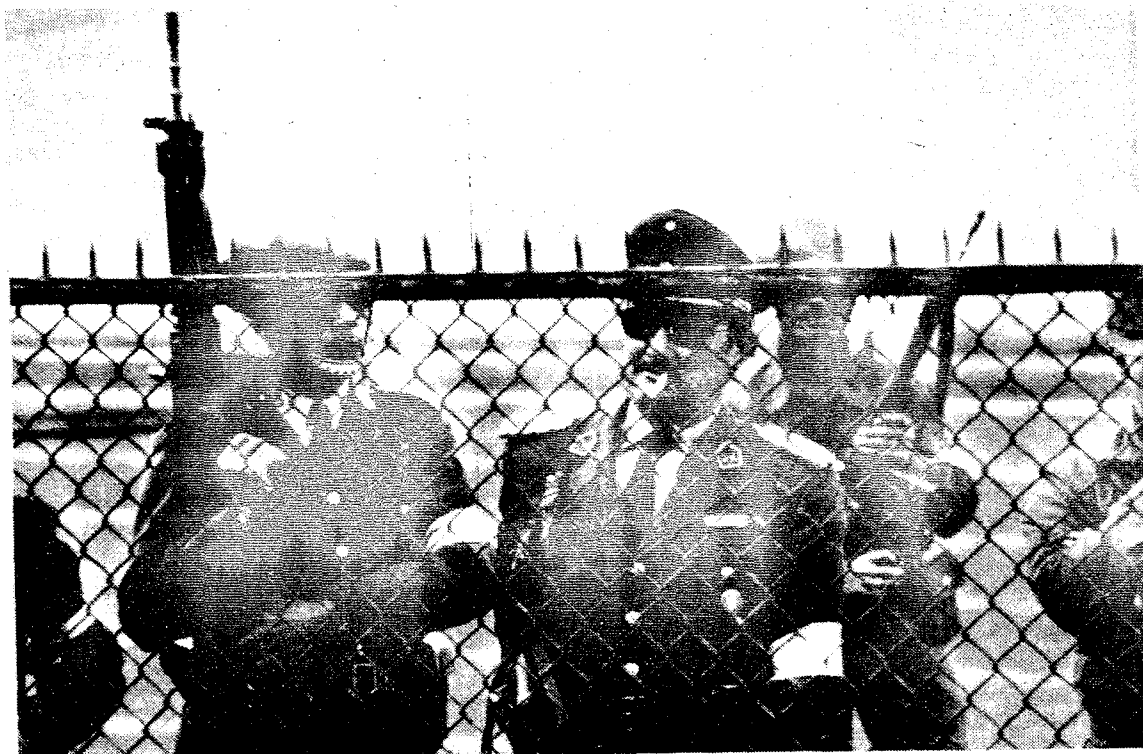


**THE
STONY
BROOK**

PRESS

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THE POETRY CENTER



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SENATE GOES INSANE



by Joe DiStefano

Military recruitment has become a major issue at universities around the nation because of the military's refusal to recruit homosexuals. At the Polity meeting on November 6, the Senate approved a recommendation opposing military recruitment on campus. Last year, the Senate overwhelmingly approved a similar motion. Since the senate has new members this year, president Dan Slepian said that he thought it would be fair for this year's senate to consider the issue.

According to Slepian, the issue arose last year when a homosexual student came to the University Senate to tell them that he thought the military's policy of not recruiting homosexuals was unfair. The University Senate then formed a committee on nondiscriminatory recruitment. Shortly after, they stated that they were opposed to the military's recruiting on campus, on the grounds that the military should not be allowed to recruit on campus because of a university policy which bars any group which discriminates on the basis of race or sexual preference to recruit on campus.

Slepian said, "The military is staying on campus because President Marburger said that's the way it's going to be." He also said that, "...saying we're in favor of keeping an organization on this campus that discriminates in any way shape or form in my eyes is endorsing something

like the KKK coming on campus." He said that now that the recommendation has passed, he will look into legal action that Polity can take if the military continues to recruit on campus.

Senator Richard Cole said, "If we disagree with the military's decision to not recruit or allow homosexuals in the military, it's our duty to change the rules, and the way to do that is to lobby your government."

Non-discriminatory recruitment was also discussed at the October 30 Polity Senate meeting. The meeting featured a guest speaker, Dr. Ernest Van Der Haag, a distinguished scholar at the Heritage Foundation and a contributing editor of *the National Review*. Haag stated, "I think the army is stupid not to accept homosexuals because history has told that homosexuals make excellent soldiers." He added, "Stupidity is certainly not unconstitutional." Referring to Van Der Haag's use of the word "stupid" to describe the policy, LGBA co-chair Brandon Rush accused Van Der Haag of, "Making light of an aggressively hateful policy." Rush added, "We're not talking about denying access to a recruiter just because we arbitrarily disagree with them."

Haag argued that the military should be allowed to recruit on campus because barring them from recruiting prevents student from making their own decisions about the issue. He said, "You should

allow each student to decide for himself whether he wishes to join a particular organization."

He added, "There can be no democracy unless you trust that individuals are intelligent enough to make their own decisions."

David Greene, recently elected Polity Treasurer said, "We are at an institution of higher education and if we are here to maximize freedoms, I think it's a contradiction in terms to stand in favor of an organization that discriminates."

Leonard Shapiro, the Polity lawyer also spoke at the Senate's previous meeting of October 30. Shapiro discussed freedom and censorship in the context of a university and American society at large. With reference to freedoms guaranteed in the constitution he said, "These freedoms are essential, without them we'd have no country."

Shapiro said, "With respect to your school's freedom of speech you have a tremendous amount of latitude as far as freedom of speech is concerned, freedom of the press, and freedom of religion." He added, "Every freedom has its limitations. There's no freedom to interfere with other people's freedom and that's where the limit comes in."

Although he discoursed on freedom in general, it was obvious that the Senate invited him to speak to clarify censorship issues relating to freedom of the press which arose at a past Senate meeting when a motion was made to take away the funds of the *Stony Brook Press*.

He said, "One does have the right to publish seventeen columns of straight obscenities, the difference is you have the choice to read that paper or not." Commuter Senator Steven Mauriello asked Shapiro, "...if it would be possible to impose restrictions upon what they would like, what the community in general would like to see and hear?" Mauriello made the point that since students are paying an activity fee which in parts funds the campus student media they should have some say as to their content.

Shapiro stated, "You are not buying the right to censor the newspaper, they could say whatever the hell they please and you

could tell them they're full of crap." He added, "Thank god there is no agency that oversees what people write or say. Once you start making regulations as to what's obscene and what's not obscene, what you can and can't say the next step is oppression."

The senate also discussed recent clashes among senators and what should be done to remedy them at the October 30 meeting. Slepian said, "It frustrates me a lot that there is so much infighting in Polity. We spend too much of our time dealing with each other. The student government is a check on the administration, we should not be fighting with each other."

Sophomore representative Nadia Chanza said, "I think that some senators do not respect each other." Commuter Senator Ron Nehring said, "There should be a level of professionalism which is conveyed here...I think we all have an idea of what professionalism is."

Senator Jerry Canada read a letter alleging that on October 24 he saw Senator Vinny Bruzzese, "use his foot to deface one of Rahul Rametra's campaign posters." Rametra was running for freshman representative at the time. Canada's letter recommends that, "Senator Bruzzese should be removed from office and permanently stripped of his Polity privileges. If Canada's statements are true then Bruzzese is in violation of Polity's election bylaws which states, "Any student allegedly impeding the election process, such as ripping down campaign literature....will be brought before the Judiciary for disciplinary actions such as removal of voting rights, ineligibility for election status, and the forfeiture or disqualification of other Polity services."

Commuter Senator Richard Cole said, "He's [Bruzzese] done a lot of good things for the Senate. This is too trivial or not enough evidence to really go forward with this type of action." He suggested the Senate, "...make some kind of verbal reprimand." Since then, Canada has dropped the charge against Bruzzese in return for a apology which Bruzzese addressed to the senate.

Perceptual Restorations

by MJ XII

While it is true that the Press has been guilty of unintentionally making mistakes in its copy, the title and this first sentence illustrates a principle of how the human brain can reconstruct information even if that information is partially missing. Which is precisely the sort of thing that Prof. Arthur Samuel of the Department of Psychology is studying. Last Friday the campus community was treated to some of the results and insights of his impressive and extensive research in a lecture entitled "Perceptual Restoration and Perceptual Degradation of Speech and Music."

The Department of Linguistics has repeatedly treated the campus to the likes

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of Dr. Samuel through their Colloquium of guest speakers, and this was no exception. In fact the audience was so engaged in Dr. Samuel's findings that he was restricted to answering questions on Perceptual Restoration and never got to Perceptual Degradation. (May I suggest a Part II is in order?)

Basically the idea behind studies in Perceptual Restoration is that the brain will restore parts of a stimuli that are missing or inadequate. In speech, if parts of individual sounds are degraded somehow, the brain will to a certain extent reconstruct those parts so that it receives an accurate representation of the communication. "One of the big goals, from my perspective," said Dr. Samuel, "is how these complex

sounds are perceived," and he designed a series of ingenious tests to show this.

One theory he tested was the "Cohort Theory," which basically says the first part of a word activates all possible candidates for that word and that they are chronologically "winnowed" down as the rest of the word becomes apparent. What Dr. Samuel did is that he replaced different phonemes, or individual speech components, with random white noise, and saw if people could determine minute inconsistencies in the word they were hearing. It turns out that for the most part they couldn't which lent support to the fact that the brain is perceptually able to restore missing information into sensible data.

Except for one particularly anal-retentive

individual who had some sort of hang-up about the complexity of the piano, the audience also seemed to become quite animated at Dr. Samuel's discussion similar studies in the perception of music. In this series of experiments Dr. Samuel masked certain notes in a series of notes in a series of popular and not-so popular melodies played on a piano. While people had trouble restoring the phrases from popular songs, they had no trouble restoring notes played in a scale. The next linguistics event will be on post verbal adverbs and verb movement in Korean on Friday, Nov. 15, with speaker Jae Hong Lee of the Grad. Chem. Dept. at C.U.N.Y.

JEFFRIES - "DON'T GET MAD, GET PREPARED !"

by Shari Nezami

"HOTEP BROTHERS AND SISTERS!" Was the greeting given the audience by Dr. Leonard Jeffries on Sunday November 3, 1991 at the Union auditorium. Dr. Jeffries started his lecture by speaking of the enormous financial problems facing the United States. He spoke of the S&L crisis, the failure of many of our major insurance companies, and the recent bank merger between Manufacturers Hanover and Chemical Bank, citing the merger not as a sign of strength, but as a sign of the weakness of the banking industry. Jeffries stated that, "...a combination of the real estate dealers, and the bankers, and corrupt construction people, have pulled the wool over your eyes and you're worrying about me? You better start worrying about yourself and worrying about this nation before the whole thing sinks..."

Jeffries then went on to perform a libation. He explained that a libation is an African ceremony that is typically performed before any important event such as a wedding ceremony, a funeral, or a crowning. The purpose of the libation is to ask for support from the ancestor spirits of the ancient Africans in order to strengthen the individual(s) performing the libation and give them "vision for the future." As Jeffries performed the libation he recited verses praising the accomplishments of the African people starting with the ancient Africans who started life on this planet, began civilization, and spread it to the rest of the world and ended with praising the

accomplishments of modern African inventors and freedom fighters who have struggled, advanced, and contributed to this society while living under the chains of enslavement, oppression, and racism.

Jeffries then went on to speak about the justice system in America which he referred to as a "system of injustice, when it comes to our people." He stated, for example, that 85% of people arrested for drugs are white people, not blacks, however 84% of people who go to jail for these crimes are black and Latino people.



He blamed much of this on the media which he said portrayed Africans and Latinos as criminals which produces an image in the minds of law enforcement agencies when it comes to dealing with these groups. Due to this media-created image, Jeffries stated that therefore "you are assumed to be a criminal element when the police encounter you...and you are assumed to a criminal element when you

go before that judge." He went on to say that "these are the worst of times because of these conditions..." He also spoke about the AIDS epidemic and asked why is it that Bush can spend "\$55 billion dollars to pursue somebody else's oil in the Gulf but we can't spend a couple of billion..." to cure this disease.

Jeffries then went on to speak about the identity crisis affecting people of color in this country. He said that people of color are trying to talk white, act white, dress white, "and if you're Michael Jackson you

got to become white." This phenomenon which effects the majority of people of color in this country is a problem of the existence of two souls in one body. This existence of a "two-ness", explained Jeffries, comes about from being an African (or Asian, Latino, or Native) living in a

white supremacist society. Therefore, while white society acknowledges the existence of the African person as an African, it also forces them to assume a white identity, this is the cause of "two-ness." This "two-ness" is what causes people such as Michael Jackson to go through countless medical procedures in order to achieve a white appearance. Jeffries said that there is a process that takes place within the

subconscious of African people every day. "[W]e wake-up in the morning and look in the mirror and wish that we were white in the back of our minds. And then we think of all the things we can do to make ourselves look white, grab this cream and put it on and grab that cream and put it on and do this to this part of the hair and that part of the hair, and if you did everything you could till you went to sleep that night, when you woke-up the next morning there would be the same black African in the mirror again."

Jeffries touched upon the issue of the controversy surrounding his speech at Albany after which it was alleged that he was Anti-semitic. He said that this was just a smoke screen in order to attack the curriculum of inclusion, something which he has not been a part of since 1989. To attack the curriculum of inclusion because of statements made by Dr. Jeffries during his speech at Albany is a ploy to stop the incorporation of multi-cultural education into the system. This is merely a smoke screen, created by the people who are opposed to new curriculum, in order to divert the public's attention from the real issue - the failure of our present Euro-centric education system.

Dr. Jeffries spoke for three and a half hours, but as far as the audience was concerned he could have spoke for twenty hours, nobody wanted him to leave. His captivating style and obvious wealth of attention had many leaving the lecture asking themselves if this was really the same man who the media has made into some evil Anti-semitic monster.

Not Mad, But Not Happy

by Leroy Schwartz

"Racism and Anti-Semitism in Academia," was the main topic listed on the flyer that advertised an open forum with two professors of Judaic studies, sponsored by the B'nai-B'rith Hillel Foundation. The other topic mentioned on the flyer, however, "Responding to Leonard Jeffries," dominated the forum.

The forum, which took place last week in the union, attracted a large audience of African American students, who were eager to defend Jeffries and his statements.

