

UNIVERSITY IN A PINCH: Part I

This issue and the next are designed to offer readers a close-up of an economic pinch. Hundreds of reports and statistical breakdowns have been sifted and more than 50 persons interviewed in an effort to present all the basic facts and a variety of viewpoints from all segments of the Stony Brook campus.

The result is stark: The commitment to excellence and quality, and the determination that Stony Brook will continue to develop as one of the nation's finest universities still prevail. But the danger of frustration and disappointment eroding the commitment and determination, and threatening the enterprise, is real and present.

"The clocks, the telephones, the library. Nothing works!"

That's an irate student's reaction to the shortage of maintenance help and cutback on library acquisitions, two of austerity's effects on Stony Brook.

The campus mood right now ranges from angry hyperbole like this to the cooperative attitude reflected by many faculty members who have voluntarily pitched in to fill gaps and maintain essential services.

Harder Times Ahead

Austerity measures have rather quietly been in effect at the University for the last 15 months. The fact that even harder times are in store for the 1972-73 fiscal year starting this spring is indicated by several recent developments:

—In January, the State Legislature received Governor Rockefeller's state budget proposal for the fiscal year beginning this spring. Due to the depressed state of the nation's economy in general and New York State's fiscal situation in particular, the Governor was forced to make across-the-board cuts in all state operations, including the State University. The amount requested for Stony Brook was thus \$1,227,000 less than last year. It may be possible for the Governor and the Legislature to increase this allocation somewhat through additional funding in the supplemental budget, which covers requirements not anticipated in the general budget request and is traditionally considered late in each legislative session. However, less money than last year, probably a considerable amount less, will be available on campus during the coming year.

—Soon after, it was announced that several million dollars worth of projected construction was to be deferred.

—To help offset the anticipated budget cuts, it became necessary in February to announce a hike in University tuition rates and dorm rentals, effective in June.

These measures have many effects, ranging from annoying to crippling. They mean jobs lost; programs, offices, projects, departments and schools cut back or cut out; services curtailed; requests for equipment and supplies delayed or denied; construction plans

changed, postponed, or cancelled. Increased hardships and inconvenience for students, faculty and staff are inevitable as are reduced services for the community.

Cuts Deeper Than Seem at First

President John Toll's immediate reaction to the 1972-73 cut of more than one-and-a-quarter million from Stony Brook's previous 1971-72 budget of \$36,928,000 was: "We're in a state of shock. For Stony Brook, it clearly represents a deep cut below what would have been a standstill budget."

Although the proposed cut in the operating budget is only 3.3%, several factors tend to intensify the problem:

—First, the 1971-72 budget was itself an austerity one for which many "temporary" cuts have already been made.

—Rising inflation has caused a price increase of about 7% in virtually every aspect of the budget from salaries to supplies and services.

—To meet the Long Island region's needs, Stony Brook's enrollment in 1972-73 must grow. In spite of the budget cutback, Stony Brook is being asked to take an increase of 732 students, the largest projected increment for any of the established state university campuses.

—The campus has grown in the last two years with the opening of the 11 South Campus surge buildings, Stage XII dormitories and dining hall, Stony Brook Union, administration building, the four-fold library expansion, Instructional Resources Center and lab-office building. This expansion will continue with the opening of the new graduate chemistry, graduate biology and physics-math structures. This growth brings with it an increase in maintenance charges. For example, the electric bill for 1971-72 is expected to be \$900,000, up from \$600,000 last year. Similarly, heating fuel costs are about \$600,000 this year compared to \$450,000 of a year ago.

—At the same time State support is declining, competition for funding from outside sources is increasing. For example, research grants are not as readily available as in previous years.

The *New York Times*, in discussing the statewide University cuts, wrote: "Governor Rockefeller's standstill un-

iversity budget in reality amounts to a severe budget cut. Mandated cost increases will in effect give the university \$30 million less for operations. The pressure is so great that the administration may have to leave some new buildings unused because it cannot afford the maintenance costs."

