparable to those being charged by dentists in private practice. Questions about fees, in particular cases, will be answered by the Center.

Patient treatment facilities are modern, allow for privacy, and are well equipped. Patient parking is available and the waiting room facilities are attractive and comfortable. A completely equipped modern dental laboratory, staffed with a complement of skilled dental technicians, is located adjacent to the patient treatment areas providing the necessary support and expertise for the fabrica-

## OVERDOSE?

- A toxicology service at the University is now helping local hospitals analyze blood, urine and other liquids. The service, made possible by a mass spectrometer facility operated jointly by the Department of Pharmacological Sciences of the School of Basic Health Sciences and the Chemistry Department, has been particularly beneficial in determining which chemicals were injected by overdose victims.

## MENTAL ILLNESS?

- The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science is now operating the Long Island Research Institute, a mental health research facility of the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene. The facility is concerned with investigations in the areas of treatment and its outcome and evaluation; development and evaluation of new diagnostic procedures; epidemiology and community psychiatry especially related to the treatment and rehabilitation of the mentally handicapped, including, but not limited to, the aged, children, adolescents and the addicted.

More than 50 individual research projects are underway. In addition, facilities located at the University Psychiatric Services at Central Islip Psychiatric Center have been prepared for the establishment of two clinical research wards, which will support 36 beds. The Institute's phone number is 444-2415.

- The Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science has also developed ambulatory mental health services with the Farmingville Clinic, thus providing additional psychiatric aid to the local community. The Clinic is part of the Suffolk County Health Services Administration.

## AGING?

- For the third consecutive year, students in the School of Allied Health Professions' Community/Mental Health Education Program organized a free spring health fair for senior citizens. This year's fair, titled "Go to Health," was held at Leisure Village in Shoreham on June 14. The students invited health professionals to speak on hypertension, nutrition, sexuality, safety, arthritis and heart disease. Medical screening for certain health problems was available, as was informational and educational literature and materials.

- In March, an advocate for the aging, Dr. Barbara Silverstone, chief of social services and director of outreach programs at the Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged in New York City, spoke on "Aging in a Youth-Oriented Society." The talk was part of the Health Sciences Center's lecture series on Contemporary Issues in Health Care and Public Policy held throughout the year.

- A fall 1976 lecture series titled "What Do We Really Know About Aging?" will be sponsored by the School of Allied Health Professions. The series, held on ten Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. in Lecture Hall 2 in the new Health Sciences Building east of Nicolls Road, costs \$25 for senior citizens and students, and \$75 for health professionals and community members. Continuing education credits can be earned. For further information, contact Antoinette Bosco, 444-2331. The topics will be: Sept. 14, Stating the Problem; Sept. 21, The Gray Panther Way; Sept. 28, Medical Problems of Older People; Oct. 5, Sexuality and Aging; Oct. 12, Aging in the Year 2000; Oct. 19, The Biology of Aging; Oct. 26, Community Concern for the Aging; Nov. 9, Psychological and Psychiatric Aspects of Aging; Nov. 16, Legal Rights of the Elderly, Current Legislation About Aging; Nov. 30, Setting Up a Geriatric Unit in a Community Hospital.

- Senior citizens are permitted to audit some University courses free of charge. For further information, contact Dr. Alan Entine, 246-3304.

- A series of radio programs on WNYG (1400 AM) this spring featured prominent faculty members of the Health Sciences Center offering health care advice for senior citizens.

- A spring seminar on "Aging and Health: Gerontology and Geriatric Care" sponsored by the School of Allied Health Professions was open to the public.

## MARRIAGE ON THE ROCKS?

- Couples who were married at least five years and experiencing marital difficulties were invited last fall to receive counseling through a new marital therapy service offered through the Department of Psychology. Trained therapists counseled couples individually in weekly one-hour therapy sessions usually lasting ten weeks. Participants were charged an hourly fee on a sliding scale, dependent on the couple's annual income.

Dr. Daniel O'Leary, professor of psychology and director of the marital therapy program, said couples received counseling in the area of temperament and hostility arising from frequent arguments over household concerns, child care, budgetary matters, frequency and kinds of sexual interaction and other relationship problems. "The objective of the therapy program was to make it possible for a husband and wife to express both positive and negative feelings without exploding," Dr. O'Leary said.

## SEX PROBLEMS?

- For about two years, the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science has been running a clinic for the treatment of couples with sexual dysfunction problems. Fifteen hour-long sessions are held, six days a week, so the entire program takes less than three weeks. According to Dr. Joseph LoPiccolo, associate professor of psychiatry, the clinic enables the staff to research treatment techniques, so the types of cases accepted are few, usually limited to women who are totally inorgasmic, who have never had an orgasm, and men who suffer from erectile failure or premature ejaculation. The cost is nominal, based on a sliding scale dependent on the couple's take-home pay. Most costs are borne by a research grant from the National Institute of Mental Health.