The program's moderator, Dr. Joe Topek, opened the evening by stating that the Jewish Community wishes to assert freedom in academic expression, and that the *Statesman's* editorial in Volume 35 Number 18, was inaccurate in stating that the Jewish Community "protested Jeffries' appearance."

The first speaker was Dr. Fred Preston, vice president of student affairs, who stated that he was outraged by Jeffries' statements. "It is not enough to have good cause to justify acts of intolerance, acts of condemnation against others." Preston also spoke of his involvement in the civil rights struggle in the 1960's, and attributed much of its success to the coalition between African American and Jewish American people.

Dr. Jack Wertheimer was the next speaker. A professor of Jewish history at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, he commented that Jews have always been labeled conspirators and had been blamed for various disasters. What

Wertheimer said was new about Jeffries statements, is the particular "us" that is only calling Jews conspirators, African Americans.

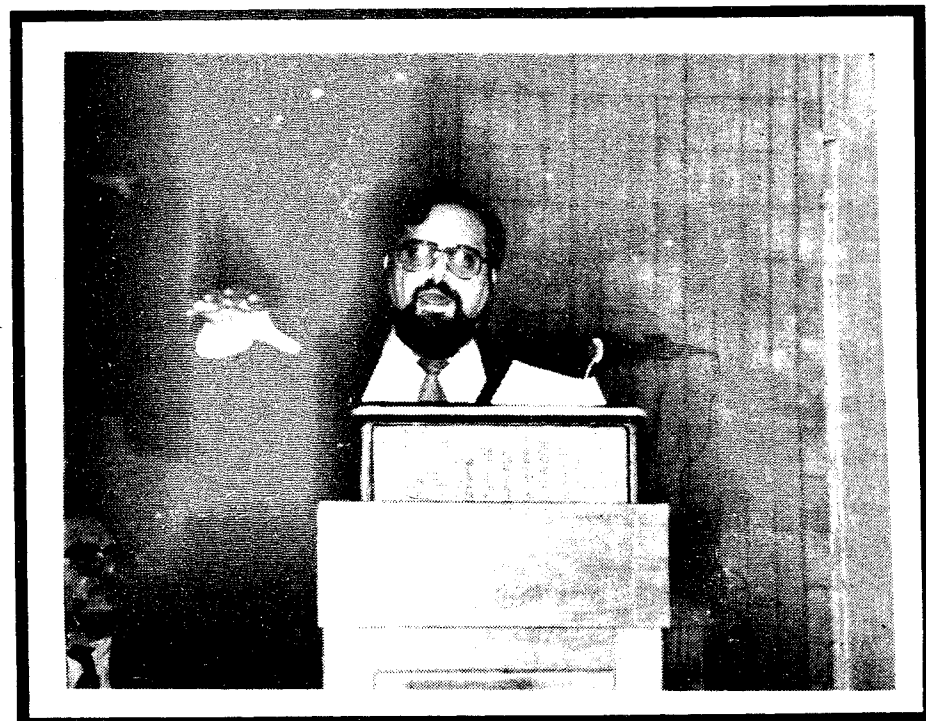
Wertheimer asserted that African American's have never spoken of Jews in this manner until the last couple of decades. The word conspiracy was also a major cause of dismay for Dr. Wertheimer. The next speaker, Dr. Robert Goldenberg joked that if there was a Jewish conspiracy, how come he does not know about it. Both speakers pointed out that a few Jews responsible for movies depicting blacks in a derogatory manner, is not a Jewish conspiracy? In fact, according to Dr. Wertheimer, the Anti-Defamation league, was after these same Jewish producers for movies and plays that were anti-Semitic.

Dr. Goldenberg was also troubled by the facts Jeffries selected in his statements. Although facts can not be disputed, one must be careful with the facts they choose. If Jeffries did not want to be deemed an anti-semitic, he should not have been so exclusive in his facts.

Both speakers continued to empathize the breakdown of the coalition between Blacks and Jews that Jeffries is promoting. As Dr. Wertheimer said, "Jeffries is a symptom of a breakdown in what has been an important alliance between Black Americans and Jews that had lasted several decades and now seems to be threatened." He went on to include Louis Farrakhan as another symptom. Dr. Wertheimer questioned the audience as to what was it about Jeffries that they found

appealing, why did they support him.

The audience was glad to respond, in what turned into an unorganized debate where audience members expressed the anger with the Forum not having a speaker present to defend Jeffries. Audience members addressed many questions to the speakers that were not relevant to the topics discussed, such as "was Columbus a Jew?" or questions about Israel's relations



BEEONE

TNT TOILET

g o o g o o g a j o o b

with **Bob Beakman**

by Bob Beakman

Perhaps in the past, man's best friend was the dog, but in this century it has been the toilet. Better known as the pot(ity), the dumper, flush-o-rama, and my personal favorite- the log flume, the toilet is a most revered and wondrous object. Providing a neat comfortable squatting place for the daily soul draining, as well as a cool resting spot for the face after many-a-morning hurler, the toilet has been anointed in reverence in the description of lifes daily activities...bowing to the porcelain god, laying cable in the trench of doom, blowing chow down the river Quai, and hurling chum at the whirling wizard of rectum rinsing. Man, in his reverence for the toilet, has also shaped it like nothing else on this Earth. It is not

often you find yourself saying, "Gee, is that a urinal or a Ford Pinto?" It is for these very reasons the following story will scare millions.

In a story sent in by alert reader Jethro Lichtenbaum, Ms. Miriam Smeek of the Netherlands had been faced with her toilet exploding, not once, but twice in the last two years (I'm not kidding). It seems her toilet has developed the nasty habit of blowing to smithereens on somewhat of an annual basis. In an off the record interview, Miss Smeek told *The Press*, "I didn't mind the water, but I feared for my genitalia" (of course this was in Dutch so she might have actually said "No thanks, I hate maple syrup"). Luckily, no one was injured by the initial blast or the fallout following that incident. In an unrelated incident occurring much closer to home,

the participants were not so lucky.

A neighbor of mine, who we will call the toilet woman, recently suffered a similar peril. It seems that during dinner one evening last winter, the sound of shattering glass came from upstairs. Upon inspection, it was found, the tank of the toilet had gone awry, sending shards of porcelain careening off the wall and floor. The toilet woman, in an exclusive interview, told me of the horror. "Water was rushing down the stairs like fuckin' Niagra Falls." She went on to say, "Damn toilets, ain't made like they used ta." Here comes the really sad part. It seems her husband, whom much like all good husbands was sound asleep when this took place, was rushed to the scene. Expected, in a Merlin like manner, to wave his magic wand and snap the toilet back

together, hubby was of course fully prepared donning dress socks, dress slacks, a dangling lipid sack called his gut, and a grin. In his vain attempt to near the crash site, he lost his footing in the rushing tide and fell, landing directly on his coccyx bone, and causing what he later described as testicle wrenching pain. In the most humanistic move of the year, the toilet woman offered her hurt husband nothing but hysterical laughter.

Is there a moral to this story, probably not, but on the off chance that there is be sure to use the proper protective gear when using any tool where there are nude parts of your body against potentially explosive devices.

P.S. Never ask your wife for help if you have just made a fool of yourself. All she will do is laugh.

Exploding Bowl Claims No Casualties

Survey Says...

One almost takes it for granted that the faculty on this campus are competent. But is there any way that a student can evaluate the professors before they take the class? Different professors may have different ways of meeting the students needs and up until now there has been no organized way of evaluating the faculty on this campus.

Up until now, The Academic Affairs Committee has been formed through Polity as a way of organizing a massive critique of the faculty of this campus. The results of a comprehensive course evaluation form distributed among the students will be published in a book which will be available to all students. The course evaluation will include four sections of data, a critique on every professor, a review of the top five classes in each subject area, a review of the Diversified Educational Curriculum, and a short section of general constructive criticism compiled from student comments. The course evaluation is distributed among the students towards the end of the semester and the book and an additional survey will be taken in the union November 5th, 13th, 18th, 19th, 21st, and 22nd. Darren Coten is a Polity senator heading this committee and students should contact him at 2-6460 through the Polity offices for more information.

Wine and dine...

People can become quite uncomfortable around fund raisers. A fund raiser can be quite pushy, but only because often times the need is urgent and genuine and the fund raiser believes in their cause.

Well it seems a group of ingenious staff and faculty members have taken a little bit of the sting out of fund-raising by hosting a gourmet food and wine tasting Thursday, November 21st, from 5:30 to 8:30pm at the University Indoor Sports Complex. This is the second year that "An Autumn Evening's Wine and Food Tasting" will be held, last year's event yielded over \$4,000 dollars. The money that is raised goes exclusively to a scholarship fund for high achieving USB students.

"Were not just asking for \$25," says chairman Michael McHale, "Were planning this really nice socio-cultural activity and were collecting \$25 for academic scholarships." This year's participants have more than doubled to include wineries from all over Long Island, New York State, and California. All of the wine is donated as is the gourmet food from local restaurants. As if this weren't enough, our own Stony

Brook Graduate Student Ensemble will be performing classical music selections, and the Greenhouse will be proudly decorating the affair with a variety of plants. There will be a chance to win an expensive bottle of wine, and every guest will receive a free glass commemorating the event. Bring some cash, because there will be a silent auction, where people can bid on various top selling varieties of fine wine.

For more info contact committee chairman Michael McHale at 2-6873, during business hours.

Africana Studies Symposium...

Three sessions of back to back speakers will fill the Javits Conference room, E-2345, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on November 25. The theme of the lectures is "How to Launch a Dream" and there will be a slew of speakers for this career opportunities symposium. There will be coffee and doughnuts before the first session, which will include speakers; William McAdoo, Africana Studies; Michael Oneal, Executive Editor of Big red News; Frank Weston, a film director and Businessman; Norm Prusslin, General Manager of WUSB-FM Radio; and Frank Meyers of the political Science department. The second session starts immediately after the first, and is followed by more refreshments. Luis Reyes Rivera of the Africana Studies department will kick off the final session.

The Good, The Bad, and The Impotent....

On Wednesday November 20 at 4:30 p.m., Kathleen Wilson, assistant Professor of history at Stony Brook, will present the lecture "The Good, The Bad, and The Impotent: Imperialism and the Politics of Identity in Georgian England." The lecture, which will be held in room N-303 of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Building, is part of a series of lectures sponsored by the Department of History, the Faculty Seminar on 18th Century Studies and the Humanities Institute, that deal with the 18th century.

Flapping Away....

From November 29-February 23, the Museums at Stony Brook present **Fabulous Flappers**, an evocation of the "Roaring Twenties" immortalized by F. Scott Fitzgerald in his novels and short stories of the period- an era when liberated ladies made fashion history and the automobile came into its own. The show will be on view in the museums' Margaret Melville Blackwell History Museum. The exhibition features fifteen costumes which epitomize the heyday of the flapper, fashion accessories, Art Deco objects and furnishings, photographs, and a 1926 Packard sports roadster. The objects are shown in vignettes that chronicle a period of dramatic change in the image of the modern American Woman as she emerged from a more restricted past.

Sex Abuse

Have you ever been a victim? Did you ever feel used or abused? Now that we have your attention, if you'd like to learn more about sex abuse, go to Douglass College's main lounge on Monday, November 18 at 9:30PM. Connie Beard will be discussing all issues of sexual abuse, giving a total overview of the subject.

If you have been stricken by this problem, you know somebody who has been affected, or you just want to learn more, stop by. The program is open to anybody, and should prove to be interesting. For more information, call Dominick Miserandino at 632-3320 or the Douglass College office at 632-6646.

FOOD DRIVE

Douglas College is sponsoring a food drive to help the Long Island needy. The drive will take place till November 20, 1991. All food can be dropped off at the Douglass College Office.

For more information contact Dominick Miserandino at 632-3320, or the Douglas College Office at 632-6646

FOOTNOTES

Food For Thought

Campus Food In Review

by Fiona MacLeod

"I like food. Food tastes good." - The Descendents

"I hate the food here. It tastes horrible." - Frank Castiller, Sophomore

Common sentiments, indeed. I mean, never mind that if you don't eat, you die- most people like food. We like to eat. Food tastes good. But most Stony Brook students just don't like the food here. Ergo, thus, henceforth and all that, most Stony Brook students are under the impression that they are daily denied one of the most profound pleasures of life: the pleasure of pushing back your chair after a hearty meal with a belch and a satisfied smile. Stony Brook students just belch and try to suppress their nausea.

Or at least that is the impression I got last week as I conducted an exhaustive survey of the campus dining facilities, from the lowly "Psych-A-Deli" food-cart-thing in Psychology A to the hectic pace of a Kelly Cafeteria dinner. And God was it fun. Like, editors have dumped some dangerous assignments on reporters before ("Hey, Olsen, go infiltrate the Nazis and be back by Tuesday with 5,000 words") but this was ridiculous. I was risking some serious salmonella here. But never mind me. I am prejudiced about the meal plan-I'm starting my fifth year here and very little about Stony Brook continues to amuse-but let's go to the tape and see what the students had to say. Or, better, let's see what the food tasted like: did the food taste good? Or horrible?

THE FANNY BRICE FOOD MALL

Service with a dopey slack-jawed smile. Not the place to go if you're in a rush-the place to go if you have a lot of studying to do and you don't mind reading your BIO 101 notes while waiting a half an hour for an order of soggy cheese-fries. Fanny Brice divides herself into 4 "international" dining options: The "Grill Works", for burgers and the aforementioned soggy cheese fries; The "Magic Wok", for Asian eats; "Itza Pizza" for pizza; and "El Pollo Grande" (The Big Chicken) for tacos, nachos and gastrointestinal disorders.

Now, first off, all these names are pretty stupid. "The Big Chicken?" What the hell? "El Snapperhead Grande" is more like it. "Itza Pizza" sounds like the noise made by a sneeze gone wrong. And just what is a "Magic Wok", anyway? Do they put eye of newt and nose of Turk in the chop suey, perchance? Or is some dim bulb in ARA afflicted with a bizarre malady that causes an irresistible urge to come up with saccharine-cute names for dining facilities? (That's actually not fair, since the "Magic Wok" was the "Magic Wok" last year, but it's still a dumb name.) And if this cuisine qualifies as "international", then any block in Queens with more than four fast-food joints qualifies as the goddam U. N.

Fanny Brice, really, is nothing more than a glorified fast-food joint, with one exception: the service. It ain't exactly the speediest or best-run of establishments. I went there for lunch last week, on Tuesday, and was treated to this lovely exchange between a student and the employee on duty at the Grill Works:

STUDENT: "Uhh... a burger, I guess."