At Stony Brook, S. M. Gerstel, director of the budget, explained that departments are likely to experience 10-15% cuts in expense allocations, cuts which rise to 20-25% when general inflationary price increases are considered. To complicate matters, new buildings opened on campus this past year have increased indoor space from 3½ to 4 million square feet. "That means," said Mr. Gerstel, "that we're going to have to deal with needs that are perhaps 15% greater with a budget that's, in effect, 25% smaller."

Projected figures indicate that 160 faculty and staff positions will be eliminated in the coming year. This will be accomplished by abolishing most currently unfilled positions and continuing to leave posts vacant as people retire or resign. Though no firings are anticipated, only the most vital employees will be replaced as losses are experienced through normal attrition.

From 1970 to 1973, Stony Brook's general campus enrollment will have in-

library-humanities addition and heating plant are expected to realize a savings of \$337,000 and \$500,000, respectively. The greatest saving comes from the postponement of long-range building plans for an observatory, dormitories, married student housing, dining halls, a gym addition and a science lecture center.

Two long-awaited construction projects, the Health Sciences Center and the Fine Arts Building, have experienced delays. Work on the first stage of the Health Sciences Center, the steel frame of which is already constructed, had been halted, but with the letting of recent contracts, has resumed. However, some future phases of health sciences construction have been delayed. The Fine Arts Building, which has been on the drawing boards for eight years, and a Social and Behavioral Sciences Building are awaiting state financing, although a federal grant has been received and is scheduled to expire if construction does not begin by June 30 this year.

Tuition Increased

The tuition increase places the State University of New York among the top third in cost for students among the nation's public universities. The new rates for New York State residents are

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creased by one-third, "while at the same time, total number of staff positions will have decreased by 7%," said Mr. Gerstel.

Construction Reduced

Reduced construction expenditures will be achieved in several ways. Expansion will be delayed on some projects already under construction; completion of the math-physics complex, for instance, will be deferred. Present construction of the new graduate chemistry building is expected to save \$1 million by keeping costs below budgeted maximums. Similar savings for the

\$650 (up \$100) a year for freshmen and sophomores; \$800 (up \$250) for juniors and seniors; \$1200 (up \$400) for graduate students; and \$1600 (up \$400) for professional students (medical, etc.). For out-of-state residents, tuition will be \$1075 (up \$175) a year for freshmen and sophomores; \$1300 (up \$400) for juniors and seniors; \$1500 (up \$500) for graduate students; and \$2000 (up \$500) for professional students.

Adjustments in student financial assistance will be made to offset the impact of the tuition increase on low and middle-income families. Nearly 80% of the State University's undergraduate



students are from families having a net taxable income of less than \$12,000 a year. These families will pay a maximum of \$100 in additional tuition charges for freshmen and sophomores, and \$150 for juniors and seniors. For families making less than \$2000 a year, there will continue to be no tuition whatsoever. □

Students Feel Austerity's Effects

Stony Brook is being asked to take a larger increase in students than the other three University Centers combined, while simultaneously taking the largest increase in student-faculty ratios and the greatest percentage of cuts in total support costs. These facts, coupled with the tuition hike, make matters difficult for students.

Even though the new tuition rates are offset by increased student aid, needy students will still experience economic restrictions. Already, according to Roberto Rosado, Polity president, "work-study hours have been cut back, off-campus part-time jobs are very scarce with the economy the way it is, and student loan interest rates are going up."

According to graduate student Tim Patterson, "austerity this year meant some graduate students just didn't get supported. A lot of budget lines are being cut up into halves and quarters in an attempt to spread the money around. The result is people who had full assistantships are being cut to half or one-quarter support."

"A year ago we had teaching assistant-lines covering about half our graduate students," said Dr. Edward Ames, chairman of the economics department. "Now only about a third have teaching assistant lines."

Dr. David Trask, chairman of the history department, reported that he has lost "a good number of student assistants, depriving students of income as well as depriving the department of their services." Another point made by Dr. Trask is that with increased aus-

terity, "it means that we, in all probability, will have less time for faculty members to give students."