- For several months now, Gayphone, "a counseling and referral service designed to meet the needs of the gay and bisexual community in Suffolk County," has been operating at 751-6380. Organized by Eileen Stec, a graduate student in social welfare, the service offers problem-solving assistance and information and supersedes an on-campus dialing service begun a few years ago. "We're concerned. We're confidential," reads a Gayphone poster. Summer hours are 8—12 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; in winter, the service operates every night.

## CAN'T DEAL WITH YOUR TEENAGER?

Two programs have been operating in the last few months designed to help parents and teenagers who aren't getting along. Both were run by graduate students in the Psychology Department's clinical psychology program.

- Early in 1976, mothers and their seventh and eighth grade teenagers were offered a free problem assessment and referral service. Mother/adolescent couples were invited to participate in three brief sessions to identify areas of conflict, assess the need for professional help and provide specific information on counseling services available on Long Island. Evaluation sessions included individual interviews and a battery of written response information. The object was to diagnose those areas of common conflict which frequently lead to unacceptable behavior at home. Some problem areas were related to money, curfews, free time, homework, school attitudes and parental interference. The assessment service was offered as part of a research project

*(continued on back page)*



## WHAT AILS YOU? *(continued from inside)*

aimed at improving treatment and guidance programs for families plagued by poor parent/child communication.

- A couple of months later, a problem-solving training service was begun for parents and adolescents 10–14 years old “whose disagreements over money, friends, clothes and other issues often take the form of high-decibel discussions and arguing.” The service, for which a \$10 administrative/clerical fee was charged, accepted families for seven one-hour sessions geared to each family’s communication problems. According to clinical psychology intern Sharon Foster, training sessions were aimed at helping parent and child to discuss problems “without going off the deep end and having discussions degenerate into screaming and arguing.” Training instructors analyzed participants’ questionnaires and designed self-help programs consistent with the responses and information gleaned from personal interviews.

### HYPERACTIVE CHILDREN?

- Therapy aimed at helping parents and teachers cope with hyperactive children was begun last winter as part of a therapy effectiveness study conducted by members of the Psychology Department. Hyperactive children already receiving medication were assigned to one of two groups; with one group continuing to receive medication and the other group withdrawing from drugs to be placed in behavioral counseling sessions to curb restlessness, disruptiveness and excitability. Children met with trained therapists who are clinical psychologists and clinical interns. Therapists also observed children in home and school environments and conducted therapy sessions with parents and teachers. Parents were charged an hourly counseling fee, based on a sliding scale dependent on annual income.

- A ten-week workshop designed to teach parents effective skills for managing their hyperactive or behaviorally problematic children was organized this spring by Dennis Dubey, a psychology doctoral student. The workshop, held in conjunction with the Sagamore Children’s Center in Melville, was open to 50 families who were charged a \$7.50 materials fee each. According to Mr. Dubey, the workshop was intended to teach parents how and why their children behave in certain ways and the means through which the parents can better influence and direct them. “We are teaching parents to

be therapists in that they will learn how to promote longterm changes and cope with both new and recurring problems,” Mr. Dubey said. “In previous years, about 85% of the problems parents encountered were alleviated through the workshop. Parents demonstrated an increased confidence in handling their children.”

- The Point of Woods School, a University laboratory school located on the campus and operated by the Department of Psychology, is open to a small number of children in first and second grade who have academic and behavior problems, are of average intelligence and have no major physical handicaps. The program is designed specifically for children who are impulsive and hyperactive, who have short attention spans and low tolerance for frustration. Children are referred to the School by the teachers, psychologists, principal and pupil personnel director of their local school. For further information, contact Dr. Susan G. O’Leary, director of the School.

- The Child Psychological Clinic, run by the Department of Psychology, offers, for children under 16, such services as assessment and treatment of various psychological problems related to emotional, social and intellectual development. Dr. K. Daniel O’Leary is the coordinator and more information is available by calling 246-5970.

### HANDICAPPED CHILD?

- Hundreds of handicapped children participated in the fifth annual special olympics held on the campus in May. For information on future special olympics, contact A. Henry vonMechow, 246-7637.

- Swimming for handicapped children takes place in the University pool as students who are certified water safety instructors are taught the requirements for certification as Red Cross instructors in swimming for the handicapped. For more information, contact A. Henry vonMechow, 246-7637.

### NEED HELP?

- Response, an emergency counseling and referral service for help in a crisis, operates at 751-7500. Although not sponsored by the University, many University-affiliated persons were instrumental in its founding and have volunteered assistance over the years. ▼

Stony Brook Review

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