EMPLOYEE: "Got no burgers! Got chicken!"

STUDENT: "Chicken?"

EMPLOYEE: "Alright! A chicken sandwich you want, then!"

STUDENT: "No... a burger..."

EMPLOYEE: "One chicken sandwich, comin' right up!"

STUDENT: "I don't want chicken..."

EMPLOYEE: "Next please!"

Ignoring the fact that a place that bills itself as "The Grill Works" has no business being out of burgers, and that "comin' right up" meant "we don't actually have any chicken cooking right now so you have about a fifteen-minute wait", I decided to try for the poultry. I don't eat red meat anyway, or even the grey meat more commonly featured in the cafeterias hereabouts. I also went for the cheese fries, because I remembered that the cheese fries last year hadn't been completely revolting-slightly tasty, in fact.

This turned out to be a serious mistake, because they didn't have one of those little paper fries baskets that the cheese fries traditionally come in. Instead, I got a handful of fries next to a chicken sandwich about the size of a fifty-cent piece and a giant cup full of more liquid Velveeta than any human being could possibly consume in six lifetimes.

"I gave you a lot so you don't run out," giggled the employee, maniacally leering at me like an unhinged Marty Feldman.

The chicken sandwich, to be honest, was a lot better than

the infamous "Quick Chicks" from years gone. The fries weren't anything special, just incredibly greasy, and there weren't nearly enough of them to compensate for the nineteen gallons of steaming melted cheese. And, goddam it, they don't have a juice machine anymore, so you're forced to blow a buck and a quarter for a Snapple or some boxed juice drink if you're not into the whole soda thing, which blows big chunks in this reporter's opinion. And all this for the bargain price of five dollars. A kind of expensive way of achieving malnutrition, if you ask me. And the service was as slow as a rock, and the people behind the counters about as intelligent.

"They need faster service. They need to be more efficient," said Dwight Genias, a student waiting on line behind me, and a man in a hurry. "A lot of times I just don't have the time to wait for these boneheads."

Similar problems exist at the other stations in the International Mall:

"The other day I was at that Magic Wok place," said Greg Jennas, a Senior English major, "and it took forever to get the girl to understand my order. I'm like telling her 'Fried Rice!' over and over and she kept trying to give me an egg roll. Man, these people have serious problems with English, and here I am with only a half hour before class."

"I wanted two slices of broccoli pizza," confessed Andrew Haggerty, another English major, "and I tell the guy, look, don't make it too hot, because I have to go back to my suite to water my begonia. So the guy throws the pizza in the oven and walks away. I hear him in the back shouting out something stupid about the Knicks and something more stupid about his girlfriend. A long time later he comes back and pulls out two slices of broccoli pizza, each of them steaming up at like 2000 degrees Fahrenheit. I was stuck in there for so long that when I got back to my suite my begonia was dead of dehydration. I'm gonna sue."

And while not everybody has Mr. Haggerty's problems with decorative flora, the verdict on Fanny Brice seems to be: get your act together, guys. Who wants to wait around for greasy fast food? Not me. And get the mozzarella sticks back. They were good.

HUMANITIES CAFE

A pretty good place for a sandwich. You really can't go wrong with sandwiches, though. You put the meat on the bread, slap on the mayo, and there you go. Since they don't have to cook they can usually keep the line moving-keep in mind, of course, that no line at Stony Brook ever moves at any sort of rapid clip, and this cafe in particular tends to jam up around lunchtime, as does everything else. But the service is okay, mainly because the employees aren't aggressively stupid, and they seem like nice people in general. The Sandwich Women in particular are very much on the grandmotherly side, which explains why I didn't fly off the handle when I discovered mayonnaise on a turkey-on-a-roll I distinctly ordered sans the white gloppy stuff. Good lemonade, too, and the trail mix gets rave reviews, even though there were a few Reeses Pieces somehow mixed in with the walnuts. Bad form, folks. I do miss the Froz-Fruit bars- and very few of the snacks on display seemed suitable for someone avoiding the calories. I like the fact that the cafe stays open late, since I have night classes, and night classes make me hungry.

"Good deal," says Greg Jennas, who sees quite a lot of the place, being an English major. "Except I have declining, and I never know how much anything costs."

Which is true. Prices aren't posted, which is not quite fair to the starving student on a budget. Investing in a price board shouldn't be too much trouble-or, they could just transfer over one of the ones from Fanny Brice, since very little of what appears on the price boards in Fanny Brice is ever actually in stock anyway.

The verdict on Humanities? Well, good sandwiches, yeah, yeah, yeah, not a bad place to eat. The Russian Tearoom it ain't, but does the Russian Tearoom take meal cards? I think not. Humanities is okay.

HARRIMAN CAFE:

Boffo. A good one. I've never actually eaten there, but I hear they do have food. Enjoy.

UNION DELI:

Ah, the Union Deli. The all-new Union Deli. How exciting. All-new. It was nice to see that they don't wrap their sandwiches in paper anymore and have switched to plastic shells which (a) always pop open in the dinky paper bag they give you to haul your purchases away in if you have to carry your food any considerable distance-a big problem if you got the fruit salad, and (b) aren't even close to biodegradable. Yeah, I know, if you put the plastic in

the right bin they cart it off and make a lampshade out of it, but who ever makes the effort to find such a bin and deposit said plastic inside in it? Not a whole hell of a lot of people. But that's okay. I wasn't planning on using this planet much longer anyway. I just bought a nice condo on Venus.

And the food? Well, they have a better quality of coldcut than last year. My turkey on rye didn't have too much of that foul meat jelly attached to it; thinking about last year's turkey still makes me queasy. There was less meat, but I wasn't bitching, because there was a lot less jelly. It also seemed to be more expensive than last year. It also seemed to be about fifty cents more expensive than any delicatessen out there in the real world. Who does the buying for these ARA people? The same guys who buy screwdrivers for the Defense Department?

Prices are a common student complaint. "What, just because I have a meal card, that gives them the right to jack up the price of a sandwich?," exclaimed an irate Josh Gazes, English major. "That really sucks a lot. A lot, a lot."

"Much too expensive, everything is," said Linda Burns, a Sophomore English major who enjoys exercises in proform replacement. "And their vegetables are very horrible. Old, and the selection is horrible."

"I totally agree about their vegetables. Their salads are really gross," said Tara O'Loughlin, a Sophomore. "And it's much more expensive than, say, Strawberry Fields." And Ms. O'Loughlin ought to know, since she works at the 'Fields.

And the service?

"Okay," said Ms. O'Loughlin. "Not great."

"Okay," said Ms. Burns. "Nothing spectacular."

"Okay," said Mr. Gazes. "They're not exactly Olympic sprinters, but then neither am I."

I didn't have a real problem with the service. Yeah, I was stuck behind some caveman who couldn't come to terms with whether he wanted a pickle or not ("Want a pickle with that?" "Duh... a who?"), but that can hardly be blamed on the counterfolk. I did have a problem with the vegetables, if you count potato salad as a vegetable. Potato salad, in an ideal world, should not be light brown, and should not smell like a dead animal. They don't have as extensive a selection of snack-type food as in years past, and they don't seem to stock anything cheaper than seventy-five cents. What fun. More bucks for less chips-& dips.

"I like their baked goods," says a pensive Ms. Burns. "They have a lot of delicious baked goods."

Damn straight. Entemmans up the wazoo. More bran muffins than you could shake a stick at-and believe me, I'd much rather shake a stick at a bran muffin than eat one. Cookies and cakes. Good stuff.

And that's about it for the Union Deli. A big fat "ho-hum." Boffo on the baked goods, nix on the prices. I couldn't find anyone with anything to say about the renovations. Because, probably, the renovations don't really matter. It's the same deli, except for the coldcuts. It's not the most particularly interesting place to spend your time. But then, neither is Stony Brook.

THE PSYCH-A-DELI:

But you didn't even know it existed. And if you did know, I bet you didn't even know it was called the "Psych-A-Deli." True story. All it is is a little food cart in the upstairs lobby of Psychology-A (hence the clever name). I quote the FSA "Food for Thought" newsletter: "This new food cart and pleasant seating environment, overlooking the academic mall, offers hot coffee, sandwiches muffins and other staples!" (sic) They don't take declining there, though, and they're only open from 8AM to 2PM, so most students will probably find it more convenient to buy their staples elsewhere. But what the hey? It's a nice place for me to buy a cup of coffee on my way to my Linguistics class (when I bother to go to my Linguistics class, that is.) It's a nice little nothing of a place that provides much-needed employment to food-service personnel whose talents would be otherwise wasted by slaving over the cheese-fries in Fanny Brice. Zowie.

NEXT ISSUE: Kelly, H-Quad, the Bridge, the Bleacher Club and recycling.

The Warsaw Ghettos

by Darko Mrakovcic

This is part II of the Serbo-Croatian conflict viewpoint that was strated last issue.

VICIOUSNESS OF THE SERBIAN-CROATIAN WAR

Dubrovnik, the world's best preserved medieval walled city is serving its purpose again. Although the surrounding residential areas are still defended by the Croatian national guardsmen, they might be soon forced to retreat to the inner city whose fifteen feet thick walls offer much better protection from an enemy infinitely superior in firepower and also in numbers. Since the Serbian (or "federal") army has so far more or less refrained from bombarding the invaluable cultural treasure in the city center, those 50,000 inhabitants of Dubrovnik who had failed to evacuate prior to the siege have found refuge within the city walls, while their homes are being shelled by howitzers and naval artillery. This number includes thousands of refugees from the surrounding villages which were looted and burned by the invading Serbian troops. (After seeing such barbarism, even the overzealously impartial BBC reporter from Belgrade Misha Gleny admitted that this unprovoked Serbian invasion of an ethnically very homogeneous Croatian area can only be characterized as a clear case of a most brutal aggression.) Thus, almost the entire population of the Dubrovnik county has been confined for forty days to the area within the city walls of about 1 km in diameter. Water has been rationed to five liters a day per family and the food supplies are also very scarce. According to a BBC reporter, the defiant mood in the city was correctly expressed by the mayor when he answered a question about the possibility of surrender by saying: "Never, never, never. We will rather starve to death or fight to the last man in case of an assault on the inner city by an overwhelming force."

Despite these bleak prospects, Dubrovnik for the time being looks like paradise when compared to some other Croatian cities which are not under UNESCO's protection as a part of world's cultural heritage. Vukovar is the most striking example. This town on the Croatian bank of Danube used to have a (predominantly Croatian) population of 60,000 before Croatia declared independence last June. Then most of its Serbian inhabitants (who made less than one third of the population) evacuated the town purportedly because of a fear that they might become second class citizens or even existentially threatened. But in July such evacuations in many parts of Croatia turned out to be reliable precursors to all-out attacks by combined forces of Serbian rebels and army reservists. Consequently some Croatian civilians (especially women and children) also evacuated the town and an efficient defence was organized (most of the Croatia's illegally purchased anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons were shipped to those eastern regions). After opening skirmishes in early August, an all-out assault on Vukovar followed on August 25. Soon the town was cut off from the rest of Croatia. According to Croatian reporters from the frontline the Serbian losses in this ongoing battle have been enormous: about 4,000 dead, 150 tanks knocked out, 30 airplanes downed etc. Although this is impossible to check, there is ample evidence that this campaign has been catastrophic for Serbia (the commander of the army corps engaged in this operation was killed in battle, the numerous Serbian deserters speak of a lack of motivation and low morale in spite of the enormous superiority in both firepower and manpower).

The response of the war lords in the "federal" army high command to this situation was more than predictable for anyone who has an idea of their political record: Vukovar has been leveled to the ground and the ruins are still being bombarded by multiple rocket launchers, air-force, heavy artillery from the Serbian bank of Danube and gunships on the river. Although pounding the ruins sounds irrational, there is some logic behind it: most Croatian guardsmen use cellars as shelters and get out only when the bombardment stops, i.e. when the infantry and tanks attack. The fact that 13,000 starving civilians, including 2,000 children, also hide in cellars which are now being systematically destroyed by artillery fire, does not seem to concern the Serbian generals. (Incidentally, the "federal" army did not grant a safe passage to a Red Cross convoy which was supposed to evacuate women and children from Vukovar.) It was only the commander of the besieged "federal" troops in the barracks in the Croatian capital who distanced himself from the intense bombardment of the ruins of the Vukovar hospital by 500 kg bombs and cluster bombs. (In addition to a few hundred wounded Croatian guardsmen and Serbian POW's, there are also mothers with new born babies and other civilians in the cellar of this hospital. Surgery is performed without anesthetics and various epidemics are rampant due to a lack of medical supplies.)

WHERE IS THE OUTRAGE?

Most American media (and consequently the American public) are coping very well with the shocking news from Central Europe. Even more, the desperate struggle of the virtually unarmed Croatian people for its very existence in the face of the ever fiercer attacks by the powerful Serbian war machine and massacres committed by the resurrected Serbian fascist (cetnik) units is already being perceived as a natural and inevitable state of affairs. In view of the almost frenetic alertness and outbursts of compassion for Kuwaitis a year ago, it is interesting to observe how resignedly and more rationally the American public is reacting now to the Croatian crisis. Of course, this is easily explained by the absence of "vital American interests" in this case, but it is still impressive how well orchestrated the mainstream media are: last year the American moral standards were praised in unison, this year that issue is consistently suppressed. Given the facts that media both shape and express the public opinion and that moral categories do influence the electorate, the American position on Croatian tragedy could be partially ascribed to the notorious lack of dynamics (or a not too subtle totalitarianism) in the political life of this country. In other words, if there were real opposition parties on the political scene, they would have already scored points on the moral aspects of the Croatian crisis.

ARE THE EC SANCTIONS REALLY DIRECTED AGAINST SERBIA?