This fear is echoed by Dr. Raymond F. Jones, provost of the division of biological sciences: "As student enrollment increases the faculty and financial resources must increase proportionally. Increased student enrollment without a concomitant increase in faculty, administrative personnel or fiscal support, places an increased demand upon our current faculty to involve themselves in administrative responsibilities which are normally assigned to secretarial and technical staff. The inability to hire this type of administrative personnel forces the professor away from his classroom and his students, and thus reduces the personal contact of student and teacher to a minimum."

Mr. Rosado feels the hardest felt cuts are not in the classroom but in supportive services where some effects are not at all subtle. One such service is the infirmary, where in-patient care has been curtailed altogether. Patients are now referred to local hospitals instead.

As for academic advisement, Dr. Alan Entine, assistant academic vice president, said, "Generally, we're doing a job for more students but with fewer people. We've got four people here to help 8000 students. It's just not a satisfactory way to help."

The Student Affairs staff — responsible for admissions, financial aids, records, guidance, placement, psychological services, residence hall management and counselling, residential college program and the Stony Brook Union — has a staff today of 90 where it had 145 a year ago. According to Robert Moeller, assistant to the vice president for student affairs, "we have less staff now than we had four years ago when the University had half today's enrollment."

The residential college program, originally designed to divide the dormitory complexes into English-style residential colleges, each with its own social, educational and cultural programs supplementing formal University offerings, is

Next Issue:

The Community, Campus Attitudes, A Few Silver Linings

The next issue of the *Stony Brook Review* will explore some positive effects of austerity, some ways in which the tight budget situation is affecting the Long Island community and a range of student, faculty and staff attitudes on the subject of the cutbacks.

one of the hardest hit areas. Nine residential colleges lack program coordinators. "In some of the residential colleges," Mr. Moeller said, "the college programs have essentially floundered. In others, volunteer staff have managed to keep the programs going."

Lack of staff in the admissions office has meant that interviews with prospective students, which used to be held every day, are limited to Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, notifying students of their acceptances has been slowed.

The financial aids office, with a staff of five (cut back from seven) handles the multitude of detailed paperwork involved in administering financial assistance to more than 4000 students. The tuition hike and generally poor economic conditions are adding to an already heavy load of applications. Unfortunately notification of financial awards are sometimes being received by students who have already chosen to go to other schools where aid was promised more readily.

Max Rosselot, dean for student administrative services, said, "it is the students who are suffering the most." For example, he cited the office of records where thousands of unfilled requests for transcripts are piling up because there is only one woman to handle them. They are months behind and this delay can be crucial to students awaiting graduate school acceptance and job offers. Placing the records of transfer students in order is

over two months behind and getting the June 1971 graduates on record was not accomplished until December. The certification of graduates, for teaching and other purposes, has become an enormous problem and there is no certification officer to handle it. Systems studies being made of improved computerized methods of handling admissions, financial aids and records had to be halted when it became necessary to use all personnel in day-to-day affairs.

The bursar's payment counters in the administration building lobby have had to be closed down two days a week so that the short-handed staff can deal with some of its other pressing work. Student refunds are behind and austerity-caused restrictions on overtime use of staff makes it even harder to catch up.

Ernest M. Christensen, director of the Stony Brook Union, has a list two-and-a-half feet long of approximately 200 pending jobs that await action in the Union. But there are only four janitors to do the work of 12. "We're trying harder but doing everything worse," said Mr. Christensen. "The result is that this building, the University's living room, is a dirty living room." □

Faculty Experience Freeze on Hiring

Professors, faced with larger enrollments and not permitted to replace departing faculty members, are finding themselves in a bind.

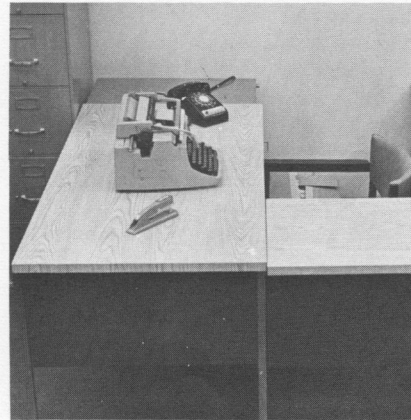
"Faculty members will just have to teach more to larger classes," said Dr. Irwin Kra, acting provost in the division of mathematical sciences.

Some of the most difficult times are being experienced by the newest programs which often have great student appeal but, because of austerity, have not been able to expand. Thus, the new computer science department has no administrative assistant to handle the myriad chores and office work essential to a department. The department of ecology and evolution, on which the demand is high, has neither

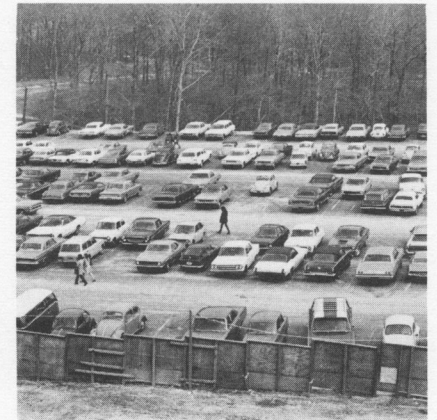
THE QUESTION OF AUSTERITY: WHEN



When will there be enough campus mailmen to deliver the mail promptly ?



When will secretaries be hired to replace the hundred who were lost this year ?



When will a Fine Arts Center and Behavioral and Social Sciences Building rise on this site ?

an administrative assistant nor a secretary, and two faculty members have left, leaving a void which the department is not allowed to fill at this time. A similar crunch is being felt by faculty members teaching increasingly popular film-making courses: the faculty is minimal and funds for film and equipment almost non-existent. In marine sciences, another area of growing interest, the work of some graduate students is being impeded by the cancellation of a research-training cruise program and the lack of much-needed desk calculating equipment.

Other annoyances to faculty include the ban on merit raises once awarded to worthy members, the difficulty in obtaining new equipment, the lack of money available for visiting speakers and the freeze on out-of-state travel expenses.

The lack of travel money means professors are not able to attend professional meetings and conferences of learned societies. This is especially hard on the younger faculty who depend on these sessions to present their research and develop academic standing in their individual fields. In December eight determined members of the economics department paid their own way to meetings in order to deliver academic papers.

Dr. Francis H. Palmer, provost for educational research and development, said that the lack of resources to fund new projects leaves faculty with little incentive to develop programs to meet new needs. Thus, future quality of educational programs could suffer, said Dr. Palmer.

Some faculty members, distressed by the cutbacks and slowdowns, have resigned. Dr. Peter Rogatz and Donald J. Meyers both left the University after the University Hospital they had been hired to direct was the victim of budgetary postponements.

Dr. John Garcia, chairman of the department of psychology, said "some of our people are receiving better offers from universities which are better equipped and have better facilities and

therefore offer a better chance for advancement."

"Faculty members can't help casting their eyes elsewhere," said Dr. Ivan H. Schulman, chairman of the department of Hispanic languages and literature. "Things are not quite this tight everywhere."

Dr. Steven Weisbroth, director of the division of animal laboratory resources in the Health Sciences Center, is in charge of 14,000 square feet of empty space because caging and feeding facilities and related equipment for medical research have been temporarily stricken from the budget. He said, "I see all this as program delay rather than program removal. I'm optimistic that in time the situation will improve, but nonetheless, good people are not going to stay here forever on just expectations." □

Staff Forced To Limit Services

Non-teaching personnel are experiencing the same prohibition against filling vacated positions as is the faculty. In the last year, for example, over 100 clerical workers, 25% of the clerical work force, have been lost. "Continued cutbacks in secretarial personnel," said Joseph Diana, vice president for finance and management, "will have a steady demoralizing effect on faculty and professional staff as they are required to assume duties they were not hired to perform."

The division of mathematic sciences, with a faculty of 69, is now served by only five secretaries and the 20-member economics department has only one secretary as does the 30-member elementary education and teacher preparation programs.

A shortage of telephone operators sometimes makes it difficult to reach a campus operator for information or to transfer calls. The Campus Print Shop has had its staff cut in half, from 12 to six. The department of earth and space sciences has lost its draftsman and a machinist.