The main factor which determines the American and British attitude towards Croatia seems to be a belief that a process of complete democratization of Eastern Europe would be very turbulent and, if successful, could lead to the emergence of new superpower, namely continental Europe. Because of its strong social-democratic traditions, it could even have some ideological differences with the US. More importantly, it could be economically superior to the States. Of course, the confrontation between these two superpowers would most likely remain limited to the economic sphere, but still, the Anglo-Saxon leading role would be challenged. On the other hand, if this process of democratization is slowed down and kept under control, Eastern European countries will not join the club of the prosperous Western countries, but will remain an attractive market and a source of cheap labour. Thus, Mr Eagleburger in the interview on the McNeal-Lehrer News Hour clearly states that the very probable further escalation of the Serbian aggression of Croatia does not have to concern Americans: since "all the participants are intent on killing each other" the West does not have any moral obligations to stop the war. Instead, it should just wait until all the mischievous "participants" exhaust themselves by the war. There is an obvious logical flaw in this argument, namely the cynical accusation of Croatians (of "being intent on killing") in spite of the admission that Serbians are "the worst of the bunch" and that "the principal fault" lies with the aggressive Serbian imperialism. This flaw is awkwardly covered by vague imputations that Croatia is also "irrational" and "has its own little agenda". Perhaps Mr Eagleburger would not even mind if Serbia wins the war and creates the kind of order that suits most the US, namely a resurrected totalitarian Yugoslavia with an even worse Serbian domination. In accordance with that, the long awaited EC sanctions (determined in the shadow of the NATO meeting) clearly do not have the objective to stop the war as soon as possible: they include reinforcement (instead of lifting) of the arms embargo of Croatia and thus increase the military imbalance which is the main cause of aggression. (Serbia is not hit by this embargo since the entire Yugoslav military industry is concentrated in Serbia.) Furthermore, the only sanction which could be important in the short term, namely the oil embargo of Serbia, has only been mentioned as a possibility. In addition to that, it has only vaguely been promised that sanctions will be applied selectively and will not hit Croatia. In conclusion, the main message to Serbia conveyed with this sanctions seems to be the following: it has been given one more chance to put the unarmed Croatia "in order" by a radical escalation of war, but the time for this operation has been limited since it is too embarrassing for the West to continue to tolerate the aggression for too long (after all, the contradiction between the Western public opinion and the actions of the West could result in a boost for the opposition parties in all Western countries.)

WHAT DOES THE CROATIAN GUILT CONSIST OF?

There is no doubt that the principal Croatia's fault is its pursuing independence in spite of the failure to obtain a permission for that from the West, more precisely from its Anglo-Saxon part. The fact that Croatia did obtain even an unequivocal support from Germany, Scandinavian countries, Poland, Italy, France etc. only adds weight to its fault (as explained above). Of course, the fact that Croatia has not made the choice of its allies is irrelevant in this context. (Mr Eagleburger plays down this fact by stressing the "irrationality" of Croatians and accordingly he "forgets" to mention that some remarkably rational people in the West had made a foolish miscalculation by

favouring an "integral Yugoslavia" (i.e. Great Serbia) and its impressive federal army to the democratic republics. Croatia would not have minded being supported by the US instead of Germany (then the American influence in the Balkans would not have been undermined).

On Nov.8 the Mc Neal-Lehrer News Hour also aired a footage of the British Independent TV in which the following very indicative assessment was given: one of the main reasons for the Serbian-Croatian antagonism is the fact that "during the WWII Croats fought on the German side, while Serbs fought for the Allies". In response to the letter by Mr Armus it must be said that this statement is totally false: firstly, this antagonism was caused long before the WWII by Serbian despotism after Yugoslavia was created in 1918, and secondly, it is a blatant distortion of history (the word "lie" would be equally good, but it is not used by people prepared for an argumented discussion) to say that in WWII Croatians were fascists and Serbians were anti-fascists. On the contrary, it is true that in both nations there were both fascists and anti-fascists and that among Croatians the preponderance of antifascists was even more convincing than among Serbians. In this context a long quotation from an interview with a leading Jewish intellectual in Croatia Slavko Goldstein (a dissident both before and after the fall of communism in Croatia) in the August 23 issue of the Croatian weekly "Globus" would be pertinent (the translation is as literal as possible, and thus awkward):

"One can often encounter comparisons between the (wartime) 'Independent State of Croatia' and the Third Reich, but I think that they can not withstand critique. The Germans actually elected Hitler and in a great majority followed him long enough. No one can say that Croatians in a great majority elected (the 'ustase' leader) Pavelic and followed him long enough. He was brought in from outside and installed into power by outside (the Axis) powers. The picture becomes much clearer when one realizes that Pavelic came with 300 'ustase' and until December 31, 1941 collected only 16,000 members of 'ustase' units. If that is compared with the number of 85,000 'domobranci' (regular troops) who represented a forcibly mobilized 'silent majority' and with the number of about 40,000 members of the armed resistance in wartime Croatia at the same time (of which at least one quarter were Croatians), one can discern the attitude of an average croatian towards the (fascist) regime. The number of Croatians in 'partisan' units (the armed resistance) increased steadily and at latest by 1943 exceeded greatly the number of 'ustase'."

It should be added that by 1943 the number of Croatian 'partisans' actually exceeded the number of fascists ('ustase') and regular troops ('domobranci') put together. Thus in 1943 the regular troops were no more the "silent majority". (Actually they fought very inefficiently and many of them defected to anti-fascists.) The Croatian capital of Zagreb alone gave 20,000 anti-fascist 'partisans', which was more than 10% of its almost purely Croatian population in 1941. Similarly, the Northern Adriatic region (the native region of the author of this article) gave 80,000 (exclusively Croatian) anti-fascist fighters who, among other things protected the Serbian minority in the Velebit mountain range from the fascists ('ustase'). (Since the letter by Mr Seth includes an almost explicit personal denigration, perhaps a personal defense of the author would be in order: if the Oct.1 article were indeed offensive (obviously to the relatives of the victims of the Croatian fascists), then it would be offensive to the author himself since his father's brother (who joined 'partisans' just like the father and 300 more inhabitants of the author's home town of 2,500 people) was killed by 'ustase'.)

In summary, the Serbian nationalists within the federal administration and diplomacy managed to ascribe all the positive characteristics of Yugoslavia which won sympathy in the Anglo-Saxon world to Serbia, while Croatia was portrayed as an insignificant "region" with ineradicable primitive fascist tendencies which can only be controlled within a Yugoslav framework. (Of course this was not necessarily taken seriously by foreign politicians, but it served as the base for a useful "moral" argument.) In reality, Croatia is the most prosperous (along with Slovenia) and the most cultured part of Yugoslavia and thus the strong Yugoslav anti-fascist resistance which tied up to 20 German divisions to that region, the Yugoslav opposition to Stalin and the liberal tendencies towards democratization should be mostly counted to Croatian credit. (It was not accidental that the 'partisan' supreme commander Tito was a Croatian.) The absurdity of the identification of the present-day Croatian state with the puppet wartime state is best seen from the fact that wartime anti-fascist fighters almost without exception support the present-day Croatian leadership and many of them even hold important positions (e.g. the president of Croatia was a 'partisan' division commander). The Serbian nationalists often try to discredit them as former communists. In connection with this it should be said that although the Croatian wartime anti-fascist movement was organized by communists, it later included a quite broad spectrum of parties, most notably the very strong social-democratic party (HSS). In any case, the Croatian

of Croatia

communists were on average of a much less totalitarian brand than Serbian communists- this is even true of the present-day reformed communist parties.

A less vicious, but more effective accusation directed at the present day Croatian leadership is that despite its antifascist past it distorts the history by misrepresenting the proportions of the 'ustase' (Croatian fascist) genocide against the Serbian population. The most controversial statement is the one given by the present-day Croatian president Frano Tudjman to a Swedish journalist in the early seventies. He claimed that the official Yugoslav figure of 700,000 Serbian victims in the death camp Jasenovac run by 'ustase' was totally arbitrary and it should be corrected to about 40,000 so that the total figure (including Jewish and Croatian victims) should be about 70,000. This statement is often impudently compared with the Neo-Nazi denials of the 6 million figure for the victims of the Holocaust. But the differences are all too obvious: the figure for the Holocaust is the result of elaborate research of renowned historians of different nationalities, while the 700,000 figure for the 'ustase' death camp was an assessment of the official Yugoslav (meaning Serbian) pseudo-historians in service of a totalitarian regime. (Mr Tudjman was one of the most influential Croatian historians of that time and a specialist for the WWII. It is interesting that he spent a few years in labour camps solely because of this statement.) Unfortunately, some Western historians accept the official Yugoslav figures without reserve and thus get completely wrong ideas about the reasons for the Serbian-Croatian antagonism. As an illustration, even nowadays in most Western encyclopaedias one finds the figure of 1.7 million as the total Yugoslav death toll during WWII. But in the eighties due to democratization the Croatian and Serbian historians corrected this figure to about one million (before they did not dare to publicize such corrections). It turned out that the previously sacrosanct figure of 1.7 m was arrived at by an incompetent Yugoslav official in the first post war years by the following method: he simply subtracted the post war census figure from the projected total population figure under the assumption of the usual birth rate (he did not take into account that during the war this rate was much lower, that in 1944 a huge proportion of the 0.5 m strong German minority in Northern Serbia left Yugoslavia etc.). Most Croatian historians nowadays operate with the figure of about 100,000 Serbian victims of the Croatian fascists, although there is no consensus. But the exorbitant figures exceeding 200,000 do not appear.

It should be pointed out that in the above mentioned interview the present-day Croatian president emphasized that although the proportions of the genocide against Serbians committed by Croatian fascists had been greatly exaggerated, it was still a horrible genocide and the criminal character of the puppet Croatian state was not in question at all. His motivation for rewriting history was not to rehabilitate the Croatian fascists, but rather to prevent (using the objective historical facts) manipulations of the Serbian population by the Serbian imperialist ideologists and generation of hatred towards Croats. Indeed, the arbitrary claims that Croatian fascists killed ten times as many Serbians than Serbian fascists killed Croats were used a long time ago to create a perception of the Croatian separatism per se as a most horrible crime. (The arguments were that, firstly, Croatia owes enormous war reparations to Serbia and, secondly, in an independent Croatia the Serbian minority would be existentially threatened since Croats are a "genocidal people".) Soon after Tito's death in 1980 such theories gradually began to appear even in Serbian media. This well coordinated accumulation of hatred led to a new wave of Serbian ultranationalism (actually fascism) in 1987 with the ultimate aim of enslaving the "genocidal" Croatian people. (This objective resulted from the curious assessment by the Serbian imperialists that in the post war Yugoslavia the relatively prosperous Croatia was granted too much autonomy by the Croatian nationalist Tito.)

It can not be stressed enough that this was the period of the so called Croatian silence: after the brutal suppression in 1971 of a moderately nationalist Croatian reformist movement (very similar in ideas to the Prague spring) by the federal authorities, the Croatian Communist party was dominated by hard-liners who enforced a totalitarian system and brought the political life to a standstill. Many of these hard-liners were members of the Serbian minority since they were seen as more reliable by Belgrade. Therefore even the most moderate versions of Croatian nationalism were not tolerated. In particular, the avalanche of hatred in Serbia was definitely not provoked, not even opposed, by any political group in Croatia. The isolated attempts of Croatian intellectuals like Mr Tudjman to stop it by questioning the myth of the Croatian collective guilt neither slowed down nor accelerated this momentous process-they simply went unnoticed.

MISJUDGMENTS BY THE WESTERN POLITICIANS

Overestimation of the true federalist faction in

Serbian politics

It is certainly true that the dominant Serbian party led by the Serbian president Slobodan Milosevic has never been intentionally supported by EC. It was too obvious that this "Socialist party" was the old communist party reformed in the worst possible way: instead of abandoning totalitarianism, chauvinism was added to replace the communist "internationalism". The change in name only made it more transparent that this new political creation was just the well known explosive combination of extreme nationalism and "socialism", i.e. national-socialism.

In the search for a party in Serbia which would deserve its support the EC made a cardinal mistake by discarding the not quite marginal Democratic party. The reason for that is very simple: at that time it was not clear to EC that democracy in Eastern Europe is inseparable from disintegration or at least loosening of multiethnic states like USSR, Yugoslavia or Czechoslovakia where many peoples were oppressed because of totalitarian system. In view of the western politicians such disintegration was to be prevented everywhere at any price: it was seen as a dangerous chain reaction which would necessarily not only destabilize the multiethnic western countries, but also lead to a total chaos in the East. But the Democratic party in Serbia considered that an orderly disintegration of Yugoslavia was possible and consequently did not oppose Croatian separatism (just like Yeltsin does not seriously oppose Baltic and even Ukrainian separatisms).

Thus, in fear of sending wrong signals to Ukrainians, Catalonians or Scots, the EC has chosen the Serbian faction which would ensure the old style federal system in Yugoslavia. That was done in spite of the obvious fact that this faction consisted exclusively of unreformed communists from the federal administration and from the army officer corps, and that consequently it enjoyed hardly any support among the people. The EC analysts wrongly assessed that this lack of political influence could be made up for by the control of the army. But their main miscalculation consisted in the following: while they thought that this federalism was characterized by a milder and thus acceptable form of Serbian hegemonism, in reality a huge majority of those "federalists", especially the army officers, represented a form of Serbian imperialism every bit as radical as the national-socialist one. In fact, those two factions of Serbian imperialism are ideologically identical, except that the pseudo-federalists use more subtle terminology. Although there is a power struggle between these factions, they have sufficient common ground to cooperate very efficiently in their ongoing conquest of Croatia. Thus the pseudo-federalist faction used the few true federalists (like the federal prime minister Ante Markovic) as a paravent which enabled them to get the indirect support of the EC for Milosevic. Recently Markovic has finally openly admitted that he had never wielded any power over the "federal" army. He has also revealed there had been a close alliance between Milosevic and the army high command for at least the past seven months.

Underestimation of Croatian preparedness for war

Soon after the non-communist Croatian leadership assumed power in May 1990 it started acquisition of a very limited quantity of arms. It was by no means a real military build-up and preparation for war against Serbia. Its only purpose was to prevent a reprise of the events in 1971 when a reformed communist moderately nationalist Croatian leadership (very similar in ideas to the Czechoslovak leadership of 1968) was overthrown by the federal authorities. That coup was accompanied by violent clashes between Croatian students and federal army. In spite of that, the international community hardly noticed it since there was no armed conflict and it all happened virtually overnight. Consequently, the federal authorities managed to suppress the Croatian spring without even being condemned, let alone punished by economic embargo. The new Croatian leadership in 1990 had good reasons to believe that the limited Croatian armed forces were sufficient as a deterrent against the Serbian military intervention given the initial international support for non-communist Croatia immediately after the elections. (Another convincing argument that this Croatian militia was indispensable was the situation in the Albanian-populated Serbian province of Kosovo: Milosevic abolished its autonomy and introduced a reign of terror with only verbal condemnations from the west.) But then EC realized that Croatia can't be dissuaded from its objective to transform Yugoslavia into a loose confederation of sovereign states in order to prevent the nationalist-socialist Serbia from restoring its absolute domination in Yugoslavia. Since the Community was vigorously opposed to any disintegration process, its support for Croatia weakened and so the possibility of a Serbian military intervention became very real; it would not be exaggerated to say that EC gave the green light to what it thought was the reasonable federalist Serbian faction to use military force in order to make Croatia give up its independence. (The staging of an armed rebellion among the Serbian minority in Croatia was

clearly Serbia's attempt to produce a casus belli, i.e. a pretext for an all-out attack on Croatia). This move of the EC dismayed Croatia and forced it to frenetically intensify its acquisition of arms, this time as a real preparation for war. Thus, it could be said that the crucial moment which started the spiral of events leading to the war in Croatia was Europe's inability to understand that multiethnic communist empires inevitably had to disintegrate - either orderly or violently, and only after that possibly reintegrate on a voluntary basis.