In the mailroom, second and third class mail is often delayed for over a week. Three years ago the campus had 49 buildings, 6700 students, 75 maildrops, 20,000-25,000 pieces of mail daily and nine mailmen. Today, with 72 buildings, 12,500 students, 145 maildrops, and a mail load of 40,000-50,000 pieces, there are still only nine mailmen.

In 1970 the maintenance department — including maintenance, custodial and power plant personnel — had a staff of 344. Today with a far bigger job to handle, the staff numbers 280. The janitorial staff alone, which should have increased from 231 to 292 to cover the newly-opened buildings, actually decreased since 1970 to the present level of 187. The maintenance situation is so severe that additional funding to meet the most urgent needs is being requested in the supplemental budget.

With the shortage of staff and services has come an increase in safety and security problems. A recent rash of burglaries in Tabler and Roth Quad dormitories brought strong student demands for locks to be changed. However, in these particular dormitories, this requires a complete time-consuming change of \$35 door hardware units and creates a difficult financial and staff burden on the maintenance department.

Joseph P. Kimble, director of campus security, is working with the same number of staff — 35 — he had a year ago in spite of campus growth. This means an average shift of eight men must cover 1200 acres, 72 buildings and a daily population in excess of 10,000. □

Equipment, Facilities, Supplies Cut

Additional cuts in supplies and equipment for 1972-73, probably amounting to at least \$100,000, are likely to cause still more headaches.

An example might be those of Dr. Marvin Kuschner, dean pro tem of the School of Medicine in the Health Sciences Center. He holds about \$300,000 in combined research grants for his

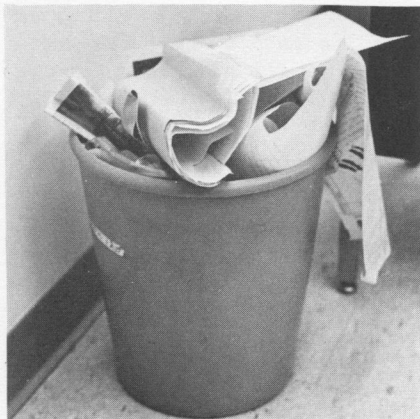
research on industrial pollutants that can cause lung cancer. Due to the lack of facilities at Stony Brook, he has had to travel to New York University's medical research facility in New Jersey to do his research. Difficulties attracting and holding faculty members will be felt if adequate research facilities and equipment are not forthcoming.

According to Dr. Joseph Tanenhaus, chairman of the department of political science, an experimental course involving methods for improving undergraduate teaching had to be eliminated because special cassettes essential to the course could not be obtained. Likewise, buses could not be hired for an internship program involving students working one-day-a-week in Albany legislative offices.

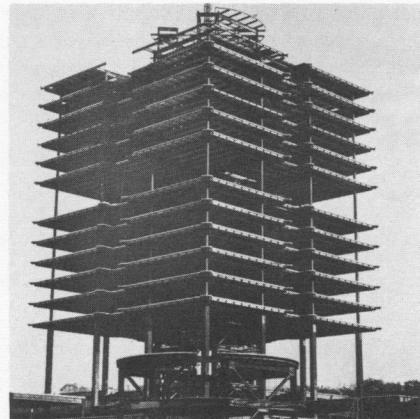
Basic courses in anatomy were to have been taught with new self-instructing techniques that would have accelerated study and reduced cost in time and personnel, but the freeze cancelled prospects of purchasing the materials in the near future.

"Things were so bad at one point," said Edmund McTernan, dean of allied health professions, "that we seriously considered dismissing students in the physical therapy program because we could not get the equipment we needed to train them. Now some of our students are using equipment at Suffolk County Community College. We are told that people are working on the equipment problem but so far we have a lot of promises but no equipment. We can't even get a demonstration wheelchair and a pair of crutches. It's a sad commentary when a prestigious university has to go out to borrow a pair of crutches from a local community hospital."

Normally six to ten cars in the motor pool are replaced annually as they reach the State's 75,000 mileage limit. However, the University was not able to purchase any new cars last year so state cars are breaking down at a greater rate. Most of the vehicles in the motor pool have 60,000 - 80,000 miles on them. □



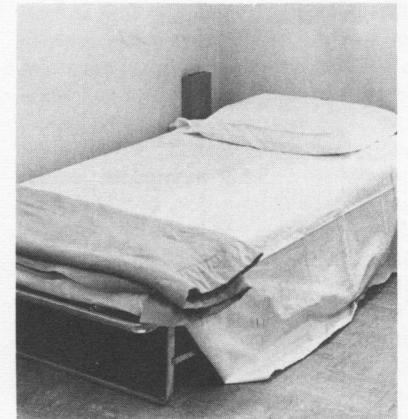
When will an adequate number of maintenance personnel be hired ?



When will the Health Sciences Center be completed ?



When will the library's acquisitions budget be sufficient to meet demands ?



When will the infirmary again perform in-patient services ?

New Regionalism Replaces Competition In Education

"Regionalism" describes one of the most promising current trends in higher education, one that Stony Brook is helping to implement in the greater New York metropolitan area.

The competition and rivalry of yesterday is rapidly giving way to a new cooperation between two, several or all the colleges and universities in a given region, as they look for ways of using their resources for the mutual benefit of all.

Regionalism also is bringing closer relationships between campuses and their area school systems. At Stony Brook, programs for high school teachers in economics, drug and health education, history and other fields already are operational. And, discussions now underway could result in well-qualified students at a number of area high schools being able to start college-level work at Stony Brook in their senior year.

Stony Brook's involvement in campus regionalism already extends from one-to-one cooperative programs with neighboring institutions to county, bi-county and metropolitan area programs, and, in at least one case, a potential tri-state program.

On the institution-to-institution level, with neighboring Suffolk County Community College, for example, Stony Brook has started an internship program that will send doctoral candidates from the history department to Suffolk for four-week internships. The program is a pilot effort, aimed at increasing the number of Ph.D.-trained teachers in junior colleges generally by acclimating potential Ph.D.'s to the junior college environment.

Another cooperative arrangement worked out recently will permit students completing two years in the unusual health sciences program at the State University College at Old Westbury to transfer to Stony Brook. They'll become third year students in the four-year B.S. degree program of the School of Nursing in the Health Sciences Center on campus.

Similarly, the Schools of Social Welfare and Allied Health Professions in the Health Sciences Center have cooperative arrangements with the State University Agricultural and Technical College at Farmingdale that permit technically-trained Farmingdale graduates to enter their programs.

Stony Brook's cooperative involvement with groups of regional institutions includes guest membership in a recently incorporated Nassau County Educational Consortium.

Members include Adelphi University, Hofstra University, New York Institute of Technology and C. W. Post Center of Long Island University. The State University College at Old Westbury also participates on a guest basis.

A larger, less formal cooperative organization has resulted from quiet

meetings of Long Island college presidents conducted since last fall at Stony Brook and other campuses. All 16 of Long Island's public and private colleges and universities are participating in this group, known as the Informal Regional Advisory Council for Higher Education in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. President Toll is a member of its steering committee, chaired by President Robert L. Payton of C. W. Post. Other steering committee members are Sister Mary Celeste, president of Malloy College, President George F. Chambers of Nassau Community College, President Clifford L. Lord of Hofstra and President Allyn P. Robinson of Dowling College. Dr. David Dickson, assistant to the president at Stony Brook, serves as the Regional Advisory Council's secretary. Dr. Dickson also is Stony Brook's representative for regional programs generally.

The Council presently is gathering comparative information on academic calendars, enrollment, programs, admissions requirements, library resources and master plans at its member institutions.

The steering committee's first public statement, late in December, struck a key theme of regionalism. The mission of higher education on Long Island, it said, "will be best served by cooperation in the face of common problems."

"We must maintain the character and momentum of our public institutions while we also protect our private colleges and universities," the steering committee added, "for the diversity of New York's system of higher education is needed to meet the full spectrum of our State's requirements."

Stony Brook also is part of the State University system's regionalism program for its own campuses, also started last fall. In this, Stony Brook is the University Center serving "Coordinating Area No. 4" which comprises counties from the Mid-Hudson area to Long Island.