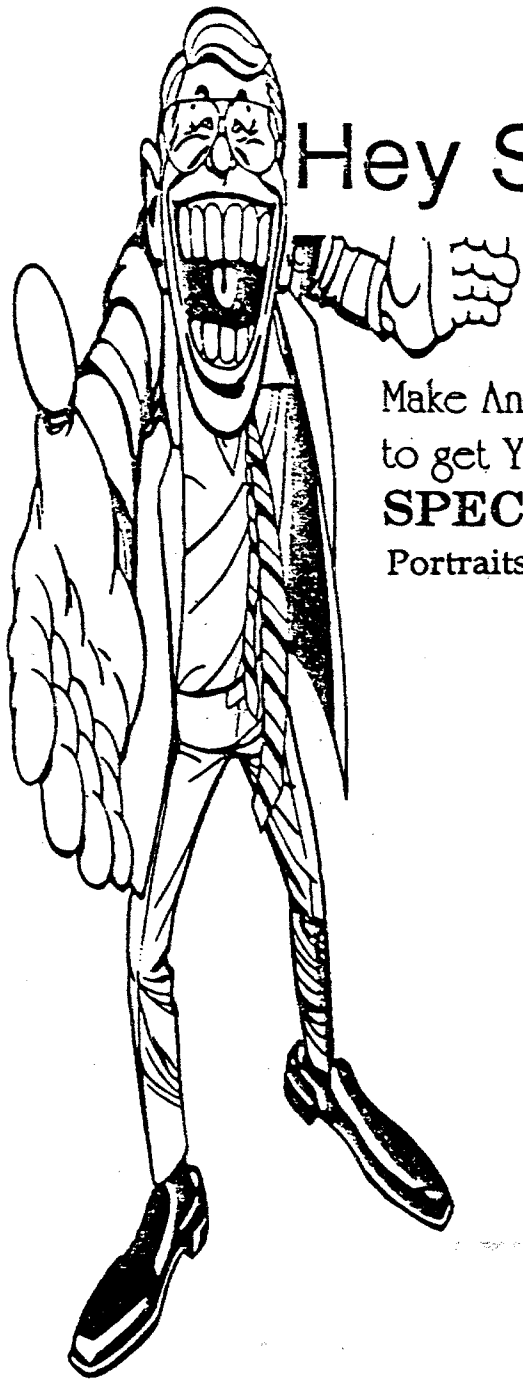
In spite of Croatian efforts to acquire more arms through secret channels, the quantity of weapons they amassed did not impress the EC. The Community was still convinced that Croats could be forced to give up their sovereignty in the face of infinitely superior Serbian military force. But that was a totally wrong judgement: for Croats there was no way back. When Croatian leaders spoke about Croatian determination to fight to the last man if necessary, it was not meant to be just a figure of speech. That has never been understood by the western analysts because they have not made the effort to learn about the "Croatian super-Katyn": in June 1945 more than a 100,000 soldiers of the regular army of the puppet wartime state of Croatia were massacred by those units of Tito's partisan army which were dominated by Serbians. The massacres occurred after the Croatian army surrendered to partisans in southern Austria with guarantees from British high command on fair treatment of POW-s. The victims of those massacres were by no means fascists, but conscripts which had fought against their will and very inefficiently against the Croatian partisans. (Only a small number of the 30,000 strong volunteer Croatian fascist ("ustase") units were among this large mass of POW-s. Of course, even among those fascists only a tiny proportion could have been classified as war criminals.) If one takes into account these bitter memories from the WWII aftermath and the fact that in communist Yugoslavia the Croatian separatism per se was considered to be the most horrible crime, it becomes clear that in this war Croats do not have the option of capitulation. The recent massacres of captured Croatian guardsmen and even civilians reinforce the conviction that a total defeat of the Croatian state would result in death of hundreds of thousands of Croats. Thus the Croatian determination to persist in their fight for freedom regardless of sacrifices should not be treated as primitive fanaticism: it is not at all irrational to prefer dying fighting to being massacred after surrender.

Overestimation of military power of the "federal" army

Needless to say, the fact that the Serbian leadership shares this overestimation with the EC is one of the most important causes of the war- every single aggression in history was caused by the conviction of military superiority. The conclusions drawn from this overestimation by the EC after the war started were very logical: in the interest of stability of peace in Europe the inevitable course of events should be accelerated in order to prevent a long lasting war which could destabilize the whole region. In other words, regardless of ethical considerations and public opinion, EC should effectively help the side which is predetermined to win the war, i.e. the Serbian imperialism. That is why an arms embargo has been imposed on both sides: given the complete Serbian control of the formidably armed "federal" army and the fact that the Yugoslav military industry which is concentrated in Serbia is working around the clock, it is clear that this embargo is going to hit only the poorly armed Croatian side. Many EC analysts probably still believe that by helping Serbia it would be possible to either force Croatia to give up its independence, or to make the agony of Croatia as short as possible in case of an all-out assault by the Serbian army.

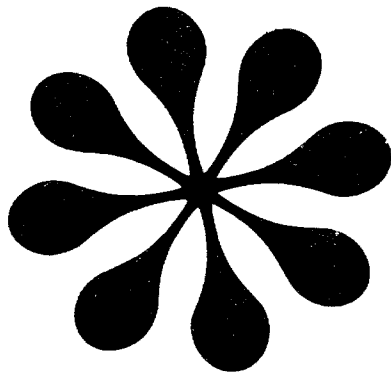
But the course of war so far has provided ample evidence that the "federal" army was greatly overestimated. The all-out attack has occurred and Croatia has not been overrun. It has turned out that not only the non-Serbian conscripts but even many Serbian reservists were not willing to take part in the aggression - there have been widespread mutinies and draft dodging. Many people in Serbia even believe they have been betrayed by their totalitarian leadership: it forces them to take part in a senseless aggressive war with unrealistic objectives just in order to distract their attention from the imminent economic collapse and to prevent a social upheaval.

In conclusion, the contradiction between the hypocritical Community's partial declarative support for Croatia and its supposedly pragmatic rational policies directed against Croatia has greatly contributed to the tragic outcome of a conflict which could have been resolved easily by a concerted international action against the national-socialist leadership of Serbia.

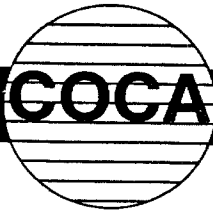


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SAB

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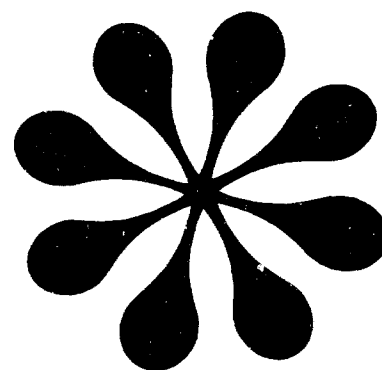
The Student Activity Board (SAB) is a programming club, funded by the Student Polity Association, Open To everyone. SAB programs a wide variety of events, activities and concerts for the USB community.

SAB ACTIVITIES



STONY BROOK COMEDY

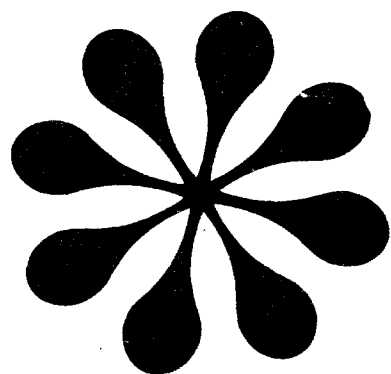
COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF: 9:00 pm Union 231A



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**HELLENIC
VIDEO
NIGHT**

**11/15/91
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CAREER DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



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*The competition in the job world is so tough that it would be to your best advantage to be fully prepared.

The Guest Speaker Will Be Peter Burke

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Will Be Held On: Wednesday, November 20th

The Program Will Begin At 7 PM

The Program Will Be Held In The Union, Room 236

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A Talented Comic-Strip Artist

Welcome to the cartoon world of Jason Epstein, whose comix will be gracing the pages of the Stony Brook Press for what we hope will be many an issue to come. Jason is a Poli-Sci/History student who has been drawing comix seriously for about the last 4-5 years. For the last year or so his political cartoons have appeared weekly



Surfaces From The Campus Community.

in the Long Island Advance and he hopes to eventually go into animation (maybe Disney). He cites his influences as being Walt Disney, Mort Drucker (From Mad), and Jim Davis (of Garfield). Look regularly for the hype adventures in his crazy comix.

MJXII



Of the Pompous Poetry Center

In the last issue of the *Press*, Arts Editor MJXII wrote a review of a recent poetry reading sponsored by both the Writing Center and the Poetry Center. Like all good journalists, our Arts editor reported on it and wrote a critique on the reading which included three of the poems that were read.

On October 30, we received a letter(see letters) signed by the Writers Club, The Poetry Center, and the Creative Writing Program blasting our review for the "disrespectful and insulting remarks" made by our reporter. The letter went on to say that the review was a deliberate attempt to "to shit on the reading" and that the author was dumping his own frustrations on those involved with the reading. To further this, our Arts Editor went to a general meeting of the Poetry Center to try to explain why he felt the review was justified and not biased in any way. He was told by the group that he was not allowed to attend the so-called "open" meeting, and that he should leave immediately. The letter also demanded a printed apology from our Arts Editor, MJXII. This certainly will not

happen.

First of all, what the Poetry Center failed to realize was that the article was a *review*, and like all reviews, it can be splendid or putrid depending upon the reviewers impressions of the performance. To demand an apology for someone's opinion on a performance is utterly ridiculous. It's like asking Siskel and Ebert for an apology because they didn't like a movie. Moreover, to demand an apology for written work is akin to censorship and smacks of an Orwellian scenario where offended aesthetes can vent their wrath upon reviewers who condescend to dislike their work and print just that. It is shocking that a group of artists and would be artists could be so bold to dictate taste. But perhaps they weren't dictating taste or trying to, maybe their frail artistic egos were wounded by the blatant attempt to, "shit on the reading".

However, that is not the issue at stake here. It is unfortunate that much of the so called mainstream media both on campus and off campus chooses to pull its punches and be wary of offending its audience. However, the *Press* does not buy into this morality and feels it

necessary to report the news as it happens and in the case of reviews (which are subjective by nature) to report the news the way that particular reviewer sees it.

The fact that our Arts Editor was banned from an open meeting is ludicrous. The Poetry Center should be ashamed of itself for not allowing Ed Sullivan or MJXII, which are one in the same, to be present. If anyone should be asking for an apology, it should be the *Press* asking the Poetry Center to apologize to MJXII for their infantile behavior.

The editorial staff of the *Press* does not impose any restrictions, except the rules of usage, on what can or cannot be printed. We also do not worry if somebody might get angry or upset about something we wrote. We at the *Press* do follow one rule; TO PRINT FEATURE ARTICLES, INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS, AND INCISIVE ANALYSES, FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMING THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY, PROMOTING PROGRESS, AND INCITING DEBATE.

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LETTERS

DETROIT : SYMBOL OF URBAN STRUGGLE

by Dr. Manning Marable

Detroit has always been for me a state of mind a mixture of hope and lost opportunities, of dirt and despair, of shiny new automobiles and unimaginably long unemployment lines. As a boy, I regularly visited the city. My favorite aunt and a large, extended family lived in the suburban community of Inkster. When summer rolled around, we trekked north to the mecca of Motown.

Hundreds of thousands of African-American families from Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi had flooded into the city during the 1940's and 1950's, searching to escape rigid racial segregation and the penury of sharecropping. Detroit seemed an ideal place for black opportunities. There was by the end of World War II a small but growing black entrepreneurial and professional class. Black enterprises such as Barry Gordy's Motown were influential. By the sixties, it was no longer unusual to see African-Americans in some positions of importance in the school system, government and in smaller numbers, inside white businesses.

But a rigid system of racial apartheid and police violence permeated the entire community. At the city's northern boundary, Eight Mile Road represented a

racial version of the Berlin Wall, as far as African-Americans were concerned. White realtors in the suburbs, as a rule, refused to sell homes to blacks, regardless of their income, education or credit. The city's police force was brutal in its harassment and victimization of black citizens.

In the automobile plants, the system of racial exploitation for blacks was commonly termed "niggeration." At Dodge Main plant, for example, 99 percent of the general foreman were white, 100 percent of the plant superintendents were white, and 90 percent of all skilled tradesman and apprentices were white. Blacks received the worst jobs at the lowest levels of pay; my cousins and their friends were always assigned to the very worst and dirtiest jobs—in the engine assembly area, the body shop and the foundry. It was unusual to find a black autoworker with more than fifteen year's experience who had not already suffered some crippling accident, such as the loss of a finger or an eye.

The urban uprising of 1967 pushed thousands of middle income whites out of the city, fearful of their lives and property. Large corporations began a pattern of "milking" their industries inside the city limits, reallocating their profits from local consumers to new firms based in the all-white suburbs or in the sunbelt. By not reinvesting their profits back into Detroit, economic decay set in by the 1970's. Schools declined as the tax base fell. A drop in jobs meant that low income people had to rely on the underground economy of hustling, illegal drugs, prostitution and other forms of illegal activity, simply to survive. Rapidly, Detroit's central core became unlivable for the black middle

class, which began to relocate to neighborhoods adjacent to the city in the 1970's and 1980's.

Other people of color began to move into the city, searching for the same opportunities which African-Americans had never really found. The largest group consisted of Arab-Americans. First the Lebanese and Syrians, and later the Palestinians, Iraqis and Saudis, soon established an economic and cultural infrastructure. By 1990, nearly 200,000 Arab-Americans lived in the greater Detroit-Dearborn area. Unfortunately, despite many common economic and political interests, tensions rather than harmony generally characterized the relationship between blacks and Arabs. African-Americans were frequently hostile and suspicious of Arab entrepreneurs in their neighborhoods; Arabs frequently failed to maintain dialogue with local black leaders or have an understanding of black interests and concerns.