Another possibility for regionalism, still in the earliest exploratory stages, might involve Stony Brook and New York University, Columbia, Princeton and Yale in a cooperative program with the New York Public Library which has long been one of the nation's largest and finest libraries. Plans being discussed could make its collections more readily accessible to students at all five universities. Possibilities for sharing library personnel and building up specialized collections for cooperative use

at one location instead of duplicating them at all are also being considered.

Such cooperative use of library resources by all Long Island colleges is among the subjects being broached by the Informal Regional Advisory Council in Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

In the next few months, the Long Island Council also will focus on other immediate possibilities for cooperation, within the broad areas of educational and management systems, financial planning and budgeting, space utilization, and systems for sharing data and measuring educational output and public needs. □

'Stony Brook' on TV, Radio, Record Labels

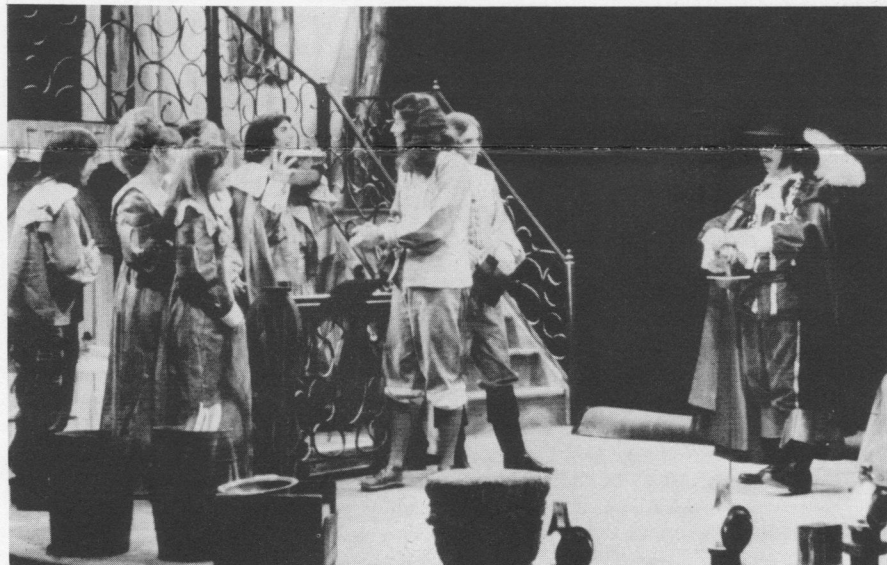
Lately the name Stony Brook has received attention not only as a village and a university but as a recording group, a disc jockey and a television set.

"Stony Brook People," it turns out, is not only the name of the University's alumni newspaper, but the name of a musical recording group. Pressed for information, Robert S. Altshuler, director of press and publication information for CBS Records, said, "As far as I know, no member of the group ever attended the State University of New

York at Stony Brook. The name was inspired by the spirit of the students who attend the State University and the fact that the members of the group live on Long Island. Also we think Stony Brook is a pleasant combination of words." The Stony Brook People have recorded "Easy to be Hard" and "There's Tomorrow," among others.

Radio station WBLI, Patchogue, has a policy of calling its disc jockeys by the names of Long Island towns. One of their most popular DJ's refers to himself as "the real Stony Brook." Another announcer is "named" Davis Park.

Panasonic is marketing a 9" battery-operated television called "The Stonybrook." Jack Bloom, creative group head of the communications division of Matsushita Electric Corp. of America, admitted, "In order to avoid legal problems when naming new products, past experience has told us that the safest, most reliable names are those of towns, cities, states, etc. So, with rare exception, we go through the Zip Code Directory annually and make our selections. This is how "Stonybrook" was selected." Which, of course, does not account for why there are models named "Stonybrook" and "East Hampton" but not "Hauppauge" or "Center Moriches." □



SPOOF: TARTUFFE — Moliere's "Tartuffe," under the direction of Thomas Neumiller, assistant professor of theatre arts, was scheduled to tour New York State, giving performances on six successive evenings in March. The troupe of Stony Brook actors was to travel in a bus with a collapsible stage set. The production was chosen by the University-Wide Committee on the Arts as one of three outstanding productions to be sent on tour.

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