In the past decade, Detroit has been one of America's leaders in the homicide rate, in the percentage of residents on public assistance, and the numbers of adults who are outside of the labor force. The growth of street gangs and violence is a direct social consequence of federal, state and corporate policies, which long ago wrote off Detroit as salvageable. Meanwhile, the homicide rates for young African-American males in the city is more than one in twenty; the elderly are afraid to go out at night to attend civic meetings or cultural events because they fear being mugged and robbed; the poor have ceased to look for jobs, because the corporations have relocated their offices beyond the reach of public transportation.

The challenge of rebuilding and resurrecting Detroit, it seems to me, should be the cornerstone of a new, national policy of urban reconstruction for the twenty first century. Because if we could turn around the problems of this crucial city, attacking and uprooting widespread poverty, generating new jobs and new hopes, we might be able to see progress in every other city.

Part of this strategy must be economic. Religious groups and foundations could help finance community-controlled corporations, which provide investment capital, technical advice and business expertise to community cooperatives and minority small entrepreneurs. We need to restructure welfare programs which reward, rather than punish, unmarried women with children to take initiatives in going back to school and obtaining job skills. We must employ federal government resources to expand and to strengthen the so-called safety net, providing a decent living wage to those who cannot work, and an expanded housing program to address the problems of the homeless. This progressive agenda can be realized, but only if we are willing to wage an unconditional struggle for urban development and renewal.

Dr. Manning Marable is a Professor of Political Science and History at University of Colorado, Boulder. "Along the Color Line" appears in over two hundred publications internationally.

TRUTH WILL PREVAIL

by Imran N. Hosein
Muslim Student Association

What opinion can one possibly have of the judicial competence of a judge nominated to the US Supreme Court who, when publicly accused of grave sexual misconduct, demands a postponement of the Senate vote so that he could have a chance to first 'clear his name'? - who then submits to an inquiry into the accusation by a 'political' body, the Senate Judiciary Committee, but then turns viciously against that same body, accuses it of 'lynching' him, and brands it a 'circus'?

We confess to being puzzled. If a judge accepts a 'circus' as adequate to dispose of grave charges of sexual misconduct levelled against him, will he not enter into judicial history as the greatest 'clown' of all times?

Judge Thomas' name has not yet been cleared. He has no one but himself to blame for that since he failed to take appropriate steps to clear his name. Rather he found it expedient to refrain from subjecting himself to proper judicial process to clear his name. He attempted to extricate himself from the consequences of the grave charges levelled publicly against him by going 'fishing' for 'red herrings'. What a judge! He mounted a counter-attack on the political forces opposing him. He condemned the 'leak'. He condemned the Senate Judiciary Committee. He condemned the process. He was loud and vociferous in his indignation that his enemies had 'pinned' on him that which he could never possibly shake off. He cynically exploited the suffering of his own race in using it to his own advantage by crying 'Uncle! Uncle!' they are lynching me!' A matter which related to values and to personal integrity was diabolically disposed of through an expedient 'Republican' resort to cynical secular political strategy. Therein lay expediency. That strategy was a betrayal of all those black slaves who lived and died

with a steady flame of hope in their hearts, - slaves who, even when they were being lynched, swung from the branches of hope-hope that TRUTH and JUSTICE would ultimately triumph.

Clarence Thomas, 'the best man for the job', could have instead have said: "Serious charges have been levelled against me. I want to clear my name. I want to establish my innocence. Let me go before a Judge in a court of law and have my name cleared. I voluntarily waive my rights under the statute of limitations. Only after I succeed in clearing my name will I allow my nomination to go forward. That is in my own interest, in the interest of the Supreme Court, and in the interest of the country." It was as simple as that!

The importance of the Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas affair lies in the emerging demarcation which it is making between those whose ultimate loyalty is to PRINCIPLES and to TRUTH, and those who would rather worship at the altar of expediency in order to maintain loyalty to party, boss, race, political agenda, or even nation.

There appears to be a lesson yet to be learned by those who savaged Professor Anita Hill. In their manifest disdain for the sincere and serious pursuit of TRUTH in the matter against Judge Clarence Thomas, a Republican U.S. President and Republican Senators have given the world an amazing and unparalleled exhibition of the politics of expediency. It was reckless and dangerous. And it has sent a frightful message to all those, in the Middle East and elsewhere, in Mr. George Bush's New World Order, who dare to believe in TRUTH and JUSTICE.

TRUTH is more powerful an actor in the political process than is party politics. History reveals that TRUTH ultimately emerges triumphant. And why should it be otherwise? Isn't God Himself TRUTH?

If Democrats are to learn any lesson from this event they should publicly commit themselves and their party to a supreme loyalty to TRUTH and JUSTICE,

regardless of the consequences at the polls.

Women have a more powerful place in the universe than is otherwise recognized because 'she', woman, is the weaker, and GOD is always with the weak. Men, in fact, are the 'maintainers' and 'protectors' of women. If this courageous black woman was speaking the TRUTH in her allegations against Judge Thomas, if hers was a cry for JUSTICE, then it is her calm soft voice which will ultimately prevail. After all, has this not been the very essence of the black experience of slavery in this land? TRUTH will eventually prevail. It will prevail in consequences of a process quite different to the system of political ethics embraced by the Republican Party. TRUTH will prevail because that is in the very nature of the historical process. Every black slave in his grave knows that.

If those whose supreme loyalty is to TRUTH find themselves, in the minority, like Senator Byrd who shone like the morning star, they should not be disheartened. This is how it has always been all through history. But ultimately this minority has always triumphed! History is replete with evidence that expediency leads to corruption, including corruption of the mind, and that corruption leads to the garbage bin of history.

The time has come for all Americans who would rather give supreme loyalty to TRUTH - rather than to race or party or nation, to make that commitment in the silence of their hearts and to live with it regardless of the consequences. There is a lesson to be learnt in this matter. It is that we should diligently seek out the TRUTH and courageously uphold it regardless of the consequences.

The Anita Hill-Clarence Thomas matter has not really been disposed of. Clearly all the facts have not been revealed. Professor Hill did a disservice to TRUTH in stopping short of full disclosure. She, perhaps, exercised judgement as to what part of the TRUTH she could, with least discomfort, disclose. The lesson to be learnt from Anita's experience is that when we

disclose the TRUTH it must be the entire TRUTH.

The civil war on abortion which is now certainly going to take place in this country when the Thomas-strengthened-Supreme Court gets the chance to overturn Roe vs. Wade, is going to be a national disaster. Those who make a commitment to TRUTH, even when they are liberals, cannot but eventually oppose abortion (opposing it in general while permitting it in special circumstances). This is inevitable since TRUTH itself is in opposition to abortion; - God Himself is TRUTH and He has spoken against abortion. So long as the conservatives remain faithful to political secularism, however, they must eventually concede that it is the right if the woman to make the choice. Society should do, and in fact, can do no more, or can no longer do any more, than to assist women to make the right choice. And that involves not only a metaphysical education on the philosophy of sex and of life but, also, the fulfillment by the society of its moral and socio-economic duties to the individual. In order for the State to assume the right to make the choice on abortion the State itself will have to be in a state of submission to the Sacred Law which came from God. At least in Christian civilization, that is no longer possible. (It is very clearly possible, though difficult, in Islamic civilization.) Thus the secular political pendulum will eventually fall, not in Thomas' garden, but in a recognition of the right of women to make a choice while society exerts itself to the utmost to establish and sustain conditions which would ensure that women are not forced to make choices which they would otherwise not want to make. In other words, if TRUTH is to prevail in a secular society, it is women who must freely decided to embrace TRUTH. Thomas cannot, and will not do that for her! - nor can a society which insists on political secularism. That is the price of secularism!

LETTERS

A Letter to ED

To the Editor,
We, members of the Poetry Center, Writer's Club, and the Creative Writing Program are shocked by the outrageously biased and irresponsible reporting by Edward Sullivan (MJXII or MJ) of the Stony Brook Press regarding the Poetry Center Opening Reading on October 24.

Edward Sullivan's reporting in the Stony Brook Press (Oct. 28, p. 16) was totally unprofessional, reflecting nothing but bad taste. The title of the article was "Of the Pretzel Girl and Poetry" in which Eddy focused on a little girl at the reading (Pretzel Girl) who "was undoubtedly the excess baggage of a mother without a sitter," and "after distracting mom with her fidgeting, she received a generous handful of pretzels." During the assignment, Eddy amazingly,

speaks mainly of how "she (the Pretzel Girl) assembled these pretzels as I (Eddy) contemplated suicide" and "the Pretzel Girl entertained me (Eddy) with her coquettish self-feeding."

As a reporter, Eddy was totally disrespectful and insulting to the readers and the audience. If he wanted to play with the little Pretzel Girl, he should have gotten his ass out of the reading and resigned from his assignment.

The funny thing is Eddy based his judgement about the poetry reading on the reaction of the Pretzel Girl. Eddy condemned one reader by saying, "I guess the moody uninspiring poetry was too much for mom because as (the reader) finished his poetry, the Pretzel Girl finished her pretzels and mom was finished with the Poetry reading. Or it might have been past the Pretzel Girl's bedtime." Then, Eddy accused another reader of being "too authoritative to hold the Pretzel Girl's attention". This is ridiculous, and indeed

embarrassing. Why is he so interested in the Pretzel Girl? Do you think Eddy is an idiot? No, he on purposely wanted to shit on the reading, and realized that the audience had quite a different response.

We are sorry to see that such irresponsible reporting appears in the Stony Brook Press. If Eddy failed to form his own "writers' collective" last semester, please don't dump his frustration onto others. The people who read at, work on, and organized the poetry reading on Oct. 24 are serious and talented writers who just want to bring good things to the campus and do not deserve to be shit on. We cannot tolerate such destructive behavior.

We demand a printed apology from Edward Sullivan!!

The Writers' Club
The Poetry Center
The Creative Writing Program

**All
Handwritten
Letters
Will Be
Burned.**

ROB

U.S.. Gulf War Crimes

by Robert v. Gilheany

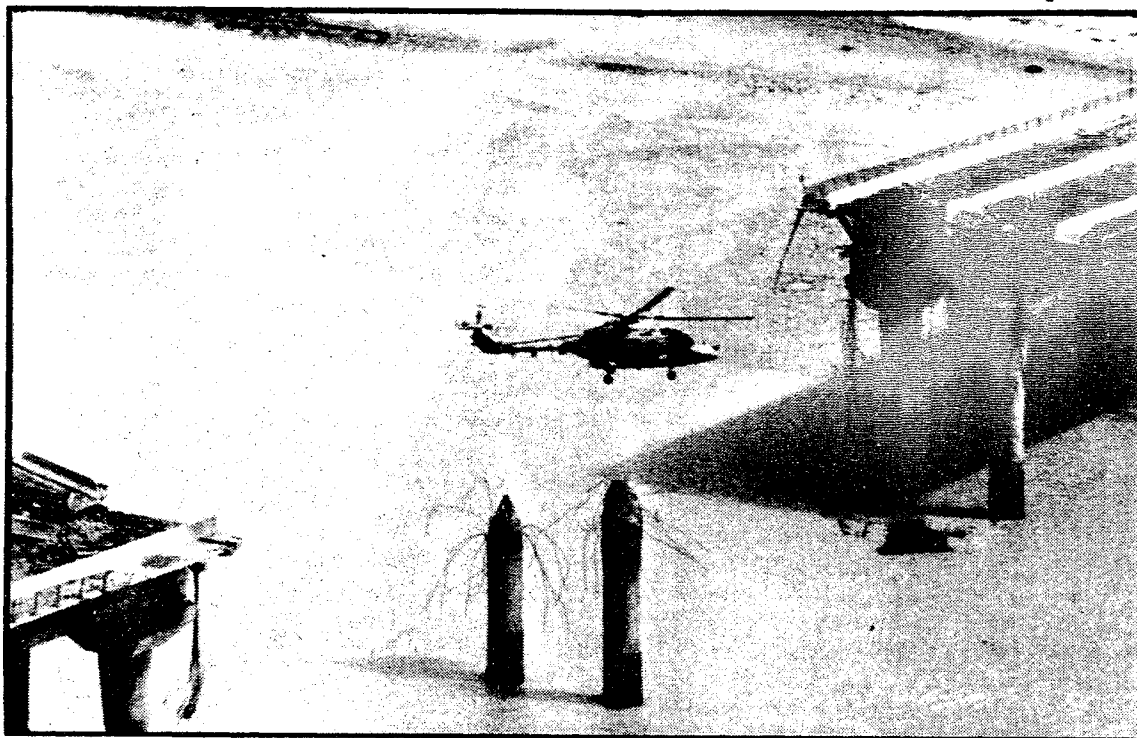
It's been a few months since Desert Storm and the yellow plague that infested this country last winter. Since that time on international inquiry has been set in motion to investigate war crimes by the U.S.. and it's allies against the people of Iraq.

The process in which 300,000 people were slaughtered last winter by Uncle Sam's war machine include the use of chemical weapons in the form of phosphorous bombs and NAPALM.(NAPALM burns the skin off people). The allied forces carpet bombed civilian population centers such as the city of Basra that was totally destroyed. The tactics used by the U.S.. at the end of the war were the attack and slaughter of retreating and surrendering soldiers.

During that war the U.S... bombed hospitals, high-schools, roads with evacuating traffic, and a bomb shelter. It also bombed water purification plants, dams, fertilizer storage houses that sent toxic chemicals all over population centers and a small nuclear power facility that sent radioactive waste into the atmosphere.

The effect of the bombing of fertilizer plants and dams has forced people into using polluted water from the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. This in combination with the embargo has created a crisis in the treatment of sick and wounded Iraqis. Children have been devastated by the ruthless destruction. They have been dying over the last ten months from curable conditions such as diarrhea, typhoid, dysentery, and cholera. The embargo has

forced hospitals to operate with out electricity and anesthetics. Wounded people had to get limb amputation with no pain killer or sterilization. They were forced to amputate the old fashion way, by tying the wounded down and gagging them (so they wont swallow there tongue) and saw off the limb, needless to say a very brutally painful procedure.



When we look back at the circumstances of this war some reasons why it happened are clear. At the time, the end of the cold war was threatening the military industrial complex with a peace dividend of 60 billion dollars a year. George Bush was sagging in the polls and he is an oil man and the gulf war was great for the oil companies. Exxon made 1 to 4 Billion in profits in the last quarter of 1990. Profits were also up for Texaco by 35%, Shell 69%, Amoco 46% and Chevron was up over 400% in that last

quarter of 1990. The top 5 oil companies made 4.8 billion in profits in the last quarter in 1990.

Some other interesting little known facts about profiteering of the slaughter. Brent Scowcroft a national security advisor for Bush is a major share holder in the oil company that did the slant drilling for Kuwait so they could steal Iraqi oil. That was a major conflict between the

two nations. George Bush Jr. is head of an oil company that has executive rights to an oil rich island in the gulf, that is protected by American forces.

The deliberateness of the Bush administration to get this war started was evident when their ambassador to Iraq, April Glaspie told Sadaam Hussein that the United States would be neutral in a conflict between Iraq and Kuwait she said that the United States and Iraq "are friends". This gave a green light to Iraq to start hostilities over problems they cannot solve though peaceful methods i.e. the Arab league.

President Bush had his popularity hit an all time high. In America racism, and clinging to patriotism has always worked for people like Bush. And the death and destruction reaped

upon Iraqis worked. But now Bush is down in the polls lets hope he doesn't go for that quick fix again.

The tribunal of U.S... war crimes in the Gulf will be in coming to Stony Brook, in the student union Auditorium Wednesday, November 13. It will be in two sessions 3-6 pm. The guest speaker will be Philip Berrigan.

African Exchange

by Robert V. Gilheany

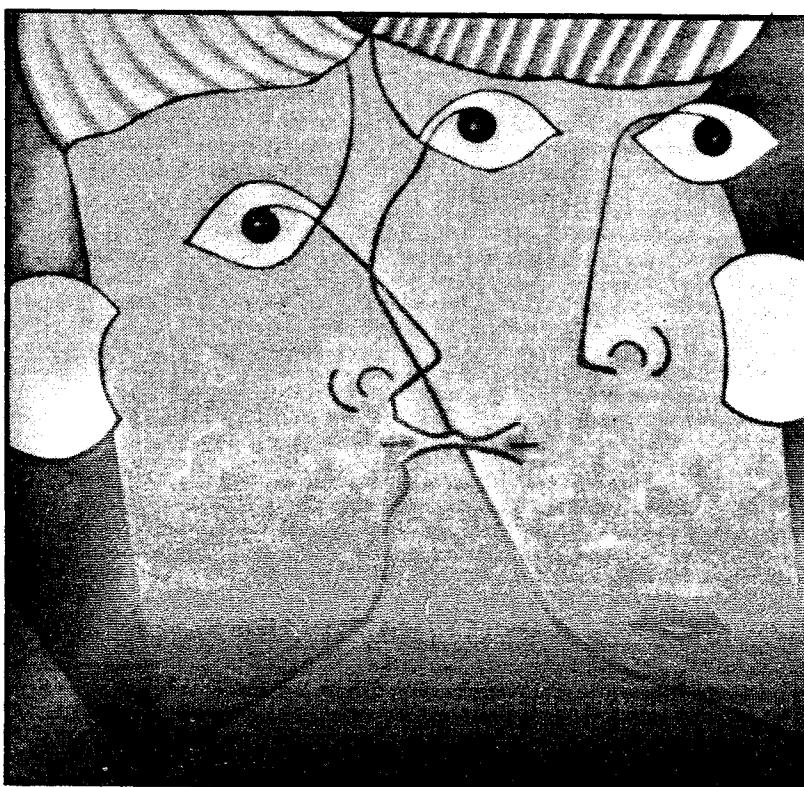
For the first time the University of Stony Brook is setting up a student exchange program with an African nation. Stony Brook and the University of Botswana will start exchanging students as of the fall of 1992. Then Stony Brookers can study abroad in Botswana and people from Botswana can come to Stony Brook.

"Students have come to my office interested in this program" said Floris Cash, director of the Africana Studies Program. Cash along with professor Frank Meyers traveled to Botswana in early October to set up the exchange program. The exchange program is set up through A.F.S. and the office of international programs. The African coordinator of the exchange program is professor Nabontu Rasebotsa, a native of Botswana who received her Ph.D. in English at Stony Brook in 1988. The program will start modestly with a handful of students being exchanged with the hope that the program will grow. Professor Cash said she hoped that other African countries will become part of exchange programs with Stony Brook.

Botswana is located in southern Africa, just north of South Africa and between Angola and Mozambique. Being a front line state, a nation that borders South Africa, Botswana has been attacked by the white minority government of Pretoria in the past. Floris

Cash said that Botswana is not very involved politically with the struggle of its neighboring countries. Botswana is

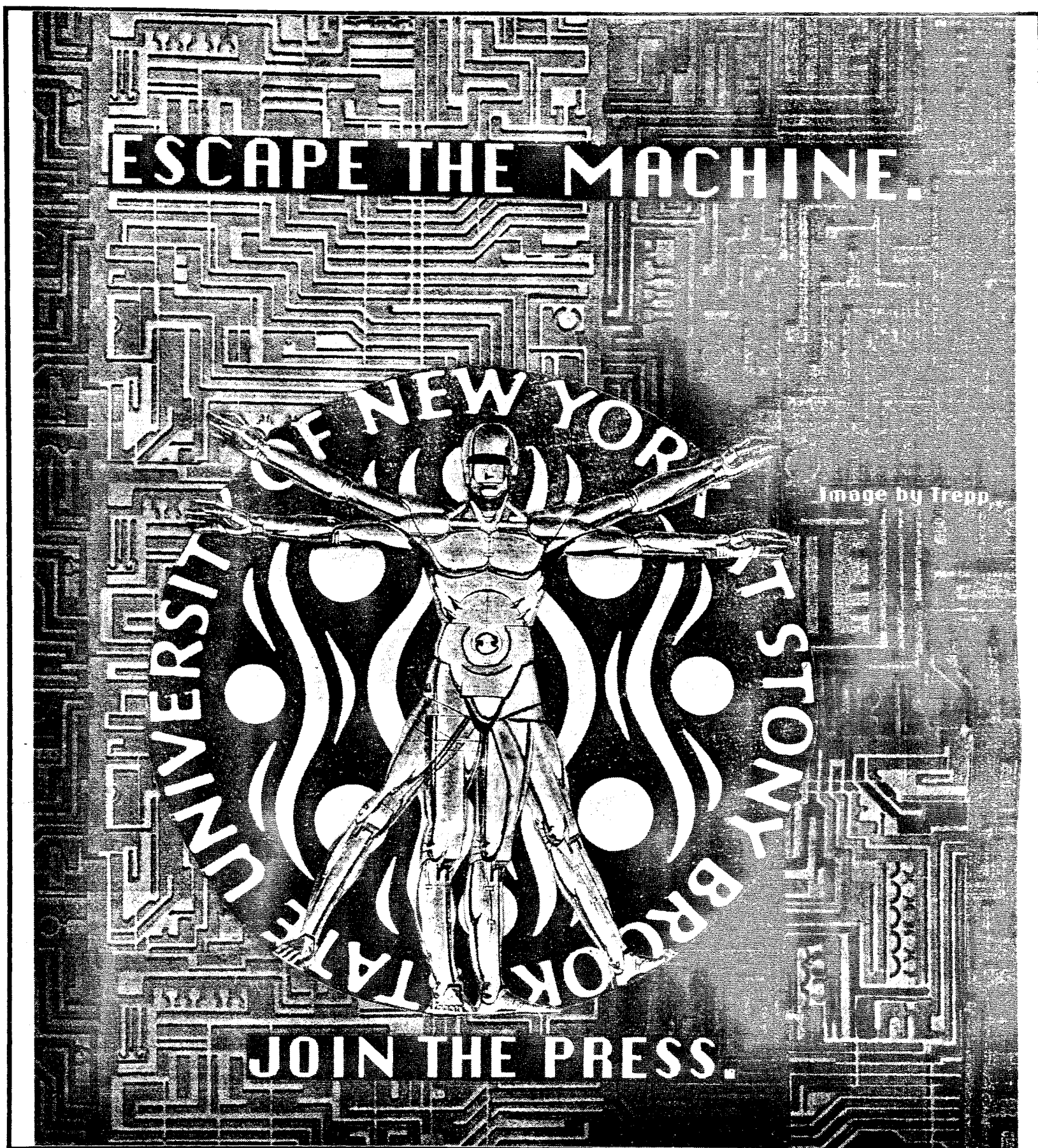
a state democracy that won independence from Britain in 1966 with out firing a shot.



Diamonds are Botswana's best friend. Botswana boasts 3 of the 7 largest diamond mines in the world. For those interested in boycotting South Africa, keep in mind that jewelry is a major source of trade for Pretoria, Botswana jewelry is an alternative. The diamond exchange has fueled the economy and some industrialization is taking place in that country.

Northern Botswana has a large chobe gaming preserve where people can drive through the natural surrounding of the wildlife in its natural habitat. On the Northern border with Zaire is the tallest waterfall in the world, Victoria Falls.

The University of Botswana is located on the capital city of Gaborone, in southern Botswana, only 45 minute drive to Johannesburg, South Africa. Botswana is a bilingual country, where they speak both Setswana and English.



We're Moving!

The *PRESS* meets every Wednesday
During Campus Lifetime in Central Hall at
our new location-Room 205

Comedy Shakespeare's Way

by Andrew Haggerty

The Acting Company claims to be "unlike any other professional theater in America," and I suppose that is true, at least to some extent. I really can not think of any other American repertory theater so seriously devoted to "developing America's most gifted young actors" and to "building up a coast to coast constituency for live theater." They are certainly developing such a constituency here at Stony Brook. Their *Two Gentlemen of Verona* last fall was probably the best production put on by any visiting company last year, and it would surprise me to see anything this year done better than their recent *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. If the University wants the Staller Center to become a major cultural center for Eastern Long Island, it is good to see that they can attract a group of the Acting Company's caliber—a nationally known company with a reputation for quality—because that is precisely what they have to do in order to fulfill their mission. Thank God they can do it, because if there was ever a place on Earth that needs a major cultural center, it is this benighted land we call Suffolk County.

The only real problem I had with this *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, was with the waterheaded notices which appeared about it last week in the campus media: i.e., that it will be "a non-traditional presentation that centers on the sensual discovery of suppressed desires." Well, duh. "Sensual discovery of repressed desires" is what Shakespeare had in mind. It is in the text. You can not avoid it, this is not being radical. And what exactly does "non-traditional" mean anymore, anyway? I suspect that what they meant by "non-

traditional" is that they do not bother trying to fake British accents and that they toss in the occasional topical reference or two. For example, Andrew Weems (as Bottom) does a dead-on version of a grating George Bush whine-but please! Breaking new ground you ain't. Although some audience members seemed a bit put off by the modern elements in the production, they should not have been because what they saw was actually a rather tame Shakespeare, at least by today's standards. If they had been in Central Park this summer, they would have seen a bunch of naked Brazilians bouncing around together, reciting the Bard's lines in Portuguese iambic pentameter. If they were at Staller Center this summer, they might have seen some bizarre bit of Argentinian lunacy called *I Hate Hamlet*, which even Tom Stoppard might have thought was out of control. Against this kind of contemporary competition, what the Acting Company did was positively Elizabethan. Believe it, O ye students of EGL 243, I kid you not.

But whatever. Irish director Joe Dowling did a damn good job with the play, expertly managing to create a careening air of headlong tomfoolery without burying the text's deeper issues beneath the clowning. And, just as important, these deeper issues never got the best of the clowning. The production was hilarious. Andrew Weems and the other actors portraying the hapless "hard-handed men" somehow suckered into doing "Pyramus and Thisbe" carried off their roles with near maniacal glee, cracking up not only the audience, but the other performers as well. No mean trick, considering how many times those other actors must have seen them do the routine. Duanne Boutte,

as Flute/Thisbe, was especially good. He went through more rapid-fire backstage costume changes than Madonna, without missing a beat (I could not tell if he was using adhesive tape or not.) All the actors turned in solid, if unspectacular performances, which is not a flaw or insult since an attempted spectacular performance that does not cut the mustard can do far more damage to a production than a hundred snotty reviewers. Mr. Dowling might have learned this lesson from Christopher Walken, whose "Dice" takes on Iago made an unappetizing mess of Mr. Dowling's *Othello* at the Delacorte Theater this past June. There were no such problems here. Jonathan Earl Peck doubled as Theseus and Oberon, his imposing manner blending nicely with either role. Socorro Santiago also did well in her double role, Hippolyta/Titania. I could not quite get into Major West's Egeus, he reminded me too much of Michael Jordan, or his Philostrate, he reminded me too much of Flip Wilson. The "star-cross'd lovers," Terra Vandergaw (Hermia), Mark Stewart Guin (Lysander), Rainn Wilson (Demetrius) and Angie Phillips (Hermia) all performed admirably under somewhat trying conditions. They had to do most of their acting in their underwear, since as soon as the forest scenes began they were promptly de-pantsed and de-skirted by the fairies. I thought this was a nice touch, partly for reasons of semiotics, but mostly because Ms. Phillips is a completely beautiful human being with whom I am completely in love (thank you Mr. Dowling). Jeffrey Wright's Puck was convincing as a mischievous woodland sprite, even if he did look like a refugee from a Living Color video.

The sets and the costumes were pretty cool, although I am not too sure about the advertised Hieronymous Bosch influence on their design. I can not recall any Bosch painting where people were wearing spandex, kneepads, or Keds, and if the woodland set was out of Bosch, then it was weird even for him. It was a giant "thing," no other term can adequately describe it. My trusty companion afterwards said it "was like one of those things from that 60's movie, where people turned into huge cannibal trees." I thought it looked more like a mutant 30 foot lobster. It was really cool.

About the only one of Mr. Dowling's directorial choices that I could not agree with was the way in which the entire cast came out in their street clothes for Puck's final speech. Too cute. Some points do not need to be pounded home with a sledgehammer, and the fact that the play is "no more yielding than a dream" is one of them. The street clothes squelched the illusion too quickly.

Whatever. The Acting Company again turned in a fine slice of Shakespeare at a reasonable rate (for students, at least). Maybe next year I would like to see them do one of the tragedies, to see how they can stretch themselves without relying on too much physical comedy. They have their clowning down pat, are they just as good at hacking each other to pieces? Again, whatever they do next year is fine by me, I just hope the Staller Center can keep delivering quality goods on the level of *The Acting Company* for a long time to come.

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A NYC Halloween with Blues Traveler

by Eric Penzer

Since Blues Traveler's emergence onto the New York City music scene a few years back, no other band's club dates have been so highly anticipated. Certainly this anticipation is multiplied whenever the band plays on a special occasion, like New Year's Eve or Halloween. Past Halloween eves have seen Traveler team up with brother-band Spin Doctors for shows that ended in the wee hours of the morning. On Thursday, the thirty-first day of October, 1991, amidst all the energy the city holds on Halloween night, Blues Traveler brought their show to the Roseland Ballroom for a triumphant homecoming.

It is often with both laughter and tears that one watches his/her favorite band rise from the ranks of "bar-band" to "success-story." It is a joyous thing because you know that a very talented act is getting its due recognition. However, the thought of not seeing your local band in the intimate venues to which you are accustomed is somewhat of a disappointment. Not in this case, however.

I was actually relieved to learn that Traveler had opted to play Roseland this time around rather than give one of their old stomping grounds, like the Wetlands, an extended visit.

The last couple of times Traveler played the Wetlands, it was so crowded, one could hardly breathe. In addition, if you didn't buy tickets in advance, you'd certainly be left out in the cold (and I mean that quite literally). Therefore, I was very happy to think I'd actually have some elbow room at the Halloween gig. Wrong again. Roseland was packed to the rafters by the time the second opening band, Widespread Panic, began their set. The concert staff had most certainly over-sold the venue, because I have trouble believing that NYC fire marshalls would have approved of the crowd in the ballroom that night.

As I previously mentioned, Halloween with Blues Traveler is a special event, and the crowd rose to the occasion. Costumes ranged from the ordinary (pirates, clowns, etc.) to the weird (a box of Motts apple juice, along with Babaar the elephant). When John Popper came out

dressed as a Samurai (reminiscent of John Belushi), I knew we were in for a special evening.

The band started their show with the spacey "The Tiding" into "Onslaught." Quite a heavy opener, but well executed. The crowd went crazy when the band played their ode to the big apple, "Dropping Some NYC". Other songs from the new album, *Travelers And Thieves*, included the brilliant "Ivory Tusk" and "What's For Breakfast". After about an hour, Popper traded in his harmonica filled gun-belt for a twelve-stringed acoustic guitar, and led the band through the crowd-pleasing "100 Years". The mellow portion of the evening continued with the new but classic "Sweet Pain". "Alone" came next and led to a jam that found Popper once again blowing the harp.

Later in the show, Popper dedicated "Crystal Flame" to the recently departed concert promoter Bill Graham. Graham was *the* Traveler champion, responsible for getting the band their recording contract with A&M. The song was long and featured an extended jam. It was nearing two in the morning when the

band launched into drummer Brendan Hill's long, spacey "Mountain Cry" to close the set. Seeing as how the crowd was not really ready to go home yet, the band was forced to come back out and play "But Anyway" which was played 100 times better than the studio version.

As the crowd (myself included) poured out onto 52nd street, I thought to myself, wouldn't it be nice if all the great bands in the world got the recognition that Blues Traveler is finally getting? Wishful thinking. But, anyway, it is nice to see a local band make it big. With an upcoming show at the Paramount Theatre on New Year's Eve and even a gig opening up for the Jerry Garcia Band at Madison Square Garden on November 15, it seems unlikely that Blues Traveler will ever be able to go back to the club scene. I won't mind as long as they always play with the energy they played with on Halloween night.

NUFF RESPECT FOR BOB MARLEY



by Jay S. Amster

Thin leather ties over out of fashion paisley button downs. Baggy black slacks giving way to tacky black leather shoes. Insipid green fluorescent stirrers coming out of fruity pink cocktails. That vituperative official stench of Long Island- hairspray.

A Thursday night at the Park Bench? Carringtons? No, no. This was in fact the scene at what was none other than *the* reggae event of the year: The 10th anniversary of Bob Marley's untimely death.

The show was at Westbury Music Fair, thus the rather unexpected suburban crowd. The show featured Andrew Tosh (son of the late Peter), Rita Marley (wife of Bob and mother of Ziggy), Marcia Griffiths (of the I-Threes) and Bob's legendary backup band the Wailers.

It was perhaps not too surprising (considering the venue) that the audience did not feature any Dreads, nor was the usually ubiquitous odor of Jamaica's staple crop in the air.

It was, however, a charged evening. The show started the first two hour set with Andrew Tosh's unique entry on a unicycle and ended with a stirring duet by Marcia Griffiths

and Rita Marley. In that time the performers found the right buttons to push and soon this unlikely crowd was on its feet and dancing to the pounding rhythm.

The unbridled Caribbean bliss gave way to an intimate moment when Andrew sang a reggae threnody to the killer of his father. When Andrew sang the chorus, "Why did you leave the children crying?" most people dropped to their seats very quickly. Unlike other modern dirges, it had the beauty of being sentimental without becoming maudlin. Andrew got the people up and dancing as he finished his set with a rave up reggaeized Johnny B. Goode: Chuck Berry leads with a reggae rhythm. Very nice indeed.

The set remained fevered receiving adrenaline boosts by Marcia Griffiths electric slide, and Rita's cover of her husband's ballad, "No Woman, No Cry". Two hours into the set came the "surprise" of the evening: a lounge music medley by Rita and Marcia of Bob Marley's greatest hits, including my personal favorite, "Buffalo Soldier".

Set two was all the Wailers. They had the misfortune of following a killer set, but they accepted the torch with a passion. They refused to get on with the set until 75% of the audience got on their feet. After much prodding, they got their wish. Sometimes (particularly

at the Westbury Music Fair) such measures are necessary. They ran down their newest album, and also included some crowd pleasing performances of the songs they made famous with Bob.

Despite the unlikely setting, the show turned out to be a beautiful homage to two of reggae's great legends, Bob Marley and Peter Tosh.

REACH OUT AND FLOAT



Welcome to a world of squishy, fluidy, buddy bodies. The families of thought and feeling that huddle amidst hairy and spiky environments. These and other floaty, bouncy things have escaped the mind of one of Stony Brook's most talented Graduate Students, Christy Ridenhour.

Her body of work that was displayed until the first of November seems to be a protest against the cold, crisp untextured surfaces of our Modern computer age. Her Pastels are filled with emotional entities that bounce and rub and huggy against each other, playing with each other's appendages and teaching us to once again feel in a tactile sense. People are afraid in 1991 to rub their own emotions against

themselves, or to experiment with different combinations of feeling. Christy provides us a visual model for this. We know we identify with the comraderie in Floating. We recall the pinkish, yummiy, happily sexy feelings of romantic love in her Fragments 3&4, and the safely-out-of-harms-reach feeling in one of her Untitled works.

It's not all fun and games however, there are conflicts, but they are I'll-pinch-your-nose-so-there conflicts. Even Red Line, a mature and recent work, is a recoilant violence not a retaliatory one. And we see the quiet desperate aimlessness in Gathering.

Christy was so much fun to be around and you really missed something if you missed her show.

MJXII



**Photos by
Greg Forte**



Of Martyrs And Mosaic

A new bright, bold artist, Brenda Hanegan, pours out an interesting juxtaposition of the way women are treated by Artistic traditions and her own experiences. In her Library Gallery exhibition, on display till the 15th, she questions the roles women play in the traditions of Durer, particularly in "Venetian Ladies #1," where a maternal figure towers over a wimpy patriarchal structure, forming the real cornerstone of the family. In her four "Untitled" works, the focus is less narrative and focused on the images, where she plays with the composition and arranges her communion ladies as emerging, hanging, upside-down-cups, and amidst "Quirky" ducks who often serve as an icon in her work. Her color is crazily loud, screaming at us, and the color speaks with it's own voice, lending support to the subjects. Not to mention the eternally deep backgrounds, the compositionally non-distractive backgrounds which nevertheless are beautifully textured and complex. In her lively and impressive ladies and cups she provides a mosaic, a historical frame of reference to her own experience, as well as a more universal approach to her images. Don't hesitate to spend some time among her mothers and martyrs, who reach to new heights surmounting the obstacles of their exclusive male counterparts.

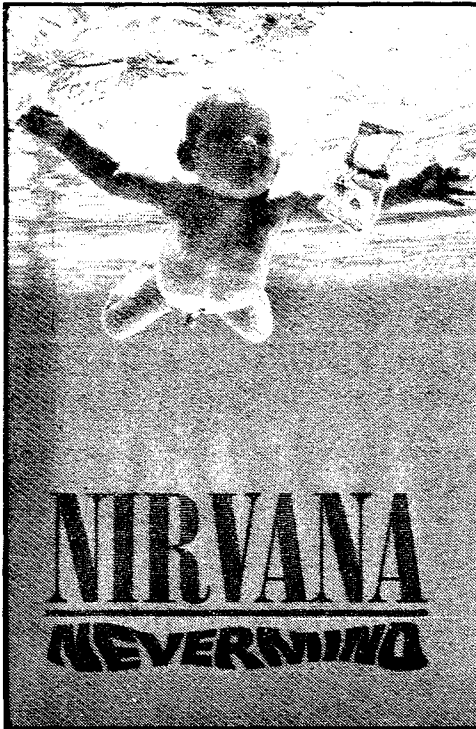
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Photos by Beeone

SUB POP

bleeding into the mainstream



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For many of us, the mid to late eighties marked a period of stagnation within the rock scene. Excluding the emergence of the one hundred mile an hour thrash scene, metal was as dry as the dusty fart that came out of your mother's ass. The Northwest, however, was home to a burgeoning musical revolution. A relatively small group of informed people were aware of this underground musical rejuvenation, but the rest of us hadn't a clue.

Bruce Pavitt, co-owner of SUB POP LTD., started laying the foundation for SUB POP, the independent record label responsible for the exposure of the Seattle scene, as early as 1980. SUB POP LTD. began in 1986. The label and their offerings have together brought aggressive rock back to college radio and, perhaps, have made Seattle home of the alternative rock scene. SUB POP launched the careers of essentials like—Soundgarden, Mudhoney, Nirvana, and Tad. SUB POP has become the independent label to be modeled after.

SUB POP was initially a fanzine with a regional focus. Pavitt explains, "Music is most interesting when looked at from a regional perspective. All sorts of visual artists, writers, and musicians are going to be collaborating within the same community." Pavitt started with regionally focused reviews of independent records, but he was soon releasing cassette compilations which focused on lesser developed territories. Pavitt considered these cassettes networking tools.

Pavitt's efforts were successful, and they drew attention. Pavitt eventually teamed up with Jonathan Poneman, a Seattle DJ and promoter. Together, they signed SUB POP's first label deal with Green River, and soon after they signed Soundgarden. "Sub Pop exists as a Pacific Northwest record label which functions as a tool and a machine for music from the Northwest. We

put out music that we consider and hope to be the most vital rock-oriented music from this particular region," states Poneman.

Basically, the Seattle scene was a distinct family-like network of musicians. A lot of the Seattle bands were friends and hung out together. There were no negative vibes or competitions. The bands complemented each other, and were all produced by Jack Endino. Hence, an ongoing musical dialogue was established in Seattle. SUB POP managed to capture it and perfect it, a coming together of artists. Kim Thayil, Soundgarden's guitarist, stated, "the scene was already there; Bruce and Jonathan just packaged it."

As far as the out-of-town artists are concerned, "they are the ones our artists played with and raved about," remarked Pavitt. Pavitt believes it is important to run a label like a large family. Aside from exploitation, Pavitt attributes much of the music industries problems to the lack of intimate contact. "Labels are working with bands that are 3,000 miles away. There's no continual interchange of ideas."

SUB POP establishes close relationships with their artists. Mutual respect plays a key role in their professional relationships. The indie way is based on friendship and faith. Perhaps this is why so few indies have enjoyed the successes that SUB POP has.

Although SUB POP has managed to expose a lot of hidden talent without the media machines, many Seattle bands are integrating into the mainstream. Soundgarden has just released their second album with A&M, *Badmotorfinger*. Ordinarily, one would assume this was a "sell out," but you can cancel that thought. Soundgarden's latest is as intense as their earlier releases. The band has managed to

sustain their unique sound and style; the raw immediacy is still there. Music with something deep inside it; passionate lyrics in collaboration with raw guitar frequencies. A true garden of sound.

Another one of the many Seattle bands that fled the flock, Nirvana. Nirvana's current release *Nevermind* on Geffen is noteworthy, but it may not please everyone. The album is definitely Seattle, but it lacks the madness of the band's former SUB POP release *Bleach*. The new album contains many good tracks, but it is certainly a bit more tame. This does not mean it is not a good album, quite the contrary. Let's just say its more accessible. Sorry guys, but hey, MTV loves it; you

"Our goal is world domination. We're saying, 'Fuck you, we're from Seattle,' and we don't care if the media machines are in L.A. We'll create our own."

know, "new music first."

So where do we go from here? Sub Pop sound is suddenly in demand, and no longer exclusive to Seattle. Many major labels are very interested in the acts, as well as Pavitt and Poneman. The two co-owners have received many lucrative offers from the top hats in the big arena, but they have not succumbed to the temptations. "For us," Poneman says, "the joy of what we do is not so much giving the public everything it wants, but hopefully helping the public understand what it needs. That's a pretty presumptuous thing to say, but we're hoping to stay, if not one step ahead of the

trends, at least abreast of them." Pavitt remarked, "Our goal is world domination, we're saying 'fuck you, we're from Seattle,' and we don't care if the media machines are in L.A. We'll create our own."

"The kids of America should not cop to this belief that they have to conform and all look a certain way, and sound a certain way to get signed and ultimately have their dreams shattered any way. Only one band in 10,000 is going to be GNR. So if you're going to do it anyway, you should do it your way, and we always allow our bands to do it their way," Poneman adds.

Although much of SUB POP's talent is moving up and out the label remains dedicated to exposing the best underground rock in the Northwest. And regarding those acts that have hit the mainstream, it seems their newly found popularity has had a minimal impact on the quality of the music they are creating. "World domination?" Maybe so. Sub Pop sound, Full On! Take it for what it is, or just leave it be.

For those of you who are interested in raw alternative rock, you might consider joining the SUB POP singles club. For only forty dollars a year, you would receive one very limited-edition, colored vinyl single a month. The singles would be mailed directly to your home. Former singles released by the club include tracks by—Sonic Youth, Fugazi, Godflesh, and Dinosaur Jr. "Hey, Loser, Wanna Find Some Action?" SUB POP singles club only for the headstrong!

For more information contact SUB POP: 1932 First Avenue, Suite 1103, Seattle, Washington 98101 or call (206) 441-8245.



SOUNDGARDEN

PHOTO: LAVINE